



Chatham News + Record

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History comes back to life at House in the Horseshoe

Staff photo by James Kiefer

AJ Drake, left, stands in formation before he and other reenactors fire duplicates of Revolutionary War-era firearms. Last Saturday saw a retelling of the 1781 battle at the Alston House, also known as the House in the Horseshoe, in Sanford.

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

SANFORD — Muskets from Loyalist militiamen fired upon the Alston house as women and children hid in the chimney sill. Meanwhile, David Fanning and his troops inched closer and closer threatening to set the house alight. “Come out, Alston!” Fanning yelled as balls from his men’s muskets pockmarked the outer walls of the Patriot Phillip Alston’s family home. “Your time is through.” After nearly three hours of battle and several casualties on both sides, Alston’s wife, Temperance, emerges from the house holding their baby daughter urging a ceasefire and peace agreement. Fanning agrees, and the Alston house is surrendered to the Loyalist militia.

Battle of the House in the Horseshoe — took place on July 29, 1781, during the American Revolution. Now, 241 years later, the remnants of that night still remain. Visitors to the house near the Deep River can still see the bullet holes in the back walls where Fanning’s men shot into the house, the crimson paint of the interior walls and the ash-covered chimney sill where the Alston children hid with their mother during the fighting.

The Alston House Association and North Carolina Historic Sites hosted a reenactment of the battle on Saturday, its first since COVID-19 began. The event was filled with dozens of reenactors and more than 200 people of people from across the region. The event included tours of the house, a musket firing demonstration and presentations about everyday trades of the time period.

Living the history beyond conflict

One of the trades on display was weaving. Mary Beth Voelker sat at her handmade loom modeled after a traditional revolutionary design showing participants how women of the time made shirts, ribbons and dresses from wool.

“My husband made this replica tape-loom,” she said. “I’m fascinated by the way people lived and the textiles they chose to wear in these periods.”

Voelker has been participating in historical reenactments since she was a teenager, and volunteered at the Alston House for five years. She even handmade the baggy maroon dress and white cloak she wears for the event. She said she believes living history is the best

See **HISTORY**, page A3

ONE STEP CLOSER

VinFast secures land at TIP site for manufacturing facility

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

MONCURE — The anticipated September groundbreaking for VinFast’s manufacturing facility in Moncure appears on track after the new Vietnamese electric vehicle producer completed the acquisition of the land for its new production plant last Tuesday.

According to the land deed, VinFast purchased 1,765 acres at Triangle Innovation Point Site, located on Moncure Flatwood Road. VinFast Manufacturing LLC purchased the land for just under \$44 million from the seller, Triangle Innovation Point (TIP) East Development Partners.

The land purchase also included an excise tax payment of \$87,955. Excise taxes are paid on all real estate transactions at a rate of \$1 per every \$500 sold, according to North Carolina law. This means the total purchase price for the TIP East site was \$43,977,500.

Kirk Bradley, chairman of Lee-Moore Capital Company and one of the partners on TIP East, told the News + Record the manufacturer

See **VINFAST**, page A9



Courtesy of VinFast

The VinFast manufacturing facility in Haiphong, Vietnam, is more than 800 acres in size. The site being built in Moncure is more than twice that size at 1,765 acres, according to the land deed signed last Wednesday.

Bookmobile delivers joy to children across Siler City

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — A big blue bus rolls through the streets of Justice Mobile Home Park, its driver honking to alert children there of its presence. It almost brings the atmosphere of an ice cream truck, sparking joy and excitement throughout the neighborhood.

But instead of delicious treats, this bus is serving up knowledge — giving books to all who stop by.

It’s Chatham County Schools’ second annual Siler City Bookmobile. The mobile library serves a variety of locations across town to provide summer reading to students at



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Virginia Cross Elementary hosted its second annual Bookmobile across Siler City this summer. The mobile library made stops at community centers and mobile home parks in town.

See **BOOKMOBILE**, page A6

EXPANDING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

New coworking space hopes to bring community and connection to Chatham

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — A new coworking space and innovation hub for Chatham County small-business owners and entrepreneurs has officially opened in Pittsboro.

The space, dubbed 79° West: Launch Pod, is located in Mosaic at

Chatham Park at 367 Freedom Parkway, Suite 130. It serves as a precursor to a facility with over 22,000 square feet scheduled to open next door in the first quarter of 2023.

Until then, visitors can enjoy a 2,900-square-foot coworking space, featuring meeting and conference rooms, a cafe area, four offices, dedicated desks, and specialized

programming.

The hub is the result of a collaboration between Innovate Carolina, a UNC-Chapel Hill initiative focused on innovation and entrepreneurship, and Eco Group, the developers of Mosaic. The owner of Eco Group, Kirk Bradley, is a partner in Cha-

See **CONNECT**, page A6

The unclear endgame of StartUP Siler

Company provides hints, posts jobs, but also finds itself in a harassment case

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — StartUP Siler, the mysterious philanthropic organization which has promised, among other things, to tackle Siler City’s drug and crime woes and invest \$100 million in a housing loan fund, promised in an announcement on Twitter to open its doors this week “to varies (sic) media outlets from across the state and country” to give “an intimate look at the inner works” of the organization.

“All leading up to major milestones announcements, and intros of our new selects,” the Monday post read.

It was the latest in a series of recent announcements by the organization on social media, including saying it would provide new scholarships, more than \$1 million in grants (at \$10,000 a pop) urging people to move to Siler City — saying those newcomers could help “end to the historic racism” within the town — and numerous job openings, some of which were posted with a long string of “#gay” hashtags.

Meanwhile, StartUP Siler’s executive director, Kristen Picot, filed a restraining order in Wake County against a Siler City resident she claims has stalked her

See **STARTUP**, page A9

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ON THE AGENDA

- The **Chatham County Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 15, at the George Moses Horton Middle School multipurpose room.
- The **N.C. Department of Transportation** will meet at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 16, at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center.
- The **Chatham County Board of Commissioners** will meet at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 24, at the Historic Chatham County Courthouse in Pittsboro.

OTHER

The **Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors** will meet on Thursday, August 11, at 7 p.m. at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center, 1192 US 64 W Business, Pittsboro (west side entrance) in the conference room. All meetings are open to the public. To be added to the agenda or for more information, call (919) 545-8440.

- **American Legion Post 93**, 100th Year celebration. Free to Veterans and their guests, Saturday, August 20, at 1 p.m. at the Siler City Moose Lodge. RSVP by August 1, phone: 919-704-1219 or Email: ncpost93@gmail.com, Door prizes and refreshments.

- Chatham County Democrats, Sundae Sunday - **Meet the School Board Candidates** on Sunday, August 14 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Courtyard at the Arts Incubator, 223 N Chatham Avenue, Siler City. Ice cream, and a Fully Supplied Book Bag Raffle.

- “The **Chatham Hospital Board of Trustees** meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, August 16, at 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend. If interested, please contact Wendy Tomblin in advance at 919-799-4012 for the access information.”

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 available at the 100 block of E. 3rd St.

- The **Silk Hope Rurians** host a Benefit Bingo on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of each month. Next month's schedule is 18, at the Silk

Hope Community Center.

- **Chatham Community Library** to Present Live Musical Performance: Being Bilingual Rocks! Families with children of all ages are invited to a celebration in Spanish and English in a live musical performance of Being Bilingual Rocks! on Saturday, August 13, at 10:30 a.m. at Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro, in the Holmes Meeting Room. It is free and open to the public. Contact youth.services@chathamlibraries.org.
- **Chatham Community Library** will host a virtual film screening of *Apartment 2020*, Thursday, August 11 - 18 This program is free and open to the public. A password is required at the time of viewing. Those who are interested may contact social.library@chathamlibraries.org or 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.vanduin@chathamlibraries.org for more information on this and other events and programs.

- **Downtown Pittsboro Community Vision Forum** will be held Tuesday, August 16 at the Chatham County Agriculture Center from 6 to 8 p.m. Join in this event - your opportunity to provide valuable input that will help craft the vision for downtown's future.

- **Chatham Community Library** is offering free online classes on Microsoft Excel in August. Class Descriptions and a registration link can be found at www.chathamcountync.gov/ComputerClasses. Call 919-545-8086 or email reference@chathamlibraries.org for more information. Microsoft Excel Basics, Part 1: August 17, Wednesday, 3 p.m.. This class is designed for beginners. Learn how to format cells, sort data, use simple equations, and more. Microsoft Excel Basics, Part 2: August 24, Wednesday, 3 p.m. Build on the concepts learned in Part 1. Create formulas, work with charts, filter data, and more. Participants should have prior basic experience with Microsoft Excel.

- **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 directives. 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://chatham-history.org>.

- **Second Bloom** hours are 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at 630 East St., Pittsboro. Credit cards are accepted. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence, 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.

- **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.

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 from 6:30 to 8:00 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.

How did you LAND here?



HAS ERIC SOLD A PROPERTY NEAR YOU LATELY?

80 PROPERTIES SOLD IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS!

LAND (Representing Sellers) 28 Units

- 0 NC 42 Highway (10.89 Acres)
- 0 Jim Gilliland Road (64.882 Acres)
- 218 Pete Thomas Road (109.11 Acres)
- 0 Roselle Road (46.2 Acres)
- 323 Patterson Drive (5.46 Acres)
- 106 Caley Wilson Road (2.185 Acres)
- 0 Pete Roberson (61.21 Acres)
- 180 Thompson Street (.30 Acres)
- 1562 Hadley Mill Road (15.489 Acres)
- 0 Stone Street (50.72 Acres)
- 1604 Bonlee School Road (110.49 Acres)
- 720 Hamlets Chapel Road (.69 Acres)
- 1447 Old US 1 (.870 Acres)
- 0 Chicken Bridge Road (10.051 Acres)
- 00 Manns Chapel Road (49.41 Acres)
- 2328 Andrews Store Road (24.385 Acres)
- 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres)
- 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres)
- 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres)
- 271 Talon Drive (11.97 Acres)
- 1835 Lewter Shop Road (3.24 Acres)
- 0000 Jim Gilliland Road (57.284 Acres)
- 18 Pearleman Teague Road (2 Acres)
- 4831 Old Graham Road (2.774 Acres)
- 1571 Lydia Perry Road (3.007 Acres)
- 208 Stonewall Road (3.810 Acres)
- 1456 Hadley Mill Road (28.353 Acres)
- 1475 Lewter Shop Road (4.445 Acres)

LAND (Representing Buyers) 9 Units

- 0 NC 42 Highway (10.89 Acres)
- 388 Wade Bright Road (10 Acres)
- 0 Roselle Road (46.204 Acres)
- 720 Hamlets Chapel Road (.69 Acres)
- 685 Revmont (3.893 Acres)
- 0 Mays Chapel Road (365 Acres)
- 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres)
- 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres)
- 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres)

COMMERCIAL (Representing Seller) 1 Units

175 East Salisbury Street (Pittsboro)

RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 26 Units

- 427 Fenton Place (Charlotte)
- 52 Gentle Winds Drive (Pittsboro)
- 1475 Hoyt Scott Road (Bear Creek)
- 550 Callie Lane (Bear Creek)
- 3871 S. Plank Road (Sanford)
- 76 Millbrook Drive (Pittsboro)
- 5144 Rives Chapel Church Road (Siler City)
- 200 Valley View Lane (Pittsboro)
- 1822 Chandellay Drive (Durham)
- 5631 Swanns Station Road (Sanford)
- 4233 NC Highway 902 (Pittsboro)
- 130 Estes Drive (Chapel Hill)
- 117 Foxwood (Sanford)
- 1136 Sanford Road (Pittsboro)
- 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City)
- 1429 Van Thomas Road (Pittsboro)
- 1315 Hoyt Scott Road (Bear Creek)
- 745 Merl McManus Road (Bear Creek)
- 2349 S. Main Street (Goldston)
- 206 Olympia Street (Siler City)
- 8798 Sylvan Road (Liberty)
- 488 NC 87 N (Pittsboro)
- 76 Fox Chapel Lane (Pittsboro)
- 354 A Mountain View (Pittsboro)
- 138 Oakwood Lane (Pittsboro)
- 218 A Poplar Street (Chapel Hill)
- 58 Lily McCoy Lane (Pittsboro)

RESIDENTIAL (Representing Buyers) 6 Units

- 427 Fenton Place (Charlotte)
- 1513 Bumphus Road (Chapel Hill)
- 107 Hawks Spiral Way (Pittsboro)
- 85 Herndon Creek Way (Chapel Hill)
- 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City)
- 6490 Snow Camp Road (Snow Camp)

PROPERTIES CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT

LAND (Representing Sellers) 6 Units

- 13120 Strickland Road (16.25 Acres)
- 0 Hamlets Chapel Road (42.805 Acres)
- 0 Old Graham Road (161.97 Acres)
- 0 Moons Chapt Road (86.599 Acres)
- 0 Pearleman Teague Road (23.1 Acres)
- 0 Alston Chapel Road (10.23 Acres)
- 10681 E US 64 Hwy (3.97 Acres)

RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 3 Units

- 298 CD Thomas Road (Siler City)
- 1637 Briar Chapel Parkway (Chapel Hill)
- 390 New Salem Church Road (Pittsboro)

New URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdjGtoaywXQ>

NEW TOPIC: Andy McPherson-Land Chatham County Land Buyer Agent



The Andrews Team is proudly introducing Broker and Buyer Agent **Andy McPherson**. Andy's career covers four decades of real estate expertise. He will focus on Andrews Team listings and assisting buyers to find suitable properties.



CAROLINA PROPERTIES
 919-542-0523

Email your questions to eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com
 For RWCP Property Management Call **Jennifer 919-545-9405**
 RWCP is hiring Sales Agents. Call **919-545-9911**



CORRECTION

A story about Chatham's November general election ("County's lengthy ballot features plenty of contested races," Aug. 4-10 edition) included an incorrect date for the start of early voting. Voter registration ends Oct. 14, and

early voting begins Oct. 20. The full schedule for early voting will be posted on the Chatham County Board of Elections website once it's approved by the state board.

The News + Record regrets the error.

TOWN OF PITTSBORO

Downtown Pittsboro Community Vision Forum

Tuesday, August 16
Chatham County Agriculture Center
 1192 US 64 W Business, Pittsboro
 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Join us for the Downtown Community Vision Forum. This is your opportunity to provide valuable input that will craft the vision for downtown's future!

Email questions to: tthompson@pittsboronc.gov

Event sponsored by **Chatham Chamber of Commerce** and **PBO DOWNTOWN**

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CONTACT US

For a vacation hold or to report a delivery problem: 919-663-3232

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BILL HORNER III, Editor/Publisher
bhorner3@chathamnr.com 919-774-2728

NEWSROOM

TAYLOR HEEDEN, Reporter/Web Editor
theeden@chathamnr.com
 BEN RAPPAPORT, Reporter
brappaport@chathamnr.com
 MAYDHA DEVARAJAN, Reporter
mdevarajan@chathamnr.com
 JEREMY VERNON, Sports Editor
jeremy@chathamnr.com
 KIM HAWKS, PEYTON SICKLES & SIMON BARBRE, Staff Photographers
 MAX BAKER & TANNER BUBECK, News Interns

NEWSROOM INQUIRIES, PRESS RELEASES AND WEBSITE QUESTIONS
news@chathamnr.com

ADVERTISING

JASON JUSTICE
jjustice@chathamnr.com

Advertising Specialist
advertising@chathamnr.com

OFFICE

KAREN PYRTLE
karen@chathamnr.com
 DORIS BECK
doris@chathamnr.com
 FLORENCE TURNER
billing@chathamnr.com

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NEWS BRIEFS

Farmers market coupons available through Council on Aging

The Chatham County Council on Aging is a 2022 participant in the North Carolina Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. Through the program, low-income older adults can receive vouchers that can be used at participating farmer's markets to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. The coupons are available now and must be used by Sept. 30. For more information or to

determine eligibility, contact Alan Russo, nutrition services manager at 919-542-4512.

Chatham County Parks & Rec to host 2nd annual Sidewalk Chalk Festival

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department invites community members of all ages to express their creativity by creating a masterpiece at the second annual Sidewalk Chalk Festival on Saturday, Sept. 10 (rain date September

11th) at The Park at Briar Chapel located at 1015 Andrews Store Rd., Pittsboro.

All Chatham County artists – amateur and professional alike – are invited to draw their chalk creations. Residents also are invited to spend the morning in the park enjoying the artwork, a coffee station and other vendor stations. Check-in for sidewalk chalk artists begins at 8:30 a.m., and artists will draw from 9 to 11 a.m. There will be three award categories: Family (group with kids 12 and under), Teen (ages 13-18), and Adult (Ages 19+), as well as a crowd pleaser

award. Artists are encouraged to pre-register online at www.chathamcountync.gov/parks-rec, but registration will also be available on-site on the day of the event. A tabletop drawing option is available upon request for those who are not able to draw on the ground.

"Chatham County Parks and Recreation hosted the inaugural Sidewalk Chalk Festival last year as a part of the Chatham 250 celebration, and we are excited to see it continue this year," said Chatham County Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett. "We enjoy having the opportunity to celebrate

the art community in Chatham County and bringing people together in this way."

For more information, individuals may visit the Chatham County Parks and Recreation website at www.chathamcountync.gov/parks-rec, or contact Mallory Peterson at the Parks and Recreation Department at 919-545-8553 and ormallory.peterson@chathamcountync.gov. Information and updates will also be shared on Chatham County Parks and Recreation's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

—CN+R staff reports

HISTORY

Continued from page A1

way for people to understand how people actually lived.

"People don't realize that it used to take a year to make a mens shirt," Voelker said. "It's a great event because everybody gets to play dress-up, let's pretend, but also learn these lost skills."

Next to the weaver stood the tailor, Drew Neill, a historian at the Alamance Battleground Historic Site. He said he believes this work is valuable because it shows people that there is more to the past than just conflict.

"We tend to think of history in terms of battles," Neill said. "But most of history isn't conflict, it's just normal guys trying to make a living. That's why it's great to show the ins and outs of trade, not just the battle."

Reconciling with a flawed past

The story of the Alston House and family is also imperfect. Part of Saturday's event was sharing the darker past of the family, including the lives of those it enslaved. Records show Alston held nine enslaved people whose identities still remain unknown.

"We keep trying to uncover the names and the stories of all the people that passed through here," said Marisa Balatico, education coordinator for N.C. Historic Sites. "These stories haven't been told for so many years."

Balatico said until recently, Alston was regarded as a war hero and a patriot, but that misses part of his complicated legacy.

For starters, the Battle of the House in the Horseshoe didn't actually advance the cause of the American Revolution. In fact, the skirmish began



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Smoke from musket powder billows as reenactors fire during Saturday's battle at the House in the Horseshoe.

after a purely emotional dispute.

"Once you really dig into the layers and discover all the things Alston was involved in after the Revolutionary War, you see there are few people who actually have good things to say about him," Balatico said.

N.C. Historic Sites decided to dig into the layered complexities of Alston during the pandemic and Balatico said it is a big part of the organization's future research initiatives for the house.

"We're really excited to expand these diverse voices and spread that story together," she said.

'Who we are and where we came from'

Despite its darker sides, many reenactors still believe it is important to preserve the Alston House. Robert Lee Garner, an N.C. Historic Sites maintenance worker,



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Jeff Bokert, left and AJ Drake, right, rest with other reenactors portraying the North Carolina Patriot Militia. The House in the Horseshoe hosted a battle reenactment last Saturday detailing the site's role in the American Revolution.

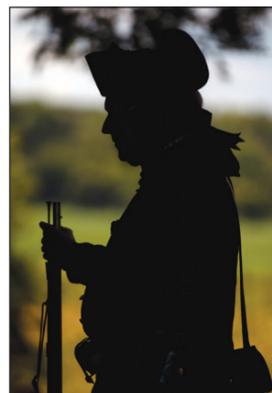
dresses in a big straw hat, beige vest and walks around barefooted as he invites guests to tour the house.

"Preserving these buildings shows us who we were and where we

came from," Garner said. "It gives us an understanding of why and how things were done."

Garner said he believes the past shows us why we are the way we are today, which is one of the reasons it was so exciting for this event to be the first one to take place since the pandemic began.

"It really gives you your purpose back," he said. "During COVID, a



Staff photo by James Kiefer

A man dressed in colonial-era attire stands in waiting for a battle reenactment. Last Saturday saw a retelling of the 1781 battle that took place during the American Revolution at the Alston House in Sanford.

lot of people lost enthusiasm to tell stories, but bringing people back gives you somebody to share that story with. The hope is, they'll walk away with something that they'll share with somebody else."

Long-time reenactors will tell you, the story they share is one of an incomplete America.

A tale of a young country finding its way and grappling with big issues like culture and what rights people should have — issues that, according to reenactor Tyler Mink, we're still grappling with today.

"Culture and rights are always in progress, and America always needs to strive to move forward," Mink said. "The American Revolution attempted to answer questions about what it wanted to become, but a lot of things still remain unresolved."

Mink portrayed the role of David Fanning in the reenactment. He said he believes the conflict between Fanning and Alston was a microcosm of the egotistical battles America would grapple with for centuries to come.

"The study of the American Revolution is always the study of rights and how a group of people saw a way that could be better," he said. "Yet, because of our own shortcomings we fell short of our potential."

Mink said studying that process — trying to answer questions about the future of the nation and coming up short — shows us the conversations we should be having today.

"Demonstrations like these are meant to cast a human light on these people," he said. "We tend to put the people of the past on pedestals and deify them. These reenactments remind people that the Revolution was a very real, very turbulent time, which I think is something people today can appreciate."

The normal operating hours for the Alston House are Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the house is closed Sunday, Monday and most major holidays. For more information about the Alston House visit www.historic-sites.nc.gov/all-sites/house-horseshoe, call 910-947-2051 or email horse-shoe@ncdcr.gov.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport.

CHATHAM COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY TOWN HALL

MEET OUR CHATHAM COUNTY CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES

Sunday, August 14

Chatham County Ag Center
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
1192 US 64 W Business
Pittsboro, NC 27312

MEET THE CANDIDATES AND ASK QUESTIONS

FREE EVENT
\$10 DONATIONS WELCOME
REFRESHMENTS
DOOR PRIZES

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Candidate for US House of Representatives District 9
<https://hudson.house.gov/>

ALVIN REED
Candidate for North Carolina State Senate District 20
<https://alvinreed.com/>

WALTER PETTY
Candidate for North Carolina State House District 54
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MARCUS GLOBUSCHUTZ
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Candidate for Chatham County Board of Education District 3
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Candidate for Chatham County Board of Education District 5
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VIEWPOINTS

Mice, chocolate, and life lessons

Editor's note: This week, we introduce a new occasional News + Record columnist: Jan Hutton.

A contractor left my crawlspace door ajar. The mice were rejoicing. These little critters were able to make entrance into my house through the tiniest of spaces — the size of a dime. And, bingo, they discovered my birdseed storage closet, snacked on several hot pepper bird suet bars, nested in and chewed



JAN HUTTON
This Being Human Thing

through an electric blanket, and left their tiny scat. I didn't particularly care for my end of the exchange.

My self-image is that of a pacifist, avoiding killing things, if it all possible. I even have a pacifistic roach trapping system, (mostly) allowing me to transport the Kafkaesque critters outside. I say "mostly" because late at night, when I'm really tired, I have been known to pull out the vacuum cleaner. (OK, sue me; I'm human.)

Using humane mousetraps, I simply wanted to remove them (and their mouse-y contributions) from my house. Initial bait failures: peanut butter, raw nuts, cheese and even birdseed (OMG) so I consulted Dr. Google. Chocolate, bacon, and jelly beans are mouse-y faves. Who

knew? (Now, you do.) Hershey's almond chocolate worked like gangbusters! I caught four mice, having gorged themselves on the Hershey candy pieces. (Would this classify as going on a mouse-y "bender?")

Released them outside my house. BIG mistake. My more experienced humane mouse catcher friends, and Dr. Google, explained, "you need to take them at least a couple of miles away, or they will find their way back." Argghh!

Started over. More chocolate. Another captured mouse early the next morning. The sun barely peeping up, threw on sweats, put the mousetrap in my car, and drove to an isolated gravel road two miles away. Opened both ends of the trap and — NOTHING! The little

critter wouldn't budge — at all. Tried to prod with a stick. Nope. Getting cranky. Uh, oh, sliding into my frustrated/anger zone, something I try to be mindful of. When cognizant, I try to do a breathing exercise or eat. I did neither.

OK, yes, I lost it. I picked up the HUMANE trap and violently tried to shake out the mouse. It worked AND I felt terrible. The little critter just sat there in the grass and didn't move. All the other released mice had just scampered away. I don't know if I mortally injured the mouse. Feeling powerless, not knowing what else to do, I returned to the car and left. And continued to kick myself all the way home. AND, also, at home, and

Well, geez, as much as it feels

warranted, continuing to kick myself only bruises my soul. My soul is important to me even when I crash and burn, just as I did here. (Self flagellation is not on my bucket list; being human and forgiving are.)

Begin again. Begin again and help myself become the person I want to be. This is where the air began to fill my lungs again and I could breathe past my contraction of sadness and self-anger. Begin again and accept my caring and often-challenged humanity and learn from it ...

Jan Hutton is a retired hospice/hospital social worker who believes in living life with heart and humor. She has happily lived in Chatham for 20 years.

Sign of peace

Even with my GPS, I rely on signs to travel to my desired locations. But driving to my children's summer camp, my favorite "sign" along the way was actually a person. We often passed an older gentleman walking in the opposite direction. Without fail, this man would hold up two fingers to make the peace sign.



ANDREW TAYLOR- TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

"There's the peace guy!" my kids would shout, throwing up their own peace signs in return. I didn't have the heart to tell them that the back windows of the minivan are tinted, and he couldn't see them. It was the thought that counted.

Not everyone agrees that flashing a sign is a good thing. So-called virtue signaling is a pejorative term that is often levied at political opponents. It refers to the idea of displaying moral outrage or showing disgust without actually doing anything about it — for example, decrying a political stance on social media. In our hyper-partisan culture, many of us think we have a keen sense of sniffing out the hypocrisy in others while insisting that we remain stink-free.

Judge not lest ye be judged.

It is popular among Facebook users to display a Ukrainian flag as part of their profile pictures. Maybe some of those people have an actual connection to the county. Maybe they have donated money to support the victims of war. Or maybe not. Still, the desire for peace is a good thing to signal.

Beneath my Facebook profile picture is a rainbow flag with the caption, "Y'all means all." I have never had a negative comment on this signal that I support political stances such as marriage equality. My little sign certainly does not mean that I am excused from working to ensure that my LGBTQ siblings have equal protection under the law. And this signal of my support does not mean that I am not guilty of prejudice, whether explicit or implicit. We all make mistakes and have things to learn.

But I hope to offer a sign of peace to someone who happens to pass my online presence.

I recognize that the sign for my children's summer camp is not the same as the actual place. But the sign assures me that this small farm exists as a kid's wonderland of goats, chickens and Birdy — the world's friendliest barn cat. Likewise, maybe my profile picture signals something more to someone who sees it.

Since summer camp has ended, I don't know if I'll ever see "the peace guy" again, much less have the opportunity to thank him for the joy he gave my children and me on those mornings.

I tell the story in this column because hope matters, and so readers might believe that we can have a virtuous impact with as simple a thing as a sign of peace, even if we never know the difference we have made.

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

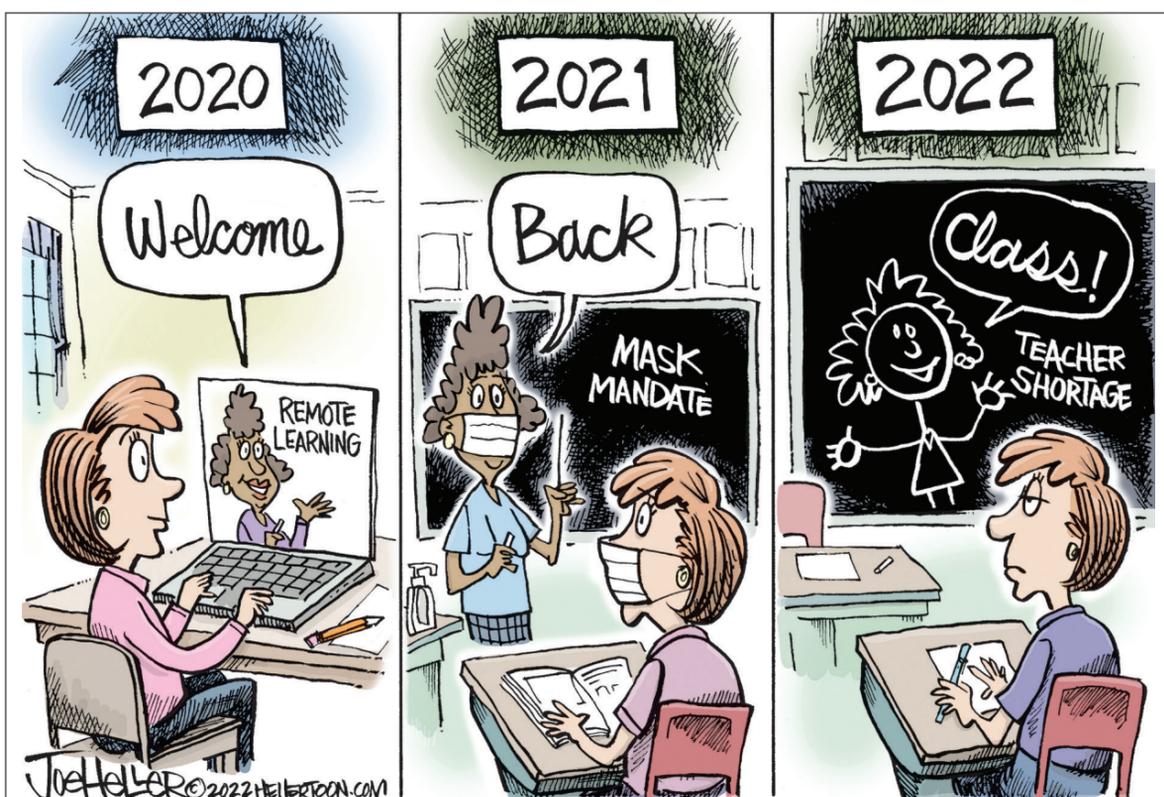
What's on your mind?

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

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

Each letter must contain the writer's full name, address and daytime telephone number for verification. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length. Letter-writers are limited to two published letters per month. Letters selected for publication may be edited and all letters become property of the Chatham News + Record.

To submit a letter: Mail it to the News + Record at P.O. Box 290, Siler City, N.C. 27344; or email to bhorner3@chathamnr.com; or drop by our office at 303 West Raleigh Street in Siler City.



Is it true one man's trash really is another's treasure?

There's no denying I'm a pack rat. Even though society today calls us folks by such names as "collectors," the fact remains we're pack rats or, to some, hoarders.



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

I'm reluctant to use the term "character flaw" but again, to some, that's probably more accurate.

Another reason I'm this way, I'm convinced, is because of my dear departed mother. She saved everything — except my comic book collection and baseball cards, which today would be worth several dollars to other collectors, if I wanted to sell them.

When, as a youngster, I would ask her why she saved all that stuff, she would reply, "If you'd live through a depression (the Great One of the 1930s) you'd save everything, too."

"But Mama," I'd say, "I didn't" or "We're not" — to which she'd usually reply, "Well, you might need it one day."

Now lest you think she saved "everything," I'm not including such things as used matches or tissues, although after she left us and I cleaned out her house and pocketbook and such, I did find some napkins and rolled-up paper towels. Apparently, she wasn't going to be without some way to cover a sneeze or wipe her nose.

However, there's no way I can say a great deal about that because when cold weather comes around and I slip on my heavier jackets and stick my hands in the outer pockets there is a good chance there will be a Kleenex or two there. And it's

What attracted my attention when I sat down with it was an inside page right before the text started that noted the book was a gift from a wife to her husband on the occasion of their 5th wedding anniversary.

been pointed out we Southerners will save napkins from a fast-food joint and put them in our vehicles for later.

So, we all have some quirks, I suppose. That's one thing that gives variety to life. Among my more noticeable ones are the collection of books (blame Barnes & Noble) stacked up on the floor of my study and, best of all, a significantly large collection of newspapers. Both of those are related to the fact I enjoy reading, partly because I'm not a mechanic or plumber but also because most of my adult life careers have involved the use of words, especially in those years of print journalism at several newspapers, including the one you're reading now.

Reading them isn't the problem; it's tossing them afterwards. In a bit of personal appreciation, I will say I have gotten a bit better at disposal.

But books, on the other hand ... that's a different story. I know many folks today have Kindles or other electronic books. Not me. I've got to hold the paper in my hands so I'm always on the look-out for a bargain book, which leads me to this point.

Sometimes the books were originally gifts or held special place in someone's life and when I run across one of those I wonder what happened to move the book from its original home.

Such a thing happened not so

long ago. I was in an area Christian book store and found a few gems on the used book table. One was about strategies for "the back nine" of life; and, yes, it used golf as the way to deal with that period.

What attracted my attention when I sat down with it was an inside page right before the text started that noted the book was a gift from a wife to her husband on the occasion of their 5th wedding anniversary. The handwriting was beautiful and I imagined so was the life of those two, but wait ...

Why was the book gone from its original owner? Was one or the other deceased? Were they no longer Mr. and Mrs.? Did the old boy read it, say "thanks" and move on? All that, of course, made me think of my own library. What would someone think of the range of books I have from Christian authors, left-over seminary texts, joke books, volumes about baseball and the War Between the States and World War II, collections of cartoons, popular volumes of other years, assorted American history and some I can't remember?

My 40-something descendants have told me not to leave a mess for them to clean up one day. Experts, whoever they are, say the younger generation(s) aren't interested in Grandma's tea set.

I wonder where I could find one of those.

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.

Chatham News + Record

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VIEWPOINTS

Why does N.C. rank number one?

When CNBC ranked North Carolina the best state in America for business a few weeks ago, Democrats and Republicans spun the news in familiar ways. The former used it to promote the leadership of Gov. Roy Cooper, citing CNBC's own take that the state had prevailed against its Sunbelt competitors by "putting partisanship aside" and avoiding contentious debates on social issues. GOP politicians and activists responded by touting the benefits of a decade's worth of pro-growth tax and regulatory reforms by the General Assembly — most of which Cooper opposed, which in their view makes it hypocritical for him to claim credit for the CNBC ranking.

If you look closely at its



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

methodology, you'll find some support for both political takes. But you'll also find key insights that produced no headlines.

The study's sources included the Tax Foundation's State Business Tax Climate Index and the Fraser Institute's Economic Freedom of North America Index, both of which gave North Carolina high marks. However, the study also included voting-rights rankings from the left-leaning Brennan Center for Justice and anti-discrimination rankings from Freedom for All Americans, an LGBTQ-rights organization.

As it happens, North Carolina didn't rank in the top five, much less at the top of the list, in any of the broad categories encompassing those measures. CNBC ranked our state 26th in the cost of doing business (Missouri was first), 22nd in business friendliness (North Dakota was first), and 28th in "life, health, and inclusion," a category in which Vermont ranked first and the likes of Florida (39th), Tennessee

(42nd), Texas (49th) and Arizona (50th) fared poorly.

If you were wondering why those fast-growing states ended up lower on CNBC's list than North Carolina, now you know one of the main reasons.

So, how did our state end up at the top of the overall list? Because CNBC used a weighted average of many different categories — and North Carolina ranked either middling or high in all of them. Other CNBC categories included access to capital (2nd), technology and innovation (5th), workforce (12th), education (14th) and infrastructure (17th).

Some of our high rankings are related to policy choices by lawmakers and other public officials. As I have pointed out on numerous occasions, North Carolina has a comparatively high return on public investment in highways and public schools, and remains one of the most generous state funders of higher education in the country. You and I may disagree about the causes and practical

consequences of these conditions. But because of the way CNBC set up its study, they were bound to boost North Carolina's overall score.

Other high rankings for our state, however, have more to do with longstanding structural features of its economy, such as its strong banking and finance sector (which has its roots in policy choices, yes, but those made more than a century ago when lawmakers adopted relatively loose regulation of state-wide branching and bank-issued insurance products).

In only one of the study's constituent categories did our state rank at the top of the national list — but it was a big one. After North Carolina, the top-scoring states on CNBC's "economy" category were Tennessee, Washington, Florida and Idaho. The category included measures of job creation, GDP growth, real estate markets, the presence of corporate headquarters, and the fiscal condition and creditworthiness of state and local

governments.

Take special note of those latter measures. Over the past decade the General Assembly has prudently built up the state's financial reserves, protecting its triple-A credit ratings while sending a clear signal to entrepreneurs, investors, job creators and corporate decision-makers that North Carolina is better prepared than most other places to weather future storms, be they meteorological or economic. State Treasurer Dale Folwell has also played a key role in improving the state's fiscal position and preparedness.

There's nothing particularly exciting about paying off debts or stashing money in rainy-day accounts and defined-benefit reserves. It doesn't make headlines. It just makes good sense.

John Hood is a John Locke Foundation board member. His latest books, Mountain Folk and Forest Folk, combine epic fantasy with early American history (FolkloreCycle.com).

Meck Dec in fiction

Is the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence fact or fiction?



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

"Meck Dec" is a shorthand term sometimes used to refer to the Declaration of Independence adopted on May 20, 1775, by a group of Mecklenburg leaders.

The debate about that question could continue forever, but one former Charlotte lawyer has put it at the center of a fictional murder mystery set in a Charlotte retirement community.

The new book, "Deadly Declarations," by Landis Wade, opens with the death of a 96-year-old resident, a historian named Mathew Collins.

Years ago, Collins wrote a scholarly book titled "American Hoax." It argued that the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was a fake. But he had, shortly before his death, changed his views and was writing a new book that argued that the Mecklenburg Declaration was real.

Possibly, he was killed by someone who wanted to suppress whatever evidence the professor may have had that showed that the Mecklenburg Declaration was genuine.

Supporting this view, all of Collins' drafts of the new book and his records relating to Meck Dec were missing from his apartment.

One possible suspect could be Robert Elkin, a prominent Charlotte lawyer and top partner in a giant multi-state law firm on the 45th floor of the American Bank office building. Elkin, a native Virginian, was a worshiper of Thomas Jefferson.

Some of the language in Meck Dec sounds very Jeffersonian. For instance, "Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing Association, under the control of no power other than that of our God and the General Government of the Congress; to the maintenance of which independence, we solemnly pledge to each other, our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honor."

If the Meck Dec was really adopted more than a year before the Jefferson-drafted American Declaration, then Jefferson might be deemed to have copied its language. Elkins and his pro-Jefferson allies might do anything, including murder, to prevent proof of Meck Dec's legitimacy — and Jefferson's plagiarism.

There is another possibility. Collins loved his granddaughter, Lori. He had long planned to leave everything to her. But shortly before he died, he made a handwritten will that left everything to another woman.

Collins was not only a scholar. He had made a \$50 million fortune publishing popular magazines. So his last-minute switch of beneficiaries created another big mystery.

Wade credits Charlotte lawyer Scott Syfert and his book, "The First American Declaration of Independence," with inspiring him to write about Meck Dec.

Wade hosts a series of podcasts featuring book authors. When he interviewed Syfert about his contemporary non-fiction book, he liked Syfert's balanced treatment of the Meck Dec question.

Wade says Syfert "does a really good job with it. Being a lawyer, he covers both sides of the story."

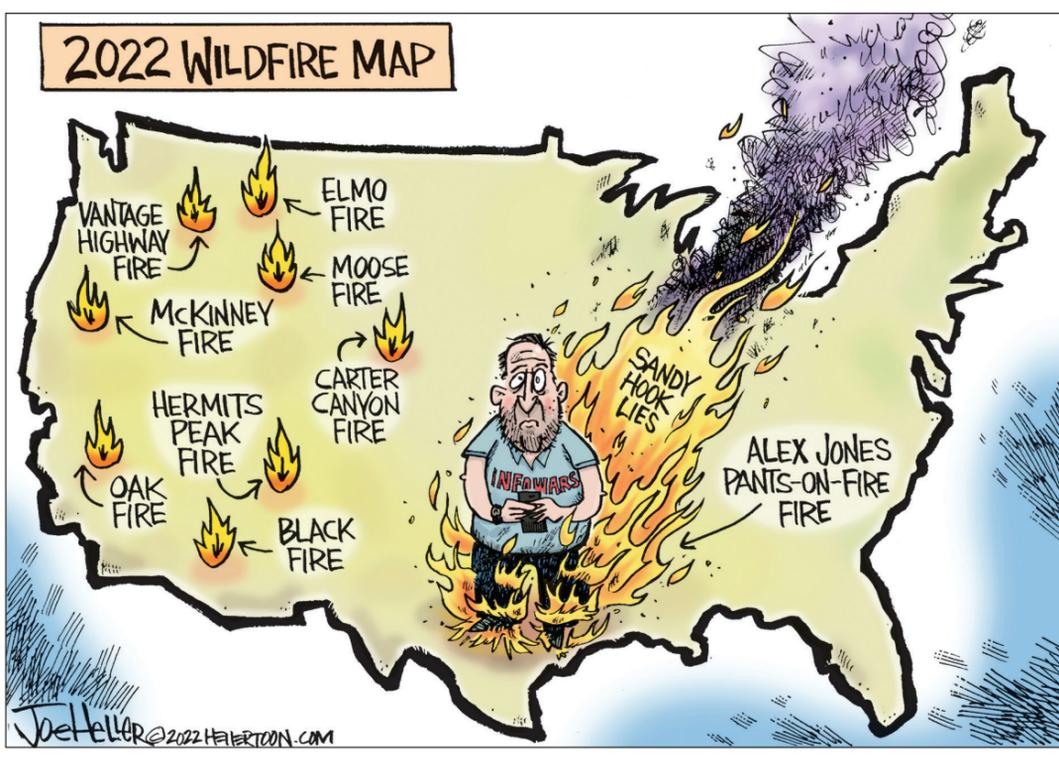
As he interviewed Syfert, Wade became interested in the Meck Dec "because it had never been taught in schools. I didn't really know much about the story. Because I became intrigued with it and learned that there's so much conflict in it, I actually changed the mystery I was writing to incorporate the Meck Dec into the story.

"I thought, wow, nobody's written a mystery involving the Meck Dec. It's got lots of conflict. You need conflict for a good novel. Let's put this in the story and see what we can do with it."

Wade says it is a North Carolina story because North Carolinians, for more than 200 years have been proud of the fact that the state was first in freedom.

"I mean," he told me, "We've got it on our license plate, right?"

D.G. Martin, a lawyer, served as UNC-System's vice president for public affairs and hosted PBS-NC's North Carolina Bookwatch. hosted "North Carolina Bookwatch," for more than 20 years.



Why does it seem ...

Why does it seem we are willing to talk ourselves into a recession?



TOM CAMPBELL
N.C. Spin

Opponents of President Biden seem almost gleeful about the prospects and the media has also been complicit in talking up the possibility. The John Locke Foundation's latest Civitas poll revealed 52.1% of North Carolinians believe we are already in a recession, with 24.5% somewhat agreeing that we are.

Just over 88% in the poll say they worry about inflation, a problem not only in the U.S. but in many countries. During the pandemic people spent more money on goods and less on services, leading to shortages. The economy, exacerbated by the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, became overheated and inflation ensued. But things began "cooling off" in the first quarter of this year, as evidenced by a drop in the Gross Domestic Product. We recently learned the second quarter GDP also declined slightly.

Some authoritatively state that two consecutive quarters of negative growth is proof we are in a recession. Not so fast. While the GDP is one indicator, there is no hard and fast formula. In fact, there are six indicators considered, including real personal income, non-farm payroll, real personal consumption expenditures, manufacturing and trade sales, household employment, and industrial production, with the official determination made by the Business Cycle Dating Committee. Thus far, they haven't declared us in recession.

In the past month, gas prices dropped by 80 cents per gallon. Business surveys are indicating a significant drop in broader inflation and S&P Global reports

that while private-sector companies are still raising prices, the rate of inflation is "now down to a 16-month low."

Our Federal Reserve has been raising interest rates with the intent we have a "soft landing" from the overheating without creating a recession. Our economy is definitely slowing but we aren't in a recession yet. We cannot ignore or deny what is happening, but neither should we be fanning the flames.

And why does it seem so many are turning their backs on public education, one of our basic rights and the most important function of state government? Public education has problems, some of them large, but in recent years we've changed from trying to fix those deficiencies to funneling increasing sums of money and attention into private schools and charters, neither of which have the strict regulations with which district schools must both follow and enjoy more freedom to decide which students to accept in their schools. It's not a level playing field. Our schools have been a source of pride for our state, but we seem to have lost that pride. That can't result in good for our students.

Further, why does it seem so many no longer believe in our election systems and those who work to ensure fair and free elections? Local election officials are being threatened, election results are being challenged and the system itself is under attack.

In the past three years, 43 of the 100 election directors in North Carolina have resigned or retired. Some officials are asking that bullet-proof glass be installed at public counters. Workers are being harassed and there are demands for reams of paperwork. In 2020 the state elections board faced a record 33 lawsuits at once.

Yet with the exception of the 2019 9th Congressional District's ballot-harvesting scheme, which resulted in a new election, there

has been no proven widespread corruption, no conspiracy to control the outcomes, results are demonstrated accurate and the people who work within the system have repeatedly shown their integrity. So why are seeds of distrust being sown? Why the harassment? More importantly, if our systems are ultimately brought down how will we select public officials? What's the endgame for all these efforts?

It certainly isn't for better, fairer and freer elections or for better public servants.

Finally, why does it seem we are no longer pulling for ourselves? Our state and nation are in a funk and either can't or won't pull ourselves out of it. A Pew Research Center poll in January said that just 21% are satisfied with the way things are going; 78% are dissatisfied. An NPR/Ipsos poll showed 64% believed the country is in crisis and at risk of failing. And a University of California, Davis poll revealed more than half believe there will be a civil war in coming years.

In times past when there was a threat to our democracy, we united and attacked those threats. We stood up for our community, state and nation. But we aren't hearing cries to "rally round the flag" and support of our way of life.

We are far from perfect, deeply divided and still face great pockets of inequality, but ours is still the best system there is, and we need to cheer for each other... even those with whom we disagree. It is time to stop tearing apart and start reuniting our pride and our belief.

But why does it seem we aren't willing to do it?

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.

BOOKMOBILE

Continued from page A1

Virginia Cross Elementary and Siler City Elementary.

“The kids get really excited to see us,” said Ngaere Pearce, librarian at Virginia Cross. “It serves a good purpose in giving kids extra things to read over the summer.”

Pearce believes it’s an important initiative to help with a “summer slump,” where out-of-school students aren’t reading as much.

The Bookmobile targets specific neighborhoods in Siler City where students might not have as much access to reading materials. It runs weekly throughout July and August, making pit stops at mobile home parks, community centers and schools. Children who show up enter the bus filled to the ceiling with books of all genres and can check them out on loan or find some to keep from the stack of takeaways.

Allizon Sanchez Hernandez, a 3rd grader at VCE, quickly picked out books about narwhals, an Encanto picture book and a comic about cats. She jumped up and down with a big grin, excited about her new treasures.

“That’s a really good one,” Pearce tells Sanchez Hernandez with a smile.

“I know. I can’t wait,” San-



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Allizon Sanchez Hernandez picks out books from the Virginia Cross Bookmobile in Siler City on Wednesday.

chez Hernandez said as she practically glided down the stairs of the bus.

Sanchez is just one of the dozens of children who left the Bookmobile happier than when they entered, entranced with wonder about their new books.

With each beep of the book scanner, Pearce offered words of encouragement to the young readers and added a personal touch for each of her VCE students.

“Hopefully we’ll see you at

the same time next week,” she told one student. “I think you’re really going to like this one,” she tells another.

Many of the books in the bus were purchased with funding from the Chatham Education Foundation, which provided specific grant money for the two schools to help fill up the Bookmobile.

Children who showed up also received snack bags from the Chatham Outreach Alliance (CORA) Food Pantry and popsicles to help them cool off during the hot summer day.

It’s a family affair, too. Students bring their siblings and parents onto the bus to help them pick out books, and staff from Communities In Schools of Chatham County ride along to help translate for Spanish-speaking families.

“I try to bring a lot of the Latino families into the bus and let them know that we are waiting for them,” CIS’s liaison for Virginia Cross Eva Depaz said. “Our biggest population in the district is Latino students and so we have to think about them whenever we have initiatives like this.”

The library contains books in both English and Spanish, so Spanish-speaking families with children too young to read on their own or Spanish-speaking children can still find ways to expand their minds during the summer months.

Pearce said that’s especially important for this initiative because more than three out of every four students at VCE is Hispanic; SCE has similar numbers.

On average, the Bookmobile checks out more than 50 books each week to about 40 students, but that doesn’t count the number of books taken from the takeaway stacks.

While the program has by and large been a success, it has faced its share of challenges. Pearce said getting the word out to local families who don’t have access to the internet or phone lines has been difficult. The bookmobile also stops by in the middle of the day, when many parents are at work, so getting babysitters to corral large groups of kids to go pick out books isn’t easy.

These challenges have inspired Pearce and Depaz to consider ways of expanding the program in the future like stopping at grocery stores and visiting summer schools during pick-up and drop-off times to increase visitors.

They also want to run the program more frequently during the summer. Pearce said they’ve noticed attendance increase each week. She said starting earlier in the summer would help give kids time to return books prior to the start of the year and help provide more resources to families in

need of educational help over the summer.

“This is a great program and we want to get it in the backyards of as many local families as possible,” Depaz said. “I work with these families every day during the year, but I don’t see them during the summer to help as much as I’d like. This gives us a way to reconnect with our communities and show them we care, regardless of whether school is happening.”

The ultimate goal is to deliver as many books to as many kids as possible, no matter where they go to school. Each time they roll out the bus, several kids who don’t attend either VCE or SCE hop on and look in wonder at the vast display of books — and while they can’t check any out, Pearce and her colleagues still let the children take from the stacks and give them snack bags so they have something to go home with.

“We want to serve any kid we can serve,” Pearce said. “One of the great things about these giveaway books is that we can help everyone have something.”

The Bookmobile will make its final summer trip around Siler City from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 17.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport.

CONNECT

Continued from page A1

tham Media Group LLC, the media group that owns the News + Record.

Community and collaboration are at the forefront of what the 79°West brand is aiming to foster, said Clark Rinehart, founder of Coworking NC, a digital platform focused on local and independent workspaces that was contracted to assist in the execution of the hub.

“We want to connect the business and social fabric of this county,” Rinehart said during a recent panel held at the launch pod space. “There’s a lot of people doing interesting things. We want 79°West to be, again, that note of connection, along with a lot of other things.”

Besides the physical coworking space, 79°West will also offer programming via Innovate Carolina. In July, the hub held a soft opening and an open house that had around 65 attendees as the kickoff to a summer series of Innovate Carolina’s programming.

The brand also held a Q&A panel with Rinehart, Sheryl Waddell, Innovate Carolina’s director of economic development and innovation hubs, and Phillip Pappas, coordinator of the Small Business Center at Central Carolina Community College, about the space and its amenities on Aug. 2.

In the coming months, future programming will include workshops on crafting an elevator pitch with a UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School professor, telling your brand story in a digital landscape, and creating a marketing plan. The summer series is free for attendees and they are intended for people of all skill levels, said Kimi Yingling, events program manager for the space through Innovate Carolina.

The brand’s goal is to create partnerships with people in Chatham County, in addition to bringing resources from the university and Orange County, Yingling said.

“Just as Chatham County grows, we want to make sure that we’re providing programming that you can come in no matter what type of business you’re running, and take something away that will help you grow that business or move it forward,” she said.

In laying the groundwork for those partnerships and planning for future programming, Yingling said she met, and is continuing to meet, with different startups and organizations in the county to get a sense of local entrepreneurs’ different needs.

One of those organizations is WEBB Squared (Wealth through Entrepreneurship for Black Businesses), a non-profit organization and accelerator focused on closing the racial wealth gap and supporting Black entrepreneurs in rural N.C.

Stephanie Terry, executive director and co-founder of the group, said WEBB Squared views its work as being highly collaborative, and she hopes to connect their entrepreneurs to some of the services that will be provided by Innovate Carolina through the 79°West hub.

The individuals who seek out WEBB Squared’s services come from all sectors of industry, not just tech, Terry said. She noted that often in Black communities in rural areas, there may be a greater number of “informal entrepreneurs” — individuals who provide services within their community, like auto repair or childcare, but aren’t necessarily registered with the state in a formalized manner.

“So part of our work is when we encounter some of these informal entrepreneurs, is to provide them with information and resources, and direct support so that they can turn their informal business to formal and formalized businesses,” Terry said. “And what we mean by formalized is moving from owner-operated to actually being able to have the infrastructure in place to hire employees.”

Rinehart said he envisions the space as one that serves people in different phases of developing their business or career, whether someone is a remote worker or looking to grow the size of their startup.

He emphasized that he wants the hub to feel “authentically Chatham.” That means providing a network and a line to pre-existing resources in the county. Rinehart acknowledged that a coworking space, Perch Coworking, already exists in Pittsboro, and said 79°West wants to “double down on” and “amplify” those services.

Additionally, 79°West hopes to work with stakeholders in the county like the Chatham Economic Development Corporation and Small Business Center.

“The last thing I want is for people to feel like they have to go to Raleigh, or Durham or Chapel Hill to find the resources they need,” Rinehart said. “Often-times, the hard work is just finding those connections, and making those relationships happen, both personally and professionally.”

Pappas said CCCC and 79°West are continuing to have discussions about a partnership and how to cohabitate in an economic development space in the county. The Small Business Center, part of a Small Business Center Network, offers free one-on-one counseling and classes in Chatham County.

Pappas said the SBC typically helps smaller businesses, and he sees a partnership as a chance for the center to assist in developing the next big entrepreneur in Chatham County.

“It’s exciting that all of these players are kind of coming together and so far, being able to work together and decide how we can help each other and the community,” Pappas said.

Looking ahead, both Rinehart and Yingling expressed a desire to hear from community members about how the space can best serve Chatham.

“We don’t just have to grow for growth’s sake,” Rinehart said. “We can grow well, and what better place to do that than Chatham County.”

Currently, 79°West offers a variety of membership plans — \$25/day for a day pass, \$150/month for a monthly part-time plan, \$800/month for a private office, etc. — for access to the space. The hub also plans to hold unique programming exclusive to members in the future, Rinehart said. A breakdown of the plans can be accessed on 79°West’s website at 79westhub.com/membership-2/.

The 79°West: Launch Pod is staffed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the next workshop, “The Power of a Pitch,” will be held Aug. 17 at 4 p.m.

Reporter Maydha Devarajan can be reached at mdevarajan@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @maydhadevarajan.



Courtesy of 79°West

Visitors to the 79°West: Launch Pod tour the site at the brand’s open house on July 28.

What Should You Know About IRA Rollovers?

If you’ve been contributing to an IRA, you’ve chosen a great way to save and invest for retirement. All IRAs have potential tax benefits and a range of investment possibilities, but not all IRA providers offer the same features. So, if you decide that your current IRA provider is charging higher fees than you’d like, or perhaps doesn’t offer as many investment choices as you want, then you might choose to move your IRA assets to another provider. How should you go about making this switch?

Here are some options to consider:

- **Trustee-to-trustee transfer or direct rollover** — You can ask the financial institution holding your IRA to move the money directly to another IRA. No taxes will be withheld from the amount transferred at the time of the transfer. This method is generally hassle-free, but some IRA sponsors will still only mail the check to your address of record, so you’d have to forward it to your new IRA.

- **Indirect rollover** — If you take an indirect rollover, also known as a 60-day rollover, the assets from your existing IRA will be liquidated and the custodian or plan sponsor will send you a check or deposit the funds directly into your bank or brokerage account. This payment may be subject to withholding for federal taxes, and possibly state taxes, unless you opt out of withholding. You have 60 calendar days from the time the funds were withdrawn to deposit the money, including any amount withheld, into a new IRA. If you miss this 60-day deadline, the withdrawal may be taxable at your personal income tax rate, and it could also be subject to an early withdrawal penalty if you’re younger than 59½.

Given the immediate withholding and the possibility of further taxes if you don’t move the money into a new IRA before the 60 days are up, you’ve got much to consider before initiating an indirect rollover. Consequently, you should consult with a financial advisor and tax professional before you make this type of move.

In addition to a rollover from an existing IRA, you may someday want to move the money from your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan to an IRA. This can occur when you retire or change jobs, although if you do take on another job, you might have the options of leaving your 401(k) with your former employer or rolling it over into your new employer’s plan. However, if you do want to move your 401(k) funds into an IRA, you can make what’s known as a direct rollover, in which the administrator of your old retirement plan will send you a check made payable to the custodian of your IRA. No taxes will be withheld, but you need to get the funds transferred within 60 days to avoid any potential tax issues.

You spend years contributing to your IRA and 401(k) — and for good reason. So, when it’s time to move that money, be careful and consider getting help from your financial and tax professionals. These funds can play a big role in your retirement income, so manage them wisely.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Pittsboro
Chad Virgil, CFP®, ChFC®, CLU®
630 East St Suite 2
919-545-5669

Governors Club
Sharon A Dickens, AAMS®
50101 Governors Dr Suite 118
919-967-9968

Pittsboro
Lee Shanklin, AAMS®
120 Lowes Drive Suite 107
919-545-0125

Penguin Place
Eric C Williams, AAMS®
114 Russet Run Suite 120
919-542-3020

Pittsboro
Kevin C Maley, AAMS®
984 Thompson St Suite E2
919-444-2961

Chapel Hill
Jessica L Villagrana
180 Providence Rd
Suite 1c
984-219-6635

Siler City
Laura Clapp, CFP®, AAMS™
301 E Raleigh St
919-663-1051

Ferrington
Kathy Brommage, CFP®
190 Chatham Downs Drive
Suite 103
919-960-6119

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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Candle lighting ceremony



Courtesy of CCCC

The Central Carolina Community College Louise L. Tuller School of Nursing Practical Nursing held its pinning and candle lighting ceremony on Thursday, July 21, at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center in Sanford. Class members - with home towns listed - and faculty members are pictured, left to right: front row, Practical Nursing Lead Instructor Christie McDougald, Adjunct Sarah TenBrink, Instructor Crystal Bennett, Giovanna Conigliaro (Raleigh), Trisha Scott (Fayetteville), Tamika McDougal (Sanford), Amy Kautz (Cameron), Vaniza Bailey (Cameron), Robin Beach (Sanford), Megan Bodily (Sanford), Natasha Campbell (Raleigh), Bianca Raby (Raleigh), Julia Hodges (Dunn), Beverly Autrey (Sanford), Adjunct Emily Long, and Instructor Theresa Cebulski-Field; back row, Instructor Chris Bailey, Monique Peguese (Wadesboro), Camia Woods (Siler City), Carmen Monroe (Carthage), Stella Jayala (Durham), Taylor Woodard (Raleigh), Ceria Hollingsworth (Parkton), Erica Carvin (Fayetteville), Rebecca Casanova (Fuquay-Varina), Jazmine Pritchett (Fort Bragg), Melvin Littlejohn (Bunnlevel), Department Chair Dr. Barbara Campbell, and Instructor Juanita Carter. For more information on the CCCC Practical Nursing program, visit www.cccc.edu/curriculum/majors/nursing/Nursing-Department/.

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OBITUARIES

MARY STROWD WARD RIGGSBEE

July 5, 1926 ~ August 3, 2022



Mary Strowd Ward Riggsbee died August 3, 2022, at age 96. She was born July 5, 1926, in Durham, North Carolina, to Mary Strowd and Robert Ward. She is survived by her sister, Kathryn Paul, daughter Lydia Maher (Steve), daughter-in-law, Lunday Riggsbee; nine grandchildren: Abraham, Zachary, Nathaniel, Dillon, Tessa, Alannah, Kathryn, Daniel, and William, and by 17 great-grand-

children. She was predeceased by her husband, Baxter, and son Fred.

Mary Strowd attended school in Chatham County and graduated from Pittsboro High School in 1943. She attended Louisburg Junior College, where she was a member of the Student Council, Baptist Student Union, Yearbook, newspaper, Phi Theta Kappa National Honorary Scholastic Fraternity, and was secretary of Beta Phi Gamma National Co-educational Journalistic Fraternity. She then attended UNC Chapel Hill in the field of Journalism, working with The Daily Tar Heel, and worked in the UNC-CH Library after graduation. Her strength in Journalism was recognized by the Wall Street Journal.

Mary Strowd married Baxter Riggsbee on August 7, 1948. She began her career in the Chatham County Schools by working in the Central Office, then she taught English and Library Science from 1949-1953 at Moncure High School. She then began teaching at Pittsboro High School, but after Fred was born, she stayed home until 1960, when she returned to teaching at Pittsboro High School, and continued after Pittsboro High School consolidated with Horton High School and became Northwood High School. While teaching, she got her MA from North Carolina Central University and became Librarian at Northwood. She retired from the school system in 1988, with 31 years of service. She is remembered by many of her former students as an excellent teacher, firm but fair, and one of the best they ever had.

After retirement, she continued as an active member of Pittsboro Methodist Church, teaching Sunday School and serving as Secretary of the United Methodist Women. She also served as an officer of Alpha Delta Kappa Honorary Fraternity. However, after retirement, much of her time was spent with her grandchildren, enjoying and caring for them, taking them to Jordan Lake and to the beach, and surrounding her family with love.

Mary Strowd's family would like to thank Barbara McQueen, Chris Tabon, Rhonda Goldston, Jessica Lucas, Kierra Marsh, and the UNC Hospice providers for the wonderful care she received from them.

The family received friends Tuesday, August 9, 2022, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory, Griffin Chapel.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 9 a.m. at Pittsboro United Methodist Church with Rev. Lucas Nelson and Rev. Ray Gooch presiding. Her ashes, and Baxter's, will then be buried at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church after the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made in Mary Strowd's memory to UNC Hospice, P.O. Box 1077, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312, or the UNC Lineberger Cancer Hospital, P.O. Box 309, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 would be appreciated.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com

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

IRENE CATHERINE COOPER HACKNEY

July 4, 1924 ~ August 5, 2022

Irene Catherine Cooper Hackney, age 98, of Pittsboro, died Friday, August 5, 2022, at Parkview Health & Rehabilitation in Chapel Hill.

Irene was born July 4, 1924, in Pittsboro, to the late Lonnie Cooper and Lillie Smith Cooper. She was also preceded in death by her son: Kenneth Hackney and three brothers: Lonnie Cooper, Lloyd Cooper, and James Cooper. She grew up in a farming family where she learned the value of hard work in harvesting vegetables, picking cotton, and feeding the animals. As a child, she had a special lamb who followed her everywhere.

She graduated from Pittsboro High School in 1942. On July 12, 1951, she married the love of her life, Eva Hackney Jr., and shared 66 precious years until his death on December 23, 2017. Irene found true joy in both work and play. She enjoyed beach trips, mountain visits, and family birthday and holiday celebrations. Irene worked in textiles for over 35 years, first at Carrboro Woolen Mill and then Chatham Mills. After retirement, she enjoyed working in her flower and vegetable garden as well as reading. Irene loved and was an active member of Rock Spring Baptist Church until her declining health.

Besides her church, her greatest love and devotion was to her family. She is survived by two daughters Barbara McMasters and husband Joe, and Linda Glosson. She is also blessed with three granddaughters, Gina Thompson and husband Shawn, Allison McMasters, Candice Griffin, and husband Cody; one grandson, Joshua Glosson, and one great-grandson, Trey Thompson. Irene enjoyed cooking chicken and dumplings, fried chicken, potato salad, deviled eggs, biscuits, pound cake, and other goodies that her family loved.

Irene has lived in Pittsboro all her life, residing at two homes off Hwy. 15-501. After she broke her hip in 2018, she could no longer live at home. She then became a resident at Cambridge Hills Assisted Living.

The family would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to Cambridge Hills Assisted Living, Parkview Health & Rehabilitation and Liberty Hospice for their loving care and support to Irene and the attention by the wonderful staff.

The funeral service was held Monday, August 8, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Rock Spring Baptist Church with Pastor Wesley Thomas presiding. Burial followed in the church cemetery. The family received friends immediately following the committal service in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made in Irene's memory to Liberty HomeCare & Hospice Services, 3414 N. Duke St. Suite G, Durham, N.C. 27704 and Rock Spring Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 82 Launis Street, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

CALVIN LEON OVERMAN

March 23, 1929 ~ August 4, 2022



Calvin Leon Overman, 93, of Siler City, passed away on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at Siler City Center.

Mr. Overman was born in Randolph County on March 23, 1929, the son of John and Myrtle Hackney Overman. Leon faithfully read his Bible and held close to his Baptist beliefs. He spent his working years as a truck driver for Chatham Feeds, and farming in his spare time. He was an avid outdoorsman who spent countless hours gardening and shared what he grew with his family. Leon loved going fishing, which usually ended in a fish fry on Saturday with his friends. Leon was well known in the community for preparing a hog to make sausage, ham and tenderloin. He was always there to help people. Leon adored his family and cherished the time he got to spend with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Leon is preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Betty Overman; brothers, Dean, Arnold, Tate, and Houston Overman; and sister, Mary Alice Williamson.

He is survived by his son, Charles "Chuck" Leon Overman and wife Beth of Siler City; sister, Hermis Overman of Staley; grandchildren, Charles Richard Overman and wife Courtney, and Angel Marie Marsh and husband Jon; great grandchildren, Ava, and Piper Overman, and Layla, Lily and Gabriel Marsh.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hickory Mountain Baptist Church.

A graveside service was held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at Hickory Mountain Baptist Cemetery, 1094 Mt. Vernon-Hickory Mountain Road, Siler City with Rev. Val Chadwick officiating.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Overman family.

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

ROSE LORRAINE BLOXSOM JOHNSON

February 21, 1942 ~ July 16, 2022



Rose Lorraine Bloxsom Johnson, 80, died July 16, 2022, at UNC Hospitals.

Ms. Johnson was born February 21, 1942, in Alamance County to William Howard Bloxsom Sr. and Vera Helen Trout. She was a member of Center United Methodist Church. Rose was a graduate of Eli Whitney High School.

For seven years she worked at Blue Cross and Blue Shield, and many years at Chatham Hospital, but her longest calling was as a dispatcher for the Siler City Police Department, retiring from there after 23 1/2 years. Rose loved Elvis Presley and her dog, which she named Elvis.

In addition to her parents Ms. Johnson was preceded in death by a brother, three sisters, three nieces and a nephew. She was also preceded by her daughter-in-law, Karen Johnson.

Rose is survived by her two sons: Barry S. Johnson Sr. and wife Penny of Snow Camp, and Keith Johnson of Graham; three grandchildren, Scott Johnson, Kyle Johnson and wife Katie, and Taylor Johnson; three great-grandchildren, Kennedy, Kloie and Blair; two nieces, and numerous great nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends on Friday, July 22, 2022, at 1 p.m. at Smith and Buckner Funeral Home with a memorial service following at 2 p.m. with Rev. Joseph Park and Rev. Wendy Bishop officiating.

The family would like to say a special thank you to Ms. Johnson's caregivers Connie Ferguson and Amy Ramsey, along with all the nurses from Home Health.

Smith and Buckner Funeral home is assisting the Johnson family.

Condolences maybe made at www.smithbucknerfh.com.

CLINTON ARTHUR PEARCE

January 10, 1933 ~ August 5, 2022

Clinton Arthur Pearce, 89, of Siler City passed away Friday, August 5, 2022, surrounded by his family at his home.

A memorial graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 13, 2022, at Oakwood Cemetery.

Mr. Pearce was born in Chatham County, the son of George and Sophronia Brower Pearce. Clinton was a proud United States Army Veteran. He was a member of West End United Methodist Church. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Shirley A. Pearce; grandson, Joshua; brothers, George, Neal, Frank, Dan Pearce; and sister, Sue Phillips.

He is survived by his daughter, Sandra Pearce of Siler City; son, Ronald D. Pearce of Greensboro; three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Pearce family.

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

ANGELO VIRGIL TOBIAS MILLIKEN

Angelo Virgil Tobias Milliken, 59, of Chapel Hill, passed away on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at Signature Health Care.

Graveside service was held at 11 a.m. Friday, August 5, 2022, at Mitchell Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church Cemetery.

LOUIS EDWARD DAVISON

December 20, 1983 ~ July 24, 2022

Louis Edward Davison, 38, of Angier, died Sunday, July 24, 2022, at home.

A memorial service was held Saturday, August 6, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church with Rev. Barrett Freeman presiding. Following the service, a reception was held Saturday, in the church fellowship hall.

Louis was born in Edison, N.J. to John E. and Jeanette Santora Davison. In addition to his parents, he is also survived by one brother, John Davison and one sister, Suzen Bria, both of Chapel Hill.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in Louis's memory to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

Davidson Funeral Home & Crematory is honored to serve the Davidson family

JAMES 'JIM' ROBERT KELLY

August 25, 1926 ~ August 5, 2022

James "Jim" Robert Kelly, 95, of Sanford, passed away Friday, August 5, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

The family received friends on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 in the McDowell Hall of Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church. The funeral service followed at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary with Dr. Calvin Sayles officiating. Burial followed in Juniper Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

He was born in Lee County to the late James Lee Kelly and Irene Griffin Kelly. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sons, Robert Kenneth Kelly and Jeffrey Paul Kelly; siblings, Larry Kyle Kelly, Sylvia Kelly Yarborough, Lou Kelly Roberts, Rachel Kelly Stickle and two great-grandchildren.

After retirement from GKN, he volunteered to many causes and organizations including Meals on Wheels and The Bread Basket. He was a member of Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church, where he was an active volunteer. Jim also served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict.

Mr. Kelly is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Melba; daughter Jennifer Ellen Kelly of Sanford; one grandson and two great-grandsons.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church, 316 W. Main Street, Sanford, N.C. 27332 and/or The Baptist Children's Homes of N.C., P.O. Box 338, Thomasville, N.C. 27361.

Online condolences are available at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

MARVIN BOYD MANESS

January 8, 1942 ~ August 7, 2022

Marvin Boyd Maness, 80, of Siler City, passed away Sunday, August 7, 2022, at his home.

The family received friends on Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 10 a.m., followed by the funeral service at 11 a.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, with Rev. Sam Garris officiating.

Marvin was born in Randolph County, the son of Lucian and Mary Dunn Maness.

He was a U.S. Army Veteran, serving in the Vietnam Conflict. For 25 years, he owned and operated Hobo Drywall. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his daughter, Melissa Ann Maness; siblings, Ann Dunn, Laura Taylor, Dean Maness Sr. and Jack Maness Sr. Marvin is survived by his wife of 42 years, Betty Myers Maness; children, Mary Whitely of Statesville, Mechelle Gentry of Statesville, Angela Johnson of Bear Creek, and Joseph Hash of Siler City; siblings, Rosemay Beal of Wilmington, Pearl Hargrove of Silk Hope, Betty Frye of Pittsboro, Joan Thomas of South Hill, Virginia, and Russell Maness Sr. of Manor, Texas; 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

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

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Maness family.

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

TANYA D. CUMMINS

Tanya D. Cummins, 51, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, July 23, 2022, at her residence.

There was a public walk-thru viewing on Tuesday, August 2, from 2 to 4 at Knotts Funeral Home.

See **OBITUARIES**, page A12

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Over 50 years experience designing, lettering and erecting monuments in Siler City and surrounding area.
Opposite Smith & Buckner Funeral Home

STARTUP

Continued from page A1

and sent her harassing text messages.

A string of activity

It's a dizzying string of activity following a relatively quiet period after Siler City's May 17 general election, in which four candidates with either direct or indirect affiliation with StartUP Siler lost bids for seats on the town's board of commissioners. In recent weeks, some of the four — Nick Gallardo, who ran unsuccessfully for mayor, and unsuccessful board candidates Jared Picot, Dean Picot Jr. and Sam Williams — have again begun attending commission meetings and appearing at some community events as volunteers.

Calls, emails and text messages to Kristen Picot seeking comment on StartUP Siler's series of new initiatives were not answered. And the News + Record isn't currently among the "media outlets from across the state and country" invited inside StartUP Siler's offices on East Raleigh Street in downtown Siler City.

Last Wednesday and Thursday, the organization posted several messages on its social media pages promoting its new initiatives. The first post announced its new "Phyllis Williams Scholarship for Women in Tech," aimed at helping women seeking to enter the STEM field. The scholarship application says participants must have above a 3.0-grade point average, be under 23 years old, be accepted into a STEM program and "meet all deadlines."

The ambiguous guidelines for the scholarship were coupled with a one-minute YouTube video explaining the scholarship and background about Phyllis Williams.

It is unclear how much money the scholarship is worth or where funding for the scholarship would come from. The video also does not explain why Phyllis Williams

was chosen as the representative of the scholarship or what she did as a businesswoman. The video, voiced by Kristen Picot, claims Williams was "a businesswoman during the 60s, 70s and 80s" who rose up the ranks and became vice president of "the company." A Google search about Williams also yielded unclear results.

There is not a posted application for the scholarship, but prospective applicants are encouraged to email StartUP Siler.

Picot did not respond to requests for comment about the scholarship.

\$10,000 relocation grants

The next day, on Friday, StartUP Siler posted an announcement for a \$10,000 "relocation grant." The grant offers 100 recipients \$10,000 each to move to Siler City "aimed at attracting talented workers" to the town.

"This is your chance to affect real change," StartUP Siler wrote of the grant on its website, "and put an end to the historic racism that has plagued this area. Chatham County is the fastest growing county in North Carolina. With beautiful rolling hills and great opportunities coming to the area, Siler City is more than just a small town hitting a growth spurt. Siler City is a hot sport (sic) where your dreams come true!"

Unlike the scholarship, there is an application available for the grant. It asks basic demographic questions and previous employment information. There are no questions asking applicants why they want to move to Siler City, or what they may be moving to Siler City for. There is also no list of qualifications for who should apply and no mentions of what grantees may contribute to the town.

It is also unclear where the promised \$1 million in grant funding would come from.

The organization also posted an advertisement about the grant and claimed the ad would air on local radio, Spoti-

fy, Pandora Radio, Apple Music and K-Love Radio.

"StartUP Siler is expanding from Siler City and beyond," the ad, voiced by Picot, says. "We are looking for those with an idea from conception to the existing form. The only caveat is you have to move to Siler City, North Carolina."

The 24-second ad also claims to pay for 100% of moving expenses to the town for one year.

StartUP Siler did not respond to requests for comment about grant funding.

Job postings

The organizations, and its subsidiaries, also posted several job openings this week with high-paying salaries. Last Thursday, the company put out a call on social media searching for in-house counsel, a position which offers an annual salary of \$195,000.

"If you are a member of the [North Carolina Bar Association] with at least 10 years' experience in practice," StartUP Siler tweeted. "A background in corporate, trial, government, and First Amendment Law is a plus."

The postings looking for a lawyer were coupled with job postings from Chatham Weekly, an online publication that, like StartUP Siler, is funded by Courtney Jordan, the self-described billionaire philanthropist under whose foundation StartUP Siler supposedly operates.

"After months of meeting with a consulting firm and talking with various (sic) newspapers and news magazines with a wide reach," Chatham Weekly tweeted last Thursday. "We are happy to announce we are opening hiring and starting our process to reach Chatham County."

The publication posted several openings including its own search for an in-house counsel, along with reporters, photographers and newspaper delivery people to deliver "40,000 copies of our weekly print addition (sic)."

Chatham Weekly has yet to publish a print edition.

Paper deliverers would receive \$20 per hour and the publication claims to have already hired five people for this position, according to its Twitter page.

Reporters and photographers were promised \$60,000 per year in salary. Responsibilities include basic journalistic practices like covering meetings and events in the community.

"This reporter will also write compelling and powerful stories about the successes, helpers and the good work being done in these communities," the job posting reads under its responsibilities section. "The positive news that is often overlooked and severely under reported."

When Chatham Weekly originally posted the reporter and photographer openings on its Instagram page, the post also included the following hashtags posted by the Chatham Weekly account: #gayuk #gay #instagay #gayboy #gayman #gayguy #gaymen #gaypride #gaylife #gayfollow #gayusa #gayselfie #gaystagram #gaylove #gaylondon #gayhot #lgbt #gayfrance #gayfit #gaybrasil #gayworld #gayitaly #gaycute #gaybeard #gaygermany #gayfitness #lgbtq #gaytwink #gaydaddy #gaylatino.

These hashtags have since been deleted from the posts. Chatham Weekly did not respond to requests for comment about these posts or its job openings.

As of publication, Chatham Weekly's website consists of primarily celebrity news and articles posted by "special contributors." Its only local story is about the hiring of Kristen Picot, written by Liam Santos, which was first posted months ago.

StartUP Siler's primary funder, Courtney Jordan, finds himself awaiting a September court appearance in Moore County on driving while impaired charges.

The restraining order

In the midst of the hiring activity, Kristen Picot posted a tearful Instagram video claiming a Siler City resident

harassed her.

In the video, Picot says: "I work in Siler City, North Carolina and I've fallen in love with the community here," Picot said in her video posted on July 15. "Since I've been here there's been a select few people that have not been as welcoming. They've followed me home, they've talked about my appearance on the road, they've come after my friends and family, I've gotten, gosh, so many text messages."

Screenshots of the text messages were posted by Picot along with the video. They do not show the sender of the messages, but do reveal harsh words calling Picot degrading names. The post also includes a screenshot from a doorbell camera of Hauser, but it is unclear what he is doing other than standing on the front porch.

The video goes on to name Alec Hauser as the person harassing her. She claims he and others have tried to get her to leave town and called her names. She also says, however, that she has not reported these instances to law enforcement due to "previous experiences," which she claims there has been no follow-up on her concerns.

Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner told the News + Record he has not been contacted by Picot. He also said those who complained about harassment around the May primary election, which included Picot and the Unity candidates who were also involved in StartUP Siler, are now "uncooperative witnesses" who have not responded to Wagner's recent follow-up calls.

Hauser told the News + Record the 50-C no-contact order was filed by Picot in Wake County. He denies any wrongdoing but didn't want to make further comment about the pending case.

A hearing on the no-contact order was scheduled for Aug. 11 at the Wake County Courthouse in Raleigh.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport.

VINFAST

Continued from page A1

is now moving forward with its site development and working on permits to begin construction.

Bradley is also a partner in Chatham Media Group LLC, the owner of the N + R.

Triangle Innovation Point was formerly known as the Moncure Megasite. It consists of 2,158.5 acres in total at a prime location: just off U.S. 1 north of Sanford, six minutes from Sanford's Raleigh Executive Jetport, 30 minutes from Raleigh-Durham International Airport and a few

minutes from the I-540 loop in Wake County and two rail lines and access to utilities, the News + Record previously reported.

It is also possible VinFast will seek additional land outside of the TIP site for its project.

The land deed shows VinFast will occupy TIP East; the TIP site also includes 420 additional acres that make up TIP West, which are being developed separately. Bradley said FedEx and other users are expected to occupy the site, although it has not yet been sold.

VinFast has contacted Barnhill Contracting Company, a Rocky Mount-based contractor, to begin work on the site, Bradley said. Barnhill is the largest contractor in the Research Triangle region.

The purchase of the land is a step in the right direction toward

VinFast's ambitious construction timeline. Company officials previously told the News + Record the company was seeking to break ground in Chatham County by mid-September and get cars to consumers from the facility by July 2024.

The first step in the development process will be constructing the roadways in collaboration with the North Carolina Department of Transportation. NCDOT officials told the News + Record that major improvements to the roads at the VinFast facility will be completed in two phases.

The first phase includes widening and resurfacing existing routes around the site including Christian Chapel Church Road, Pea Ridge Road, and Old U.S. 1.

"The resurfacing and widening will enable the roads to handle more truck traffic," said Jamie Kritzer, assistant director of communications for NCDOT. "Work will begin on this component in the next few weeks

and is anticipated to be complete by summer of next year."

The first phase of construction also includes widening New Elam Road from two lanes to a four-lane divided road from the VinFast site to U.S. 1. Kritzer said that development will start in early 2023 and finish in spring 2024. The final part of the road widening, which includes building access roads to U.S. 1, are expected to be completed by winter of 2025.

Phase two of the road construction by NCDOT, which includes improvements the new access road from the VinFast site to U.S. 1 on Pea Ridge Road, does not have a definitive timeline at this time. Kritzer said that is because construction is tied to the creation of 3,875 jobs by Vinfast.

For more information about NCDOT progress on the road construction visit public to access information regarding the project: [www.publicinput.com/Chatham-TIP-Road-Improve-](http://www.publicinput.com/Chatham-TIP-Road-Improve-ments)

ments.

The \$44 million is just a portion of the \$4 billion the electric vehicle company has promised to invest in North Carolina. The VinFast facility is the largest economic development project in state history is also slated to bring 7,500 jobs at the site.

If its plan is executed, VinFast would become the largest employer in Chatham County by far — larger than the current top 10 employers in the county combined, according to Access North Carolina.

The company is expected to produce two EVs, the five-seater VF-8 and seven-seater VF-9, along with electric buses at the Chatham County facility. VinFast has said the plant will manufacture and deliver 150,000 vehicles annually with the capacity to ramp up to more than 200,000 vehicles.

VinFast has announced it is hiring management positions for its North Carolina offices, and Chatham County Economic Development Director Michael Smith told the News + Record that several VinFast executives are searching for homes in N.C. this month.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport.

Macpage Communications

Bruce McDaniel

102 North 3rd Ave., Siler City, NC
919-227-6698

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CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

SEVERAL ACRES of land with mature timber is for sale. Located near 5300 Old US 421S, Bear Creek, NC 27207. Call 410-655-5146 to inquire., Jn30-Au25,9tp

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - www.learn-aboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

OFFICE SPACE RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

RENTAL APARTMENTS

POWELL SPRINGS APTS. Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Tues & Thurs, 9 to 4 p.m. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD #1-800-735-2962. Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, A2,tfnc

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. No security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. Jy14,tfnc

HOMES FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT - Bennett area; 2 bedrooms, 1 bath; appliance included, one year lease. \$1,000 per mo, \$1,000 Security deposit. Call 919-427-2122/, leave message. Au11-Oct14,10t/c

MOBILE HOME SALES

FOR SALE - New 3 Bedroom 2 Bath singlewide manufactured homes located in Hampton Village in Siler City. Starting at \$94,500. LIMITED TIME ONLY receive a \$4000 discount through the month of August. Call 919-742-1250. Au11,18,25,3tc

MOBILE HOME RENTALS

RENTAL - Brand new 3 Bedroom 2 Bath singlewide manufactured home located in Hampton Village (Siler City). \$1000 per month. Move-In ready! Call 919-742-1250. Au11,18,25,3tc

RENTAL - New 2022 16x76 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Deluxe residential package singlewide manufactured home. Features painted drywall throughout, smooth finish ceilings, elegant walk-in shower. Located in Hampton Village in Siler City. \$1200 per month. Call 919-742-1250. Au11,18,25,3tc

YARD SALES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13 - 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., 511 East 6th Street, Siler City. Dresses, Size 16, Household items, Beginners Weight Bench. Au11,1tp

FOR SALE

FARM ANIMALS, seven Black Angus Bulls: three Registered Bulls, 4 Pure Stock. Price ranges from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Call 336-362-8887, Dale, Jy21,28,Au4,11,4tp

TV ANTENNAS - Come by MacPage Communications at 102 North Third Avenue, Siler City. 919-227-6698, Au4,tfnc

AUCTIONEERS

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, J6,tfnc

AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS at JHA. One Call...We sell

it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.JerryHarrisAuction.com, 919-498-4077, J6,tfnc

SERVICES

ED'S BACKHOE AND BRUSH CLEARING, driveways and drain-line repairs. Call 919-352-5599. Au4,11,18,25,4tp

CASH PAID FOR JUNK CARS and pickups. Call 336-581-3423, Jy28-S15,8tp

RAINBOW WATER FILTERED VACUUMS, Alice Cox, Cox's Distributing - Rainbow - Cell: 919-548-4314, Sales, Services, Supplies. Serving public for 35 years. Rada Cutlery also available. Au26,tfnc

AUTO BREAKERS RECYCLERS - Cash paid for Junk/Wrecked vehicles. Call 919-545-0194. My13,tfnc

JUNK CARS PICKED UP Free of charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no charge. 919-542-2803. A2,tfnc

LETT'S TREE SERVICE - tree removal, stump grinding, lot clearing. Visa & Master Card accepted. Timber. Free estimates. 919-258-3594 N9,tfnc

HELP WANTED

DELIVERY DRIVER, Skids Operator, Mulch loading, etc., New business - Home Town Equipment & Supply. Call 919-663-1569. Au4,11,2tp

FOOD SERVICES STAFF, Pittsboro Christian Village is accepting applications for Server, Pantry Cook, and Cook. Apply in person 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Friday, at 1825 East St. in Pittsboro. Jy14,tfnc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 367

All persons having claims against **EVA LOUISE TRACY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 21st day of July, 2022. Kelly Tracy Pincus, Executrix c/o Howard, Stallings, From, Atkins, Angell & Davis, P.A. 5410 Trinity Road, Suite 210 Raleigh, NC 27607 Post Office Box 12347 Raleigh, NC 27605 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22-E-369

All persons having claims against **ROBERT BRUCE MCKINLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 14th day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 21st day of July, 2022. Barbara Myers McKinley, Executor c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC PO Box 97035 Raleigh, NC 27624

Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 188

All persons having claims against **WILL BERNARD WILLARD, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 19th day of July, 2022. Ahylea Michelle Willard, Administrator 422 A Greenlawn Drive Asheboro, NC 27203 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tp

CREDITOR'S NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **MOYNA BLAIR MONROE**, late of 500 Carolina Meadows, Apt. 10, Chapel Hill, Chatham County, North Carolina 27517, the undersigned do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned c/o Jean Gordon Carter, McGuireWoods LLP, P.O. Box 27507, Raleigh, NC 27611, on or before the 21st day of October, 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 21st day of July, 2022. Blair Cameron Kendall and Logan Adair Kendall, Co-Executors of the Estate of Moyna Blair Monroe Attorney: Jean Gordon Carter McGuireWoods LLP P.O. Box 27507 Raleigh, NC 27611 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 20 E 551

All persons having claims against **BETTY RUTH POWELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 19th day of July, 2022. Wayne Paul Hildreth, Administrator 101 S 3rd Ave; # 208 Siler City, NC 27344 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 401

All persons having claims against **ROBERT SAMUEL MORROW**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 19th day of July, 2022. Edward L. Morrow, Sr., Executor 3091 Moon Lindley Rd. Snow Camp, NC 27349 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **ELEANOR MARIE JASION**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims

against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 19th day of July, 2022. Linda Jasion Royal, Executor of the Estate of Eleanor Marie Jasion 5207 Clear Run Drive Wilmington, North Carolina 28403 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE Attorneys at Law Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JEFFREY LEE HOLDER**, late of 2404 Piney Grove Church Road, Siler City, Chatham County, North Carolina 27344, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 4145 Randolph Church Road, Liberty, NC 27298, on or before the 24th day of October, 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 is the 21st day of July, 2022. Lisa L. Moore, Administrator of the

Estate of Jeffrey Lee Holder Pamela E. Whitaker Attorney at Law 4145 Randolph Church Road Liberty, NC 27298 (336) 622-3553 Jy21,Jy28,Au4,Au11,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **BARBARA ANN HOWARD** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 21st day of July, 2022. Kimyetta Howard, Administrator of the Estate of Barbara Ann Howard 902 Jack Bennett Road Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE Attorneys at Law Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605 Jy28,Au4,Au11,Au18,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **EDGAR JUNIOR BARWICK, JR.** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of October, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 21st day of July, 2022. Marvin Barwick, Administrator of the Estate of Edgar Junior Barwick, Jr. 6649 Kerr Drive Randleman, North Carolina 27317 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE Attorneys at Law Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605 Jy28,Au4,Au11,Au18,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **CYNTHIA BROOME CARROLL**, late of 259 Shady Wagon Farm Lane, New Hill, Chatham County, North Carolina 27562, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 4145 Randolph Church Road, Liberty, NC 27298, on or before the 28th day of October, 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 is the 26th day of July, 2022. Michelle Leslie Executor of the

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Line ad deadline Tuesday — Noon

Display ad deadline Monday — 5 p.m.

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

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

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

Estate of Cynthia Broome Carroll c/o Pamela E. Whitaker Attorney at Law 4145 Randolph Church Road Liberty, NC 27298 (336) 622-3553 Jy28,Au4,Au11,Au18,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 417

All persons having claims against **HARVEY LLOYD BROWER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 1st day of August, 2022. Susan Belle Brown Sloan, Executrix 347 S. 2nd Avenue Siler City, NC 27344 Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 420



Town of Siler City
Public Works and Utilities

For Immediate Release

August 03, 2022

RE: NOTICE OF DISCHARGE OF UNTREATED WATER

The Town of Siler City had an untreated water overflow occur in the following area due to operational error:

Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time	Address	Gallons	
Estimated 08/02/2022	Estimated 9:00am	08/04/2022	9:00pm	Lift Station - Water Plant	12,000	Reached the surface waters of unnamed tributary to the Rocky River

Siler City staff evaluate the situation and to measures to address the issue.

There was no harm to drinking water.

For questions call Chris McCorquodale, Director of Public Utilities, 919-742-4732



Chris McCorquodale
Director of Public Utilities
Town of Siler City

Chris McCorquodale
Public Utilities Director
PO Box 769 • 311 N. Second Avenue
Siler City, NC 27344-0769

cmccorquodale@silercity.org
Phone: 919-742-4732 • Fax: 919-663-3874
www.silercity.org

To advance a framework for our success through balanced governance, dynamic partnerships, and an engaged community.



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Visit www.chathamcountync.gov and click Jobs.

HELP WANTED

Chatham Monument Co. has an opening for a monument installer. Work involves working in Siler City and surrounding area installing monuments as part of a 3-person team.

Apply in Person, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

227 N. 2nd Ave. Siler City, NC 27344

HIRING CNA's ALL SHIFTS

CALL: 919-542-3151

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for appointment to complete application and interview.

Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **J. WAYNE STROWD**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at his address, 4041 Mt. Gilead Church Road, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 27th day of July, 2022.
John Wayne Strowd, Jr.
4041 Mt. Gilead Church Road
Pittsboro, North Carolina
27312
GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC
P.O. Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina
27312-0880
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

CREDITOR'S NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **TERRY R. THALAM**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to John G. Kelso, Esq., Van Winkle, Buck, Wall, Starnes and Davis, P.A., Attorneys-at-Law, 11 North Market Street, Asheville, NC 28801, on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

Patricia A. Thalman, Executor of Terry R. Thalman
John G. Kelso, Esq., Van Winkle,
Buck, Wall, Starnes and Davis, P.A.,
Attorneys-at-Law
11 North Market Street
Asheville, NC 28801
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 416
All persons having claims against **SHELIA ASHLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Misty Squires Peeler, Executrix
197 Gallup Rd.
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27517
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **LYMAN DARDEN JARMAN**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 29th day of July, 2022.
Pamela Joyce Jarman, Executor of
The Estate of Lyman Darden Jarman
3165 W. Third Street
Siler City, North Carolina 27344
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
Attorneys at Law
Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
HAVING QUALIFIED as Executrix of the Estate of **WADE HERMAN PHILLIPS** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 29th day of July, 2022.
Heather B. Doucette, Executrix of
The Estate of Wade Herman Phillips
822 Fitts Street
Sanford, North Carolina 27330
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
Attorneys at Law
Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
HAVING QUALIFIED as Executrix of the Estate of **MARTHA LOIS SMITH PHILLIPS** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 29th day of July, 2022.
Heather B. Doucette, Executrix of
The Estate of Martha Lois Smith Phillips
822 Fitts Street
Sanford, North Carolina 27330
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
Attorneys at Law
BOX 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (919) 542-5605
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21CV5385
Taiming Zhang vs Andrew

Joseph Bonomolo, DEAR ANDREW JOSEPH BONO-MOLO,
Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: 1 million United States dollars, for intentional infliction of emotional distress. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than September 14, 2022, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 4th day of August, 2022.
Taiming Zhang (plaintiff)
801, No. 21 Taishan Lane,
Dalian, China
Au4,Au11,Au18,3tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, Thomas William Andrew and David Herbert Andrew, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **RUTH THAMES ANDREW**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 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 4th day of August, 2022.
Thomas William Andrew
14108 Flint Rock Road
Rockville, MD 20853
1-301-455-3027
David Herbert Andrew
975 Melody Lane
Roswell, GA 30075
1-770-371-6077
W. Ben Atwater, Jr.
Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-2850
benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 408
All persons having claims against **DERRY EDWARD MATTHEWS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Hilda Lauretta Ewalda Matthews, Executrix
16140 U.S. Hwy 421 South,
Sanford, NC 27330
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 390
All persons having claims against **JAMES ERVIN DIXON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Stuart Lee Dixon, Executor
99 Runa Ct.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 408
All persons having claims against **DERRY EDWARD MATTHEWS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Hilda Lauretta Ewalda Matthews, Executrix
16140 U.S. Hwy 421 South,
Sanford, NC 27330
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 390
All persons having claims against **JAMES ERVIN DIXON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Stuart Lee Dixon, Executor
99 Runa Ct.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

TOWN OF SILER CITY PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES Notice of Discharge of Untreated Water
The Town of Siler City had an untreated water overflow occur in the following area due to operational error:
Estimated Start Date: 08/02/2022, Start Time: Estimated, 9:00 a.m., End Date: 08/04/2022, End Time: 9:00 a.m.;
Address: Lift Station - Water Plant, Gallons: 12,000,

BEST OF HAWAII FOUR-ISLAND TOUR
12 days, departs year-round
Oahu • Hawaii Island • Kauai • Maui — Enjoy a fully guided 4-island Hawaiian vacation with centrally located lodging in Waikiki on Oahu, and beachfront lodging on the "Big Island" of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui. Guided throughout by our friendly Tour Directors—your local experts. Includes 3 inter-island flights.

VMT vacations
promo code N7017
1-855-874-7693

*Prices are per person based on double occupancy plus \$299 in taxes & fees. Single supplement and seasonal surcharges may apply. Add-on airfare available. Offers apply to new bookings only, made by 9/30/22. Other terms & conditions may apply. Ask your Travel Consultant for details.

Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-2850
benatwater@chathamlawfirm.com
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executrix of **BERTHA FOY RIDDLE MANN**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms or corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at Amy Mann Meacham, 134 Riddle Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312, on or before the 9th day of November, 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 1st day of August, 2022.
Amy M. Meacham, Executrix of the
Estate of Bertha Foy Riddle Mann
134 Riddle Rd
Pittsboro NC 27312
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 413
All persons having claims against **GERALD HARVARD BARSKY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Barbara Barsky, Executor
719 Birstall Dr.
Cary, NC 27519
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 408
All persons having claims against **DERRY EDWARD MATTHEWS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Hilda Lauretta Ewalda Matthews, Executrix
16140 U.S. Hwy 421 South,
Sanford, NC 27330
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 390
All persons having claims against **JAMES ERVIN DIXON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 1st day of August, 2022.
Stuart Lee Dixon, Executor
99 Runa Ct.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Au4,Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

TOWN OF SILER CITY PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES Notice of Discharge of Untreated Water
The Town of Siler City had an untreated water overflow occur in the following area due to operational error:
Estimated Start Date: 08/02/2022, Start Time: Estimated, 9:00 a.m., End Date: 08/04/2022, End Time: 9:00 a.m.;
Address: Lift Station - Water Plant, Gallons: 12,000,

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Reached the surface waters of unnamed tributary to the Rocky River.
Siler City staff evaluated the situation and to measures to address the issue. There was no harm to the drinking water. For questions, call Chris McCorquodale, Director of Public Utilities, 919-742-4732. Signed: Chris McCorquodale, Director of Public Utilities, Town of Siler City.
Au11,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified on the 28th day of July, 2022, as Executor of the Estate of **DONNA MARIA LLOYD** aka Donna M. Lloyd, 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 24th day of November, 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 11th day of August, 2022.
Kelly D. Farrell, Executor
Donna Maria Lloyd aka Donna M. Lloyd
c/o J Alan Campbell LawcPO
Box 850
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Au11,Au18,Au25,51,4tc

WILLOW OAK MONTESSORI IDEA - Part B (611) Grant Public Notice
The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (**IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446**) Project is presently being amended. The Project describes the special education programs that Willow Oak Montessori proposes for Federal funding for the 2022-2023 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of August 22, 2022 - August 26, 2022 in the office of Catherine Oudjit located at 1476 Andrew Store Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Au11,Au18,2tc

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS CHATHAM COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA
Landscape Architecture, Consulting and Design Services for Parker's Ridge Park-Phase I Project
Chatham County is seeking statements of qualifications from professional landscape architecture firms to provide planning, engineering, and architectural design (plans and specifications), permitting, bidding assistance and construction contract administration and observation for the Parker's Ridge Park - Phase I project. Phase I will generally include a playground, restroom facility, picnic shelter, nature trail, fishing pier/ADA canoe launch, dog park, two (2) multipurpose fields, maintenance building and yard, enhanced landscaping, furnishings, park signage, sidewalks, stormwater management, stormwater drainage and piping, water line, septic system, entrance drive, parking, and associated improvements. These components are associated with a conceptual Parks Master Plan that the County has developed. To obtain a copy of the Master Plan, please reach out to purchasing@chathamcountync.gov or call 919-542-8364. The chosen Firm will be required to develop the Phase I design using that plan as their basis. Qualification submittals must include five (5) written, bound responses and one (1) electronic copy in a sealed envelope/package, clearly marked on the outside with

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the following: "RFQ Parker's Ridge Park-Phase I Project." To be considered, Statements of Qualifications must be received by 5:00pm EST on September 8, 2022, to the following address: Michele Peluso, Chatham County Procurement Manager Chatham County Finance Office 12 East Street (physical delivery), Pittsboro, NC 27312 OR P.O. Box 608 (postal delivery), Pittsboro, NC 27312 There will be a mandatory firm site visit at 10:00am on August 22, 2022, at 972 Pea Ridge Rd. New Hill, NC 27562. Parking will be available at the old building in front of the property. All inquiries relating to this request should be in writing and submitted to Michele Peluso, Chatham County

Finance Office at purchasing@chathamcountync.gov no later than August 24, 2022, by 5:00pm. If an addendum is needed it will be posted on our website by 5:00pm EST on August 26, 2022. This solicitation and others can be located on the Chatham County Current Bids and Proposals webpage at: https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/finance/bid-proposal-opportunities Chatham County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, age or disability. Au11,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Estate of Kearney Hill Andrews FILE NO. 22 E 405 All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against KEARNEY HILL ANDREWS, deceased, Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before 11th day of November, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 11th day of August, 2022. Clara Perry, Executor NC Estate Solutions PO Box 3006 Raleigh, NC 27602 Au11,Au18,Au25,S1,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Estate of Thomas Elvin Hinton,

Sr. File No. 22 E 282 All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against THOMAS ELVIN HINTON SR., deceased, Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of November, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 11th day of August, 2022. Michelle Hinton, Administrator NC Estate Solutions PO Box 3006 Raleigh, NC 27602 Au11,Au18,Au25,S1,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 379

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of WILLIAM ROBISON, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at her address, P.O. Box 1225, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 11th day of November, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 8th day of August, 2022. Tunney Lee LeVac P. O. Box 1225 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC P. O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina

27312-0880 Au11,Au18,Au25,S1,4tc **NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** All persons having claims against LINDA MARIE LEE, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 9th day of August, 2022. Vickie Lee Jimenez, Administrator 1109 West Pope Street Benson, NC 27504 Au11,Au18,Au25,4tp

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

ALMA MARY SUE THOMAS JACKSON

Alma Mary Sue Thomas Jackson, 75, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, August 14, 2022, at Tramway Baptist Church with Rev. Jacob Peterson and Rev. Joel Murr officiating. A private family burial will be held at a later date at Hillmon Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends in the fellowship hall following the memorial service.

She was born in Lee County, daughter of the late Robert Thomas and Inez Wicker Thomas Newby. She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, Milton C. Thomas and James Lee Thomas, and her first husband Gene Wicker.

Surviving is her husband, Thomas Horace Jackson of the home; son, Kevin Jackson of Sanford; and two grandsons.

Online condolences can be made at: www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com. Arrangements are by the Smith Funeral Home.

SARAH FARROW BYNUM

December 27, 1936 ~ August 1, 2022 Mrs. Sarah Farrow Bynum, 85, of Pleasant Hill, passed away August 1, 2022, at her home.

The funeral service was held Saturday, August 6, 2022, at 11 a.m. at H.D. Pope Funeral Home. The interment took place after that service at the Crestview Memorial Cemetery in Roanoke Rapids.

Visit https://www.hdpopefuneralhome.com.

AMBER DAWN JONES

Amber Dawn Jones, 27, of Sanford passed away on Saturday, July 23, 2022, at Moore Regional Hospital.

Surviving relatives include her parents, Jerry Anthony Jones and Sally Ann Thompson Jones; a daughter, Aela Faith Collins of Sanford; and a sister, Christy Marie Whitten, all of Sanford.

The family received friends at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

VASSEL D. CHESNEY

Mr. Vassel D. Chesney, 89, of Charlotte passed away on Friday, July 29, 2022, at Novant Presbyterian Medical Center.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

MARGARET CAULDER BROWN

August 10, 1935 ~ August 6, 2022

Margaret Caulder Brown, 86, of Bennett, passed away on Saturday, August 6, 2022, at Chatham Hospital.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at Mt. Zion U.M.C. with Rev. Ted Beane presiding. The family received friends in the fellowship hall after the service.

Margaret was born in Scotland County to Hattie and Alonzo Caulder. She attended Mt. Zion U.M.C. She retired from RamTex after 40 years of service. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Lois Byrd; and three brothers, A.L., James and Hilburn.

Margaret is survived by her husband of 68 years, Willie "Russell" Brown of the home; son, Dennis Brown of Goldston; daughters, Denise B. Holt and Tammy B. Elliott, both of Bear Creek; six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Mt. Zion U.M.C. Cemetery Fund, 8616 Curtis Powers Rd., Bennett, N.C. 27208.

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

BETTY JEAN BERRY OLDHAM

March 11, 1955 ~ August 7, 2022

Betty Jean Berry Oldham, 67, of Siler City, passed away on Sunday, August 7, 2022, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

MARIANA TADEO

September 1, 1949 - July 28, 2022

Mariana Tadeo, 72, of Sanford, passed away Thursday, July 28, 2022, at her home.

Funeral mass was held at 11 a.m. August 3, 2022, at St. Stephen Catholic Church

The family gathering was held from 1 to 3 p.m. at Knotts Funeral Home.

ELBERT COLLINS MCDUGALD

Elbert Collins McDougald, 84, of Sanford passed away on Saturday, July 30, 2022, at Central Harnett Hospital in Lillington.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

SHIRLEY JEAN 'FAUCETTE' PATTON

November 30, 1944 ~ August

1, 2022

Mrs. Shirley Jean Patton, 77, of Broadway passed away on Monday, August 1, 2022, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

MS. MOLETA WADDELL FREEMAN

Ms. Moleta Waddell Freeman, 102 of Pittsboro, passed away on Saturday, August 6, 2022, at the SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC Health Care.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

WILLIE DELORIS MCKINNEY DAVIS

Willie Deloris McKinney Davis, 78, of Chapel Hill passed away on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at her home.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford.

SAMUEL AUGUSTUS WILLIAMS

Samuel Augustus Williams, 71, of Pittsboro, passed away on Monday, August 1, 2022, at UNC Hillsborough.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

PITTSBORO COMMISSIONERS

Town manager to resign, announces at board meeting

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN News + Record Staff



PITTSBORO — Town Manager Chris Kennedy, who's helped lead Pittsboro's recent effort to merge water and wastewater systems with the city of Sanford, submitted his resignation to the board of commissioners Monday night, citing a desire to establish better work-life balance.

Kennedy, who was appointed as town manager in July 2020, submitted the surprise resignation in a closed session held at the start of the meeting. Several commissioners expressed admiration for Kennedy and disappointment over the news.

"I'm happy for him," Commissioner Kyle Shipp said after

the meeting. "...I think it needs to happen, but it's definitely a surprise."

After the meeting, Kennedy called the resignation "bittersweet," telling the News + Record it wasn't an easy decision.

"There's a lot going on here (in the town), and I've been fully invested in that," he said. "But I've got a 14-month-old daughter and a wife who has sacrificed a lot of her career for me. And so I really kind of felt the need to recalibrate that a little bit, find some better balance. But (I) still look forward to continuing and helping the public and everything I can."

Kennedy's last day will be Sept. 9. Though he wouldn't say where he was working next, Kennedy said he and his family would be leaving Pittsboro and that he hopes to help the town in its transition as it finds a new manager.

Other business

In addition to Kennedy's resignation, commissioners also discussed the town's settlement and release with Eagles Enterprise and Eagles Management Corporation during the closed session. The gas station developers originally filed a lawsuit against Pittsboro in 2018, claiming their proposed plan was improperly rejected and the town did not follow its own rules in postponing approval, according to the reporting from the Raleigh News & Observer.

Kennedy said Eagles Enterprise was seeking legal fees to close the lawsuit out, and commissioners unanimously approved a motion to accept fees of \$5,000 payable to the Eagles' attorneys and to execute a lease agreement.

Kennedy also provided an update on the merger of Pitts-

boro and Sanford's wastewater utility systems.

Freese and Nichols Inc. — the consulting engineering firm on the project — has developed a scope of work, which outlines what tasks the firm would be responsible for should a merger take place.

FNI will help conduct a study that considers financial options and impacts, system operation, assets and other factors associated with a merger. The firm will also carry out a rate analysis and develop a multi-year rate plan for three scenarios: the town only, the town with a merged system and the city with a merged system.

Kennedy said the "meat and potatoes" of considerations is in determining what utility rates will be based on a merger. Staff has discussed a water-sewer capital improvement plan that would

cost \$175 million, Kennedy said.

"Somebody's going to have to pay that tab," he said.

Kennedy said staff is trying to be strategic in evaluating funding streams, citing efforts to work through state revolving funds applications and the board's acceptance as being classified as a distressed utility.

Town staff has also been dealing with COVID-19 infections, so Kennedy has closed Town Hall for the remainder of the week and moved meetings off-site to accommodate for the shift.

The board's next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Aug. 22 at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro.

Reporter Maydha Devarajan can be reached at mdevarajan@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @maydhadevarajan.

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SPORTS NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT

AUGUST 11 - 17, 2022 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

'IT'S BEEN BRUTAL'

As practices start, Chatham's teams dealing with extreme heat

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

While the excitement for football and other fall sports is palpable now that the calendar has reached August, it can often overshadow the dangers local student-athletes face these first few weeks of organized practice.

August has long been the worst month for heat-related illnesses. According to a 2012 study by the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 60.3% of exertional heat illnesses between the 2005-06 and 2011-12 school years occurred during the month, and climate conditions have continued to grow worse in the decade since.

An April 2021 editorial by the Journal of Athletic Training estimated that the likelihood of heat-related illnesses is 10 times greater during the preseason than it is during the regular season. And while the intensity of competition might be at its nadir during these first few weeks of practice, things can turn deadly in a hurry.

According to data from the National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research, 50 high school football players have died of heat-related illnesses since 1996, and the numbers are trending up. From 2017-2021, there were an average of 2.4 deaths per year among high school football players, compared to 1.4 in the five years previous from 2011-2016.

In Chatham County, where official team practices began last Monday, local high schools are using every technique and technology at their disposal to protect student athletes from the elements. At several schools, including Northwood, a Wet Bulb Globe Temperature Thermometer (WBGT) is used to determine



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood offensive line coach Bryce Smith chats with his players during practice last Thursday.

If someone is feeling light-headed and needs to take a break for a few minutes, the coach is very understanding of that and doesn't want to deal with any unfortunate circumstances of heat illness, even if it was something minor.

CARLEY BROWN, head athletic trainer, Seaforth High School

whether conditions are safe enough to practice.

"It's more accurate than heat index and has more factors involved like clouds, wind and the angle of the sun," Northwood High head athletic trainer Jackie Harpham told the News + Record. "It gives us a really good measure of what kind of heat stress our athletes will face on different

surfaces. We have different modifications and changes we have to make to our practices based on the reading. That might be more frequent water breaks, less equipment worn. It might be that if it's hot enough on the reading, we might not be able to be outdoors at all."

Teams without a WBGT on hand are not at a disadvan-

tage, though; the University of North Carolina has a tool that allows anyone to find the current and projected wet bulb globe temperature for their specific location, down to the latitude and longitude. Coaches and parents can enter their location and quickly get an overview of the conditions for the upcoming days, as well as the recommended NCHSAA guidelines based on the WBGT Index reading. The tool can be accessed at convergence.unc.edu/tools/wbgt.

Modifications to practice start to come in once the index reaches the high or "Red Flag" category, which encompasses WBGT readings between 88

and 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Under these conditions, all athletes must be under constant observation and supervision and remove any pads or equipment they might normally wear. There must also be at least one five-minute rest/water break for every 15 minutes of practice. Any reading above 90, and practice has to be suspended.

Bear Creek — home to Chatham Central — has had a wet bulb globe temperature in the "Red Flag" category several times this past week. Conditions regularly reached that zone by noon and lasted

See HEAT, page B2

Northwood celebrates girls' championship with ring ceremony

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

Less than five months removed from its 70-52 win over Enka in the 3A state championship game, the 2022-23 Northwood girls basketball team convened for the final time Friday night in the Chargers' home gym for a celebratory ring ceremony.

The state championship win was Northwood's first team title in any sport since the school opened in 1970, and it was fueled by the heart-break the team experienced the previous year. During the shortened 2020-21 season, the Chargers started 14-0 and made it all the way to the state semifinals before falling to Asheboro, 54-44.

"This group of girls was just incredible," head coach Kerri Snipes told the News + Record. "They had the talent and they were able to put it together to help us achieve our goal ... The returners (from 2020-21) wanted that feeling of being on top by the end of the season and to play in the championship game. They worked hard the whole season and did everything we asked them to do — and it paid off in the end."

During the 2021 offseason, Snipes took over for Cameron Vernon, who had amassed an overall record of 238-87 as the Chargers' head coach from 2010-2020. She had served as an assistant on Northwood's staff for the previous four seasons before earning her shot to lead the team. The transition between coaches



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Members of the 2021-22 Northwood girls basketball team pose with their new state championship rings on Friday night in the Chargers' home gym.

proved smoother than expected for the Chargers, as they opened the season with nine straight wins before falling to 4A school Millbrook in a holiday tournament. From there, Northwood won its next 21 games by an average of 27.6 points per game. In the playoffs, the Chargers won two of their first three games by over 50 points before eventually defeating Burlington-Williams, 66-52, in the fourth round to earn a trip back to the Final Four.

This time around, Northwood absorbed a few early blows before

eking out a 51-50 win over Williams. The 3A state final was a decidedly less dramatic affair, as the Chargers dominated Enka, 70-42, at Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh.

"It was just incredible," Snipes said of her first season in charge. "I was so blessed to be able to have the staff and the support we've had from Coach Vernon and the rest of the administration and from everyone else at the school who supported us along the way ... It was a really neat experience, and obvious-

See CHAMPS, page B2

Greetings, Chatham County. Let's get rolling!

The Tar Heel takeover continues!

But in all seriousness, hey everybody! My name is Jeremy Vernon and I am the new Sports Editor at the News + Record. Here's a little bit about what I was involved in before joining this wonderful community of journalists in Chatham County.



JEREMY VERNON
Sports Editor

If you couldn't tell already, I graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill back in 2017 with a B.A. in Journalism and a specialization in Reporting. Like many of my current colleagues at the CN+R, I spent most of my time in school working for The Daily Tar Heel, UNC's student newspaper and arguably the top teaching paper in the country. I practically lived at the DTH office for eight semesters and two summers.

After graduating I worked briefly for MLB.com as an intern covering the Cincinnati Reds before leaving to take a full-time position at The Enquirer-Journal in Monroe. While there, I led coverage of all 12 of our area high schools as well as our coverage of the Carolina Panthers and Charlotte Hornets.

In my spare time I enjoy following the Panthers and Hornets, though my biggest affiliation is probably to English soccer club Liverpool. I also love spending time with my 8-month old puppy, Summer. Yes, she is a good girl. Thank you for asking.

I am incredibly excited for this new opportunity and look forward to meeting a lot of our readers over the next several months as the school year gets underway. We're now just over

See GREETINGS, page B2

HEAT

Continued from page B1

until 5 p.m.
 “It’s been brutal, man,” Chatham Central football head coach Sherman Howze said. “This weather has been brutal, but (our players) have toughed it out. We gave them Friday and Saturday off because of the work they did last week. We did what we had to do. And they were fresh (Monday morning). It was our first hitting day. It was real hype in practice.”

At Seaforth High, head trainer Carley Brown combats the elements by setting up a cooling station during practices that features a tent with shade and a drinking station with 60 gallons of ice water. But for on-field remedies to be effective, athletes need to be able to recognize the symptoms of heat-related illness before things become dire.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, common signs of heat exhaustion are cold, pale skin, a fast, weak pulse, nausea and vomiting, dizziness, weakness and muscle cramps. Heat stroke, on the other hand, is signaled by a body temperature of 103 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, as well as headache, dizziness, confusion and possible loss of consciousness.

“It’s just like how a car will give you a signal and give you a light on the dashboard that say something is wrong,” Brown said. “That’s your body’s way of communicating to you that, ‘Hey, we need to slow down. We need ice. We need water.’ These kids have a good understanding of that, and they know to come over even if it’s for the smallest thing. If someone is feeling light-headed and needs to take a break for a few minutes, the coach



Staff photo by Simon Barbre
Northwood football head coach Chris Kenan addresses his team during the first week of high school football practice across Chatham County.

is very understanding of that and doesn’t want to deal with any unfortunate circumstances of heat illness, even if it was something minor.”

The National Athletic Trainers Association has recommended four steps to prevent exertional heat illnesses:

- Conduct thorough preparticipation medical screening to identify athletes with risk factors for heat illness or a history of heat illness.

- Individuals should be acclimatized to the heat gradually over 7-14 days. Progressively increasing intensity and duration of physical activity and phasing in of protective equipment.

- Athletes currently sick with a viral infection or other illness or have a fever or serious skin rash should not participate until the condition is resolved.

- Individuals should maintain euhydration and replace fluids lost through sweat.

If a situation ever becomes dire enough, Brown said she is always prepared to perform a full-body submersion in ice water on an affected athlete. Her technique is effective, even if a bit unconventional.

“I know it sounds kind

of morbid, but I keep a body bag on my sideline, because it’s 10 times easier to fill that with ice water than those really big troughs that most schools have,” Brown said. “We have one of those, too, but in the past I’ve just found the body bag works a lot better.”

While they receive most of the spotlight, football players are not the only athletes who are affected by the heat. One of the sports that sees the most heat-related illnesses is cross country, where student-athletes run a 5,000-meter (3.1-mile) race at a standard meet.

The Journal of Athletic Training said in 2021 that female cross country runners are twice as likely to experience a heat-related illness as athletes in other high school sports. In a sport where speed is the key, Harpham is trying to find ways to modify practice to adjust accordingly.

“(Cross country runners) might not be able to take as frequent breaks for hydration,” Harpham said. “So we’re working that into the practice plan and working with the coach on days where it feels like the temperatures might be higher and encouraging workouts that will allow for more breaks and more

hydration. We also want to monitor athletes who might be more at-risk, newer athletes and younger athletes who might be new to the sport. We want to keep an eye on them to make sure that they’re doing OK.”

At Woods Charter, cross country head coach Karen Hawkins has her team practice in the early morning, when conditions are at their most bearable. She also makes sure the routes her team takes on practice runs are through shady areas.

“As a former cross country runner myself, I know what it’s like when you’re out there and not fully hydrated ...” Hawkins said. “We’re talking to (the team) about proper hydration and sending their parents information to make sure it’s hitting home, because it not only makes the running more miserable, but it can be very dangerous.”

County coaches and trainers are being proactive in helping prevent heat-related illnesses, but they also know they can only do so much in the time they have with student athletes. Both Harpham and Brown encouraged parents to talk with their children about the importance of proper hydration, maintaining



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood sophomore Gus Ritchey — who has college offers from Georgia, Michigan and Oregon, among others — takes a knee at the Chargers’ practice last week.

a nutritious diet and getting adequate rest.

Without a solid nutritional base, it can be hard for an athlete’s body to adjust to adverse conditions, including extreme heat. It is also necessary to drink plenty of water throughout the day to make up for any fluids lost through sweat while working out.

Brown said she emphasizes hydration and nutrition with parents throughout the year, especially at the beginning of the school year. While it technically is the “fall” sports season, summer heat and the chaos it brings will be here until possibly October.

“It’s hard telling any teenager what to do, but you really just need to pound that education into them about how important it is to have proper hydration and nutrition,” Brown said. “Just because you’re bringing a big 32-ounce water bottle to practice and drinking it at practice, if you’re



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

A Jordan-Matthews football player gathers himself after finishing practice with the jets last week.

not drinking water before then and you’re not eating good healthy foods before then, that one bottle of water isn’t going to save you.”

Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or @ [jbo_vernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_vernon).

CHAMPS

Continued from page B1

ly one we haven’t had here at Northwood (before).”

Northwood’s state championship rings — which were designed by Southern Recognition Inc. with the help of the team and funded by the Pittsboro community and local businesses — feature the green Northwood Charger logo on the face surrounded by gems and the words “STATE CHAMPIONS.” On one side, the Northwood name, a trophy and the phrase “FIRST-EVER” signal an end to the school’s long title drought.

“The 52 years it took before a team state championship was almost viewed as kind of a curse, because we’ve had a lot of good teams in the past — the basketball teams, our baseball teams, cross country, golf,” Vernon said. “We’ve had a lot of teams get close but not quite make it over the hump, so this



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Several members of the Northwood girls basketball team show off their state championship rings.

year it was really special to break that streak and get that monkey off our back.”

When they take the court for the 2022 season, the Chargers will look much different

from the team that won the title this past year. Gone are four seniors, including Olivia Porter — who led Northwood in points (18.0), rebounds (6.4), assists (3.8) and steals (4.3) per game. Also no longer with the team are Natalie Bell (8.8 points), Myla Marve (7.9 points, 4.3 rebounds) and Carolina Allen (5.5 points, 4.6 rebounds).

Porter, who was named the MVP of the 2022 3A state championship game after totaling 18 points, four rebounds, five assists and four steals, was selected to the North Carolina Coaches Association East-West All-Star Game in July. She finished that game with 10 points, five rebounds and two assists, including nine points in a decisive fourth quarter.

The recent Northwood grad joined the Chargers just before the 2021-22 season after transferring from Auburn High in Alabama and instantly became their go-to scorer and initiator on offense. Porter — a 5-foot-8 point guard — is committed to

play collegiately at Michigan State starting this winter and was in attendance for Friday’s ceremony along with the rest of her teammates.

“Olivia is one of a kind,” Snipes said. “She came in as a transfer and really started to gel with other players as soon as she got here. She’s been a really big leader for us — maybe not always verbally, but she would lead by example and get after it each day in practice. She was a good teammate to the rest of the group, and she’s going to be a big loss for us. She brought a lot to our team both on and off the court, so we’ll certainly miss her. She has an incredible journey ahead of her playing at Michigan State, so we’re excited to see what the future holds for her.”

Despite the losses her team has suffered this offseason, Snipes is excited for what the upcoming year has in store. The Chargers bring back a handful of contributors from last season, including rising

senior forward Tekeyah Bland (8.8 points, 4.4 rebounds, 2.0 blocks per game), rising senior Gianna McManaman (5.6 points, 3.0 assists per game) and rising junior Skylar Adams (6.6 points, 3.2 assists per game).

Snipes also highlighted rising sophomore Natalia Whitaker as a player who could take on a larger role in 2022-23. As a freshman last season, Whitaker averaged 4.3 points, 1.3 rebounds and 1.3 assists per game.

“(Whitaker) was a great hustler this past season, and she’s been working out all summer,” Snipes said. “I’m so excited to see how she can contribute even more as a sophomore. We’ve also got some incoming freshmen coming in who, once we get our teams established, we’ll be able to help fill some of those voids as well.”

Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or @ [jbo_vernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_vernon).

GREETINGS

Continued from page B1

a week from the start of the fall sports season, and you can feel the magic in the air in Pittsboro, Siler City and everywhere else across the county.

I’d like to thank our publisher, Bill Horner III, for taking a chance on me, as well as former sports editor Victor Hensley for helping make the transition as smooth as possible. Victor was an excellent reporter and editor for us, and you can tell how much he cared about the local schools and athletes.

This upcoming year, I will work tirelessly to make sure the six high schools in Chatham County — Northwood, Chatham Central, Seaforth, Jordan-Matthews, Chatham Charter and Woods Charter — are all given their fair share of coverage. Just glancing

at some of the stats from last school year, there are several local athletes whom I can’t wait to see take their respective field/court/starting block.

I’ve only been on the job for about a week, but I’ve been pleasantly surprised with the response I’ve gotten from the local athletic directors, coaches and student-athletes. Sometimes people — for whatever reason — are hesitant to talk to the media, but everyone I’ve spoken with so far has treated me with dignity, respect and general excitement.

Of course, one thing that will make my job infinitely easier is collaboration with the community. If there’s a team you don’t feel like is getting adequate coverage, please send me an email. If I misspell a name, feel free to roast me on Twitter. Otherwise, my ears are open for any ideas that

might make for an interesting story. I have not had the benefit of being in Chatham County for very long, so I’ll be leaning on many of you to get started in the right direction.

Outside of our high school and other local

athletic coverage, I’m planning on writing a regular column like Victor did to share my opinions on some of the issues going on at the top levels of sport.

I’ll try to refrain from so much UNC talk. But

seeing as this is my first column — I couldn’t not take a shot at that other team that plays in Durham.

81-77. That is all. Sorry,

Coach K.

Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or @ [jbo_vernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_vernon).

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THE CLIPBOARD | HEATHER BROOKS, CHATHAM CENTRAL TENNIS

Brooks calls Bears 'hungry' amid upcoming revenge tour

The Chatham Central Bears had one of their best all-around tennis seasons in school history last year, with the women's team making it to the third round of the dual-team playoffs — along with a doubles team that made it to the state title match — and the men's team taking a sub-.500 regular season record into a Cinderella run to the dual-team regional finals as a No. 12 seed.

With the women's tennis season fast approaching and the Bears retaining five of their top six players from last year, some questions still remain: Will the duo of seniors Livvy Brooks and Ellie Phillips avenge last year's doubles state title loss? Will the Bears get revenge on Chatham Charter, who handed them their only three losses last season, including in the postseason's third round? Does the Bears' previous experience make them the favorite to come out of the East?

This week, the News + Record spoke with Heather Brooks, head men's and women's tennis coach at Chatham Central, to discuss these questions and more, gaining insight on the journey that was the 2021-22 season, the idea of being both a mother and a head coach and expectations for this upcoming season.

This interview has been lightly edited for length and clarity.

Last year, your team had just three losses, made it to the dual-team semifinals and had a doubles team that finished as state runners-up. How would you describe that journey?

HEATHER BROOKS: The journey last year was just amazing. We set out a goal, just to play our best and our hardest each match. And we came in and we lost that first match to Chatham Charter and the girls were just really down on themselves, but they were able to pick themselves up and come back in and start winning again. Unfortunately, our three losses were all to Chatham Charter. We lost twice in the regular season and the third round of the playoffs to them. I feel like this year we will be much stronger because we are seasoned. Our top five of our top six are returning, so they're ready. They understand the postseason play now

and I think they're all hungry. I think, especially my three seniors — Livvy Brooks, Ellie Phillips and Jaylee Williams — they want to put it all out there. They're ready to get some work done and go further in the postseason.

Since you're returning five of your top six players from last year, how do you feel that last season's deep postseason run will help the team push itself even further this year?

I think that this year, they're all going to feel better about going out on the court. They're not going to have those nerves that a lot of first-year athletes playing in the top six have because they're now veterans in the top six. And I think that'll ease their nerves and help us be stronger down at the bottom, at the four, five and six spots. If you're strong down there, you're a pretty well-rounded, strong team.

We're hoping that those four, five and six players come out strong. I know last year's seven, eight and nine, they worked in the offseason and took some lessons, so one of them, I'm sure, is ready to step in to that open spot and take over, plus I don't know who we might have come out.

When it came to Livvy Brooks and Ellie Phillips making it to the doubles state title match, it's clear that they improved mightily from their sophomore to their junior seasons. How did you see them grow last season?

Their sophomore year was that weird COVID year where we played two weeks after school was out in the middle of June and then turned back around and started in August. So, they really didn't have an offseason. But they played during what would have been their offseason because we were still playing during that season. And I think that really helped them improve a lot from their sophomore to junior year. Also, they play a lot with some of our boys tennis players, which has helped them tremendously on their ground strokes and the speed that they hit the ball and the power that they have behind it, along with their strategy. I think that's what really helped improve them from sophomore to junior year.

Now, they both feel like they really only have one goal now and it's to get to that state championship final and win it

Heather Brooks

ROLE: Head Coach, Tennis

EXPERIENCE AT SEAFORTH: 11th season

NOTES: In 2016, one of her doubles teams — Courtney Williamson and Linsey Batten — won the NCHSAA 1A Women's Doubles Championship in her sixth season as head coach.

Chatham Central Bears

CONFERENCE: Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

2021-22 RECORD: 12-3 (8-0 in conference)

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

- Aug. 15 vs. Rosewood (season-opener)
- Aug. 22 at Rosewood

this time. And I think if they're able to make it to the final, they will be a different team because they've had that experience, they've played on that main center court and they just know what it feels like. And, no matter what happens, they're gonna go out and enjoy their senior year. We've talked about it many times together and I've said, "Go out and enjoy your senior year, stay hungry, do what you want to do and leave a name for yourself. Keep making school history."

What's it going to take for Livvy and Ellie to make that jump and potentially win the doubles state title this season?

This year, when it comes to the fundamentals of the tennis game, I think they're fine. In the state championship last year, they had a hard time finishing points, so we're really going to work on finishing the points and some strategy on just putting the point away and not playing it out until somebody makes an unforced error. Their confidence is here this year because they are the seniors and this is their fourth year playing tennis. In their freshman year, they came in and they played in the five and six spots, and they were a strong five and six. I believe I went through it and they've only lost like four doubles matches in their entire high

school career together, which is pretty amazing. They're like sisters out there working. They don't even have to talk, they know where each other is going to move. I think that together, Ellie and Livvy are probably going to be a pretty big powerhouse.

Not only are you Livvy's coach, but you're also her mom (and your assistant coach, Wendy Phillips, is Ellie's mom). As a mother, what are you going to make sure you do to soak up this last season of her playing tennis at Chatham Central?

It's going to be hard because we both have four other daughters on the court, too, so it's hard to coach as a mom. In the state championship round last year, we probably took it in more as parents than we did as coaches. We went down and coached, but when we were up in the stands, we really took it in as, "Those are our daughters out there." So, we will do that, but it's hard because I can't coach Livvy just like it's difficult for Wendy to coach Ellie. Neither one of them want to hear what their moms have to say, so we usually take the other child. I think we're going to just have to find a balance between being moms and being coaches this year. We'll find it and we'll have fun and, hopefully, the whole team will just go far. My goal is to make it to regionals and I think we should be able to make it to regionals for dual-team in the East. And if we can win regionals, I'm not sure what Voyager Academy is returning, they were the runners-up to Chatham Charter last year. I think we could make it to the state championship and play one of the nice powerhouses from the West. I think we're going to ride it as both a mom and a coach and cheer them on and push them at the same time.

When it comes to this upcoming season, who are some of the players that you're excited to see grow or those that you expect will impress you?

Jaylee Williams and Rachel Albright. They went to the state tournament last year as a doubles team and I expect a lot from them this year because they have that experience. Lauren Caviness, who played number six, she has really worked this offseason. We have worked a lot with her on the mental aspect, like

forgetting when you lose a point. She has played in some tournaments, too, and I think that's going to help her a lot. Then, the ones who weren't in the top six, like Halle Webster and Emma Townsend, I know they've been really working in the offseason, so we'll have to see who makes it to the top six. Any of those that were outside the top six last year could do it.

Your first match is coming up here pretty soon, on Aug. 15 against Rosewood. Are you feeling ready for that one?

I hope so. We're not starting the first day of practice because Wendy and I are taking Livvy and Ellie on two college tours that day, so we're not starting that day, but we're starting the next day. We'll do our normal practice early in the morning, but then we'll do open courts in the afternoon for anybody who wants to come out to hit and get the practice in. When I set up the schedule this year, I made it pretty heavy because our conference, I'm not always sure every team is going to have a senior team. Last year, Graham and Cummings did not, so that's us losing four matches. That makes a big difference in your schedule when you're starting to talk about regionals and getting girls placed. We've got a pretty tough non-conference we're playing. Southern Lee, I believe twice, Lee County twice, Rosewood from Goldsboro twice, Chatham charter twice. I've really tried to make the schedule a little bit more heavy with stronger competition so that they have experience. We're also playing in the Preseason Super Scrimmage on Aug. 11 in Greene County, so that will be against three teams. We're going to be the only 1A team going and we'll play there. That'll last about four hours and it'll really give me an idea of what we have on that Aug. 11 before we start match play on Aug. 15. And it will give the girls time to have three matches under their belt before we actually start what counts and let them get the nerves out.

For these seniors, in their freshman year, they were the regional runners-up in the West, losing to Pine Lake Prep. Nothing would make me happier for these three seniors being regional champions and making it to the state dual-team finals this year. Because they've worked hard.

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Chatham's early voting schedule to be confirmed by state

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

The early voting schedule for Chatham County's November general election — set now to begin Oct. 20 — won't be finalized until approved by the state's elections board.

The reason: the county's five-member board couldn't unanimously agree on whether to include Sundays in the early-voting schedule.

The three Democrats on Chatham's board — Laura Heise, Mark Barroso and Amy Meek — voted to include Sundays among the 17-day voting period; the two Republican members, Frank Dunphy II and Charles Ramos, were opposed, according to Chatham County Elections Director Pandora Paschal.

"Each board of elections gets to determine what their hours are and how many sites they'll have, and how many days they don't have voting," Paschal said. "In Chatham County, we know that our voters utilize early voting — it's popular, so we always have a big turnout."

Paschal said since the majority voted for Sunday voting, the tentative schedule is set but has to be approved by the state.

"The state board will take these plans, and they talk to the board members to ask them why they voted the way they did," Paschal said. "Then, they'll determine what the plan will be."

North Carolina election laws allow for each county's boards of elections

to establish hours and days the polls can be open each election cycle. This includes adding Sunday hours to the voting locations, which was first implemented in Chatham County in 2020.

Poll sites were open from noon to 3 p.m. those days, and Paschal said some parts of Chatham County experienced a higher turnout on those Sundays.

"Chatham County didn't really see the need to have Sunday voting prior to 2020 when we had COVID," Paschal said. "We thought it would be a great time to take a measurement of it just to see how many people will come out this year."

If the state board decides to follow the majority plan — which is what past trends suggest, according to Paschal —

all six one-stop polling locations would be open from noon to 3 p.m. on two Sundays during the early voting period.

Paschal said state board approval isn't a concern; rather, it's a formality many counties' board of elections have to go through to ensure the election is secure and transparent.

"We haven't done it had to do it much, but Sunday voting is what drove this," she said. "We're trying to get a good measurement of if it's something that we will continue ... there are some people that may be making it into the polls, but we thought we can't give a solid answer if we don't do it."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@HeedenTaylor](https://twitter.com/HeedenTaylor).

WORKING TOWARD A COLLECTIVE GOAL

Siler City's strategic plan will lay out goals for future development

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Siler City has all the pieces for an economic boom. With the Chatham Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) megasite drawing major attention from large manufacturers and an increasing number of proposals for new housing subdivisions, the town's board of commissioners voted last week to help prepare for what's ahead by developing a strategic plan.

"A strategic plan helps us, as an organization, to define priorities and assign the mission, vision and values of the organization so that we all have a collective buy-in as to what we're trying to accomplish," Siler City Town Manager Hank Raper said.

Commissioners unanimously approved a proposal for a strategic plan from Gary Jackson of McGill Associates. According to the proposal, the strategic plan would address "the subjects of economic development, planning, capital improvements, transportation, infrastructure, recreation, public safety and others," and would provide a tool to address future Siler City growth and development.

"He is serving as a facilitator so that he can assist us in putting all this out there, so that we can have a cohesive plan to work off of," Raper said of Jackson. "The goal would be as we grow, we need to do our budget more in line with how larger organizations do that, and the way that's

What we're trying to do with this plan is help determine what it is that they (the board) actually want to accomplish and see a commonality so that we're on the same page and working together toward accomplishing that.

HANK RAPER, Siler City's town manager

typically done is you have a strategic plan."

The plan would provide a written framework to lay out goals and priorities and to allocate resources based on the board's goals for the town and its operations.

"We assign and align the resources of the town via the staff, the budget and our time towards accomplishing what those objectives are," Raper said. "We're working toward those long-term goals, but also making sure we (town staff) are all moving in the same direction and everybody's not independently working toward their own goals instead of a collective goal."

Raper said strategic plan processes sometimes take more than a year, but in Siler City's case, he believes it would take only a few months.

"We already have some plans in place — some of these plans need to be updated, there are some new plans we need," he said. "But the biggest part of this plan is to establish direction. We know we need to update our land use plan, our comprehensive plan. We need a master Parks and Recreation plan ... these are things we're going to have to do separately, but with the strategic plan, it helps give us direction

to carry out those other plans."

Each of these plans, however, presents its own challenges, according to Raper. He said having separate plans could lead to confusion or forgetting about some already established priorities from previous administrations.

"We have so many different plans out there, and what you don't want — and I'm concerned has happened in the past either, through lack of priority, funding, or forgetfulness ... we get all of these plans put together, and once they're active ... it's like they go on the shelf and disappear," Raper said. "If you link it all with a strategic plan, it allows us to go and continue to perfect our priorities through conversations."

The proposal commissioners approved on Aug. 1 outlines the process to create the strategic plan. Jackson will meet with the commissioners in one-on-one sessions to find out what each sees as a priority for the town, and assess the town's strengths and weaknesses as an organization.

From there, Jackson will work with staff and the public to develop a priority list of actionable items.

"What we're trying to do with this plan is help

determine what it is that they (the board) actually want to accomplish and see a commonality so that we're on the same page and working together toward accomplishing that," Raper said. "If there's something they want us to do, once this process is done, then we can get into a deeper conversation about how we're aligning resources."

Public forums will be hosted to allow residents to voice what they'd like to see as Siler City grows — whether that be allocating more funds to repairing roads, additional recreational programs or other ideas.

"What we would like to do is have a day set aside during this process for the citizens and for our advisory boards to be able to come by and have that discussion," Raper said. "It's a participative

process because the more input we get, the closer that I (and) the board's going to feel that we are meeting the expectations of the public."

There is no date set yet for the public forum, nor is there a deadline for the completion of the brainstorming of the plan. First, Raper said commissioners need the chance to see what different priorities both staff and residents have.

"We don't see the commissioners every day ... what they may consider important, because that's what they hear from the public, may be vastly different from what staff feels is important," he said. "How do we link those things together to make sure the board sees what the staff sees, the staff sees what the board sees, and that there's agreement there

as well?"

The newly-developed strategic plan will be updated when Raper and commissioners work to pass a budget every year. As development comes to Siler City, Raper said he wants to make sure the new plan would be a tool to help guide town staff and governance.

"The overall strategic plan is really designed to be at the board level, and always can include participation from staff and citizens," Raper said. "That way they (the board) are working together collectively to give direction to staff as to what they consider important and we need to prioritize."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com and on Twitter at [@HeedenTaylor](https://twitter.com/HeedenTaylor).

NEWS BRIEFS

Town's Downtown Pittsboro Vision Forum set for Aug. 16

PITTSBORO — The Town of Pittsboro is partnering with N.C. Main Street for a Community Vision Forum to help get input on ideas to improve downtown Pittsboro.

It's scheduled for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 16, at the Chatham County Agriculture Center.

The forum is sponsored by the Chatham County Chamber of Commerce. The public is invited to participate in the forum, which will be facilitated by the N.C. Main Street & Rural Planning Center, along with the N.C. Dept. of Commerce.

Pittsboro is a designated N.C. Main Street Community, which recently moved up from the Small Town Main Street Program to the more advanced Main Street program. At the Aug. 16, members of the Pittsboro Downtown Advi-

sory Board and Pittsboro residents will participate in a series of exercises that will help identify assets, economic drivers, and economic development strategies that will be used to craft a five-year vision for downtown Pittsboro.

While the forum is focused on Downtown, Pittsboro and area residents are all encouraged to attend and participate.

Chatham GOP's town hall set for Sunday

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Republican Party's town hall, set for 2-4 p.m. at the Agriculture & Conference Center on Sunday, Aug. 14, will feature candidates in nine local races

Scheduled to speak and answer questions are:

- Congressman Richard Hudson, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, District 9
- Alvin Reed, candidate for North Carolina State

Senate District 20

- Walter Petty, candidate for North Carolina State House, District 54
- Marcus Globuschutz, candidate for Chatham County Sheriff

- Tom Glendinning, candidate for Chatham County Board of Commissioners, District 3
- Joe Godfrey, candidate for Chatham County Board of Commissioners, District 4

- Peyton Moody, candidate for Chatham County Board of Commissioners, District 5
- Jessica Winger, candidate for Chatham County Board of Education, District 3

- Tim Moore, candidate for Chatham County Board of Education, District 5

The event is free and open to the public but a \$10 donation is welcome. Refreshments will be served and door prizes offered.

For more information, go to www.chathamnc.gov

—CN+R staff reports



Council on Aging Activities Calendar

August 15th through August 19th

Monday, August 15th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center - 365 Highway 87 North, Pittsboro

- 8 a.m. - [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) (masks required)
- 9 a.m. - [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) (at Chatham Grove Community Center and on Zoom);
- 10 a.m. - [Games and Coffee](#)
- 11 a.m. - [Cornhole/Table Tennis](#)
- 6 p.m. - [Caregiver Support Group](#) (Chatham Community Library)

Western Chatham Senior Center - 112 Village Lake Road, Siler City

- 12:30 p.m. - [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#)

Tuesday, August 16th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8 a.m. - [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) (masks optional)
- 9 a.m. - [3G's Men's Group](#)
- 10 a.m. - [Blood Pressure Screening](#); Woodcarvers; Games and Coffee
- 10-10:15 a.m. - [Moving w/Jackie](#)
- 10:15 a.m. - [Bingo w/Joe](#)
- 11 a.m. - [August Birthday Party w/Liz](#)
- 1-3 p.m. - [Rummikub](#)

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:30 a.m. - [Chair Exercises w/Olivia for Beginners](#)
- 10 a.m. - [Choir Practice](#)
- 1 p.m. - [Rook](#)
- 2 p.m. - [Crafting with Kathryn](#) (Beginner Cross-Stitch)

Wednesday, August 17th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) (in-person and Zoom); [Games and Coffee w/ Pittsboro Police Dept.](#)
- 11 a.m. - [Mind Games w/Jackie](#)
- 1-3 p.m. - [Open Art Studio](#)

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 8 a.m. to Noon - [Veterans Benefit Assistance](#)
- 10 a.m. - [Bible Study; Cardmaking](#)
- 10:30 a.m. - [Nutrition Education w/ Ann Clark](#)
- 12:30 p.m. - [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#)
- 2-3:30 p.m. - [Cornhole](#)

Thursday, August 18th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8 a.m. - [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) (masks optional)
- 10 a.m. - [Needleworking Group; Chair Volleyball; Games and Coffee](#)
- 11 a.m. - [Nutrition Education by Ann Clark](#)
- 1:30 p.m. - [Line Dancing](#)
- 3 p.m. - [Gentle Yoga w/Liz](#)

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - [Horseshoes](#)
- 10 a.m. - Noon - [Music Jam Session](#)
- 1 p.m. - ["Bring Your Project" Craft Club](#)
- 2 p.m. - [Afternoon Tea](#)
- 3:30-4:15 p.m. - [Zoom Games with Kathryn](#)

Friday, August 19th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8 a.m. - [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) (masks required)
- 10 a.m. - [Games and Coffee](#)
- 11 a.m. - [Stories w/Neriah](#)

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#)
- 10 a.m. - [Making Important Decisions w/ a Living Will](#)
- 1 p.m. - [Memory Makers Club](#)
- 7 p.m. - [Friday Night Dance](#) (fee required for participation)

For more information on these and other programs, call our centers Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Eastern Chatham Senior Center
919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center
919-742-3975

Visit our website at www.chathamcoa.org

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

Three new principals prepare for the school year, prepared to carve a new path

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

The start of every school year brings the promise of new possibilities. For some members of the Chatham County Schools community, it also provides a new responsibility: leading a school.

At a July personnel meeting, CCS approved the hiring of three new principals: Nikki Murchison, named principal of Bonlee School, April Burko at Jordan-Matthews High School and Caroline Linker at Silk Hope School.

The three women will face a host of challenges in the upcoming year, including fostering meaningful relationships, learning the culture of the school district and recovering from the after-effects of COVID-19.

On the eve of the start of school, the News + Record spoke with the incoming principals to ask about their worries, goals and ideas for the first year in the saddle.

Learning the culture of CCS

For Murchison, the new position won't be as big of a shift. Prior to being hired as principal, she spent four years as the assistant principal at Virginia Cross Elementary School. Prior to that, she was an instructional assistant and teacher in Chatham County Schools. She says her experience in the district has allowed her to create a solid support network in the community.

"It feels natural because I feel well prepared," Murchison said. "But I've said to several others, it's like getting married or having kids; you're never going to have everything ready."

Murchison said she also has close ties with Bonlee's former principal, Kim Taylor, and her former principal at VCE, Sara Chicchi Estes, who are helping her adapt to the new role. She said it's also



Burko

beneficial that the two schools also show many similarities — both are Title I schools, both have similar-sized student enrollment and both have lots of community involvement.

The other two principals, however, are not natives to CCS. Burko and Linker will have to adapt to the cultural norms of a new district and build trust with students, faculty, staff and parents.

Linker, at Silk Hope, said she feels prepared for the challenge. This will be her sixth year as a principal; most recently she served in Durham County Schools. She said CCS is different from other districts because of the communal atmosphere it provides.

"I'm really excited about the family feel in Chatham County," Linker said. "That doesn't exist everywhere else, and so I'm really excited about joining a team that feels like a family to move our school forward."

The new Silk Hope leader has also built a strong foundation with the outgoing principal, Angie Brady-Andrew, who is retiring after 17 years. Linker said Brady-Andrew has been instrumental in helping her understand the culture of the teachers and families at the school.

"My plan is not to do an overhaul of Silk Hope," Linker said. "So learning the Silk Hope way has helped me learn how I can contribute to the

culture and help the school." Like Linker, Burko also



Murchison

comes from a neighboring school district in Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools. She said the cultures are similar, but says Jordan-Matthews is unique.

"One of the things that's really exciting about the school community is that the teachers, coaches and all staff are really invested in Siler City," Burko said. "Many of them have either gone to Jordan-Matthews and are from Siler City, or have been teaching at Jordan-Matthews for 10, 15 or 20 years."

She also said, though, that those close ties are part of what makes taking over this job uniquely difficult. Burko will be the third principal at J-M in three years. And for a school built on loyalty, creating that trust is going to be a challenge.

The continuing impact of COVID-19 in schools

Another challenge of the upcoming year is dealing with the aftermath of COVID-19. Some teachers in the district say the 2021-2022 school year was the hardest of their careers: students were back in the classroom full time for the first time since COVID-19 began, but absenteeism and behavior

issues became frequent during the school year as students struggled with mental health issues and learning loss.



Linker

Murchison said those problems are interconnected. She also said she believes acknowledging them helps deal with issues that arise on an individual basis.

"The mental health of both students and staff is something that we really have to be in tune to," Murchison said. "We need to help staff members process all sorts of things from serious trauma, COVID-related trauma or any wide variety of experiences that students are having now that impacts their learning."

Murchison wants to implement positive behavior interventions to help make expectations in the classroom clear to all members of the Bonlee community. That would create a continuum of consequences, which she said creates common ground for consequences and expectations.

Bonlee will also prioritize a social-emotional learning curriculum throughout the year to help students' mental health and attempt to mitigate the impact of learning loss, which involves hiring a parent liaison to reach out to parents with absent students.

"One of my goals for the year is just to make really clear for students that all of our expectations are positively phrased expectations," Murchison said. "We want to give students multiple opportunities to meet expectations, and show them they belong in the Bonlee community."

Linker also hopes to em-

phasize mental health in the classroom as a top priority for the coming year. She said a big part of that is listening to students about their own needs.

"We should be figuring out how do we support mental health each day, not just some days," Linker said. "Focusing on things like character education and supporting students beyond academic activities can go a really long way."

Those concerns were echoed by Burko as well. She said everyone's needs differ, making building relationships with students and staff more important than ever as students learn to transition back into the classroom.

"Yes, we can have large-scale, school-wide initiatives, but also remembering that there are some kids who might need some personalization to that," Burko said. "The key to that is being as personal as possible and having relationships with the students so we know how to best serve them."

The J-M principal said one way she plans on doing that is by celebrating students frequently and being there to uplift them.

The three principals say they're eager to begin their respective journeys. When that first day of school rolls around, it'll be a flurry of emotions.

"Kids bring a different energy into the building," Burko said. "That first-day energy will be met with my own nerves, excitement and overall hope. There are so many opportunities for the upcoming school year, it'll be like a natural high of possibilities."

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport.

Chatham Charter school year begins

SILER CITY — Over 570 students in kindergarten through 12th grade at Chatham Charter School in Siler City began a new school year on Wednesday, Aug. 10.

The Chatham Charter faculty is working with staff from the Southern Regional Education Board to receive professional development and implement targeted school improvement measures. The multi-year initiative is aimed at increasing academic achievement and enhancing school culture across Chatham Charter's K-12 grade span.

Teachers in early elementary grades will build

upon a summer recovery program for potentially at-risk students in an effort to better prepare them for the upcoming school year.

An ongoing school-wide area of focus is college preparedness which begins in elementary school by teaching solid skills for success that lead to a young person who will flourish after high school graduation.

The Career and College Promise program is a key element of the high school academic program at Chatham Charter. The state program is in partnership with Central Carolina Community College and gives 11th

and 12th graders the ability to earn over 40 college transfer credits.

The classes are considered "dual credit" because they also help the students simultaneously meet high school graduation requirements and accumulate college transfer credits.

The majority of seniors at Chatham Charter will complete one of the "pathways" of study, an accomplishment not achieved by the majority of students across the state in the CCP program. The Chatham Charter high school program is modeled after a middle college concept: Instead of allowing

upperclassmen to take the CCP courses if they can fit them into the high school schedule, its master schedule has both high school and college-level courses built in. Juniors and seniors will have some classes on the CCCC campuses in yet another of Chatham Charter's purposeful steps toward preparing them for college life.

In the area of athletics, the athletic program offers over 30 sports teams for middle and high school students. Chatham Charter is a member of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. The Knights high school teams are in the

Central Tar Heel Conference. Knights middle school athletic teams are part of the Mid-State Conference. Fall season high school sports began on Aug. 1; middle school sports will begin on Aug. 16.

Having achieved the milestone of its 25th year as a public charter school, Chatham Charter has also impressed state education leaders with its high school academic program along the way. In February 2020, officials from the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction approached the Chatham Charter leadership about replicating its high school program.

Since then, the Board of Directors and school leaders have worked diligently with state education officials to create a replication school in Sanford. Though the schools are separate entities, the partnership will allow them to pool many resources for staff and students. Central Carolina Academy will open in mid-August to serve middle and high school students. Located at 1801 Douglas Drive in Sanford, the school will begin with grades 6-10 and expand over the next two years to serve grades 6-12. The 2022-2023 enrollment will be approximately 285 students, but the student body will grow to over 600 students at full capacity.

Chatham Charter is located at 2200 Hamp Stone Rd., Siler City.

CHATHAM IS **BOLD!**



SCHOOL HONORS

DEAN'S LIST
Maryland Global Campus, located in Adelphi, Maryland, recently announced its Dean's list for the spring semester. Local students named to that list include:
• Chris Langley of Pittsboro
• Maria Elizabeth Sulit Mutia of Pittsboro.

CENTRAL CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DENTAL ASSISTING CLASS PINNED

The Central Carolina Community College Dental Assisting Class of 2022 recently held its pinning ceremony. Area students named to that list include:
• Avery Headen of Siler City
• Cassidi Maness of Bennett
• Ashley Stanley of Bear Creek



POLICE REPORTS

From Chatham County Sheriff's Office

On July 25, Robert Graham Barksdale, 44, of 1488 Denfield Street, Durham, was arrested by Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for habitual felony. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court on August 22.

On July 27, David Eis Fox, of 8443 Central Drive, Raleigh, was arrested by Deputy Chris Scales for assault by pointing a gun, second-degree kidnapping, communicating threats, injury to real property and injury to personal property. He was issued a \$10,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Wake County Court in Raleigh on July 27.

On July 29, Jimmy Lee Kidd, 35, of 200 Cap Field Drive, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for Domestic Violence Protective Order violation. He was placed on a 48-hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 17.

On July 30, Eric Marshal Hudson, 45, of 83 River Bend Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for assault with a deadly weapon and injury to personal property. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 15.

On July 30, Osmin Francisco Vasquez, 35, of 115 Amy Lane, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for failure to appear. He was issued a \$1,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on August 8.

Vasquez was also arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for failure to appear. He was issued a \$200 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 16.

On July 31, Wesley Ryan Allen, 41, of 3031 Siler City Snow Camp Road, Siler City, was ar-

rested by Deputy Vincent Iorio for assault on a female. He was placed on a 48 hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 17.

On August 1, Tony La Rhett Bristow, 44, of 1830 Carr Creek Road, Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Reggie Griffin for credit card/automatic teller machine fraud and larceny. He was issued a written promise to appear in Lee County District Court in Sanford on August 22.

On August 3, Anthony L. Frank, 32, of 1349 Silk Hope Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Noah Frazier for failure to appear regarding child support. He was issued a \$1,000 purge payment and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 12.

On August 3, David Edward Mashburn, 46, of 191 Graham Moore Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Noah Frazier for failure to appear regarding child support. He was issued a \$1,000 purge payment and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 12.

On August 3, Ashley Elizabeth Skinner, 32, of 18 Noel Avenue, Danville, Virginia, was arrested by Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for extradition/fugitive from another state. She was issued a \$3,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 17.

On August 3, Robert Leroy Mantooh, 38, of 4010 Hillmon Grove Road, Cameron, was arrested by Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for failures to appear related to driving while license revoked, expired registration card/tag, and operating a vehicle with no insurance. He was issued a written promise to appear in Moore County District Court in Carthage on August 4.

On August 3, Destiny Marie Dibenedetto, 21, of 364 West Street, Apt. G, was arrested by Deputy Jesse Clark for resist-

ing a public officer, assault on a government official/employee and disorderly conduct. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on August 24.

On August 4, Daniel Wayne Mize, 44, of 505 Tom Hancock Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Chris Scales for possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for controlled substances, possession of marijuana greater than 0.5 ounces and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$75,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 15.

On August 4, Carrie Anne Mote, 29, of 2400 Bowers Store Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for failures to appear related to possession of marijuana paraphernalia and driving while license revoked - impaired revocation. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on August 9.

On August 4, Tina Marie Beers, 38, of 305 North Dogwood Avenue, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for simple possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance, possession of marijuana paraphernalia and illegally carrying a concealed gun. She was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court on August 24.

On August 5, Daniel Wayne Mize, 44, of 505 Tom Hancock Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Jonathan Frazier for assault with a deadly weapon on a government official, reckless driving with wanton disregard for safety, resisting a public officer, driving while license revoked for impaired revocation, exceeding a safe speed, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession

of heroin, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for controlled substances, possession of a Schedule III substance, communicating threats and assault with a deadly weapon. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 15.

On August 5, Robert Leroy Mantooh, 38, of 4010 Hillmon Grove Road, Cameron, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for assault by strangulation, two counts of intentional child abuse causing serious injury and misdemeanor child abuse. He was issued a \$50,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 15.

On August 5, James Dewhitt Staley Jr., 55, of 4376 Old U.S. 421 North, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for failure to comply with judgement. He was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on August 10.

On August 5, Billy Joe Phillips, 33, of 2320 Bear Creek Church Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for failure to appear. His bond is to be determined at his appearance in Chatham County Superior Court on August 8. Mr. Phillips was also arrested by Deputy Mitchell for failure to appear on a citation. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 5.

On August 5, Myron Wade White, 59, of 4434 Alston Bridge Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Noah Frazier for failure to appear regarding child support. He was issued a \$900 purge fee and is scheduled to appear in Lee County District Court in Sanford on August 19.

On August 6, Christopher James Smith, 44, of 1312 McLaurin Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for failure to appear

regarding a release order. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 10.

On August 6, Bartley Everette Maynor, 62, of 804 Polks Landing Road, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for assault on a female and communicating threats. He was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 17.

On August 7, Ashley Elizabeth Skinner, 32, of 4010 Hillmon Grove Road, Cameron, was arrested by Deputy Moises Carvajal for negligent child abuse resulting in serious physical injury. She was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 15.

On August 7, David Brian Kidd, 40, of 32 Dusty Trail Road, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy John Beach for GPS violation. He was issued a \$20,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 17.

On August 7, William Clyde Clontz, 50, of 2400 Bowers Store Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Moises Carvajal for failure to appear regarding probation violation. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on August 24.

On August 7, Trinity Kristy Thompson, 22, of 1025 East 15th Street, Winston-Salem, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for larceny. She was issued a written promise to appear in Person County District Court in Roxboro on August 26. Thompson was also arrested by Deputy Scott for failure to appear related to a release order. She was issued a written promise to appear in Guilford County District Court in Greensboro on August 17.

NEWS BRIEF

Durham Coke bottler plans new facility in Chatham

Durham's Coca-Cola Bottling Company announced last week it plans to move its operations to Chatham County, locating at the intersection of N.C. Hwy. 751 and U.S. 64, according to the Chatham County Economic Development Corporation. The EDC and a release from the company said the company will be leaving facilities in Durham and Lee Counties to locate at the site, which has an Apex address. The company has plans to construct a 175,000-square-foot build-

ing at the site and will bring about 200 employees with the move. The Chatham EDC engaged with local partners including the Town of Apex and Chatham County government to recruit the project.

"This project is another result of our strong ties and regional cooperation," said Chatham Economic Development President Michael Smith. "We were glad to work with Chatham County, The Town of Apex and our colleagues at Apex Economic Development to put this project together at this strategic location in the heart of the Triangle.

According to a company press release, the facil-

ity will feature enhanced sustainable building specifications that will yield zero landfill waste and create as little environmental impact as possible.

Construction of the facility is planned to begin in Q1 2023 and to finish in 2024. The move to Chatham will allow for the company to be more centrally located in its service area, which includes portions of Wake, Orange, Durham, Chatham, Granville, Person and Vance counties. To read more about the announcement, click the button below.

"This will allow us to be a little more centrally located within our territory, and allow us

to move out of 30- to 50-year-old buildings into something more modern and efficient," Hager Rand, the president of Durham Coca-Cola Bottling Company, told Triangle

Business Journal. Durham Coca-Cola Bottling Company was started in 1906 by Rand's grandfather, William Kanan Rand, the TBJ said. The company distributes Coca-Cola (NYSE: KO)

products in Durham, Person, Granville, Vance and parts of Wake, Orange and Chatham counties, according to its website.

—CN+R staff reports



NCDOT PUBLIC MEETING ROADWAY NETWORK IMPROVEMENTS TO SUPPORT TRIANGLE INNOVATION POINT SOUTHEAST CHATHAM COUNTY

STIP Project No. HE-0006



Chatham County - The public is invited to attend an in-person public meeting **Aug. 16** to view mapping and other materials on the proposal to make roadway improvements surrounding a planned employment center (Triangle Innovation Point) in southeast Chatham County. The project will improve access from U.S. 1 and will evaluate improvements to existing and potential new location roadways, intersections, and interchanges.

The public is invited to attend the **in-person public meeting Aug 16** between **5 and 7 p.m.** and can view project materials and leave comments by accessing the project webpage shown below. The meeting will be held at the **Chatham County Agricultural and Conference Center, 1192 U.S. 64 Business, Pittsboro.**

In addition to the in-person public meeting for the project, the department will also conduct a virtual public meeting to present the same information on **Aug. 18** beginning at **6 p.m.** Information on participating in the virtual public meeting is available on the project webpage: <https://publicinput.com/Chatham-TIP-Road-Improvements>

People may also submit comments on the webpage, by phone (984-205-6615 enter project code 6470), email (Chatham-TIP-Road-Improvements@Publicinput.com) or mail to the project manager by **September 1, 2022.**

NCDOT Highway Division 8
Project Team Lead
121 DOT Drive
Carthage, NC 28327

Contact NCDOT as soon as possible if you require any accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone requiring special services should contact Diane Wilson, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, (919-707-6073) or pdwilson1@ncdot.gov as early as possible so arrangements can be made.

Those who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior by calling 1-800-481-6494.

Aquellas personas no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan llamando al 1-800-481-6494.

LEADERSHIP CHATHAM

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Accepting applications now - 09/09/2022

LEADERSHIP CHATHAM, a signature program of the Chatham Chamber of Commerce, is designed to develop informed, skilled, and involved leaders for Chatham County.

The Leadership Chatham class year begins with an Opening Reception and Orientation in September. Full-day sessions occur once monthly from September through May. Graduation takes place in June. Lunch is provided on session dates.

Participants of the Leadership Chatham Program are taken on a journey through the social, cultural and economic makeup of Chatham County. The connections made and knowledge acquired throughout the class year are indispensable.

Will you take the journey with us?

Contact the Chatham Chamber of Commerce

919.742.3333 | info@ccucc.net |

www.cucc.net

1,4-DIOXANE DISCHARGES

Greensboro published a 'year one' report on its 1,4-Dioxane chemical discharges. Here's what you need to know.

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN
News + Record Staff

The city of Greensboro published a Special Order by Consent Year One report in June, coming in the wake of yet another accidental discharge of 1,4 Dioxane — the third since June 2021 — into the Haw River, Pittsboro's drinking water source. The 34-page document, spanning May 1, 2021, to April 30, 2022, contains summaries of the city's investigation results, oversight activities and a public education outreach plan. Here are the highlights:

What is an SOC, and why is it being used?

- In the context of wastewater contamination, a Special Order by Consent (SOC) lays out corrective actions that a person or facility who has accepted responsibility for causing or contributing to water pollution must adhere to, according to the North Carolina Administrative Code used by the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality's Division of Water Resources.
- In November 2019, the city of Greensboro applied for a SOC, an agreement between the city and the DEQ. That month, the DEQ issued a notice of violations and an intent to assess fines against the city for a discharge of 1,4-Dioxane that occurred in August 2019.

- Several municipalities pull drinking water from the Haw River; the town of Pittsboro is the first drinking water utility downstream that does so.

- The original SOC went into effect in May 2021, as did a sampling plan.

- An FAQ document by the Division of Water Resources states: "The purpose of the City of Greensboro's SOC is to reduce concentrations of 1,4-Dioxane being discharged into the receiving stream in order to protect drinking water sources downstream of the T.Z. Osborne WWTP effluent discharge. This will be done by ensuring the drinking water standard of 35 µg/L is met at the point of the drinking water intakes."

- The city previously developed a 1,4-Dioxane source identification and reduction plan in 2015, after DEQ sampling from the same year pointed to elevated levels of the chemical in South Buffalo Creek.

- Since December 2017, the DEQ has required Greensboro to conduct and report monthly wastewater sampling at the T. Z. Osborne Water Reclamation Facility — the city's sole wastewater treatment plant.

- The three-year SOC between Greensboro and the DEQ was amended in December 2021, and includes "a comprehensive source study, a public awareness program, continued collaboration/oversight of indirect sources

of 1,4-Dioxane, TZO effluent compliance values, annual reports, and civil penalties for noncompliance with SOC requirements."

What is 1,4-Dioxane?

- 1,4-Dioxane is a chemical and flammable liquid classified as a likely human carcinogen by the EPA. The chemical, which is completely mixable in water, has been found at federal facilities and in groundwater, owing to its common use as a stabilizer in some paint strippers, greases and chlorinated solvents, according to an EPA technical fact sheet.

What's happened in Year One and what's next?

- The city of Greensboro and DEQ held four quarterly meetings between May 2021 and February 2022 regarding the SOC.

- In the first year of the SOC, the report states that Greensboro gathered more than 900 samples, incurring commercial laboratory testing costs of over \$120,000.

- There were three compliance value exceedances in the past year, when T.Z. Osborne's effluent 1,4-dioxane concentration is greater than 45 µg/l.

According to the report, a compliance value exceedance that occurred in June 2021 — and for which the source couldn't be detected — led the city to re-evaluate the initial

focus of the SOC sampling. As a result, Greensboro received a penalty demand letter and was required to pay a \$1,000 penalty in November 2021.

In November 2021, another compliance value exceedance occurred. After further sampling, the city believed the Patton trunkline in southern Greensboro, which feeds the wastewater treatment plant, to be the probable source of the high discharge of 1,4-Dioxane, though staff couldn't determine the specific industry. The city then held mandatory meetings with SIUs on the Patton trunkline; Greensboro received a penalty demand letter and paid a \$1,000 penalty in February 2022.

For a third time, in April 2022, the city detected another compliance value exceedance, again believed to be attributed to the Patton trunkline after additional sampling. Five industries — Ecolab, Elastic Fabrics, Lanxess, Precision Fabrics and Vertellus — on the Patton trunkline were required to send weekly composite samples for rush analysis, according to the report. Results from Lanxess likely indicated they were the source, with their weekly composite being 15,200 µg/l. Manufacturing of the suspected products has stopped for the time being at Lanxess's Greensboro facility. Lanxess is a specialty chemicals company, and the

Greensboro location functions as a production site for the company's Polymer Additives Business Unit. Again, due to the exceedance, the city received a penalty demand letter and was assessed a stipulated penalty of \$1,000.

- Greensboro identified nine significant industrial users, or SIUs, in Year One that had discharge concentrations higher than 100 µg/l, and facility inspection of the SIUs increased from once to three times a year.

Year Two and Three

- According to the report, for the second and third years of the SOC, one priority will be a focus on educating the public on risks associated with 1,4-Dioxane, as well as products that contain the chemical, through means such as a public awareness campaign and public service announcements.

- Greensboro is also planning to develop a water bill insert with relevant information on 1,4-Dioxane that will encourage customers to view the city's website for more details.

The full report can be accessed on the City of Greensboro's website at greensboro-nc.gov/departments/water-resources/wastewater-system/1-4-dioxane-updates.

Reporter Maydha Devarajan can be reached at mdevarajan@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @maydhadevarajan.

JOINS 10 COMMUNITIES IN PROGRAM

Chatham to participate in 'Solarize the Triangle' group-purchase program

PITTSBORO — Chatham County will join 10 communities as the Triangle Sustainability Partnership will publicly launch its region-wide community-based group-buying program on Wednesday, Aug. 10. The public is invited to a free event at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh from 6 to 8 p.m. Individuals will learn more about solar energy options for local residents, businesses and non-profit organizations. Solarize the Triangle is a unique campaign that allows residents and businesses to save on the cost of a system through combined purchasing with others in the Triangle plus the availability of a federal tax credit. "Chatham County is

proud to participate in the Solarize the Triangle Campaign," said Chatham County Manager Dan LaMontagne. "By making it easier for our homeowners and businesses to go solar, the campaign supports our goal of promoting clean, renewable energy, making Chatham County one of the coolest places to live in North Carolina and in America." The launch celebration will feature:

- Representatives from the Partnership that developed and support Solarize the Triangle;
- Experts in solar energy from the locally selected installer company chosen via competitive bidding;
- Live music and painting by Little Red Birds.

A portion of proceeds from the evening's event art-auction sales will be dedicated to supporting solar energy for qualified low-income families;

- Details about the benefits of solar energy and battery storage; and
- How one can enroll for a free solar-energy assessment of their residence or place of business through Solarize the Triangle.

Solarize the Triangle is a community-based group-purchasing program for solar energy, battery storage and other clean-energy technologies. The initiative is designed to serve residents, businesses and non-profits to become more resilient, reduce energy expenses and save on the cost of renewable energy

systems by obtaining volume discounts on materials and installation services. Solarize campaigns are driven by community group purchasing. Based on a tiered "bulk" purchasing concept, the more local residents and business owners who contract for their solar installations through the program, the more savings accrue to all participating property owners. Joining Chatham County, other participating Triangle communities include City of Durham, City of Raleigh, Durham County, Town of Cary, Town of Chapel Hill, Town of Hillsborough, Town of Carrboro, Town of Apex, Town of Morrisville and Orange County. The Triangle J Council of Governments and Solar CrowdSource

are facilitating the launch of Solarize the Triangle with Triangle local governments. In addition to participating in Solarize the Triangle, Chatham County has received a designation as a SolSmart Gold community. The SolSmart program recognizes local governments that are friendly to solar development and have made focused efforts to simplify the process of installing solar panels. The Gold level designation is the highest the program offers. Both participating in the Solarize the Triangle program and achieving the SolSmart Gold designation contribute to Chatham County's Comprehensive Plan goal of becoming a carbon-neutral county by reducing the amount of energy generated using

fossil fuels. Following the community celebration on Aug. 10, Solarize the Triangle organizers will schedule and offer a series of clean-energy education and outreach events with the goal of increasing participation through a better understanding of rooftop solar components, suitability assessment considerations and contract provisions. All solar and battery installations are expected to be completed by Nov. 30, 2023. Solarize the Triangle is already accepting advance registrations for the upcoming campaign. Interested residents may go to solarizethetriangle.com to learn more about the program and sign up in advance of the launch to be first in line for a free evaluation.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Unexpected issue forces delay for Pittsboro's GAC Filter Project

PITTSBORO — The Granular Activated Carbon (or GAC) filter, which was planned to be activated by the end of last Friday, has again been delayed to unforeseen complications. While this news is not what we wish to share today, we want to maintain the highest level of transparency and communication with our residents and water customers. As the construction crew was finalizing the underground pipe installation, they encountered a large area of rocks that they were not anticipating. Because the crew was not expecting to run into this obstacle, they did not have the equipment required to push through the rock bed. Because of this delay, post-installation chlorination and bacteria testing were unable to be performed, and the representative from Calgon Carbon (the company that manufactured the GAC system) was unable to perform the required backwash of the tanks, which must occur after all these steps are completed. Further complicating this situation is the fact that only one employee of the company can perform the backwash operation, and they will not be able to return to complete the process for at least 10 days. CDM

Smith, the construction contractor, is working with Calgon Carbon to identify and provide an alternate person to perform this work. Unfortunately, the town is unsure if this will be possible.

The town will continue to inform our residents and water customers about this delay, and we hope to give a better date for finalization and activation soon. We appreciate the patience our residents and customers have shown as we work to complete this process and look forward to bringing the GAC filtration system online as soon as possible.

Celebrated author Jason Mott to speak at fall Chatham Literacy event

PITTSBORO — Jason Mott, author of the national best-seller "Hell of a Book," will be the keynote speaker at Chatham Literacy's Fall for Literacy Luncheon. It's set for 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5, where a book signing will follow. All proceeds will benefit Chatham Literacy. Tickets, which are \$75 per person, will be available beginning Sept. 1 at www.chathamliteracy.org or 919-742-0578. —CN+R staff reports

It's a new year at Central Carolina Community College. Here's some insight into what's on tap.

Central Carolina Community College is launching a new school year, with fall classes beginning Aug. 15. This week, we speak with CCCC President Dr. Lisa M. Chapman and CCCC Chatham Provost Dr. Mark M. Hall, who share their thoughts about a number of topics.

Chapman



Hall

Dr. Chapman has served as CCCC President since April 1, 2019. Prior to that, she served five years with the North Carolina Community College System in Raleigh as Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer. This is Dr. Chapman's second stint at CCCC; she previously spent 27 years at CCCC in various positions, including Executive Vice President of Instruction/Chief Academic Officer.

Dr. Hall has served as CCCC Chatham Provost since 2014. He has been at the college since January 2005 and became lead instructor of the Humanities Department in 2008.

What's happening with enrollment and trends at CCCC?

DR. HALL: Date to date, this fall's enrollment has increased compared to about the same time as last year. The college is working on assisting students with registering earlier than they typically do to provide smooth semester beginnings, and this effort is reflected in our current enrollment numbers. We will know our official enrollment after the first weeks of the semester.

Based on the current enrollment trend, however, the college anticipates increased numbers of students taking advantage of the great opportunities at CCCC to learn and earn certificates and degrees that lead to family-sustaining employment and to transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

While the college as a whole works steadily on letting our communities and potential students know about all the college programs that are available, the college's student outreach, onboarding, and advising teams' focused efforts have especially helped students find the best options for them and the best resources to support them.

What are your plans regarding COVID-19 and any changing health protocols?

DR. HALL: The college continues to observe the guidelines and recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and its local health departments, and it updates its protocols as needed.

This fall, social distancing restrictions to classrooms have been removed, allowing for additional students to take classes in person. Online options have always been available to our students and will continue to be, but many of our students benefit from in-person classes, which remained in demand during the pandemic. The college is excited about providing additional in-person options for students.

To protect the health of everyone at our sites, the college continues to encourage optional mask wearing and other precautions, like remain-

ing off-campus if experiencing symptoms of any illness.

How's demand for adult education classes?

DR. CHAPMAN: Our community is experiencing significant economic growth and that means we need to continue developing the talent pipeline — both to meet short-term as well as long-term needs. While we continue to strengthen the alignment of our pathways with our K-12 partners, we are working on engaging with adults who may benefit from additional education and new skills as well as reconnecting with adults who may have stopped out during the pandemic. Our employers need them and these potential students can capitalize on the opportunity of better skills leading to better pay.

What's new in regards to activity within Chatham County?

DR. HALL: The College's Small Business Center in Chatham is collaborating with Innovate Carolina to provide programming at 79 Degree West at Mosaic.

The college will auction the Chatham Cottage early this fall, with auction dates to be announced soon.

Chatham K-14 Promise program participation remains strong as its fourth group of students enter the program.

Two additional electric vehicle charging stations have been installed at the Chatham Main Campus in Pittsboro as part of a grant program with Duke Energy.

The state budget includes \$38 million for community college funding for industrial-related

training for VinFast. How else is the budget addressing, or not addressing, needs at CCCC?

DR. CHAPMAN: We appreciate the raises the General Assembly supported for our community college employees and some special provisions they provided for certain instructional areas, but we still hope to see more substantial salary increases in the near future for our valuable team. We have been behind in pay for several years and now, in addition to that trend, inflation has presented increased challenges for families. We have exceptionally talented employees who are being recruited by industry on a daily basis and we have positions we are still struggling to fill. The bottom line is we need to offer more competitive salaries. CCCC needs our talented employees to continue serving as a first-class opportunity and leading workforce partner.

One of the most exciting workforce training opportunities in which we are engaged is the acquisition of the former Marelli manufacturing site expanding the Lee Main Campus footprint. With an eye on current and future manufacturing and life science industry partners, Lee County purchased the 21.4-acre, 220,000-sq.-ft. site to expand the area's workforce development opportunities. When renovation is complete, the E. Eugene Moore Advanced Manufacturing and Biotech Solutions Center will be transformed to a one-of-a-kind, world-class education center — the largest facility in the state focused on addressing the workforce needs of advanced manufacturing and biotechnology.

The Moore Center will not

only meet existing and critical regional workforce needs, but also will fuel regional economic development by showcasing North Carolina's ability to attract, train, and retain a high-quality workforce. Renovation will begin very soon, occurring in phases based on available funding. The college greatly appreciates the assistance of Rep. Robert Reives II in facilitating conversations between Lee County and the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality, and also that of Rep. John Sauls in assisting with securing state funding to support the necessary remediation as the site transitions from an industrial site to an educational center.

What's new at Chatham's Health Sciences Center Update?

DR. HALL: The Chatham Health Sciences Center continues to serve the community through medical-related programming, and the latest group of Medical Assisting students just graduated in July.

Programming continues to expand to include biotechnology (BioWork), Basic Law Enforcement Training, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS/EMT). Recently, a replica ambulance was installed in one of the classrooms to provide students with simulated training space.

The college is also pursuing approval to provide Physical Therapist Assistant programming at the site. The potential start date will depend on the timing of approval.

For more information about career and university transfer programs, visit www.cccc.edu or call 919-718-7300.

Council on Aging reopens Eastern Center with festive dedication

BY JIMMY LEWIS

Chatham County Council on Aging

Some 65 years ago in Montgomery, Alabama, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. posed a question that now rings through generations.

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

For over 48 years, the Chatham County Council on Aging has answered this call by offering a range of programs and services geared towards the goal of keeping older adults living independently and in their own homes for as long as possible.

But even with a mission that has not changed in roughly a half century, the steady drumbeat of time can place growing demands on spaces and facilities.

Thus, last Friday, the Eastern Chatham Senior Center in Pittsboro wrapped up its first full week in its expanded space with a program, catered dinner, and musical entertainment from Heart of Carolina Jazz Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Gregg Gelb. The new space opened for the first time to clients with a ribbon cutting



Courtesy of the Council on Aging

Retired Chatham County Council on Aging Director Dennis Streets stands next to the plaque proclaiming the Eastern Chatham Senior Center addition as the 'Dennis W. Streets Eastern Center Addition' last Friday in Pittsboro.

ceremony on Monday, Aug. 1.

Council on Aging Director Ashlyn Martin, invoking King's query, credited the agency's board of directors, building donors and the support of Chatham County officials in

making the addition a reality. In addition to a new multipurpose room that can be partitioned into different sections, the new space provides for a fitness facility with windows, new restrooms, office space for Council on Aging personnel and



Courtesy of the Council on Aging

Johnny Shaw, president of the Chatham County Council on Aging board of directors, embraces retired Director Dennis Streets as current Director Ashlyn Martin looks on during the grand opening program of the renovated Eastern Chatham Senior Center last Friday in Pittsboro.

storage areas.

Attendees were treated to a catered dinner from Allen & Son Barbecue as both Martin and Johnny Shaw, president of the Council on Aging Board of Directors, announced that the addition would be named the "Dennis W. Streets Eastern Center Addition," in honor of the retired director.

Streets joined the Council in 2014 and

remained executive director through his retirement in February 2022. In that time, the Council achieved several milestones, including participation in the Home Depot Foundation's Helping Homebound Heroes initiative to assist veterans with home modification and repair needs — one of just three agencies in the nation to do so.

Both senior centers

in Chatham County — including the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City — have maintained designations as "Centers of Excellence" by the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services. Chatham County is just one of 15 counties in North Carolina to have more than one center designated as a Center of Excellence.

CHURCH NEWS

BEAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Vacation Bible School will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m. August 16 - 18 at Bear Creek Baptist Church. There will be a light supper for children beginning at 5:30, with V.B.S. from 6 to 8 p.m. Ages 2 through 5th grade welcome.

V.B.S. commencement for children and families

will be held at 6 p.m. on Friday, August 19, with a hot dog supper and games afterward. The church address is 480 Bonlee-Carbonton Rd., Bear Creek.

SANDY BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH

Children 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to our Rocky

Railway Vacation Bible School at Sandy Branch Baptist Church on from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 13th. The children and their families will be treated to lunch at 1 p.m.

Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railroad. On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them

through life's ups and downs. We hope you'll join us at 715 Sandy Branch Church Rd., Bear Creek. Pre-registration is available at sandybranch-baptist.com/VBS or you can register that day.

ROBERTS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Roberts Chapel Mis-

ionary Baptist Church, Goldston will celebrate its 146th homecoming celebration at 11 a.m. on Sunday, August 21, followed by revival on Monday, August 22 through Wednesday, August 24 at 7 p.m. each night.

RIVES CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rives Chapel Baptist

Church will celebrate homecoming at 11 a.m. on Sunday, August 14, during the worship hour. Join us as we celebrate 190 years. A meal will follow this service.

Revival services will be held August 14 to 17 at 7 p.m.

The church is located at 4338 Rives Chapel Church Rd., Siler City.

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THE CN+R REVIEW | NEIL MORRIS

'Prey' a buoyed, back to basics Predator prequel

Setting a "Predator" prequel in the early 18th century North American Great Plains might sound like a stodgy prospect. Instead, "Prey" proves an exhilarating choice, reframing the franchise's "And Then There Were None" meets "The Most Dangerous Game" original construct into a more distinctive and primordial prism.

NEIL MORRIS
Film Critic



Courtesy of 20th Century Studios
Amber Midthunder, Naru, David Bukach and Dane DiLiegro star in 'Prey.'

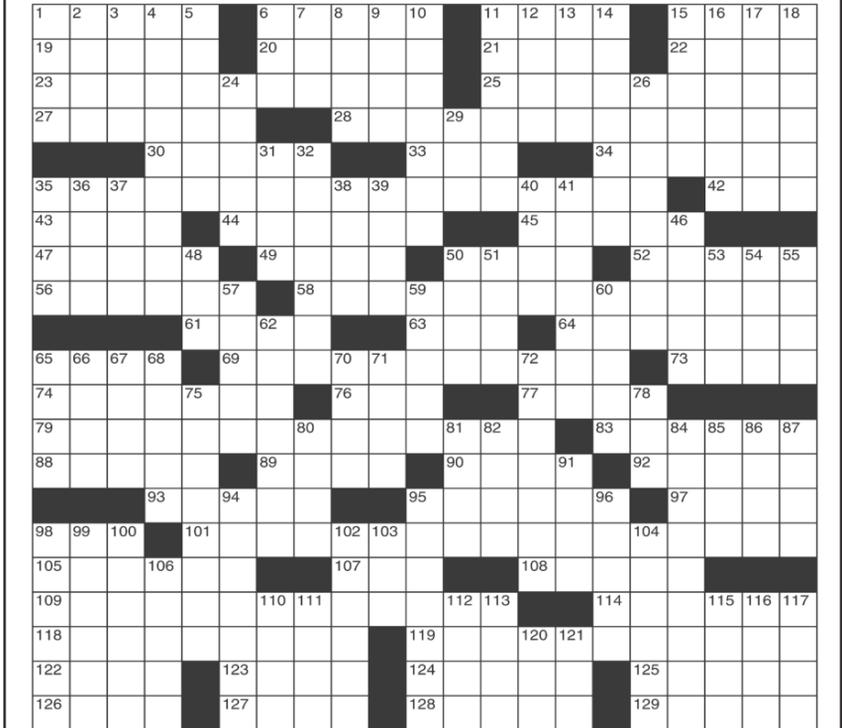
PREY
GRADE: B
DIRECTOR: Dan Trachtenberg
STARRING: Amber Midthunder, Dakota Beavers, and Michelle Thrush
MPAA RATING: R
RUNNING TIME: 100 minutes

Director Dan Trachtenberg wisely considers that while humans in 1719 were not yet as technologically advanced as the soldiers in 1987's "Predator," the Predator would have been over 250 years less evolved, as well. So while the Predator has immensely better tech than 18th century Native Americans and French fur trappers, he lacks some of the weaponry seen in later "Predator" movies — for example, this Predator's armor is not impenetrable, and although it has laser-sighted weapons they fire metal rods instead of rockets.

The film starts alarmingly slow, but it is a necessary pace for a protagonist who evolves from naive to damsel in distress to tribal hero. Anyone who denigrates the film's premise as blind female empowerment does not comprehend its underlying message of maturation. Rather than just a bloody battle of interplanetary species, "Prey" distills the principal conflict down to a survival of the fittest, with the unlikely survivor being the one best able to develop her wits along with her weaponry.

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cha-cha's cousin
 - 6 Chain selling dog chains
 - 11 Honeycomb unit
 - 15 Molar point
 - 19 Ring around a lagoon
 - 20 Sag down
 - 21 Medley
 - 22 Concerning
 - 23 Basketball guarding strategy
 - 25 Not dependent on eyesight
 - 27 U.S. Navy petty officers
 - 28 What a moving body has
 - 30 Massey of movies
 - 33 Lith. was one until 1991
 - 34 Run for a long football pass
 - 35 Gym class
 - 42 Sts. and aves.
 - 43 Remini of "Fired Up"
 - 44 Decorative wheel cover
 - 45 Put an — (cease)
 - 47 Higher-ranking
 - 49 Ballet garb
 - 50 Emergency removal, for short
 - 52 Construction girder
 - 56 Commoners, collectively
 - 58 Transaction of business via e-devices
 - 61 Volcano in Japan
 - 63 — Jose
 - 64 "Luck Be a Lady" composer Frank
 - 65 Enter
 - 69 Work contrasted with a desk job
 - 73 To be, in Marseilles
 - 74 Belly
 - 76 Mao — -tung
 - 77 Investments for later yrs.
 - 79 Nickname for Michigan
 - 83 Egnog spice
 - 88 Typed (in)
 - 89 Trial run
 - 90 Supplies with a staff
 - 92 Oyster's prize
 - 93 Cars for VIPs
 - 95 Big arteries
 - 97 "Auld Lang —"
 - 98 Police alert, for short
 - 101 Flight travel
 - 105 Arab leaders
 - 107 Really cold
 - 108 Sparkly crown
 - 109 Fitting retribution
 - 114 Composer Jean-Philippe —
 - 118 Possess with shallow passion
 - 119 Eight U.S. ones are featured in this puzzle
 - 122 Fishing spool
 - 123 Eternally
 - 124 Verdugo of "Panama Sal"
 - 125 Art film, often
 - 126 Water swirl
 - 127 Maple fluids
 - 128 First-string athletic group
 - 129 Ceases
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Labyrinthine
 - 2 Dip — in the water
 - 3 Part of MSG
 - 4 Ugly blotches
 - 5 Nickname for Yale University
 - 6 Adobe file suffix
 - 7 Sooner than
 - 8 Honky- — music
 - 9 Mozart's "— Fan Tutte"
 - 10 Loses one's inhibitions
 - 11 Iran- — Affair
 - 12 Race created by H.G. Wells
 - 13 "The Mod Squad" cop
 - 14 Amor, for one
 - 15 Scouted before a heist
 - 16 Loan shark
 - 17 Put on, as a play
 - 18 Corals, e.g.
 - 24 Cain's eldest
 - 26 Submitted by the deadline, say
 - 29 PC panic button
 - 31 Seagoing: Abbr.
 - 32 Egg-white protein
 - 35 Prune-to-be, perhaps
 - 36 Acronym for many vacuum cleaner filters
 - 37 Barks shrilly
 - 38 Outer: Prefix
 - 39 Paint crudely
 - 40 Audio equipment brand
 - 41 With a variety of hues
 - 46 Like sumo stars
 - 48 Ring official
 - 50 Israeli carrier
 - 51 — cava
 - 53 Once, — quantity
 - 54 PC brand
 - 55 Paltry
 - 57 Part of Babylonia
 - 59 Dot in the sea
 - 60 Erin of "Happy Days"
 - 62 Custodial worker
 - 65 Stare stupidly
 - 66 Double-reed woodwind
 - 67 In a lazy way
 - 68 Inventive
 - 70 Salt Lake City athletes
 - 71 Admin. aide
 - 72 "A —" ("Adieu!")
 - 75 Press release packet
 - 78 Have dinner
 - 80 Hawk's home
 - 81 "Famous" cookie guy
 - 82 Pool cover
 - 84 Bible division
 - 85 Polite request
 - 86 Cube creator
 - 87 Rubik
 - 88 Valley
 - 91 Agra dress
 - 94 Blunders
 - 95 "Got a guess?"
 - 96 Onset
 - 98 Reach for the sky
 - 99 Gave a buzz
 - 100 Bellyached
 - 102 Choir platforms
 - 103 Behave
 - 104 Partner of Athos and Porthos
 - 106 Rome's home
 - 110 Joe in a mug
 - 111 Lone Star sch.
 - 112 Ancient Brit
 - 113 Duel sword
 - 115 Prefix that's the opposite of 38-Down
 - 116 "Take — from me"
 - 117 Functions
 - 120 Comedian
 - 121 Aries' symbol



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

— BRIDGE : CROSSING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: MARTIN LUTHER —

- | | | | |
|------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| Bayview | Clark | High | Sunshine |
| Black Hawk | Eads | McKinley | Vicksburg |
| Camden | Harahan | Red Wing | Wakota |
| Chester | Helena | Stone Arch | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8			2			4	
		6			3		2
	4			7		6	
	5		1			2	
		7			6		9
2				3			1
		1			5		7
7				4			8
	2		8			9	

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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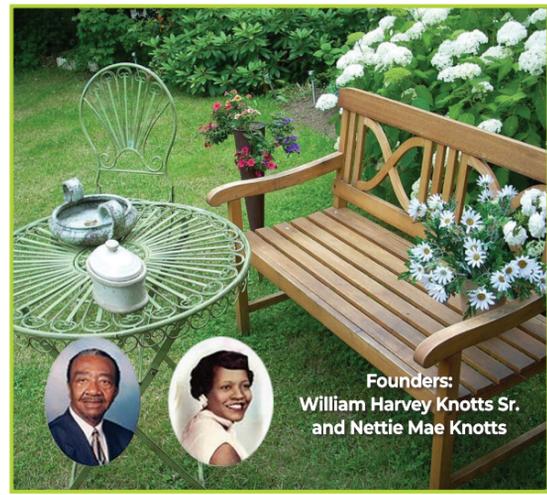
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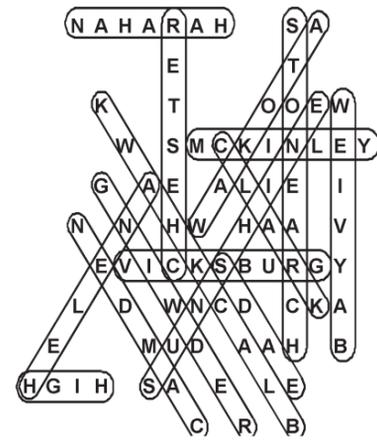
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apugh@northcarolinatravel.net

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	3	5	2	6	1	7	4	9
9	7	6	4	5	3	8	1	2
1	4	2	9	7	8	6	5	3
6	5	3	1	8	9	2	7	4
4	1	7	5	2	6	3	9	8
2	9	8	7	3	4	5	6	1
3	8	1	6	9	5	4	2	7
7	6	9	3	4	2	1	8	5
5	2	4	8	1	7	9	3	6

BRIDGE : CROSSING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



The forest, in early evening, and a treat for your dog

My Smart Car-sized pooch, Crowley, spent the weekend with me. We walked miles around my apartment. It was great, mainly because I've been missing my boy, but I also missed the long walks we'd take in the woods near my old house

When Crowley screwed his courage to the sticking place and crossed a creek the very first time, he became a true-blue creek-crossing convert. He used to be nervous to walk through a ditch after a rain.

We would walk for hour after hour crossing and re-crossing the creek at various points and never cover the same ground twice. In the years I've been going back there I've probably walked close to 300 miles, and even the last time I was there I still stumbled upon places that I'd never been.

One cold, gloomy January, Crowley and I



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Crowley the dog.

were having one of those extended constitutionals. The afternoon was slowly transitioning to evening, and we were just about to cross the creek once more, in the direction of home.

As I started down the bank, I walked past a bush, and one of its twigs brushed my face. I reached up to push

some hair back that had fallen into my eye. It was then I noticed my glasses weren't on my face.

I began to panic but thought that surely if my had glasses fallen off, I would have noticed. Without my specs I'm blind as a bat wearing shades in a French restaurant. I must have come out with-

out them. I'm not blind and an amnesiac as well. Right?

Then I remembered scrolling through the music on my MP3 player in the front yard. So, I glanced down at the screen. If I could read it then I told myself I had left my glasses at home. If I couldn't, then I was in deep trouble ...

I was in deep trouble. It would be dark within 20 minutes or so; I needed to find them quick. As dim as chances of finding them were, I could only retrace my steps and hope for the best. I urged my canine companion to, "Find Mommy's glasses, boy!"

We were in an area where I didn't go very often when Crowley saw, heard, or imagined something, and took off at the same time my hold on the 25-foot expandable leash was less than secure. It flew from my

grasp, and the plastic handle bumped along behind my galloping pup. It, and he were quickly out of sight.

So, there I was, in the middle of the rapidly darkening forest, bereft of both dog and reliable sight. It was shaping up to be a banner day. I did not want to return home and reveal the depressing situation to my spouse. I briefly, but seriously considered making my home out there among the trees, or possibly taking up work as a troll, and living under a nearby bridge.

But just then I heard the jingle of the tag on Crowley's collar. I rounded a shrub and saw him ahead, sitting and calmly watching me. The leash had gotten caught up, and his forward progress had been halted.

The handle had gotten caught on a sapling, but just. One gentle tug from the dog and it and he would have been free.

I reached down to

grab it before he took off again, and unbelievably, not three feet away, sitting there as if I had set them down myself, were my glasses.

I was shocked and incredulous. By all rights I should never have found them in what is approximately 60 square acres of heavy woods, but there they were.

This just proves, once again, that the combination of dogs and woods are magic, and only good things can happen.

I couldn't thank the woods, but the next day I made Crowley a big batch of my famous (only because I give out bags of them to dog owners during the holidays) dog cookies.

But just in case my usual, less than awesome luck shows up and the magic departs, I'm keeping that troll under the bridge thing in my back pocket.

Thanks for your time. Contact Debbie at dm@bullcity.mom.

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



Adam Phillips, Miranda Parker, Mary Maloney, Gary Phillips, Jay Parker, Don Basnight, Ken Tunnell, Terri Turner, Crystal Fisher



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