

# Chatham News + Record

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## STATEWIDE RESULTS RELEASED

# CCS scores show promise, despite pandemic decline

BY BEN RAPPAPORT  
News + Record Staff

Chatham County Schools administrators characterized year-over-year student performance gains as “substantial,” lauding the growth and performance shown in statewide standardized test scores released last Thursday.

Chatham County saw many of its public schools improve in some key measurements from recent years, despite academic challenges created by the pandemic. For the 2021-22 academic year, CCS saw 18 of 20 schools meet or exceed growth; statewide, only about 70% achieved the feat.

The only CCS schools not to meet or exceed growth were Jordan-Matthews High School and Chatham Central High School.

The N.C. Department of Public Instruction defines growth as “the amount of academic progress that students make over the course of a grade or class. Students enter grades and course at different places; some have struggled while some have excelled. Regardless of how they enter a grade or course, students can make progress over the course of the school year.”

### CCS sees proficiency increases

The district also did well on School Performance Grades (SPG). Seventy-four percent of the schools in the district also earned a grade of “C” or better. Grades of D or lower are considered “low-performing” schools; CCS had five such schools: Bonlee School, Chatham Middle, Jordan-Matthews High School, Siler City Elementary and

Virginia Cross Elementary.

Statewide, the number of low-performing schools more than doubled since the pre-pandemic school year of 2018-19 — 864 schools in 2021-22, up from 376 schools three years earlier.

Across the district, one CCS school — Chatham School of Science & Engineering — received an A grade. Six schools received Bs, and seven received Cs. No CCS schools received Fs.

School Performance Grades are based on 80% of a school’s achievement score and 20% of student academic growth. The total school performance score is converted to a 100-point scale, and the final grades are based on a 15-point scale: A: 85-100; B: 70-84; C: 55-69; D: 54-40; F: 39 or below.

CCS schools also did better than most of the state in reading, writing and

math end of grade (EOG) tests. CCS saw sharp composite EOG increases, with gains ranging from 10 to 20 percentage points per school.

“Generally, a performance composite gain of three to five points is considered good. When you see gains of 10 and higher, it is substantial,” said Dr. Amanda Moran, CCS assistant superintendent of Academic Services & Instructional Support. “We are extremely proud of how well these schools did, and want to celebrate the work students and staff members put in to achieve this.”

For each exams, students are graded on five levels of proficiency. If a student scores level two or below, they are considered not proficient. According to NCDPI, “student

See **SCORES**, page A3

## MUSLIM-OWNED BUSINESS

# Chaudhry Halal Meats marks 26 years in business, putting family and community first

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Abdul Chaudhry likes to take care of his people.

He’ll tell you as much on a walk-through of his Siler City business, Chaudhry Halal Meats, pointing to the several relatives he employs or the ways he looks to support his employees and their children in pursuing educational opportunities.

“I’ll do anything for them,” Chaudhry said.

For Chaudhry, lifting up those around him has been a constant and conscious effort for the meat wholesaler — both inside and outside the slaughterhouse on Stockyard Road.

Much of Chaudhry Halal Meats’ business is rooted in servicing independent, local farmers in Chatham County. And whether it’s establishing one of the first halal meat slaughterhouses in North Carolina — providing a much-needed service to Muslims across the Triangle — or founding and financing the construction of the only mosque in Siler City,

See **MEAT**, page A7



Staff photo by Nikki Witt

Abdul Chaudhry sits beneath a photo of his older son, Wasim, who died from COVID-19 complications in 2021. His younger son, Atiq Chaudhry, and his daughter-in-law and Wasim’s wife, Rabia Ibrahim, stand on either side; together, they have been taking on more day-to-day operations in the slaughterhouse.

# So what about the CAM site?

Official announcement may come Friday

CN+R Staff Report

SILER CITY — Widespread speculation about an impending announcement of a new industry locating at Siler City’s Chatham Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) site was bolstered late last week by an unconfirmed report from a Raleigh TV station that Durham-based chip manufacturer Wolfspeed was expanding to Chatham County.

The WRAL report, which cited unnamed sources, was one of several saying the multi-billion dollar project could bring 1,800 jobs here.

Chatham officials aren’t commenting on the reports, but the News + Record has learned of the possibility of a formal announcement that may be made by Gov. Roy Cooper’s office as early as Friday morning.

Wolfspeed, formerly known as Cree, makes silicon carbide semiconductors. The 1,802-acre CAM site is located just off U.S. Hwy. 64 in Siler City near the Randolph County border.

Whenever an announcement comes, Chatham County continues to be a hotbed for development. VinFast, the Vietnamese electric vehicle manufacturer, chose Chatham’s Triangle Innovation Point site — formerly known as the Moncure Megasite — in March for its U.S. production facility. That \$4 billion project is set to bring 7,500 jobs to Chatham, with site work under way this fall and production rollout scheduled for July 2024.

The News + Record will have the latest news and updates at www.chathamnewsrecord.com.

## ELECTIONS 2022: BOARD OF EDUCATION

# 2 new challengers vie for board seats together

Winger, Moore call for ‘parents-first’ approach

BY BEN RAPPAPORT  
News + Record Staff

School board elections across the country have become political battlegrounds and barometers of polarization, with issues like the teaching of Critical Race Theory, COVID safety measures and parent involvement in the classroom becoming common refrains in sometimes-stormy public meetings

In Chatham County, there are three school board seats on November’s bal-

lot. In Dist. 3, incumbent Democrat Del

Turner — who’s held the seat since 2010 — faces two challengers: Jessica Winger of Pittsboro and Clifford Stickney of Siler City. Winger, who has four children in Chatham County Schools, has been a vocal proponent of an optional school masking policy and actively advocated for a return to in-person learning while CCS was in a hybrid or remote learning schedule.

Moore



Winger

Meanwhile, in Dist. 5,

See **BOARD**, page A9

## ELECTIONS 2022: ABSENTEE VOTING

# Mail-in ballots to be made available Friday

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN  
News + Record Staff

Mail-in absentee ballots for November’s general midterm election will be available, upon request, to voters starting this Friday, Sept. 9.

Pandora Paschal, the director of the Chatham County Board of Elections, said she and her staff have been preparing to mail out the ballots over the last week or so.

“We’ll be mailing them out by the 9th,” Paschal told the News + Record.

Mail-in voting originated in 1896 in Vermont but has since spread across the country, becoming an integral part of the U.S. election system.

Paschal said at first, mail-in voting was reserved for deployed military and those whose medical ailments wouldn’t allow them to make it to the polls in person. That’s changed over the last few years.

“Now anybody is eligible to vote by mail, and you don’t have to have an excuse,” Paschal said, for not going to the polls in person.

Voters who have a near relative can request a ballot themselves either on the N.C. Board of Elections website or at their local board of elections office. According to the state board of elections, “near relative” includes:

See **MAIL**, page A3





# VIEWPOINTS

## Aloha, Serena Williams

I'm no Einstein, but I know that time is relative. My children think the four months until Christmas will last forever. I still can't believe it's September — summer slipped through my fingers like a child dashing toward the pool. Time is relative and fleeting.

Like me, I bet my readers hope to make the most of their time.

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that the average American lifespan

fell to 76 years, which was the third straight year of decline and represents the largest drop since the 1920s. Out of all the states, Hawaii has the longest life expectancy — as if you needed another excuse to yearn for a tropical island paradise!

Last Friday, my wife and I celebrated our 15-year wedding anniversary. Not in Hawaii. We were married on a beautiful day in Richmond, Virginia, and a decade and a half later, the bright sun was in the blue sky over Chatham County. Across the span of time and place, she and I have shared so much, including the birth of our three kids. Anniversaries are an opportunity for reflection, gratitude and wonder — where has the time gone?

She and I went out to dinner and then watched Serena Williams' last tennis match. Williams is our age, which is ancient for professional athletes. Her opponent, Ajla Tomljanovic, was 11 years younger and tireless, battling back to defeat Williams to end her storied career.

If I were writing the story, Williams would have beaten Tomljanovic and stormed her way to one last Grand Slam win. But not even the GOAT, or Greatest of All Time, stays undefeated forever. Time waits for no one.

Yet, even in defeat, Williams still inspires. She has said she is "evolving" from tennis, not retiring. She has new goals, including running her multi-million-dollar venture capital

firm with her husband, Alexis Ohanian. Williams also wants to spend more time with their 4-year-old daughter, Olympia, and has hinted at having more children.

With the disconcerting news from the CDC, I find Williams' perspective both helpful and hopeful. The truth is that no one knows how long life will last. Time passes. Things change. But we can evolve and make the best of new situations.

I mentioned Hawaii has the longest average life expectancy. Though I have no current plans to visit the Aloha State, I know that aloha can mean either hello or goodbye. Williams said aloha to professional tennis and also aloha to new opportunities for the future. I

am the same age as Williams and nowhere near retirement. But I can also evolve and grow.

My son came downstairs as I wrote this column. He was asleep before the tennis match had ended, so I had to break the disappointing news to him. He had rooted hard for Williams to win!

But he smiled: "Now, she has more time for her family. Hey, Dad, do you want to go outside and count the birds?"

Time is relative and counted in many precious ways.

*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."*

## Is what's good for the goose also good for the gander?

The longer I live, the more I believe the truth of what the late Thomas Phillip "Tip" O'Neill, the Massachusetts Democrat who served as Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1977 to 1987, said when he noted more than once "all politics is local."

You can apply that in many ways to many issues, but when you see it lived out, you also come to the truth of the old saying "Politics makes strange bedfellows." Nowhere was that more evident than in O'Neill's strong friendship with President Ronald Reagan when the Republican was in the White House from 1981 until 1989. The two were miles apart on many issues but managed to work together on substantial issues.

I say that to say this about the recent publicity surrounding President Biden's announcement that he is forgiving or canceling or whatever word you might choose significant amounts of financial debt owed by college students through the federal government's Pell Grant program. The resulting fallout has been enormous on both sides of the issue. And that's where the "strange bedfellows" of politics can be seen.

Among the many questions, first of all, is does the President have the authority, legal and otherwise, to mandate such an action with the stroke of a pen? A year ago, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the President doesn't have such authority and that such an action needs the approval of Congress. But recently, just a day before Biden made his announcement, the Speaker affirmed such authority does exist. At the same time, opponents of the measure were asking if the President considered himself an emperor or, worse, a dictator.

It's then just a hop, skip and jump to move to the rationale of the decision. Is it primarily or even purely political with mid-term elections coming up and the President's approval ratings somewhere south of where he would like?

Then there's the major question of how to pay for and absorb the loss of revenue, estimated by some economists at \$500 billion. Few significant details on how to do that have been forthcoming as of yet. Folks opposed to the measure point out that thousands of other loan recipients have paid back their obligations while proponents say inflation is making it harder to do so these days.

That, then, leads many to want to point out reasons why inflation is increasing, further, to them, solidifying their belief that the measure is mostly smoke and mirrors to win elections. That's why you see comments such as, "Just to be clear: there's no plan to eliminate student debt; there's only a plan to transfer it to those who don't have it." Folks on the other side, though, like to respond with "Not every action has to benefit everyone."

As with any other major question, there is no simple answer, but one part of the total equation that continues to amaze me in the midst of all the issues is why does it cost so stinking much

See **WACHS**, page A9

## Chatham News + Record

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GUEST COLUMN | BOB PEARSON

## With Ukraine, Putin's strategic options are dwindling

Vladimir Putin has a problem. His first Ukraine objective failed; he didn't take Kyiv or topple Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Ukraine's leader. Putin has failed to completely occupy Ukraine's eastern provinces and make them part of Russia. Now he's switched to a third strategy — to give Europe a Russian winter and break the will of the West to stand with Ukraine.

Putin is raising the stakes with each gamble. While he is adding troops, he cannot order a national draft because that would be another admission of his inability to enforce his will on Ukraine. He has not gone to mass mobilization and he has not gone to mass repression; both decisions not to act are signs of his constraints. By calling the invasion a limited military operation, he has signaled that it has limits and he is confident of victory.

Both these premises are now in doubt. He hopes, with gas supply shutdowns, to inflict such economic pain on Europe that the Europeans will insist on a settlement. Over time the sanctions on Russia will get worse. One of the clearest signs is the growing effectiveness of the sanctions on high technology parts and chips the Russian economy needs. Even Russian military equipment, especially missiles, now uses older technology designed for other purposes. Ukraine has succeeded in carrying the war to Crimea, shocking the Russians who thought they would never be a part of the war. Ukraine now has launched an offensive to liberate Kherson, the largest city the Russians hold.

If Russia is not winning, neither is Ukraine visibly losing. President Zelenskyy has stopped mentioning his willingness to negotiate and is talking of recovering all the territory of Ukraine, including that taken by Russia in 2014. The change in circumstances now makes it very difficult for Putin to carry out any plan to hold a popular plebiscite to annex the eastern provinces of

Donetsk and Luhansk. His army still has not pushed Ukrainian forces out those areas. Some Ukrainian resistance in Russian controlled areas now is also evident.

On balance, at this point, Putin has the more difficult side of the conflict. He knows that if Russia is losing over time, the risk of elite opposition in military and industrial circles will grow. He propagandizes the massive support he claims for the Russian people. If that wavers, then so does his position of power. NATO is stronger; national defense budgets are higher, more NATO forces have moved into Eastern Europe, aid for the Ukrainian forces grows, and Finland and Sweden are de facto NATO members. Both sides are managing the nuclear issue. The U.S. has restrained from supplying weapons that reach into Russia, and Russia has not attacked NATO supply lines in any major way.

War, as I feel I must always say, is often an unpredictable enterprise. To paraphrase Churchill, I am not predicting that this is the beginning of the end, and not even predicting that this is the end of the beginning. But it is not at all what Mr. Putin envisaged when he invaded Ukraine on February 24. The Europeans have a hard winter ahead. If they can manage their way through it, and the U.S. can continue to provide effective leadership, the world may be headed for a brighter, safer future.

*W. Robert Pearson was an innovative diplomat, leader and crisis manager at the top levels of the U.S. government. He was U.S. ambassador to Turkey and completed a 30-year career in 2006 with the Department of State as director general of the Foreign Service. He lives in Fear-dington Village with his wife, Maggie, who also worked as a diplomat and served as a senior foreign service public diplomacy officer from 2000 to 2006 period.*

### What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

# VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | DENNIS STREETS

## Voting is the crown jewel. Why not protect it?

On Aug. 16, the State Board of Elections approved unanimously proposed temporary rule amendments governing the conduct of precinct officials and election observers at polling places. The unanimous vote included both Republicans and Democrats who serve on the board.

According to the board's website, they took this action after hearing that "county officials documented instances in which partisan observers were disruptive to the orderly conduct of voting — posting materials at the voting place, questioning poll workers carrying out their duties, repeatedly coming and going in and out of the voting enclosure, talking to voters in the voting enclosure (including discussing political issues), attempting to go into the ballot-mark-

ing area or behind voting equipment, interfering with voters submitting their voted ballots into the tabulator, asking to photograph voter forms with confidential information on them, following poll workers to their cars and filming them after they had closed the polls, and, in one incident, getting into a confrontation with a voter."

Importantly, the executive director of the state board praised the work of county boards of elections for their management of the primary elections held in May and July: "Once again, the county boards of elections did a fantastic job in this latest election, providing secure, accessible and fair elections for their voters."

North Carolina elections officials recently received the "Defender of Democracy"

award from The Center for Election Innovations and Research for their work serving voters before, during and after the 2020 elections.

As former President Reagan affirmed, "The right to vote is the crown jewel of American liberties."

Thus, I was saddened to learn that the North Carolina Rules Review Commission, chaired by Republican Jeanette Doran, blocked these new rules. One would hope all Americans would value the importance of protecting the sacrosanctity of our voting sites. The Rules Commission is composed of 10 members — five appointed by the President Pro Tempore and five by the Speaker of the House.

Despite the failure of the Rules Review Commission to protect voters from intim-

idation and interference, I would hope all citizens would eagerly exercise their right to cast their ballot in the upcoming election. It is a right that for many has not been easily achieved.

At the start of our nation, only white landowners aged 21 and older could vote.

While Black men were given voting rights in 1870 through the 15th Amendment to the Constitution, white and Black women were still not eligible to participate, and many Black men continued to face barriers and discrimination in many locales.

It wasn't until 1920, with the passage of the 19th Amendment, that women were guaranteed the right to vote — but that still wasn't assured for many women of color as discriminatory practices

continued. In addition, Native Americans (men and women) could not vote until 1924.

In signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, President Johnson proclaimed voting as "the basic right without which all others are meaningless. It gives people, people as individuals, control over their own destinies."

With the recent action by the State's Rules Review Commission, we find that this basic right is still being challenged. Let no one prevent you from freely exercising what previous generations fought to secure.

As former President Eisenhower cautioned us, "The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter."

*Dennis Streets is the retired director of the Chatham Council on Aging.*

## The virtues of freedom? They're timeless.

In what had once been a land of opportunity and progress, the state had grown large and oppressive. Its leaders lost their way. Its people nearly lost their freedom.



**JOHN HOOD**  
John Locke Foundation

How oppressive had the state become? No matter how you chose to make your living, government officials made constant demands on you. Every major transaction was taxed, at escalating rates. If you couldn't pay the taxes, your goods and property were seized. In many cases, you had to have special permission from the state to enter your chosen occupation.

How did the government grow to be so oppressive? It didn't happen overnight. Instead, the encroachments were gradual, each one

too small on its own to provoke large-scale opposition. Many of the taxes were originally enacted as "temporary" measures, in response to emergencies, but then lingered on in seeming perpetuity.

It was a great deal for the political class — at first. In earlier times, state revenues had been used primarily to fund critical infrastructure and maintain law and order. But as the money poured in, bureaucrats hired other bureaucrats, which boosted their power and stature. Government didn't just pay them directly. Precisely because government had become so burdensome, corruption was rampant. It was cheaper for merchants to pay off public officials than to comply fully with the taxes and regulations.

Over time, however, the abuses of the political class proved counterproductive. To the extent land confiscation moved taxable property into government ownership, the tax base shrank. To the extent government made it harder to start and run businesses, there were fewer businesses generating revenues and employing people — which led to financial problems for the state as well as idleness and discontent among the population.

Finally, a new leader emerged. He was honest and ethical. Most importantly, he was observant. He recognized that the expansion of government had discouraged private enterprise and bred public contempt. He resolved to fix the problem.

The new leader slashed taxes. He eliminated regulations, and the jobs of regulators who had enforced them. He ended abusive confiscations of land, reserving that power for parcels the state truly needed for infrastructure. He fought public corruption and ensured that rich, powerful interests did not receive special treatment when the state adjudicated legal disputes.

The government didn't wither away. Instead, the new leader refocused its attention on law and order. He codified and simplified the legal code. He increased penalties, particularly for violent offenses. Crime rates dropped, which made existing residents feel more secure about starting new businesses and encouraged new people to immigrate to the area.

Care to hazard a guess about the identity of this political reformer and the state he led? No, I'm not talking about an American state, or recent events in a foreign land. The leader's name was Urukagina. He ruled the Sumerian state of Lagash, which included a capital and several nearby towns, more than 2,000 years before the birth of Christ. The site is in what is now southern Iraq.

The official chronicle of Urukagina's reforms contains the first recorded use of the word "freedom." The Sumerian term was "amargi," literally "a return to the mother." The idea being conveyed was that human beings were naturally born into a state of freedom, not a state of subservience. Another way of saying it is that humans are endowed by their Creator with certain rights that are not lost — alienated from them — just because they live in societies with governments.

Urukagina returned his people's birthright to them, their freedom. It worked for a time. Unfortunately, he didn't tend sufficiently to a core function of government, national defense. Lagash fell prey to invaders. But his tale wasn't forgotten, then or now. In 1960, the founders of the Liberty Fund in Indianapolis chose the cuneiform version of "amargi" as the centerpiece of their logo.

When it comes to expanding freedom, there have been plenty of modern innovations. But there's nothing new about the underlying concept. It's ancient and essential.

*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).*

## Can't stop UNC's move to Raleigh

Too late.  
It has already been done.



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

The Spangler building that served as headquarters of the UNC system is dark and empty for the first time since 1971, when UNC president William Friday moved the university president's offices from the center of the UNC-Chapel Hill campus to the site just a few blocks down the road.

Another empty building is the Franklin Street house that has been the university president's home since 1907.

The University of North Carolina, now called the UNC system, has moved outside the center of Chapel Hill for the first time since February 1795 when the university's first student, Hinton James, enrolled.

Now in off-campus transition quarters, the university is on the way to moving to Raleigh as ordered by the General Assembly last year and with a specific deadline of July 1, 2023, in the budget adopted this year.

It is a bad idea.

But there was little objection earlier this year when the university's Board of Governors, after a short debate, approved a lease for temporary headquarters in

Raleigh.

Three important board members did speak against the move. Prominent conservative Art Pope and former legislators Leo Daughtry and John Fraley voted against the move to Raleigh.

Daughtry said, "It is my opinion that the move from here to Raleigh was done purely on the basis of politics."

As he told N.C. Policy Watch's Joe Killian, "The plan to move the UNC System offices to downtown Raleigh is expensive, ill-considered and motivated primarily by politics."

Killian continued, "Beyond the political implications, Pope and Fraley said, relocating the UNC System office, with its more than 250 employees, is an unnecessary expense when the offices and support systems for the university already exist in Chapel Hill."

Whatever the reason for the move, the uni-

versity is moving and it will never be the same.

Upon its move from Chapel Hill to Raleigh, the university becomes another state bureaucratic agency, much more concerned with pleasing state officials and legislators rather than understanding and serving the students, faculty, and campus leaders.

Looking back at The University of North Carolina led by Frank Porter Graham, William Friday, Dick Spangler, and others, operating at a distance from Raleigh in the campus environment, guided North Carolina's universities to nationally recognized success.

We will have to adapt to a new reality.

Instead of devoting a portion of time with students and faculty as Graham did with his Sunday evening open houses or Spangler did with his regular lunches at Lenoir Hall, the university president and his or her associates will miss the daily contact with university people. Instead, they will consort with other state officials in Raleigh, far away from a university campus environment.

How will the university president manage these changed circumstances?

From his experience as a university student, his service on university and community college boards and positions of educational leadership, current UNC President Peter Hans has the background to be an extraordinary president.

He would be even better, I think, if he could have kept his base of operations where the university's heart and center has been for more than 225 years.

When he recruits higher education leaders to serve in North Carolina, he may be more likely to choose from the state employees who will surround his office after the move to Raleigh.

Away from a campus, he may find it more difficult to become familiar with, understand, and recruit new university employees and faculty for the positions that need people with on-site university experience.

It will be harder and hard for the university president to be an inspiring leader rather than simply a high-level state bureaucrat.

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



# MYTHS VS FACTS

## IT'S TIME TO DEBUNK THE MYTHS ABOUT HEARING AIDS!

myth #1

Hearing aids will make me feel old.



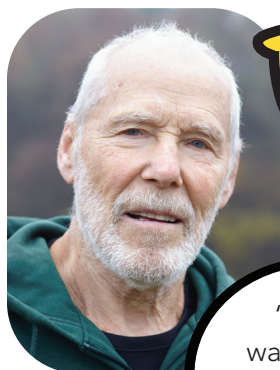
### DEBUNKED

By Cheryl P., Grand Rapids, MI

"I always thought getting hearing aids would make me feel and look old. Until I realized friends were leaving me out of conversations because they didn't want to shout. That really made me feel old. Now I can keep up on all the gossip!"

myth #2

Hearing loss isn't really a serious issue.



### DEBUNKED

By Roger H., Lexington, KY

"I knew I had some hearing loss, but didn't think it was a big deal. Until recently I realized I was forgetting things easily and even finding it hard to finish my daily crossword puzzle. I never thought that even mild hearing loss could lead to cognitive issues. I'm so glad I went when I did."

myth #3

Everyone will know I am wearing them.



### DEBUNKED

By Donna L., New Haven, CT

"I was so worried that getting hearing aids would mean that everyone would be able to see them. But they are so small and discreet, even my 10 year old granddaughter - who notices EVERYTHING, had no idea I was wearing them."

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# BOARD

Continued from page A1

incumbent Gary Leonard, who is the board's chairperson, faces Timothy Moore. Leonard, a former athletic director and coach at Chatham Central High School, was first elected in 2010. Moore, a Texas native and U.S. Army veteran, has joined Winger in campaigning for a "parents-first" approach to board policy-making.

Stickney is not seeking the BOE office as part of the Republican bloc of Winger and Moore.

Dist. 4 BOE incumbent Jane Allen Wilson is also up for reelection, but appears alone on November's ballot. Wilson was expected to be challenged in an organized write-in campaign by another Republican, Wendy Copelan, who was seeking office as part of a bloc with Winger and Moore. Board of Elections Director Pandora Paschal previously told the News + Record that Copelan told her she wasn't going to pursue the write-in campaign.

The News + Record spoke to two of the challenging candidates about their reasons for running and their goals if they were elected to office.

## Motivation for seeking office

Moore is a political newcomer. He works in logistics in Siler City at Siemens Healthineers and is a former parent and current grandparent of students in the Chatham County Schools system. His granddaughter attends Chatham Charter School, and he says seeing her school have much higher scores and performance than public schools in the county made him consider why that may be the case.

"Our youth are our future and a lot of the issues we see in our country right now are reflected in how we are teaching them," Moore said. "The U.S. is getting

outpaced in education by other countries. We aren't in the top 20 in the core curriculum of reading, writing or mathematics."

The crux of Moore's platform is improving on those outputs in Chatham County. He believes N.C. and the country at large are struggling to produce viable job candidates because of lackluster performance in those core areas.

"There are a lot of emotional discussions surrounding our schools right now," Moore said. "But the bottom line is we are just not producing the skills we need to be competitive in a global market."

He said the focus of education needs to be on the core subject areas — reading, writing and math — because he believes school is about preparing students for the future and setting them up for careers.

"There's a lot of other things we can look at, but if we haven't conquered the reading, writing and mathematics then you're not producing an adequate skillset," Moore said. "It has to be focused. I look at programs like One Chatham or whatever it may be and those are fine, but unless you focus on the key three elements, anything you do outside of that is not going to help the student."

Winger says her motivations for seeking a board seat are based on her personal experience as a mother in CCS. She said she saw firsthand the hardships of virtual learning during COVID lockdowns and what she describes as a lack of transparency and responsiveness from the school board.

When students were first welcomed back to the school building in 2021, Winger signed up to be an elementary school substitute teacher in CCS, which she says was an eye-opening experience.

"Seeing where our schools are at confirmed some things and revealed a lot to me,"

Winger said. "I never had an intention to run for school board. I've always tried to be supportive of the schools and be involved."

Winger said her involvement stepped up during the pandemic because her children were

**"We felt the parent perspective was pushed to the side. It was always 'OK, we hear you, we don't care.' That was extremely frustrating."**

JESSICA WINGER, Board of Education candidate

"drowning at home" doing virtual learning. She said her involvement in the PTA and in the classroom couldn't turn the levers of power toward a more in-person learning experience. It was then that Winger decided to attend CCS Board of Education meetings.

"I started attending to be a voice for parents," she said. "It was really discouraging to see a lack of conversation and questioning about what was happening... And what I found was a disconnect between the school board and the parents, and really the whole community."

During the height of the pandemic, Winger was outspoken at board meetings in support of less masking in schools and promoted a return to in-person learning.

## Transparency concerns

While the board of education is nonpartisan, Winger and Moore have attended candidate events with the Chatham County Republican Party and openly identify as Republicans. And both said among their top priorities if elected to the board is addressing what they believe is a lack of transparency between the school board and the parents, with both adding that the school board should serve as a liaison between the schools and the community at large.

Winger said any time she has tried to offer a parent perspective at a school board meeting she felt pushed aside or dismissed, which she believes diminished trust between some parents

and the school district.

"We felt the parent perspective was pushed to the side," Winger said. "It was always 'OK, we hear you, we don't care.' That was extremely frustrating."

Leonard, the board's chairperson, disagreed

with that assessment. The Dist. 5 incumbent said he understood that certain agenda items at board meetings aren't necessarily met with long debates or conversations, but that's because a lot of discussion goes on before and after meetings between district staff, administrators and board members.

"I won't pretend to have all the answers, but I'm consistently out in the community and I try to be as approachable as possible," Leonard said. "I try to find answers to everyone's questions. I feel like I try to be as transparent as I can be."

Leonard is in his third term and has worked in education for more than 40 years. While on the board, Leonard said he was proud he helped hire three different superintendents for the district and increased the county supplement for teacher pay.

"The goal of the board is to help the students as much as possible, and I believe we do that," Leonard said. "I like to work with people and find middle ground in any problems we encounter to try and find solutions to those problems."

Winger's opponent, Del Turner, also said the idea that the board lacks transparency was unfair. Turner said the board provides ample opportunity for participation of all stakeholders.

"When people come to public comment and they have an issue, it's not discussed inside the board room," she said. "If we stopped to discuss every concern that a parent brought to public comment, we'd be there all night."

The Dist. 3 incumbent pointed to events like the One Chatham Community Engagement event and listening tours with the school board and Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson as moments where the board was out in the community.

"We've had these events where anyone in the community, any stakeholder can attend," Turner said. "Ms. Winger was not there."

Turner said the district makes every effort possible to notify community members and parents of meetings and events to try and improve communication.

Since she joined the board, Turner has been a vocal advocate for AVID, or Advancement Via Individual Determination, a college readiness program aimed at closing

the achievement gap. She says overall she's proud of what the board has done in her three terms because she believes she's helped move the district forward.

"I have expectations for the outcomes of these new programs like AVID and I want to be there to see it," Turner said. "I want to see the outcomes of the visions that I had."

Turner said she's seeking another term on the board because she has pushed for changes like AVID for the last decade and wants to see those plans come to fruition.

## Parent's rights

Winger and Moore say they each want transparency at every level of the school, including more openness about lesson plans and curriculum so that parents know what teachers are sharing in the classroom.

This would mean allowing parents to opt their children out of certain lessons if they disagree with the lesson plans. "Parents are a child's primary teacher," Moore said. "We need to trust parents first to make the decisions that are best for their children."

He said communities are best off when parents have a voice in education. Winger agreed, saying "politics should be left out of the classroom."

Leonard said parent involvement is important in the school community, but he believes the board has actively made strides to increase that involvement. He pointed to the recent creation of the CCS Parent Advisory Committee, where a parent from each school can provide input to the superintendent, staff and administrators.

"There are always going to be some [parents] that feel like they don't have that opportunity," Leonard said. "But we try to give people every opportunity we possibly can for them to get involved and we will continue to do more of that."

Winger said the Parent Advisory Committee doesn't go far enough because it isn't open to all parents in CCS and the parents are chosen by district staff. She believes trust has been lost between the community and the board because of what she sees as a lack of input during the peaks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We need to let teachers do their job, but this is also where transparency becomes important," Winger said. "Parents shouldn't be blindsided. This is where that clear communication is super important."

She said teachers should allow for parent conversations about curriculum and lesson plans because clear communication is imperative to transparent education.

## 'They came making demands'

Turner said the first time she recalls Wing-

er attending a board meeting was during COVID-19, where Winger was a vocal advocate to end masking in schools.

"They came making demands," Turner said of Winger and a group of parents. "We got insulted, got called stupid, and they said we weren't looking at the science and all this kind of thing."

Turner said while she understood Winger's opinion on the matter, she would not allow a group of a dozen parents to make decisions on behalf of the 9,000 students in the district and their parents.

"Twelve parents can't arbitrarily represent the some 18,000 parents in the district," Turner said. "That was a point of contention. A small group of people felt that we should do what they asked, but we could not do that for the safety of the children."

Decisions made about school operations were made in the interest of public health, Turner said. She believes the track record of the district should speak for itself because it's one of the few school systems in the region that did not cease operations during the pandemic.

National conversations surrounding curriculum transparency and parent involvement have been rebutted by many teachers and school officials. They say the law in the United States has long supported the idea that education should prepare young people to think for themselves, even if it differs from their parents.

"We're not teaching CRT," Leonard, who was usually the lone voice on the board in encouraging a return to optional masking during COVID, said. "We are trying to take care of each individual child that we work with. We want to do the best job we can with each one socially and emotionally ... I do this job to help look after children and I don't know if there is a higher calling than that."

Moore and Winger would be the only Republicans on the board if elected. They said their viewpoints would offer a needed different perspective on the approach to education. They said because the BOE is nonpartisan, they do not believe the different political viewpoints would hinder the progress of the board.

The deadline to register to vote is Oct. 14, and early voting in Chatham County begins on Oct. 20. For more information about the upcoming election visit [www.chatham-countync.gov/elections](http://www.chatham-countync.gov/elections).

The News + Record expects to host two candidate forums for all open offices, including the CCS Board of Education seats, in September and October.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at [brappaport@chathamnr.com](mailto:brappaport@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter @b\_rappaport.

Piney Grove United Methodist Church  
 CHURCH WIDE  
**YARD SALE**  
 Yard Sale/Bake Sale • September 10  
 7am- 12pm (rain date Sept. 17th)  
*Breakfast biscuits will be sold.*  
 2343 Piney Grove Ch. Rd. • Siler City

**NOW AVAILABLE  
 SWEET  
 POTATOES**



- Logan Farms -  
 150 Logan Farm Lane  
 919-776-2277 or 919-776-1898  
 (Across river from Gulf)

# The Flatwoods Festival

Sponsored by the Tri-County Ruritan Club  
**ALL EVENTS WILL BE HELD OUTSIDE**



**Friday September 9th**  
 (In Front of Bennett Fire Department)  
 5:00 PM FOOD VENDORS  
 7:00 PM LIVE AUCTION: Pottery, Antiques, Collectables

**Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS  
 10:00 PARADE- MAIN STREET BENNETT  
 Vintage Cars, Trucks, & Tractors (25+ Yrs).  
 Special Show Vehicles, Floats,  
 Horses & Horse Drawn Vehicles  
 11:45 HINDSIGHT BLUEGRASS  
 1:00 FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY  
 1:30 PARADE AWARDS  
 RAFFLE DRAWING

# WACHS

Continued from page A4

to go to college anyway? Figures for 2020-21, the most recent I could find, reveal the total cost to attend Duke University is \$77,000 per year.

Is it worth it? Maybe if you want to be a doctor or lawyer, but for a degree in, say, philosophy? Is it possible that part of the overall situation in which we find ourselves is bloated salaries of college administrators?

I'm not opposed to anyone getting an education, but is it possible there is

a teachable life lesson in here somewhere? Like, don't obligate yourself for more than you can stand at any one moment.

Reminds me of my days as an undergrad at UNC. I had a stereo in my room, a \$40 Sears thing and a few favorite LPs. One day in the mail, I got an offer from Columbia Record Club (yes, there used to be such things) to send me 10 free vinyls of the best of the Temptations, Four Tops, Ventures and a few others. All I had to do was obligate myself to purchase one more album each month for eight or 10 or I don't

remember how many months.

A good deal, I thought. Only problem was I didn't have a job. No income.

It took me forever to pay the thing off. Is that so bad?

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.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

### REAL ESTATE

**LEARN ABOUT LAND** - Chatham Land Experts - [www.learnaboutland.com](http://www.learnaboutland.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: Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. 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

### FOR SALE

**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, [rickyellingtonauctians@yahoo.com](mailto:rickyellingtonauctians@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.Jerry-HarrisAuction.com](http://www.Jerry-HarrisAuction.com), (919) 498-4077, J6,tfnc

### SERVICES

**CASH PAID FOR JUNK CARS** and pickups. Call (336) 581-3423, Jy28-O13,14tp

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

**AUTO BROKERS RECYCLERS** - Cash paid for Junk/Wrecked vehicles. Call (919) 545-0194. My13,tfnc

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

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

### HELP WANTED

**CHATHAM CARES COMMUNITY PHARMACY** is hiring a part-time Executive Director/Pharmacy Manager. Must be a licensed pharmacist and located in the Piedmont region of the state. Bilingual English/Spanish skills a plus. For more info, or to apply: [ChathamCares.com/executive-director](http://ChathamCares.com/executive-director). Au18-O6,8tc

**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

**CREDITORS NOTICE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **HAZEL PATTERSON STONE**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of the deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of November, 2022 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted

to the Estate of the deceased will please make immediate payment.  
This the 15th day of August, 2022.  
Pattie Stone Turner, Executrix  
2978 Butterwood Drive  
Jamestown, NC 27282  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons having claims against **CLINTON PEARCE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th 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 15th day of August, 2022.  
Ronald Pearce, Executor  
6205 Buckhorn Rd  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
Au18,Au25,Au1,Au8,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **SANDOR ALAN BALOGH** [22-E-449] late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 18th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporation indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.  
This the 15th day of August, 2022.  
Melissa Young Allen, Executrix  
210 Hillsborough Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tc

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK FILE NO: 22-E-448 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
A.K.A.  
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY JOHN RESCH  
MARY L. RESCH  
**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
THE UNDERSIGNED having qualified as co-Executors of the Estate of **MARY JOHN RESCH, a.k.a. Mary L. Resch**, Deceased, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County, do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the said Decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before November 21, 2022, said date being at least three months from the date of the first publication or posting of this Notice as indicated below, or the same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment. This Notice is given pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 28A-14-1.  
This the 18th day of August, 2022.  
Mary Resch Lloyd  
Margaret Resch Morgan  
ESTATE OF MARY JOHN RESCH  
a.k.a. MARY L. RESCH  
3853 Philip Ludwell  
Williamsburg, NC 23188

Taylor Avioli  
Narvon Wenzel, PA  
5400 Glenwood Ave., Suite 201  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **HUGH FRANCIS BRESLIN IV** a/k/a HUGH FRANCIS BRESLIN, JR., Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 18th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 18th day of August, 2022.  
HUGH F. BRESLIN V, EXECUTOR  
ESTATE OF HUGH FRANCIS BRESLIN IV  
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC  
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **MARVENE L. HILKEY**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 10th day of

August, 2022, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 20th 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 18th day of August, 2022.  
James Harold Hilkey, Personal Representative  
c/o Larry H. Rocamora, Attorney for the Estate,  
McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson & Hinkle, PLLC  
3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400  
Durham, NC 27707  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 450**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **MARY STROWD WARD RIGGSBEE**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of November, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 18th day of August, 2022.  
Lunday A. Riggsbee, Executor of the Estate of Mary Strowd Ward Riggsbee  
3868 Mt. Gilead Church Road  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 460**  
All persons having claims against **ELIZABETH MCCOY MASON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th 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 15th day of August, 2022.  
Pattie Mason Sturdivant, Executrix  
3867 Crawford Dairy Rd  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516  
Au18,Au25,Au1,Au8,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 459**  
All persons having claims against **DONALD LEE BRAY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th 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 15th day of August, 2022.  
Sara Neal Bray, Administrator  
295 Henry Bray Dr  
Siler City, NC 27344  
Au18,Au25,S1,S8,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 363**  
All persons having claims against **JOHNNIE LONDON ALSTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 23rd day of August, 2022.  
Cheryl Ann Giroux, Co-Administrator  
6 Crown Dr., Unit 110  
Quincy, MA 02169  
Andrea Marie Hayes, Co-Administrator  
593 Canal Town St.  
Brunswick, MD 21716  
c/o John M. Perna, Attorney at Law  
202 Davis Grove Circle, Suite 105  
Cary, N.C. 27519  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 363**  
All persons having claims against **JOHNNIE LONDON ALSTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 23rd day of August, 2022.

NC 28801 on or before November 28, 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 15th day of August, 2022.  
Maxine C. Forester, Executrix of the Estate of Stanley Dee Forester  
Attorney for Estate:  
Richard J. Kania  
The Kania Law Firm, P.A.  
82 Patton Avenue, Suite 500  
Asheville, NC 28801  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 442**  
All persons having claims against **JOHN ROSS DOWDY, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 23rd day of August, 2022.  
Lura D. Broadie, Administrator  
4301 Holstein Dr.  
High Point, N.C. 27265  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 466**  
All persons having claims against **JEAN H. RUSH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 23rd day of August, 2022.  
Ricky Rush, Executor  
3022 Rush Rd.  
New Hill, NC 27562  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against **STANLEY JOHN GIROUX**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 25th day of August, 2022.  
Cheryl Ann Giroux, Co-Administrator  
6 Crown Dr., Unit 110  
Quincy, MA 02169  
Andrea Marie Hayes, Co-Administrator  
593 Canal Town St.  
Brunswick, MD 21716  
c/o John M. Perna, Attorney at Law  
202 Davis Grove Circle, Suite 105  
Cary, N.C. 27519  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 363**  
All persons having claims against **JOHNNIE LONDON ALSTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 23rd day of August, 2022.

Bryan Keith Alston, Administrator CTA  
2 Wildrose Ct.  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **PETER SAMUEL LANDSTROM**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 1st day of December, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 1st day of September, 2022.  
SUSAN BETTS LANDSTROM, EXECUTRIX  
ESTATE OF PETER SAMUEL LANDSTROM  
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC  
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
S1,S8,S15,S22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **EDWARD KEEN COFFMAN, III** deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before December 1st, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.  
This 1st day of September, 2022.  
Edna Elizabeth Coffman, Executor  
Estate of Edward Keen Coffman, III  
c/o Roberson Law Firm

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against **STANLEY JOHN GIROUX**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 25th day of August, 2022.  
Cheryl Ann Giroux, Co-Administrator  
6 Crown Dr., Unit 110  
Quincy, MA 02169  
Andrea Marie Hayes, Co-Administrator  
593 Canal Town St.  
Brunswick, MD 21716  
c/o John M. Perna, Attorney at Law  
202 Davis Grove Circle, Suite 105  
Cary, N.C. 27519  
Au25,S1,S8,S15,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 363**  
All persons having claims against **JOHNNIE LONDON ALSTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 25th 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 23rd day of August, 2022.

### 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.

1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
S1,S9,S15,S22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22-E-464**  
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **MARY ALANA BAKER ELLIS**, late of 300 Clynesh Close, Pittsboro, NC 27312, 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 507 Brookview Drive, Elon, NC 27244, on or before the 6th day of December 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate

## 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**

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Visit [www.chathamcountync.gov](http://www.chathamcountync.gov) and click Jobs.

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• Live Haul Poultry Loads for Moutaire Farms-Siler City Plant  
• Local Loads – Home Daily  
• 200-300 Miles Per Day  
• Good Driving Record/Clean History Required  
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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

## PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS

Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA  
Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.  
400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-542-5410  
TDD 1-800-735-2962  
Email: [pittsborovillage@ECCMGTCOM](mailto:pittsborovillage@ECCMGTCOM)  
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

## Live Poultry Driver Positions Available



Please Inquire At: Wilson Brothers Main Office  
919-837-2131  
20412 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207  
Applications Also Available Online:  
[www.wilsonbrotherstrucking.com](http://www.wilsonbrotherstrucking.com)  
EOE/M/F/V

will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 23rd day of August, 2022.  
Alana A. Germain, Executrix of Estate of Mary Alana Baker Ellis, Deceased David K. Holley, Attorney for the Estate  
10 NW Court Square  
Graham, North Carolina 27253  
336-227-7411

North, on **Monday, September 12, 2022, at 7:00 PM** for the purpose of electing (2) two Directors of the Corporation and of such business as may properly come before the meeting.  
All residents of the North Chatham Fire Protection District eighteen (18) years of age or older are entitled to attend and vote at said meeting. The directors to be elected at said meeting shall be residents of the North Chatham Fire Protection District of Chatham County and shall be fairly be representative of the geographic areas and populations served by the corporation.  
This 29th day of August 2022. Charles Quinlan, President North Chatham Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the **ESTATE OF SUSAN ROBERTA POWELL AKA SUSAN HENDERSON POWELL** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on June 10, 2022, are hereby notified to present their claims to WOODSON LEA POWELL IV, Executor in care of the undersigned attorney at her address, on or before November, 30, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the deceased, please make immediate payment. This 1st day of September, 2022  
WOODSON LEA POWELL IV, EXECUTOR  
c/o Janet H. McLamb, Attorney  
102 Presque Isle Lane  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
S1,S8,S15,S22,4tc

**the usual place of sale at the Chatham County courthouse at 1:00PM on September 14, 2022**, the following described real estate and any improvements situated thereon, in Chatham County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described in that certain Deed of Trust executed Robert L. Carmines, dated May 3, 2010 to secure the original principal amount of \$119,897.00, and recorded in Book 1510 at Page 905 of the Chatham County Public Registry. The terms of the said Deed of Trust may be modified by other instruments appearing in the public record. Additional identifying information regarding the collateral property is below and is believed to be accurate, but no representation or warranty is intended.  
Address of property: **10930 NC Highway 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207**  
Tax Parcel ID: 0012107  
Present Record Owners: The Estate of Robert L. Carmines  
The record owner(s) of the property, according to the records of the Register of Deeds, is/are The Estate of Robert L. Carmines.  
The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance AS IS, WHERE IS. Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property offered for sale. Any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. This sale is subject to all prior liens and encumbrances and unpaid taxes and assessments including any transfer tax associated with the foreclosure. A deposit of five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is required from the highest bidder and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale. Cash will not be accepted. This sale will be held open ten days for upset bids as required by law. After the expiration of the upset period, all remaining amounts are IMMEDIATELY DUE AND OWING. Failure to remit funds in a timely manner will result in a Declaration of Default and any deposit will be frozen pending the outcome of any re-sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, the Substituted Trustee or the attorney of any of the foregoing.  
**SPECIAL NOTICE FOR LEASE-HOLD TENANTS** residing at the property: be advised that an Order for Possession of the property may be issued in favor of the purchaser. Also, if your lease began or was renewed on or after October 1, 2007, be advised that you may terminate the rental agreement upon 10 days written notice to the landlord. You may be liable for rent due under the agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.  
The date of this Notice is August 25, 2022.  
Attorney for the Substituted Trustee  
10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400  
Charlotte, NC 28216  
(704) 333-8107  
22-113261 S1,S8,2tc

tify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the day of 29 November 2022, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.  
This the 1st day of September, 2022.  
James W. Newell, Administrator  
c/o Marie H. Hopper Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312  
S1,S8,S15,S22,4tc

Storage) for a Special Use Permit (SUP previously CUP) revision, on Parcel 17454, located at 30 Mt Gilead Church Road, New Hope Township, to add an additional 48 pod storage units to the existing site. Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discussions.  
Notice to people with special needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312.  
S8,S15,2tc

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified on the 24th day of August 2022 as Executrix of the Estate of **DOROTHY J. LABBOK a/k/a Dorothy Joan Labbok**, 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 1st day of December 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 1st day of September 2022.  
Andrea F. Mitchel, Executrix of the Estate of Dorothy J. Labbok a/k/a Dorothy Joan Labbok

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **ROBERT J. OBRISKI AKA ROBERT JOHN OBRISKI**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 1st day of December, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 1st day of September, 2022.  
ELIZABETH RINCON-OBRSKI, EXECUTRIX  
ESTATE OF ROBERT J. OBRISKI AKA ROBERT JOHN OBRISKI  
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC  
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
S1,S8,S15,S22,4tc

**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 22 JT 52 NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CLEVELAND IN RE: J.J.L. D/O/B: 07/25/2017 NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION FOR PARENTAL RIGHTS TERMINATION PROCEEDINGS TO: Ashley Sullivan Cox, MOTHER OF J.J.L., Respondent. TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS YOU ARE REQUIRED to answer the petition within (40) days after September 1, 2022, exclusive of that date, which is October 11, 2022.**  
Upon your failure to answer the petition within the time prescribed, your parental rights to the child may be terminated. Also take notice that (1) you have been appointed an attorney in this matter; (2) said attorney is, Seth Lackey, 400 W. Warren Street, Shelby, NC 28150, 704-487-4511; (3) notice of the date, time and place of the hearing will be mailed to your aforementioned counsel, pursuant to dates set forth above, if no Answer is filed; (4) the purpose of the hearing is to terminate the parental rights to the above-named child; (5) the parents have a right to attend the hearing. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than October 11, 2022. Said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this notice; upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.  
This is the 1st of September, 2022.  
Richard J. Luptak, Attorney for Petitioners  
515 S. DeKalb Street  
Shelby, NC 28150  
S1,S8,S15,3tp

**CERTIFICATE OF NEED**  
On 9/1/22 Certificate of Need review began for Chatham County Rehabilitation Center Proj J-12246-22. Relo 36 ACH bds. Written comments are due to the Agency by 10/3/22. The Agency will hold a public hearing on October 19, 2022 at 10 am, Chatham County Public Library, Holmes Meeting Room, 197 NC-87, Pittsboro, NC 27312.  
S8,S15,2tc

**FROM \$2,549**  
**\$2,299\***

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **ROBERT J. OBRISKI AKA ROBERT JOHN OBRISKI**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 1st day of December, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 1st day of September, 2022.  
ELIZABETH RINCON-OBRSKI, EXECUTRIX  
ESTATE OF ROBERT J. OBRISKI AKA ROBERT JOHN OBRISKI  
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC  
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
S1,S8,S15,S22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **ROBERT J. OBRISKI AKA ROBERT JOHN OBRISKI**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 1st day of December, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 1st day of September, 2022.  
ELIZABETH RINCON-OBRSKI, EXECUTRIX  
ESTATE OF ROBERT J. OBRISKI AKA ROBERT JOHN OBRISKI  
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC  
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
S1,S8,S15,S22,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **JOE ERVIN ROBERTSON**, aka Joe Ervin Robertson Jones, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before December 10, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.  
This the 8th day of September, 2022.  
Grace Ann Robertson, Ancillary Administrator  
c/o Andrea L. Hinshaw  
2626 Glenwood Ave., Ste. 560, Raleigh, NC 27608.  
S8,S15,S22,S29,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executrices of the Estate of **JOE WESLEY BURKE**, deceased, 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 their address, 199 Mt. Gilead Church Road, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 8th day of December, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 2nd day of September, 2022.  
JoAnn Burke Norwood, Co-Executrix  
199 Mt. Gilead Church Road  
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312  
Frankie Burke Glosson, Co-Executrix  
2105 Wildcat Creek Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516  
GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC  
P. O. Box 880  
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880  
S8,S15,S22,S29,4tc

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**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE OF NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION CHATHAM COUNTY 22SP69**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE FORECLOSURE OF A DEED OF TRUST EXECUTED BY ROBERT L. CARMINES DATED MAY 3, 2010 AND RECORDED IN BOOK 1510 AT PAGE 905 IN THE CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC REGISTRY, NORTH CAROLINA NOTICE OF SALE**  
Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in the above-referenced deed of trust and because of default in payment of the secured debt and failure to perform the agreements contained therein and, pursuant to demand of the holder of the secured debt, the undersigned will expose for sale at public auction at

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS 22-E-480 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, James W. Newell, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **IRENE C. DICKSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to no-

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on **Monday, September 19, 2022, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** The hearing will be held at the **Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center**, 1192 US 64W Business, **Pittsboro NC 27312**. Additional information is available at the Chatham County Planning Department office. Speakers are requested to sign up at the meeting prior to the hearing. You may also sign up on the county website prior to the meeting at [www.chatham-countync.gov](http://www.chatham-countync.gov) by selecting the heading County Government, then Commissioner Meetings, then Public Input/Hearing Sign Up. The public hearing may be continued to another date at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners.  
The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input, both written and oral, on the issues listed below  
1. A legislative public hearing for a rezoning request by Jody Leidolf for Edward Holmes, Jr., on Parcels 5151, 5811, 68060, and 5258, totaling 18.2 acres, from R-1 Residential and CD-CB to general use NB Neighborhood Business, located at 1213 Pea Ridge Rd and 0 Pea Ridge Road, Cape Fear Township.  
2. A legislative public hearing for a rezoning request by MAD Pea Ridge, LLC for a general use rezoning on Parcels 5585, 5807, 90707, located at 4247 Old US 1 and off Pea Ridge Road, from R-1 Residential and Industrial Light to Industrial Light, Cape Fear Township, totaling 243.5 acres.  
**Testimony is required to be given under oath during the evidentiary hearing for the following item: Quasi-Judicial Request:**  
1. A quasi-judicial public hearing for a request by 28 Mt Gilead LLC (American Self

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**  
The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executrices of the Estate of **JOE WESLEY BURKE**, deceased, 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 their address, 199 Mt. Gilead Church Road, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 8th day of December, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.  
This 2nd day of September, 2022.  
JoAnn Burke Norwood, Co-Executrix  
199 Mt. Gilead Church Road  
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312  
Frankie Burke Glosson, Co-Executrix  
2105 Wildcat Creek Road  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516  
GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC  
P. O. Box 880  
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880  
S8,S15,S22,S29,4tp

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ing on Sep. 19, 2022 at 6:30pm in the in the multipurpose room of the Wren Memorial Library located at 500 N. 2nd Ave. Legislative hearing and Board discussion will be conducted on the following requests:  
 G5 Investments, LLC (D.H. Griffin Jr.) proposes to rezone ~81.049 acres from Agricultural-Residential (A-R) to Heavy-Industrial (H-I). The subject properties are located along the northern boundary of US 64 West (west of Benjie Williams Rd.) and is identified as parcel # 12553, 12551, 63971, 12552, 78171.  
 The proposed item is available for review by contacting the Planning and Community Development Director at jmeadows@silercity.org or 919-742-2323. All persons interested in the outcome of the item are invited to attend the legislative hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced

item. The Planning Board will meet on Sep. 12 @ 6:30 pm to consider a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such as arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Tina Stroupe at 919-742-4731, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina

27344, or tstroupe@silercity.org for accommodations for this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Tina Stroupe al tstroupe@silercity.org o 919-742-4731 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. S8,S15,2tc

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Section 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 and applicable State funding, or combination thereof. This is to inform the public that a public hearing will be held on the proposed Chatham Transit Network Community Transportation Program Application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation no later than October

7, 2022. The public hearing will be held on **September 16, 2022 at 9:00 am** before the Chatham Transit Network Board of Directors. Those interested in attending the public hearing and needing either auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or a language translator should contact **Anna Testerman** on or before **September 14, 2022**, at telephone number 919-542-5136 or via email at a.testerman@chathamtransit.org. The Community Transportation Program provides assistance to coordinate existing transportation programs operating in **Chatham County** as well as provides transportation options and services for the communities within this service area. These services are currently provided using **on-demand and subscription**. Services are rendered by **Chatham Transit Network**. The total estimated amount

requested for the period **July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024**. NOTE: Local share amount is subject to State funding availability.  
 Project Total Amount Local Share Administrative \$249,183 \$37,377 (15%) 5310 Operating \$300,000 \$150,000 (50%) **TOTAL PROJECT \$549,183 \$187,377**

**Total Funding Request Total Local Share**  
 This application may be inspected at 127 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Written comments should be directed to Anna Testerman before September 16, 2022. S8,1tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND**

**DEBTORS OF DAVID COOPER WHITE**  
 All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **DAVID COOPER WHITE**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to William McKinley White, Jr. as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before December 9, 2022, c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Attorney at Law, 1340 Environ Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor. This the 8th day of September, 2022.

William McKinley White, Jr., Executor c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty. Galbraith, PLLC 1340 Environ Way Chapel Hill, NC 27517 S8,S15,S22,S29,4tc

**CHURCH NOTES**

**CORINTH A.M.E. ZION CHURCH**

Revival services will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11, at Corinth A.M.E. Zion with Rev. Dr. Ricky Frazier bringing the morning message.  
 The weekly services will continue Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 12 and 13, at 7 p.m. with the revivalist, Rev. Samantha C. Robinson, pastor of Fire Chosen Ministries of Pittsboro.  
 Everyone will be welcome. The church is located at 491 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City.

**MT. PLEASANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church announces a special event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10.  
 Join us as we celebrate the grand opening of our new playground, and the new school year! We recently renovated the playground, and we want to share it with all of you. Join us for a complimentary hot dog lunch and the Maple View Ice Cream Truck as we share our new playground with our community. Invite your neighbors and friends!

We are located at 269 Manns Chapel Rd., Pittsboro.

**LOVES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

Homecoming/Memorial Day will be observed at Loves Creek Baptist Church on Sunday, Sept. 18. We will be celebrating 197 years (1825-2022) of God's Blessings on the church and its people.  
 The Fishers of Men Singers will be in concert, and there will be remembrances of those people who passed away since last year. There will also be a covered dish meal with desserts.  
 The church is located at 1745

East 11th Street, Siler City.

**HOLLAND CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH**

All are invited to join us as we celebrate our annual Family & Friends Day at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18, at Holland Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church. Food will be served.  
 You may call the church office for more information at 919-362-7831.  
 The church is located at 360 Burgess Road, Apex (Chatham County).

**SCHOOL HONORS - DEAN'S LIST**

**COLUMBIA COLLEGE**  
 Columbia College has announced it's dean's list for the Summer 2022 Semester. Among those named to that list is Jeffery Ninnemann of Pittsboro, who attended Online. That school is located in Columbia, Missouri.

**PITTSBORO TOWN STAFF**

**Hazen Blodgett approved as interim town manager**

**BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN**  
 News + Record Staff

**PITTSBORO** — Former Matthews Town Manager Hazen Blodgett will serve as Pittsboro's interim town manager, the board approved at a special meeting last Wednesday, Aug. 31.

"It's very exciting," Blodgett addressed the board and meeting attendees. "It's my first interim job, I'm looking forward to it."

Blodgett's first day as interim manager will be Sept. 19; his employment agreement runs through Jan. 31, Chris Kennedy, Pittsboro's current town manager, said.

Kennedy, who was appointed to the position in July 2020, submitted his resignation to the board in August, citing a desire to focus on work-life balance. Kennedy said he'll continue to serve in his role until Sept. 19 and will be passing information to Blodgett as he gears up to begin in the position.

"To have someone like Hazen come in is just awesome," Kennedy told the News + Record. "He's got 37 years of experience. He's been there, done that, so I'm confident he'll do a great job."

In April, Blodgett retired after 19 years as town manager of Mat-



Courtesy of Colby Sawyer

**Pittsboro's interim manager Hazen Blodgett takes an oath of office after being approved in the role at the town's special meeting at the Pittsboro Town Hall.**

thews, a town of more than 29,000 in southeastern Mecklenburg County. Prior to that, he served as town manager in Whiteville, a town of around 5,000 an hour outside of Wilmington.

"The board and I anticipate that Interim Manager Hazen Blodgett will sustain and move forward important initiatives during his term," Pittsboro Mayor Cindy Perry said in an email statement. "Among those

initiatives are the bidding and award for the Sanford Force Main and the merger of utilities with Sanford."

As the town looks for a permanent town manager, Blodgett said he plans to focus on bridging the gap in continuity of staff and the board's priorities so that there is as little disruption for the next manager as possible.

When it comes to specific issues he expects

to focus on, Blodgett also mentioned the town's water and sewer issues. Pittsboro declared its intent to merge with the city of Sanford's water and sewer capacities in May.

"I think my role is to help the board and help the staff in this whatever five-month period in this transition, so y'all can hire the best manager possible and create the best town for the future," Blodgett said in his address to meeting

attendees.

Blodgett was the only candidate Pittsboro's board of commissioners interviewed, Kennedy said.

The incoming interim manager's background and experience in town government is something Mayor Pro Tem Pamela Baldwin also appreciates.

"Someone that has that level of experience in a town this size with a lot of things upcoming —

he is the type of person that could handle that," Baldwin said.

Blodgett will continue to live in Matthews but said his intention is to be in Chatham County Monday through Wednesday, and to be available by email or phone the latter half of the week.

Reporter Maydha Devarajan can be reached at [mdevarajan@chathamnr.com](mailto:mdevarajan@chathamnr.com) and on Twitter @ [maydhadevarajan](https://twitter.com/maydhadevarajan).

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# SPORTS NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT

SEPTEMBER 8 - 14, 2022 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

CHAPEL HILL 55, NORTHWOOD 35

## Chargers show no quit in road loss to undefeated Chapel Hill



Staff photo by Simon Barbre



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Northwood senior Will Smith (2) ran for 126 yards and three touchdowns on 21 carries Friday against Chapel Hill.**

**BY JEREMY VERNON**  
News + Record Sports Editor

CHAPEL HILL — The Northwood football team didn't quit, but it could not overcome the early hole it put itself in Friday night against Chapel Hill High.

Despite taking an early 8-7 lead, the Chargers gave up the next 28 points. Head coach Chris Kenan's team battled to make things a two-possession game late, but the game was

always in hand for the Tigers, who eventually won 55-35. "Whether we're up big or down big, we're a team that's shown some consistency in refusing to quit," said Northwood head coach Chris Kenan. "I can appreciate that as a coach. We may not have the most numbers. We may not be the biggest, fastest or strongest team. But you're going to have to beat us."

Things started on a sour note for the Chargers (1-2), as they went 3-and-out on their opening

possession, and a bad snap on the ensuing punt gave Chapel Hill (3-0) the ball at Northwood's 19-yard line to start its first possession. The Tigers immediately capitalized with a 19-yard touchdown run by senior Cayden Forbes to make it 7-0.

Northwood marched right back down the field and scored on a 28-yard scamper by quarterback Will Smith on 3rd-and-11, and a successful two-point conversion gave the Chargers their first, and only,

**Northwood freshman Robert Tripp (25) ran for 116 yards and one touchdown on 15 carries Friday in a 55-35 loss to Chapel Hill.**

lead of the ballgame.

Just two plays later, Chapel Hill scored on a 70-yard run by senior Drew Allen. The Tigers ended up scoring on three of their next four possessions to take a commanding 35-8 lead early in the third quarter.

Northwood struggled to contain Chapel Hill's high-octane offense. The Tigers finished the night with 305 rushing yards on 25 carries, 183 of which came from Allen.

Forbes, meanwhile, had 66 yards and three touchdowns on eight carries.

"I just have to do a better job of getting our guys ready to play," Kenan said. "I take full responsibility for that, but hats off to Chapel Hill, too. Their coaching staff is always on point. I know they're always a well-coached group, and they had some athletes on the back end

See **CHARGERS**, page B4

### GIRLS TENNIS

## Seaforth girls already a force

**BY EVAN ROGERS**  
News + Record Correspondent

PITTSBORO — The Seaforth High School varsity girls tennis team has already established itself as one of the upcoming 2A programs in the state — and it's only year two.

In 2021, the Hawks finished second in the Mid-Carolina conference and clinched a spot in the 2A state playoffs in their inaugural season. This year, they're off to an even stronger start as Seaforth won its first four matches — including a gusty win over Chatham Central High School, the defending conference champions, on Aug. 31.

Despite dropping its first match of the season to Carrboro High School, 7-2, last Thursday, head coach Peter Petrides understands the importance of testing his team early in the season to give him a barometer of their strengths and weaknesses.

"I had a few matches circled on our calendar before the season and definitely our first matchup with Carrboro was in bold and circled," he said. "Having a match against a team like them this early in the season allows us to get a good sense of where we are."

In the singles competitions, the Hawks' perseverance was tested.



Staff photo by James Kiefer

**Seaforth junior Evelyn Atkins returns a volley in the Hawks' 7-2 loss to Carrboro on Thursday.**

The top singles match featured Seaforth junior Evelyn Atkins battling Carrboro senior Ella Strickler. The Jaguars' top player came into this year fresh off a runner-up finish in the 3A state individual playoffs last season, and her play lived up to the hype.

In the first set, Strickler had little trouble with Atkins, as her powerful rallies and blistering serves led the Jaguar to a 6-0 win. After the opening

set — that saw Atkins capture a few points — the young Hawk was comforted by Petrides, who reminded his top player to, "Have some fun."

"I try to stay strong and tough on the court," Atkins said. "But I also want to allow myself to enjoy it and not get too frustrated."

Atkins' collectiveness was present in the proceeding set, as she began

See **SEAFORTH**, page B2

### FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

## Seaforth, J-M shut out; Central scores first points

**BY JEREMY VERNON**  
News + Record Sports Editor

Week 3 was another tough slate for Chatham County high school football teams, as the four area varsity programs went 0-4 and lost their games by a combined score of 188-47.

Through the first three weeks of the season, only Northwood (1-3) has a win to its credit. The Chargers fell to Chapel Hill High, 55-35, in Week 1 despite a spirited second-half comeback attempt.

Here's a look at how the other three schools fared last week.

### Willow Springs 49, Seaforth 0 (Thursday)

The Week 3 schedule started Thursday as Seaforth traveled to Willow Springs. The Hawks ended up losing, 49-0, to fall to 0-3 on the year.

Through three weeks, Seaforth has yet

See **ROUNDUP**, page B4

### VOLLEYBALL

## Woods Charter looks even better after historic season

**BY JEREMY VERNON**  
News + Record Sports Editor

CHAPEL HILL — The Woods Charter volleyball team had by far its best season in program history last fall, when the Wolves went 18-4 overall, won the Central Tar Heel 1A Conference Tournament and made it to the third round of the state playoffs before falling to Neuse Charter.

But as successful as Woods Charter was in 2021, the Wolves might be even better this season. Entering Tuesday's match against Triangle Math & Science, head coach Amanda Gough's team was 4-1 and on a two-match winning streak.

Gough, who is in her first year as the Wolves' head coach, was hired in July as the replacement for Scott Green, who took the same job at Seaforth. Green coached four seasons at Woods Charter with a career record of 22-48.

Before 2021, the Wolves' best season as a varsity program came in 2017 when they went 7-13 overall.

Last Thursday, Woods Charter dominated River Mill, sweeping the Jaguars, 3-0, in its first game of conference play. Last season, the Wolves finished the league schedule with a 9-1 record, which landed them in a tie with Chatham Central for first place in the conference standings.

One of Woods' top players in 2021 was sophomore outside hitter Lexi Smollen, who led the team in kills by a wide margin with 474. She also led the team in service aces (69) and was second in both total blocks (15) and digs (193). But Smollen isn't back with the Wolves in 2022.

Over the offseason, Smollen transferred to Chapel Hill High. Through seven matches this season, the junior has

See **WOODS**, page B4



Staff photo by Nikki Witt

**Woods Charter freshman Josephine Vargas (8) spikes the ball against River Mill on Thursday.**

SCORES AND SCHEDULES

|  |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Monday, August 29</b><br>Girls golf<br><br>Chatham Charter wins Central Tar Heel 1A Conference match at Southwick Golf Course. Knights' junior Mackenzie Crossman posts low round of 41 on nine holes. North Moore defeated Chatham Central and Seaforth in a conference match at The Preserve at Jordan Lake. North Moore had a total score of 225, besting the Bears (233) and Hawks (253).<br><br>Girls tennis<br><br>Seaforth 9, North Moore 0<br>Walter M. Williams 7, Northwood 0<br>Research Triangle 8, Chatham Charter 1<br><br>Volleyball<br><br>Chatham Charter 3, North Moore 1<br>Jordan-Matthews 3, South Davidson 1<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Willow Springs 3, Seaforth 0<br>Northwood boys 4, Carrboro 1 | Bartlett Yancey 3, Seaforth 0<br>North Moore 3, Chatham Central 2<br>Walter M. Williams 3, Northwood 0<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Jordan-Matthews 7, Providence Grove 0<br><br><b>Wednesday, August 31</b><br>Girls tennis<br><br>Cedar Ridge 6, Northwood 3<br>Seaforth 5, Chatham Central 4<br><br>Volleyball<br><br>Chatham Central 3, Eastern Randolph 0<br>Chatham Charter 3, Bethany Community 0<br>Woods Charter 3, Jordan-Matthews 0<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Eastern Randolph 6, Chatham Charter 0<br>Asheboro 4, Northwood 1<br>Franklin Academy 9, Woods Charter 0 | Willow Springs 49, Seaforth 0<br>North Stokes 37, Chatham Central 12<br><br><b>Friday, September 9</b><br>Football<br><br>Chapel Hill 55, Northwood 35<br>Providence Grove 44, Jordan-Matthews 0<br><br><b>Tuesday, September 6</b><br>Girls golf<br><br>Girls golf at Siler City Country Club (3:30 p.m.)<br>Woods Charter girls golf at Southwick (3 p.m.)<br><br>Cross country<br><br>Seaforth/Jordan-Matthews cross country at Jordan-Matthews (4:30 p.m.)<br>Chatham Central cross country at North Moore (4:30 p.m.)<br>Chatham Charter/Woods Charter cross country at Harris Lake County Park (4:30 p.m.)<br><br>Girls tennis<br><br>Seaforth vs. Carrboro (4:30 p.m.)<br>Chatham Central at Bartlett Yancey (4:30 p.m.)<br>Northwood vs. Person High (4 p.m.)<br><br>Volleyball<br><br>Chatham Central vs. Bartlett Yancey (6 p.m.)<br>Northwood vs. Person High (6 p.m.)<br>Chatham Charter at Southern Wake (6 p.m.)<br>Woods Charter vs. Triangle Math | and Science Academy (6:15 p.m.)<br>Jordan-Matthews at Cummings (6 p.m.)<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Chatham Charter at Ascend Leadership Academy (5 p.m.)<br><br><b>Wednesday, September 7</b><br>Girls tennis<br><br>Jordan-Matthews vs. Seaforth (4:30 p.m.)<br>Chatham Central vs. Graham High (4:30 p.m.)<br>Chatham Charter girls tennis vs. Cornerstone Charter Academy (4 p.m.)<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Seaforth at Graham High (6 p.m.)<br>Northwood at Walter M. Williams (6:45 p.m.)<br>Jordan-Matthews at Bartlett Yancey (6 p.m.)<br>Northwood vs. Carrboro (6 p.m.)<br><br><b>Thursday, September 8</b><br>Volleyball<br><br>Seaforth vs. Chatham Central (6 p.m.)<br>Chatham Charter at Triangle Math and Science Academy (6 p.m.)<br>Woods Charter vs. Clover Garden (6:15 p.m.)<br>Jordan-Matthews vs. North Moore (6 p.m.)<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Northwood vs. Jordan-Matthews (6:45 p.m.)<br>Chatham Charter vs. North Moore | (5 p.m.)<br><br><b>Friday, September 9</b><br>Volleyball<br><br>Chatham Charter vs. Cover Garden (6 p.m.)<br><br>Football<br><br>Northwood vs. Seaforth (7 p.m.)<br>Chatham Central at Wheatmore High (7:30 p.m.)<br>Jordan-Matthews vs. Trinity (7:30 p.m.)<br><br><b>Monday, September 12</b><br>Girls golf<br><br>Chatham Charter and Woods Charter at Siler City Country Club (3 p.m.)<br>Seaforth and Chatham Central at Beacon Ridge (3:30 p.m.)<br><br>Girls tennis<br><br>Seaforth vs. Bartlett Yancey (4:30 p.m.)<br>Northwood at Orange High (4 p.m.)<br>Chatham Central at North Moore (4:30 p.m.)<br><br>Boys soccer<br><br>Seaforth vs. Cummings (6 p.m.)<br>Northwood at Cedar Ridge (6:45 p.m.)<br>Chatham Charter vs. Bethany Community (5 p.m.)<br><br>Volleyball<br><br>Jordan Matthews vs. Northwood (6 p.m.)<br>Chatham Central vs. Uwharrie Charter Academy (6 p.m.) |
| <b>Tuesday, August 30</b><br>Cross country<br><br>Seaforth won the conference race against Jordan-Matthews, Chatham Central and North Moore. Hawks sophomores Jack Anstrom (18:06.13) and Katherine Leonard (23:34.09) won their respective 5,000-meter races.<br><br>Volleyball   | <b>Thursday, September 1</b><br>Girls tennis<br><br>Chatham Charter 5, Chatham Central 4<br>Carrboro 7, Seaforth 2<br><br>Volleyball<br><br>Cedar Ridge 3, Northwood 0<br>Chatham Central 3, Graham 0<br>Woods Charter 3, River Mill 0<br><br>Football  |   |  |   |

Predicting the 2022 NFL season



**JEREMY VERNON**  
Sports Editor

The opening game of the NFL regular season, AKA September Christmas, is upon us: the defending Super Bowl champion Los Angeles Rams play the Bills, who are led by current MVP betting favorite Josh Allen, on Thursday night.

Allen is the front-runner to win his first Most Valuable Player of the Award, but will he add that trophy to his collection by season's end? Will Aaron Donald win his third straight Defensive Player of the Year award? Can the Rams repeat?

I'll try to answer those questions today, as well as offer my predictions for the other major season-ending awards, the playoff teams in each conference and my eventual Super Bowl champion.

Strap on your chin-straps, everybody.

**Most Valuable Player: Justin Herbert, QB, Los Angeles Chargers**

The AFC West will be an absolute gauntlet this season, and whatever quarterback leads his team to that particular division title — whether it be Patrick Mahomes or Russell Wilson — could have a leg up on winning MVP.

My money is on Los Angeles Chargers' quarterback Justin Herbert. Last season, Herbert completed 65.9% of his passes for 5,014 yards and 38 touchdowns against 15 interceptions. Over the off-season, the Chargers have done everything they can to try and improve those numbers.

During the off-season LA locked up receiver Mike Williams to a new three-year contract and drafted a new starting offensive guard in Zion Johnson. Elsewhere on the offensive line, left tackle Rashawn Slater looks primed for a second-year breakout, and center Corey Linsley returns after allowing just 10 pressures in 724 pass blocking snaps last season, according to Pro Football Focus.

for Herbert to make the next step, and if he can lift LA to the playoffs this season, he'll be among the favorites for MVP when the awards are announced following the regular season.

**Offensive Player of the Year: Justin Jefferson, WR, Minnesota Vikings**

Last year's Offensive Player of the Year was Los Angeles Rams' receiver Cooper Kupp, who won the receiving triple crown by leading the NFL in catches (145), receiving yards (1,947) and receiving touchdowns (16). Kupp was aided by the playcalling of offensive coordinator Kevin O'Connell, who schemed up the No. 5 passing offense in the league last season.

Now, O'Connell is the head coach of the Vikings, and the player standing to benefit most is receiver Justin Jefferson. Already one of the premier young skill-position players in the league, Jefferson owns the NFL record for most receiving yards (3,016) in a player's first two seasons in the league.

With O'Connell calling plays, Jefferson will be the focal point of the Minnesota offense. Don't be surprised if he wins the triple crown this season, a feat that would assuredly also make him OPOY.

**Defensive Player of the Year: Micah Parsons, LB, Dallas Cowboys**

Last year's Defensive Rookie of the Year, Micah Parsons came in to Dallas as a linebacker, but he quickly developed into one of the best edge-rushers in the league when the Cowboys needed some help getting pressure on opposing quarterbacks.

Parsons — who is a blur off the edge — totaled 13 sacks as a rookie in 2021. This off-season, he set a personal goal of breaking the NFL's single-season sack record (22.5). That's the type of ambition you want from your defensive leader.

of the Year after being named the league's best defensive rookie in 2012.

**AFC Playoffs**

- Here are the teams I have winning their respective divisions and earning wild card spots:
- AFC North: Bengals
  - AFC East: Bills
  - AFC South: Colts
  - AFC West: Chargers
  - Wild Card: Chiefs
  - Wild Card: Ravens
  - Wild Card: Broncos

**NFC Playoffs**

- Here are the teams I have winning their respective divisions and earning wild card spots:
- NFC North: Vikings
  - NFC East: Eagles
  - NFC South: Buccaneers
  - NFC West: Rams
  - Wild Card: Packers
  - Wild Card: 49ers
  - Wild Card: Panthers

**Super Bowl: Chargers vs. Packers**

In what would be one of the best quarterback matchups in recent Super Bowl memory, Justin Herbert battles Aaron Rodgers for the title come season's end.

The Chargers have made improvements on both sides of the ball, especially on defense, where they have signed splash free agents J.C. Jackson and Sebastian Joseph-Day to go with returning veterans Joey Bosa and Derwin James. With Justin Herbert at the helm offensively, I feel confident in making the Chargers my AFC Champions.

On the other side, I like Green Bay to emerge from a Wild Card spot to make the Super Bowl. This year's Packers team reminds me of the 2015 Panthers — elite quarterback, elite defense, no receivers. It worked out O.K. for Carolina, which made it to the Super Bowl that season before falling to the Broncos. If there's anyone you want with the ball with your season on the line, it's Aaron Rodgers.

As far as the winner, I'll take the Chargers to defeat the Packers, giving Herbert his first of what could be many Super Bowl rings.

*Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at [jeremy@chathamnr.com](mailto:jeremy@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter at @jbo\_ernon.*

SEAFORTH

Continued from page B1

to fight back against Stickler. And though the second set ended in the same fashion as the first, 6-0, Atkins was more competitive in each game and even forced a deuce at one point.

"It's awesome, I live for these types of matches," she said. "Even when I lose it's a great opportunity to grow and to learn from (Strickler) and learn from my own mistakes as well."

Atkins' individual match finished first, but rather than sulk about her defeat, the junior stood atop the hill adjacent to Carrboro's tennis courts.

There, she had a brief discussion with Petrides before cheering on her fellow teammates still locked into their contests. With every cheer and shout from Seaforth's team captain came a promising response from those in burgundy. By the end of the singles matches, the Hawks had captured two wins via sophomores MaKenzy Lehw and Jenna Robinette.

"I try to be a leader to my team without being too overbearing — trying to find a good balance," Atkins said. "We all have so much respect for each other."

The camaraderie seen between the Hawks was evident between the singles and doubles bouts.

The girls all beamed with smiles and congratulated each other on their individual performances, no matter the result. And though the Hawks went on to lose all their doubles matches, the team's improvements from 2021 were clear to see.

Last year the Hawks were swept, 9-0, in their match against Carrboro. This time around, Seaforth stole two points on the Jaguars' home courts.

It's the small signs of growth, seen both on the scoreboard and in the team's morale, that has Petrides excited about the near future and what this year's squad can do in just its second season.

"Last year was a fresh start for everybody," he said. "There were no expectations and everybody played care-free, and we had a good season. We're kind of piggybacking off of the



Staff photo by James Kiefer

**Seaforth sophomore Makenzy Lehw won one of two Hawks to win their singles matches Thursday against Carrboro.**

end of our last season and we're off to a really good start."

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CLIPBOARD Q&A

# Seaforth cross country runner Jack Anstrom looking to build on runner-up finish at last year's state meet

**BY JEREMY VERNON**  
News + Record  
Sports Editor

One of the top returning long-distance athletes in Chatham County this fall is Seaforth sophomore Jack Anstrom.

Competing in his second year for the Hawks, Anstrom opened his 2022 cross country campaign on a high note as Seaforth's first home meet of the season on Aug. 30 against Chatham Central, Jordan-Matthews and North Moore.

Anstrom won the boys 5,000 meter race, finishing in a time of 18:06.13,

over a minute faster than the runner who finished second place. As a team, Seaforth placed seven runners among the top eight and 10 among the top 12. The Hawks also won the girls race while competing against Jordan-Matthews, with sophomore Katherine Leonard taking first place with a time of 23:34.09.

Last season, Anstrom led the Seaforth boys to a second place finish at the 2A mid-east regionals, finishing second in his respective race in a time of 16:23.86. The Hawks went on to finish eighth at the 2A

state championship meet, though Anstrom was also the second individual runner to finish in that race.

Earlier this week, Anstrom spoke with the N+R about his terrific freshman season, his first race this fall and his expectations for the rest of 2022.

**You competed in and won the first race of your sophomore season last week in a meet against Chatham Central, Jordan-Matthews and North Moore. How did you feel during the race and what did it feel like racing in a competitive setting again?**

**JACK ANSTROM:** It was meant to be an easier effort than what it shaped out to be. We're definitely

working on preparation for the rest of the season. We're going out to some big invitationals, are looking to win states and looking to qualify for some bigger meets down the road. It's just another step for us.

**You had a strong season last fall. What are some of the things you worked on during the offseason to build on what you accomplished in 2021?**

To continue to build I need to kind of square with myself what the season was last year. As a freshman in my first true season of competitive racing, I didn't know anything. I'm taking

what I know now from the experience of the trial and error, which kind of ended up being a lot of error. It still went well, but now I know where I can improve as far as racing, preparation, how I'm running in practices and workouts. I think with that knowledge, I can become such a better version of myself.

**Your team is a bit unique in that it's only your second year as a program, and last year you only had freshmen and sophomores on the team. What is it like knowing you have a group of athletes around you that you're going to be able to grow with this season and beyond?**

Our team is pretty tight. As a unit, we're growing together. We're not only running together, but we're going to the same classes. We're going through the same testing sessions and we're learning things at the same time. It's almost like putting two eggs in an incubator together. There's some sort of unique bond.

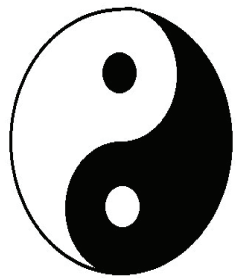
**The girls also had a successful season last fall, finishing third at the 2A mid-east regionals. What is the rivalry like between the girls and boys team?**

We have a good rivalry going. Our girls team is strong, particularly in 2A. We're definitely working around just being young and not knowing very much. We have a great coaching staff who really values our development and values us as people. As we grow with the guidance we're receiving, we're going to become pretty good.

**What would make this a successful season in your opinion?**

As a team, a successful season, we're really worried about states. If we can kind of hold something off at regionals and have the energy advantage at states — kind of relax our way through the regionals and get in — that's a route we're going to take 100% of the time. We're going to work stronger together as a team. We want to do great at states.

*Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at [jeremy@chathamnr.com](mailto:jeremy@chathamnr.com) or on Twitter at @jbo\_ernon.*



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**Speaker: Sandra Rende**  
9:30 -10:00 a.m.  
Geriatric Clinical Specialist,  
Chatham Hospital/UNC

9 a.m.—12 p.m.

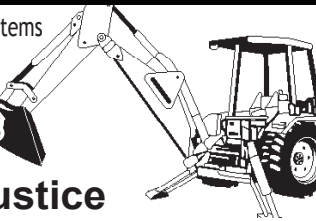
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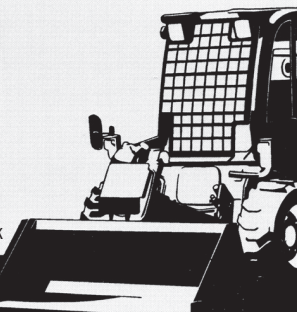
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CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

this time ... To get a good quality win on the road against a team like Chapel Hill, you have to be almost flawless, and we were far from it."

Trailing by 27 points early in the second half, the Chargers started stringing together some of their best drives of the night. After forcing a turnover on downs on Chapel Hill's next possession, Northwood drove downfield and scored on a 5-yard run by freshman Robert Tripp.

Chapel Hill fumbled the ball on the first play of its next possession, and eight plays later the Chargers found the end zone again on a seven-yard keeper by Smith to cut the game to 35-20. Smith scored a third rushing touchdown at the

start of the fourth quarter and later threw a 43-yard score to sophomore Gus Ritchey to trim Chapel Hill's lead to 48-35. This was as close as the score would get, though.

Northwood was led offensively by the duo of Smith and Tripp, who combined for 242 rushing yards and four touchdowns on 36 carries. Tripp earned the start at running back for the injured Carson Fortunes, who was injured in the Chargers' Week 2 win over Jordan-Matthews.

After the game, Kenan commended his quarterback's effort in the second half. Smith has become the focal point of Northwood's offense with the recent injury to junior running back Carson Fortunes, and he hasn't shied away from the opportunity.

"(Smith) has shown a tremendous amount of guts," Kenan said. "It doesn't matter what the down and distance is. It doesn't matter what the play call is. He's confident in his abilities and his teammates no matter what the situation is or how ugly things might look."

Up next

Northwood (1-2) has a solid chance to get back in the win column this week, as it hosts Seaforth this Friday at 7p.m. The Hawks (0-3) — who have yet to score points this season — have lost their three games this fall by a combined score of 128-0. Seaforth lost Wilow Spring, 49-0, in Week 3.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jere-my@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo\_vernon.

Chapel Hill 55, Northwood 35

CH | 14 | 14 | 13 | 14 | — 55
NW | 8 | 0 | 12 | 15 | — 35

Scoring summary

CH — Cayden Forbes 19 run (Owen Kornstein kick)
NW — Will Smith 28 run (Run good)
CH — Drew Allen 70 run (Kornstein kick)
CH — Allen 2 run (Kornstein kick)
CH — Josh Kelley 1 run
CH — Forbes 2 run (Kornstein kick)
NW — Robert Tripp 5 run (Pass no good)
NW — Smith 7 run (Pass no good)
CH — Allen 2 run (Kick no good)
NW — Smith 12 run (Run good)
CH — Ameer Burgman 20 pass from Kelley (Kornstein kick)
NW — Gus Ritchey 43 pass from Smith (Rui Aguiar kick)
CH — Forbes 41 run (Kornstein kick)

Team Stats

Chapel Hill | Northwood
15 | First downs | 14
423 | Total yards | 348
25-305 | Rushing attempts-yards | 44-258
11-14-118 | Passing completions-attempts-yards | 6-12-90
0 | Interceptions | 1
1-1 | Fumbles-lost | 1-1
8-95 | Penalties-yards | 7-60

Individual stats

Rushing: CH — Drew Allen 9-183, Cayden Forbes 8-66, Isaiah Roberson 4-12, Josh Kelley 3-19, Sachi Alston 1-25; NW — Will Smith 21-126, Robert Tripp 15-116, Landon Roberson 8-16
Passing: CH — Josh Kelley 11-of-14, 118 yards, one touchdown; NW — 6-of-12, 90 yards, one touchdown, one interception
Receiving: CH — Tarran Keyes 2-22, Allen 2-18, Forbes 1-27, Ameer Burgman 1-20, Ben Bollinger 1-12, Dylan Evans 1-9, Roberson 1-(-3); NW — Gus Ritchey 2-56, Jackson Shaner 2-(-3), Cam Fowler 1-26, Ryan Brinker 1-11

ROUNDUP

Continued from page B1

to score any points while allowing their opponents a total of 128. Head coach Terrance Gary has preached patience with his team all season, and he told the News + Record that the team is getting better each week, even if the results don't necessarily look that way.

"We know what our situation is, and the guys have been stepping up to the plate every week," Gary said. "We can see the improvement on the field, even though the scoreboard doesn't necessarily show it. On film, you can see how much we're improving."

Seaforth is in its first season as a varsity program. The Hawks have no seniors on the team and the roster is mainly made up of juniors and sophomores who first started playing football last season when the school competed at the JV level.

The Hawks are rather green when it comes to fundamentals, but Gary knows things will get better over time.

"We've got to get better at tackling and certain blocking techniques," Gary said. "These are just things where, if you've played football for a while up until this point, you should be a little bit better at. But we're starting from behind."

Seaforth will have another tough test this week as it travels to play Northwood. The Chargers are the only team in the county with a victory so far this season, defeating Jordan-Matthews, 52-0, in Week 2.

North Stokes 37, Chatham Central 12 (Thursday)

Also playing Thursday night, the Chatham Central football team lost at home to North Stokes, 37-12. The Bears (0-3) trailed by just two scores at the half, but the Vikings scored all 17 points in the second half to put the game to rest.

Chatham Central gained 234 yards of total offense. Quarterbacks Brandon Toomer, Hasten Paige and River Warren combined to complete 8-of-19 passes for 134 yards and one touchdown against four interceptions. Toomer threw the lone touchdown to junior Devonte Johnson, who had three catches for 83 yards and also ran for a touchdown in the loss.

The Bears are still winless on the season, but Thursday marked the first time they scored points this fall, so things seem to be moving in the right direction. Chatham Central will look for its first win of the 2022 season Friday night on the road at Wheatmore, who is also 0-3.

Last season, Wheatmore defeated Central, 39-6. That said, the Warriors did graduate their starting quarterback over the offseason in Ben Walker, who was 17-of-27 for 211 yards and two touchdowns and an interception in the win over the Bears in 2021.

Providence Grove 51, Jordan-Matthews 0 (Friday)

The largest margin of defeat in Week 3 belonged to Jordan-Matthews, which fell to Providence Grove, 51-0, at home Friday night. The Jets (0-3) couldn't

get anything going offensively at any point Friday night, ultimately finishing the game with -21 yards of total offense. Jordan-Matthews failed to complete a pass in the loss and threw four interceptions in six attempts.

Still, there were some encouraging things to take away from Friday, like the performance of the Jets' defense in the second half. Entering the locker room at halftime trailing 44-0, Jordan-Matthews rallied together and only gave up seven points over the final two quarters. "I think we were better in the second half, especially defensively," said J-M head coach Ryan Johnson. "The guys showed some passion. That's been something we've been talking about (since the start of the season), just playing with passion and showing some heart. I thought our guys showed some glimpses that we hadn't seen in the first couple of weeks."

Through the first three weeks of the season, Jordan-Matthews has lost its three games by a combined score of 165-6, but Johnson believes his team is steadily improving week after week. The Jets will try to get their first win of the season Friday as they host Trinity (2-1), which defeated Chatham Central, 52-0, in Week 1.

Last season, the Bulldogs defeated J-M, 48-12.

"The guys are showing up every day and they're resilient," Johnson said. "We haven't quit. We're looking forward to bigger things coming down the road with the work they're putting in right now."

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jere-my@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo\_vernon.

WOODS

Continued from page B1

10 kills in just 10 sets of action. The Tigers hope Smollen will put them over the hump after going 22-5 overall and losing in the second round of the 4A state playoffs.

In Smollen's absence, Woods Charter has turned over attacking duties to freshman Josephine Valgus, who had 81 kills through her team's first five matches for an average of 5.8 kills per set.

But the Wolves are not a one-woman band. Captain Maya Sheridan has returned for her sophomore season, and she has picked up right where she left off after breaking out as a freshman in 2021.

Through five matches, Sheridan already had 107 of the team's 111 assists this season. Though her 7.6 assists per set is slightly down from last season (8.2), it's entirely possible she eclipses last season's assist total of 542. Sheridan only played



Staff photo by Nikki Witt

Woods Charter freshman McKenna Sparrow hits the ball in a match against River Mill Academy on Thursday.

66 of a possible 76 sets last season. If she played in 76 sets this season and maintained her averages, she would finish the year with 577 assists.

This season, the Wolves will fight for the Central Tar Heel 1A Conference title with Chatham Charter, who entered Tuesday's match at Southern Wake Academy with an overall record of 3-3.

In 2021, the Knights and Wolves shared the top spot in the league standings during the regular season with a conference record of 9-1. The two teams split their two regular season

meetings, but Woods Charter won the season series with a sweep of Chatham Charter in the finals of the conference tournament.

This year's Chatham Charter team is currently only operating with six players on its roster. The Knights' top player this season has been senior Emerson Clark, who led the team with 69 kills, 18 service aces and 158 digs entering Tuesday's match.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jere-my@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo\_vernon.



Council on Aging Activities Calendar

September 12th through September 16th

Monday, September 12th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - Body Conditioning w/Jackie (masks required)
• 9 a.m. - Chair Yoga w/Liz (Chatham Grove Community Center and on Zoom)
• 10 a.m. - Arthritis Foundation Exercise w/Jackie
• 10:30 a.m. - Matter of Balance (Chatham Grove Community Center, RSVP Liz)
• 11 a.m. - Bluegrass Music w/Uncle Edd and the Original Haw River Crawdaddies

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - Strong & Fit w/Olivia
• 12:30 p.m. - Advisory Board Orientation
• 2 p.m. - Geri-Fit

Tuesday, September 13th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - Body Conditioning w/Jackie (masks optional)
• 9 a.m. - 3G's Men's Group
• 9:30 a.m. - Tai Chi for Arthritis (Chatham Grove Community Center)
• 9:45 a.m. - Farmers Market Trip (RSVP to Jackie Green)
• 10 a.m. - Woodcarvers
• 10:30 a.m. - September & "90 and Better Birthday Party"
• 1 p.m. - Rummikub

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:45 a.m. - Chair Exercises w/Olivia for Beginners
• 1 p.m. - Book Club at Western Center Library
• 2 p.m. - Fitness Room Orientation w/Olivia

Wednesday, September 14th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - Chair Yoga w/Liz (in-person and Zoom)
Western Chatham Senior Center
• 8 a.m. - Veterans Benefit Assistance
• 9 a.m. - Strong & Fit w/Olivia
• 10 a.m. - Bible Study; Cardmaking
• 10:30 a.m. - Diabetes Discussion w/Ann Clark
• 1 p.m. - Cornhole
• 1:30 p.m. - Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group
• 2 p.m. - Crafting w/Kathryn (Fall String Art)

Thursday, September 15th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - Body Conditioning w/Jackie (masks optional)
• 9:30 a.m. - Tai Chi for Arthritis
• 10 a.m. - Crafts and Conversation
• 11 a.m. - Nutrition Education by Ann Clark, MMS, RD/LDN
• 1 p.m. - Board Games & Cards
• 1:30 p.m. - Line Dancing
• 3 p.m. - Gentle Yoga w/Liz

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - Bocce; Horseshoes; Music Jam Session
• 1 p.m. - "Bring Your Project" Craft Club
• 2 p.m. - Geri-Fit
• 3 p.m. - Mocktails & Trivia

Friday, September 16th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - Body Conditioning w/Jackie (masks required)
• 10 a.m. - Arthritis Foundation Exercise w/Jackie
• 11 a.m. - Stories w/Neriah
• 1 p.m. - Card Games

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - Strong & Fit w/Olivia
• 1 p.m. - Zoom Games with Western Center
• 7 p.m. - Friday Night Dance (fee required to attend)

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

Abundance NC's 15th Annual Pepper Fest
SEPT. 18th 2022 3-6PM
@THE PLANT 220 LORAX LANE PITTSBORO, NC
Includes QR code for tickets and illustrations of peppers, baskets, and food.



# Police arrest 3 from Siler City shooting incident in July

CN+R Staff Report

SILER CITY — Police have made three arrests stemming from a July shooting incident at the Park N Shop convenience store at 201 E. Eleventh St.

At just before 7 p.m. on July 9, the Siler City Police Department responded to a reporting about a shooting in the parking lot of the convenience store. While en route to the call, officers learned that the vehicles and subjects involved had fled the scene. Officers

began collecting evidence and interviewing bystanders and witnesses once they arrived at the crime scene.

During the investigation, officers learned at least two businesses were hit by stray bullets fired during the incident — the Park N Shop and Hand Car Wash and Detailing (201 E. Eleventh St.) — as well as a vehicle parked at La Bam-ba (1110 N. Second Ave.).

As a result of the investigation, three subjects were identified and charged. One of

the suspects is a juvenile and wasn't named; the other two arrested were Kiemen Deandre Mason, 20, and Xzavier Willie Raquan Allison, 21, both of Siler City.

### Kiemen Mason

Mason turned himself into the Siler City Police Department on July 25. He was released after bonding out the same day. His charges:

- Assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill G.S. 14-32(C)

- Discharge weapon into occupied property G.S. 14-34.1(A) — two counts
- Simple affray G.S. 14-33(A)
- Injury to real property G.S. 14-127
- Injury to personal property G.S. 14-160 — two counts
- Discharge firearm in the city

### Xzavier Allison

Allison was taken into custody by the United States Marshals Service in Greensboro on Aug. 19. He is being held in the

Chatham County Jail with a secured bond. His charges:

- Assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill G.S. 14-32(C) — three counts
- Discharge weapon into occupied property G.S. 14-34.1(A)
- Assault by pointing a gun G.S. 14-34
- Carry a concealed gun G.S. 14-269(a1)
- Simple affray G.S. 14-33(A)
- Injury to personal property G.S. 14-160
- Discharge firearm in the city

# Hoppin' John Fiddlers' Convention gears up for 15th annual event

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — The 15th Annual Hoppin' John Fiddlers' Convention will take place Sept. 15-17 in Pittsboro and will feature an exceptional lineup of multi-talented musicians.

Hoppin' John, the only fiddlers' convention in the North Carolina Piedmont, offers string band and instrument contests, concerts, workshops and family activities for music lovers of all ages. With the added benefit of on-site camping at this event, jam sessions will be happening around the clock on the camp-grounds.

### Concert and Showcases

This year's listening highlights feature a concert on Friday, Sept. 16, with Triangle-based duo Larry & Joe (Larry Bellorin and Joe Troop), and showcases that run throughout the day on Saturday afternoon,



produced in partnership with Music Maker Foundation. This up-and-coming collaboration between Bellorin and Troop, boasts the fusion of Venezuelan and Appalachian folk music traditions.

This year's showcases will focus on regional music from the Piedmont and western N.C. mountains — both string band and blues. Local musicians Wayne Martin, Evelyn Shaw, John Gaster and others pay homage to Lee County's late banjo master, Marvin Gaster, and share the music of their families in "String Band Music of the North Carolina Piedmont." Jake Owen, Cary Fridley, Lillian Chase and Travis Stuart will display the rich old-time music tra-

ditions of western North Carolina in "Old-Time Music of the Appalachian Mountains."

Local bluesman Big Ron Hunter and his wife, Belinda Hunter, will share traditional and original blues and gospel music in an informal dance tent setting in this Music Maker Presents showcase, leading into an instructional workshop on Piedmont Blues.

### Contest categories

Contest categories are divided into Old Time String Band and Other String Band (Bluegrass, Other Traditional and Non-Traditional). Individual contest categories are divided into Fiddle, Banjo, Guitar, Mandolin, Other Stringed Instrument (Bass, Dobro, Dulcimer, etc.), Folk Song, Dance, Youth Fiddle, Youth Other Instrument,

and Youth Dance. All Youth contestants will receive a participant ribbon. Bands, musicians and dancers who compete in the convention will be awarded a total of \$3,800.

### Dancing

This year's event sees a return of the traditional called dance, back for the first time since the pandemic. Offerings include square dances from family workshops to late-night rowdy ones, flatfooting and clogging workshops, cake walks and a Saturday night country two-step. With the world-famous Green Grass Cloggers opening the Saturday night stage, there will be no shortage of movement at Hoppin' John this year.

### Instructional Workshops

As always, there will be instructional workshops covering a variety of topics within roots music and dance traditions. Workshops begin at 4:30 p.m. on Friday and run

throughout the day on Saturday. Instructors include local musicians Wayne Martin and Tampa Enoch-Reese, plus mountain ballad singer Cary Fridley and guitarist David Hughes. Festival attendees are encouraged to bring instruments and/or dancing shoes and learn something new! These events are also accessible to non-musicians.

### Kids and Family Activities

Speaking of learning something new, the passing of tradition is a core tenet of Hoppin' John's philosophy. Available for the little ones are hayrides, kid-centered music and dance workshops, arts and crafts and stories.

### Vendors

Hoppin' John Fiddlers' Convention offers multiple food and beverage options on-site. Attendees can also shop for locally-made crafts, instruments and supplies from vendors located near the stage.

Advanced tickets are available now for the music festival and on-site camping at [www.HoppinJohn.org](http://www.HoppinJohn.org). Proceeds from Hoppin' John benefit the educational programming at Shakori Hills Community Arts Center, an N.C. not-for-profit corporation.

Hoppin' John will take place at 1439 Henderson Tanyard Rd. in Pittsboro. To learn more, view the full schedule and purchase tickets, visit [www.HoppinJohn.org](http://www.HoppinJohn.org).

Shakori Hills Community Arts Center's mission is to provide diverse, culturally significant arts, music and sustainability education and inclusive outreach to local community and schools, while preserving the greenspace of its 72-acre Chatham County homestead. The Center's most notable events are the annual Hoppin' John Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers' Convention and the biannual Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival of Music & Dance. For more information, visit [www.ShakoriHills.org](http://www.ShakoriHills.org).

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# Chatham to celebrate substance abuse prevention and recovery through community rally

CN+R Staff Report

SILER CITY — The community is invited to the Chatham County Recovery Celebration, scheduled for noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10.

The celebration, to be held at the Chatham Rabbit in the N.C. Arts

Incubator in Siler City, will feature individuals who have recovered from substance abuse; it's designed to increase awareness and understanding of mental health and substance use disorders.

Organizers hope to encourage individuals in need of treatment and recovery to seek help

by allowing local guest speakers to share their stories and hosting a wide variety of community vendors with information on their services.

The family event is hosted by Chatham Drug Free, in partnership with the Chatham County Sheriff's Prevention Partnership on Con-

trolled Substances and the Chatham County Public Health Department, the Department of Social Services and Court Programs.

The theme of this year's event is "Recovery is for Everyone" and will bring together local substance use treatment, mental health, and community-based resources to offer a network of support for recovery in all its forms. The event will celebrate the thousands of individuals in the Chatham community, including resident Candace Green, who are proudly living in recovery, sending a message of hope and encouragement to those who are beginning their recovery journey.

The fun-filled afternoon will include testimonials, music, games, free food, and giveaways to celebrate those in recovery within the local community.

Additional information can be found at <https://www.chathamdrugfree.org/ccrc2022>. Individuals also may contact Renita Foxx, director, Chatham County Court Programs at 919-614-1098 or [renita.foxx@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:renita.foxx@chathamcountync.gov).

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Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Opioid STR/Cures (Grant #1H79T080257) and SPFR-RX (Grant #1U79SP022087).

# J-M students receive academic honors from College Board National Recognition Programs

From Chatham County Schools

SILER CITY — Jordan-Matthews students have earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. These National Recognition Programs grant underrepresented students with academic honors that can be included on college and scholarship applications and connect students with universities across the country, helping them meaningfully connect to colleges and stand out during the admissions process.

Colleges and scholarship programs identify students awarded National African American, Hispanic, Indigenous and/or Rural/Small Town Recognition through College Board's Student Search Service.



Jordan-Matthews students Brady Andrew (left), Maggie Thornton and Byron Martinez (right) were recognized by the College Board for outstanding academic performance.

Students recognized by the College Board were:  
• Brady Andrew: NRSTA (National Rural and Small

Town Award)  
• Byron Martinez: NHRA (National Hispanic Recognition Award)

• Maggie Thornton: NRSTA (National Rural and Small Town Award)  
"We're thrilled that our students have earned this recognition," said Amanda Moran, assistant superintendent for Academic Services and Instructional Support. "We are very proud of them for their achievements in their classrooms and on College Board assessments. These programs help students from underrepresented backgrounds stand out to colleges during admissions."

Students who may be eligible have a GPA of 3.5 or higher, have excelled on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10, or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP Exams, and are African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latinx, Indigenous, and/or attend school in a rural area or small

town. Eligible students will be invited to apply during their sophomore or junior year and will be awarded at the beginning of the next school year. Students will receive their awards in time to include them in their college and scholarship applications.

"We want to honor the hard work of these students through the College Board National Recognition Programs," said Tarlin Ray, College Board senior vice president of BigFuture. "This program creates a way for colleges and scholarship programs to connect directly with underrepresented students who they are hoping to reach. We hope the award winners and their families celebrate this prestigious honor and that it helps them plan for their big future."

Courtesy of Chatham County Schools

# Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling to host application event for staffing Collection Centers

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling is hosting an application event to help fill 29 Collection Center attendant positions.

Current Collection Center staff is provided through a contractor, but starting Oct. 3, all Collection Center staff will become county employees. The attendants operate and maintain the Collection Centers, verify decals to use the cen-

ters, inspect and direct items to manage the bins correctly, operate equipment, and maintain tools, supplies and signage.

The application event will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14, at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center, located at 1192 U.S. Hwy. 64 W. Business, Pittsboro. Everyone who comes will have an opportunity to fill out a paper application, ask questions about the job, engage in an interview with county

staff and participate in an exercise related to the job. Applicants will need to provide their previous work history dates and contact information for former employers, as well as names and contact information for three references.

Anyone who has already applied to the attendant position is welcome to participate in the application event. For the full job descriptions and to fill out an application ahead of the event, go to [https://www.chatham-](https://www.chatham-countync.gov/Home/Components/JobPosts/Job/4387/44)

[countync.gov/Home/Components/JobPosts/Job/4387/44](https://www.chatham-countync.gov/Home/Components/JobPosts/Job/4387/44)

"We want to make the application process as simple as possible," said Kevin Lindley, the county environmental quality director. "This will be a great opportunity for anyone interested to fill out an application, find out more about the job and be interviewed all in one day."

There will be a combination of full-time and part-time attendant positions available. Full-time

attendants receive all county benefits, including health and dental insurance, paid sick leave and vacation, 401k contribution and retirement. Part-time attendants do not receive insurance, but they do earn pro-rated time off and receive 401k contribution and retirement plans.

Hiring decisions for the attendant positions will be made as soon as possible following the application event. Those attendants hired who have not previously worked as

an attendant will receive training during the week prior to the transition.

More information about Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling's decision to bring the Collection Center staff in-house can be found at [www.chathamcountync.gov/CollectionCenter-Staffing](http://www.chathamcountync.gov/CollectionCenter-Staffing). Residents can also contact the Main Office at 919-542-5516 Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or email anytime at [recycle@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:recycle@chathamcountync.gov).

# Council on Aging receives \$8,000 grant

From Chatham Council on Aging

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Council on Aging received a boost to its Meals on Wheels program recently with the receipt of an \$8,000 gift from The Grace Jones Richardson Testamentary Trust.

The gift extends a multi-year relationship with the Trust, which has served as a key partner in the Council's efforts to maintain a robust Meals on Wheels program in Chatham County.

"The tireless and compassionate efforts of our Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers are on display each day

with a knock, conversation and hot meal to our homebound clients in Chatham County," Council on Aging Grants and Communications Specialist Jimmy Lewis said. "We thank the Grace Jones Richardson Testamentary Trust for its continued investment in Chatham, ensuring that our older adults have access to quality meals when they need it most."

Established in 1962, the Greensboro-based foundation primarily provides grants for the arts, education, environmental conservation, health care and human services.

During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Coun-

cil served a total of 33,709 meals through its various meal programs, including congregate (in-person), frozen meals, shelf-stable and Meals on Wheels. The Council's frozen meals program exists for prospective Meals on Wheels clients who are on a waiting list for the service, but are otherwise eligible.

For more information on the Council on Aging and the full range of its services, call the Eastern Chatham Senior Center in Pittsboro at 919-542-4512, the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City at 919-742-3975. Or, log onto [www.chathamcoa.org](http://www.chathamcoa.org).

# Look Closely At Open Enrollment Choices

Once again, it's the season for football games and back-to-school activities. And if you work for a medium-size or large employer, it will soon be open enrollment season – the time of year when you can review your employee benefits and make changes as needed. What areas should you focus on?

Actually, it's a good idea to pay close attention to all your benefits. Some of the offerings may have changed from last year – and you might have experienced changes in your own life, too, which might lead you to look for something different from your existing benefits package.

You may want to start with your health insurance. If you're satisfied with your coverage, and it's essentially the same as it's been, you may well want to stick with what you have. However, many employers are increasingly offering high-deductible health plans, which, as the name suggests, could entail more out-of-pocket costs for you. But high-deductible plans may also offer something of benefit: the ability to contribute to a health savings account (HSA). Your HSA contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, so they can reduce your taxable income for the year. Also, your earnings grow tax-free, and your withdrawals are tax-free, provided the money is used for qualified medical expenses. (Withdrawals taken before age 65 that aren't used for qualified medical expenses are taxable and subject to a 20% penalty; once you reach 65, the penalty no longer applies, although withdrawals are still taxable as income if not used for a qualified expense.)

Your next benefit to consider: Life insurance. Your employer may offer a group life insurance plan, but you'll want to evaluate whether it's sufficient for your needs, especially if you've experienced changes in your personal situation over the past year, such as getting married or

adding a new child. There's no magic formula for how much life insurance you need – you'll need to consider a variety of factors, such as your income, family size, mortgage and so on – but it may be necessary to supplement your employer's coverage with a private policy.

Your employer may also offer disability insurance as a benefit. Some employers' disability policies are fairly limited, covering only short periods of time, so you may want to consider a private policy.

Beyond the various insurance policies your employer may offer, you'll also want to closely look at your 401(k) or similar retirement plan. Typically, you can make changes to your 401(k) throughout the year, but it's important to make sure your investment selections and contribution amounts are still aligned with your risk tolerance and goals. Also, are you contributing enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered? And if you've already receiving the match, can you still afford to put in more to your plan if such a move makes sense for you?

Your employee benefits package can be a valuable part of your overall financial strategy. So, as open enrollment season proceeds, take a close look at what you already have, what's being offered, and what changes you need to make. It will be time well spent.

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

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# Newest Members



We celebrated the addition of our newest members at this week's meeting at Postal Fish Company in Pittsboro! Courtney & Bonnie recognize the importance of giving back to our community and truly embody Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self."

Rotarians are people of action, problem-solvers, opportunity-creators, & community-builders!

Join us! We meet weekly on Wednesdays (noon @ Postal Fish) or at our upcoming After-Hours Club Meeting on Sept. 15 (5:30 pm @ Red Moose Brewery)

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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# Toyota announces \$2.5 billion expansion of nearby plant with 350 additional jobs, BEV battery capacity

CN+R Staff Report

LIBERTY — Toyota has announced an additional investment of \$2.5 billion in its newest North American facility, Toyota Battery Manufacturing, North Carolina (TBMNC), under construction in nearby Liberty in Randolph County.

This investment adds capacity to support battery electric vehicle (BEV) battery production and adds 350 jobs, bringing the total employment to approximately 2,100. Scheduled to begin production in 2025, the facility will produce batteries for hybrid electric vehicles (HEV) and BEVs.

Last year, Toyota Motor Corporation announced a global investment of approximately \$70 billion for electrification efforts. As part of this aspirational goal, TMC announced a future battery production commitment of up to \$5.6 billion, which includes the new North Carolina investment.

“This marks another significant milestone for our company,” said Norm Bafunno, senior vice president, Unit Manufacturing and Engineering at Toyota Motor North America. “This plant will serve a central role

in Toyota’s leadership toward a fully electrified future and will help us meet our goal of carbon neutrality in our vehicles and global operations by 2035.”

In 2021, Toyota, in partnership with Toyota Tsusho, announced the new Liberty location with an initial investment of \$1.29 billion for battery production and the creation of 1,750 new jobs. With this new announcement, TBMNC’s total investment is \$3.8 billion.

“This is an exciting time for Toyota, the region and the many North Carolinians we will soon employ,” said Sean Suggs, TBMNC president. “This incremental investment reflects our continued commitment to ensuring jobs and future economic growth for the Triad region.”

House Democratic Leader Robert Reives II, in a statement on Toyota battery plant expansion said, “I am excited to see Toyota double down on their investment in the Liberty facility. These are good jobs that will improve our communities. Manufacturing is on the way back in North Carolina and this is another big victory for our rural economy.”



Submitted photo

## Food Lion helps West Chatham Food Pantry

Food Lion is proud to partner with local food pantries in a continuing effort to nourish Chatham neighbors and help set them up for success in life. Here, Food Lion #1698 Store Manager Chris Black presents a check for a \$2,000 grant to Dianne Smith of the West Chatham Food Pantry. ‘Dianne and her team do tremendous work for our local community and we are happy to help,’ Black said. The grant comes from Food Lion’s charitable arm Food Lion FEEDS.

### NEWS BRIEFS

#### National Hunting and Fishing Day events announced

RALEIGH — National Hunting and Fishing Day in North Carolina is Saturday, Sept. 24, an annual celebration that promotes outdoor recreation and conservation.

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, the state’s agency mandated to conserve and sustain the state’s fish and wildlife resources, will host two family-friendly events that Saturday, highlighting the region’s extraordinary hunting and fishing heritage. The John Lentz Hunter Education Complex will host the official National Hunting and Fishing Day event from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the John E. Pechmann Fishing Education Center will host a Wildlife Expo, also from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Lentz Center, located at 1017 Millstone Road in Ellerbe, is a recently renovated shooting sports complex that will host an array of outdoor activities for all ages on National Hunting and Fishing Day. This will be the first time the Lentz Center hosts the event and is the ideal location because of its expansive property and versatility.

Attendees can freely roam the campus to explore interactive, wildlife-related exhibits and demonstrations throughout the day, or participate in a scheduled program of events. Activities will include fishing, shooting ranges, archery, decoy carving, turkey calling, hunting and hunter safety demonstrations, skins and skulls demonstrations, Wildlife Enforcement Officer Q&A and cooking demonstrations. Registration is not required for this event.

The Wildlife Expo at the Pechmann Center, located at 7489 Raeford Rd. in Fayetteville, will offer approximately 20 hands-on activities and demonstrations including fishing, fly tying, lure making, kayaking, aquatic insect education, BB gun range, archery, boating safety, duck and goose calling, hunter education and safety, reptile handling, retriever demonstrations and field-work appa-

tus displays. Pre-registration is required due to limited space.

National Hunting and Fishing Day, formalized by Congress in 1971, was created by the National Shooting Sports Foundation to celebrate the conservation successes of hunters and anglers. Hunting, fishing and related activities directly support upwards of 123,600 wildlife-associated jobs in North Carolina according to the U.S. Department of Commerce in 2021.

#### CCL encourages science exploration through ecoEXPLORE partnership

PITTSBORO — Chatham Community Library is pleased to announce a partnership with ecoEXPLORE, an incentive-based citizen science program for children in grades K-8. Developed by The North Carolina Arboretum, this innovative program combines science exploration with kid-friendly technology to foster a fun learning environment for children while encouraging them to explore the outdoors and participate in citizen science.

Chatham Community Library is now designated as an ecoEXPLORE Loan Spot, a location where ecoEXPLORE participants can use their library card to check out equipment to aid in their observation of the natural world. Effective Sept. 1, any Chatham County Public Libraries cardholder can check out a Discovery Pack from the Chatham Community Library. Discovery Packs have been provided by ecoEXPLORE, and contain kid-friendly binoculars, bug net, a birdcall, a trail camera and more. Kid scientists are encouraged to record their natural discoveries and submit them via the ecoEXPLORE website.

In addition to lending Discovery Packs, Chatham Community Library will host programs presented by ecoEXPLORE science educators. Families with children in grades K-8 are invited to join the library for an Intro to ecoEXPLORE

at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12, in the Chatham Community Library Holmes Meeting Room. Program facilitators will give an overview of what it means to be a citizen scientist, how to participate in ecoEXPLORE, and then head outside to practice making a scientific observation.

For more information, contact Youth Services at youth.services@chathamlibraries.org.

#### Ruth Pauley lecture series kicks off 35th consecutive season with Pulitzer Prize-winning author

SOUTHERN PINES — The Ruth Pauley Lecture Series will kick off its 35th consecutive season of free lectures at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and noted speaker Marcia Chatelain will begin the series by speaking on the topic “Hungering for Change: Food Justice and Civil Rights.”

In 2021, Chatelain was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in History for her book “Franchise: The Golden Arches in Black America,” which also won a James Beard Foundation Book Writing Award. She also authored “Southside Girls: Growing Up in the Great Migration,” which chronicles Chicago’s great migration through the lens of Black girls.

Chatelain is a Chicago native. She has studied at University of Missouri and Brown University, has received a fellowship from University of California-Santa Barbara and has worked at University of Oklahoma Honors College and now Georgetown University, in addition of having received multiple prestigious awards.

In 2014, in the wake of civil unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, Chatelain created the #FergusonSyllabus providing a space for educators to discuss integrating the events that happened in Ferguson into classrooms. Because of this, in 2016 the “Chronicle of Higher Education” named Chatelain a Top Influencer

in academics in recognition of the success of #FergusonSyllabus.

As of August 2020, she has hosted the Slate podcast “The Waves” on feminism, gender and popular culture, and remains a frequent lecturer on race, culture and women’s issues.

The lecture will be held in the Bradshaw Performing Arts Center in Owens Auditorium on the Sandhills Community College campus. The lecture will be preceded with a cash bar in the auditorium lobby, and will be followed by a Q&A session and a reception. All Ruth Pauley lectures are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.ruthpauley.org

#### NCDIT Approves GREAT Grant for Chatham County

RALEIGH — Gov. Cooper has announced another round of Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) grants. The announcement was made in Alamance County at the Mebane Public Library. This funding will help ensure that more residents in Chatham County have access to affordable, high-speed internet. Internet service providers must be participants in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). That program allows eligible households to receive a \$30 per month discount on high-speed internet. Residents should check GetInternet.gov to see if they qualify for the \$30 per month discount. Many people still remain who could benefit from this program and save hundreds of dollars a year.

The local grant approved is for Connect Holding II LLC.

“I understand the need for affordable, high-speed internet in Chatham County because I have experienced first-hand how poor internet can be a challenge here,” Rep. Robert Reives II said. “As Chatham County continues to grow, we have to ensure that reliable and affordable, high-speed internet is available. It is essential for small businesses, students and families.”

## CRC-C to host historical marker unveiling

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — The Community Remembrance Coalition-Chatham (CRC-C) will host a public unveiling of a new historical marker in downtown Pittsboro at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, at 65 East Chatham St.

The marker commemorates the lives of the six lynching victims of Chatham County between 1885 and 1921: Eugene Daniel, Henry Jones, Lee Tyson, John Pattishall, Harriet Finch and Jerry Finch.

The donation of the marker was approved by the Chatham Board of Commissioners on June 21.

The marker is a collaborative effort between CRC-C and the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI). Earlier in the week, members of CRC-C will be in Montgomery, Alabama, with EJI as part of

the Community Soil Collection Project, which gathers soil at lynching sites for display in haunting exhibits bearing victims’ names.

According to EJI, the historical marker describes the devastating violence, today widely unknown, that once took place in these locations. These projects and the other engagement efforts that community coalitions develop, center the African American experience of racial injustice, empower African American community members who have directly borne this trauma, and invite the entire community to use truth to give voice to those experiences and expose their legacies.

On behalf of Chatham County, the Chatham Board of Commissioners will be accepting this marker, which will stand

on public property in Pittsboro. Guest speakers at the unveiling include Rep. David Price, Sen. Valerie Foushee, Pittsboro Mayor Cindy Perry, NC NAACP President Deborah Maxwell, Judge Christopher Todd Roper and more.

“The marker will be presented to the County of Chatham as a historical record of our past and collective call for renewed progress towards equal justice and reconciliation within our community,” CRC-C’s website reads. “This first recognition by the County of Chatham of these injustices is a momentous step forward for all the people of Chatham, and for the future of our community, and we welcome the public to the presentation.”

For more information visit www.crc-c.org

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Courtesy of CCCC

**Graham Stafford (center) of Siler City, a student in the Central Carolina Community College Computer-Integrated Machining Program, has received a recognition award given in memory of Gilbert A. Toon. The gift — a Starrett 4-piece combination set — was given through the CCCC Foundation by Mr. Toon's wife, Phyllis A. Toon of Pittsboro. Stafford is pictured along with Glenn Shearin (left), CCCC Computer-Integrated Machining Instructor, and Edwin Thomas (right), CCCC Computer-Integrated Machining Chairperson.**

# CCCC student recipient of CCCC Foundation donation

SILER CITY — Graham Stafford of Siler City, a student in the Central Carolina Community College Computer-Integrated Machining Program, has received a recognition award given in memory of Gilbert A. Toon.

The gift — a Starrett 4-piece combination set — was given through the CCCC Foundation by Gilbert Toon's wife, Phyllis A. Toon of Pittsboro.

"While serving in the United States Air Force, Gilbert learned a trade that provided him with a successful career after his military service," said Phyllis Toon. "He took those skills along with his knowledge of the importance of self-mo-

tivation, teamwork and perseverance and built his future in his chosen field of heating and air conditioning."

At the end of his career, Gilbert Toon found his true calling by becoming a teacher at the Monmouth County Vocational School in New Jersey. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge and experiences with his students while helping them prepare for their future, his wife said.

"It is my hope that this small gift encourages you to continue to follow your dreams, to persevere and to look beyond the obvious to find solutions to problems encountered along the way," said Phyllis Toon.

Learn more about the CCCC Computer-Integrated Machining Program at [www.cccc.edu/curriculum/majors/machining/](http://www.cccc.edu/curriculum/majors/machining/).

The CCCC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization affiliated with, but independent of, the college. It receives donations of money and equipment on behalf of CCCC and uses them to promote the educational mission of the college and assist students through scholarships and grants.

For information on giving to the CCCC Foundation, contact Emily C. Hare, executive director of the CCCC Foundation, 919-718-7230, or [ehare@ccc.edu](mailto:ehare@ccc.edu).

## LET ME OUTTA HERE!

# The world is too crazy, hot and scary. It's time to escape. Buy me a ticket out of this universe.

**BY BUCK RYAN & LEI JIAO**

Special to the News + Record

LEI: Aww!

BUCK: A primal scream, that's not like you. Remember what you told little Ruby: "Use your words."

LEI: Sorry, Buck. I'll try again. Let me outta here!

BUCK: Outta where?

LEI: Wuhan. It's just too hot. I'm living indoors 24/7 in AC.

BUCK: Gee, Lei, that sounds like what's happening here in the U.S.

LEI: No, Buck. It's a record for southwestern China — 11 weeks and counting — for the most intense heatwave in 60 years. It was 104 degrees or above for two straight months. It hit 113 for the first time in Chongqing with its 16 million people.

BUCK: Yikes.

LEI: If it's not the wildfires or the flood risks, then it's the drought. When a ship gets stuck, it has to offload its cargo onto maybe 500 trucks. People are taking trucks on cracked riverbeds. Ugh!

BUCK: A global heat wave is drying up waterways across Europe, too. They can see the "hunger stones" again and the long-lost "Spanish Stonehenge."

LEI: Here in Wuhan the Yangtze River has receded to reveal ancient Buddhist statues.

BUCK: That's nothing, Lei. In the Mojave Desert, where Arizona meets Nevada, the drought has lowered Lake Mead to reveal something more interesting: ancient mob hits out of Las Vegas

LEI: Oh, Buck, that's very American.

BUCK: What else is bothering you?

LEI: The economy — the factory closures, the pathetic job market for our college grads, the mortgage crisis with all the street protests, our poor farmers staring at yellowed rice stalks and withering Sichuan peppers.

BUCK: Inflation is wilting us, Lei. Recession is the new watchword. Our stock market tanked the other day after the Fed chairman channeled Mr. T and played the role of Clubber Lang in "Rocky 3."

LEI: What do you mean?

BUCK: He was describing his battle against inflation by increasing interest rates. Then when he was asked for his fight prediction, he said: "Pain."

LEI: Ha! Remember, Buck, if you cross Mr. T, he'll dot your eyes.

BUCK: I'm worried about that scream, Lei. There must be more to it.

LEI: Well, there is something really scary.

BUCK: You mean the House Speaker and all

those visits to Taiwan by our members of Congress, not to mention our two warships sailing through the Taiwan Strait in a show of force?

LEI: Yes, Buck, you can tell them to stop. We get the point.

BUCK: You mean all the posturing isn't doing the Chinese people — on either side of the Strait — any good, eh?

LEI: No, it's not. The only ones enjoying the idea of World War III are in the military-industrial-pharmaceutical complex.

BUCK: Well, Lei, you cheer me up. I thought China was poised to supplant us as the No. 1 country in the world. Now those fears are gone, especially with you thinking about leaving.

LEI: Wait, Buck, I'm not leaving China. I love my country. And you love yours, too, despite all the difficulties. I have a better idea.

BUCK: What's that?

LEI: Buck, we can escape to the Metaverse! We can live in a world of our own creation.

BUCK: Oh, Lei, I think the heat fried your brain.

LEI: Well, they made fun of Vannevar Bush, too.

BUCK: Who's that?

LEI: He's the engineer and inventor who predicted the Memex: "Consider a future device ... in which an individual stores all his books, records and communications, and which is mechanized so that it may be consulted

**BOLD**

with exceeding speed and flexibility. It is an enlarged intimate supplement to his memory"

BUCK: You mean the iPhone in my hand?

LEI: Right, and Bush predicted that in 1945. His essay in *The Atlantic* was titled, "As We May Think."

BUCK: I may think you're serious.

LEI: Yup. I'm looking into buying all my clothes at Tribute Brand. It's a high-end digital fashion boutique.

BUCK: Digital? Why would you buy clothing that doesn't exist.

LEI: Au contraire, mon ami. It does exist in a world that really matters to my friends and colleagues — a virtual world. No more closets for me. I can be the best-dressed free thinker in cyberspace.

BUCK: Where did you get that idea?

LEI: I heard Tribute Brand's founder, Gala Marjia Vrbanic, interviewed on the TED Radio Hour in an episode titled, "Incognito." She launched the first-ever direct-to-consumer digital fashion brand in 2020.

BUCK: Ah, that's when people ditched face-to-face encounters during the pandemic. What appealed to you?

LEI: Augmented reality, or AR, which can combine real and virtual worlds.

BUCK: What virtual world would inspire your new Metaverse lifestyle?

LEI: I would head back to 1899, so I could live in

the Wild Wild West, sitting around a bonfire, chatting with outlaw Arthur Morgan.

BUCK: What happens when a bounty hunter — or tax collector — comes after you?

LEI: I turn myself into a peacock.

BUCK: Ha! That's crazy.

LEI: Here's something crazy for you, Buck. Vrbanic says in her TED talk that someone in a Roblox video game resold a virtual Gucci bag for almost \$800 more than what it costs in real life.

BUCK: You're kidding.

LEI: No, \$4,115, or 350,000 Robux, for a \$3,400 Dionysus Bag with Bee. Both prices are really out of this world.

BUCK: Well, partner, you're going to need to dust off this road map for your Wild Wild escape. It's a new book, "The Metaverse And How It Will Revolutionize Everything," by Matthew Ball, a former Amazon Studios exec.

LEI: What do you think of it?

BUCK: I had a flashback to what Duke University professor Dan Ariely said a decade ago about the big data craze in computing. I think the same is true about the Metaverse: "Big data is like teenage sex: everyone talks about it, nobody really knows how to do it, everyone thinks everyone else is doing it, so everyone claims they are doing it."

LEI: That's hilarious.

BUCK: Ball offers his

first official definition of the Metaverse: "A massively scaled and interoperable network of real-time rendered 3D virtual worlds ..."

LEI: I see.

BUCK: There's more. "... that can be experienced synchronously and persistently by an effectively unlimited number of users with an individual sense of presence ... and with continuity of data, such as identity, history, entitlements, objects, communications and payments."

LEI: Oh jeepers, Buck. When will the Metaverse arrive?

BUCK: That is Chapter 12's title. The answer ranges from it's "already here" from Microsoft's CEO to it will emerge "over the coming decades."

LEI: Who gave the long-range forecast?

BUCK: The CEOs of Epic Games, a video game and software developer based in Cary, N.C., and Nvidia, a California technology company that designs and manufactures graphics processing units.

LEI: Does Ball mention a China connection?

BUCK: Yes, several times. China is one of the key players among the global bettors pouring tens of billions of dollars a year into Metaverse development.

Ball predicts "multiple national Metaverses" as different nations will have their own specific regulations.

LEI: Oh, so you and I won't be zooming around together much, eh?

BUCK: China's Metaverse will be more "centrally controlled" than those in Western nations, Ball predicts. Then there's an interesting twist in terminology.

LEI: What's that?

BUCK: Tencent's Steven Ma introduced the Chinese company's "Hyper Digital Reality" vision in 2021 rather than use the "M-word."

LEI: So what will it all mean for me as a teacher?

BUCK: "The best example of impending transformation might be education," Ball says, adding, "among COVID's top lessons was that 'Zoom-school' is terrible."

LEI: Amen to that, Buck. Missing was a sense of "presence," something the Metaverse can provide in a virtual classroom, where I can interact more with my students.

BUCK: Tencent's Ma calls current technologies "primitive" and "experimental."

LEI: So, Buck, you're saying I'm ready for the Metaverse, but it's not ready for me.

BUCK: Right.

LEI: Argh!

BUCK: Lei, you just turned into a pirate.

*About the authors: Buck Ryan, a University of Kentucky journalism professor, and Lei Jiao, an English lecturer at Wuhan University of Technology, Hubei Province, China, collaborate on articles to advance cross-cultural understanding.*

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**WEATHER IS NICE, ALL THE CHORES ARE DONE...**

**THIS IS TURNING OUT TO BE A PERFECT DAY.**

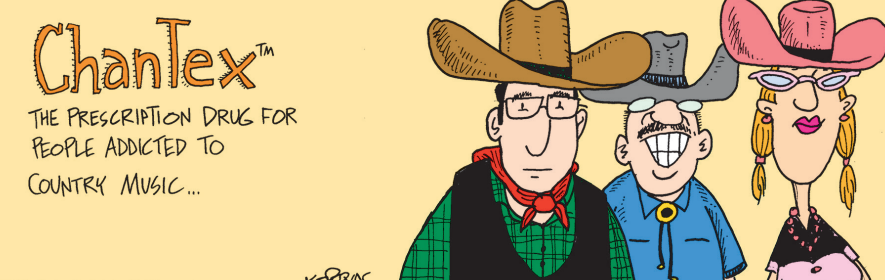
**JIM, COME HERE AND SEE WHAT YOUR SON'S DONE!**

**WELL, TO BE FAIR, THE DAY'S NOT OVER YET.**

by Dave T. Phipps

**ChanTex™**

THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG FOR PEOPLE ADDICTED TO COUNTRY MUSIC...



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**R.F.D.**

**I HATE HAVIN' TO LEAVE YA, RILEY!**

**I WISH I COULD JUST STAY HOME AND PLAY WITH YOU ALL DAY!**

**DO IT! DON'T GET ON THAT BUS!**

**WELL... I'M OFF! BACK TO SCHOOL!**

**HMPF! STUPID SCHOOL BUS ALWAYS WINS!**

by Mike Marland

**The Spats**

**NEVER DO TODAY WHAT YOU CAN PUT OFF UNTIL TOMORROW!**

**WHY NOT?**

**I'LL TELL YOU TOMORROW.**

by Jeff Pickering

**Just Like Cats & Dogs**

**THIS BUTTON IS THE TIMER. YOU RUN UNTIL THIS BEEPS RATHER THAN UNTIL YOUR MICROWAVE DINNER IS DONE.**

**CRIN and BEAR IT**

"It's times like this that I wish we didn't have a cool car!"

by Dave T. Phipps

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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Abolished
  - 10 Helical shape
  - 16 — Tzu (toy dog)
  - 20 "General Hospital," for one
  - 21 Pre-euro Spanish currency
  - 22 Joking Jay
  - 23 Marcell hit sung by members of an old German kingdom?
  - 25 "Frozen" heroine
  - 26 NBC hit since '75
  - 27 — Vegas Raiders
  - 28 Gallery stuff
  - 29 Further down
  - 31 Bing Crosby hit sung by a skeleton?
  - 37 "One L" novelist Scott
  - 40 Munch on
  - 41 Lift up
  - 42 Enzyme suffix
  - 43 And the like: Abbr.
  - 44 Sharif of film
  - 46 R.E.M. frontman
  - 48 — Michael
  - 48 — Martin (British auto)
  - 50 Prince hit sung by kings and queens?
  - 53 Many TikTok users
  - 54 Rotation stat
  - 55 Cash cache, for short
  - 56 Spanish article
  - 57 Mother bird
  - 58 Garlicky sauce
  - 60 Cafe offerings
  - 63 "— careful out there"
  - 66 Ancient Roman poet
  - 70 Beatles hit sung by small finches?
  - 74 Cuts short
  - 75 Puts a question to
  - 76 Artifact
  - 77 Hunger may cause them
  - 78 Syrup base
  - 80 Penpoint
  - 81 Penpoint, e.g.
  - 83 Before, to
  - 84 Oasis animal
  - 87 Rolling Stones hit sung by coffee lovers?
  - 88 Penpoint
  - 93 Novelist Mario Vargas —
  - 94 Everything considered
  - 95 Bazillions
  - 96 — accompli
  - 97 Mo. #4
  - 98 Scornful look
  - 100 Old JFK flier
  - 101 Podiatric problems
  - 102 John Cougar Mellencamp hit sung by electric eels?
  - 108 Old Turkish bigwigs
  - 109 "Where — begin?"
  - 110 Sewer rodent
  - 111 Overwhelm
  - 114 Luxury Swiss watch brand
  - 115 Alannah Myles hit sung by roofers?
  - 122 Move, in Realtor-speak
  - 123 From above, as a photo
  - 124 Most upbeat
  - 125 Eye affliction
  - 126 In an amiable way
  - 127 Chose by ballot
- DOWN**
- 1 Viper types
  - 2 Brought into the world
  - 3 Cuban leader
  - 4 CIA missions, e.g.
  - 5 Drive at 10 mph, say
  - 6 Concerning bees
  - 7 Toy with
  - 8 Suffix with south
  - 9 Light pat
  - 10 Brief burst
  - 11 Former NFL quarterback
  - 12 Suffix with 104-Down
  - 13 Rock's — Speedwagon
  - 14 — Z (total)
  - 15 "Trading Places" director John
  - 16 Icy precipitation
  - 17 Beneficial companion, as a spouse
  - 18 Ripe for the market
  - 19 Turns laryngitic
  - 24 Café au —
  - 30 Lordly home
  - 31 Weapon swung by a gaucho
  - 32 Be dressed in
  - 33 Lyre's cousin
  - 34 — Pet (1980s fad)
  - 35 Pueblo people
  - 36 Nothing, in France
  - 37 Stone patio
  - 38 Like a perfect world
  - 39 "Perry Mason" star
  - 44 Decide (to)
  - 45 "The — Curse" (1944 horror film)
  - 46 Related to sight, touch, etc.
  - 47 — la la
  - 49 Mexican wife
  - 51 Forest abode
  - 52 Quiet period
  - 57 Stretched edge
  - 59 Scottish girls
  - 61 "Eww, a mouse!"
  - 62 Gore and Roker
  - 63 Fast internet svc.
  - 64 Yes, in Dijon
  - 65 Second flagship U.K. TV network
  - 67 It may be balsamic
  - 68 Implant firmly
  - 69 Arid areas
  - 71 Shril bark
  - 72 "Dragnet" star Jack
  - 73 Galaxy and iPhone buys
  - 79 Nome's home
  - 80 Ducks' and Devils' org.
  - 82 Motel relative
  - 84 People in an embrace, e.g.
  - 85 Language's letters
  - 86 In a sullen way
  - 87 Appearance
  - 88 Blood type, informally
  - 89 Nitpick
  - 90 Overhasty
  - 91 Painter Dix
  - 92 ETs' ships
  - 99 Altima maker
  - 100 Brand of power tools
  - 101 "Glory of Love" singer
  - 103 Sevigny of "Big Love"
  - 104 Perfect
  - 105 In a majestic manner
  - 106 Nerd on "Family Matters"
  - 107 Preserved
  - 111 2004 Chevy debut
  - 112 Part of NNW
  - 113 Suffix with major
  - 116 Maui garland
  - 117 Bit of a circle
  - 118 Connect (to)
  - 119 German cry
  - 120 — Guevara
  - 121 Actress Tyler

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**Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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 ★★★★★

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 ★★★★★



Pictured: Cathy Baker



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## MAGIC MAZE ● FOOTPRINTS AT GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE SINCE 2010

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
 Unlisted clue hint: CARL AND ROB —

- |         |         |         |           |
|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Aniston | Duvall  | Mirren  | Spears    |
| Brooks  | Fonda   | Novak   | Stiller   |
| Cher    | Goodman | Perry   | Tarantino |
| Coppola | Lewis   | Plummer |           |

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 3 |   | 6 |   | 4 |   |   |
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|   |   | 7 | 8 |   |   |   | 3 |
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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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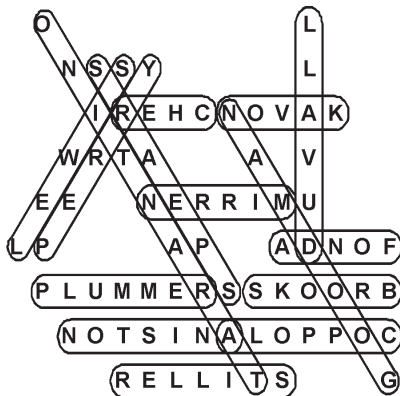


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FOOTPRINTS AT GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE SINCE 2010



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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## Meanwhile, back at the ranch ...

The Murphies.

I know that's not the grammatically-correct spelling, but it's the way I spell it in my head, like one might refer to a bizarre phenomenon, some type of a rare celestial event, or an ice cream dessert named after famous singing siblings from the late 19th century which had a revival at dinner parties in the 1970s.



**DEBBIE MATTHEWS**  
The Curious Cook

Whenever we moved to a new city, I would walk around the neighborhood, meeting other kids — most military kids are crusty veterans at this by the time they're in the 1st grade.

I say most military kids, but my brother was an exception, so whenever I re-conned the unfamiliar territory, I always asked if the kids had any "little brothers or sisters, 'cause I have a brother."

A couple of days after we moved to Ramey Air Force Base, in Puerto Rico, I walked around the corner, toward the homes which faced the ocean cliffs. In a twist that was shocking to no one except a 9-year-old kid, this was the street on which the officers lived.

A girl who was a couple of years older than me, (known instantly in that uncanny way kids have) was outside the second house. Turns out her mother was sick and she was making meatloaf for supper — by herself.

I followed her inside to help. About 11 hours later we turned out a dinner that at best, didn't anybody.

But my life changed forever that day — the day I met the Murphies.

Bear, aka Captain Edward Murphy, was the patriarch of the family, self-taught piano virtuoso, helicopter pilot and Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard air station and my dad's new boss.

Mama Cat, AKA Kathy Murphy, was matriarch, trained chemist, elegant hostess, diabetic, and the most hilarious and fascinating women I had ever met.



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

The only ranch dressing I'll use ...

Michael, oldest son, kind, courtly, he treated strays with kindness, and had the most adorable brown curls ever.

Chrissie, now my closest, oldest friend, then a mean poop head who never had a nice thing to say and always seemed angry.

Min, the oldest daughter and my meatloaf making buddy. Min one of the most unusual people I ever met. She was part 200-year-old wise woman living deep in the forest, part fairy, and some sort of human/animal communication conduit wrapped in the burrito of an 11-year-old girl. Sadly, she didn't reach adulthood. I wonder how she would have reshaped this world if she had lived.

And, the youngest girl, Kitty. She was one month younger than me and the most exciting, funny, smart kid I ever met. We became best friends and honorary members of each other's families.

The housing for base command was built for entertaining — in the '40s.

Mama Cat's Spinach Salad

This is the absolute classic recipe from the 1970s. The only changes I approve of on behalf of Mama Cat is the substitution of toasted pecans for bacon, and the addition of fresh, bright strawberries.

- 2 pounds baby spinach
- 8 ounces mushrooms, cleaned and sliced
- 1/2 pound of the crispiest of bacon shards
- 1/4 red onion half moons, as thin as you can slice them
- 4 medium-cooked eggs

Ranch dressing

Place everything except bacon in a large bowl and toss gently with bare hands.

Add dressing, a bit at a time until the salad is lightly coated.

Serve by mounding on a plate and garnishing with bacon shards. Serves 2 as a main.

Reverse-Engineered Avocado Ranch dressing

- 2 cups freshly made Hidden Valley Ranch dressing
- 2 ripe avocados
- Juice of 2 limes
- Big pinch of Tajin
- Big pinch of Caribbean Citrus Garlic seasoning
- 2 teaspoons salt (not all at once)
- Freshly cracked pepper

Blend everything in blender or using an immersion blender until it is as smooth and glossy as silk.

Whisk in salt, a bit at a time between tasting until you can taste the salt, but it's not salty.

Mama Cat's kitchen was straight out of a Billy Wilder comedy. It had a large kitchen, a pantry literally as large as my kitchen, a butler's pantry and a small suite meant for the live-in housekeeper. Somehow Min had finagled this for herself.

I was constantly encountering new foods at their table.

When I entered high school, we moved from San Diego to Elizabeth City. The Murphies lived there, but Bear had retired from the Coast Guard and was no longer my dad's boss.

Kitty and I resumed our friendship, Chrissie was still a cranky presence, and Michael, returning from a stint in the Air Force, was more fascinating than ever.

They introduced me to the Reuben, a sandwich that shouldn't work, but is that odd gestalt that is the mark of all great sandwiches.

They showed me how to pop corn in a Dutch oven. So cool.

I learned about growing asparagus (Bear was an avid gardener who made

his kids do the hands on work).

And one night, for dinner, Mama Cat made a spinach salad. Well, it was the first time I'd ever eaten spinach raw; I discovered I like it.

The major revelation though, was what she served on it.

Ranch dressing.

Oh my good googa mooga.

I imagine I felt this way the first time I had chocolate.

I've loved it ever since. In the ensuing years I've eaten a bathtub's worth.

I eat less of it these days, but I don't use the bottled (the vinegar they have to add to make it shelf stable ruin it for me), and I don't make it from scratch.

I have never had any ranch that tastes better, or has a better texture than the old school packet where you have to use buttermilk along with the mayo. And, if you use fat-free buttermilk, you can call it "light" with a straight face.

Thanks for your time.

Contact me at [dm@bullcity.mom](mailto:dm@bullcity.mom).



Adam Phillips, Miranda Parker, Mary Maloney, Gary Phillips, Jay Parker, Don Basnight, Ken Tunnell, Terri Turner, Crystal Fisher



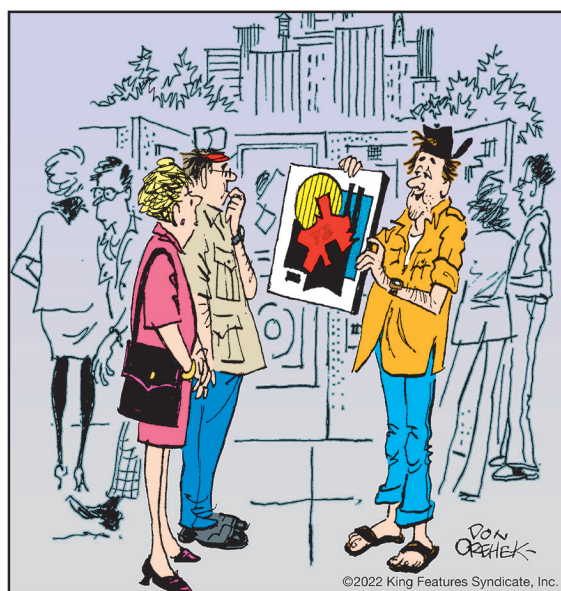
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