

Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | NOVEMBER 10 - 16, 2022 | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | \$1

ELECTION 2022

Voters, candidates offer enthusiasm ahead of results

BY BEN RAPPAPORT, MAYDHA DEVARAJAN & TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

Voters across Chatham made their way to the polls Tuesday for the 2022 Midterm Election, animated by a plethora of issues including reproductive rights, education and the fate of democracy in the country.

The enthusiasm of Chatham voters was felt before Election Day even began. The county had the highest early voter turnout in the state at 47.5%, representing more than 28,000 ballots cast.

On Tuesday, county voters seemed to bring the same ener-

gy to Election Day. Lines at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center stretched into the parking lot Tuesday morning as tents with candidates and political party booths lined the walkway.

"I'm old school, I always vote on Election Day," said Mort Matheny. "It's a formal thing. My father, grandfather, and great-grandfather always made Election Day a big deal."

Matheny, a Republican, said he cares about ensuring his party is elected into office, especially in offices like the Senate seat contested between Ted Budd, a Republican, and Democrat Cheri Beasley.

Other voters said they

Who won?

Results from Tuesday's mid-term elections came in after press time for this edition. Find out who won and read our full coverage for free at www.chathamnewsrecord.com/elections. We will also post results in our Chatham Brew newsletters and on our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram pages. Look for a full elections recap and more stories in next week's edition.

were more focused on local races, including seats on the Chatham County Board of

Education. In Chatham, two boards seats were contested: Dist. 3 features incumbent Del Turner and challenger Jessica Winger, while Dist. 5 features incumbent Gary Leonard and challenger Tim Moore.

Turner said the support she's received has been "overwhelming," and that she was optimistic heading into Election Day. Along with other Democratic candidates, Turner planned to attend the election night watch party hosted by the county's Democratic Party Tuesday evening.

"I'm just really grateful to see how much people care about their children because they're on the ballot," she said.

"Not me, not Jessica — it's the children that are on the ballot."

Her opponent Winger, also present outside the Ag Center, expressed similar sentiments as the election season comes to a close.

Winger, who visited four polling sites before arriving there, planned to stop at precincts across the county throughout the day. She said she was excited to see the number of voters present in Chatham.

"Whatever happens, I'm just praying that we can have peace and we can move forward with whatever the results are,

See **ELECTION**, page A6

EARL DANIEL JR. | MARKING 50 YEARS

Mechanics and memories: Cultivating a half-century career at Clapp Tractor

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Earl Daniel Jr. is a natural problem-solver.

Whether being on call for his loyal base of clients at Clapp Tractor — an agricultural equipment dealer located in downtown Siler City — or waking up in the middle of the night because he's finally cracked the answer to a nagging issue on an engine, the veteran mechanic has a paralleled commitment to his craft.

And amid a rapidly changing era of agricultural advancements and machinery, Daniel has managed to build a laudable career at the same place of business he started as a teenager. The 70-year-old is ringing in half a century of employment as a Clapp Tractor technician.

Coworkers and customers alike are quick to assert that Daniel is patient, precise and has a wealth of knowledge on mechanics unlike any other. But most important of all: he's got a golden touch.

And tractors are his forte.

Beginnings

Daniel began his career at Clapp Tractor in August 1972 at the age of 19. Recently, sharing his memories on bench at the business, he recalled just how much the war-time era building has changed from the



Staff photo by Maydha Devarajan

Earl Daniel Jr. stands in front of a 1984 International 5088 Harvester tractor at Clapp Tractor in Siler City, where he's worked as a mechanic for 50 years. He holds a framed photo of him posing with the same tractor — several decades prior.

time he was a teenager, with long windows that once acted as a skylight in the mechanical room now replaced by wooden beams. The tractor dealership, at 202 North 2nd Ave., is a treasure trove of history, opening in 1937, and once sat underneath the National

Guard Armory during the end of World War II.

"He definitely is our mentor on not just knowledge about equipment because he knows all that, but he does know all of the quirks of this old building, the comings and goings," business owner Al Clapp said



of Daniel. Daniel's interest in tractors

started from a young age. As a child, his grandparents would take him and his brother to the airport and different tractor dealerships in Greensboro, where they'd spend countless Sunday afternoons admiring airplanes and tractor equipment (he said his favorites were always the red tractors). His father also worked as a mechanic for Dixie Sales, an independent garage that repaired various makes of automobiles in Greensboro.

And once, his grandfather traveled from Summerfield, where the family lived, to Siler City just to buy a tractor — from the very same Clapp Tractor, then called Clapp Brothers Tractor & Implement.

"I think that [those trips] probably had an influence of why instead of [focusing on] the automotive part, I went to tractors," Daniel said. "I just enjoyed doing the work on them."

Clapp and Daniel say Clapp Tractor is now visited on occasion by the next generation of mechanics in the making, children who eagerly accompany their parents or grandparents on trips to look at the tractors that sit in a line in the lot next door.

Daniel jokes that he was educated at the "school of hard knocks,"

See **CAREER**, page A7

A VETERANS DAY REMEMBRANCE

Viet Nam veteran, wife continue to honor war dead



Courtesy of Jim Vanderbeck

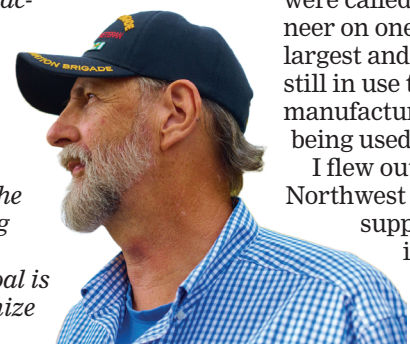
Jim Vanderbeck's 'ship,' a Chinook helicopter, taken during his time of service in 1969.

Pittsboro's Jim Vanderbeck shares wartime experience

BY JIM VANDERBECK
Viet Nam Veteran

Author's note: It is with some reluctance that I write and share this story. Veterans will understand this internal conflict about war: to share, versus pain and privacy. With encouragement to overcome my reluctance from my wife, Marie, and Bill Horner III, the publisher and editor of this newspaper, and with Veteran's Day approaching — along with

the need to honor some veterans who gave all — I am relenting with the acknowledgment that I am but a small part of the following account whose goal is to recognize others.



As Veterans Day approaches, my memories of war are stirred. It was August 1969 when I had a chance to move from crew chief on aircraft #64-13161 to an additional replacement ship — as aircraft were called — as flight engineer on one of our nation's largest and fastest helicopters still in use today, a Boeing manufactured Chinook CH-47 being used by the Army.

I flew out of a base camp Northwest of Saigon, Phu Loi, supporting many American units as well as Allied Forces

See **VET**, page A3

IN THE KNOW

Chatham officials, advocates praise Leandro decision. **PAGE B7**

STAY UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST CHATHAM COUNTY NEWS

facebook.com/ChathamNR

twitter.com/ChathamNR
twitter.com/ChathamNRSports

instagram.com/chathamnewsrecord



A VETERANS DAY REFLECTION | DENNIS STREETS

'Thanks for your service'

As we approach Veterans Day, Nov. 11, we will rightly hear those words repeated numerous times. This is a special day to show gratitude to all who served and are serving in the military — whether in war or peacetime.

There are many reasons to honor those who choose military service. They have acted to protect the well-being and freedoms of people around the world. They have stood ready to defend our country against foreign adversaries. Some paid the ultimate price as they served on our behalf.

In examining military personnel deaths from 1980 to 2010, the U.S. Defense Department's Manpower Data Center found that 82 service members per 100,000 died each year to all causes. Despite military engagements during this period, accidents were by far the most consistent danger to military personnel.

Because I have two brothers who were Peace Corps Volunteers, I was curious about how risky their experience was as compared with the military experience. Here's what I discovered from a George Washington University research study:

From the creation of the Peace Corps in March 1961 through December 1983, the in-service Volunteer death rate was 110.4 per 100,000. This is the period during which my brothers served. Fortunately, in a more recent period — between 1984 and 2003 — the death rate declined to 54.3 deaths per 100,000 volunteers.

For those unfamiliar with the Peace

Corps, let me share a bit of history and a few facts.

The Peace Corps was created by former President Kennedy in March 1961 via executive order. Congress subsequently gave its authorization by passing the Peace Corps Act through bipartisan action. In signing the order, Kennedy made it clear that "Life in the Peace Corps will not be easy. There will be no salary and allowances will be at a level sufficient only to maintain health and meet basic needs. Men and women will be expected to work and live alongside the nationals of the country in which they are stationed — doing the same work, eating the same food, talking the same language."

This is what my brothers experienced in the late '60s and early '70s. And no, the Peace Corps was not a way to become exempt from military service as conscription was still in effect. Some Peace Corps Volunteers — past and present — are also military Veterans.

My oldest brother Ben served two years in the Dominican Republic — only three years after the U.S. had invaded the country in the midst of turmoil and fear about an alleged communist-supported revolt. Sometimes greeted by "Yankee, go home" chants, he worked to improve local education for the children of sugar cane laborers. In his spare time, he helped start the community's first Little League program. Who knows how many of our Major Leaguers may have developed their baseball prowess there?

My other brother, David, was assigned to Peace Corps duty in Ecuador. For three years, he volunteered as a counselor for young orphans and juvenile delinquents at a facility run by Italian priests. At La Ciudad de Los Muchachos, David worked in the fields and classroom with the young men — teaching skills that led many to become community leaders, professionals, members of the Ecuadorian military and other prominent roles. He too faced, at times, a few who did not welcome him as an American.

Keep in mind that the term "The Ugly American" was commonly referenced during this period — following the book and movie of the same name — exposing American arrogance, incompetence and corruption in foreign affairs. The good news is that Dominicans and Ecuadorians got to know and love Ben and David as people, and this evolved into a more positive view of the U. S.

What the Peace Corps was then — and remains today — is "a service opportunity for motivated changemakers to immerse themselves in a community abroad, working side by side with local leaders to tackle the most pressing challenges of our generation." These challenges include the environment and climate change, access to health care and support systems, food insecurity, lack of educational and training opportunities, community and economic development, programming for youth and elderly, and so much more.

The Peace Corps mission is a simple but compelling one:

To promote world peace and friendship by fulfilling three goals:

- *To help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women.*
- *To help promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the people served.*
- *To help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans.*

Since its inception, more than 240,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 142 countries. I imagine that some of your friends, neighbors and fellow parishioners here in Chatham County are among this distinguished group.

It is noteworthy that the annual budget of the Peace Corps is a little over \$400 million — contrasted with our annual defense budget of \$1.94 trillion dollars. I would say this investment in peace is a wise but undervalued one.

As we recognize and honor our Veterans, I also want to extend a "Thanks for Your Service" to all who have volunteered their time and talents through the Peace Corps to make our world a better place. Maybe we should do that formally in the future on Sept. 21, the International Day of Peace, or on March 1, when the Peace Corps was established. At a minimum, please join me in saying "Thanks for Your Service" to our Peace Corps Volunteers as well as our Veterans.

Dennis Streets is the former director of the Chatham County Council on Aging.

VET

Continued from page A1

from Thailand, Australia and South Vietnam. I had already been flying many months with three of a five-member crew when a coveted opening occurred for an engineer position; this was a position I was in line to receive.

Few were granted the opportunity to be assigned their own helicopter that came with the role. Although flight crews tended to stay together as a team, only the flight engineer stayed with his ship wherever it went — to include general maintenance, major overhauls and standbys. The two pilots always rotated, and the left side door-gunner and the crew-chief (additionally, right-side door-gunner) would rotate to another ship whenever their primary ship wasn't flying. There were never enough helicopter crews to be permanently assigned to a ship except for the flight engineer.

Another flight platoon crew chief, Greg Trimnal, from Jamestown, N.C., had also been promised his own ship as a flight engineer in the future but was home on leave after

extending his year-long tour for an additional six months. Flight crews were in short supply and the best were encouraged to stay on, their extensive knowledge invaluable. Greg happened to return at the same time a newly refurbished ship, #64-13141, was ferried in from Saigon. I met up with Greg as we approached what each of us thought was our ship!

It was the first and only time I met Greg; we happened never to have flown together.

A fateful switching of ships

After the initial shock of two people each thinking this ship was his, a lengthy discussion ensued. I expressed a desire for the position and energetically lobbied for the unique opportunity. Greg was a bit more laid back after 30 days home leave and fully rested as he took in the dilemma. I proposed that Greg might take the next available ship, which led to more discussion. He seemed amenable so I suggested we just switch places on the flight roster. Greg could fly on sister ship #64-13161, taking my place

as their crew chief and I would take 141 as flight engineer. There was, however, one more hurdle: flight sergeant approval.

The flight sergeant listened to the proposal and checked for genuine agreement. He said that if Greg and I were OK he would support the move. Greg and I walked out to the flight-line where I introduced him to the flight engineer of 161 — Jim Mott, my best friend — and door-gunner Scott Verner (a valued flight partner and friend). I left as the pilots Robert (Bobby) V. Gray (he was my age with a friendly, carefree style) and Marvin J. Butterfield (he had less than a month in-country), arrived to do their pre-flight inspection for the day's missions. I returned to 141, my new (actually 5-year-old) ship, to prepare and outfit it for close combat support.

My friend Jim Mott was not surprised at my reassignment to the new ship as we had celebrated the previous night in the flight platoon with hootch we shared; I took his picture. Jim Mott and I were both unaware at the time that two crew chiefs would be showing up for one flight engineer



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Jim and Marie Vanderbeck pose near their home in Pittsboro, off a road named in memory of Greg Trimnal — who died piloting the helicopter that Vanderbeck might have flown. Also killed in the crash was Vanderbeck's best friend, Jim Mott.

position in a conflicting situation the next morning, but Mott had been expecting a replacement crew chief, nonetheless.

Aug. 30, 1969, is indelible in my mind, but the exact timing during the remainder of that day is now a bit blurry.

161 took off with its five-man crew for the day's sorties as I continued to work on 141. Sometime later, word came out along the flight-line that one of the company's ships went down. I went to the flight operations shack to get more information. The report came in by radio that the downed ship was 161 but there was little additional information just then. The mission board showed the ship had been supporting the Australians out of Nui Dat base camp. More info started to come in that the ship had crashed in the jungle short of their intended LZ (landing zone), FSB Diggers Rest. The jungle, the ship's jet-fuel, and the exploding ordinance the ship was carrying prevented on-the-ground forces from quickly getting to the downed ship.

A little later, it was reported that there were no survivors of the five-man crew.

Hardly time to grieve

I was later able to fly over the crash site; the outline of a Chinook was burned into the jungle. The

cockpit was separated from the rest of the ship and the pilots, Bobby Gray and Marvin Butterfield, had been intact in their seats but were dead. Jim Mott, Scott Verner and Greg Trimnal were consumed by the fire that completely burned the remaining 52-foot fuselage except for the massive aft rotor head.

There was hardly time to grieve as "war waits for no-one" practicality came into play. Flight operations continued except for a short ceremony at the company headquarters. I represented Jim Mott; others from the flight platoon represented the other crew and pilots. War-guilt and moral injury to the soul came years later, a common War-Veteran issue.

Through the ensuing years, I did not discuss my two-tour Viet Nam service. And, because of the terrible homecoming reception in the U.S. upon my return and for over 35-years, I did not publicly or privately identify as having served in the military, especially Viet Nam.

Only recently did I start to wear a Viet Nam baseball type hat identifying me as a Veteran.

My wife Marie and I moved to Pittsboro in 1994 as "empty-nesters." Our three sons — Rick, Jeff and Glen — were grown and gone and onto their own lives.

Honoring their

memory

After a few years we looked for a larger piece of land as the area we were in was beginning to be built out. In 1997, we found a 113-acre site that appealed to us and purchased it. We carved out a few homesites from the heavily wooded property and moved onto it in late 1999. Part of that process was to build a private road into the property. Marie and I discussed road names. We quickly realized the opportunity to recognize and honor the sacrifices made that enabled me to literally continue my life. We decided we would name our road: Greg Trimnal Circle and look for opportunities in the future to name other areas of our land after the rest of the crew of 64-13161.

I wrote and spoke on the phone with Greg's mom, Alice, at that time; she thought it wonderful that her son would be so honored (I was humbled by her graciousness and support). I also kept up with Jim Mott's mom, Gwen, yearly until she died. And had the opportunity to meet Bobby Gray's sister, Margie, when she stopped in to visit on her way from Ohio to Florida curious to see the road sign.

Recently, we decided to downsize our land a bit and put in four 10+ acre lots and a new private road as access to these lots and our certified tree farm. This presented an opportunity to add more crew names to the site. The small "exempt" subdivision is to be named "Verner's View" and the road "Jim Mott Bend" due to the large arc it makes. The Chatham County EOC and the Planning Department assisted in the process during development reviews. Eric Andrews has supplied direction and real estate support and Paul Messick has provided legal advice. A formal dedication will be announced in the future as the project hopes to come to completion later this year or early next.

Two more names of the five-man crew remain to be memorialized somewhere on the property in the future. Marie and I are honored for all the support and this opportunity to move closer to our goal of recognition for the ultimate sacrifice of the crew of 161.

Oh, how I miss them!



Pittsboro's 2022 Holly Days Events

Tree Lighting Celebration
Sunday, November 20,
3:30-6:30pm

Small Business Saturday
Saturday, November 26,
All Day

First Sunday Artisan Fair
Sunday, December 4,
12:00-4:00pm

Pittsboro Christmas Parade
Sunday, December 11,
3:00pm

Pittsboro by Luminaria
Thursday, December 15,
3:00-7:00pm

Scan here for more information!






VIEWPOINTS

CHATHAM SCENE | BILL HORNER III

A Hell of a Book, a heckuva literary event



You can't help but love Vicki Newell.

The ebullient director of Chatham Literacy always delivers cheer wherever she goes. And though she wasn't officially on the program Saturday — at the "Fall for Literacy" fundraiser for her organization at the Ag Center in Pittsboro — she was seemingly everywhere, spreading her boundless enthusiasm for literacy, and her organization, throughout the room.

I've rarely missed a Chatham Literacy event over the last few years. Among the nearly 200 people who joined the festivities on Saturday were many familiar faces and friends who, like me, are regulars at these fundraisers. One reason these twice-yearly author-focused get-togethers are so popular: Vicki's always able to attract notable, noteworthy best-selling writers and bring them to Chatham County to share their own literary journeys — and to help build Chatham Literacy's pocketbook, enabling it to con-

tinue to provide free tutoring and literacy programming to adults who live and work here.

Jason Mott was the draw this time around. Mott wrote the National Book Award-winning "Hell of a Book" — I interviewed him for a story in these pages a couple of months ago — and he shared his rollicking adventures as a writer (and Verizon customer service representative; you had to be there for that) at the Ag Center.

Mott's debut novel, "The Returned," catapulted him to a rare place: it was optioned for a television series before it actually was published. On Saturday, he shared the experience of formulating the ideas and events that compelled him to write "Hell of a Book," a novel whose story arc follows a surprise best-selling author of a "hell of a book" on a national book tour, which evolves into a tour of self-examination. (Trust me, it's a special read.)

It was an idea his agent and publisher each discouraged. Circumstances and real-life events, though, pushed him to keep working on the story over the course of several years. That evolution became a revelation: Mott's passion project — a decidedly unusual

narrative, with unnamed characters and shifting realities and imagery — immediately resonated with readers. Winning the National Book Award for fiction was among the least of its accomplishments.

Mott decided as a boy, growing up in southeastern N.C., to become a writer. He studied poetry and even today starts book tours and speaking engagements by heading for the airport from his home on dirt road in a place — like areas of Chatham County — with internet so sketchy that Zoom calls are nearly impossible.

But he loves his home. He loves storytelling, and he loves words. And all of us there on Saturday loved the fact that he was with us, helping raise another \$25,000 for Chatham Literacy.

Vicki's organization has an annual budget of around \$260,000, but volunteers who contributed more than 7,000 hours of service in the last year make Chatham Literacy's impact incalculable. Over the past year, it served nearly 150 adults with 3,000 hours of instruction. Vicki, her staff and more than 40 volunteers enriched lives by giving them the power and freedom that



Courtesy of Chatham Literacy

Author Jason Mott speaks at Saturday's 'Fall for Literacy' fundraiser for Chatham Literacy.

reading and reading comprehension deliver. Who can put a pricetag on that?

There was a point during Mott's own literary journey that he described what was to become "A Hell of a Book" as his personal "magnum opus of failure."

"I thought I was writing the worst book ever," he said. "It

made no sense."

Too many people in Chatham County have felt the same way about words they see on a page. Thankfully, they — and we — have Vicki and her Chatham Literacy staff to do here what Jason Mott was able to do with his book: make the story come together.

After the election: An open field



ANDREW TAYLOR- TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

I write on the Sunday before Tuesday's election. Of course, I don't know the results. I am aware of polls and predictions, but the only certain thing is that roughly half of the voters will be disappointed and angry. I write with those people in mind.

No matter who wins in the coming week, I hope the losers will concede.

One of the hallmarks of democracy is the peaceful exchange of power. This is a recent advancement in the long, violent history of human civilization. It should not be taken for granted. Recently, this pillar of our democracy has been questioned, and thus the public trust and confidence in our society has been unquestionably undermined. Part of our duty as citizens is to honor the outcome of elections, including in defeat.

Don't misunderstand me: I don't like to lose! I am not a moral relativist. There are issues that directly impact our schools, environment and economy. Just because there are two sides to a debate does not mean there are two rights. As theologian Cornel West wrote, "Justice is what love looks like in public." People of good faith, who believe in a higher law of love, must take sides.

Those who are loyal to their side and, more importantly, their values must strive to hold all elected officials accountable to the greater good. Higher ideals may not be politically expedient or publicly popular; conceding one election does not mean that one gives up hope of convincing more people the next time. I am not advocating throwing in the towel.

But this work, whether to advance the common good or change the public opinion, must always be within the bounds of our country's governing systems, respecting law and the democratic process. The first step, whether in victory or defeat, is to respect the election results. That is a duty of citizenship.

As defeat is hard to swallow, it helps to maintain hope. Martin Luther King Jr. proclaimed that, though the arc of history is long, it bends toward justice. Human progress is never a roller coaster that only goes up. There are setbacks. We may have to work twice as hard.

By the time my words are read, the winners and losers in this election will most likely be known. But I write on Sunday, which is set aside for worship in my religious tradition. In a spirit of faith, I offer a beautiful vision from a 13th century Persian poet and Muslim mystic known as Rumi: "Out beyond ideas of wrong and right, there is an open field. I'll meet you there."

My interpretation of this statement is that it does not call for moral relativism but rather cooperation. Political parties are most entrenched on Election Day. There is a choice to make. You side with one camp or the other.

But the way forward is not found by remaining behind walls of difference. Instead, by stepping out in communication, trust and partnership, we can create new conversations and even a better place to live. I'll meet you there.

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."



Has the milk of human kindness really soured?



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

Permit me, please, to use this space to fuss about something while also pointing out what I perceive as a major problem in our society that really needs some attention.

A few days ago, my 2-year-old grandson decided he wanted to pilot his battery-operated buggy through the pasture separating his house from mine. My better half was with him and called me with the news. She was at one gate, asking me to watch him

on his journey. Fine. No problem. We do that often. Before heading to the gate on our side, I laid the small notebook I carry on the covered bed of my truck and went to let him in.

When he arrived, he informed me he wanted both a cookie and to watch "Masha and the Bear" on television. Again, no problem with two things we often do. And, by the way, if you haven't watched that cartoon show, I highly recommend it. I also recommend eating a cookie, but that's another story.

Anyway, after getting him settled on his plan of action and after my better half got home, I hopped into my truck and headed off on my plans.

About five miles down the road, I realized I had left my notebook on the truck bed cover. You can figure out those things when you look at the rear-view mirror and see papers flying everywhere behind you and that's where it began to get personal.

In that notebook I carry a weekly schedule of really important (to me) things I want or need to do. Usually, there's also notes about bucket list items, long range plans, the status of folks at church, a grocery list reminding me to get bologna and peanut butter, mail needing to go to the post office and sometimes something of a legal nature, as in that day the reminder from DMV about a license sticker.

After a brief reminder of the laws of nature and physics about small lightweight items, wind and forward mobility, I turned around, coming to a stop on the shoulder with emergency flashers doing what they do. As I surveyed the scene, there were several conclusions. One, the stuff was all visible but also scattered — some in the road, in the woods, in the ditch but all retrievable. The challenge was to do that while

looking and listening to the folks who were in a hurry to get somewhere without taking the time to see (1) my full-size pickup on the shoulder with flashers flashing and (2) me trying to pick up flat pieces of paper from a flat road.

As I have reached a point where I have celebrated a significant number of birthdays, I have found that my father's gift of arthritis enables me to get down but getting back up or even bending over is not all that easy. But I was determined to retrieve my treasure while not sacrificing the remainder of my days.

And here's the deal. I didn't really expect anyone to stop and help. That's OK. The job wouldn't take so very much time. And in today's world where you don't know if someone is going to say hello or shoot you, many folks don't want to stop. But I didn't expect the guy in the little red sports car to do his best impression of Richard Petty coming down the straightaway at Daytona and run over my mess in the middle of the road, scattering it even more, not to mention getting it dirtier in the process.

Picture this: a truck on the shoulder, stuff in the road and an old guy wobbling along trying not to fall into the ditch and Dale Earnhardt zips by at oh, maybe 70 or so. In the interest of full disclosure and a plea for forgiveness, I had a moment of humanity and called out to him with a description I wouldn't use in Sunday School. Of course, he didn't hear it (thank goodness) because by that time he was out of sight.

So, here's the bigger picture than just my personal agony: why has the world become so self-centered? Was that driver the only person in the world? Did his wants and needs trump those of everyone else? Was the "Hot Doughnut" light about to go off? We'll never know and don't really need to.

I leave you with this: pay attention to what's around you. It can't hurt, could help and would go a long way toward adding some sweetness to a world that could use it.

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.

VIEWPOINTS

Powerful ideas drive growth debate



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

The science fiction pioneer H.G. Wells once observed that “human history is, in essence, a history of ideas.” This is a wise observation

— and it speaks to the political debates we’ve been having here in North Carolina.

Wells himself was an influential purveyor of ideas. Some were praiseworthy, such as his exploration of the effects of technological change. Other ideas Wells embraced, such as socialism and eugenics, were abhorrent. Still, by engaging in a serious discussion of important ideas, Wells contributed not only to the development of science fiction as a literary genre but also to the realization that human affairs cannot be reduced to a mechanistic clash of impulses and interests.

Lots of “experts” disagree.

They think that when politicians or intellectuals argue for or against a particular policy, they’re just putting up a rhetorical smokescreen to disguise what are really self-serving actions. No doubt you’ve heard such a cynical analysis many times. You’ve heard that a particular faction or political movement is just saying whatever its paymasters demand.

Impulses and interests matter, of course, but so do ideas. Consider our ongoing debates about how best to accelerate and broaden economic growth in North Carolina. Progressives and Democrats tend to argue that the state will prosper to the extent it spends more money on public services intended to increase the productive capacity of the economy. Conservatives and Republicans tend to argue that North Carolina will prosper to the extent it reduces the tax and regulatory barriers that keep entrepreneurs, investors, and highly productive professionals from creating and expanding businesses in our state.

This is not simply a clash of personal or institutional agendas. It reflects a longstanding debate about the economics of growth. Generally speaking, you can group the various theories into three categories, each bearing the name of an influential thinker:

- Smithian growth from scale. In 1776, Adam Smith famously argued that economic progress comes from broadening the scope of production and trade. That allows people to specialize in the tasks they do best, trade what they make with others (either within a company or around the world), and make each other better off as a result.

- Solovian growth from investment. Beginning in the 1950s, Robert Solow, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, co-created an influential model for explaining long-term growth that included changes in population, capital formation, and technology. In public policy circles, this model has often been used to argue for

more government spending on infrastructure (physical capital), research and development (intellectual capital), and education (human capital).

- Schumpeterian growth from entrepreneurship. Joseph Schumpeter, an Austrian-born economist at Harvard University during the first half of the 20th century, argued that economic trends were impossible to explain without recognizing the “creative destruction” led by individuals who respond to previously unforeseen opportunities in the marketplace by creating, financing, or managing new enterprises.

These ideas aren’t incompatible. Indeed, it would be truly odd for anyone to dismiss the economic benefits of trade, capital formation, or entrepreneurship. The debate is about emphasis and priorities. Trade, for example, is a net positive but the effects typically aren’t gigantic. On capital, economies with significant investment clearly grow more rapidly over time than do economies with little to no investment. But

after a certain point, spending more money — particularly in the public sector — doesn’t produce enough gain in productivity to offset the cost of the expenditure.

These are ideas well worth more study and discussion. You can expect North Carolina policymakers, scholars, and journalists to do just that for years to come. You can also expect the cynics to continue to deny that there is any important debate to be had — that abstract ideas and intellectual arguments are irrelevant to the real business of policymaking, which is driven purely by power and interest.

For people who disdain the value of persuasion, they appear to spend an extraordinary amount of time and effort trying to persuade the rest of us that they’re right.

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).

Didn’t your momma teach you better?



TOM CAMPBELL
N.C. Spin

People are weary of the angry, hateful rhetoric and violence and many

have just tuned out any political or current event discussions. It’s just better not to hear it, they say, than to have to deal with it.

If you don’t believe that today’s rhetoric has escalated beyond the pale, just ask a politician, teacher, newsperson, election official, medical professional or columnist. Better still, ask salesclerks, fast-food workers — just about anyone who deals with the public. They will tell you stories about face-to-face threats and insults, ugly intimidating cell or email messages, sometimes even aggressive and abusive actions they’ve endured.

When did we lose our civility? What happened to the socially acceptable manners and language we were taught? I would love to ask some of these ill-behaved men and women (yes, most are adults), “Didn’t your momma teach you any better than this?”

My folks also taught us about restraint, and when we didn’t practice restraint, we learned the

repercussions from not behaving in acceptable ways. Like it or not, there are repercussions to the intemperate words and actions we see all too frequently.

There is a scripted playbook for those, often politicians, who want power and money. They start by complaining about how they — and imply you, also — are a victim, discriminated against or even persecuted. Next, they tell you who is to blame for your miserable lot in life. The oppressor-to-be then cleverly makes you afraid of these ugly people, frequently employing the replacement theory, telling you that this boogeyman wants to displace you and put themselves in your rightful place. The playbook next calls for frequent loud messages ratcheting up the severity, anger and hate. We have witnessed how these tactics work in collecting disciples. Before you realize it, a movement has begun.

Jan. 6 is the prime example of the results of this strategy, as was the attack on Nancy Pelosi’s husband, the attempted kidnapping of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and many other notable examples.

History records the evolution of these wannabe autocrats and oppressors. In times past, good people would

rise up, speak out and turn away these haters. What is puzzling is our response to them today. Why are we unable or unwilling to stop these wrongful movements before they go too far? I know we believe in free speech, even when we think it wrong or harmful, and it’s not good manners to meet ugliness with ugliness. We want to believe these are trends that will peter out. And you know, it might hurt my chances for promotion, be bad for business or make my friends and neighbors upset. So, we remain quiet.

But our silence is interpreted as either complicit agreement or, at least, neutrality. New Yorker and self-proclaimed “thousandaire” George Hahn recently said in a podcast, “if you remain neutral in the face of injustice you have chosen the side of the oppressor.” He boldly proclaimed that we must decide to draw a line on disrespectful, demonizing, hate speech by strong protests and opposition to oppression — and make no mistake, oppression is just what this is. When good people keep quiet, the bullying continues, the attacks become bolder and the stakes become larger. When an NBC poll revealed 71% believe America is moving in the wrong direction

that’s one thing. But it’s quite another when 30% believe that violence against our country can be justified, as a recent Washington Post/University of Maryland poll revealed. Chants like “lock her up” become Jan. 6 insurrections. And all of this amped-up rhetoric and violence might explain why 43% believe a civil war will erupt in the next decade, according to an Economist/YouGov poll.

When will we draw the line? When will the silent majority say “enough.” I pray it happens before it is too late.

In a 1946 speech, Eleanor Roosevelt spoke about Hitler’s rise: “I have the feeling that we let our consciences realize too late the need of standing up against something that we knew was wrong. We have therefore had to avenge it, but we did nothing to prevent it. I hope that in the future, we are going to remember that there can be no compromise at any point with the things that we know are wrong.”

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

Natchez’s preservation heroes came from North Carolina



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

If you lived in Natchez, Mississippi, a city that reportedly in 1850 had more millionaires per capita than anywhere else in the country — all that wealth built on cotton and slavery, resulting in the largest concentration of antebellum mansions in the South — where would you go to find an expert to help preserve those historic buildings?

Folks might tell you they would go to North Carolina where a couple of their preservation heroes grew up.

Last year the Historic Natchez Foundation announced the creation of a center dedicated to the vision established by former directors Ron and Mimi Miller.

Ron, who died Sept. 2, and his wife Mimi grew up in the Charlotte area. Ron graduated from Myers Park High School in Charlotte and went to UNC-Chapel Hill, where his cousin Jeff Beaver was a star quarterback on the football team.

The foundation’s announcement stated, “Ron Miller served as director of the foundation for approximately 30 years, starting in 1979. Mimi Miller took over as executive director in 2008 when her husband went to the Gulf Coast to work for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Mimi Miller retired in 2018 after [Carter] Burns was hired as director.

“Friday’s unveiling of the Miller Center for Historic Preservation culminated an evening that celebrated the work of the Millers, who came to Natchez in the 1970s and devoted their lives to the area. The celebration was part of HNF’s annual meeting at his headquarters on Commerce Street.”

Executive Director Carter Burns said, “From creating the foundation to saving buildings around town, professionally and personally, to events like the balloon festival [balloonfestival@natchez.org], formerly known as the balloon race, their fingerprints are all over Natchez and it is the better for it.”

Burns said the new center will be the research arm of the Historic Natchez Foundation. The center will conduct scholarly research, create publications, host scholars, and organize lectures, conferences and special events.

“It will continue the work of the Millers to discover, document and preserve all aspects of Natchez history,” Burns said.

After Ron’s death was announced, Dan M. Gibson, mayor of Natchez gave the following tribute:

“Rarely does one have the opportunity to meet a gentleman like Ron Miller. As a person, his kindness and concern for others was evident the moment you met him. As a leader, Ron singlehandedly brought about a new appreciation for historic preservation in Natchez. It can be said that his vision saved it. As the first executive director at the Natchez Historic Foundation, he charted a course that we all now follow. His wife Mimi succeeded him in that office, and together they’ve accomplished so much.

“I don’t think Natchez would be the Natchez we know and love if it were not for Ron. When we look around, so many buildings that could have gone the other way are today standing beautiful, having stood the test of time all because of his vision and leadership. I thank God for blessing Natchez with a man like Ron Miller.

“He truly made a difference in our beautiful city. May we live up to the legacy he now leaves behind. Because Natchez Deserves More.”

Mississippi owes North Carolina for the Millers. But remember that we owe Mississippi for authors and teachers such as Bill Ferris and Hodding Carter who brought their Mississippi experiences and wisdom to our state.

Also, celebrating Ron and Mimi Miller’s work in Natchez should make us proud and inspire us to support our state’s preservation efforts, including especially Preservation N.C. and its president, Myrick Howard.





Staff photo by Taylor Heeden

The West Chatham Senior Center was one of two precinct locations in Siler City on Election Day.

ELECTION

Continued from page A1

whether it's in my favor or not," she said. "We want to move forward on a positive note for our community, for our schools, and so we'll see."

N.C. House Minority Leader Robert Reives II was also visiting precincts across Chatham County and speaking to voters and volunteers. He said he'd received positive support from people across the county who are both Democrats and Republicans.

"I've been incredibly thankful for the opportunities I've had," said Reives, who faced former Chatham Commissioner Walter Petty in his re-election bid. "I really appreciate this and I hope that that's the lesson everybody thinks that if we care that we'll get positive results."

Krysten Gallihue, 32, is a former educator who said the board of education races were their top priorities in this year's election.

"As a former educator I know we need someone with experience in education, which is why I trust our incumbents in this race," Gallihue said. They added Chatham should not accept people who spread lies and misinformation.

Sherry Johnson, 49, also said the school board races were the most important on the ballot because there needs to be a change in Chatham County Schools.

"How we are leading our children in this community is leading to things being allowed that didn't used to be allowed," Johnson said. "All my children have gone to school here, but I am looking for a change back to the way things were."

Johnson said she

believes education has lost its discipline and has adopted an "anything goes" mentality.

Not all voters, however, wanted to see change in the county's political landscape. Linda Rone, 58, said she loves living in Chatham and views her current elected officials as benefitting her community. She said the growth of the county is a great opportunity and she is happy with leaders in the local Democratic party who have welcomed that opportunity.

"Things are getting bigger and better in the community," Rone said. "I just love what we are doing here in Chatham. I see they are building things, helping the kids, I like that."

The other issue that brought voters from parties was abortion. Johnson and Gallihue both said it was one of their top priorities in this election.

"Getting our judges and others in place who stand for what I believe in is really important in the topic of abortion," Johnson said. She said she was strongly against further legalizing abortion.

Gallihue and other left-leaning voters like Katie Cousins, however, said protecting the right to abortion had become more important than ever in this midterm election following the Supreme Court decision to strike down Roe v. Wade.

"As a woman with a daughter, I'm trying to defend my reproductive rights as well as hers," Cousins, 33, said. "I'm doing everything I can."

She said the Senate race between Beasley and Budd was the most important race on the ballot to her.

N.C. Democratic Party Chairperson Dr. Bobbie Richardson dropped in on the polling site at the Armory in Siler City. She

also spoke on reproductive rights, including access to abortions.

"I think women are the test group for having their rights taken away," she said. "If they're successful in taking women's rights away, then there will be other rights that will be taken, and they've told us that."

Richardson said the main issue on the ballot isn't just abortion access or other social issues; democracy itself is in peril.

"As citizens of the United States, we could possibly not continue to be a democracy, we could possibly not have voting rights for all citizens of the United States, and therefore, we need to make sure that everyone knows that they should vote," Richardson said.

Volunteers with Democracy N.C. also sat nestled between candidate- and party-affiliated booths outside of the Ag Center in Pittsboro. Democracy N.C. is a nonpartisan non-profit organization focused on increasing access to the democratic process in the state, particularly among communities that are historic targets of voter suppression.

Chanae Wilson, one of the volunteers participating through the North Carolina Budget and Tax Center, said organizations across the state were volunteering with Democracy N.C. to monitor sites in case voters experience disruptions or challenges participating in the electoral process. She said the process in Chatham has been relatively smooth, with the exception of one day during early voting in which a man shouted at voters from the parking lot at the Ag Center, but he eventually drove away and did not physically threaten anyone.

Both Wilson and Mel Umbarger, another

volunteer, said they felt like the non-partisanship of the organization lends itself well to being able to inspire trust in voters and protect the polls — particularly in an increasingly polarized political environment.

"I think it's important," Umbarger said. "We're willing to help whoever needs help."

To some voters, the future of democracy was on the ballot in this election. Linda Starkweather, 75, said she was voting to support the institution of democracy.

"I don't like the fact that people are still challenging the results of the 2020 election," Starkweather said. "I don't like the violence or what happened on Jan. 6. I always vote, but this one feels more significant."

For full voting results, go to chathamnewsrecord.com/elections or visit our social media pages.



Courtesy of Pittsboro Youth Theater

Woeful Tale

Attached is a picture from last weekend's Pittsboro Youth Theater's production of 'The Woeful Tale of the Big Bad Wolf,' written by Tammy Matthews. Jocelyn Hinde played Little Red Ridinghood and Anna Dowdy played the Big Bad Wolf, A.K.A. Mr. Lobo in the play in Sweet Bee Theater.

Free for Chatham County residents

Document Shredding Event

Saturday, November 19
9:00 am to 1:00 pm



Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling

28 County Services Road, Pittsboro



Residents can bring up to 3 boxes or bags of documents. No businesses.

Find more details at:

www.chathamcountync.gov/recycle or call 919-542-5516

TURKEY TUESDAY NOV. 15TH

Help make Thanksgiving a festive occasion for our neighbors in need. Your donation will help us reach our goal of reaching 1,000 families this holiday season.

CORA IS COLLECTING TURKEYS, TURKEY BREASTS, AS WELL AS THESE HOLIDAY TRIMMINGS

- Mini Hams
- Mac and Cheese
- Boxed Stuffing/Cornbread Mix
- Canned Fruit/Veggies
- Pie/Cookie/Brownie Mix
- Cinnamon
- Apples

DROP OFF LOCATIONS

CORA
40 Camp Dr.
Pittsboro
November 15
9 am - 5 pm

Food Lion
50000 Governors Dr.
Chapel Hill
November 15
1 pm - 7pm

Food Lion
70 Ballentrae Ct.
Pittsboro
November 15
1 pm - 7pm



A Turkey on every table!



MORE INFORMATION AT CORAFOODPANTRY.ORG

SPONSORED BY:

Chatham News + Record

YOUR DAILY LOCAL NEWS SOURCE
CHAPELBORO.COM
97.9 THE HILL



COMMUNITY MEETING NOTICE

TOWN OF PITTSBORO

The Pittsboro Planning Department, along with Steward Inc., consultant for the Land Use Plan Update, will hold the following **Community Meeting** on **Tuesday, November 15, 2022, from 3 PM-4:30 PM, and 6 PM-7:30 PM.** An afternoon and evening session is being provided for convenience.

These will be held at 65 E Chatham St., Pittsboro, N.C. (Old Ag Building).

Community Meeting



Land Use Plan Update

Tuesday, November 15th
Afternoon Session: 3:00-4:30 pm
Evening Session: 6:00-7:30pm



CAREER

Continued from page A1

often figuring out what works and what doesn't for a piece of equipment the hard way. His advice, gleaned from years of getting frustrated by failed attempts to fix a part, is to walk away and then return to the problem.

"Best thing do is walk off a minute, regroup, go back and try it again," he said.

These days, Daniel is frequently posed with questions by other mechanics in the shop when they get stumped on equipment issues, serving as a reliable second opinion.

Customers will also specifically reach out to Clapp Tractor, knowing Daniel has expertise on more vintage pieces of equipment.

"So imagine there's tractors that he may have worked out 45, 50 years ago, that he's still working on, that they come back and he works on today," Clapp said.

Joe Welborn, 58, is one of Daniel's longtime clients and owns Welborn Farms in Randleman. He's purchased at least six tractors from Clapp Tractor, after buying his first from the business in 1996, and said he prefers Daniel to service all his equipment at the shop.

"I mean, if Earl don't know it, nobody else does," Welborn said.

Welborn appreciates Daniel for his technical skills, he said, but also because he's a good listener, and does what he can to give his customers the agency to walk through and solve issues on their own.

"All these tractor dealers and stuff [have] got a book to tell you what to look for, whatever, and

Earl's good at figuring out stuff that the book don't tell you," he said. "So it's just part of his genetics, is what I'd say."

Similarly, Clapp said being a good mechanic is something that's "like a gene," noting the natural problem-solving instincts and constant perseverance he sees in Daniel when tackling repairs.

"It's just something you have or you don't," Clapp said.

Methodical and meticulous

Daniel is reserved. He answers questions methodically and seriously, similar to the way in which his fellow coworkers describe how he approaches his craft. He maintains books of notes, stemming from a request from Clapp's sister-in-law, who worked at the company, to start compiling records for reference around eight years ago.

Dressed in a gray mechanic's shirt, with the tips of his fingers stained with grease — evidence of his trade — he flipped through one of the legal pads he keeps. Rows and rows of neat handwriting lined the page, marking the day's work with the model of a specific tractor and the time he took to repair a particular piece of equipment.

"Because it makes it easier, if they ask me something," he said. "It's like a lot of times, I can go back and I may make notes, write wires, color-code for a plug-in that I'm taking apart."

His fellow employees describe Daniel as meticulous, citing his careful note-taking and his expansive backlog of knowledge on tractor repair.

Ivey Morgan, the company's service manager

and the daughter of Al Clapp, also called Daniel "humble," saying she only discovered this year marked his 50th at the company because she noticed the words "43 years" near Daniel's name — etched into the sidewalk next to the building, where concrete was poured seven years ago.

"He comes in, he is so quiet and he just sits back there and works," she said. "And sometimes it goes 'til lunchtime, I haven't seen him — he's just back there working."

When asked if he chose to do anything to mark his 50 years of employment at Clapp Tractor, Daniel laughed.

"Not really," he said. "Just being able to work the next day."

Keeping up with changing times

Daniel, who grew up in Summerfield and Silk Hope and graduated from Jordan-Matthews High School, has lived in town in Siler City for the past couple of decades. From the corner of downtown Siler City where the dealership is located, he's watched as the town has shifted and stretched, and as landmarks have come and gone.

He's been through different management at Clapp Tractor, starting in his position back when Al Clapp's grandfather's cousin, Sam Clapp, was the original owner.

John Winslow, who owned Clapp Tractor from 1994 to 2006 and worked as a former representative for agricultural machinery manufacturer New Holland, has worked closely with Daniel over the years.

Winslow, 79, said when Daniel retires, a great deal of knowledge will leave with him. Daniel



Staff photo by Maydha Devarajan

Earl Daniel Jr. flips through one of his meticulously-kept record books of his repairs to tractors at Clapp Tractor.

takes his time when repairing a tractor, Winslow said, but when he's touched a piece of equipment, customers know they won't have to go back in and fix it.

"He's concentrated on what he does... he wants to do it right, and he doesn't get in a hurry," Winslow said.

Aside from being a witness to the changing face of Siler City and Clapp Tractor, Daniel noted the incredible growth of the tractor industry, which he has had to keep up with.

His tools of the trade have gone from a screwdriver and an adjustable wrench to a laptop and more sophisticated technology, he said. Today, tractor manufacturer John Deere is even building driverless vehicles.

At Clapp Tractor, all

ly running into delays in getting parts, which extends the time that farmers won't be able to use their equipment.

As the agricultural sector has changed, so have the clients he serves, Daniel said.

"I think a lot of farmers that were here when I started here — they're gone now," he said. "And so the equipment's been sold and then you get in the thing of, 'Well, I remember this tractor, but the original owner's not here.'"

Just two weeks ago, for example, Daniel found himself getting started on repairs on a 1984

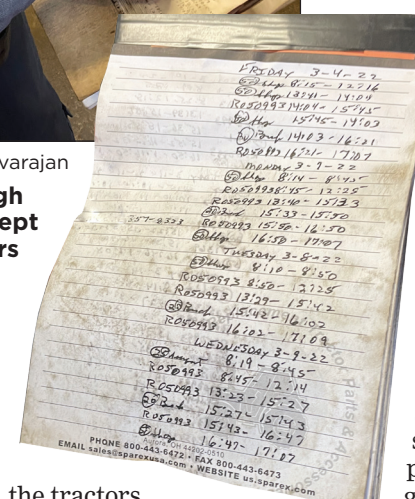
International 5088 Harvester — a tractor he first worked on decades ago.

Clapp said the shop is planning a small celebration for Daniel in December. After 50 years of working in the same job, Daniel said the best part has been genuinely liking what he does for a living.

As for retirement, Daniel said he anticipates slowing down, but not for a couple of years. It's a job that's kept him on his toes, and one that he expects will only continue to do so.

"Things have gotten a whole lot more complicated," Daniel said. "And the thing that you may say, 'Well, I've seen it all now' — you never see it all, you won't never see it all."

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



the tractors sold now come from foreign markets overseas. Clapp said the major lines that the business carries include Mahindra, New Holland and Bad Boys tractors, but the pieces that Daniel grew up on and knows best are from International Harvester — once a dominant manufacturer of farm equipment that went bankrupt in the 1980s.

Now, most of the issues Daniel deals with when making repairs are user-error related, often because a customer forgets to change out a filter, he said. In addition, mechanics in the shop are now increasing-



Bowen

Insurance Agency, Inc

We are **OPEN** and here for you.

Bowen Insurance Agency

serves Pittsboro, Chapel Hill, Siler City, and the surrounding communities.



Call Bowen Insurance Agency today for all of your insurance needs! We specialize in homeowners, auto, and life insurance.



Jennifer McLaurin

Bowen Insurance Agency is located at: 1345 Thompson Street

Give us a call at 919-444-2499 www.boweninsurance.com



Erie Insurance

OBITUARIES

SUSAN KEESEE

May 31, 1960 ~ November 1, 2022



Susan Keesee, of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, passed away on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at her home. She was 62.

Susan Gail Hastings Keesee was born May 31, 1960, in Columbus, Ohio. She was the youngest of three daughters raised by Robert H. (1926-1985) and Lois T. Hastings (1930-2016). Susan was predeceased by both her parents and her oldest sister, Lynn (1953-1971).

Susan grew up in Bethesda, Maryland, and received a public education from the Montgomery County school system. While a sophomore at Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda, she sewed costumes for the school's theater group. Her interest in costume design and fabric performance led her to pursue a career in the textile industry. Susan attended Virginia Tech, where she met her future husband David Keesee on her first day of classes. She graduated in 1983 with a bachelor of science degree in clothing and textile science.

Susan and Dave were married in 1982 and at the time of her pancreatic cancer diagnosis, they had just celebrated their 40th year of marriage. After Virginia Tech, Susan attended Clemson University and graduated in 1986 with a master of science degree in textile science. After working a year and a half as a cooperative education undergraduate student at Allied Signal (now Honeywell) she continued her career full-time in the textile industry with Allied Signal in Petersburg, Virginia, after completing her graduate education.

Susan joined the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC), a professional and technical membership society based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, as a student member in 1979. Following four years of experience in colorfastness testing, instrumental color measurement, and test method development while with Allied Signal, in 1989 she became an assistant editor for AATCC and was named editorial director in 1994.

Susan decided on a career change in 1999, and after overseeing the construction of their passive solar house in Chapel Hill, she enrolled in the University of North Carolina School of Library and Information Science and graduated with a master of science degree in Library Science in August 2004. She specialized as a medical librarian and held a variety of positions at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University Medical Center Library, and at the Federal Medical Center at Butner Federal Correctional Complex. She concluded her career at the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center while supporting faculty and researchers in research grant publication compliance. Susan had a wide range of hobbies and interests outside of her career. She loved spending time with family, which included her human family, as well as cherished dogs she shared her life with throughout the years.

Susan delighted in staying in touch with new friends and the many long-time friends and colleagues she enjoyed during her life. Susan was passionate about preserving the environment, camping, and exploring the great outdoors. She loved sewing and quilting, cheering on the Hokies at countless football games in Blacksburg, and making a mean spinach lasagna. Susan was always thinking about the earth and thinking about others. She loved hanging her laundry on the line on sunny days and sending cards and letters in the mail to loved ones. She enjoyed giving to charitable organizations in support of the environment, animals, and human rights. Susan also loved giving to those she cared about, and she was an excellent judge of wool socks and a fine supporter of independent bookstores.

Susan leaves behind her beloved husband David; her two dogs Barley and Mercy; her dear sister Laurie Hastings Bryan (Brad); her nieces Kelly Smith (Jerry Roberts), Alice Martins (Rui), Alisande Tombarge, Brittany Roberts (John), Bonnie Tombarge, Emmaline Keesee, and Claire Keesee; her nephews Keith Bryan (Marla) and Samuel Keesee (Elizabeth Kelley); her grandnephews Simon Smith, Rafael Smith-Roberts, Raven Smith-Roberts, and John Robertson V; and her grandniece Joana Martins.

Susan's struggle with pancreatic cancer lasted four excruciating months. In lieu of flowers, please consider a gift in her honor to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (pancan.org) or to the Susan and David Keesee Endowment for Undergraduate Research with the University Libraries at Virginia Tech (Fund #860995). You can read more about the Susan and David Keesee Endowment here: <https://vtx.vt.edu/articles/2018/05/univlib-keesee-endowment.html>

A celebration of life will be held at the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill in early January 2023, with details to be announced.

PHIL STROWD EDWARDS

January 11, 1938 – October 26, 2022



On October 26th, 2022, Phil Strowd Edwards, 84, passed away peacefully at his home in Little River, S.C., after several months of declining health. He is survived by his wife of seven years, Donna O'Brien-Edwards; his son, Charles Edwards and daughter-in-law Dianne Welch Edwards of Siler City, N.C.; his daughter, Cam Austin of Siler City; his granddaughter, Claire Austin of Asheville, N.C.;

two step-sons, Joe Lee and Kyle O'Brien of Maine; three step-grandchildren, Ashlyn and Tylar Lee of Maine, and Kane O'Brien of Maine; and son-in-law Blair Peil.

He was predeceased by his wife of 43 years, Susan "Becky" Rhodes Edwards; his parents, Lawton and Irene Strowd Edwards; his sister, Betty Gene Edwards; his brother Glen Edwards; and his daughter, Gay Edwards Peil.

Phil was born and raised in Siler City, N.C., and graduated from Siler City High School in 1956. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Relations in 1961, and a JD in Law in 1964. He was a member of the Order of the Old Well and a lifetime member of the UNC Alumni Association. While in college and law school, he served in the Army National Guard. After graduating from law school, he returned to Siler City to practice law. He practiced law for over 40 years before retiring to Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia, and then later, to Little River. He was active in numerous community service organizations in Siler City, including the Jaycees, the Loyal Order of the Moose, the Siler City Rotary Club, and the Chatham County Democratic Party.

Phil was happiest when working in his garden. He also enjoyed boating, playing golf, and bicycling. When he no longer was able to participate in those activities he enjoyed reading, watching sports, working on jigsaw puzzles, and spending time with his family and friends. He was a "die-hard Tar Heel" and enjoyed attending the games and watching his beloved Tar Heels play on television when he was no longer able to attend in person.

Due to the current risk of Covid and the flu, a funeral will not be held at this time, as the family does not want to put family or friends at risk. A celebration of life will be held at a later date and the family will notify everyone when those arrangements are made.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that those who are able, to make a donation to their local animal rescue or the Lewy Body Dementia Association.

REV. JOHN BURGESS GOFORTH

January 2, 1927 ~ October 29, 2022

Rev. John Burgess Goforth, 95, of Gaffney, S.C., formerly of 327 Vernon Street, passed away peacefully in the pre-dawn hours of Saturday, October 29, 2022.

John was predeceased by his beloved wife of 71 years, Carolyn Goforth, in 2018. He is survived by one daughter, two sons, six grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

He served several churches in North and South Carolina, including Oakley Baptist Church in Siler City from 1979 to 1986. He returned to South Carolina as full-time pastor. After retirement, he served as interim pastor in 11 area churches.

The family received friends from 12 to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at Southside Baptist Church where Rev. Goforth was a member. Funeral services followed at 2 p.m. Interment was held in Frederick Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be made to Southside Baptist Church (Improvement Fund), 204 W. O'Neal Street, Gaffney, S.C. 29340.

THOMAS ARTHUR ANDERSON

June 2, 1946 ~ October 31, 2022

Thomas Arthur Anderson, 76, of Broadway, passed away on Monday, October 31, 2022, at First Health Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

He was the son of the late George Anderson and Margaret Marie Lannon Anderson. He was preceded in death by his parents, and sisters, Carol and Margaret. Thomas was a

Veteran of the United States Army.

There will be no services held at this time.

Surviving is his wife, Kathy Curtin Anderson of the home; sons, Paul Anderson of Connecticut, Richard Anderson of California and Todd Anderson of Sanford; sisters, Virginia Baukus of Massachusetts and Marie Nardello of Florida; brothers, James Anderson of Georgia, Raymond Anderson of Connecticut, George Anderson of Missouri; and eight grandchildren.

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

ROSANNA MOOREHEAD DAVID

Rosanna Moorehead David, 66, passed away in her home on October 29, 2022.

Her memorial celebration was held Sunday, November 6, at the Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church.

Born in Detroit, she was the daughter of Edmund and Rosemary Moorehead; she was preceded in passing by her siblings Allen, Mimi, and Karen, as well as her husband, Bob David.

She is survived by siblings, Kathy Dasani, Marylin Mallow, Mark Moorehead, Marty Moorehead, Beckie Wilson; a daughter, Rhianna; and three grandchildren.

Rosanna was a member of The Local Church in Pittsboro. She worked with DHI Inc. in Raleigh.

ALIYAH ARION MATTHEWS

February 9, 2001 ~ October 31, 2022

Aliyah Arion Matthews, 21, of Broadway passed away on Monday, October 31, 2022, from a motor vehicle accident.

A celebration of life gathering was held on Sunday,

November 6, 2022, at the Holly Springs Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

She was the daughter of Jennifer Rowe Taylor and Sean Dimitris Matthews. Aliyah was a graduate of Western Harnett High School, Class of 2019.

Surviving is her mother, Jennifer Taylor of Broadway; father, Sean Matthews of Sanford; son, Jarion Samir Jackson of Sanford; brothers, Sean Matthews Jr. of Sanford, Joseph Clayton Taylor Jr. of Broadway, and Christian Matthews of Sanford; grandparents, Susan Rowe of Sanford, Thomas and Willie Matthews of Sanford, and great-grandmother, Evelyn Castleberry King of Apex.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorial gifts be made to the Holly Springs Baptist Church Food Pantry, 385 Holly Springs Church Road, Broadway, N.C. 27505.

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

HENRY BAXTER CRAVEN

November 4, 1941 ~ November 5, 2022

Henry Baxter Craven, 81, of Robbins, passed away on Saturday, November 5, 2022.

The funeral was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at Highfalls Christian Church with Rev. Ricky Sessoms and Rev. D.J. Harry presiding. Burial, with Masonic rites, will follow in the church cemetery. Joyce-Brady Chapel was open on Monday, November 7, 2022, for friends to sign the register.

Henry was born in Randolph County on November 4, 1941, to James and Rona Brady Craven. He was a member of the Elise Masonic Lodge #555, having served as the Master of the Lodge at three different times. He worked in textiles as a loom technician and later for the Town of Robbins overseeing the water department for 14 years. He was a member and elder of Highfalls Christian Church.

In addition to his parents, Henry was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Sessoms Craven and brother-in-law, Alan Sessoms.

He is survived by his children, Brian Craven of Robbins, Ben Henline of Savannah, Ga., and Amanda Burns of Charlotte; brother, James Craven; six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren; brothers, Robert Sessoms of Asheboro, Ricky Sessoms of Ramseur, Jimmy Sessoms of Mebane, Barbara Seawell of Carthage, and Rhonda Sessoms of Robbins.

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

DOROTHY MAE TAYLOR THOMPSON

August 11, 1934 ~ November 6, 2022

Dorothy Mae Taylor Thompson, 88, of Sanford, passed away Sunday November 6, 2022, at her daughter's home in Clinton.

The family received friends Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home. The funeral will be Thursday, November 10, at 3 p.m. at Hillview Christian Assembly, where she was a member, with Rev. Ray Bodin officiating. Burial will follow at Union Methodist cemetery.

Mrs. Thompson was born in Harnett County on August 11, 1934, to James Archie Taylor and Emma Mae Underwood Taylor. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Earl Thompson; a son, Robert Dwayne Thompson; and siblings, James Archie Taylor Jr., Robert Eugene Taylor, Ruby Herring, and Nellie Fogg.

She is survived by her daughter, Linda Sanchez; son, James Walter Thompson; siblings, Johnny Lee Taylor, Maxie Ray Taylor; seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to the Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation, Lupus Foundation.

Online condolences are available at www.bridgescameron-funeralhome.com.

See **OBITS**, page A9



We are proud to be serving
Chatham County and
the surrounding areas.

396 West Street,
Pittsboro NC 27312

919.542.3057

donaldsonfunerals.com

We offer an on-site Crematory with many options of Celebration of Life services, Traditional, and Green Burials. Call us to set an appointment to come by and learn more.

NEW CAFE

Roots provides nutritious shakes, teas

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — Liz Blakemore always believed she lived a healthy lifestyle and made sound food choices.

But while trying to lose weight after giving birth to Presley, her now 3-year-old daughter, Blakemore's research made her realize she was missing something.

"I ended up losing 85 pounds and completely changed the way that I saw nutrition," she said.

Which, in turn, led to Roots — the new cafe she's just opened.

"We're just trying to open people's eyes and knowledge and mind to good nutrition and what they're missing because 95% of Americans are missing out on some parts of their nutrition," she said. "They have a lot of vitamin deficiencies, mineral deficiencies, that kind of thing. So this is

definitely a holistic way of looking at your nutrition and your overall health."

On Saturday, she and her family stood together for a ribbon-cutting ceremony in front of Roots, her first business venture. Located off of U.S. Hwy. 15-501 in Chapel Hill at 69 Knox Way, about 16 miles north of Pittsboro, Roots serves up high-protein and low-calorie goodies, ranging from shakes and teas to healthy waffles and donuts.

Blakemore realized through her health journey she wanted to create a product and a space where others could pursue their own path to better nutrition — and in turn, a healthier lifestyle.

Roots' menu is full of low-calorie, low-sugar, and high-protein shakes, treats and teas. From shakes with caramel pretzels and sprinkles to high-fiber waffles and donuts, Roots offers a wide

ROOTS

Where: 69 Knox Way Suite 106, Chapel Hill; 16 miles north of downtown Pittsboro
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Sundays and Mondays
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/rootschatham>

range of healthy meal alternatives for Chatham residents. Most menu items at Roots are \$15 and under, which Blakemore says is part of an effort to make nutritious meal alternatives more affordable to everyone.

"I want to help people get good nutrition," Blakemore said. "I want them to learn about nutrition and see that good nutrition doesn't always have to taste gross."

Menu items are protein-rich, low calorie, low carb and high fiber, ensuring customers are receiving the good stuff — including vitamins — they need in their diet. Blakemore said this regimen was crucial in her own journey to losing weight, and she wanted to make sure her products reflected what she consumes on a daily basis.

"All of our stuff is protein-based, but it's



Staff photo by Taylor Heeden

Roots, a new cafe featuring nutritious, high-protein drinks and snacks, has opened in northern Chatham County.

soy protein, so it's not difficult to digest," Blakemore said. "It definitely gives you different vitamins and minerals that you might not be getting from just eating normal food every day."

The cafe itself has a home-like vibe — from the large wooden counter with stools to the love seat facing the glass wall at the front door. But that's not what makes Roots unique — it's one of the only shops of its kind in Chatham County, Blakemore said, because only two other retailers in the county sell similar products.

She's glad she's able to provide something unique to the community. "Every single day I find

new customers coming in, which I absolutely love," Blakemore said. "I would love for them to come here and get to know us, to feel like it's a safe place to sit down, do homework, have meetings, use our Internet and just hang out."

Cindy Poindexter of the Chatham Chamber of Commerce was present at the ribbon cutting Saturday, and thanked business owners like Blakemore for establishing business ventures in Chatham County.

"I think you're going to enjoy the samples of all the healthy shakes ... teas, desserts, all kinds of good stuff," Poindexter said. "Please come out and

support her and her investment into our community."

Sheriff Mike Roberson also participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony, saying he was excited about Blakemore's business.

"I'm really glad you're literally putting down roots in Chatham County," Roberson joked. "I hope it's a success, and I know with your family's support and what you've got going on here, you've got good help."

Blakemore said she was looking forward to hosting events at her cafe and helping educate the community on her passion for better nutrition and tasty treats.

"I am so grateful to be bringing in a healthy option that is easy and quick to our community so that you can feel good about the nutrition going into your body," she told customers on Saturday. "It has definitely changed my life that I want to change the lives of the people in Chatham County and surrounding areas ... I'm just so grateful and thankful for everybody, and I can't wait to see our business grow."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com and on Twitter at @HeedenTaylor.

Mount Pleasant Methodist Church
269 Manns Chapel Road

BBQ SALE
Saturday, November 12, 2022
Take Out/Drive Through Only
12:30-2:00pm
\$12.00 per pound

Annual Fall Bazaar
First United Methodist Church
Sat., November 19, at 10:00 am

From our kitchen to yours!!! Chicken Pie, Vegetable Beef Soup, Ham, Biscuits, Cakes, Cookies and Pies, Poppy Seed Chicken, Bread and Rolls, Pickles, Jams and Jellies, Brunswick Stew, Chili, Turkey Dressing, Assorted Casseroles and other food items. Homemade cream of Chicken Soup and Chicken Noodle Soup. *Come early and enjoy Ham Biscuits and Coffee.*

Sponsored by Women of First United Methodist Church
1101 West Raleigh Street, Siler City

Meroney Methodist Men BBQ Sale

~ OFFERING ~
BOSTON BUTT ROASTS - \$40.00 EACH
PORK LOINS - \$35.00 EACH
TURKEY BREASTS - \$30.00 EACH
ALL ITEMS FULLY COOKED

PICK UP AT
MERONEY METHODIST CHURCH

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2022
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
~OR~
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2022
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

FOR ORDERING INFORMATION CONTACT
MICHAEL DOWDY 919.548.3993
ERIC SHAW 919.548.1268
JUSTIN SHAW 919.548.2406
JEFF WILSON 919.548.2131

BBQ or CHICKEN TENDERS PLATE & AUCTION

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2022

MERONEY CHURCH
10568 HWY 902, BEAR CREEK

MEALS SERVED 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM
EAT IN OR TAKE OUT

BBQ, CHICKEN TENDERS OR COMBINATION
\$10.00 PLATE

AUCTION BEGINS AT 6:30 PM - Until
JERRY HARRIS AUCTIONEERS

BBQ & AUCTION FOLLOWING
MERONEY METHODIST MEN
SALE OF
HAMS, TURKEYS, & PORK LOINS



Submitted photo

Chatham Central High School's Class of 1967

The Chatham Central Class of '67 celebrated its 55th year class reunion at Chatham County Wildlife Club on Saturday, Oct. 22. Attending were, front row, from left: Carolyn Clark Teague, Shirley Brown Wachs, Dottie Willett Mendenhall, Jerry Pike, Betty Caviness, Linda Thomas Wilson, Patsy Williams Smith, Ira Smith and Richard Lemons. Standing from left: Rebecca Phillips Brooks, Rebecca Taylor Blalock, Debbie Oldham Mason, Larry Rives, David Moody, Terry Beal, Wayne Mashburn, Eugene Moore, Joe Binkley, John Kidd, Brenda Hancock Goodwin, Ann Brown Bland, Marcelle Phillips Poe, Steve Cunnup, Margie Hussey Wilson, Pat Murrow and Susan Freeman Berry.

BETTY 'BOOTS' EMILY THOMAS ATKINSON

November 18, 1938 ~ November 2, 2022

Betty "Boots" Emily Thomas Atkinson, age 83, of Moncure, died Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at the SECU, UNC Hospice House.

Boots was born in Chatham County on November 18, 1938, to the late Joseph Arthur Thomas and Mattie Poe Thomas. She was also preceded in death by one brother, Earl Thomas, sister-in-law Etta Thomas, and brother-in-law, Marcus Clark.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Donald "Don" Atkinson; two sons, Donald M. Atkinson II and wife Judy of Yucaipa, California, Thomas Atkinson and wife Cheri of Pleasant Garden, N.C.; two daughters, Martha Hein and husband Art of Matthews, N.C., Kendra Riggsbee and husband Mark of Moncure; one brother, Joseph Arthur Thomas, Jr. of Pittsboro; two sisters, Valinda Thomas and husband James of Moncure, Cornelia Clark of Apex; ten grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held, Saturday, November 12, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Gum Springs Baptist Church with Rev. Howard Dewitt and Rev. Ray Gooch presiding. The family will receive friends following the memorial service in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made in Boots' memory to Gum Springs Baptist Church, 227 Gum Springs Church Road, Moncure, N.C. 27559 or SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan, UNC Hospice House, 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

ANNIE BEATRICE PEREZ

December 13, 1932 ~ October 28, 2022

Annie Beatrice (Cherry) Perez, 89, of Vass, passed away on Friday, October 28, 2022, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

The funeral service was held Sunday, November 6, 2022, at Fries Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, with burial following in the church cemetery.

HESTER DORSETT

Hester Dorsett, 81, of Queens Village, N.Y., formerly of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in Queens.

The funeral service was held on Saturday, November 5, 2022 at Knotts Funeral Home.

BRANDON MICHAEL MCCLURKIN

September 3, 1987 ~ October 31, 2022

Brandon Michael McClurkin, 35, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, October 31, 2022, at Duke Hospital.

Funeral services were held Saturday, November 5, 2022, at Work for Christ Christian Center, with burial following in Minter Cemetery.

VIVIAN JOYCE SMITH

Vivian Joyce Smith, 67, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, October 27, 2022, at her residence.

The funeral service was held on Friday, November 4, 2022.

OBITS

Continued from page A8

RUTHIE MCIVER SANDERS

April 24, 1946 ~ Nvember 4, 2022
Ruthie McIver Sanders, 76, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, November 4, 2022, at Duke University in Durham.

Funeral service was held Wednesday, November 9, at 2 p.m. at St. Mark United Church of

Christ in Sanford.

RUSSELL EUGENE MCLEAN

June 23, 1929 ~ October 30, 2022
Russell Eugene McLean, 93, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, October 30, 2022, at his daughter's residence.

The funeral service was held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at Knotts Funeral Home. Burial followed at Love Grove AME Zion Church.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE FOR \$5 PER WEEK. CALL 919-663-3232

Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each

PLUS: Your ad is posted on chathamnewsrecord.com for FREE!

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - 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

YARD SALE

COMMUNITY YARD SALE? - Everything is 100% free! Saturday, November 12, 2 to 5 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 151 Old Rock Cemetery Rd, Pittsboro, NC 27312. All are welcome! All kinds of clothing, toys, books, etc. N10,1tp

NOVEMBER 12, 50 Kevin Rd, off Old 421 N, toward Staley, past Bish Road. Next road to left. Household items, clothes. N10,1tp

INSIDE YARD SALE - Fri, Nov 11, 7:30 to 2 p.m.; Sat, Nov 12, 7:30 to 1 p.m.; 1740 Devils Tramping Ground Rd, Bear Creek. - Five rooms with furniture, housewares, home decor, Holiday Decor, Grill, Pressure washer, DVD's, 3 junk lawnmowers, clothes, shoes and lots more. Rain or Shine! N10,1tp

YARD SALE - Friday and Saturday, November 11 and 12, 7 a.m. to 12 noon. at 3921 McLaurin Rd., Bear Creek, off Sandy Branch Church Road! N3,10,2tp

FOR SALE

TV ANTENNAS - Come by MacPage Communications at 102 North Third Avenue, Siler City, 919-227-6698, N10,17,243tc

FOR SALE - Collards for sale - \$4 to \$5 per head; Broccoli and Brussels Sprouts are available too. Crutchfield Crossroads area. 984-265-0402 or 919-663-5780, N10,17,24,D1,4tc

FOR SALE - FIREWOOD for sale. Dry, ready to burn. Call 919-742-4561. O27,N3,10,17,4tx

AUCTIONS

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, business, liquidation, estates, land, houses, antiques, personal property, coins, furniture, consignments, benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, J6,tfnc

AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS at JHA. One Call...We sell it all!!! Real estate, personal property, estate settlement, farms & land, business liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.Jerry-HarrisAuction.com, (919) 498-4077, J6,tfnc

SERVICES

CASH PAID - For Junk Cars and PickUps - Call 336-581-3423. N10,17,24,D1,4tc

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 openings 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

BUSY OPTOMETRY PRACTICE looking for reliable and friendly associate for the front desk. Full time benefits include paid medical insurance, vacation and holidays. Please fax resume to 919-742-4599 or bring to 1603 East 11th Street, Siler City. N3,N10,2tc

HELP WANTED SALVATION ARMY... Want to add income during the holidays? We are hiring paid bell ringers for several locations starting November 18 through December 24. You must be 18 years or older, have own transportation and have a good personality. Pay is \$10 per hour of ringing. Interested persons please call 919-542-1593 to speak to Jane Wrenn. O27,N3,N10,N17,4tc

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

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY File No. 2022-E-000563 Margaret T. Sandor has qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **MARY DANIELLE SANDOR**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, and does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned in care of Crisp Cherry McCraw PLLC, Attn: Christian P. Cherry, 615 S. College Street, Suite 1430, Charlotte, NC 28202, on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, 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 20th day of October, 2022. Margaret T. Sandor, Administrator c/o Crisp Cherry McCraw PLLC 615 S. College Street, Suite 1430 Charlotte, NC 28202 (704) 332.0202 O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **ANNE E. ATWATER** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 11th day of October, 2022. James Atwater, Executor of The Estate of Anne E. Atwater 1474 Collins Mountain Road Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 O20,O27,N3,N10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **WALTER M. ATWATER** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 11th day of October, 2022. James Atwater, Executor of The Estate of Walter M. Atwater 1474 Collins Mountain Road Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qual-

ified as Executrix of the Estate of **LORETTA J. EBEL AKA LORETTA JANE EBEL**, 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 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 20th day of October, 2022. SARAH ELIZABETH TILLMAN, EXECUTRIX ESTATE OF LORETTA J. EBEL AKA LORETTA JANE EBEL Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514, O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified on the 10th day of October, 2022, as Executor of the Estate of **DAVID COLMAN LINDEMAN**, 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 20th day of January, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 20th day of October, 2022. Philip Anthony Lindeman, Executor of the Estate of David Colman Lindeman Post Office Box 57579 Durham, North Carolina 27717 G. Rhodes Craver Kennon Craver, PLLC 4011 University Drive, Suite 300 Durham, North Carolina 27707 O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 22-E-475 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, Donna Recore, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **HERBERT RECORE** deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the day of January 18th, 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 20th of October, 2022. Donna Recore, Administrator c/o Marie H. Hopper, Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312 O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 400 All persons having claims against **ANGELO JUFFRAS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 20th day of October, 2022. Diane M. Juffras, Executrix 203 Rossburn Way Chapel Hill, NC 27516 O20,O27,N3,N10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 14th day of October, 2022, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF **PATRICIA I. TEMPONE A/K/A PATRICIA IRENE TEMPONE**, 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 28th day of January, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This, the 20th day of October, 2022. HELEN NELSON, Executrix ESTATE OF PATRICIA I. TEMPONE A/K/A PATRICIA IRENE TEMPONE c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach, Attorney Walker Lambe, PLLC Post Office Box 51549 Durham, North Carolina 27717 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

22 E 568 All persons having claims against **WELFORD DALTON HARRIS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022. W. David Harris, Executor 45 Pineforest Siler City, NC 27344 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING ON INTENT TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE A PORTION OF MONCURE FLATWOOD ROAD NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners has scheduled a public hearing to consider the closing of a portion of **Moncure Flatwood Road**. The public hearing has been scheduled for **November 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center located at 1192 US 64W Business, Pittsboro NC 27312**. The hearing is being held pursuant to the provisions of NCGS §153A-241 and the Resolution of Intent to permanently Close a portion of Moncure Flatwood Road that was approved and adopted by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on October 17, 2022 upon a Petition filed by Vinfast Manufacturing US, LLC ("Petitioner"). 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 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. 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. O27,N3,N10,3tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 19 E 122 All persons having claims against **MILDRED WATSON BROOKS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022. Ronald Brooks, Executor 75 Clarence Brooks Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 598 All persons having claims against **THOMAS HOWARD CROWSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022. Lisa C. Dorsett, Administrator 7759 Coltrane Meadow Rd Ramseur, NC 27316 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 596 All persons having claims against **SUZANNE MARIE WHITE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022. Margaret Zwilling, Executor 9426 NC Highway 42 Bear Creek, NC 27207

O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 427 All persons having claims against **EDWARD R. SCHWERIN, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022. Tamela M. Schwerin, Co-Administrator 4479 Moncure Pittsboro Rd Moncure, NC 27559 Michael S. Schwerin, Co-Administrator 9100 Bud Smith Rd Wake Forest, NC 27587 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 22 E 587 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, Sharla Alexander, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DAVID ALEXANDER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 25th day of January 2023, 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 27th day of October, 2022. Sharla Alexander c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds, Attorney for the Estate Eunoia Law Firm Post Office Box 42 Holly Springs, NC 27540 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE OF SALE BY PUBLICATION TAKE NOTICE that the lienor, identified below, will publicly sell the manufactured home, also identified below, pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 44A-2(d) and 44A-4. Lienor hereby provides the following information in connection with the sale of the manufactured homes: (1) The name and address of the lienor: Van Ness Apartments, LLC, c/o Manning, Fulton & Skinner, P.A., 3605 Glenwood Ave., Ste. 500, Raleigh, NC 27612. (2) (a) The name of the person(s) having legal title to the properties and (b) the name of

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.

the person(s) with whom the lienor dealt: (a) Gregorio San Juan Tolentino, 247 Fontana Circle, Siler City, NC 27344; and (b) none. (3) Description of the property: **2002 Coronado SLE Mobile Home; ID # VA-FL219A57435C012, located at 247 Fontana Circle, Siler City, NC 27344.** (4) The amount due for which the lien is claimed: \$4,140.00, plus reasonable costs and expenses of this sale first arising after this notice. (5) The place of the sale: **Chatham County Justice Center, Main Entrance, 40 East Chatham Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312.** (6) The date and hour when the sale is to be held: **Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 3:00 P.M.** N3,N10,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as **Executor of the Estate of MARJORIE LOWE STACKHOUSE**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the said decedent or her estate to present them to him at 24039 Bradford Green Square, Cary, NC 27519 on or before the 3rd day of

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@ECCMGT.com
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

HIRING CNA's ALL SHIFTS
CALL: 919-542-3151
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for appointment to complete application and interview.
Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

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

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

Newsweek Voted #1 Hearing Care Retailer

Hearing Loss? Beltone Can Help

Hearing Aids \$799 Starting at

Rechargeable: Get up to 30 hours of quality sound on a single charge!

Easy Connectivity: Stream music, audio and calls directly to your hearing aids

Weather & Sweatproof: Suitable for all lifestyles

Get **25% Off** Beltone Hearing Aid Set* + A Free Cleaning Set with Purchase **Limited Time Offer!**

Beltone Imagine™ BTE | Beltone Imagine™ Custom | Jabra Enhance™ Plus

Schedule Your **FREE** Hearing Screening **(877) 734-5489**

Beltonē Terms and conditions apply. Available 10/12/22-12/31/22 at participating locations on qualifying purchases. See store for details. Jabra Enhance Plus not eligible for discount.

DIRECTVstream

GET YOUR TV TOGETHER & UPGRADE YOUR EXPERIENCE

CHOICE PACKAGE 105+ Live TV Channels

\$89 /mo. (tax)

- NO ANNUAL CONTRACT REQUIRED, NO HIDDEN FEES
- THE BEST OF LIVE TV & ON DEMAND ON ALL YOUR FAVORITE SCREENS
- UNLIMITED STREAMS FOR UNLIMITED SCREENS INCLUDED WITH EVERY PACKAGE*

TV Support Holdings **855-548-9839** **DIRECTV DEALER**

*DIRECTV STREAM: Service subject to DIRECTV STREAM terms and conditions (see directv.com/legal). Requires high-speed internet. Minimum internet speed of 8Mbps per stream recommended for optimal viewing. Compatible device req'd. Residential U.S. only (excl. P.R. & U.S. I.). DIRECTV STREAM renews monthly at the prevailing rate, charged to your payment method on the unless you cancel. New customers who cancel in first 14 days get full refund. Otherwise, no refunds or credits. If you cancel, you keep access through the remaining monthly period. Cancellation, modify or cancel at any time online or by calling 1-800-531-5000. Taxes: State & local taxes or other governmental fees & charges may apply including any such taxes, fees or charges assessed against discounted fees or service credits. Limits: Offers may not be available through all channels and in select areas. Programming only to blackout restrictions. All offers, programming, promotions, pricing, terms, restrictions & conditions subject to change & may be modified, discontinued, or terminated at any time without notice. See directv.com/stream for details. Content and related channels and service marks are the property of Home Box Office, Inc. Separate SHOWTIME subscription required. SHOWTIME is a registered trademark of Showtime Networks Inc., a Paramount Company. All rights reserved. Starz and related channels and service marks are the property of Starz Entertainment, LLC. Visit starz.com for additional terms. ESPN is a registered trademark of ESPN Entertainment LLC. Google, Google Play, and Android TV are trademarks of Google LLC. ©2022 DIRECTV. DIRECTV and all other DIRECTV marks are trademarks of DIRECTV, LLC. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

Upgrade Your Home with a NEW METAL ROOF

Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

LIMITED TIME OFFER

60% off YOUR INSTALLATION + TAKE AN ADDITIONAL **10% off**

Install for Military, Health Workers and First Responders

ERIE Metal Roofs

STRONG AS STEEL WITH THE ATTRACTIVE LOOK OF VARIOUS ROOF STYLES

From Dimensional Shingles to classic styles reminiscent of Cedar Shake and Spanish Tile, an architectural roofing system by Erie Metal Roofs can enhance the beauty of your home while protecting your family and property for a lifetime.

Call today to schedule your **FREE ESTIMATE** **1-855-585-1815**

Made in the USA

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires December 31, 2022. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservices.compliance.com. All rights reserved. NC License Number: 83195

LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Pest, rodent, termite and mosquito control. Call for a quote or inspection today 877-593-6072

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

20% OFF + 10% OFF

YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE* SENIORS & MILITARY!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET! (Subject to credit approval. Call for details.)

Promo Code: 285

FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **1-877-649-1190**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

When outdoors, your impact should be smaller than this ad.

OUTDOORNC.COM #MAKE IT YOUR NATURE **LEAVE NO TRACE**

A Better Way to Hear TV

Voice Clarifying Wireless TV Speaker

\$50 OFF USE CODE **MBSP50**

TV-EARS Doctor Recommended TV Speaker **844-670-9878**

February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All of those indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make prompt payment to the undersigned. This the 3rd day of November, 2022. CECIL W. STACKHOUSE, JR. Executor of the Estate of MARJORIE LOWE STACKHOUSE 24039 Bradford Green Square Cary, NC 27519 N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 602

All persons having claims against **CLYDE A. DOWD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022. CLYDE A. DOWD, JR. 190 SAN FIELDS RD. SILER CITY, NC 27344 O27,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **HELEN P. GUTHRIE aka HELEN PIKE GUTHRIE**, late of 145 Pike Memory Lane, Staley, Chatham County, North Carolina 27355, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 4145 Randolph Church Road, Liberty, NC 27298, on or before the 7th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 3rd day of November, 2022. Myra Bunton Martin, Executor of the

Estate of Helen P. Guthrie aka Helen Pike Guthrie Pamela E. Whitaker, Attorney at Law 4145 Randolph Church Road Liberty, NC 27298 (336) 622-3553 N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 603

All persons having claims against **DAVID CLARENCE OAKLEY**, deceased, late of

Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022. Tonya H. Oakley, Administrator 383 Oakley Farm Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27517 N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 604

All persons having claims against **LOUIS LYON MARTIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022. Jeanne Martin, Executrix 276 Boothe Hill Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27517 N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 599

All persons having claims against **ALEXANDER GUNTER KLAUSMANN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022. Sandra Delouis Wilson, Executrix 1110 Windy Ridge Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27517 N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 613

All persons having claims against **JOHN ALAN WOODCOCK**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022. Sheryl Sturdivant Woodcock, Administrator 502 W. Poplar Ave; C-4 Carrboro, NC 27510 N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

Statewide Classified

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

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

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 833-649-2292

PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Pest, rodent, termite and mosquito control. Call for a quote or inspection today 877-593-6072

DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER? You may qualify for a substantial cash award - even with smoking history. NO obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help!! Call 24/7, 844-641-0129

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 877-553-0252 [Stappacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-931-3643

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material - steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - \$500 Discount + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-585-1815

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-496-8601 www.dental50plus.com/ncpress #6258

AUTO INSURANCE STARTING AT \$49/ MONTH! Call for your fee rate comparison to see how much you can save! Call: 833-472-0580

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote - Call now before the next power outage: 1-844-938-0700

DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-877-920-7405

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 844-213-6711

REAL ESTATE PORTFOLIO AUCTION. Over 80 properties. Commercial, Office Buildings, Apartments, Shopping Centers, Single Family Homes, Multi-Family Properties, Developmental Land, Recreational Acreage located in Southside Virginia being offered at Auction on November 16 at Chatmoss Country Club - Martinsville, VA. For information, visit woltz.com or call Woltz & Associates, Inc. (VA#321), Real Estate Brokers & Auctioneers 800-551-3588.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 585

All persons having claims against **EZZIE LEE SMITH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of November, 2022. Teresa Kearns, Co-Administrator 1346 Epps Clark Rd. Siler City, NC 27344 Sharon Elkins, Co-Administrator 1305 Henderson Tanyard Rd. Pittsboro, NC 27312 N10,N17,N24,D1,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 484

All persons having claims against **HOWARD LEE BADDERS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of November, 2022. Jeffrey Lee Badders, Administrator 700 English St Thomasville, NC 27360 N10,N17,N24,D1,4tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on Monday, November 21, 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 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 requested by Drafting and Design Services, Inc. on behalf of Because of His Grace, LLC for a rezoning from R-1 Residential to GU-NB General Use Neighborhood Business on Parcels 77640, 80540, 94921, and 5588 being a total of 9.71 acres, located at 4295 Old US 1, Cape Fear Township.
2. A legislative public hearing requested by Russ Anderson for a rezoning from R-1 Residential to General Use Light Industrial (IL) on Parcel 5518 being 15 acres, located at 5749 Old US 1, Cape Fear Township.
3. A legislative public hearing requested by Withers Ravenel on behalf of Joette and Manley Middett for ST Wooten for a rezoning from R-1 Residential to CD-IH Conditional District Heavy Industrial for a concrete batch mixing plant on Parcel 68321 being 21.26 acres, located off Pea Ridge Rd., Cape Fear Township.
4. A legislative public hearing requested by The Leads Group, PA on behalf of Aaron Horton Toothbrush LLC to rezone Parcel 18493 from R-1 Residential to General Use Light Industrial being approximately 4.04 acres, located at 27 Mt View Church Rd., Oakland Township. 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. N10,N17,2tc

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 December 1, 2022. The public hearing will be held on November 18, 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, \$1,139,500, Total Amount, \$1,139,500, Local Share Capital (Vehicles & Other), \$113,950 (10%) TOTAL PROJECT \$1,139,500 \$113,950

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 November 18, 2022. N10,N17,2tc

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA

Sección 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 y fondos estatales aplicables, o una combinación de los mismos. Esto es para informar al público que se llevará a cabo una audiencia pública sobre la propuesta Solicitud del Programa de Transporte Comunitario de la Red de Tránsito de Chatham que se presentará al Departamento de Transporte de Carolina del Norte a más tardar el 1 de diciembre de 2022. La audiencia pública se llevará a cabo del 1 al 8 de noviembre de 2022 a las 9:00 am ante la Junta Directiva de Chatham Transit Network. Aquellos interesados en asistir a la audiencia pública y que necesiten ayudas y servicios auxiliares bajo la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA) o un traductor de idiomas deben comunicarse con Anna Testerman en o antes del 14 de septiembre de 2022, al número de teléfono 919-542-5136 o por correo electrónico a a.testerman@chathamtransit.org. El Programa de Transporte Comunitario brinda asistencia para coordinar los programas de transporte existentes que operan en el Condado de Chatham, así como también proporciona opciones y servicios de transporte para las comunidades dentro de esta área de servicio. Estos servicios se proporcionan actualmente mediante bajo demanda y suscripción. Los servicios son prestados por Chatham Transit Network. El monto total estimado solicitado para el período del 1 de julio de 2023 al 30 de junio de 2024. NOTA: El monto de la participación local está sujeto a la disponibilidad de fondos estatales. Importe total del proyecto Participación local Capital (vehículos y otros) \$1,139,500 \$113,950 (10%) TOTAL PROYECTO \$1,139,500 \$113,950

de financiación total Participación local total Esta solicitud puede ser inspeccionada en 127 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312 de 9:00 am a 4:30 pm. Los comentarios por escrito deben dirigirse a Anna Testerman antes del 18 de noviembre de 2022. N10,1tc

LEGAL NOTICE

The Town of Siler City (the "Town") invites interested firms to submit a sealed Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) for the following: SERVICES FOR WATER METER SYSTEM REPLACEMENT. Interested parties may submit Qualifications for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Full-Service Implementation and Maintenance Program in order to improve the process of collecting monthly water utility meter data to enhance the level of service offered to customers. The AMI Full-Service Program will be implemented system wide in a short time frame, in order to maximize the benefits of the system. Interested parties are to submit qualifications for a turnkey deployment of approximately 4,200 metered accounts, followed by an ongoing maintenance program that includes network, AMI endpoints, and software maintenance as well as full-service data hosting and delivery to the Town. The requirements for Qualifications including instructions, requirements, and formatting for the SOQ, and complete scope of work may be secured at the Town of Siler City Town Hall, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, NC 27344, 919-742-4731, by website at http://www.silercity.org/, or email cmccorquodale@silercity.org or cpettiford@silercity.org. Firms interested in being considered for selection should respond by submitting one original and three copies of the SOQ in a sealed envelope marked "Water Meter System Replacement" to Public Works Director, Town of Siler City, PO Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 by November 21, 2022. Responses received after November 21, 2022 will not be considered. 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. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Tina Stroupe at 919-742-4733,

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 919-742-4733 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud.

QL1 Lidar Data Acquisition Project
 Chatham County MIS / GIS is requesting Statements of Qualifications from qualified surveying & engineering firms for the acquisition of QL1 Lidar data per the specifications detailed in this document. More specifically, firms responding to this RFQ should be prepared and qualified to deliver data per the specifications outlined in the most recent revision of the United States Geological Survey's (USGS) Lidar Base Specifications (Lidar Base Specification 2022 rev. A) for the 3DEP USGS grant program. The desired specifications are further outlined in Section 4 of this document.
 Statements of Qualifications

are due on December 9th, 2022, by 5:00 PM EST. Submittals must be received per the detailed submittal instructions in Section 2 of RFQ document, with a minimum of five (5) hard copies and one (1) electronic media copy sent to: Michele Peluso, Chatham County Procurement Manager Chatham County Finance Office
 12 East Street Pittsboro, NC 27312 (Physical Delivery)
 PO Box 608 Pittsboro, NC 27312 (Postal Delivery)
 All inquiries relating to this request must be received by November 29, 2022, 12:00 PM EST. Requests must be in writing and submitted to: Michele Peluso, Chatham County Finance Office, P.O. Box 608; Pittsboro,

NC 27312; or emailed to: purchasing@chathamcountync.gov. An addendum, if needed, will be posted on the county website on November 30, 2022, by 5:00 PM EST. This solicitation and others can be located on the Chatham County Current Bids and Proposals webpage at: <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/finance/bid-proposal-opportunities>
 Chatham County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, age or disability.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 625
 All persons having claims against SHERRIE FANETTE RIVES, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
 This the 10th day of November, 2022.
 Hannah Reynolds Clewis, Administrator
 8240 Old US Hwy 421S
 Bear Creek, NC 27207
 N10,N17,N24,D1,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 620
 All persons having claims against TRUDY KAREN JONES AKA TRUDY PEARCE JONES, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
 This the 10th day of November, 2022.
 Aaron Bradley Jones, Executor
 2388 Fall Creek Church Rd.
 Bennett NC 27208
 N10,N17,N24,D1,4tp

CHATHAM COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA
 Request for Qualifications

CHATHAM CHAT | SALVATION ARMY OF CHATHAM

As holidays near, Army is dedicated 'to helping create a community where every person thrives'

Director Rebecca Sommer-Petersen shares outreach effort

The Salvation Army of Chatham County enters a busy holiday season seeking support and volunteer help — all in the name of giving it the best opportunity to meet the needs of Chatham residents.

This week, we speak with Rebecca Sommer-Petersen — the director of the Army's Service Unit, which is located in Siler City — about the organization's holiday outreach efforts.

Sommer-Petersen grew up in Winston-Salem but went to college in the northeast: she earned a degree in drama from Ithaca College and then turned to the ministry, getting a master's degree in Divinity from Boston University, followed by a second master's — this one in Philosophy, Theology and Ethics — from B.U.

She forged careers in ministry and social services, most recently leading the Council on Aging in Northfield, Massachusetts, and its Senior Center. In between, she served as a youth pastor and counselor, day care owner/operator and a caregiver support specialist.

She moved "back home" a year ago. Her husband, Rodney, just retired from his position as executive director of Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries in Boston. A Harvard- and Princeton-trained scholar and author and former pastor, he's accepted a position as a visiting professor at Duke University.

"I just came to a time in my life when I realized I wanted to get back to North Carolina," Sommer-Petersen said. "So when the job became available, I decided to jump on that. I've always loved the area, and Chatham County is beautiful."

Christmas isn't far away, and you've put out a call for bell ringers. Why do you need them, what's the experience like, and why is it so critical to the Salva-

tion Army's holiday campaign?

The Salvation Army raises our largest amount of funding during the Christmas Kettle holiday campaign. The money donated in the kettles is put to work in Chatham County to provide direct services to people in need.

We can use it to help pay for assistance, such as rent, utility bills, medicine, food and clothing for our neighbors who are struggling to make ends meet. We have seen a dramatic increase in requests for assistance since 2020 and that has shown no signs of slowing down. Many folks have suffered through serious illness or are caring for a loved one with a serious illness, have lost a job, or have lost an income-bearing partner as a direct result of the pandemic. We sincerely appreciate every penny our fellow Chatham County residents donate to help lift their neighbors out of hardship. We are dedicated to helping create a community where every person thrives.

We open Kettles on Monday, Nov. 14. We'll have Christmas Kettles at two Walmart locations (Chapel Hill and Siler City) and four Food Lion locations (Briar Chapel, Governors Club, Pittsboro and Siler City), as well as the Fearrington Village's Farmers' Market and the Lowes Foods on U.S. Hwy. 15-501.

What's it like to ring the bell, for those who haven't done it?

The experience of volunteering during our Kettle campaign is being right in the middle of a flurry of activity. The bell ringers are not sedentary but are often involved in conversations that lead to offering hope or sharing a joyful memory.

Our newest staff member, Tom Roswick, started out as a kettle volunteer. He shared the story of a person who came to him at a storefront

kettle and told him they were homeless. Tom was able to connect that person with a Salvation Army Case Manager and provided a tether to the community that same day.

Can you update us on the Army's work to address homelessness in Chatham?

Since the beginning of 2022, our Service Unit has been working with the Housing and Homelessness Working Group of Chatham County. Out of that larger group effort to address some of the issues related to causes and experiences of people walking through homelessness, a small group of direct service providers, guided by Katie Childs of United Way Chatham County, has been meeting weekly to tackle the practical questions of how to serve people experiencing homelessness.

By working together in a collaborative manner, we have found some creative ways to assist with financial requests, share resources and build "nets" to assist residents who might otherwise fall through the cracks. Another asset our Service Unit has relied upon to help residents experiencing homelessness is collaboration with many Chatham County faith communities. Often, we call upon our faith partners to help with emotional or spiritual care needs. One goal of our Service Unit is to make sure that everyone who comes to us is provided with some sense of hope.

What's the programming/outreach plan looking like between now and Christmas?

Tom Roswick, as I mentioned, is serving as our Christmas Coordinator, helping to manage the physical locations for bell ringers. Jane Wrenn, who has been with the Chatham County Service Unit for over 12 years, will oversee the entire Kettle campaign.

Our Angel Tree program for distributing gifts to families in need with young children, will run during November and conclude during the first week of December. Our Advisory Council is



Salvation Army of Chatham County Director Rebecca Sommer-Petersen, left, poses with Jane Wrenn as the two — along with Tom Roswick — prepare for a busy holiday season.

made up of community volunteers and is key to making our Christmas season successful. Council members Gail and Charlie Backof are the Angel Tree coordinators, as well as the power behind our newly-implemented food sales booth at the Countryside Antiques Mall. The food booth offers affordable grocery items to the community and each sale benefits our Chatham County Service Unit directly.

While our offices are never closed, we do request patience in providing financial assistance between now and January. In addition to our reliance on funding cycles, our staff and volunteers are concentrating on Christmas Kettle fundraising. Over the last two years, we have not raised as much as we

need to fulfill our assistance requests. This year our goal is \$65,000, which would allow us to meet our needs and to grow our programming. We welcome anyone to help us ring this season as we raise funds to continue building up our community. Please call our office at 336-763-6400 or email tom.roswick@uss.salvationarmy.org.

We have already received an anonymous donation of \$5,000 to kick off the campaign, so we are feeling good about the ability to surpass our goal!

To reach Sommer-Petersen, email her at Rebecca.Sommer-Petersen@uss.salvationarmy.org or call 336-763-6402, ext. 65281. For questions about volunteering, call Tom Roswick at 336-763-6400.



GENERAC®

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
866-495-1123

FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

Dental Insurance

Get the dental care you deserve with dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It can help cover the services you're most likely to use -

✓
Cleanings

✓
X-rays

✓
Fillings

✓
Crowns

✓
Dentures

- ◆ Preventive care starts right away
- ◆ Helps cover over 350 services
- ◆ Go to any dentist you want - but save more with one in our network
- ◆ No deductible, no annual maximum

Call today for all the details.
844-903-1784

Call now to get this FREE Information Kit!

dental50plus.com/chatham

Here's the information you requested on Dental Insurance

Product not available in all states. Includes the Participating Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-888-799-4433 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN). Rider kinds B438/B439. 6154-0120

Physicians Mutual®
Insurance for all of us.™

SPORTS NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT

NOVEMBER 10 - 16, 2022 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

FOOTBALL: CHATHAM'S CONUNDRUM

'The elephant in the room'

Prep coaches struggling for answers after another rough season

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

Another football season has come and gone in Chatham County, and it wasn't particularly one to remember.

This fall, the four county football teams — Northwood, Seaforth, Chatham Central and Jordan-Matthews — finished with a combined overall record of 7-34, and only the 1-9 Bears made the playoffs. Teams in other sports across the county have made strides over the last decade, but Chatham's high school football programs seem to be falling behind the rest of the state.

Since the start of the 2012 season, Chatham's four schools are a combined 105-255 in football. Neither Central nor Jordan-Matthews have had a winning season over the last decade, while Northwood's last — outside of going



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

The four Chatham County high school football teams had a combined record of 7-34 this fall.

6-3 during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season — is when the Chargers went 7-5 back in 2017.

So what's holding Chatham County's

programs back? Coaches around the county say the high school teams are performing so poorly because Chatham County doesn't offer football at

its public middle schools.

"It's kind of the elephant in the room," said Jordan-Matthews head coach Ryan Johnson. "We're hurting from the middle-school aspect ... Things just aren't going the way we want them to go right now."

The dilemma

Chatham County is home to two public middle schools: Chatham Middle School and Margaret Pollard, though Horton Middle teaches grades 5-8. The rest of the schools in the county — Bennett, Bonlee, J.S. Waters, Moncure and Silk Hope — are all K-8.

Currently none of the eight schools offer football as a sport. As a result, many of the athletes who come into high schools wanting to play football have no gridiron experience. Some seeking to play leave the area altogether to find opportunities to play before they even reach high school.

"You can play all the way to 12U, but then after 12U you have to decide if you're going to sit out a year or a year and a half, or am I going to go somewhere that has middle school football

See FOOTBALL, page B2

CROSS COUNTRY

Seaforth's Anstrom wins 2A state championship

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

A year after finishing second in the 2A cross country state championship race, Seaforth sophomore Jack Anstrom would not be denied this Saturday at this year's championship meet in Kernersville.

After winning the 2A mid-east regional the weekend before, Anstrom was one of the favorites heading into the race along with N.C. Science & Math senior Andrew Parker and Charles D. Owen senior Elijah Jones. It was the sophomore who would come out on top, finishing with a time of 16:15.43, a little more than two seconds before the second-place finisher.

Anstrom's win is the first individual or team state championship for Seaforth, which opened in 2021-22.

"I'm ecstatic," Anstrom said. "It's my first state title in cross country or track. I've always wanted to put that on my resume. I'm a

state champion. I can say that about myself. That box has been checked. It's an amazing feeling."

Anstrom admitted that he didn't run the fastest race he could have Saturday, but he only cared about coming out on top. After separating from the pack along with Jones and Parker, the sophomore waited until the final stretch to make his championship push.

Anstrom's winning time of 16:15.43 was nearly seven seconds faster than the 16:22.05 he ran at regionals the previous weekend. Parker finished at 16:17.67 and Jones finished at 16:19.20, while the rest of the field was more than 25 seconds behind.

The Seaforth sophomore's fastest time in any race this season was a 15:34.7 time he clocked at the adidas XC Challenge back in September.

"Us three (at the front), me, Elijah and Andrew, we kind of toed the line, just

See ANSTROM, page B3

BOYS SOCCER

Jets' season comes to end at Manteo

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

Monday night saw the final Chatham County team eliminated from the state soccer playoffs, as No. 6 Jordan-Matthews fell to No. 3 Manteo on the road in the third round of the 1A tournament, 4-2.

The Jets (18-5-1) led after scoring the opening goal, but they could not overcome a flurry of goals by Manteo in the second half. Couple that with the four-hour drive from Siler City to Roanoke Island, and the odds were stacked against head coach Paul Cuadros' team.

"There are two opponents when you travel to the coast like this — the team you're playing and the travel," Cuadros said. "Traveling five hours is another opponent. I thought we did pretty well last night, but I think we suffered some because of the trip, and we took our eye off the ball some."

The Jets didn't look like the low-

See SEASON, page B3

GIRLS TENNIS

Central 'winners' despite loss in 1A title match

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

The Chatham Central girls tennis team saw its season come to an end Saturday in the 1A dual team state final against Mount Airy, but the 5-0 loss did not define the Bears' season.

Long before the year began, Central set out to make it farther in the state playoffs than it did last season, when it lost to Chatham Charter in the third round of the 1A tournament. The Bears accomplished that goal, defeating the Knights in the third round this time and eventually advancing to the state finals.

"As far as this season, we might not have been the winner on Saturday, but we are winners for our goal that we set at the beginning of the year," said head coach Heather Brooks.

The 2022 season wasn't without its fair share of adversity.

After starting the year 3-0, the Bears suffered back-to-back close losses to Seaforth and Chatham Charter. Rather than let the defeats zap their confidence, Central's girls rallied around each other and won their next six matches, including a rematch with Charter on Sept. 13.

Last week marked the third meeting between the Bears and Knights this season. The match has to be split between Monday and Tuesday because of inclement weather, but the delay didn't hamper Central, despite facing an early deficit.

"We came in that Tuesday after the rain delay and they knew what they needed to do," Brooks said. "We were 4-2 down after singles, so they knew they had to win all three doubles matches, and they just went out there and gave it their all. They really wanted to make it to that

See TENNIS, page B4



Photo courtesy of Chatham Central Athletics

The Chatham Central girls tennis team finished as the state runner-up in the 1A classification with a loss to Mount Airy on Saturday.

SCORES AND SCHEDULES

SCORES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Girls tennis

Chatham Central 5, Chatham Charter 4

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Girls tennis

Chatham Central 7, Voyager 2

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Boys soccer

Rosewood 6, Woods Charter 1
Jordan-Matthews 6, Midway 0

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Girls tennis

Mount Airy 5, Chatham Central 0

Cross country

1A boys state championship: Chatham Central junior Kolton Phillips (17th, 17:59.91), Chatham Charter senior Silas Christenbury (40th, 19:00.54)

1A girls state championship: Woods Charter sophomore Anna Peeler (16th, 22:00.63), Woods Charter junior Ellie Poitras (21st, 22:22.08), Woods Charter senior Maddie Sparrow (25th, 22:46.01), Chatham Charter junior Samantha Scott (58th, 24:25.14), Woods Charter senior Chloe Richard (65th, 24:43.36), Chatham Charter junior Meredith Reese (68th, 25:02.00), Woods Charter

freshman Grace Murphy (101st, 27:29.33), Woods Charter sophomore Michaela Valentine (114th, 30:01.31)

2A boys state championships: Seaforth sophomore Jack Anstrom (1st, 16:15.43), Seaforth sophomore Will Cuicchi (31st, 17:58.66), Seaforth freshman Gabe Rogers (32nd, 18:03.08), Seaforth sophomore Henry McFall (36th, 18:09.15), Seaforth junior Andrew Parker (67th, 18:46.24), Seaforth sophomore Nathan Smith (75th, 18:58.13)

2A girls state championships: Seaforth freshman Caidence Bazemore (48th, 23:02.45), Seaforth sophomore Claire Morgan (54th, 23:16.39), Seaforth sophomore Katie Johnson (87th, 24:42.60), Seaforth sophomore Zuzanna Mikolajec (93rd, 25:27.76), Seaforth freshman Grace Davis (109th, 26:12.51), Seaforth freshman Alex Boutin (115th, 27:06.76)

3A boys state championships: Northwood senior Christian Glick (10th, 16:55.24), Northwood junior Noah Nielsen (28th, 17:38.91), Northwood senior Jackson Adams (32nd, 17:47.06), Northwood sophomore Trey Hudson (59th, 18:16.32), Northwood junior Jack Bacheler (79th, 18:39.85), Northwood sophomore Robert McKeaveney (90th, 18:52.47), Northwood freshman Joe Flynn (153rd, 20:36.34)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Boys soccer

Manteo 4, Jordan-Matthews 2

SCHEDULES

There are no games scheduled for the upcoming week.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Chatham Central and Jordan-Matthews were a combined 1-20 this season. The Bears' only win of the season came in against the Jets, 19-6, back on Sept. 23.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page B1

so I can play," Johnson said. "It's a dilemma. And you can't blame parents or families. They're making a hard decision.

Johnson, in his second season at Jordan-Matthews, says he had about 40 players on his roster during the peak of the season, but around 15 or 16 were freshmen who hadn't played football before. The same was true at Seaforth, which competed as a varsity program for the first time this fall.

Northwood head coach Chris Kenan, who led the Chargers to a 4-6 record in 2022, says opposing coaches are often shocked when they hear about his team's lack of experience.

"A lot of teams we play, the coaches can't believe we don't have a feeder school," Kenan said. "A lot of people get here and are playing for the first time in the 9th grade. Other people, their 9th graders have two or three years of experience already. I think the guys have done a good job not using that as an excuse."

That's not to say there is absolutely no youth football in Chatham County. For the past several years, a group of volunteers built the East Chatham Chargers football program in Pittsboro.

Starting at 8U and going up to 14U, there are four different levels of play offered by the East Chatham football team, which plays its home games at Northwood.

Also playing for the first time this fall are the Siler City Jets 14U team, which is experiencing a solid amount of success as a new team. On Monday, the 14U Jets defeated the Durham Firebirds, 46-28, to advance to the finals of the East Wake Football League.

"It's a bright spot, for sure," Johnson said of the new program in Siler City. "Those kids and families are excited to have a little bit of that middle school experience. There are some great athletes over there, and for right now, they're not thinking about going anywhere else. We're trying to keep those guys at home."

Even these youth programs have their issues though. Unlike with middle school teams, players have to pay a registration fee to participate with the ECC football teams, a potential roadblock for many lower-income families. Additionally, the introduction of Seaforth as a football program this season has given many people who would have previously played at Northwood a second option about where to spend their high school careers.

As far as this most recent season, Kenan said many of the players are attending Seaforth rather than Northwood. He worries that trend will continue in the future, but acknowledges driving up participation at ECC might be an answer to fixing some of the high school's problems.

"I'd like to see more kids take advantage of ECC," Kenan said. "I think right now that's the only way we can bridge the gap with other teams across the state. I think we have to look at this as a state-wide thing and not just a county thing, because we're not just competing county-wide. We're competing state-wide. We're already at a huge disadvantage not giving our kids the same opportunities as others in the state. We're a public school."

A national problem

Of course, Chatham County is not the only area in the state, or the country, currently grappling with problems on the football field.

According to data provided by the National Federation of State High School Associations, participation in 11-man football fell 3.2% nationally from 2018-19 to 2021-22. And for the first time in several years, the total number of players playing high school football nationwide fell below one million.

There are several

factors at play when considering the dropoff in participation. Part of it can be explained by the increase in participation in other forms of football. From 2018-19 to 2020-21, the number of schools nationwide to offer 6-, 8- or 9-man alternatives for football jumped up 12.7%.

Still, many athletes are giving up football altogether to pursue safer alternatives. The last several years have been flooded with data linking football with CTE — a progressive brain condition thought to be caused by repeated blows to the head or repeated concussions.

These issues are not new, and ones that county coaches know they're going to have to deal with over the next several years. To make it out the other side, the county coaches they'll need support from the community.

"Hopefully people will start to notice and put more investments in football around here," said Seaforth head coach Terrance Gary. "It's such a small little area, and we only have four schools. We're going to have to put in work, and (the other schools) are going to have to put in work, as well."

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth competed at the varsity level for the first time in 2022, going 2-8 with wins over Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central.



Animal Resources

Low Cost Spay / Neuter - Only \$20

Qualified applicants may purchase vouchers to use at participating pet clinics. Submit applications to:

Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center
725 Renaissance Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Phone: 919-542-7203 | [facebook.com/chathamsoar](https://www.facebook.com/chathamsoar)

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11am-5pm and Saturday 10am-4pm, Closed Sun.

For a printable application, visit:
www.chathamsheriff.com

2022's Final Household Hazardous Waste Event

FINAL EVENT: Saturday, November 19
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
28 County Services Road
(6 miles west of Pittsboro, off Hwy 64)

Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as

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

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office will provide a free take back of unwanted medicines during this HHW event. No needles, sharps, or liquids will be accepted. Document shredding will be from 9 am to 1 pm.

For a complete list of items visit www.chathamcountync.gov/hhw

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

Questions?
Call (919) 542-5516

HHW events will resume in March 2023.

CLIPBOARD Q&A

Northwood boys coach Brown expects Chargers to be deeper this season

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

The Northwood boys basketball team is expected to be the class of Chatham County this upcoming season. The Chargers are coming off a 2021-22 season that saw them go 24-4 overall, win their conference regular season and tournament titles and make it to the fourth round of the 3A playoffs before falling to West Carteret.

This year's Northwood boys are led by junior Drake Powell, a UNC commit who led the team in points (16.1) and rebounds (6.2) as a sophomore last winter. Powell, who is listed at 6-foot-5, is considered the No. 50 player nationally and No. 5 player in North Carolina in the Class of 2024 by 247Sports' composite rankings.

Also expected to contribute this season

are junior guard Fred Whitaker and senior forwards Maximus Frazier and Kenan Parrish. Northwood starts its season Nov. 19 against Wayne County Day at the Greenfield Showcase.

Northwood head coach Matt Brown recently spoke with the News + Record about the upcoming season, his expectations and what it's been like to coach one of the top players in the country.

You obviously have one of the more talented teams in the county. What are your expectations for your squad heading into the year?

MATT BROWN: The attitude and the vibe has been really competitive in practice. The guys are really getting after it. We feel like we're going to be a pretty deep team this year. Last year we could only play seven, maybe eight guys, and this year I feel pretty

comfortable playing around nine or 10 guys. With that being said, our practices have been a lot more competitive. Guys have been gelling more this year than they were last year at this time. They know what they're capable of doing, and I think they get a sense of that. Their attention to detail has been great. The things we're emphasizing, they're taking whole-heartedly.

You only allowed one opponent to score 60 or more points in a game last season. How important is it for your team to come out and set the tone defensively?

It's a huge advantage. We hang our hats on the defensive side, and our emphasis every year is, "Defense always travels." No matter if we're shooting bad or we're playing on the road, we can always hang our hat on defense, and we're trying to get a

lot of our offense from our defense. Guys like Drake (Powell) and Fred (Whitaker) and a couple of new guys who came in this year, they're able to pick up a guy fullcourt or defend a team's best player and shut them down. It's a huge advantage for us, the way we have that in our back pocket. It's something that, going into the game, we know for sure this is what we're going to do, even if shots don't fall or things don't go our way offensively.

Drake sets the tone on both ends of the floor. What has it been like coaching him? And what areas of his game does he need to improve?

He's definitely a once-in-a-lifetime player. I'm pretty blessed to be able to coach a player like him. Not just the player, but the person. He's a really good person, and his family is a great family.

His older brother, Deuce, I coached, and he was great, too. It's pretty awesome to be able to coach Drake and be able to be in the same conversation as him.

He's a great talent. The things I think he needs to get a little bit better on are his ball-handling. He's already improved immensely with his jump-shot. Now he's able to score on all three levels. He's really consistent with his threes. Now just being able to handle the ball a little bit more and really stepping up on the leadership role is really his next step. He's not even near his potential yet, which is pretty scary.

A few guys who might not get a lot of the spotlight are your senior forwards, Kenan Parrish and Maximus Frazier. How important are these two big guys going to be in what you guys do this

season? Offensively, we need them to be aggressive and dominate in the paint when they get down in the block. Kenan and Max have both improved tremendously over the summer. Everybody is going to be pretty shocked by the improvement both of those kids have made from last year. They're a huge part of our defense and offensive schemes. It's hard for guys to shoot on 6-foot-11 and 6-foot-8 there in the middle, and it's also hard to scheme for what you're going to do defensively to stop those two as well as Drake and Fred Whitaker. We have a lot of new pieces, but those two are going to have a huge senior year.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.

ANSTROM

Continued from page B1

knowing that we could win a state championship that day," Anstrom said. "It's kind of like a game of poker. You're trying to not show off when you're going to make your big move. Regardless of who can finish the fastest, a lot of times it comes down to who can make the move first, and who can make the move first while making it at the right time."

Anstrom will have more opportunities to add to his resume the rest of the school year, as he plans to compete in both indoor and outdoor track for the Hawks during the winter and spring. The sophomore plans to compete in the 3,200-, the 1,600- and the 800-meter races with the

track team.

Anstrom's win propelled Seaforth to a fourth-place finish in the 2A boys race as a team. A few other notable finishers for the Hawks were sophomore Will Cuicchi (17:58.66, 31st), freshman Gabe Rogers (18:03.08, 32nd) and sophomore Henry McFall (18:09.15, 36th).

Seaforth was one of two Chatham County schools with a top-four team finish at Saturday's championships, as Northwood also came in fourth of the boys 3A race. The Chargers' top finisher was senior Christian Glick, who finished in 10th with a time of 16:55.24.

In the 1A boys race, Chatham Central junior Kolton Phillips came in 17th with a time of 17:59.91. Phillips finished second at last week's 1A mid-east

regional and was the only Chatham Central athlete to compete at the state championships.

Also competing in the 1A boys race was Chatham Charter senior Silas Christenbury, who finished in 40th with a time of 19:00.54.

The 1A mid-east girls regional winner, Woods Charter's Anna Peeler, finished 16th overall in the 1A girls championship race in a time of 22:00.63. The Wolves finished eighth as a team at the girls championships.

The other two Chatham County girls to race in the 1A championship were Chatham Charter juniors Samantha Scott and Meredith Reese, who finished 58th and 68th, respectively.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.

SEASON

Continued from page B3

er-seeded team out of the gate, however, as they took a 1-0 lead on a free kick by junior Jonathan Campos. J-M eventually fell behind 2-1 in the first half before Zander Ocampo tied the game on an assist from Paul Lujan.

The second half was all Manteo, however, as the home team scored two goals to build a comfortable lead over the final 40 minutes.

"It's been great to see (the players) grow up and mature," Cuadros said. "I've gotten to know all of them personally, and I'm going to miss them all. Last night I had an opportunity after the game to express my gratitude for everything they've done for the program and team."

The offseason will be one of transition for

Jordan-Matthews, as the Jets are expected to graduate nine seniors over the summer. Among those leaving will be the team's top goal-scorer in Ocampo, who had 38 to his credit this season, as well as forward Juan Hernandez Soto, midfielder Paul Lujan and keeper Ricardo Rocha.

"I was really proud of the team this year," Cuadros said. "We had some holes to fill from last year, specifically in the midfield. I was particularly proud of Paul Lujan, who normally plays forward, but I asked him to play center mid. He took on that role and became that guy in the center of the field, winning balls and distributing balls. He was the brain of the team."

The Jets will return a fair amount of experienced players when they take the field next fall. Expected to step up as a

playmaker and goal-scorer is current sophomore Francisco Ibarra, as well as juniors Giancarlo Aguila and Anthony Rodriguez.

In the midfield, Jason De Paz Rodriguez and Campos — they're both juniors — will transition into new roles as the lead distributors for their team.

Jordan-Matthews was one of four Chatham County schools to make the boys soccer playoffs, along with Northwood, Seaforth and Woods Charter. The only other team beside the Jets to make it out of the first round was Woods, which defeated Gates County in the first round before losing to Rosewood in Round 2.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.

AT YOUR Service

THIS SPOT CAN BE YOURS!

Call Advertising @ 919-663-3232

Bob Atkinson, GRI, CRS, E-PRO
Homes-Land-Investments
C: 919-362-6999

LearnAboutLand.com

Atkinson Properties Group
bobatkinson321@gmail.com

TREE MASTERS

- Brush Chipping
- Tree Climbing • Stump Removal
- Free Estimates

(919) 775-7408
Tommy Dunigan Cell: (919) 548-3542

D & G PLUMBING

Plumbing Problems?

Commercial and Residential Installation and Service
Located in Siler City

Locally Owned and Operated by Greg and Donna Kennedy
Licensed and Insured
Office: 919-742-4587 Cell: 919-427-2374

JHJ Painting & Power Washing

"We Specialize in All Your Painting & Power Washing Needs"

Deck Washing, Renewal & Repair • Window Washing & Install
Carpentry • Door Install • Other Small Repairs

John Hayes, Jr • 919-548-0474

ASHEBORO TIE YARDS, INC

Beautiful Yards Start Here!

Mushroom Compost • Shredded Hardwood Mulch
Pine Mini Nuggets • Brick Chips • Sand • Top Soil
Black, Brown & Red Mulch • White Pea Gravel • Railroad Ties

205 Hanner Town Rd. Bear Creek
(2 miles South of Bonlee on Old 421)
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM - 4 PM, Fri. 7 AM - 12 PM
(919) 837-2822 • We Deliver!

FIND THE HELP YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

Chatham News + Record Local Service Directory

3 players to watch this World Cup



JEREMY VERNON
Sports Editor

The 2022 World Cup begins in just a few weeks, and it feels like it's flying way under the radar.

This year's World Cup is being held in the winter instead of the summer, as it normally is, because the tournament is being played in Qatar, which is known for its brutally hot summers.

Starting the 21st of November, we'll get to watch the best soccer players in the world come together and play in the sport's biggest tournament. And for every Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and Robert Lewandowski, there are several more players primed to make an impact who haven't arrived on the world spotlight yet.

Here are three under-the-radar players to watch out for at this year's World Cup.

Federico Valverde, MF, Uruguay

The top teams from South America in this tournament are Brazil and Argentina, but don't count out Uruguay from making some noise thanks to their 24-year old midfielder Federico Valverde.

Playing for Real Madrid at the club level, Valverde is one of the top young midfielders in the entire world, and he's put on a clinic both on the offensive and defensive ends this season.

So far in the 2022/23 club season, Valverde has six goals and two assists in just 13 matches, just one season after having zero goals and one assist in 31 appearances.

Coupled with striker Darwin Nunez, Valverde could become one of the stars of this tournament. Matched up in a group with Portugal, don't be surprised if Uruguay wins the group and makes it to the Round of 16.

Memphis Depay, F, Netherlands

No stranger to big moments, 28-year old Memphis Depay is a fan favorite for club team Barcelona, and he's been one of the most underrated strikers in the world over the past several years.

Leading the Dutch attack, Depay has the ability to score goals, but he can also distribute to his teammates and rack up assists.

No matter what struggles might be going on in his club career, Depay always manages to show up when he's wearing the Netherlands' orange. In 10 World Cup qualifying matches, Depay had 12 goals and six assists. He also scored two goals and had an assist for the Netherlands at the 2021 UEFA EURO championships.

As a team, the Netherlands possesses several of the world's best players, from defender Virgil van Dijk to midfielder Frenkie de Jong. The Dutch will compete in Group A along with host nation Qatar, Senegal and Ecuador.

Bukayo Saka, F, England

The English national team has been trying to find an attacking player to pair with Harry Kane for years, and they might have the right guy now in 20-year old Bukayo Saka.

Playing for Arsenal at the club level, Saka has broke out onto the scene this season with four goals and six assists in 13 league matches. His performances have helped Arsenal build a current two-point lead over second-place Manchester City at the top of the Premier League.

On top of his skills as a player, Saka is known as a dynamite teammate and an all-around nice guy. He's someone to definitely root for if you're somehow cheering for England to win Group B over the United States.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.

Starting the 21st of November, we'll get to watch the best soccer players in the world come together and play in the sport's biggest tournament. And for every Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and Robert Lewandowski, there are several more players primed to make an impact who haven't arrived on the world spotlight yet.

TENNIS

Continued from page B1

east regional final."

Central rallied to win all three doubles matches to win 5-4 and advance to the east regional finals, where the Bears defeated Voyager Academy before ultimately falling in the tournament final. The Bears finished the year with an overall record of 17-4 in dual team matches in 2022.

Chatham Central's top individual performers this season were seniors Olivia Brooks and Ellie Phillips, who combined to go 31-5 in singles and 17-2 as a doubles team. Last weekend, Brooks and Phillips played some of their best tennis of their careers as they rallied to win the 1A dou-

bles state tournament.

Olivia Brooks is the daughter of Central head coach Heather Brooks. Catching up with the season, the latter put into perspective what it has meant to coach the former throughout the last four years.

"It's been such a joy to watch her and Ellie," Heather Brooks said. "They've been friends forever, and Ellie's mom is an assistant coach. They started playing together in eighth grade, and they said one day they were going to be state champions. And that's what they did. To watch both of them grow as tennis players and as young adults has been amazing. I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world."

Central will have to

figure out how to replace Brooks and Phillips — along with fellow senior Jaylee Williams — when they return to the court next fall.

Among those expected to contribute at the top of the lineup are three current juniors — Rachel Albright, Lauren Caviness and Hallie Webster. The Bears will also return fellow juniors Emma Townsend and Ashlyn Humphries, as well as current sophomore Carlee Callahan.

"I still think we'll be pretty strong, but we're not going to be as strong as we were this year," Heather Brooks said.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.



The Rotary Club of Pittsboro extends HEARTFELT gratitude to Bill Hartley at Postal Fish Company for his ongoing support!

In addition to being the VIP Area for the Pittsboro Street Fair, Postal Fish Co. also opens its doors for our weekly Rotary club lunch meeting. We truly consider Bill, and his team, friends of Rotary.

Thank you for all you do!

Sponsored by



Here's Your 'Recession Survival' Checklist

It's unfortunate, but recessions are a fairly normal part of the economic landscape. When a recession occurs, how might you be affected? The answer depends on your individual situation, but regardless of your circumstances, you might want to consider the items in this recession survival checklist:

Assess your income stability. If your employment remains steady, you may not have to do anything different during a recession. But if you think your income could be threatened or disrupted, you might want to consider joining the "gig economy" or looking for freelance or consulting opportunities.

Review your spending. Look for ways to trim your spending, such as canceling subscription services you don't use, eating out less often, and so on.

Pay down your debts. Try to reduce your debts, especially those with high interest rates.

Plan your emergency fund. If you haven't already built one, try to create an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account.

Review your protection plan. If your health or life insurance is tied to your work, a change in your employment status could jeopardize this coverage. Review all your options for replacing these types of protection. Also, look for ways to lower premiums on home or auto insurance, without significantly sacrificing coverage, to free up money that could be used for health/life insurance.

Keep your long-term goals in mind. Even if you adjust your portfolio during times of volatility, don't lose sight of your long-term goals. Trying to "outsmart" the market with short-term strategies can often lead to missteps and missed opportunities.

Don't stop investing. If you can afford it, try to continue investing. Coming out of a recession, stock prices tend to bottom out and then rebound, so if you

had headed to the investment "sidelines," you would have missed the opportunity to benefit from a market rally.

Revisit your performance expectations. During a bear market, you will constantly be reminded of the decline of a particular market index, such as the S&P 500 or the Dow Jones Industrial Average. But instead of focusing on these short-term numbers, look instead at the long-term performance of your portfolio to determine if you're still on track toward meeting your goals.

Assess your risk tolerance. If you find yourself worrying excessively about declines in your investment statements, you may want to reevaluate your tolerance for risk. One's risk tolerance can change over time — and it's important you feel comfortable with the amount of risk you take when investing.

Keep diversifying. Diversification is always important for investors — by having a mix of stocks, mutual funds and bonds, you can reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. To cite one example: Higher-quality bonds, such as Treasuries, often move in the opposite direction of stocks, so the presence of these bonds in your portfolio, if appropriate for your goals, can be valuable when market conditions are worsening. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification cannot guarantee profits or protect against all losses in a declining market.)

A recession accompanied by a bear market is not pleasant. But by taking the appropriate steps, you can boost your chances of getting through a difficult period and staying on track toward your important financial goals.

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

Edward Jones. Member SIPC.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

edwardjones.com Member SIPC



Council on Aging Activities Calendar

November 14th through November 18th

Monday, November 14th
Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz** (in-person and Zoom)
- 10 a.m. - **Geri-Fit w/Jackie**
- 11 a.m. - **Bluegrass Music w/The Original Haw River Crawdaddies**
- 2 p.m. - **Table Tennis**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Walking Through Grief Support Group; Scam Awareness w/Siler City Police Department**
- 2 p.m. - **Geri-Fit**

Tuesday, November 15th
Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **3G's Men's Group**
- 9:30 a.m. - **Shopping Trip to Southpoint Mall**
- 10 a.m. - **Woodcarvers; Bingo w/Joe & Coffee**
- 11 a.m. - **Chatham Striders Walk & Learn w/Liz**
- 1 p.m. - **Rummikub**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:45 a.m. - **Chair Exercises w/Olivia for Beginners** (in-person and Zoom)
- 10:30 a.m. - **Ping Pong; Gospel Choir Practice**
- 1 p.m. - **Rook/Phase 10/Rummikub; Book Club; "Bring Your Own Project" Gathering**

Wednesday, November 16th
Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz** (in-person and Zoom); **Coffee & Games w/Pittsboro Police Department; Choir to Siler City**
- 11 a.m. - **Mind Games w/Alan**
- 1 p.m. - **Open Art Studio**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 8 a.m. - **Veterans Benefit Assistance**
- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Craft Club (Plastic Canvas); Bible Study; Nutrition Education w/Ann Clark**
- 1 p.m. - **Cornhole**
- 2 p.m. - **Crafting w/Kathryn** (Sled Ornaments)

Thursday, November 17th
Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9:30 a.m. - **Blood Pressure Screening**
- 10 a.m. - **Crafts and Conversation; Crafts & Songs w/Thales Academy Students**
- 1 p.m. - **Board Games & Cards**
- 1:30 p.m. - **Line Dancing**
- 3 p.m. - **Gentle Yoga w/Liz**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:30 a.m. - **Matter of Balance; Men's Coffee & Doughnuts**
- 10 a.m. - **Music Jam Session**
- 1 p.m. - **Book Club** (Library)
- 2 p.m. - **Tai Chi**
- 3 p.m. - **Bingo**

Friday, November 18th
Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **Senior Education Conference (Ag Center)**
- 10 a.m. - **Geri-Fit w/Jackie**
- 11 a.m. - **Stories w/Neriah**
- 1 p.m. - **Card Games/Euchre**
- 3 p.m. - **Jukebox Live! (50s and 60s Music)**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 9:30 a.m. - **Blood Pressure Checks**
- 10 a.m. - **Show and Tell**
- 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

Schools, sewers, spending: Chatham Commissioners discuss Capital Improvement Plans

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Board of Commissioners got their first look Monday at the county's 2024-2030 Capital Improvement Plan, which focuses on funding for school growth and improving wastewater infrastructure.

There are eight new projects planned under the proposed CIP including the construction of two new schools in Chatham Park, improve-

ments of gymnasiums at K-8 schools and improvements to wastewater treatment plants. These eight projects have an estimated combined cost of \$96.7 million between Fiscal Year 2024 and FY 2030.

Also on the list are renovations to the Chatham Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro, which include the construction of new covered arenas, outdoor gathering spaces and stalls for potential equine and livestock events. The construction is estimated to cost \$8.5 million.

The CIP presentation also included a potential future project of building Southern Village Elementary in Chatham Park. While there is not yet a cost estimate for the potential school Assistant County Manager Bryan Thompson, who presented the CIP, said the timeline for the school will likely be moved up based on current population projections for the area due to incoming growth.

Chatham Park's Northern Village Elementary is already part of the CIP and is the largest single project with a total cost of \$47.6 million. When Chatham Grove opened in August 2020, the project cost \$33 million. Thompson said the difference is largely due to the financial incentive packages received for each project.

Many of these new projects will be debt-funded projects, while smaller projects not listed in the initial CIP presentation will likely be funded through a pay-as-you-go model.

One of the things helping ensure these CIP projects are successful is Chatham's AAA bond rating, the highest rating possible. This means Chatham has a high degree of creditworthiness and low risk of default. This trustworthiness, coupled with the county interest rate of just over 1.7%, make Chatham officials confident in the feasibility of these projects.

The CIP will likely go through several more iterations before it is approved by commissioners. A public input session on the CIP will be held Nov. 21, a commissioner work session will be held Dec. 13 with the goal of adopting the CIP on Dec. 19. Questions about the CIP can be emailed to county staff including Bryan Thompson at bryan.thompson@chatham-countync.gov.

Other business: annual committee reports

The board also heard annual fiscal year reports from several county committees including those addressing climate change, affordable housing, parks and recreation and libraries. The presentations outlined the goals of each committee, accomplishments over the past year, feedback for commissioners and challenges faced.

Several focused reports on bouncing back from the pandemic and looking to move forward in the coming year. For example, the Environmental Review Advisory Committee,

led by Elaine Chiosso, struggled to reach a quorum at several of its meetings last year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Others, however, like the Library Advisory Committee, said they were able to overcome pandemic slowdowns in pursuit of their goals. That committee, led by Lisa Padgett, saw a 140% increase in programming, a 267% increase in participation and the issuance of more than 2,000 new library cards. Padgett said the library has focused on programming and bringing in people from diverse backgrounds to aid in growth efforts.

Padgett and Juana Soriano Gomez, another member of the committee, guided commissioners on Monday through one of their programs to illustrate new bilingual outreach program. They taught commissioners how to make paper turkeys using leaves and colored pencils.

Other presentations included reports from the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, led by Richard Poole. He shared that Chatham has "fallen behind the 8-ball" when it comes to affordable housing. The committee defines affordable units as anything below 30% area median income (AMI). For 2022 the estimated AMI for Chatham County for a family of 4 is considered to be \$95,500.

According to the committee, 2,325 affordable rental units are currently needed in the county. The figure is so large because the number of affordable housing units decreased by 126 units last year — largely related to decreasing naturally occurring affordable housing (which saw a drop of 84 units) and a loss of 42 housing vouchers.

"We need to plan for development to not exacerbate homelessness and affordable housing issues," said Chairperson Howard after Poole's presentation. "Areas around big developments provide an opportunity to meet the needs of the community, we have to make sure we keep them in mind as we grow."

The next Chatham Board of Commissioners meeting is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 21, at the Chatham Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro. For more information visit www.chathamcountync.gov

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

IT'S SHOW TIME
Live On Stage in
Sweet Bee Theater
Nov. 12-13

The Disney Jungle Book
Nov. 19-20

We're celebrating 10-years feeding the soul and spirit of our community.

Then all of a sudden...

BLAM!

Pittsboro Youth Theater and Center for the Arts need a new arts campus.

Please Help Us **BUILD** Chatham County Quality of Life

Opening April 2023
North Chatham Performing Arts Center

NCPAC project updates & opportunities to make tax-deductible donations online

FUNDS RAISED SO FAR DONATIONS NEEDED

PITTSBORO YOUTH THEATER .com

NEWS BRIEFS

Chatham County Libraries invites teens to participate in writing contest

PITTSBORO — The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) of the Chatham Community Library is excited to announce its first-ever Teen Writing Contest.

Local teens ages 12 to 18 are invited to submit a work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry (maximum 3,000 words) in response to one of the TAB-crafted

writing prompts.

Submissions will be accepted from Nov. 18 to Dec. 18. Participants should email their submission to Kathleen Pierce, youth services library assistant and TAB advisor at kathleen.pierce@chathamlibraries.org. TAB members will judge the submissions. First, second and third place winners will be awarded gift cards to McIntyre's Books in Pittsboro.

Prizes for the Teen Writing Contest are sponsored by the Friends of

the Chatham Community Library.

For more information, visit the Chatham County Public Libraries website or contact Youth Services at youth.services@chathamlibraries.org.

Pittsboro continues to narrow down search for town manager

PITTSBORO — The board of commissioners has selected five candidates and two alternates in the search for a permanent town manager.

The board held a special meeting on Nov. 3 to discuss and consider the hiring of a town manager with the firm Developmental Associates. The meeting opened in public and then moved to a closed session.

A final selection of five candidates are expected to participate in a two-day evaluation process from Nov. 17-18.

Town commissioners have been working with the firm Developmental Associates to recruit and select a replacement for former Town Manager Chris Kennedy, who in August resigned as town manager after more than two years in the position, citing a desire to prioritize greater work-life balance.

In September, Interim Manager Hazen Blodgett took over for Kennedy. Blodgett previously served for 19 years as town manager of Matthews, 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.

Residential, Land & Farms, Commercial, and Investment properties since 1989.



Scott Harris
919-498-4077



Renee Kennedy
919-548-1329



Chris Walker
919-768-2811



Billy Williams
919-548-1404



Your "LOCAL" team of Real Estate Experts!
Selling or Buying? Contact a member of our team today!

HarrisREALTY
Residential, Land, Farm, Commercial

Serving Pittsboro, Siler City, and surrounding areas
1325 N. Second Ave. Siler City, NC | JerryHarrisRealty.com



POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On Oct. 17, Jose Luis Martinez-Hernandez, 34, of 2517 Eight Oaks Drive, High Point, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Painter for driving under the influence and felony death by vehicle. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 7.

On Oct. 18, Kristopher Ray Jeffries, 31, of 268 Kelly Lane, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Painter for possession of a firearm by a felon, larceny of a firearm and possession of a stolen firearm. He was issued a \$2,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 7.

On Oct. 18, Tommy Shain Guthrie, 46, of 1124 Van Thomas Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for failure to appear regarding Driving While License Revoked. He was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Surry County District Court in Dobson on Nov. 8.

On Oct. 18, Karen Marie Carson, 49, of 727 E. Cardinal St., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for failure to appear. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on Oct. 31.

On Oct. 18, Gloria Ellen Young, 43, of 1140 W. 3rd St., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Jonathan

Frazier for failure to appear. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Durham County District Court in Durham on Nov. 5.

On Oct. 18, Neil James Bell, 56, of 415 N. Serenity Hill Circle, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for aggravated assault and interfering with emergency communications. He was placed on a 48-hour hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 9.

On Oct. 18, Dishan Atoy Baker, 31, of 112 Wimberly Road, Moncure, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for failure to appear related to failure to return rental property. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 15.

On Oct. 20, Phillip Andrew Jones Jr., 42, was arrested by SSgt. Ashley Ellington for failure to appear related to child support. He was issued a \$500 cash purge payment and was released from custody.

On Oct. 21, Eric Kelton Jacobs, 31, of 70 Kivett Court, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Conner Bussey for obtaining property under false pretenses. He was issued a written promise to appear in Guilford County Court in Greensboro on Nov. 9.

On Oct. 22, Kimberly Michelle Crump, 54, of 738 Old U.S. 1, Moncure, was arrested by Deputy Conner Bussey for larceny by an employee.

She was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 7.

On Oct. 23, Jeffrey Lee Chesson, 40, of 176 W. Mill Pond Road, Roper, was arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for larceny. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Johnston County District Court in Smithfield on Nov. 15.

On Oct. 23, Chesson was also arrested by Deputy Gray for a true bill of indictment. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Wake County Superior Court in Raleigh on Oct. 31.

On October 24, Johanna Roberta Burton, 22, of 506 Ferrell Street, Cary, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for failure to stop in the event of a crash and driving while license revoked. She was issued a written promise to appear in Guilford County District Court in Greensboro on November 29.

On October 24, Taylor Michelle Alston, 28, of 230 Old Walden Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for larceny of a motor vehicle and possession of stolen goods. She was issued a written promise to appear in Lee County District Court in Sanford on October 27.

On October 24, Charles Winslow Chesley, 57, of 618 Henderson Tanyard Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Alberto Estrada for Domestic Violence Protective Order violation. He was placed on a 48-hour hold and is

scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 9.

On October 25, Chastity Woods, 38, of 1009 A 12th Street, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Noah Frazier for failure to appear related to driving while license revoked. She was issued a written promise to appear and is scheduled to appear in Wake County District Court in Raleigh on October 26.

On October 25, Lashaun Derik Jones, 38, of 149 Amber Lane, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Jonathan Frazier for forgery of an instrument and identity theft. He was issued a written promise to appear in Person County District Court in Roxboro on December 12.

On October 25, Erick Nava, 22, of 115 Santa Fe Circle, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for assault and battery and assault inflicting serious injury. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 15.

On October 26, Randy Steven Saunders Jr., 44, of 576 Tate Street, Apt. 12, Ramseur, was arrested by Deputy Chris Scales for failure to appear. He was issued a \$20,000 secured bond and scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 14.

On October 26, Brittany Michelle Thomas, 31, of 364 Old Sanford Road, Moncure, was arrested by Cpl. Brandal Harrington for failure to comply

with judgement. She was issued a \$250 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 9.

On October 26, Jimmy Lee Kidd, 35, of 200 Cap Field Drive, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for Domestic Violence Protection Order violation. He was placed on a 48-hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 9.

On October 27, John Robert Stanley, 46, of 2704 Old Coleridge Road, Siler City, was arrested by SSgt. Ashley Ellington for failure to appear. He was issued a \$20,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court in Pittsboro on November 14.

On October 27, Isaac Junior Johnson, 50, of 3015 Weymouth Street, Durham, was arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for uttering a forged endorsement, forgery of an instrument, and obtaining property under false pretenses. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Durham County District Court in Durham on November 7.

On October 27, Frederick Earl Smith, 55, of 103 Jan Court, Durham, was arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for felony possession of marijuana, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, and expired registration car/tag. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 7.

On October 30, Veronica Lemae Spruill, 53, of 361 B Tall Oaks Rd, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Vincent Iorio for simple assault. She was issued secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 9.

On October 30, Amanda Nicole Barbour, 30, of 3816 Dusty Trail Rd, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy Connor Bussey for failure to appear. She was issued a \$400 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 9.

On October 31, Cameron Alante Green, 32, of 202 W Poplar Avenue, Carboro, was arrested by Deputy Vincent Iorio for breaking/entering to terrorize/injure, communicating threats, assault on a female, and injury to personal property. He was issued a \$25,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 7.

On October 31, Cameron Alante Green, 32, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for injury to personal property. He was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Vance County District Court in Henderson on December 2.

On October 31, Donald Ray Alston III, 47, homeless, was arrested by Deputy Vincent Iorio for probation violation. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on November 7.

SILER CITY COMMISSIONERS

Board debates planning and community development department split

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — An October vote regarding splitting the town's Planning and Community Development Department sparked a debate Monday about the wisdom and timing of the decision.

In the first October commissioners meeting, the board voted to approve a policy change dividing the Planning and Community Development Department into two entities. Under the policy change, current department head Jack Meadows would serve as the community development director, and Town Manager Hank Raper would take the lead in finding someone to fill the planning director position.

Mayor Chip Price, however, said that residents have since expressed concerns to him about the split. And on Monday, he indicated some commissioners had different interpretations of how the split would impact town services — saying that, because of that, there shouldn't have been a vote in the first place.

"I think we need to admit that we rushed to judgment on this," Price said. "There's other ways this could be handled, and all we got was one thing. That's all we had to go on."

Raper told commissioners that interviews had already been conducted with two "exceptionally qualified" candidates for the planning director position. Price, though, said he wanted to pause on the split now because he felt the process wasn't fair to Meadows or residents.

"I don't see anything wrong with getting him (Meadows) help, but I don't think we gave him any

help," Price said. "We just pushed him over to the side, so I'm not happy with this."

Not all commissioners agreed, though.

Commissioner At-Large Cindy Bray sparred verbally with Price about the issue, claiming she wasn't one of the commissioners he contacted regarding the department split. She said not only did Price not contact her, she hadn't gotten complaints from constituents or town employees.

"I'm the longest-serving

member on this board, and they haven't said anything to me," Bray said.

Price refuted Bray, saying as mayor he should be the first to know when things are going on.

"We all are talking about the chain of command, who do you think ought to be the first person to hear about something like this?" Price asked. "You know where I was, number four or five."

In North Carolina, mayors have limited power. According to N.C. G.S.

160A-67 and G.S. 160A-69, municipal mayors have three main duties: follow the role as stated by law, serve as the official head of the town for ceremonial and civil purposes and preside over meetings. The mayor of Siler City doesn't have a vote on the board unless there is a tie among commissioners.

According to the same statute, the town manager serves as the chief administrator of the town and is allowed to follow through

with many decisions without say from the board or mayor. This includes the ability to "direct and supervise the administration of all departments, offices, and agencies of the city," as well as appointing or suspending "all city officers and employees not elected by the people, and whose appointment or removal is not otherwise provided for by law."

Bray said Price didn't have to be at the top of the "chain of command."

She said the board doesn't have a say about where employees are placed within departments — that duty is left to the town manager.

"We hired him to make the right decisions and to do what's right, and I think he's been good for Siler City," Bray said.

The board called a closed session to discuss the proposal made by Price, but ultimately agreed to continue with the department split process.

CHATHAM IS BOLD!

chatham magazine
BE THE BEST
 OF CHATHAM
 2019 2020 2021 2022
 READERS' FAVORITE READERS' FAVORITE READERS' FAVORITE READERS' FAVORITE

BOLD CONSTRUCTION **BOLD REAL ESTATE** **BOLD FOUNDATION**

LEANDRO'S CHATHAM IMPACT

Officials, advocates praise historic decision

If upheld, the ruling could bring more than \$1.75 billion to N.C. public schools

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

The North Carolina Supreme Court made a landmark ruling last Friday in the long-standing Leandro case, a 4-3 decision along party lines that should pave the way for millions of dollars in state funding to go toward public schools.

Chatham officials and education advocates said the decision was historic and sets the stage to benefit students throughout the county and the state.

"This is affirming news and has significant potential benefits for Chatham," said Dr. Mary Kolek, chairperson of the Chatham Education Foundation, in a statement Friday. "Full funding of Leandro will allow us to staff and resource public schools in ways that will make a significant difference in terms of student learning and well-being."

A longstanding battle

The court upheld a prior ruling from Judge David Lee that the state must transfer the money necessary to fund years the Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan. The plan, provided by California-based education consulting group WestEd, called for \$1.75 billion of state funding to go toward schools. Lee's decision was later appealed and the figure was reduced to \$785 million.

"For twenty-five years, the judiciary has deferred to the executive and legislative branches to implement a comprehensive solution to this ongoing constitutional violation," Judge Robin Hudson, a Democrat, wrote for the court

majority. "Today, that deference expires."

Republican officials, including Justice Phil Berger Jr., who penned the dissenting opinion, say the ruling blurs the lines between the branches of government and argue no court has the power to order the state legislature to spend tax dollars.

"The state constitution explicitly recognizes that it is for the General Assembly to develop educational policy and to provide for its funding in keeping with its legislative authority," Berger wrote.

Last Friday's decision was historic because it marked the first time courts have ordered the state to provide funding in the 30-year-old Leandro case.

The case deals with a lawsuit initially filed in 1994 by five low-income school districts to get additional state funding. In the original case, the North Carolina Supreme Court ruled the state constitution guarantees every child "an opportunity to receive a sound, basic education," and the state was failing to meet that obligation.

Politics still in play

While the decision was historic, Jaime Detzi, executive director of the Chatham Education Foundation, says there is still a long way to go. Republican legislators and appeals court judges are likely to file lawsuits to stall or block the transfer of funds, which are currently available in state coffers.

"This is a great first step to rectify the long-standing unwillingness of the State of N.C. to meet their constitutional obligation to provide a sound and basic education

to all students," Detzi said. "We can no longer let politics dictate meeting the bare minimum requirements of our state constitution."

Politics, however, are a constant in this case. The ruling was made just days before the midterm election, which could change the balance of power in the N.C. Supreme Court with two judges on the ballot (at the time of publication, election results had not been finalized). This election could also bring more dissenting Republicans into the state House and Senate to push back against the release of the funding.

According to retired N.C. Supreme Court Judge Bob Orr, the timing of bringing the case before the court was likely not tied to political aims.

"Once the majority and dissent are in circulation, the case comes up at the next opinion conference, which I assume was earlier in the week, and final votes are taken on case," Orr said in a statement. "Then the opinion is filed at next opinion day, which was (last Friday). Leandro decision's release was more timing of when it's ready. I've seen cases held until after an election but I assume all sides were OK with filing it (last Friday)."

Regardless of how the decision came to be, whether the ruling sticks or not is largely dependent on the outcome of Tuesday's midterm elections.

Brent Woodcox, senior policy attorney for Senate Leader Phil Berger's office, tweeted Friday Republicans would appeal the decision if the party wins a majority on the state Supreme Court in the election. One of the non-court seats

up for election that could sway the balance of power in the N.C. House is Dist. 54, currently held by Democrat Minority Leader Rep. Robert Reives II. He told the News + Record if the decision is implemented, Chatham students stand to gain.

"More money provided to the district annually would mean that local leaders could allocate money to places where it is sorely needed," Reives said. "More money would flow for the students who need it most, like children with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency. Additional funding means that Chatham County Schools will have more flexibility to give individual students the attention and resources they need."

Karen Howard, chairperson of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, also lauded the decision by the N.C. Supreme Court. She echoed Reives' sentiments, saying this decision is an essential component to growing education in the county.

"The Leandro Comprehensive Remedial Plan was research-based and widely supported by educators, business leaders, mental health experts and higher education professionals," Howard told the News + Record. "That matters for children, families, communities, and our economic future, not just in Chatham, but across the great state of North Carolina and I am delighted that we are finally here."

The potential impact in CCS

Reives said the ruling means

Chatham County Schools and students across the state are receiving the respect and attention they deserve. Reives also cited Every Child NC's Leandro Impact Tracker — which estimates how state funding will change in a given district upon implementation of the Leandro Plan — as proof of the impact of Leandro on Chatham County Schools.

The tracker shows CCS would see a 32% increase in state funding over the next eight years from the current mark of \$59.4 million to \$78.2 million under Leandro. While the tracker is based on estimates, the point is clear — Leandro would provide more funding to CCS and other public schools throughout the state. These increased funds in CCS could mean an additional \$2,000 per pupil, and fund 69 teachers, 24 counselors, 19 social workers and more.

The man in charge of these potential funds, CCS Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson, called last Friday's ruling "a game-changer" for students. He said the resources the funding could bring to the district present an opportunity, especially for at-risk students.

"This ruling also ensures that additional resources are designated for statewide Pre-K programs to include additional Pre-K slots to serve more students and the training and increased salaries of teachers in that sector," Jackson said. "This is a great ruling for all students and communities."

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

5th annual 'Salute to Veterans' honors Chatham's bravest

From the Chatham County Council on Aging

SILER CITY — As the stone-etched names of Chatham County military veterans looked on, Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner issued his own version of a clarion call. "I believe we have a shared responsibility to reinstate our country's core values," Wagner argued. "We have lost a sense of duty, honor and country over several generations, and it is evident in many aspects of our daily life."

Amid a backdrop of respect and reverence, the Chatham County Council on Aging held its 5th annual "Salute to Veterans" event Friday at West Chatham Veterans

Memorial. With Wagner as one of several speakers, Chatham County veterans from the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard were recognized for their service.

Jimmy Lewis, COA Grants and Communications Specialist, praised the veterans in attendance for their willingness to answer the call of service when it arrived on their doorstep.

"You didn't dodge the call," Lewis said. "You answered and served your country, and that is why in no small part, we are here today and have the freedoms we enjoy."

Through research attained via Chatham County Historical Association archives, Lewis recounted the environment

in Chatham at the outset of World War I. After the Selective Service Act was passed on May 8, 1917, Chatham County was required to furnish 192 men to the draft. However, over 400 were called up due to many expected exemptions.

As the draft drew closer, the now-defunct Siler City Grit and Chatham Record each published editorials imploring those eligible to register. The Grit later proceeded to publish the names of those who registered.

"Let it not be said that there are cave dwellers and slackers in Chatham in 1917! Register!" the Grit editorial decreed.

The June 27, 1918, edition of the Chatham Record contained a letter from Diffie C. Phillips,

who was stationed at Fort Jackson during the closing months of World War I. The correspondence from Phillips, who passed away in 1985 at the age of 81, read in part:

"We who have gone to represent Chatham in this great struggle expect to bring back to her the honors that are justly due her. We have already seen this in the 'pep' with which the Chatham boys move round. They have made good records and the officers are proud of them, for they are above the average, large in size, healthy and strong, and they have the quickness of a rabbit. And when the war drum sounds the battle on to glory or to the grave and the Chatham boys jump forward in the fray; when the last

fight is fought and victory won, we will return back to the dear old county we love with the honors that rightfully belong to her."

In the present day, Wagner lamented the struggle that the U.S. Armed Forces experience in the recruitment and retention of new members.

"Over the last half century, the number of active duty has dropped significantly from 3.5 million in 1968 during the military draft era to about 1.4 million," Wagner said.

The 1.4 million figure would represent less than 1% of all American citizens.

Salute to Veterans is the creation of Eastern Chatham Senior Center manager Liz Lahti.

Coming from a family of military veterans, Lahti's mother grew up in Denmark during World War II and the height of German occupation.

Members of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard, commanded by Maj. Steve Maynor, presented the colors. Beverly Goldston of the CCSO sang the national anthem and welcomes were extended by COA Director Ashlyn Martin, Siler City Mayor Chip Price, Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson and Johnny Shaw, president of the COA's Board of Directors.

"We hope that today's event will serve as a constant reminder of the important of recognizing and thanking those who have served, those that continue to serve and those whose families have lost loved ones in service," Martin said. "Thank you to each of you for the sacrifices that you have made for our country."

The COA Gospel Choir provided music, which included "When The Saints Go Marching In," "On The Battlefield," and "God Bless America." A wreath was laid by members of the CCSO honor guard. Speakers included Lewis, Chatham County Veteran Services Office Michael Daniels, Scott Bucenlehner, Vice Commander of American Legion District 13 and Wagner.

"We may not be as quick as a rabbit anymore, but we're cunning as a fox!" Daniels said of Chatham County's veterans. "That's kind of how our senior veterans move around. But I wanted to thank everyone for showing up, veterans or otherwise, for showing up to say thank you to us veterans and the veterans that are sitting before me — because we have endured a lot. But the thing about it is, we just keep getting up."





insight
HUMAN SERVICES
Understanding

**Your Prescription
Your Responsibility**

For more information contact

Terri Fowler 336-413-4237
tfowler@insightnc.org

Derrick Vickers 336-287-2411
dvickers@insightnc.org

BE AWARE. DON'T SHARE.

LOCK YOUR meds

lockyourmeds.org/nc




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 SFR-RX (Grant #1U79SP022087).

Mother convicted of child abuse and murder; boyfriend acquitted of all charges

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — A jury on Friday found Josalyn Upchurch guilty of child abuse, inflicting serious bodily injury and 1st-degree murder in the 2017 death of her 14-month-old son, De'Andre Cotton, after a

six-week trial.

Upchurch was sentenced to life in prison without a chance for parole after one of the longest criminal trials in Chatham County history.

Upchurch's co-defendant and former boyfriend, Ricky Adams, was acquitted on all charges.

Cotton was found in Upchurch's apartment at 127 Broadmoor Drive in Pittsboro after she called paramedics. When first responders arrived, they found the child deceased; reports say he was covered in bruises, particularly around his head and face. An autopsy revealed

Cotton died from blunt force trauma to the chest and abdomen. The report noted the child also suffered from broken ribs and a laceration to the liver.

Cotton's family members were present for the duration of the trial. His father, Darius Cotton, was able to provide a

victim impact statement to the court, thanking the jury for their service and for the one thing he wanted most: justice for his son.

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

BURIED TREASURE

Doing the Chatham truffle

With a hospitable climate and numerous success stories, North Carolina has become the hub of the country's young truffle industry

BY PAUL WACHTER
The Assembly

PITTSBORO — On a balmy June morning, Joshua Esnard stood before freshly cleared land on his 26 acres in rural Pittsboro and spoke of the riches to come.

Esnard, a native of the Caribbean island of St. Lucia, had already had entrepreneurial success with the Cut Buddy, a do-it-yourself hair cutting tool that was featured on Shark Tank and is now available at Walmart, Target and other major retailers. As improbable as that venture may have appeared — as it did to most of the Shark Tank judges — Esnard's new endeavor seemed even more quixotic.

In 2018, Esnard and his pregnant wife had been living in South Florida, but wanted to relocate to North Carolina, where he'd spent enjoyable early years as the child of peripatetic academics. Esnard's plan was to buy some land, and grow ... something.

"I was just fooling around on the Internet, looking up luxury crops," he said. "At first, I was thinking saffron," he said, until he learned how labor-intensive it is to harvest.

More internet searching led him to truffles, the elusive fungi traditionally found buried in the wild for which fancy chefs and gourmands are willing to pay hundreds, even thousands, of dollars per pound. But truffles aren't a crop like corn, whereby a farmer seeds a field and can reasonably expect a harvest by the end of the season.

It can take eight years or longer for a single truffle to emerge, and that's if the farmer does every step of the process right. Many would-be truffle farmers fail to produce any at all after hundreds of thousands — even millions — of dollars in investment.

The cleared acre sits behind a five-bedroom house, where Esnard, 36, lives with his family as well as his business partner and former Florida State University roommate, Tony Huey. Huey, his wife and their daughter moved here from Texas. (The third partner, Mickey Mitchell, another former classmate, lives on Long Island.)

The house is off a dirt road, up a long, winding gravel driveway that cuts through woods on both sides. Esnard had recently installed a Starlink system for better internet service. But he had yet to find a reliable water source for the truffle orchard, and they were planning to plant their seedlings in only a few weeks.

N.C. becoming the 'hub'

Still, Esnard and his partners had reason for optimism. North Carolina is the hub of the country's young truffle industry, with a hospitable climate and numerous success stories to draw from. Estimates of the number of truffle farms one acre or larger in the United States run between 500 and 1,000, but there are more than 200 in North Carolina alone.

Esnard also had a mentor in Omoanghe Isikhuemhen, a microbiologist at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University who has had reliable success producing truffles on the university's test orchards in just two to three years.

In 2019, before they planted a single tree, Esnard and his partners formed Truffletopia, a company that manufactures truffle products in Italy. They sell the offerings — various truffle oil and sauce concoctions derived from Italian truffles — back in the United States to a handful of gourmet shops and restaurants and on Amazon.

They hope by the time they start producing truffles in North Carolina, Truffletopia will already have brand awareness, Huey said. Their ambition is boundless, like many a wide-eyed truffle farmer before them.

"We want this to become an agritourism site, like wineries in Napa," Esnard said. "We're building a truffle Disneyland."

A truffle is a type of mushroom, which is the fruiting body of a spore. The fungi grow in a symbiotic relation-

ship with tree roots, providing water and nutrients in exchange for carbohydrates that the trees generate through photosynthesis.

While most mushrooms send their fruit above ground, truffles remain subterranean, their reproduction relying on foraging animals like birds, deer and rodents passing spores in their waste. Traditionally, humans have relied on pigs and dogs to locate truffles by their scent, both in the wild and, later, on truffle farms. (Dogs are generally preferred since they, unlike pigs, don't typically enjoy eating the truffles.)

According to Zachary Nowak's Truffle: A Global History, they first appear in recorded history on a clay tablet recording a functionary's gripes about a letter from King Zimri-Lim, who ruled over a pocket of present-day Syria in the second century: "Ever since I reached Sagaratum five days ago, I have continuously dispatched truffles to my lord," the bureaucrat wrote. "But my lord has written to me: 'You have sent me bad truffles!'"

Other culinary references to wild truffles can be found in ancient Greek and Roman texts, but it wasn't until the early 19th century that French farmers began growing their own truffles. The French transplanted oak and hazelnut seedlings from truffle-producing woods, and used trained pigs and dogs to find the harvest.

By 1915, France was producing about 1,000 tons of truffles annually, but the World Wars crushed the fledgling European industry, which never fully recovered thanks to the urban drift and deforestation of the late 20th century. Today, France produces less than 50 tons of truffles annually; Italy and Spain produce only slightly more. Meanwhile, the industry expanded to other parts of the world, most notably China, the United States and Australia.

'Aromatic freshness'

And while upstart California wine-makers once struggled to garner the praise heaped upon older, long-claimed French and Italian producers, the same snobbishness applies less to truffles, where the most coveted characteristic is aromatic freshness.

"Let's say you take a Périgord black truffle in Europe that's harvested on Christmas day, packed in a box, and sent out the next morning," said Carolina Truffières' Davis Upchurch, who along with his parents, cultivates 100 acres of truffle orchards near Asheville. "It hits another hub, and maybe it gets to Chicago or New York three to five days after coming out of the ground and a few days longer to reach California. A week-old truffle isn't considered fresh."

Domestic producers are better suited to provide truffles to local restaurants and other customers, a fact Franklin Garland, a polymath North Carolina farmer, realized in the late 1970s, when he became obsessed with the fungi.

Garland, the doyen of the United States truffle industry, grew up in Tarrytown, New York, and majored in math and psychology at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Looking to flee the northern winters, he moved to North Carolina, where his brother was in graduate school in Chapel Hill. In 1975, he bought land in Hillsborough, built a home, and began growing greenhouse tomatoes. Then he heard about a French company that was looking to start a base for truffle farming in the United States. Garland and his father traveled to a conference in Santa Rosa, California, that the company hosted in the late '70s.

"They didn't even serve us truffles, and I'd never had one before," he said. But his curiosity was piqued, and he went to France to tour several truffières — French for "truffle orchard" — and was served a truffle omelet. "I fell in love with it," said Garland, now 71.

In 1979, Garland began planting hazelnut seedlings that had been inoculated with spores of the black Périgord truffle, a highly prized varietal, which unlike white truffles, doesn't lose its aroma when heated. The now-defunct French company he'd purchased the seedlings

from gave him very little advice. "They said plant them, come back eight years later, and get truffles," Garland recalled.

But it wasn't so simple. "The soil's different here, and it needs to be modified," he said. Truffles require soil with a pH of 7 to 8, which is significantly higher than most soil found in North Carolina and the Eastern U.S. Garland added lime to the soil to increase the alkalinity.

"Around the 12th year of our orchard, we did a drastic soil mediation, and in 1992 we finally got truffles," he said.

Other operations sprung up, with upstarts buying inoculated seedlings from the Garlands or other grower-providers. Recently, the North American Truffle Growers Association, the industry's trade group, estimated that as of 2020, there are about 200 orchards of at least one acre in production in the United States.

Owners can be 'tight-lipped'

But Charles Lefevre, who founded the Oregon-based New World Truffières 20 years ago, guesses the number is higher. "There's fewer than a thousand, but my company alone provides seedlings to more than 100 growers," he said. Upchurch, the founder of Carolina Truffières, said there were about 200 orchards in North Carolina alone.

Many farmers are tight-lipped about their business. "A lot of growers ended up planting bad trees and don't want to talk about their failures," said Upchurch. But farmers can also be wary of publicizing their successes, given the possibility of theft of their valuable and portable produce.

Most farmers plant 400 to 500 trees per acre that can yield 50 to 100 pounds of truffles per year. That produces upwards of \$50,000 in revenue per acre — but most farms are less than ten acres and the start-up costs are high.

"It costs a minimum of \$15,000 to \$20,000 per acre to buy the seedlings and get started in the truffle business, and that doesn't include the cost of the land or the years of labor and investment to keep it going," said Garland, whose family currently has 10 acres under production.

Meanwhile, disease is a constant threat. Many orchards have succumbed to Eastern Filbert Blight, a fungal disease that preys upon European hazelnut trees. Nearly 20 years ago, the blight ravaged Garland's orchard as well as a large operation near Charlotte, Piedmont Valley Truffles.

"One of the big mistakes truffle farmers made was starting with European trees," Upchurch said. He visited one North Carolina orchard recently that had been there 18 years.

"But it was all hazels," he said. "Half were dead, and half were infected."

Esnard and his partners had thought that they'd plant black Périgords like Garland, with whom they consulted, or perhaps Burgundy truffles, another popular species. (The world's most expensive varietal is the Italian white truffle; a two-pound specimen sold for \$118,000 at auction last year, but it has to be successfully farmed.)

But there were some concerns in Truffletopia. While Garland and other farmers had shifted from European hazelnut trees to hybridized trees that were more resistant to the blight, they were not immune to it. Plus, the partners were hoping to get product to the market without waiting a decade for their orchard to mature.

"We're not millionaires, and we can't just burn through money," Esnard said.

Last year, Esnard attended a North American Truffle Growers Association conference in California where he met Omoanghe Isikhuemhen, who suggested a different approach to truffle farming. Isikhuemhen, known to many as simply "Dr. Omon," grew up in Nigeria in a family of subsistence farmers and studied botany at the University of Benin, focusing on mushrooms. He earned a doctorate in microbiology in the Czech Republic, conducted research at Duke University and in Japan, and joined the faculty at North Carolina A&T in 2002, initially focusing on shiitake mushrooms, developing hundreds of new strains.

'Do the science right'

Isikhuemhen noted that there wasn't much scientific inquiry into truffle cultivation in North Carolina. He's spent the last decade working on truffles — specif-

ically the Bianchetto, commonly known as the white spring truffle, which isn't as prized as the Italian white varietal (Tuber Magnatum). Rather than rely on European trees, they grew the truffles with loblolly pines, native trees better suited for the climate and local disease.

"We already had a lot of loblollies on our property, so we knew they could survive," Esnard said.

Previously, the fastest you could grow Bianchetto truffles was four years. "We got that down to two years and six months," Isikhuemhen said.

But he's cagey about his methods. For a flattering Smithsonian profile last year, he told a reporter that his success involved "microbial dynamics" and manipulating the "growth media" he used to inoculate the seedlings with truffle spores.

"You need to do the science right," he told The Assembly in an interview, but offered a mystical explanation of said science. "For 10 years, I was observing the tuber," he said. "You have to talk to them."

The university, which operates 4 acres of truffle orchards, doesn't sell its truffles or its expertise. "We don't want to compete with the industry," Isikhuemhen said. "We do research and academics." But he also consults pro bono with growers, most notably Burwell Farms in Burlington, which inoculated its first loblolly seedling in 2014 and now produces more than 200 pounds of white spring truffles annually.

While not challenging Omon's scientific bona fides, other growers say his success has been overstated. "There's really nothing new going on," said Lefevre, the New World Truffières founder, who holds a PhD in forest mycology from Oregon State University. "The Bianchetto truffle is well known as the easiest truffle to grow ... The reason people haven't grown it is that in Europe, it's not really a valuable species."

"They don't taste as good as the Périgord truffles," Garland said, who offered an analogy with French dessert wines. "It's like drinking a regular sauterne versus a Château d'Yquem."

But Burwell Farms and other white spring truffle growers are still selling to retail buyers at \$100 per ounce and at \$40 to \$50 per ounce to restaurants and wholesalers — on par with the going rate for the prized black Périgords.

"What's interesting is not that Omon succeeded in growing truffles," Lefevre said. "Everyone knew he would. The interesting thing is that they're able to charge high prices because it's a novelty and it's local."

By late August, the 415 loblolly seedlings the Truffletopia partners planted earlier in the summer had grown to about 2 feet tall. Researchers from N.C. A&T had visited the orchard and told them "the trees look great," said Huey, who quit his pharmaceutical sales job last year to devote his full attention to the truffle business, while Esnard splits his time between Truffletopia and his Cut Buddy business.

'Not a cult'

But logistical challenges remained. The small pond they had relied upon for irrigation had dried up, forcing them to truck in water. "We could put in a well, but that could be cost-prohibitive if we need to go down a thousand feet," Huey said. Mowing the grass between the rows of seedlings was difficult because there were so many rocks on the plot. They hope to see their first truffles within three years and realize a commercially viable yield within five. They plan on clearing more new plots on the property to plant seedlings.

"Part of our vision, which is implied in our name, is that we're living on the land in a utopia setting," Huey said.

"We're not a cult," Esnard deadpanned.

But just as there are wine obsessives and car obsessives, there is a cult, of sorts, of the truffle.

And the hope for Esnard and his partners, as well as Garland and other growers, is that in the near future their orchards will attract the attention not only of local chefs and consumers, but truffle devotees across the globe.

This story was initially published at www.theassemblync.com, which has published deep reporting on power and place in North Carolina since February 2021.

CN+R ENTERTAINMENT



Locally owned and operated

ONE STOP INSURANCE AGENCY
919-930-4780

Cindy Carter at your service!
 189 Thompson St.
 Pittsboro, NC

THE LAURELS OF CHATHAM

A Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center



- Short-Term Nursing & Rehab
- Long-Term Care
- Secured Memory Care Unit
- Outpatient Therapy
- Respite Care
- Private Rehab Suite

Medicare, Medicaid,
 Most Insurances Accepted

72 Chatham Business Dr., Pittsboro
 919-302-7862 • laurelsofchatham.com

Serving Families of Siler City and Surrounding Areas



KNOTT'S AND SON FUNERAL HOME
 1501 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City NC

COME MEET OUR STAFF!

"Excellent service and quick response. Car looked as if nothing had happened."
 -Blake Y.



"Meredith stayed on top of the insurance and helped us get our car back on the road."
 -Carla N.



Pictured: Cathy Baker



Chapel Hill
 1174 US Hwy 15-501 N
 919-537-0770

Pittsboro
 1022 Sanford Rd
 919-542-2334

MAGIC MAZE

INSERT A "C" TO MAKE A NEW WORD

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: NOT FALSE

- | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----------|---------|
| Additive | Biker | Fleeing | Radials |
| Aids | Dane | Mediation | Snaking |
| Basis | Deals | Path | Sold |
| Bath | Fats | Prelude | |

©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	1	7		9				4
2					1	9		5
5			6					7
		3			2			8
1				4				5
	4		1			3		
		8	7					4
	5	2			6			9
9				8		2		3

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!

© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.



Smart Cars by Wieland

The most convenient, fun, and smartest way for you to purchase your next pre-owned vehicle.

Let us help keep your vehicle running smooth!
 Oil changes, brakes, inspections, free diagnostics



471 Hillsboro St. Pittsboro, NC • 919-542-1599 • www.smartcars1.com

New Arrivals Coming In Daily. Hurry In For Best Selection!



Celebrating **76** Years

Dossenbach's 1946-2022



Family Owned & Operated Since 1946
 Downtown Sanford
 215 Wicker Street
 4 Building 1/2 Block Showroom
 (919)775-7237
 www.dossenbachs.com



GRILL OUT FOR LESS THIS SUMMER

20# TANKS FILLED FOR \$15.98 + TAX
WE FILL ALL SIZES!

Get Ready to Grill!

STOP IN TODAY!



193 Lowes Dr., Suite 110,
 Pittsboro
 919-704-8589
 strickslpgas.com



Cambridge Hills is the area's premier senior living community

Twin Rivers feels like a cozy neighborhood where residents and staff become family

Great affordable communities, located in picturesque Pittsboro, NC, with a hometown feel and caring staff

Cambridge Hills Assisted Living
 140 Brookstone Ln., Pittsboro, NC
 919-545-9573

Twin Rivers Independent Senior Living
 25 S. Rectory St., Pittsboro, NC
 919-545-0149

CN+R ENTERTAINMENT

TAKING GREAT PRIDE IN CARING FOR OUR FAMILIES

WORKING TIRELESSLY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A BEAUTIFUL, LASTING TRIBUTE TO YOUR LOVED ONE

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO SERVE YOUR FAMILIES FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

Knotts

FUNERAL HOME

SANFORD
719 WALL ST

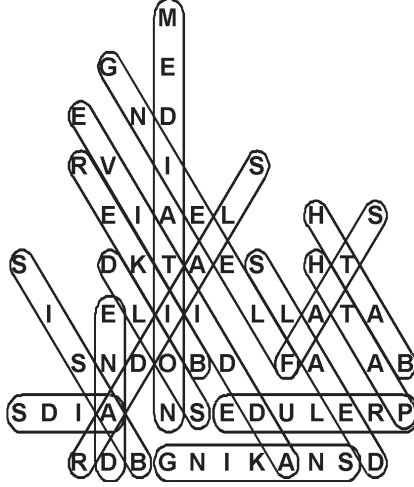
CHAPEL HILL
113 N. GRAHAM ST

PITTSBORO
50 MASONIC ST

TIME to PACK YOUR BAGS

CALL NC TRAVEL
919-742-2839
or
Email Amy: apugh@northcarolinatravel.net
105 N. Chatham Ave, Siler City, NC

INSERT A "C" TO MAKE A NEW WORD



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

3	1	7	2	9	5	6	8	4
2	8	6	4	7	1	9	3	5
5	9	4	6	3	8	1	7	2
7	6	3	9	5	2	4	1	8
1	2	9	8	4	3	7	5	6
8	4	5	1	6	7	3	2	9
6	3	8	7	2	9	5	4	1
4	5	2	3	1	6	8	9	7
9	7	1	5	8	4	2	6	3

Kryptonight



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

Tonight was supposed to be one of The Kid's and my fave meals.

We were going to The Dog House, which is, shockingly, a hot dog stand that is in various locations around Durham.

There are two different ways to cook hot dogs: wet and dry. Wet is cooking the franks with some type of liquid, steaming or boiling in water or beer. Dry is cooking in a manner that makes the skin crispy.

When hot dog skin is cooked dry, the fat in it changes. Some folks can't get enough of the combo of crispy skin bathed in the fat.

Some folks — not me. I am a wet dog girl.

And The Dog House steams its frankfurters.

They also have sauerkraut and spicy brown mustard, not always easy to find in the south (I get my hankering for these Yankee condiments from my Jersey girl mother).

But, almost as good as the doggies are what comes alongside.

Crinkle fries, y'all! And pink lemonade, and these delicious fried apple pies that they glaze while

they're still hot.

Doghouse day is right up there with Taco Tuesday.

But something came up and we had to postpone Dog House day.

(And I bet you thought this was going to be a hot dog column, didn't you?)

So, I had to pivot.

I would be dining alone, and I didn't want to get takeout. I also wanted to cook from my kitchen and not have to buy supplies.

My dinner would be a twist on something I loved, and since The Kid had to bow out, it could be something my child loathes.

It would be coconut rice with field peas with snaps.

The Kid hates coconut in every form; hates it so much that my child claims to be allergic. Because everybody's had that, "I know you don't like X, but you've never had my X!"

Field peas are fine with The Kid, it's the snaps that are the killer.

Then I added a couple of things.

At Chipotle, I get the burrito bowl and always ask for it to be topped with a double helping of romaine lettuce. So, I decided to plate my rice mixture on a big bed of romaine. Then, I glanced in the pantry and spied my ginormous bag of the onion ring things



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Coconut rice with field peas with snaps.

that go in a green bean casserole.

I loved it, there was a ton of texture; creamy, crispy, crunchy and the bitter romaine played well with the rich coconut rice.

The Kid would have hated it.

You might say my dinner was my child's... kryptonight. Thanks for your time.

Contact me at dm@bullcity.mom.

Kryptonight

- 1 1/2 cups white rice
- 1 13.5-ounce can of coconut milk + water to fill the can
- 2 teaspoons salt
- Big pinch of pepper
- 1 15-ounce can of Bushes field peas with snaps
- Romaine lettuce
- Crispy fried onions

Place rice in heavy lidded saucepan along with coconut milk, water, and salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, cover and reduce to a simmer. Cook for 15-18 minutes or until liquid has cooked in. Turn off heat. Drain field peas and then pour over rice — do not stir.

Recover and let sit undisturbed for 10 minutes. Then gently stir peas into the cooked rice.

To plate: slice romaine and place on the bottom of a shallow bowl. Top with rice and peas, then place a handful of fried onions on top. Serves 4-6 as a main.



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



We are cooperative, social-minded, curious, inclusive, searching. A niche firm with an environmental ethic.

Reach out to Weaver Street Realty when it's time for a change.

919-929-5658 • info@WeaverStreetRealty.com

WeaverStreetRealty.com

LAFF - A - DAY



"That reminds me, Mom — have you told Dad about your car yet?"

WE'RE ALWAYS HIRING!

GROW YOUR CAREER WITH MOUNTAIRE

- Hiring for all shifts
- General Labor starting at **\$14.50/HOUR**
- Industrial Maintenance positions starting at **\$23/HOUR**
(starting pay increases for experience)
- **FREE** transportation to and from work from Greensboro or High Point
- Guaranteed on-site interviews

OUR BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- On-site Health & Wellness Center
- 401(k) and profit sharing
- Great benefits
- Educational assistance
- One week of vacation after 90 days and additional week after 180 days
- Employee discounts on chicken



MOUNTAIREJOBS.COM

1100 E THIRD STREET | SILER CITY | NC
4411 W GATE CITY BLVD. | GREENSBORO | NC
8 AM - 5 PM | MONDAY - FRIDAY
(919) 663-6712