

Chatham News + Record

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ELECTION 2022

The results are in: Democrats sweep Chatham

CN+R Staff Reports

A week has passed since Election Day and the conclusion of the 2022 midterms, which saw Democrats sweep contested seats across Chatham County.

Absentee and provisional ballots are still being tabulated as Thursday's canvass approaches, but many seats in the county saw Democratic victories by

wide margins after another year that saw Chatham County with the highest voter turnout in the state — with 65% of registered voters, or close to 40,000 individuals, participating in the electoral process.

The News + Record spoke with Chatham candidates and party officials to get a sense of what the elections looked like and what lessons there are to be taken from this year's midterms. Here's

a breakdown of what happened, and what they're saying:

N.C. General Assembly

Republicans performed well across the state in this year's midterm election, gaining enough seats for a supermajority in the state Senate to override Gov. Roy Cooper's veto — but in Chatham, both the county's legislative seats stayed blue, with Democrat incumbents

claiming clear wins.

In the race to represent District 20 in the N.C. Senate, incumbent Sen. Natalie Murdock won the seat with 57.58% of the vote in the county, compared to her opponent Alvin Reed's 42.42%. With 22,238 votes across Chatham's 16 precincts, Murdock had 5,855 more ballots cast in her favor than Reed. A portion

See **RESULTS**, page A3

ON THANKSGIVING

Quiltmaker Café hosts Pay-What-You-Can meal

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — For those looking for a hot meal but without Thanksgiving plans, or if you're simply seeking company and conversation, Pittsboro's Quiltmaker Café is hosting a Thanksgiving event to provide a space for it all — regardless of ability to pay.

This year marks the first time the nonprofit Quiltmaker Café is holding a "Pay-What-You-Can" meal for Thanksgiving; it's scheduled for 1 to 3 p.m. on Thanksgiving day — Thursday, Nov. 24 — at Postal Fish Company in Pittsboro.

For café co-founder and executive director Jennie Knowlton, it's a day she's looking forward to for a number of reasons.

"I'm just really excited about the fact that there'll be a place for Pittsboro residents to go if they don't have plans for Thanksgiving already," said Knowlton, who established the nonprofit in February 2021 with her husband David and daughter Elizabeth. "So this kind of meal, to me, is not just about food insecurity. It's maybe about not having family close by, or not being able to travel to family this year, and so still having a place to celebrate the holiday and feel a part of the community."

The Quiltmaker Café aims to open a permanent fast-casual restaurant in Pittsboro using a pay-what-you-can model, in which those eating set their own price for the meal. Donations can take different forms,

See **MEAL**, page A6



Courtesy of Jennie Knowlton

Chatham residents gather for a pay-what-you-can community feast at The Plant hosted by the Quiltmaker Café on Oct. 16.

'BILLION-DOLLAR BOB'

Meet Chatham's secret weapon — the attorney behind VinFast, Wolfspeed deals

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

What do Charlotte's Bank of America Stadium, Fujifilm, VinFast and Wolfspeed all have in common?

The legal work on these massive N.C. economic development projects was overseen by one man: Bob Hagemann.

Hagemann, an attorney at Poyner Spruill in Raleigh, is now in his third year as the attorney for Chatham County's governmental operations, and in that short span, he's already made a huge impact — playing an instrumental role in bringing more than \$9 billion and 9,000 jobs in economic development to the county this year and helping set the stage for decades of growth and change.

His peers would describe him as laid-back, humble. The kind of guy you'd enjoy catching up with over a glass of wine. But underneath Hagemann's easygoing exterior is someone who knows how to get the job done, and whose skilled approach to the tasks at hand earned him the nickname — assigned by Michael Smith, the director of Chatham's economic development office — "Billion-Dollar Bob."

Part of the team

For Hagemann, coming to work in Chatham was a full-circle moment. As a UNC grad and Chapel Hill native, he says he's always loved this part of the state and always planned to come back. In fact, when he was living in Chapel Hill three decades ago, the county line went through



Staff photo by Matt Ramey

Chatham County attorney Bob Hagemann, who's helped steer three of the biggest economic development projects in state history to fruition.

Hagemann's property; it's safe to say he's always been part of this community.

But after 24 years as Charlotte's city attorney, Hagemann decided, in 2019, it was time to make the move back home. He said he jumped at the opportunity when he was offered the role as Chatham County attorney.

"What I like most at a practice is being part of a team," Hagemann said. "Spending close to half my time with Chatham gives me exactly that. It's just a lot of fun and obviously, there's amazing things happening here."

Karen Howard, the chairperson of the Chatham County Commissioners, said it was

immediately clear Hagemann was the right fit for the county when he was hired because of his experience and skills.

"I've just found him to be exactly what Chatham County needed at the point that he stepped in," Howard said.

She added that Hagemann's time working in a large metro area like Charlotte was important for Chatham as the county grows from what she called "the little step-cousin to one of the big boys in the playground." Hagemann's astute eye for detail and anticipation of potential consequences, she said, make him a valuable asset in the county government.

Hagemann is quick to

deflect praise for his role, but without him, those deals to bring the two largest economic development projects to the state thus far — first, VinFast, announced back in March, and then Wolfspeed, in September — might never have happened.

Reeling in the whales

Along with County Manager Dan LaMontagne, Hagemann helped craft the language of the deals and economic incentive packages used to lure in the two "whales," VinFast and Wolfspeed. LaMontagne said it was Hagemann's creativity

See **BOB**, page A6

ELECTIONS 2022 | SCHOOL BOARD

Incumbents keep seats, Turner's lead holds

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

Chatham County's Board of Education is set to remain the same after three incumbents won re-election to their seats last week — provided that Del Turner's lead in the fiercely challenged Dist. 3 race holds up.

Results for that race, between Turner and challenger Jessica Winger, won't become official until Thursday's vote canvass. Meanwhile, Gary Leonard handily defeated challenger Tim Moore in Dist. 5 by taking 57% of the vote, and Jane Allen Wilson, running uncontested, won another term in Dist. 4.

With all precincts reporting on Election Day, Turner had a 462-vote lead, 1.35 percentage points over Winger. Unofficial results gave Turner 16,490 votes (48.46%) and Winger 16,028 (47.11%), leaving the possibility of a recount (check www.chathamnewsrecord.com for updates).

'About protecting your kids'

Turner, who has claimed victory in the contest, focused

See **EDUCATION**, page A7

ELECTIONS 2022 | COMMISSIONERS

Chatham board seats stay blue

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff



Delaney



Gomez Flores



Kenlan

Democratic candidates for Chatham Board of Commissioners rode a blue wave last Tuesday, taking three contested seats by at least 12-point margins — with David Delaney (Dist. 3), Katie Kenlan (Dist. 4) and incumbent Franklin Gomez Flores (Dist. 5) each receiving 56% of the total vote.

The margin of victory is reflective of the partisan split across the county, but also shows what candidates described

See **BOARD**, page A10

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ON THE AGENDA

• The **Chatham County Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17, at the George Moses Horton Middle School multipurpose room.
 • The **Chatham County Board of Commissioners** will meet at 3 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 21, at the Chatham Agriculture & Conference Center for a public hearing on the county's Capital Improvements Plan.
 • The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 21, at Wren Memorial Library's multipurpose room. The meeting will be live-streamed onto the town's YouTube channel

OTHER

• **Siler City's City Hall** is currently under renovation. The 1st and 2nd floors are closed to the public. The Planning and Community Development Department is located in the basement and can be accessed through the far left door facing E. 3rd St. Parking available: 100 block of E. 3rd St
 • 'Tis the season to celebrate with **Chatham County Parks and Recreation** at the fourth annual Holiday in the Park. The evening will be packed full of fun, family-friendly, free activities for the community to enjoy. Holiday in the Park will take place on Friday, December 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Northwest District Park, 2413 Woody Store Road, Siler City. This free event will include pictures with Santa, holiday-themed crafts, letters to Santa station, warm drinks and cookies, a hayride around the pond, and more holiday fun. The event will kick off with a tree lighting near the pond at 5:15 p.m.
 • The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) of the Chatham Community Library is excited to announce its first-ever Teen Writing Contest. Local teens, ages 12-18, are invited to submit a work of fiction, non-fiction, or poetry (max 3000 words) in response to one of the TAB-crafted writing prompts. Submissions will be accepted from November 18 to December 18, 2022. Participants should email their submission to Kathleen Pierce, Youth Services Library Assistant and TAB advisor. 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.
 • The **Chatham County Council on Aging** will bring back its popular Senior Education Conference on Friday, November 18, at the Chatham County Agriculture &

Conference Center located at 1192 U.S. Hwy. 64 Business West, Pittsboro.
 - From 9 a.m. through 3 p.m., residents from Chatham County and surrounding areas can enjoy a day-long program of educational sessions on a range of topics. There is no cost to attend, and a light lunch will be provided. While the sessions will be geared toward older adults and their caregivers, anyone with an interest in senior-related topics may attend.
 • The **Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District** announces its 2022-2023 conservation poster, essay, and public speaking contests. The theme for this year is "Water ... The Cycle of Life." All contests are open to public, private, charter, and home school students. The poster contest is open to students in grades 3, 4, and 5. Essay and public speaking contests are open to grades 6, 7, 8, and 9-12. Entries are judged by grade level, with the exception of grades 9-12. Grades 9-12 will be judged together for each contest. - Poster and essay contest entries are due to the Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 1192 US 64 W Business, Pittsboro, NC, 27312 by February 28, 2023. Those who wish to compete in the public speaking contest will need to contact Education Coordinator, Brandy Oldham, by January 16, 2023. -- For complete details, rules, study materials, and N.C. curriculum standards correlation information, individuals may contact Ms. Oldham at 919-545-8440 or brandy.oldham@chathamcountync.gov. Information also can be found by visiting the Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Contests web page under the Education Programs link, www.chathamcountync.gov/swcd.

• The **Silk Hope Rurians** host a Benefit Bingo on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of each month. The last November event will be held November 17. All are welcome.

• **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** provides a healthy meal at no cost to those who come to us hungry at noon on Thursdays. We provide a place of hospitality and fellowship for everyone. All are welcome, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

• The **Chatham Historical Museum** is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. We will be following the governor's directives. Adult and kid friendly; no admission fee. Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the Circle. More info at <https://chathamhistory.org>.

• **Second Bloom** hours are 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at 630 East St., Pittsboro. Credit cards are accepted. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.

• The **Chatham Arts Council** has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort. For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.

• **Foster and/or adoptive** information: Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 to learn more.

• **Alcoholics Anonymous** — North Carolina District 33, call the Help Line at 866-640-0180 for the meeting schedule for this area.

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- 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres)
- 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres)
- 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres)
- 271 Talon Drive (11.97 Acres)
- 1835 Lewter Shop Road (3.24 Acres)
- 0000 Jim Gilliland Road (57.284 Acres)
- 18 Pearleman Teague Road (2 Acres)
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- 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres)

COMMERCIAL (Representing Buyers) 1 Unit

- 210 N. Chatham Avenue (Siler City)

RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 23 Units

- 5631 Swanns Station Road (Sanford)
- 4233 NC Highway 902 (Pittsboro)
- 130 Estes Drive (Chapel Hill)
- 1136 Sanford Road (Pittsboro)
- 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City)
- 1429 Van Thomas Road (Pittsboro)
- 1315 Hoyt Scott Road (Bear Creek)
- 745 Mert McManus Road (Bear Creek)
- 2349 S. Main Street (Goldston)
- 206 Olympia Street (Siler City)
- 8798 Sylvan Road (Liberty)
- 488 NC 87 N (Pittsboro)
- 76 Fox Chapel Lane (Pittsboro)
- 354 A Mountain View (Pittsboro)
- 138 Oakwood Lane (Pittsboro)
- 218 A Poplar Street (Chapel Hill)
- 58 Lily McCoy Lane (Pittsboro)
- 1637 Briar Chapel Parkway (Chapel Hill)
- 9849 Twisted Oak Trail (Snow Camp)
- 5470 US 15 501 Hwy (Pittsboro)
- 5472 US 15 501 Hwy (Pittsboro)
- 390 New Salem Church Road (Pittsboro)
- 211/298 C D Thomas Road (Siler City)

LAND (Representing Buyers) 3 Units

- 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres)
- 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres)
- 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres)

COMMERCIAL (Representing Sellers) 5 Units

- 1 Village Lake Drive (Siler City)
- 2 Village Lake Drive (Siler City)
- 3 Village Lake Drive (Siler City)
- 4 Village Lake Drive (Siler City)
- 7 Village Lake Drive (Siler City)

RESIDENTIAL (Representing Buyers) 7 Units

- 107 Hawks Spiral Way (Pittsboro)
- 85 Herndon Creek Way (Chapel Hill)
- 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City)
- 6490 Snow Camp Road (Snow Camp)
- 94 Pine Cone Loop (Pittsboro)
- 903 Woodland Drive (Siler City)
- 34 Carriage Court (Pittsboro)

PROPERTIES CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT

LAND (Representing Sellers) 5 Units

- 0 Hamlets Chapel Road (42.805 Acres)
- 10681 E US 64 Hwy (3.97 Acres)
- 0 Olives Chapel Road (75.43 Acres)
- 12190 E US 64 Hwy (15.158 Acres)
- 0 US 64 Hwy W (11.396 Acres)

RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 1 Unit

- 650 Half Dollar Road (Chapel Hill)

Visit & Subscribe to Eric's YouTube channel for a variety of fun & informational videos



'Deeded Access and Landlocked Land in Chatham County and North Carolina'
<https://www.youtube.com/c/ericandrewsrealtor>



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Submitted photo

Siler City Class of '53

The Siler City High School Class of 1953 celebrated its 69th class reunion on Oct. 29 at Best Foods Cafeteria. Pictured, front row, from left: Nancy Pritchard Wilson, Annie Fay Brafford Braxton; middle row, from left: Nellie Scott Haith, Dorothy Paschal Frazier, Naomi Culberson Beal, Joyce Brooks Stout and Dot Elder Harris; and back row, from left: Treva Gee Patterson, Howard Frazier, Pete Durham, Belton Joyner and Ann Burke Braxton.

COA announces return of Angel Tree program

From the Chatham County Council on Aging

The Chatham County Council on Aging has announced the return of its Angel Tree program for homebound seniors.

Angels may be picked up beginning Friday, Nov. 18, at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center (365 Hwy. 87 North, Pittsboro) or the Western Chatham Senior Center (112 Village Lake Rd., Siler City).

Gifts should be returned on or before Friday, Dec. 2, for delivery.

For more information, call the Eastern Chatham Senior Center at 919-542-4512 or the Western Chatham Senior Center at 919-742-3975.

RESULTS

Continued from page A1

of Durham County is included in District 20, meaning with the votes from Chatham's neighbor, Murdock's victory was by a wide margin — close to 73% of the total vote.

Murdock spoke with the News + Record on Tuesday between attending Election Night watch parties in Chatham County and in Raleigh, and thanked voters and volunteers who assisted at the polls.

"First and foremost, I just want to thank the people of Chatham County, even those that did and did not support me, I just want Chatham County to give themselves a hand," she said.

"They just had such strong turnout," she continued. "To be number one in the state through early vote, to exceed 40% of the vote — it is a phenomenal model that we need to replicate across the state. And it shows that people in Chatham County are very invested in their future and their communities because we all should be voting and so I was just really, really excited that that vote was so strong."

Reed, her challenger, expressed disappointment in the results, and particularly that Democrats swept contested seats across the county. But the retired software writer also said he was pleased he had the opportunity to disseminate ideas from his book "The Theory of Biblical Patterns," which he claims proves that God wrote the Bible.

"That's why I ran, for an opportunity to talk to people," Reed said. "And for me, it wasn't so much a vote. It was how many souls I saved. And I think I saved a few souls."

In Chatham County, incumbent Rep. Robert Reives II won 56.99% of the vote to keep his District 54 seat in the N.C. House of Representatives. His Republican challenger and former Chatham Commissioner Walter Petty gained 43.01% of the vote; Chatham voters cast 5,434 more ballots for Reives than for Petty.

District 54 now encompasses part of Randolph County, and Petty gained the majority of the vote among Randolph voters, with around 74% of ballots in his favor. But across the district, Reives maintained a majority with 55% of the vote.

Reives, who serves as House Minority Leader, expressed gratitude to voters in securing the seat to represent District 54 again, saying he felt like the community responded overwhelmingly in a manner that reflects what they want out of their public servants.

"What I hoped, whether I won or lost, is that people saw what the

power of community actually is," he said. "The district did not get severely gerrymandered, as gerrymandered as it could have been, because the community made it clear that's not what they wanted through their participation in the redistricting process."

The race for the N.C. House in Chatham had been, at times, eclipsed by concerns about mailers sent to voters during the campaign season, with both candidates claiming they contained personal and inappropriate attacks. Reives said he doesn't believe there's a place for such tactics in politics, and he felt like many Chatham voters did not put stock into the attack ads in this race.

"If you're really a public servant, you know your people," he said. "And these are people that you go to the grocery store with, you go to church with, you're in civic organizations with. And so when they [elections] start getting very personal, that's just something that is sad that that's where politics has gotten, but I was very thankful that the community as a whole, consistently, whether they would vote for me or not, understood that that's not who I was and I appreciated that."

Petty did not respond to multiple requests for comment for this story.

U.S. Representatives

Chatham will have a new congressional representative, though it isn't the person the majority of voters in the county wanted.

Republican incumbent Richard Hudson won the Dist. 9 U.S. House of Representatives seat despite 56.68% of Chatham County voting for his opponent, Ben Clark. Votes were tallied from nine counties in N.C., with Hudson gaining 56.70% of the total vote. Hudson previously represented Dist. 8, but after redistricting following the 2020 census, he decided to run for the Dist. 9 seat.

"Renee and I appreciate the outpouring of support throughout this campaign and I am honored for the opportunity to continue serving our community," Hudson said in a statement. "I now look forward to following through on our 'Commitment to America' to work towards an economy that's strong, a nation that's safe, a future built on freedom, and a government that's accountable."

Clark gave a statement after his loss, thanking voters for their support throughout his campaign.

"While we came up short in our quest to remove an election denier from Congress, I was heartened by many things that happened on election night, both in N.C. and around the

country," he said. "It's been a good 10-year run; and I'm still holding out hope for Medicaid Expansion in the remaining 6 weeks. After that, I'll be looking for new and different ways to serve my community."

Chatham County Sheriff

Incumbent Sheriff Mike Roberson easily won re-election, defeating Republican challenger Marcus Globuschutz, a Siler City resident who works as a probation/parole officer in Randolph County.

Roberson was appointed to the office in 2016 after serving in a variety of law enforcement positions in Chatham, then re-elected in 2018 (he ran unopposed). He took 62.15% of the ballots (24,036 votes to Globuschutz's 14,636) this time around to win a second full four-year term. In doing so, he beat back a candidate who'd lambasted his leadership and management of the sheriff's office on Facebook and other social media platforms.

"I want to tell you this, from my perspective, 337 days ago we filed for re-election," Roberson told supporters at Democrat Party headquarters in Pittsboro last Tuesday night. "So that's a long time to go through that. And I'll be honest with you, some days were longer than others. I've even had a countdown clock to remind us throughout our tough days, how many more days we had to go to keep this all in perspective of where we are."

"We started this campaign on a positive path," he continued. "And we ended it on a positive path. And I'm happy about that. I will be honest with you, I wrote some responses that I deleted. But I do think it's important if we're going to make government something that can be trusted, that we have to be trustworthy. And so I think in doing that, we have to be mindful of how we treat others, even when you're not being treated well yourself."

Roberson thanked his staff at the Sheriff's Office for their work and for "pull(ing) through this" during a campaign in which Globuschutz made distorted claims and cited accusations about Roberson from unnamed sources.

"(They) are criticized about what they're doing and why they're doing it," Roberson said of his staff. "They keep doing the job that you're doing. They're doing an awesome job. This is not a political statement; you have the best staff in the state of North Carolina working for you right now. And I mean that and I'm very proud of every

one of them."

In a statement released election evening, Globuschutz said, "The people of Chatham County have spoken. This election has been such a humbling experience for me and I'm so grateful for the outpouring of support and the thousands of votes I received. I have met so many great people throughout this county as I campaigned and I'm still proud to call Chatham County home. I would like to congratulate Sheriff Roberson and wish the Chatham County Sheriff's and its employees the best."

Chatham Board of Commissioners

Chatham Democrats also swept the races for Chatham Board of Commissioners. David Delaney (Dist. 3), Katie Kenlan (Dist. 4) and Franklin Gomez Flores (Dist. 5) each defeated Republican candidates with a 12-point margin receiving 56% of the vote in each race.

Chatham largely voted straight ticket in the commissioners races, which is evident by the similar margin in all three races. A full breakdown of the race, including responses from candidates can be found in this week's edition.

Chatham Board of Education

The Chatham school board will look very familiar next term with all three incumbents — Del Turner, Jane Allen Wilson and Gary Leonard — winning their reelection campaigns.

Turner's Dist. 3 race with challenger Jessica Winger remains close with just a 1.35-point margin. Results for the race are still yet to be finalized until Thursday's canvass. If the margin between the candidates narrows to 1% or less then Winger could call for a recount.

In Dist. 5, Gary Leonard defeated challenger Tim Moore by a 15-point margin, earning 57% of the vote.

Dist. 4 board member Jane Allen Wilson ran uncontested in her race. If the results hold, the trio will enter their third term on the school board together. Leonard and Turner have both been on the board since 2010, with Wilson joining in 2014. They each said they hope to build on the progress they've made for the school district. For a full analysis of the school board election including candidate statements, see this week's edition.

Lessons learned

Bill DeLano, first vice chair of the Chatham Democratic Party, said the party was pleasantly surprised by the election results.

"We didn't take any

race for granted and we focused our efforts accordingly," he said.

In considering the issues or approaches the party took that might have served them well in securing victories across multiple races, DeLano said the party chose to stand for "civility, positivity and inclusion" and focus on needs in Chatham County.

"There are those who would rather portray an 'us versus them' view of the world. Our Chatham community is thriving because we largely reject that premise," DeLano said. "Our friends, co-workers and people we encounter may vote differently but in our day-to-day lives, we are still neighbors."

When looking to the future, DeLano said the party aims to continue engaging voters in Siler City, Bonlee, Goldston, Bear Creek and Moncure.

"One Chatham needs to be more than a slogan and we took that message to heart," he said.

DeLano also applauded Chatham's record high voter turnout, as did the Chatham County Republican Party.

In an email to the News + Record, the Chatham GOP noted the impact of early voting in expanding the options for registered voters to partake in the electoral process.

"More voters are deciding to vote early rather than wait for Election Day. This has positive effects: it makes it easier to vote, and it removes the constraint of only being able to vote on Tuesday, Election Day," the Chatham GOP said in a statement to the News + Record.

But the Republican Party also said it believes the early voting period should be limited to five or six days in advance of Election Day because they felt voters who participated on the first day of early voting "did not have as much information available to them" as compared to voters who participated on Election Day.

The GOP congratulated each winner of local races in the county, as well as voters for exercising their civic duty, saying their focus remains on the county and several key matters.

"This election brought these issues into clear focus, and we will continue to work to provide a voice for citizens who want reasonable growth, improved rural broadband service, clean water, clean air, and a school system that graduates students who can read, write, and learn new skills for jobs that are not yet clearly defined in our growing 21st Century economy," the party said.

GOP-supported candidates were defeated by margins of around 56-44 in most races. The Chatham GOP said it felt the margins can be attribut-

ed to a liberal-conservative split in the county, and said at-large voting allowed a select group of suburban precincts to sway the political leaning of the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education elections.

"Something is wrong when a candidate may win a geographical District but may not win the election," the party said. "It should be one person, one vote, candidate and voters all living in the same district."

The Republican Party said it will study the process of moving from at-large to single member districts and vowed to change "gerrymandered Districts for Board of Commissioners and Board of Education."

"Precincts should be completely within a District," the Republican Party said. "Each District should be simple geometric shapes, not convoluted lines."

Chatham County Board of Commissioners appointed a task force to examine the county's voting methods in 2018. The Board of Commissioners Election Method Task Force looked into district-only voting as the Republican Party suggested, and found that the method would not make a substantial impact on election outcomes. The task force was formed to determine whether to increase the number of commissioners and whether to change the method by which commissioners are elected. The work of the task force occurred when the BOC had a 3-3 partisan split. The task force itself was comprised of three Democrats, three Republicans and three Unaffiliated voters.

Sarah D'Amato was a co-vice chairperson on the task force.

"The research, the statistics, the public comment, etc., all show that the current system we have is the best compromise," D'Amato told the News + Record Tuesday. "If we change to district only voting, we will need to redraw the maps — which will happen soon anyways — which will ultimately lead to voting districts different from the ones we know of now."

Now, with five Democrats on the Board of Commissioners, further research into this methodology appears unlikely. The county also decided not to redistrict for the 2022 elections after the results of the 2020 Census were released. At the time, commissioners felt the timeline was too rushed to adjust district boundaries with adequate public input partially due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bill Horner III, Ben Rappaport, Maydha Devarajan and Taylor Heeden contributed to this story.

VIEWPOINTS

CHATHAM SCENE | TAYLOR HEEDEN

Behind the scenes on Election Night



TAYLOR HEEDEN
Columnist

Fair elections and the right to vote are integral parts of American society, and as a journalist, I wanted to see what takes place behind the ballot

box, so to speak, on Election Night.

And after hearing about the rampant misinformation following the 2020 presidential election, and claims about violations of election integrity, I thought: can we say with confidence an election in Chatham County can't be stolen? After last week, I feel confidently the answer is "yes."

Why? It's because I've seen the process of counting the votes with my own eyes.

Last week, after polls closed across Chatham County, I made my way to the county's board of elections office in Pittsboro to watch the county's staff and elections workers securely upload election results to the Board of Elections' web page. I saw every step, every set of checks and balances established to ensure the vote of every citizen is protected and accurately counted.

The entire voting process, of course, is weeks-long, but what



Staff photo by Taylor Heeden

Election officials and board of elections staff work to ensure the tabulator from the Bonlee precinct isn't compromised.

elections officials showed me last Tuesday night demonstrated the care taken to ensure each and every single vote in Chatham is cast correctly and fairly.

On Election Day, the five members of the Board of Elections — three Democrats and two Republicans — met at the board of elections office to collect election materials from each precinct. Each tabulator, ballot, provisional ballot, and other important documents were collected by a judge, each individually approved

by the board. Tabulators are the electronic machines that people feed their ballots into after voting.

Judges and election officials from the precincts drove to the board of elections office after polls closed, handing off all the machinery to board members and board of elections employees.

The election officials and board of elections employees went through a checklist for each part of the tabulator. That checklist included documenting the number of

votes the tabulator counted and comparing it to the number documented by precinct volunteers, comparing serial numbers to ensure it's the correct machine from each precinct, checking the seal over each thumb drive containing the final vote counts for each precinct and much more. As board of elections staff would go through each checklist item, two board members — again, one Republican and one Democrat — would observe and make sure everything was done correctly.

After each machine was double-checked, board of elections staff would break a security seal and hand the thumb drive over to the two observing board members. From there, the board members will take the thumb drive to a single computer in the office directly connected via cables to a private network to ensure no electronic tampering can occur.

Results are then subsequently uploaded to the Board of Elections' computer. Elections Director Pandora Paschal then uploaded the results to the state's Board of Elections with two board members from each political party observing.

This is done for each of the 16 voting precincts in Chatham; that's why it can take hours to finish uploading the votes from Election Day and

early voting. The work doesn't end on Election Day, however. The board meets multiple times after the election to tabulate all absentee ballots postmarked by 5 p.m. on Nov. 8, as well as to process provisional ballots.

Official results won't be finalized until after canvassing, which is taking place on Thursday this week.

Seeing the process first-hand not only helped me to understand what I've been reporting on for the last two years, but it provided me — and hopefully you — with additional confidence about what Paschal and others have repeatedly said: there just aren't issues with voting integrity in Chatham County.

From what I could tell, everyone who was present during last Tuesday's three-hours-long process of counting each vote is truly dedicated to protecting the backbone of American Democracy. They are the unsung heroes here, and it's important to recognize all the hard work they do to ensure our voices are heard at the ballot box.

If you are interested in attending Board of Elections meetings, they're open to the public and are live-streamed onto their website. For more, go to chathamcountync.gov and search for "elections."

Thanksgiving alert



JAN HUTTON
This Being Human Thing

Thanksgiving alert! Thanksgiving alert!

Oh, wait, I bet you're fully cognizant Thanksgiving is tiptoeing its way into Chatham County (and other nearby locales). Am I right? So the planning has begun, often centered on serving the appropriate holiday food groups ...

... Turkey smothered in gravy, sweet potatoes with baby marshmallows and pies (all with whipped cream)

Oh my, I was deep into that food fantasy when, well, I'll just say it, I discovered Todd died. He was a 52-year-old former neighbor who moved to a different state several years ago. I felt stunned as I read his obituary, reminding me of all the reasons I'd had such respect for his essence. But never told him.

Todd's death made me aware that I rarely offer personal, heartfelt, thanks to others for the various gifts of their presence in my life. Quite frankly, I'm afraid I'll cry. As someone who is manifestly uncomfortable with sharing tears in public, you can imagine how this could be a large obstacle to offering heart-to-heart thanks to others.

But, hey, I'm still an evolving human being (as I bet you are too.) I'm willing to walk toward the possible danger of shedding a tear or two to thank you for the unique gifts you've brought into my life. I don't want to miss that opportunity as I did with Todd.

This year's Thanksgiving has become multi-dimensional for me. No denying the great food (who'd want to anyway), but I'm also setting my heart on having significant dishes of expressed gratitude for YOUR presence in my life. May I continue to serve these same dishes next year...

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

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Wear your feelings



ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

There is a group of German speakers which meets regularly under a large tent in Fearington Village. Though I am seated at a different table, I catch snatches of the foreign language drifting on the breeze. I love to learn new words in different tongues. Foreign languages can help us understand our own experiences in a new way.

A few German words have come to mind after the recent national elections. *Weltschmerz* means "world pain" and refers to a weariness about the problems in larger society. It is a feeling of helplessness that the state of things is beyond repair and only getting worse. If you think our democracy is soon to collapse, *du hast Weltschmerz*.

In the larger culture, I also see evidence of *schadenfreude* — joy in another's pain or misfortune. Winners may gloat and preen, but *schadenfreude* is focused on mocking the losers. It seems many people find this feeling attractive. If *schadenfreude* were clothing, it would be a sexy, strapless number or a finely tailored suit. You strut in it, thinking you look sophisticated, chic and urbane.

But wait a minute! Upon closer inspection, you realize there is a coffee stain down the front! Also, a button is missing and a seam unraveling. Even worse, the material is scratchy. It irritates your skin. The more you wear *schadenfreude*, the more uncomfortable you feel.

Finally, you look in the mirror and, if you're honest, you look disheveled. Decidedly unhip. Almost pitiable.

Long ago, a writer invited people to clothe themselves with "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" (Colossians 3:12). Instead of fancy or trendy outfits, maybe these virtues are more like an old pair of jeans. Not the kind that have been pre-ripped to look cool, but pants that have been torn from volunteering with Habitat for Humanity or have grass stains from mowing an elderly neighbor's yard. These jeans are the opposite of sophistication, yet they make you feel good. What's a better word to describe this feeling?

I cannot find an adequate antonym for *schadenfreude*. (Not to cast judgment on Germans; I am by no means fluent.) However, the Sanskrit word "mudita" is translated by a Buddhist friend to mean "sympathetic joy." It means to delight in the success of others.

You do not wear your old *mudita* jeans to try and impress anyone. You do not even think about yourself. It is a gorgeous Saturday and the kids in the neighborhood want you to throw batting practice. One child steps up to the plate holding the bat upside down. You quietly correct the grip and give words of encouragement. Then, this kid hits one over your head and your heart soars! By any name, this feeling looks good on you.

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

What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | REP. ROBERT REIVES II

Putting aside politics for the greater good

After a year of the toughest campaign that I have faced since 2014, I want to reach out directly to this community and offer my gratitude. I am grateful for your continued trust in me to represent Chatham and Randolph counties in Raleigh as your N.C. House Representative and House Democratic Leader. I know that this win was only made possible with the support of voters from all parties and affiliations and I am deeply appreciative of your faith in my service.

When we run for office, we have to choose which party we represent, but I want to reiterate my commitment to every person in this district, regardless of political affiliation and regardless of whether you supported my campaign. This community will continue to grow and improve, and everyone should benefit from our continued prosperity.

Our district was redrawn last year during the redistricting process, making this race much more competitive than before. I knew that it would take a massive effort from volunteers,

friends and family to help us reach the finish line. This was also a time of change for our local party, with a new Chatham County Chair, Liz Guinan, taking the lead. Her team worked day and night to organize and strategize, and the result speaks for itself: Our slate of candidates won every race up and down the ballot. Our county had the highest rate of voting, once again beating the other 99 counties with a 65% turnout.

From the bottom of my heart: Thank you all for your unwavering support over the past year. Without your trust in me, this victory would not have been possible.

The next few weeks will be spent catching up with family and friends, but the hard work ahead of us is right around the corner. Our community is the best in the state; I could not think of a better place to call home than Chatham County. But we are far from perfect, which is why I want to continue building on the progress we have made so far.

Too many residents in Chatham

County still have trouble accessing safe, clean water. In 2022, that is unacceptable. I have worked over the past session to secure funding for wastewater treatment and that work will continue. As this county continues to grow, we have to make long-term investments in our infrastructure today. We cannot wait until it is too late or too expensive to make a difference.

Improvements on our water systems are not just to our benefit, either. Chatham is blessed to have an abundance of natural beauty, and that should be protected. With new industries on the way, we need to work with local nonprofits and local governments to balance progress with preservation. We can and should continue to grow, but it needs to be in a way that protects the parts of Chatham County that make it so special.

North Carolinians voted for a divided government yet again. Governor Roy Cooper remains in office for two more years, and while Republicans in the State Senate captured a supermajority, House Democrats held onto enough

seats to keep his ability to veto extreme legislation alive. Over the past two years as the House Democratic Leader, I have seen what is possible when we work together to tackle major, bipartisan issues.

We can put aside politics to accomplish a greater good. Bipartisan work over the past few years has brought massive investments to Chatham and Randolph. Toyota, VinFast and Wolf-speed will help renew the manufacturing sector in North Carolina. All three of those projects are right in our backyard, creating thousands of jobs and bringing millions of dollars to our local economy.

I will continue to fight in Raleigh to ensure that you have the opportunity to get great health care, a good education and a good job right here in Chatham County. Thank you, again, for trusting me with this responsibility.

Rep. Robert Reives II of Goldston represents Chatham County and a portion of Randolph County in the N.C. House of Representatives, serving Dist. 54.

National GOP fell short of expectations



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

The victors are crowing. The vanquished are moaning, or spinning, or deflecting blame. Pundits and campaign professionals are scouring

the precinct-level results or exit polls for evidence that validates their strategies or proves their favorite theories.

That's all fine with me. I've long been fascinated with the art and science of campaigns myself, though as a journalist rather than a practitioner.

When it comes to the 2022 midterms, however, I don't think we need elaborate statistical models or inside information to understand what happened. Generally speaking, the issue environment favored the Republicans. In some key races, however, Democrats nominated superior candidates.

In North Carolina, the net result was a good Republican cycle. The GOP regained a supermajority in the North Carolina Senate and got within a seat of it in the House (and may end up with a working supermajority on budget issues, at least). The GOP won both seats up for grabs on the Supreme Court, as well as four more on the Court of Appeals. Republicans made gains on county commissions and school boards. And, of course, North Carolinians contributed to the Republicans' play for the U.S. Senate by electing Ted Budd.

Still, Democrats won the state's two most-competitive rac-

es for the U.S. House: the 1st District (Don Davis defeating Sandy Smith) and the 13th District (Wiley Nickel defeating Bo Hines). And outside of North Carolina, the Republicans fell considerably short of expectations.

Both parties' bases turned out strongly, motivated as much as anything else by negative polarization ("the other side must be stopped!"). But as is clearly evident in the contrasting performances of Republican gubernatorial and Senate candidates in places like Georgia and New Hampshire, there were enough swing voters present — soft partisans, ticket-splitters, and true independents — to determine the outcomes.

The issues these voters cared about most were inflation, the economy, law and order and abortion. On three of the four, Republicans had an edge.

For example, swing voters blamed the Biden administration and the Democratic Congress for runaway inflation, fueled both by excessive demand (i.e. trillions of dollars in debt-funded giveaways) and inadequate supply (constrained first by COVID-era rules and then by other regulations). To the extent they assume the Federal Reserve's anti-inflation policies will trigger a recession in the coming months, these voters blamed Biden and his party for that, too.

As for law and order, swing voters resented being told they were imagining the recent spikes in violent crime and the crisis on the southern border. They also resented being told that if they truly cared about democracy and the rule of law,

they should vote for Democratic candidates for federal, state and local office. Of course most of these voters didn't agree with the rioters who broke into the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. But they also didn't agree with the rioters who broke many of America's downtowns during the summer of 2020. They remember the dozens of deaths and serious injuries that ensued, the billions of dollars in property damage, and the craven responses of many public officials in urban areas, overwhelmingly Democrats.

Most of these voters want their governments to fund and deploy more police, not fewer. They want order restored. And they want their reasonable expectations to be met, not deplored.

Given this generally favorable issue environment, why didn't the Republicans fare better at the polls, particularly outside of North Carolina? Because in many instances they nominated inexperienced and unappealing candidates. Some couldn't stop indulging Donald Trump's delusions about the 2020 elections. Others mishandled the abortion issue — opposing its legality even in cases of rape and incest — or failed to articulate a credible alternative to Biden's economic policies.

On inflation, the economy, crime, the rule of law, school closures during COVID and a host of other issues, the policies Democrats enacted or championed are unpopular. To the extent Republicans failed to translate this opportunity into sweeping victories around the country, they have no one to blame but themselves.

LETTERS

The fact-free GOP Party

TO THE EDITOR:

A number of writers have implied that "extremists" on both sides of the political spectrum should work together to form compromises. Normally, compromise makes perfect sense — like when debates were held about taxes, spending, regulations, foreign policy, etc. However, one party makes that extremely difficult by opposing basic truths.

How specifically should Democrats work with a party that tries to gaslight us all and declares January 6th "legitimate political discourse" (Republican National Committee February, 2022), plus supports the Big Lie that Joe Biden's 2020 election was somehow not legitimate — in spite of losing over 60 court cases that showed virtually zero fraud? And by already claiming fraud in some of the 2022 elections with no proof, while thousands of election workers are unsung heroes — just doing their jobs carefully and accurately while being intimidated and/or threatened by Republicans.

Our democracy is truly at stake when free and fair elections are denigrated for political gain. Assume the Republican Presidential candidate wins in 2024 and his/her opponent files some objections in courts, but does not prevail. What should Democrats do then — mount another insurrection??

Meanwhile, Democrats are focusing on issues that the majority — or vast majority — of citizens support, including reproductive freedom with continued access to birth control, affordable health care, protecting social security and Medicare, clean air and water, gun safety measures, marriage equality, a minimum corporate tax, ending dark money in politics, protecting social security and Medicare, and extended child care tax credits and veterans' benefits.

One answer to cut through all the drama and deflecting is for every media source to ask more detailed questions (with follow-up) of every office holder regarding what exactly they propose to resolve our various serious problems, and specifically how their ideas would help.

Bert Bowe
Pittsboro

East vs. West Chatham

TO THE EDITOR:

No, I am not talking about politics. Rather, I was intrigued in reading "The elephant in the room" article (Nov. 10-16 edition, News + Record) in last week's paper about Chatham County's high school football dilemma. After our four high schools recorded a 7-34 record this past season, the proposed primary blame appears to be the failure of our middle schools to offer football as a sport.

I certainly understand the frustration. Not many of us like to lose.

Still, I want to suggest what some may consider a radical alternative: combining our four football programs into two. Northwood and Seaforth could form "East Chatham" and Chatham Central and Jordan-Matthews would be "West Chatham."

Here's my rationale for what I see as a common-sense solution.

First, increasing the number of players on each of the two teams would address the most immediate and important problem — the lack of players. According to last week's article, both Jordan Matthews and Seaforth had only about 40 players on their teams and many of the players were freshmen. As the article reported, the decline in participation is a national problem.

Having limited squads in terms of numbers and experience makes it not only hard to compete but also brings heightened risk of injury. By combining teams as proposed, players would not have to play both offense and defense and inexperienced players would not be forced into competition prematurely. There might also be sufficient numbers for junior varsity play.

Second, combining programs should reduce costs to the school system. The savings could be redirected to support a training program for middle school students interested in playing football.

Third, the proposed approach should prevent students from feeling pressured to play football when their interest may really be in another sport or other extracurricular activities.

So, what would my radical idea look like?

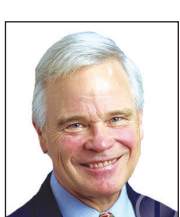
Both the East and West Chatham teams would have sufficient numbers of players to allow safer and more competitive games. Practices and games could be held at all participating schools. We might even see greater community collaboration as fans, cheerleaders, and bands join together to support their teams as they earn more victories.

Would the N.C. High School Athletic Association support a change? Research to answer that question is just one of the many necessary tasks to determine the feasibility of my proposal.

I hope my suggestion spurs serious consideration among those responsible for coming up with a common-sense approach that is best for all — especially the participating student athletes.

Dennis W. Streets
Pittsboro

Thanksgiving: my favorite holiday



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday.

One reason is that it is a time for lots of plentiful food on the table.

And time to remember favorite people, now gone.

We lost author Randall Kenan last year. I liked his beautiful writing best when he wrote about food when families came together to celebrate or to mourn.

For instance, he edited "Carolina Table," a beautiful set of essays about food in the south. In that volume, he wrote about the foods that were served at funerals in his home in Duplin County, specifically what his neighbors brought when his great uncle died.

"People showing up heavy-laden with food to the homes of the recently deceased," he wrote. "Hams, fried chicken, oven-baked barbecue chicken, pork chops smothered in gravy, dirty rice, Spanish rice, potato salad galore, slaw, sweet potato casseroles, candied yams, hushpuppies, cornbread, soup, chopped pork barbecue, collard greens, pound cake, chocolate cake, coconut cake, pineapple cake, red velvet cake, sweet potato pie, lemon meringue pie."

Another author from rural North Carolina who can describe food deliciously is Jason Mott from Columbus County. His latest, "Hell of a Book," won the National Book Award.

Here is an excerpt from that book in which the parents of a little boy who has hidden himself somewhere in the house try to entice him to reveal himself by cooking his favorite food:

"Before long, the house billowed with the smells and sounds of the boy's favorite food. The chicken fried in a heavy black skillet and the macaroni bubbled and baked in the oven. There were sugared strawberries, and muscadine grapes, and leftover pound cake that the boy had forgotten was still in the house. Even though he was still hidden, his stomach growled so loudly that he feared it would give him away. But his mother and father didn't seem to hear and so he was able to continue to sit — even with the hunger in the pit of his stomach — and close his eyes and smell all of the dancing aromas. In that moment, invisible and buried in his parents' love, he was happier than he had ever been. And soon, in spite of his hunger, he was asleep."

Our great authors' descriptions of food remind me how much I love the plentiful delicious food that is prepared and consumed at Thanksgiving.

But there is much more to Thanksgiving than the wonderful food.

What I like even more is the time we still save just for families and friends. There is, of course, competition for that time. Football games, parades, concerts, and films. But we have to struggle to avoid them or figure out some way to blend them into the family program.



Staff photo by Matt Ramey

Chatham County attorney Bob Hagemann, who's helped steer three of the biggest economic development projects in state history to fruition.

BOB

Continued from page A1

in those incentives that made the magic happen. “His talent is just unbelievable,” LaMontagne said. “He is a very experienced attorney in the state who is really respected by everybody and I’m happy he’s on our team. He’s been involved in so many things in the state, but you wouldn’t know it just talking to him.”

One of the ways Hagemann’s experience and craftiness showed was through the negotiations involving the land needed for each of the manufacturing facilities. LaMontagne said when big companies are trying to pick a site, they often want obtain the land at no cost — as was the case with VinFast and Wolfspeed. During negotiations, though, Hagemann said doing that would create a “legal nightmare.” Instead, he crafted a land incentive package for both projects based on performance to ensure the companies execute promises of jobs and investment.

Both companies paid to acquire the respective sites in Moncure and Siler City, but under the incentive structure, the companies will earn specific rebates on property taxes — discounts based on meeting performance goals.

“Coming up with something that is that critical that both parties can agree to is no small task,” LaMontagne said.

While other locations involved in trying to land VinFast and Wolfspeed did offer sites for free, Chatham wasn’t willing to do that immediately. It’s partly because of Hagemann’s incentive structure that the companies still wound up choosing Chatham.

“These were very high-level conversations with very sophisticated clients,” Howard said. “But there was a strong level of comfort we had because Bob was there.”

The incentive packages offered to VinFast reduces property taxes at specific rates if the companies meet job and investment goals. In each case, performance would be measured by the creation of eligible jobs:

- 80% in years 5-8
- 75% in years 9-11
- 60% in years 12-15
- 50% in years 16-20

For VinFast, the figure is predicated on reaching its 7,500 job promise in the next 20 years, while Wolfspeed must deliver on its 1,800-job promise.

The idea was so applauded that Siler City used the same structure in its Wolfspeed deal.

County officials said this structure avoided massive debt for the county.

This structure also protects taxpayers, according to Smith. The EDC president said it ensures existing residents aren’t left with the tax burden if either of the projects doesn’t deliver on its promises.

“This structure was a really great way to keep us competitive during the early days of those projects,” Smith said. “That idea has been one of the most important and impactful things in those two very large projects.”

Starting with ‘yes’

Besides his legal savvy and expertise, Hagemann also brings a unique attitude to the

role of county attorney. LaMontagne said they share the philosophy of starting with “yes.”

“A lot of attorneys will just say, ‘Nope, can’t do that,’” LaMontagne said. “But Bob starts with ‘yes’ and never shuts anybody down; he thinks through solutions and solves problems.”

The county attorney’s solutions-oriented mindset is why he’s been behind the scenes in the three largest economic development projects in state history — Fujifilm in Holly Springs (\$2 billion), in addition to VinFast (\$4 billion) and Wolfspeed (\$5 billion). The Bank of America Stadium project he assisted with in Charlotte provided a home for the NFL’s Carolina Panthers.

The nickname “Billion Dollar Bob” is well-earned, Smith said.

“I didn’t go out and find these things, they kind of came to me,” Hagemann said. “But having worked on those big projects, it’s pretty cool.”

Smith said he had no hesitations about Hagemann becoming a part of Chatham County’s team;

his knowledge and experience with large-scale projects made him immediately trustworthy.

“With the success we’ve had, we’re on track to generate additional opportunities for the county,” Smith said. “We’re certainly grateful for that, but we also know we are prepared for those next projects because we have the advice and counsel of Bob.”

Ready for what’s next

As VinFast and Wolfspeed begin construction and other projects come down the pipeline, Smith said there will surely be legal challenges that ensue — whether they be housing, wastewater or otherwise. But no matter the legal obstacles, Smith said he is confident Hagemann will keep the interests of Chatham at the heart of his decisions.

Smith and LaMontagne each said Hagemann is also quick to stand up for Chatham’s interests and not bend to the will of corporations. They both said Hagemann knows the limits of what Chatham is capa-

ble of and isn’t afraid to say no when it counts.

“These projects don’t exist in a vacuum,” Hagemann said. “They’re a magnet for other activity, so we need to be prepared for the big undertaking that is already underway here.”

While the growth pressure in the county will stir up legal obstacles, Hagemann said he welcomes the challenge. He calls himself an “evangelist” on local government because he frequently talks with young lawyers about how enjoyable it is to deal with the breadth of issues present on a local scale. Much of that passion all goes back to why Hagemann took the role as county attorney in the first place: to be part of the team.

“I want to take very little credit for the big issues that I’ve had the chance to work on in Chatham,” Hagemann said. “My role was simply part of the outstanding Chatham County team.”

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

MEAL

Continued from page A1

including monetary, produce or donations of time through volunteering.

Knowlton said there are around 50 other cafés in the country using the same model, and under the umbrella of the One World Everybody Eats nonprofit organization.

The organization has seven key elements, which the Quiltmaker Café aims to follow, including pay-what-you-can pricing, the ability for guests to choose portion sizes, the ability for guests to volunteer in exchange for a meal, serving healthy and local food, offering a community table as “an equalizer” to guests, paid employees receiving a living wage and volunteers making up the majority of restaurant staff.

In North Carolina, other pay-what-you-can cafés include A Place at the Table in Raleigh and FARM Café in Boone.

Knowlton, who grew up experiencing food insecurity, remembers the associated stigma. A core feature of the restaurant is dignity, she said, and being able to give agency to patrons to dine out and enjoy a meal with others.

“So there’ll be no separation between who might be paying, who might be volunteering, who might be paying under,” she said. “And just building that community also with using volunteers, rather than employees, [so] that everyone is also serving each other, once again, no matter from what type of means they might be coming from.”

Feeding America, a nonprofit and national network of food banks, defines food insecurity as a lack of regular access to a sufficient amount of food for each person in a household to live a healthy, active life. Causes of food insecurity are varied and complex, and can include poverty, unemployment, chronic health conditions, lack of affordable housing and systemic racism.

In Chatham County, 11.7% of residents, or 8,350 people, are



Courtesy of Jennie Knowlton

Guests at the Quiltmaker Café’s pay-what-you-can community feast gathered at The Plant in Pittsboro in October.

food insecure, according to the 2019 Feeding America report. In comparison, the state’s food insecurity rate for the same year was 13.5%. The Chatham County Public Health Department’s 2021 Community Assessment found that more than 1 in 8 Chatham County adults reported worrying they would run out of food before they had money to buy more in the past year, including around 30% of Hispanic or Latinx residents and 20% of Black residents.

Since its establishment, the Quiltmaker Café has hosted different meals in the county, including most recently a Pay-What-You-Can Community Feast attended by 250 people at The Plant in Pittsboro last month. Local chefs Sera Cuni from the Root Cellar Cafe and Bill Hartley from the Postal Fish Co. have collaborated to provide food for the Quiltmaker Café’s events, and will be creating the menu for the restaurant until the Quiltmaker Café is able to hire a chef.

Guests at next Thursday’s dinner can expect to enjoy the Thanksgiving classics, from turkey and stuffing to mashed potatoes and pie. For those

with dietary restrictions, there will be some vegetarian and gluten-free options.

Leslie Chartier of Pittsboro’s The Travelling Café is providing food on the day of, as well Postal Fish Co., which is preparing the turkey. Knowlton said Chartier had initially reached out to her about collaborating on the Thanksgiving dinner, calling it a “perfect match.”

Chartier first met Knowlton at a networking event with Circle City Merchants, of which they are both members. The chef said she sees participating in the dinner as a chance to engage in community outreach, a cause essential to her. She hopes to create an “atmosphere of hospitality” for those attending.

“My whole philosophy of hospitality is to make people feel transported just momentarily, so that they forget about what’s going on in their lives,” she said. “And they enjoy the fellowship of other people and good food.”

For Hartley, co-owner of Postal Fish Co., his motivations for supporting the Quiltmaker Café’s cause are similar.

Hartley said Knowlton and her husband initially reached out to him to pick his brain about opening a restaurant when Quiltmaker Café was still in its development phase. In addition to shaping the café’s menu and providing guidance on restauranting, Hartley now serves on the nonprofit’s board.

“Me being in the restaurant industry my entire life, the only thing I know how to do is feed people — whether it’s at home, feeding the family during the holidays, or working in a restaurant or owning a restaurant,” Hartley said. “It’s part of my life, and I’ve come to realize over the years that not everybody is or was as fortunate that I was growing up as a kid.

“And food insecurity’s kind of been brought to the surface here, to me, in Chatham County,” he continued. “And I realized that it is a serious problem, and everybody deserves to be fed.”

Hartley said his family has gathered at the restaurant for their Thanksgiving meal most years since it opened, in 2017. COVID-19 interrupted that, but when Knowlton approached

him about using the Postal Fish venue, it was an easy answer.

“So I was like, ‘We can do it here,’” he said. “I’ve always wanted to be able to open the doors to the community on Thanksgiving and Jennie and the Quiltmaker has given me that opportunity.”

Attendance for the Thanksgiving meal is limited to 50 guests, and free tickets can be reserved online at the dinner’s Eventbrite page. The restaurant is still seeking volunteers for the Thanksgiving dinner, and postings can be accessed at the “Volunteer” tab on the Quiltmaker Café’s website.

Currently, the café is still searching for a brick-and-mortar location, with the goal of opening in 2023. Knowlton said the restaurant had been in negotiations with a property this year, but the arrangement fell through in September. The café also completed a \$30,000 matching campaign in October, in which they raised over \$33,000 for a total of \$63,710.

In selecting a permanent spot, Knowlton said the restaurant is considering a number of factors, from having access to sidewalks and being walking distance near the downtown area for those without transportation to feeling like a welcoming venue for all individuals.

“We really feel like our home is in Pittsboro,” she said. “And we want to be very thoughtful of the location that we choose.”

Offering individuals who may be experiencing food insecurity the ability to not only choose different aspects of a meal, but the ways in which they participate in the pay-what-you-can restaurant, is incredibly important, Knowlton said.

“It’s almost like a domino effect,” Knowlton said. “If you have choice and you feel welcomed somewhere, how else does that change what might be going on in your life?”

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

CHURCH

NEW BEGINNINGS MINISTRIES

New Beginnings Ministries will have a sale of Items fundraiser, including furniture, clothing, antiques, miscellaneous, floral, household goods, etc., at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19, in the basement of the old Kimbrell's building, 129 South 2nd Ave., Siler City.

ROCKY RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

The Churchmen, a Bluegrass Group, will be in concert at Rocky River Baptist Church at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20. Their Southern Gospel style, four-part harmony with

bluegrass instrumentation, is a popular sound.

All are welcome. The church is located at 4436 Siler City - Snow Camp Road, Siler City. Join us if you can.

RIVES CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rives Chapel Baptist Church is sponsoring a "Coat Give-away" on Friday, Nov. 18, in the parking lot of the Food Pantry and Salvation Army building on Old Hwy. 421 North, Siler City, beginning at noon, lasting until all coats are gone. One coat per person. The Rives Chapel Church Fall Festival and Auction will

be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19, with outside games for the children. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served at 5 p.m. There will be a Silent Auction and a Live Auction. Proceeds go toward the Lottie Moon offering. There will be movie time for the Kids.

The church is located at 4338 Rives Chapel Church Rd., Siler City,

MT. PLEASANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Parents Morning Out will take place on Saturday, Dec. 1, at Mt. Pleasant U.M.C. Pre-registration is required. Drop off time is 9 a.m., ending

at 12 to 12:15. Make sure your child has appropriate clothing and shoes. (Sneakers are the preferred footwear and remember to send a coat in cold weather.)

A healthy snack will be provided mid-morning. Please note on your registration form if there are any food allergies. Our church takes special care to provide a safe, clean environment for our Parents Morning Out. The teachers clean and disinfect the surfaces in our classrooms. We are committed to limiting the spread of sickness from child to child.

Register at [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C-](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C-0F4AA9A723A2FEC16-par-ents)

0F4AA9A723A2FEC16-par-ents. We will email you a registration form after you register via the SignUp Genius.

Contact the church at 919-929-8845 with any questions. We are located at 269 Mann's Chapel Rd., Pittsboro.

GOLDSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Goldston United Methodist Women will have their annual bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 19. We will have food, clothing, and yard sale items from 8 a.m. to noon.

The church is located at 185 Hillcrest Ave., Goldston.

EDUCATION

Continued from page A1

her campaign on finishing what she's begun in previous terms on the board: increasing local subsidies for teachers, enhancing opportunities through the growth of AVID and ensuring a timely K-12 civics curriculum for all students.

The Dist. 3 incumbent candidate watched the results come in on Election Day from the Chatham Democratic Party office in Pittsboro. As the final precinct showed her ahead, she thanked her supporters for aiding her campaign.

"All of you who helped with this campaign are parents," Turner said. "You had

a vested interest, it was never about me. It was about protecting your kids."

This is the first time in Turner's 12 years on the school board she's had to campaign so fiercely, she said. She added the parents of the district stepped up and supported her through the challenge.

"I feel very blessed,"



Leonard

Turner said. "But this election says something. When we know

that there's an existential threat to the way we live we all need to pick up a piece and talk about it. Don't just leave it to me."

Winger did not respond to requests from the News + Record for comment after the election. In a post to her campaign Facebook page last Thursday she said, "Today I am filled with overwhelming gratitude for my family, friends, teachers, and all in Chatham who have supported me in this campaign. I feel uplifted and inspired by each of you and your sincere devotion to our community, especially our children."

National issues took center stage

Turner said the challenges facing education now are part of a larger struggle for democracy, both locally and nationally. Chatham Democratic Party Vice Chair Bill DeLano echoed those concerns at the watch party on Tuesday.

"There's a moment where the things we see at a national level come to roost locally," Delano said. "For whatever reason (Turner) became the lightning rod for that vile and vitriol that we saw on a national level. She didn't deserve it and that is why I'm proud to lift her up tonight."

The national issues Delano and Turner refer to are false claims surrounding Critical Race Theory (CRT) being taught in Chatham County Schools and the rise of "parents first" campaign narratives, which pushes for increased parental oversight in school curriculum — issues central to Winger's and Moore's platforms as they both called for increased transparency from the board.

The majority of voters rejected that messaging on Election Day.

"I just am extremely grateful that you all brought Del Turner and Gary Leonard back," Wilson, who has served on the board with them for eight years, said. "We've worked so hard together and we have such a good board, administration and superintendent. I'm so thrilled we can continue to work on the schools and make them even better."

Turner said she believes the victory means Chatham County cares about its children and that parents and other residents are satisfied with the work of the school board and its current make-up of members.

"We chose stability over chaos and confusion," Turner said. "I'll work on behalf of children no matter what."



Turner

The Chatham school board races also saw the rise of the Moms

for Liberty influence. The national organization of Moms for Liberty has called for book banning in schools, falsely used CRT as a catch-all for race-related school issues and openly attacked LGBTQ+ students. The local chapter endorsed Winger and Moore and played a role in actively promoting false claims that CRT was being taught and promote in Chatham County schools.

Winger denied being part of the organization despite members of her campaign team holding leadership positions in the organization and the campaign receiving substantial donations from Moms for Liberty members.

"Jessica and Tim fought hard and long, but regardless of the outcome, this battle has not ended," Chatham's Moms for Liberty chapter wrote in its newsletter Monday. "We have only just begun. There is much work to do and we have a large army of awakened parents behind us."

Turner said she hoped voters would investigate claims about candidates more thoroughly in the future because of the rampant "misinformation" spread in this race.

"There was a lot of information that made it very obvious that my opponent was a liar," Turner said. "She was misrepresenting herself, she was involved with people who really did not have the best interests of children at heart ... I think people just need to make themselves better informed in the future."

Winger did not respond to requests for comment.

Building on progress

Turner and Leonard each said their primary goal for next term is to continue the trajectory CCS is on to continue doing good things for children. Leonard added he wanted to work for a district that supported all students, faculty and staff.

"We'll continue to work together to help our students be successful," Leonard said. "We're fortunate that Ms. Turner and Ms. Wilson were elected because I know they have been very instrumental in accommodating the common needs of the district and its leadership as we move CCS forward."

Wilson, also at the Chatham Democrats' watch party, said she was grateful the board could continue to build on its progress.

Leonard, who has served on the board since 2010, acknowledged the divided vote in this election, which he said reiterates the

board's need to focus on what's best for the education of children in Chatham County.

Dist. 3 recount possible

If the narrow margin in the Dist. 3 race shrinks, it could trigger a recount once the results are finalized on Nov. 18. According to N.C. General Statute § 163-182.7, "a candidate shall have the right to demand a recount of the votes if the difference between the votes for that candidate and the votes for a prevailing candidate is not more than one percent (1%) of the total votes cast in the ballot item, or in the case of a multiseat ballot item not more than one percent (1%) of the votes cast for those two candidates."

Winger would have until 5 p.m. on Nov. 21 to ask for a recount if the final results show the margin is within 1%. Winger's campaign didn't respond to questions whether she'd consider asking for a recount, but she did release a statement on her campaign Facebook page:

"In such a tight race, I feel duty-bound to make sure every last vote is counted," the statement said. "Let us be patient as we await the final elections (cavass). I believe that as citizens of Chatham, we can expect the American political process to be played out fairly and through a well-established set of rules. Pray for our community and give patience in this democratic process."

The post was accompanied by a copy of the N.C. general statute that outlines rules for a recount.

Turner maintains a 462-vote lead; according to the Chatham County Board of Elections, more than 250 ballots are still outstanding between provisional and absentee ballots.

Pandora Paschal, the director of the Chatham Board of Elections, said there are 154 provisional ballots still left to be counted. However, she said, "we have not researched those ballots to determine which ones will count and which ones will not count."

Paschal said the board received absentee ballots through Monday, Nov. 14. All absentee ballots are counted as long as they are postmarked by Election Day (Nov. 8). The total number of absentee ballots is still unclear, but "it is a lot," Paschal said.

There won't be a runoff in this race, so whoever gets the most votes once the numbers are finalized will be the winner. The Chatham County Board of Elections will hold its provisional supplemental meeting at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, at the Board of Elections Office (984 Thompson St., Pittsboro). The meeting will be live-streamed at meet.goto.com/782476981.

Celebration of Lights
St. Julia Catholic Church
210 Harold Hart Road, Siler City
Saturday, Dec. 3, 6:15-7:15 PM

Celebrate the season under the stars with live entertainment, a bilingual Christmas message, and luminaries lighting the way. **This event is free**, but luminaries can be purchased in advance for \$10, in person or online. The parking lot opens at 6:15 pm. **100% of luminary sales is used for prescription drug purchases for our low income clients.**

ChathamCares.com/Celebration-of-Lights

ChathamCares 127 E Raleigh St. Siler City

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OBITUARIES

CAROLYN LEMONS



August 9, 1946 ~ November 9, 2022
Carolyn Lemons passed away on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, peacefully in her home surrounded by her family.

Carolyn was born on August 9, 1946, in Hobucken, N.C. to the late Louis and Fernie Stanton. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her sister, Velma Sadler. She graduated from Jordan-Matthews High School in 1964. Family was very important to Carolyn.

She was a beloved wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. She married her high school sweetheart, Thomas Edward Lemons, on December 18, 1965. Carolyn and Tommy lived in Apex, N.C., for 34 years before they returned to Siler City in 2007. Carolyn was a stay-at-home mom. Once her children were grown, she worked part time at Fairview Garden Center in Apex for 12 years.

Carolyn had a great love for her family. Everyone was placed first over herself and she cared deeply for others. She was an amazing mother to all her children and had a special bond with her grandchildren and great-granddaughter. Carolyn has touched many lives during her 76 years. She will be deeply missed by all.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Tommy Lemons; children, Paige Buffaloe and husband James, Amanda Spinks and husband Ron, and Will Lemons; grandchildren, Mason and Reese Buffaloe, Madison Flaughner and husband Hunter, Camden, Riley and Anson Spinks, and Chloe and Carmen Lemons; great grandchild, Landrey Flaughner; and sister, Mary Self and husband Dwight.

The family received friends on Saturday, November 12, 2022, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Oakley Baptist Church, 2300 Siler City Glendon Rd., Siler City, with the funeral service following at 2 p.m. with Dr. Jeff Johnson and Rev. Chuck Woodruff officiating. Burial was at Hope Cemetery in Bonlee.

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

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Lemons family.

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

ANNELL 'MAGGIE' MARGARET BRAZZEL



August 4, 1944 - October 24, 2022
Annell Maggie Brazzell was born August 4, 1944, in Savannah, Georgia, to the late Ann M. and J.T. Brazzell Jr. She honorably served in the U.S. Army for three years, post graduation high school. After her time in service, Annell went on to become a Radiologic Technologist, receiving an Associate's degree from Lynchburg College. She was a certified member of AART; the American Association for Radiologic Technology.

Annell was well known and respected in the Radiological field and though she worked in various areas, her greatest love of labor was the Orthopedic Department at Duke Hospital. She also loved teaching, especially clinical instruction. Annell received multiple Doris P. Newton awards; which were given for excellence by the students in the Radiologic Technology program at UNC.

A tenacious, outgoing, "get in your face" person; Annell strived to do her best with any challenge set before her. Whether she was dog-sledding in Maine when she was in her 60s, sailing her Sunfish sailboat at Lake Jordan or just skiing in Colorado, she always did it with gusto and fervor.

On October 24th, 2022, she peacefully passed away after a long battle with dementia. She was surrounded in comforting care from her wonderful caregivers and partner of 15 years, June Woodall.

Donations in her honor may be made to the animal shelter of your choice or the Alzheimer's/Dementia Societies of your choice.

Remember: the sky is a bigger place now with Maggie in it. Watch for her smile and her gleaming eyes when you glance upwards.

TERRY LYN PEGRAM



November 8, 1946 ~ November 6, 2022

Terry Lyn Pegram, 75, died suddenly Sunday, November 6, 2022, at his home in Chatham County, North Carolina. He would have celebrated his 76th birthday two days later.

Terry was born the second of four children on November 8, 1946, to the late Jeannie Walker Pegram and Claude Thomas Pegram in Guilford County, N.C.

He is survived by his loving wife of 21 years, Pete Redpath Pegram, his devoted son, Shane Pegram (Jennifer), stepson, Nate Foust (Jeana); stepdaughter, Madeline Kassel (Josh), six wonderful grandchildren, Davis and Coale Pegram, Fia and Ford Foust, and Finley and Callahan Kassel. Terry is also survived by his three beloved siblings, Garry Pegram (Nancy), Larry Pegram (Sue), and Claudia Lempp (Bob), as well as 19 nieces and nephews and countless relatives with whom he has always managed to stay connected.

Terry was preceded in death by his wife, Joanne Kirkman Pegram.

When Terry was 8, the family moved to Chatham County, N.C., to a farm called The Hammer Place. It was those years from 1954 to 1962 that would shape and remain forever fond to Terry as the place where he was raised.

While in his teens, Terry started his printing career working at a small shop in Sanford. From there he and his Dad started a small printing shop in Siler City, but his father's untimely death brought the business to a halt. Terry then moved to Greensboro where he worked 2nd shift in the press room of Fisher Harrison Printing Company. He quickly moved up in the company and gained a reputation for his intelligence, tireless work ethic, and determination. From Greensboro, Terry went to Raleigh to join Edwards & Broughton.

Soon after, Terry decided to strike out on his own and along with his late wife, Joanne, started PBM Graphics in 1983. In 1989, Terry was able to purchase Fisher Harrison, the company where he had worked in 1966 as a 2nd shift pressman, rolling it into the PBM Graphics family.

Through hard work and the efforts of countless dedicated employees, who were like family, PBM Graphics became one of the largest privately held printing companies in the country. In 2008, Terry sold PBM and tested retirement. His love of golf and his garden were not quite enough to satisfy his competitive spirit. After a period of six years, Terry purchased a small printing concern, Millennium Print Group, in Apex, N.C.

Since 2014, Terry and his beloved management team have built Millennium into a major international company, printing collectible sports and trading card games. Millennium now encompasses a sprawling campus of buildings in Wake and Durham counties, with additional valued employees in Greensboro and Howard, South Dakota. This past June, Terry sold Millennium to TPCi, The Pokemon Company International, remaining as CEO.

It is impossible to measure the impact Terry had on his family and the endless number of friends and colleagues throughout his life. Among many attributes, Terry will be remembered for his deep love of family and traditions, his non-stop wit, and his endless and enormous generosity.

To quote one of the original "Pinball Managers," "Terry had it all — great personality, hard work that transferred into enormous success, a unique management style that drew more out of people — than they knew they had, all the while enjoying his humor. When Terry accepted you as his friend, you were a friend for life."

ADALYN LOUISE MEADOWS

October 24, 2022 ~ November 8, 2022

Adalyn Louise Meadows of Lillington, 15 days old, was born October 24, 2022, at UNC Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill. She passed away on November 8, 2022, also at UNC Memorial Hospital.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Friday, November 11, 2022, at Juniper Springs Baptist Church with Rev. Eddie

Thomas, officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She was the daughter of Christopher Miguel Meadows and Alayna Crockett Meadows of Lillington. She was preceded in death by her maternal great-grandparents, Dave and Joyce Crockett, Mack Thomas and her paternal great-grandfather, Miguel Solis.

Adalyn is survived by her parents; sisters, Layla Grace Meadows and Kinsley Marie Meadows of the home; maternal grandparents Alan Crockett and Lisa Suggs of Broadway; paternal grandmother, Maria Robles of Lillington; maternal great-grandmother, Jacqueline Thomas of Broadway; paternal great-grandmother, Blanca Solis of Lillington. Online condolences can be made to www.smithfuneralhomebroadway.com.

JOEL BRIAN MADDOX

September 17, 1970 ~ November 7, 2022

Joel Brian "Joe-Joe" Maddox, 52, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, November 7, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

A graveside service was held on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Shallow Well Cemetery with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

He was born in Lee Coun-

ty on September 17, 1970, to Shirley Ann Womack Maddox and the late J. Lacy Maddox. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Daren Lynn Maddox and Jimmy Dale Maddox. He was a seasonal employee at Barry's Strawberry Patch.

Joe-Joe is survived by his mother, Shirley Maddox.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

WILLIAM 'BILLY' BRYANT

June 13, 1940 ~ November 9, 2022

Retired Sheriff William "Billy" Bryant, 82, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at First-Health Hospice House.

The family received friends on Saturday, November 12, 2022, at Spring Hill United Methodist Church from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.. A funeral service followed at 1 p.m. with Pastor Bobby Rackley officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

He was born in Lee County to the late Orpha Bryant and Ruth McIntosh Bryant. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Johnny Bryant; son, Donald Bryant and daughter, Cathy Bryant. In 1986 Billy was elected to the first five terms as Sheriff of Lee County and served in that position for over 20 years.

Billy is survived by his wife Susan, of 26 years; son, Robert Bryant of Sanford; daughters, Shannon Patterson of Broadway, Cindy Bryant of Sanford; brothers, Ray Bryant of Arkansas, David Lee Bryant of Durham; 12 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

BETH SCHUBERT KRICKER

Beth Schubert Kricker, 102, passed away at her home in Chatham County on October 27, 2022.

She was born in 1920 to Charlotte and Morris Schubert. Beth was a lifelong fighter for peace and social justice. At 93, she was proudly arrested with Reverend Barber at a Moral Monday Protest.

Survivors include her sons, Joshua of Chatham County, David of Waltham, Massachusetts; her daughter, Maja of Chatham County; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Ralph and two sisters, Ruth and Gladys.

Beth will be cremated according to her wishes. Her family plans to set a date for the spring when the flu and COVID season is over.

KELLAN WINSLOW WALLACE

May 1, 2000 ~ November 7, 2022

Kellan Winslow Wallace, 22, passed away Monday, November 7, 2022 in Cameron.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Pastor Marilyn Cross.

Kellan was born in Lee County to Sherry Rosser Wallace and Barry Lamont Wallace. He was preceded in death by his Nanny, Alice J. Rosser. Kellan worked as a Lead Sales Associate.

Kellan is survived by his parents, Sherry and Barry Wallace.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention cenglish@afsp.org.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

See **OBITS**, page A9



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JANET MCNEESE FAULK



November 5, 1960 - November 3, 2022.
Janet McNeese Faulk, 61, of Aberdeen, passed away peacefully at her home on November 3, 2022.
Janet was born November 5th, 1960, to the late Elmo Henry McNeese and Elva Jean McNeese in Pensacola, Fla. She resided most of her life in North Carolina — in Siler City, Lake Norman/Mooresville, and Aberdeen. Janet was a graduate of Jordan-Matthews High School in Siler City, Class of 1979.

Janet was a devoted wife, who loved traveling and spending time with her husband, the love of her life, Bobby Faulk. She truly lived life to the fullest. She valued quality time with her family and closest friends, listening to great music and admiring art from around the world. She had an uncanny ability to connect with people and never missed an opportunity to share a laugh. She loved the Lord and was a woman of great faith with a servant heart. Many knew Janet for her generosity, kindness, class, humor, and red lipstick.

Janet left an unforgettable legacy in the Real Estate industry. She had a strong passion for coaching, mentoring, and teaching at a high level. She influenced, inspired, and empowered people by the thousands. She was admired both for her accomplishments and leadership throughout her career. She believed in people and helped them discover and live out their life's purpose. She spread love and joy everywhere she went and blazed a path for others to follow.

Janet is survived by her husband of 39 years, Bobby Faulk; her mother, Elva Jean McNeese; her brothers, Henry McNeese (Carol), Michael McNeese (English); her sister, Margie McNeese Edwards (Jeff); and many nieces and nephews.

"Life itself is a privilege, but to live life to the fullest — well, that is a choice." — Andy Andrews.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to your local hospice, in her memory.

ANN GAYNELL BARBER GAINES



May 12, 1937 - November 11, 2022
Mrs. Ann Gaynell Barber Gaines, age 85, a resident of Washington, N.C., and former resident of Clinton, N.C., died Friday November 11, 2022, at ECU Health, Beaufort Campus.
Mrs. Gaines was born in Goldston, N.C., on May 12, 1937, to the late Ferry Mason Barber Sr. and Emma Sophronia Bowman. On August 23, 1959, she married Max Reid Gaines Sr. She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Washington. She

was strong in her faith, enjoyed cooking, loved spending time with family and friends, and was very patriotic.

Survivors include her husband of 63 years, Max R. Gaines Sr.; three children, Laura Gaines Caldwell and husband Jeff of Williamston, Reid Gaines Jr. and wife Michele of Clinton, Gaye Gaines Haslam and husband Don of Greensboro; seven grandchildren, Jeffrey Caldwell (Kristen), Trent Caldwell (Shelley), Anderson Caldwell (Alexandra), Taylor Sandlin (Blake), Ashton Brazell, Jacob Haslam, Grace Haslam, three great grandchildren, Roslyn, Sullivan, Corbin; a brother, Donald Barber of Sanford; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by two brothers, Ferry Barber Jr., Charles Barber, and a sister, Marion Todd.

The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, November 13, 2022, at Paul Funeral Home & Crematory of Washington. The family also received friends from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home in Siler City, N.C.

A graveside service was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday November 15, 2022, at Goldston Cemetery in Goldston, NC and will be officiated by Pastor Bruce MacInness. Pallbearers include Jacob Haslam, Jeffrey Caldwell, Trent Caldwell, Anderson Caldwell, Ben Gaines and Stuart Barber.

Condolences may be addressed to the family online by visiting www.paulfuneralhome.com.

Paul Funeral Home & Crematory of Washington is honored to serve the Gaines family.

of Pittsboro, passed away on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at his residence.

Arrangements are entrusted to McLeod Funeral Home of Sanford.

CHARLES EDWARD GRAHAM

Charles Edward Graham, 69 of Biscoe, passed away on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at FirstHealth Hospice House in West End.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

ELMER WILEY CHESNEY, SR.

Elmer Wiley Chesney Sr., 73, passed away on Friday, November 11, 2022, at UNC-Rex Hospital in Raleigh.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

CHAD ANTONIO MILLER

Chad Antonio Miller, 46, of Burlington, passed away on Friday, November 11, 2022.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Pittsboro.

GEORGE ED MURCHISON II

March 10, 1958 ~ November 10, 2022

George Ed Murchison II, 64, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at his home.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

OBITS

Continued from page A8

CHARLES WALTER NELSON

May 31, 1941 ~ November 7, 2022

Charles Walter Nelson, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, November 7, 2022, at Westfield Nursing Home.

Funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at Fair Promise AME Zion Church.

Burial will be held on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 10 a.m. at Sandhills Veterans Cemetery, at Fort Bragg.

MALWOOD ODELL REVELS SR.

Malwood Odell Revels Sr., 78,

of Chapel Hill, passed away on Monday, November 7, 2022, at UNC Hospitals.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

DANIEL DEWEY BRUNTY

Daniel Dewey Brunty, 70,

Hispanic Liaison, youth volunteers assist Latinx voters

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Hispanic Liaison's office is dedicated to helping the Latinx population in Siler City in any way possible, especially when it comes to helping Spanish-speaking

residents at the polls. In partnership with volunteers from the Orgullo Latinx Pride Youth Program (OLP), the Hispanic Liaison's office had tables at each Siler City voting precinct through the voting period in Chatham County with translated

election materials and interpreters for voters who needed them. "A lot of times, our community turns away from voting just because either they don't understand or they don't have enough information," Hispanic Liaison Program Assistant Noemi Mora said. "It's kind of nice to have pamphlets to read about people who are running and also read them their ballots so they're able to vote and know what they are voting for."

Voter intimidation became a concern across the country after misinformation surrounding the 2020 presidential election led to several instances of harassment, including 21 cases being investigated in North Carolina for this year's election cycle. "We just want to make sure the whole process is fair and things are flowing like they're supposed to," said Hannia Benitez, the Liaison's deputy director. "Making sure there's no in-

timidation, people stay out of the buffer zone, simple things like that." OLP is a free, year-round after-school program for Latinx youth in Siler City that gives young adults a chance to volunteer at Liaison events such as the table at the polls. OLP Principal Representative Andres Alvarado, a junior at Jordan-Matthews High School, said it was important to volunteer at the polls because he wanted to make sure Hispanic residents felt comfortable voting on Election Day.

"This makes it fair," Alvarado said. "They'll know what they're doing when they go to vote — they're not just doing it just to do it." OLP member Fatima Herrera was also volunteering at the polls on Election Day. She said as the first member of her family to be born in the U.S., she feels participating in the democratic process of voting is something important to do.

"This helps open your eyes and see things in a different way," Herrera said. "It helps you to see the world and how things, like voting, work." A factor that may stray some Latinx voters from going to the polls is the language barrier, Benitez said. The Hispanic Liaison created a translated

ballot for those who wanted one, so that way when non-English speaking voters go to fill out their ballot, they can see who they are voting for.

"That way the voter can either take it in and know whether they're voting for a judge or voting for a commissioner," Benitez said. "If they need an interpreter, Illana (the Hispanic Liaison Director) and myself are going in."

Latinx voters, among other voters of color, are among the most likely to be turned away from the precincts, according to a 2018 poll from the Public Religion Research Institute in 2018. Out of all the voters who were surveyed, 10% of Blacks and 11% of Latinx voters said they'd been incorrectly told they weren't on the voter rolls, which is double what white voters reported at 5%.

Benitez said because of this inequity in voting, she felt it was important for volunteers who know the reality of these scenarios to be there to help mitigate any issues.

"If someone gets turned away for whatever reason, we just want to make sure if they're registered ... and figure out where they can vote," she said. "We really want to make sure that if they have the right to vote, they can go and cast their vote."

For the young volunteers, working the precincts allowed them to learn hands-on what Election Day entails.

OLP coordinator Kenia Urive said as a first-generation American, she never went with her parents to precincts or saw the process in person. For Urive, a J-M Junior, she said volunteering with OLP on Election Day helped her to understand the process she had heard about in school.

"My parents don't vote, so when I heard about the voting process, I (thought) I don't really have to care because ... my parents didn't do it, so like, how am I going to do this," Urive said. "Now, I know there's a process and I know I need to get to know this."

For Urive, volunteering at the polls helped her to realize the importance of the ballot box, and she encourages others her age to consider giving their time to help others at the precincts.

"I take it back to my parents because I feel like if they could have voted, there would be people like us here to help them out," she said. "I feel like I'm more confident to go vote once I turn 18."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theaden@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Heeden-Taylor

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

Students, get your applications in for the 2023 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour!

Each year, Central Electric sponsors two rising high school juniors or seniors on the trip of a lifetime to Washington, D.C in connection with the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. While in D.C., you'll join 1,800 other students from across the country to meet members of Congress and learn more about American history and electric cooperatives.



Central Electric
Membership Corporation
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

The 2023 trip is June 17-23 and the deadline for all applications is Jan. 23. Visit CEMCPower.com to apply or to find out more information on this incredible opportunity. Central Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Your Prescription Your Responsibility

BE AWARE. DON'T SHARE. LOCK YOUR meds

lockyourmeds.org/nc

NATIONAL FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Supported by the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services, with funding from the Tobacco Use and Endgame Revenue Account.

BOARD

Continued from page A1

as the Chatham Democratic Party's effective campaign strategy. That strategy, in the words of Chatham Democratic Party Board Chairperson Liz Guinan was to "get the hell out of the way." She said the party was so successful because of relentless volunteers who believed in the platforms of the candidates and took action.

All three winning commissioners candidates watched results roll in from the Chatham Democratic Party's office in Pittsboro on Election Night, with those attending maintaining a celebratory atmosphere throughout the evening with a clean sweep of Democrats in all county-wide races.

Dist. 3: David Delaney

In Dist. 3, David Delaney defeated Republican Tom Glendinning in the seat vacated by longtime commissioner Diana Hales. Hales was also in attendance at the watch party on Tuesday and was honored by her colleagues, including Karen Howard, chairperson of the Chatham Commissioners. "There is no way the four

of us will fill the shoes Diana is leaving behind when she leaves this board," Howard said. "She has done the yeoman's share of work on many issues in Chatham and she will be sorely missed."

Howard praised Hales' commitment to the board and the amount of effort she put into her job. Hales was elected to the office in 2014 and in her eight years of service has advocated for increased focus on agricultural preservation, public-private partnerships and taking action on issues such as climate change and education.

Delaney, 51, will look to continue that legacy as her replacement. He thanked the party for its support of his campaign throughout the process and he said he looks forward to bringing together all of Chatham.

"Elections like this are not won by individual candidates," Delaney told the Chatham Democrats Tuesday night. "They are won by communities. You all are a vital and central part of this community."

Glendinning did not respond to requests for comment.

Delaney said he hopes to build on the progress of the

current board. His platform focused on ensuring incoming developers abide by social and environmental standards. He also hopes to allocate new funding toward equity-based programming to close achievement gaps, especially as it pertains to broadband access and education.

"I look forward to bringing diverse communities together," Delaney told the News + Record. "This election has shown us there are still divides across the county and they come in many forms, but we want to be able to be leaders for all Chathamites to find good solutions for everyone."

Dist. 4: Katie Kenlan

The Dist. 4 seat is now occupied by Robert Logan, who opted not to seek a full term in office after he was appointed to the position to replace Jim Crawford, who resigned last year for health reasons. Katie Kenlan, 37, won the seat with 56% of the total vote on Tuesday over Republican Joe Godfrey.

Kenlan has centered her platform on climate issues and smart growth amid rapid development. During her address to Chatham Democrats Tuesday night, she thanked her mother, Elaine Chiosso, executive director of the Haw River Assembly, for allowing her to run in an "inspiring community."

"It's because of dedication that we are here tonight," Kenlan said. "If we can understand and share the worth of Chatham County, treat it with care, respect its natural resources and give Chatham the love it deserves, we will all prosper."

She said she was proud of the collaborative efforts of her campaign between volunteers and supporters. Kenlan added she was "deeply humbled by the results."

Godfrey told the News + Record he was also grateful for his supporters and the efforts of his campaign.

"Over the last several months, I have used much of my spare time to immerse myself in all things Chatham County, from infrastructure to county personnel," Godfrey said. "Even though I was disappointed with the outcome in this election cycle, I am forever grateful for the opportunity to put my name on the ballot and tell residents what my vision for Chatham County is."

Godfrey said he would continue to keep up in local affairs due to the large challenges facing the county including development, infrastructure needs and housing. He added that he has a deep love for Chatham and trusts its newly elected leaders will do what is best for the county as it continues to evolve.

"As we move forward, let's put aside any differences for the good of the county, and continue to make Chatham County even better," Godfrey said.

Kenlan echoed that language Tuesday night, saying she would be a commissioner for all of Chatham and willing to reach across the aisle. She touted herself as a listener and collaborator who will always keep the door open during her time in office.

Dist. 5: Franklin Gomez Flores

The sole incumbent on the commissioners ballot will be returned to his seat following an election where he also received 56% of the vote. Democrat Franklin Gomez Flores defeated Republican challenger Peyton Moody, meaning he will continue to represent the southwestern district in the county.

Gomez Flores, 28, is still the youngest commissioner on the board but now becomes one of the veterans of the group. He focused his platform on building the progress of the current board and strategic invest-

ments in minority-owned businesses to reduce inequality.

"It's a great honor to gain the confidence of the community in Chatham County to continue serving," Gomez Flores told the News + Record Tuesday night.

With the win, this will be the first full term for Gomez Flores on the Board of Commissioners. He previously won a special election over Andy Wilkie in 2020. Wilkie was appointed to the seat after it was vacated by Walter Petty.

In the special election win, Gomez Flores ran as an unaffiliated candidate and narrowly won with 50% of the total vote. He said seeing the broader margin of victory in this election sent a clear message that voters are pleased with the work he and other commissioners are doing to make Chatham better.

"I think we should be focusing on the challenges that come along with the economic development opportunities coming to the county," he said. "Whether it's wastewater, schools, etc., all of these are pressing issues."

Moody did not respond to requests for comment.

Gomez Flores said he will work with everybody to gain the respect of residents across the county. He said being on the board has shown him the power and impact a commissioner has on a local level and he was looking forward to using that impact to help the county.

The commissioners-elect will be officially sworn in by the board at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 5, at the Chatham County Courthouse in Pittsboro. For more information visit www.chatham-countync.gov/government/board-of-commissioners.

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



AMERICA NEEDS JOURNALISTS

Recording daily snapshots in history.



From parents Robert Reives Sr. and the late Ruth Battle Reives:

"We would like to thank the voters who re-elected Robert and all the volunteers and community members who made this campaign a success. Your collective efforts show the kindness and strength of this community that we're all proud to be a part of."

THE VOICE
of Rural
North Carolina



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[ElectReives](https://twitter.com/ElectReives)

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Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each

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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

APT RENTAL, Siler City, In the country, 1 Bedroom Apt., Upstairs. Senior only - \$450 + Deposit 919-773-0722, N17,24,2tp

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

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

FOR SALE

TV ANTENNAS - Come by MacPage Communications at 102 North Third Avenue, Siler City, 919-227-6698, N10,17,24,3tc

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,D1,4tp

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

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

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

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

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF SILER CITY - Plant Maintenance Mechanic - Performs intermediate skilled trades work such as implementation of the Preventative Maintenance Program; maintaining and repairing treatment plant equipment, storage tanks, wells, and lift stations; assisting with the installation of plant equipment; assisting in the maintenance and repair of other Town facilities as needed; etc. - Required Education and Experience Qualifications: High school diploma or high school equivalency. Coursework in mechanical, electrical, or plumbing trades. Moderate experience in mechanical,

electrical, or plumbing trades. Possession of a valid NC driver's license. - Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications, Moderate experience in water and/or wastewater treatment plant maintenance. Grade I Wastewater or Grade C Water Certification upon hire (whichever is applicable). Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. - Additional Employment Requirements: Must obtain Grade I Wastewater or Grade C Water Certification within 18 months of hire (whichever is applicable). All required certifications and licenses must be maintained with no lapse during the course of employment. Hiring Salary, \$36,000 (with increase when Grade I Wastewater or Grade C Water Certification is obtained), whichever is applicable). N17,1tc

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 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

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 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 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

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

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.

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.chathamcountync.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.

North Glen NC Apartments

1221 West 11th Street, Siler City, NC 27344

Family Households
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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

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 Midgett 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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 625
 All persons having claims against **SHERIE 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 625
 All persons having claims against **SHERIE 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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 600
 All persons having claims against **VIRGINIA QUILLEN KATHRYN QUILLEN PORCH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th 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 17th day of November, 2022. Steven K. Bowman, Administrator
 2013 Peninsula Lane
 Hillsborough, NC 27278
 N17,N24,D1,D8,4tp

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
 All persons having claims

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 635
 All persons having claims against **VIVIAN CATE BOWMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th 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 17th day of November, 2022. Steven K. Bowman, Administrator
 2013 Peninsula Lane
 Hillsborough, NC 27278
 N17,N24,D1,D8,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 633
 All persons having claims against **MARGARET ANNELL BRAZZELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th 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 17th day of November, 2022. June Thomas Woodall, Executrix
 107 Granite Ridge Road
 Chapel Hill, NC 27516
 N17,N24,D1,D8,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 633
 All persons having claims against **MARGARET ANNELL BRAZZELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th 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 17th day of November, 2022. June Thomas Woodall, Executrix
 107 Granite Ridge Road
 Chapel Hill, NC 27516
 N17,N24,D1,D8,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 600
 All persons having claims against **VIRGINIA QUILLEN KATHRYN QUILLEN PORCH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th 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 17th day of November, 2022. Donna P. Tucker, Executrix
 908 Pebblebrook Drive
 Raleigh, NC 27509
 N17,N24,D1,D8,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 635
 All persons having claims against **VIVIAN CATE BOWMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th 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 17th day of November, 2022. Steven K. Bowman, Administrator
 2013 Peninsula Lane
 Hillsborough, NC 27278
 N17,N24,D1,D8,4tp

ENGINEERING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Town of Siler City

CAM Site sewer line and pump station project October 31, 2022
 The Town of Siler City is soliciting requests for qualifications (RFQ) for professional engineering services to prepare 1) Bid package services and construction inspection services, 2) Additional services that may arise related to the project.
Scope of Work:
 Engineering services shall include, but are not limited to, standard tasks necessary for the implementation of the project:
 1. Preparing the final Design and Construction bid package in conformance with applicable regulations and requirements;
 2. Supervising the bid advertising, tabulation, and award process, including preparing the advertisements for bid solicitations, conducting pre-bid meeting, conducting bid opening, and issuing the notice to proceed;
 3. Conducting the pre-construction conference;
 4. Surveying, field staking, on-site supervising of construction work, and preparing inspection reports;
 5. Reviewing and approving all contractor requests for payment, change orders, and submitting approved requests to the governing body;
 6. Providing reproducible plan drawings to the Town upon project completion;
 7. Conducting final inspection and testing.
 Engineering Firms are to submit their qualifications to prepare the Engineering Report and subsequent design and construction services to Chris McCorquodale, Public Utilities Director, Town of Siler City, 311 N Second St., PO Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 by 5:00 pm November 28, 2022. Bids will be awarded at the Board of Commissioners meeting December 5, 2022. For more detailed submittal requirements contact Chris McCorquodale, Public Utilities Director at 919-742-4733 or cmccorquodale@silercity.org. N17,1tc

ENGINEERING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Town of Siler City

Water Treatment Plant Solids Handling Improvements October 31, 2022
 The Town of Siler City is soliciting requests for qualifications (RFQ) for professional engineering services to prepare; 1) a preliminary engineering report (PER), 2) an Environmental Assessment, 3) engineering design and bid package services and construction inspection services.
 The project scope would consist of the expansion of a 4 MGD water plant to a 6 MGD water plant.
Scope of Work:
 Engineering services shall include, but are not limited to, standard tasks necessary for the implementation of the project:
 1. Prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) outlining the scope of the project.
 2. Preparing the final Design and Construction bid package in conformance with applicable regulations and requirements;

ENGINEERING REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Town of Siler City

Water Treatment Plant Expansion October 31, 2022
 The Town of Siler City is soliciting requests for qualifications (RFQ) for professional engineering services to prepare; 1) a preliminary engineering report (PER), 2) an Environmental Assessment, 3) engineering design and bid package services and construction inspection services.
 The project scope would consist of the expansion of a 4 MGD water plant to a 6 MGD water plant.
Scope of Work:
 Engineering services shall include, but are not limited to, standard tasks necessary for the implementation of the project:
 1. Prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) outlining the scope of the project.
 2. Preparing the final Design and Construction bid package in conformance with applicable regulations and requirements;

1. Supervising the bid advertising, tabulation, and award process, including preparing the advertisements for bid solicitations, conducting pre-bid meeting, conducting bid opening, and issuing the notice to proceed;
 2. Conducting the pre-construction conference;
 3. Surveying, field staking, on-site supervising of construction work, and preparing inspection reports;
 4. Reviewing and approving all contractor requests for payment, change orders, and submitting approved requests to the governing body;
 5. Providing reproducible plan drawings to the Town/City/County upon project completion;
 6. Conducting final inspection and testing;
 7. Submitting certified "as-built" drawings to appropriate authorities; and
 8. Preparing an operation and maintenance manual (if applicable).
 Engineering Firms are to submit their qualifications to prepare the Engineering Report and subsequent design and construction services to Chris McCorquodale, Public Utilities Director, Town of Siler City, 311 N Second St., PO Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 by 5:00 pm November 28, 2022. Bids will be awarded at the Board of Commissioners meeting December 5, 2022. For more detailed submittal requirements contact Chris McCorquodale, Public Utilities Director at 919-742-4733 or cmccorquodale@silercity.org. N17,1tc

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.
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 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.

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Town of Siler City

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 1. Prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) outlining the scope of the project.
 2. Preparing the final Design and Construction bid package in conformance with applicable regulations and requirements;

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November features household hazardous waste event, medicine take back

CN+R Staff Reports

Chatham County's final Household Hazardous Waste event of 2022 will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19.

HHW events are a way for residents to dispose of hazardous materials safely. Decals are not required, but residents will need to show their N.C. Driver License or something with their current address.

HHW is only for households; no hazardous waste from businesses will be accepted.

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office will also be on site to conduct a medicine take back as a way for residents to safely dispose of unwanted medications. No needles, sharps or liquids will be accepted. We will also have free shredding for residents and be selling compost bins; check the website for more details.

At HHW events, the county accepts such items as oil-based paints, solvents, stains, bleach, aerosols, cleaners, pesticides, brake fluid, fluorescent light bulbs, propane tanks, etc. Residents can bring 20 gallons of latex paint cans per HHW event. If you have a one gallon paint can that has half a gallon of paint in it, it will count as one gallon. Latex paint can be safely dried out and put in with your regular trash. For a complete list, please visit

the www.chathamcountync.gov/hhw or contact the Solid Waste & Recycling Division at 919-542-5516 or recycle@chathamcountync.gov.

On Nov. 19, Solid Waste & Recycling will also have document shredding available to residents from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn more at www.chathamcountyncgov/recycle.

HHW events will resume in 2023 and run the third Saturday, March through November.

Meals on Wheels volunteers go home again - to Route 3

BY JIMMY LEWIS

Chatham County Council on Aging

There was no way to say "no" to Route 3.

If there were a list of cornerstones in the Chatham County Council on Aging's Meals on Wheels program, Jimmy and Susan Griffin would rank near the top of the list.

For the past 15 years, the Griffins have provided a knock on the door for their Pittsboro-area route, combined with a smile, friendly conversation and, of course, a nutritious meal for a homebound senior in need.

Susan Griffin regularly accompanied a past Meals on Wheels driver on her route for the sake of companionship. But when her friend passed away, Susan temporarily stepped back from Meals on Wheels deliveries, instead devoting time to her local church.

However, the allure of making a real difference in the lives of Chatham seniors in need was too much to ignore as time pressed forward.

"There was a small window of time when we weren't doing it," Susan said. "I was helping out at the church, and the phone rang. It was someone from the Council on Aging asking if we could pass the word around that volunteers were needed for Meals on Wheels. Having remembered that I did Route 3, I asked what route was available? They said, 'Route 3 was one,' and I said, 'Sign me up!'"



Courtesy of Chatham Council on Aging

Meals of Wheels volunteers Jimmy and Susan Griffin.

Although the names and faces may have changed on Route 3, the need did not.

"It was just knowing how much it meant to the people you went to see," Susan said. "They really appreciated the time that someone spent

coming to bring them meals, to ask how they were doing. Then you get to know their extended family, also. Even now, we are just truly blessed to have a whole family in different locations. You make friends."

Friendship becomes crucial

when assessing the well-being of Meals on Wheels clients. Indeed, the volunteers in the field are often the first indication to Council staff that something is amiss in the home.

"Over a period of time, the trust is there," Susan said.

"They'll tell you how they're feeling and how they're doing and what's going on. We will make a phone call back to the Council on Aging to let them know this is going on. You just kind of stay in touch that way."

For Jimmy Griffin, the sincere smile on the face of Meals on Wheels recipients means everything.

"I don't really see a challenge," he said of his volunteer route. "I enjoy it, just to see the smile on their face. We may be the only ones they may see that day. It's rewarding to know that we were able to put a smile on their face and check on them to see how they are doing."

For the Griffins, the total time spent on their weekly route takes anywhere from 75 to 90 minutes.

"I wish more people would get involved," Susan said. "Out of our day, we are back here a little bit after 12 (noon), and we leave sometime around a quarter to 11. That's nothing in a day, it really is nothing. The rewards, the smiling faces, the people that truly appreciate what you're doing and knowing you're giving of your time to do it — you meet some of the nicest people. I don't know about the other routes, but I think we've got the best!"

For more information about volunteer opportunities at the Council — including Meals on Wheels — contact coordinator Linda Saum at 919-542-4512 or email linda.saum@chatham-countync.gov.

Chatham Charter honors veterans

CN+R Staff Reports

Chatham Charter School held activities honoring military service on Nov. 9, an annual event included age-appropriate sessions for elementary, middle and high school grades in which approximately 30 veterans and active duty service members participated.

The event allowed the

school to express appreciation to those who serve their country and helped students become more aware of skills learned in military fields.

The day began at 7 a.m. with a group of volunteers lining the school driveway with American flags as a service project. The Jeremiah Enoch York Volunteer Initiative was created to honor York, a Chatham Charter

School student who tragically died in a vehicle accident in 2019. His patriotism inspired the flag project to honor those who serve our nation.

Guests enjoyed a "meet and greet" as they arrived. One group of veterans then visited elementary classrooms and read military-themed books to the students. Some classes created special cards for their

guests to take home. Another group of veterans shared their experiences and how useful the skills they learned are to high school students in rotating sessions. Middle school students had activity-based stations that featured themes such as basic medical aid, phonetic alphabet and 24-hour clock, flag folding, litter carry, PT, and building a survival

shelter.

Afterward, there was an outdoor ceremony attended by guests and upper grades. The Eastern Randolph High School Junior ROTC opened with the Presentation of Colors. Following the National Anthem by the Chatham Charter band, veterans were recognized by their branch of service. The school also noted its

alumni who are affiliated with the military. Secondary Administrator Tom Griffin, an Air Force veteran, was the featured speaker. He highlighted the necessity and value of serving others as well as the sacrifices others have made so Americans can enjoy many freedoms. The school band concluded the ceremony by playing a medley of patriotic songs.



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SPORTS NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

BOYS BASKETBALL

Chatham Charter boys off to hot start, looking to build on run to state final

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Chatham Charter senior Aamir Mapp (24) had eight points, eight rebounds and five steals Monday night against Falls Lake.

SILER CITY — The Chatham Charter boys basketball team knows it can't fly under the radar anymore. Not after what the Knights did last season. After going 27-1 in the regular season and winning the Central Tar Heel 1A Conference regular season and tournament titles, Chatham Charter entered the 1A state tournament as the No. 1 seed in the east region, but many were unsure of how strong the Knights were because of their strength of schedule. They responded by winning their first five playoff games and advancing to the state final before falling to Hayesville, 54-43, in overtime. While a bitter taste remains from last season's 1A championship game, Chatham Charter has started the 2022-23 season determined to get back to the biggest stage in the state once again. Heading into their Wednesday night game against East Wake Academy, the Knights were 4-0 and had outscored

See CHARTER, page B3

CLIPBOARD Q-A

Seaforth boys coach Stevenson talks upcoming 2022-23 season

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

The Chatham County boys basketball team with the most room for improvement this 2022-23 season just might be Seaforth.

The Hawks are entering their second season as a varsity program this winter. Last year, Seaforth amassed an overall record of 12-10, though it was 9-3 in Mid-Carolina Conference play and 4-2 against teams from Chatham County.

This year's Hawks will once again lean on junior forward Jarin Stevenson to carry the load on both ends of the court. As a sophomore last winter, Stevenson — ranked as the No. 1 player from North Carolina in the Class of 2024 by 247Sports' composite rankings — averaged a county high 20.6 points and 3.5 blocks per game while also leading his team in rebounds (11.3).

Seaforth is coached by Jarin's dad, Jarod Stevenson. The elder Stevenson played college basketball at the University of Richmond, where he averaged 13.4 points, 5.4 rebounds and 1.9 steals per game over four seasons. Jarod Stevenson spoke

with the N+R earlier this week about his team's mindset heading into the 2022-23 season, Jarin's recruitment and his recent induction into the Richmond Athletics Hall of Fame.

Last year you guys had some up-and-downs, but it was a solid season overall. What is the mindset of the team heading into this season?

JAROD STEVENSON: We're just trying to get better. I feel like a lot of the guys worked hard in the offseason, got stronger, got a little bit faster. We did a lot of things that helped them with that part of their game, and it's starting to show a little bit. I think the guys are starting to get a little more confidence. We had a solid season last year. Hopefully we can do even better this year.

You're in a unique position in that your entire roster from last season is back with the team. How nice is it to have a group of guys back that all have experience playing together?

Last year, we were basically a JV team. A bunch of the guys had never experienced playing basketball at the

See COACH, page B2

The Panthers need to stop winning

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor



JEREMY VERNON
Sports Editor

I'm admittedly confused what the Panthers are trying to do.

At this point, with a 3-7 record and a no starting quarterback in sight, it would behoove Carolina to better position itself in the NFL Draft, but the Panthers don't really look like they have plans to do so.

Last week, Carolina defeated Atlanta, 25-15, on Thursday night. As things stand, the Panthers are now in line for the third pick in the NFL Draft, with Houston (1-7-1) currently at No. 1 and Las Vegas (2-7) at No. 2.

This year's NFL Draft class features two premier quarterback prospects — Bryce Young and C.J. Stroud. There's a big drop off between those two and the current No. 3, Kentucky's Will Levis. Several mock recent mock drafts have Levis landing in Charlotte, something that makes me sicker than if I put mayo in my coffee — something Levis ACTUALLY DOES. This man should be in jail. But I digress.

See PANTHERS, page B2



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth junior Jarin Stevenson (15) is ranked as the No. 17 overall player in the Class of 2024, according to 247Sports' composite rankings.

FALL SPORTS

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

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

With the 2022-23 NCHSAA fall sports season coming to an end, a number of Chatham County athletes have been selected to all-conference teams in cross country, football, women's golf, men's soccer, women's tennis and volleyball.

The Central Tar Heel 1A, Mid-Carolina 1A/2A and Central 3A conferences have announced their respective all-conference teams for the fall, with more than 100 Chatham student-athletes recog-

nized for being the top athletes in their respective conferences. The athletes and coaches earning all-conference honors include:

CROSS COUNTRY

Central Tar Heel 1A

- Samantha Scott, Junior, Chatham Charter
- Meredith Reese, junior, Chatham Charter
- Ellie Poitras, junior, Woods Charter
- Anna Peeler, sophomore,

- Woods Charter
- Maddie Sparrow, senior, Woods Charter
- Chloe Richard, senior, Woods Charter
- Grace Murphy, freshman, Woods Charter

Girls Runner of the Year: Anna Peeler, sophomore, Chatham Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

- Katherine Leonard, freshman, Seaforth
- Juana Jimenez, sophomore,

- Seaforth
- Caidence Bazemore, freshman, Seaforth
- Claire Morgan, sophomore, Seaforth
- Zuzanna Mikolajec, sophomore, Seaforth
- Katie Johnson, sophomore, Seaforth
- Grace Davis, freshman, Seaforth
- Caroline Austin, junior, Chatham Central
- Heide Vicente, freshman, Chatham Central
- Jasmine Basilio, senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Jack Anstrom, sophomore,

- Seaforth
- Will Cuicchi, sophomore, Seaforth
- Gabe Rogers, freshman, Seaforth
- Henry McFall, sophomore, Seaforth
- Andrew Parker, junior, Seaforth
- Nathan Smith, sophomore, Seaforth
- Thaddeus Hudec, sophomore, Seaforth
- Kolton Phillips, junior, Chatham Central
- Aiden Hernandez, freshman,

See PERFORMERS, page B3

SCORES AND SCHEDULES

| SCORES | Wrestling | |
|--|---|---|
| TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 | Northwood at Chapel Hill High Invitational (6 p.m.) | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 |
| Boys basketball | | Girls basketball |
| Chatham Charter 85, Oxford Prep 32 | | Northwood at Panther Creek (6:30 p.m.) |
| | Boys basketball | Chatham Charter at Voyager Academy (6 p.m.) |
| Girls basketball | Seaforth vs. Carrboro (7:30 p.m.) | Chatham Central vs. South Davidson (6 p.m.) |
| Chatham Charter 60, Raleigh Charter 17 | | |
| | Girls basketball | Boys basketball |
| Boys basketball | Seaforth vs. Carrboro (6 p.m.) | Chatham Charter at Voyager Academy (7:30 p.m.) |
| Chatham Charter 85, Raleigh Charter 20 | Northwood at Apex Friendship (6:30 p.m.) | Chatham Central vs. South Davidson (7:30 p.m.) |
| | | |
| WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19 | |
| | Boys basketball | Wrestling |
| Girls basketball | Northwood at Wayne Country Day (3:30 p.m.) | Jordan-Matthews vs. Seaforth (6 p.m.) |
| Chatham Charter 71, N.C. Science & Math 48 | | Northwood vs. Southwest Randolph and Chatham Charter (6 p.m.) |
| | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21 | |
| Boys basketball | Girls basketball | |
| Chatham Charter 71, N.C. Science & Math 30 | Jordan-Matthews at Southern Lee (6 p.m.) | |
| | | |
| FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11 | | |

PANTHERS

Continued from page B1

If the Panthers don't wind up with the No. 1 or 2 pick in the 2023 NFL Draft, they might find it best to kick the can down the road and wait another year for a QB in 2024, perhaps UNC's Drake Maye, but doing so would ensure another mediocre season in Carolina.

I also don't trust the team's front office to find a veteran to bridge the gap between now and the team finds a future

franchise quarterback. Over the past three seasons, the Panthers have brought in Teddy Bridgewater, Sam Darnold and Baker Mayfield, and none of the three has proven capable of being a reliable starting quarterback in the league. They also gave up draft capital for the latter two.

Speaking of draft capital, the Panthers acquired some before the trade deadline by moving Christian McCaffrey to the San Francisco 49ers, but should the team have gone more all-in toward a complete rebuild?

According to multiple reports, Carolina was offered a first round pick by Green Bay for receiver D.J. Moore, while the Rams reportedly offered two firsts and a second for defensive end Brian Burns. For a team with holes at multiple different positions, I'm not sure the Panthers are in a place to turn down a haul of that size, no matter how talented Burns and Moore are.

With seven games to play this season, the saving grace for Carolina could be its final stretch of schedule. The

Panthers catch 6-3 Baltimore on the road in Week 11 before returning to play Baltimore in Week 12. After a bye in Week 13, the Panthers are on the road at Seattle, which currently leads the NFC West at 6-4.

The Panthers also end the year with two straight road games against divisional opponents — Tampa Bay and New Orleans. Two of Carolina's three wins are actually against the Bucs and Saints, but the Panthers have lost their last three games in Tampa and six of their last seven in New

Orleans.

It might not be fun to watch, but I'm hoping the Panthers bottom out this year and realize the best way forward is to get one of these top two quarterbacks. If anyone involved with the team is interested in keeping a job, this should be their mindset the rest of the season.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@jbo_ernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_ernon).

COACH

Continued from page B1

varsity level, so I think it was something that was great for them to go through. Hopefully this year they can use that experience from last year, seeing what it was like, playing against older kids. They should be better prepared for it this year, and they know what to expect. I think that will help us a lot this year.

Jarin is going to be a key to what you guys do both offensively and defensively. What parts of

his game do you want to see him improve this season?

Honestly, we're expecting him to get better at everything. He's not even close to being a finished product. He's trying to get better at all parts of his game. Dribbling, shooting. But probably one of the biggest things for him is becoming a more vocal leader. He is one of the best players on the team. He needs to be a little bit more vocal and a leader on the team, especially we have no seniors. He's actually one of the older kids on the team, even though he's just a junior. So leadership is the area I would like him to

grow in most this year.

Obviously Jarin is receiving a lot of attention from college coaches. How do you feel like he's handled the recruiting process, and is there any timeline for when he would like to announce his commitment?

I think he's handled it well. It's sort of bringing him out of his shell, talking to all these coaches. I think that's good for him. It's good to help with his maturity. As far as a decision, I don't think he's ready to make a decision until maybe after the season, or more towards the summer. Right now he's trying

to take it all in and get all the information he can to make a good decision. But yeah, it will probably be more towards the summer.

You and your brother were recently inducted into the University of Richmond's Athletics Hall of Fame. What did it mean to you to receive that honor, and what did it mean to receive it alongside your brother?

It was great. We both graduated from there a long time ago, so it was great to be recognized for things we did at the university. It was a special moment because we were both

inducted together. They told us that we were the first brothers to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. That was pretty cool. It was also nice to get back to the university. I hadn't been back in a long time. It was nice to reconnect with some of the guys from the team and seeing the coaches there and seeing how much it has changed the past couple years.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@jbo_ernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_ernon).

2022 FALL SEASON

A look back in photos



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Dozens of athletes start their race at the 1A mid-east cross country regionals in Cary on Oct. 29.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood's Taylor LaBerge holds up a homemade 'turnover belt' in the Chargers' 52-0 win over Jordan-Matthews on Aug. 25.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Woods Charter freshman Josephine Valgus serves during the Wolves' 3-0 sweep of Jordan-Matthews on Aug. 31.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Chatham Central senior Brandon Toomer lays a big hit on a Trinity player in the Bears' 52-0 loss to the Bulldogs on Aug. 19.



Staff photo by Nikki Witt

Jordan-Matthews senior Paul Lujan (left) and Seaforth junior Taylor Johnson fight for the ball in the Jets' 2-0 win over the Hawks on Sept. 26.

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www.chathamsheriff.com

PERFORMERS

Continued from page B1

Jordan-Matthews
Christian Garcia Torres, junior, Jordan-Matthews

Girls Runner of the Year: Katie Leonard, freshman, Seaforth
Boys Runner of the Year: Jack Anstrom, sophomore, Seaforth
Girls Coach of the Year: Tanelle Smith, Seaforth
Boys Coach of the Year: Eric Patin, Chatham Central

Central 3A

Sydney Gray, freshman, Northwood
Jacey Martinez, freshman, Northwood
Christian Glick, senior, Northwood
Noah Nielson, junior, Northwood
Jackson Adams, senior, Northwood
Trey Hudson, sophomore, Northwood

FOOTBALL

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

Anthony Vesce, junior, Seaforth
Walter Entrkin, sophomore, Seaforth
Broden Jones, sophomore, Seaforth
Jackson Powell, sophomore, Seaforth
George Weaver, sophomore, Seaforth
Josh Brown, sophomore, Seaforth

Ethan Becker, junior, Seaforth
Michael Scotton, sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
Kevin Causey, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Nick Glover, freshman, Jordan-Matthews
Gabriel Brewer, junior, Jordan-Matthews
Neil Wiley, junior, Jordan-Matthews
River Warren, junior, Chatham Central
Brandon Toomer, senior, Chatham Central
Devonte Johnson, junior, Chatham Central
Conner Kitchings, junior, Chatham Central
Hasten Paige, senior, Chatham Central
Omar Brower, junior, Chatham Central

Central 3A

Will Smith, senior, Northwood
Ryan Brinker, junior, Northwood
Mason Powell, junior, Northwood
Gus Ritchey, sophomore, Northwood
Cameron Fowler, freshman, Northwood

GIRLS TENNIS

Central Tar Heel 1A

Elphie Spillman, junior, Chatham Charter
Rebecca Brookshire, senior, Chatham Charter
Lillii Jones, senior, Chatham Charter
Julia Moore, senior, Chatham Charter

Player of the Year: Elphie Spillman, junior, Chatham Charter
Coach of the Year: Kelly Eldridge, Chatham Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

Olivia Brooks, senior, Chatham Central
Ellie Phillips, senior, Chatham Central
Jaylee Williams, senior, Chatham Central
Lauren Caviness, junior, Chatham Central
Evelyn Atkins, junior, Seaforth
Lauren Keeley, junior, Seaforth
Bailey Shadoan, sophomore, Seaforth
MaKenzy Lehew, sophomore, Seaforth
Lillian McFall, sophomore, Seaforth
Maggie Thornton, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Jocelyn Sanchez, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Jolitzky Fernandez-Arzate, senior, Jordan-Matthews

Player of the Year: Olivia Brooks, senior, Chatham Charter
Coach of the Year: Peter Petrides, Seaforth

Central 3A

Ryan Tinervin, junior, Northwood
Destyn Rader, senior, Northwood

GIRLS GOLF

Central Tar Heel 1A

Mackenzie Crossman, junior, Chatham Charter

Player of the Year: Mackenzie Crossman, junior, Chatham Charter
Coach of the Year: Derrick McCullough, Chatham Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

Reagan Mize, senior, Chatham Central
Jaylee Williams, senior, Chatham Central
Ashton Wilkes, senior, Chatham Central
Jenna Thompson, junior, Seaforth

Central 3A

Lilly Jordan, senior, Northwood

BOYS SOCCER

Central Tar Heel 1A

Cedric Schwartz, senior, Chatham Charter
Ryan Jones, sophomore, Chatham Charter
Eli Hutter-DeMarco, junior, Woods Charter
Motasem Mamoun, junior, Woods Charter
Graden O'Connor, senior, Woods Charter
Vanner Weakly, senior, Woods Charter

Defensive Player of the Year: Eli Hutter-DeMarco, junior, Woods Charter

Mid-Carolina 1A/2A

Zander Ocampo, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Juan Hernandez-Soto, junior, Jordan-Matthews
Stiven Herrera, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Paul Lujan, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Armando Rocha, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Ricardo Rocha, senior, Jordan-Matthews

Andy Mendoza Villegas, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Angel Gonzalez, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Jack Haste, sophomore, Seaforth
Blake Price, sophomore, Seaforth
Hunter Blake, junior, Seaforth
Taylor Johnson, junior, Seaforth
Alex Gallegos, sophomore, Seaforth
Jason Antley, sophomore, Seaforth
Walker Magrinat, junior, Seaforth

Offensive Player of the Year: Zander Ocampo, senior, Jordan-Matthews
Co-Defensive Player of the Year: Hunter Blake, junior, Seaforth
Goalkeeper of the Year: Jack Haste, sophomore, Seaforth
Coach of the Year: Paul Cuadros, Jordan-Matthews

Central 3A

Rui Aguiar, junior, Northwood
Ken Vazquez Alonzo, junior, Northwood
Patrick Baqero, junior, Northwood

CHARTER

Continued from page B1

their opponents by an average of 50.0 points per game.

“We’re focused and hungry,” said Chatham Charter head coach Jason Messier. “The guys understand what they need to do to try to get back to the championship game, but they’re also mindful that last year, we probably surprised some teams that weren’t expecting us to be as successful as we were. The thing we hear very often is that our conference isn’t very strong and this and that, but we go about playing basketball the right way, we preach the right way, we get them to do things the right way,

and I think that translates over no matter who you’re playing.”

On Monday night, the Knights defeated Falls Lake, 66-25, at home behind big games from sophomores Beau Harvey (14 points, four rebounds, four assists, seven steals) and Brennen Oldham (12 points, four rebounds, two steals). As a team, Chatham Charter shot 27-of-57 (47.4%) from the field and 3-of-10 from 3-point range.

There’s reason to believe Chatham Charter’s start to the season is sustainable. The Knights return all but one player from last year’s roster, led by a talented senior class with plenty of experience playing in big moments.

As freshmen in 2019-20,

Adam Harvey, Aamir Mapp and Jackson Brown were part of a Charter team that went 33-2 overall and made it to the state semifinals. Messier believes that experience will help the Knights once they come down the closing stretch of the season. He also said the experience of playing in last year’s state final was invaluable to his players.

“Everyone knows what we have and what we do. We’re going to be getting everybody’s best shot every single night, and I think that experience being in big games is going to help us. We had three juniors and two freshmen playing at Reynolds Coliseum for the first time ever. Really, I couldn’t tell you any of them

have even been to a state championship game just to watch and be in that type of environment.”

Messier said that last season, Chatham Charter played at most six or seven players in its rotation in the playoffs, but this year he expects his lineups could run nine or 10 players deep.

Regardless of who steps on the court, the Knights’ unquestioned leader in terms of production is Adam Harvey, who is closing in on 1,000 career points (877) in his time with the program. The senior wing has led his team in points and rebounds per game in each of the past two seasons, and for his career he’s averaging 16.5 points, 7.7 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 2.8 steals per game in 53

games.

So far this season, Harvey’s numbers are slightly down because he’s played few minutes — a product of Chatham Charter blowing out each of its first four opponents. But he has shown flashes of the type of player he’s capable of being, like when he scored 26 points on 12-of-18 shooting in a 71-30 win over N.C. Science & Math last Wednesday.

“One of the biggest growths we’re seeing out of him is in his leadership, continuing to grow as a leader,” Messier said. “I think a lot of the things he does, they don’t necessarily show up on the box score ... He’s always a factor because he’s always a threat in many facets of the game.

His hands are phenomenal. He rebounds well and goes and gets the ball over bigger players. He’s a good ball-handler. He can shoot the three. He has all facets of the game, and all those facets have continued to expand.”

Chatham Charter plays Uwharrie Charter on the road in Asheboro Friday night and has one game next week, on Tuesday at home against Voyager Academy.

The Knights will not start conference play until Jan. 10, when they face Clover Garden School at home.

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

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HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

From parades to tree lightings, here's how to celebrate the season in Chatham

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN
News + Record Staff

It's November, which means it's officially acceptable to start playing Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas is You."

And as the pumpkins get packaged away and the Christmas wreaths are pulled out, Chatham County residents have a plethora of activities in the area to choose from to get into the holiday spirit and reap all that the season's festivities have to offer.

From parades and tree lightings to artisan fairs and cooking classes, we've compiled this list of events across the county to mark the upcoming holidays. Here's what you need to know.

Wednesday, Nov. 16

- Order wreaths, garlands and trees by Nov. 16 at www.bynumfrontporch.org for pick up at the Bynum Front Porch Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 26. The Pittsboro-based nonprofit is selling Fraser fir trees cut two days before delivery, ranging in size from 5 to 11 feet tall and priced between \$60 and \$215.

Saturday, Nov. 19

- Pittsboro's Bynum Front Porch is holding a winter music series this season. On Nov. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m., the Bynum Front Porch is welcoming musicians Andrew Finn Magill and John Doyle for an evening of Irish folk music. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and there is no cost for admission or parking, but donations and tips are welcome.

- Participate in a Healthy Thanksgiving Feast Cooking Class hosted by the Travelling Café Culinary Studio in Pittsboro from 5 to 7 p.m., where attendees will learn how to put a spin on Thanksgiving basics and bring "health to the table." Register online at eventbrite.com/e/healthy-thanksgiving-feast-cooking-class-tickets-433731631987?aff=ebdsoporgprofile; general admission tickets are \$75 and wine tickets are \$10.

Sunday, Nov. 20

- Join the town of Pittsboro in lighting an 18-foot Christmas tree at the historic Chatham County Courthouse from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. The afternoon will also include a Santa visit that begins at 3:30 p.m., in addition to performances by school choirs and carolers. The tree lighting ceremony kicks off the town's 2022 Holly Days festivities.

Thursday, Nov. 24

- For the first time, the Quiltmaker Café is holding a Pay-What-You-Can Thanksgiving dinner in partnership with the Postal Fish Company and the Travelling Café. It'll take place from 1 to 3 p.m. The family-style dinner, hosted at the Postal Fish Co. in Pittsboro, will feature Thanksgiving classics and include some vegetarian and gluten-free options. Space is limited to 50 guests, and free registration is available at eventbrite.com/e/thanksgiving-dinner-registration-449706523317, though attendees can also register with a pay-what-you-can donation or make a pay-what-you-can contribution on the day of the event.

Saturday, Nov. 26

- Attend the Bynum Front Porch's Holiday Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Pittsboro for a day featuring local artists, pottery and crafts. Sales benefit educational grants for Chatham County students part of the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) college readiness system.

- The Pittsboro Business Association is hosting a Small Business Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to support independent businesses in downtown Pittsboro. The day features special sales, refreshments, Shop Small Passports and a raffle, and free gift wrapping will be available at the Pittsboro Welcome Center.

- Piedmont Farm Animal Refuge, an animal sanctuary in Pittsboro, is holding a Day with the Turkeys Tour & Explore. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., take part in turkey-themed activities, including trivia, a raffle, treat bowls for

the sanctuary's turkeys, and one-time holiday turkey sponsorships. Attendees can also meet more than 100 farm animals and tour the refuge's grounds. The Refuge offers sliding scale tickets; previously tickets cost \$15, but this month are ranging from free to \$40 in price.

- The Travelling Café Culinary Studio in Pittsboro is hosting a Flourless Holiday Cake Workshop from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Try making cakes from around the world with desserts safe for those with gluten-free dietary restrictions. Participants can register for a ticket online at eventbrite.com/e/incredible-flourless-holiday-cake-workshop-tickets-444823959437?aff=ebdssbdestsearch; tickets cost \$75 for general admission

and \$10 for a wine ticket.

Friday, Dec. 2

- Take the kids out for a Supper with Santa from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Earl B. Fitts Community Center in Siler City. Enjoy a to-go boxed dinner and a holiday craft kit, as well as photo opportunities with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Attendees are required to have a ticket, which can be purchased for \$10 for adults and \$5 for children online at secure.rec1.com/NC/siler-city-nc/catalog?filter=c2VhcmNoPTTyNDgzODM= or in person at City Hall. The deadline to buy tickets is Nov. 25 or until the

See **EVENTS**, page B5



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Council on Aging Activities Calendar

November 21st through November 25th

Monday, November 21

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**
- 11:15 a.m. - **Cornhole & Shuffleboard**
- 2 p.m. - **Table Tennis**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Walking Through Grief Support Group; Coffee & Games w/Chatham County Sheriff's Office**
- 2 p.m. - **Geri-Fit**

Tuesday, November 22

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **3G's Men's Group**
- 10 a.m. - **Woodcarvers**
- 1 p.m. - **Rummikub**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - **Thanksgiving Program and Meal**
- 1 p.m. - **Rook; Phase 10; Rummikub; "Bring Your Own Project" Gathering**

Wednesday, November 23

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 10 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz**
- 11 a.m. - **Drumming w/Rodney & 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**
- 1 p.m. - **Cornhole**
- 2 p.m. - **Crafting w/Kathryn (Fabric Tree Ornament)**

Thursday, November 24

- **COA Centers Closed (Thanksgiving Holiday)**

Friday, November 25

Western Chatham Senior Center


- 7 p.m. - **Friday Night Dance (fee required for participation)**

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

Eastern Chatham Senior Center
919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center
919-742-3975

Visit our website at www.chathamcoa.org



What to Know About Sustainable Investing

You may have heard about "sustainable investing." But if you're not familiar with it, you may have some questions: What does it involve? Is it right for me? Can I follow a sustainable investing strategy and still get the portfolio performance I need to reach my goals?

Sustainable investing can be defined in different ways, with different terminologies. However, one way to look at a sustainable approach is by thinking of it as investing in a socially conscious way which may involve two broad categories: environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing and values-based investing.

As its name suggests, ESG investing incorporates a broad range of environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities, along with traditional financial measures, when making investment decisions. This approach may have a neutral impact on performance because it maintains a focus on managing risk, traditional fundamental analysis and diversification. Here's a quick look at the ESG elements:

- Environmental - Companies may work to reduce carbon emissions, invest in renewable energy, decrease pollution and conserve water resources.
- Social - A business may promote gender and pay equality within its workforce, and maintain positive labor relations and safe working conditions for employees.
- Governance - Companies distinguished by good governance may institute strong ethics policies, provide transparent financial reporting and set policies to ensure it has an independent, objective board of directors.

You can pursue an ESG investing approach through individual stocks, mutual funds or exchange-traded funds (ETFs), which hold a variety of investments similar to mutual funds, but are generally passively managed - that is, they do little or no trading. As an ESG investor, you don't necessarily have to sacrifice performance because ESG investments generally fare about as well as the wider investment universe. Some investments

may even gain from the ESG approach. For example, a company that invests in renewable energy may benefit from the move away from fossil fuel sources.

Now, let's move on to values-based investing. When you follow a values-based approach, you can focus on specific themes where you may choose to include or exclude certain types of investments that align with your personal values.

So, you could refrain from investing in segments of the market, such as tobacco or firearms, or in companies that engage in certain business practices, such as animal testing. On the other hand, you could actively seek out investments that align with your values. For instance, if you're interested in climate change, you could invest in a mutual fund or ETF that contains companies in the solar or clean energy industries.

One potential limitation of values-based investing is that it may decrease the diversification of your portfolio and lead to materially lower returns due to narrowly focused investments, prioritization of non-financial goals and too many exclusions.

Ultimately, if you choose to include a sustainable investing approach, you will want - as you do in any investing scenario - to choose those investments that are suitable for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

If sustainable investing interests you, give it some thought - you may find it rewarding to match your money with your beliefs.

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

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CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

Walston named Principal of the Year, 19 teaching grants awarded

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Schools held its Educators Awards ceremony on Thursday to honor teachers, principals and staff for their dedication to the district.

The ceremony at Seaforth High School saw Bradford Walston, principal at Northwood High School, named Principal of the Year for the district. Chatham Education Foundation also awarded 19 Creative Teaching Grants to help in classrooms across the county.

“In this season of gratitude, we think it’s important to thank you for all the work you do for our schools,” Dr. Kelly Batten, CCS assistant superintendent for human resources, told educators.

While the district honors educators every year, this was the first time recognitions were given in this award-show style. It’s part of a concerted effort by Batten and Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson to celebrate the people who make education possible. It also aligns with the goals Jackson set in the One Chatham strategic plan, which lists minimizing burnout and boosting the morale of faculty and staff as an important part of the district’s future.

“These are consequential times in education,” Jackson said. “We’re making our future possible by what we do every day and I don’t want anyone to take that for granted.” Jackson said the work



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Recipients of Chatham Education Foundation’s Creative Teaching Grants pose with their awards Thursday. CEF awarded 22 grants to help make teaching more creative and engaging in CCS.

of teachers in today’s world is courageous and deserves to be honored at every opportunity. Batten added that celebration and recognition are “vital” parts of the culture of CCS.

The district chose a teacher and instructional assistant of the year from each of the 20 schools in CCS. They also honored last year’s teacher of the year, Cassadi Walden from Chatham Central High School, and principal of the year Sarah Estes from Virginia Cross Elementary.

Estes now passes her title off to Walston, who was chosen because of his commitment to providing opportunities for students to find success in multiple areas. Under his leadership, the girls basketball team brought home the 3A state title in the 2021-2022 school year. And Northwood showed growth in its state test scores, earning a

B grade from N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction.

“This is such an honor,” Walston said. “I’m lucky to be part of Northwood and CCS. We have so much support in this district from our families and community. That has given me the ability to in turn further develop my staff and students.”

Walston joined Northwood as principal in the 2018-2019 school year. He previously served as a principal in Randolph County and an administrator in Wake County Public Schools. Walston will now represent Chatham County Schools at the regional level for Principal of the Year.

“Walston is a strong leader who has created an environment for growth for both staff and students,” Jackson said. “He is a motivator for success and provides pathways for staff and students to achieve it.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Northwood High School Principal Bradford Walston was selected as the Chatham County Schools Principal of the Year on Thursday at the district’s Educators Awards.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Northwood Principal Bradford Walston is greeted by Chatham County Board of Education Chairperson Gary Leonard. Walston was named Principal of the Year by the district Thursday and will now represent CCS at a regional level.

We are immensely proud of the work he is doing at Northwood and the collaborative work he does in his building and with his peers throughout the district.”

The ceremony also awarded 19 recipients with Creative Teaching Grants from the Chatham Education Foundation. Jaime Detzi, executive director of CEF, said the grants are awarded to teachers or principals who seek to bring innovative ideas to their classroom, outside of their typical annual budget. She said this was the highest number of Creative Teaching Grants awarded during her nine years as executive

director. “We are extraordinarily grateful to have such a strong community partner in the Chatham Education Foundation,” Jackson said. “The Foundation’s unwavering support for our public school system has expanded opportunities for our students and educators. Through that support, we have been able to provide greater opportunities for our students throughout Chatham County.”

Jackson said these teachers are going above and beyond to bring innovative, enriching and engaging activities to their students. “We were excited to

have so many applicants and such great projects,” Detzi said. “I am so pleased that through the generosity of our donors and community support that we are able to fund these wonderful educational opportunities that will benefit our students and teachers.”

Grant recipients will use funds for a variety of projects including a Magic Makerspace for Perry Harrison Elementary — where funds will be used to purchase materials for creative designing education. Other projects include microscopes for 5th graders at Chatham Grove Elementary and a family book club at Siler City Elementary — which will cover the costs to purchase books for the establishment of a book club for 40 families so they will have time and space to come together and read in an effort to increase fluency and family involvement.

“I want to thank you all for taking the time and effort to write these grants,” Detzi told the audience. “We at Chatham Education Foundation hope we can make your lives a little bit easier and your classrooms more engaging.”

The evening concluded with comments from CCS Board of Education Chairperson Gary Leonard. He said the challenges facing education at the moment are more pertinent than ever, but he was proud to be in a district facing those issues head-on.

“Every time I visit a school in our district I see special things,” Leonard said. “You all care for these kids so much, it just makes my day. You all make education a calling.” For a full list of grant recipients, visit chathamnewsrecord.com.

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

TO THE VOTERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY



Gary Leonard



Del Turner



Jane Allen Wilson

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the voters of Chatham, for returning us to our seats on the Board of Education. Allowing us to serve your children and through them, you, for another four years, is a gift we will honor and treasure, as we continue our work to encourage standards of excellence for our students and educators. We also wish to honor the inspired determination of parents and community members, retired and active educators, community organizations and supporters of traditional public education, to mount a resolute but judicious effort to champion our work. Your outstanding efforts made the difference, and we are immensely grateful. Lastly, we wish our challengers well and welcome them to partner with us as we continue to encourage and seek out input from parents and community in building One Chatham.

With gratitude,
Gary Leonard
Del Turner
Jane Allen Wilson

EVENTS

Continued from page B4
event is full, and space is limited.

Saturday, Dec. 3

• The Union Taylors Community Center is holding Chatham’s first Interfaith Holiday Thrift Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Taylors Chapel Baptist Church in Sanford. The community center is directly accepting donations at their Bear Creek site through Nov. 30; to schedule a donation drop, call (919)-545-1812. Donations will benefit the community center’s purchase of a new HVAC system. For more details on what the community center is looking for, visit www.oneunitedchatham.com/donate-items.

• St. Julia Catholic Church is hosting the Celebration of Lights, a fundraiser for Chatham Cares Community Pharmacy, from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. The event will feature live music and a bilingual Christmas message as well as the opportunity to drive through hundreds of luminaries. Admission is free, but luminaries can be bought for \$10 each to honor loved ones and all proceeds will be used for prescription drug purchases dispensed to patients at the pharmacy.

• Join Starrlight Mead, a meadery located in the Chatham Beverage District at The Plant in Pittsboro, for its annual Community Solstice Party from 6 to 9 p.m. The celebration includes a raffle, food pantry donation bin, optional bring-and-take pagan present table, drum circle and potluck snacks, in addition to a family-friendly ritual presented by the Triangle Wednesday Kindred.

Sunday, Dec. 4

• From noon to 4 p.m., the town of Pittsboro is holding a First Sunday Artisan Fair, featuring food, crafts and music. The Chatham Historical Museum, as well as shops and restaurants in town, plan to host special events.

Thursday, Dec. 8

• The Siler City Christmas Parade will be held at 7 p.m., with its theme of “Christmas: Past, Present, and Future.” Santa will visit with attendees in the courtyard after the parade. For information, go to ccucc.net.

Friday, Dec. 9

• Chatham Parks and Recreation is marking the holidays with the fourth annual Holiday in the Park celebration from 5 to 8 p.m. This free event at Northwest District Park in Siler City includes a tree lighting ceremony, picture opportunities with Santa, holiday-themed games and crafts, warm drinks and candy canes, caroling performances, letters to Santa and a hayride around the pond. The tree lighting will kick off the event at 5:15 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 11

• Pittsboro’s Holiday Parade, with marching bands, handmade floats, dance teams, horse-drawn wagons and more, takes place from 3 to 4 p.m. The parade will move from east to west along U.S. Hwy. Business 64.

Dec. 17

• Partake in a Christmas Village Around the Loop in Haywood at 438 Moncure Loop Rd., Moncure. The event, from noon to 4 p.m., includes shopping, a holiday sleigh wagon, Santa Station and Kids Zone, and special food vendors, such as Seven Springs Winery, Vicious Fishes Brewery, Que’s Ribs and Brisket, Favors Desserts and Stephanie’s Philly Steak and Cheese. The celebration is free to attend but interested individuals can register at eventbrite.com/e/christmas-village-around-the-loop-in-haywood-tickets-459983421797?aff=ebdssbdestsearch or contact Karen Cheek at (919)-770-2089 for more information.

Do you have a holiday event you’d like to add to this list? Send it to [Maydha Devarajan at mdevarajan@chathamnr.com](mailto:Maydha.Devarajan@chathamnr.com).

Winter Sports Preview

3 Chatham athletes to watch for this winter

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

After a highly-competitive fall season, winter sports have taken over in Chatham County, featuring basketball, wrestling, indoor track and swimming/diving until the arrival of springtime.

The next few months will have a lot to do to match the excitement of the fall season, when athletes from both Chatham Central (Olivia Brooks and Ellie Phillips) and Seaforth (Jack Anstrom) won state championships in their respective sports.

Ahead of the start of winter sports, we're highlighting three athletes who might be considered "under-the-radar" when compared to some of their counterparts. While they might not have received much spotlight until now, each of these athletes could be household names around Chatham County by this time next year.

Adam Harvey, senior

Chatham Charter boys basketball

When you bring up current Chatham County boys basketball players, most people think of Northwood junior Drake Powell or Seaforth junior



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Chatham Charter senior Adam Harvey (20) lays the ball up in the Knights' 66-25 win over Falls Lake on Monday.

Jarin Stevenson — both top-50 recruits nationally in the Class of 2024. But the best player from Chatham County's best team last winter was Chatham Charter's Adam Harvey.

Now a senior, Harvey averaged 16.3 points, 7.0 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.8 steals per game for the Knights in 2021-22. The 6-foot-2 guard's play propelled Chatham Charter all the way to a 33-2 record and a trip to the 1A state finals, where the Knights ultimately fell to Hayesville in overtime.

Harvey shot 55% from the field and 41% from 3-point range as a

junior last winter, and he scored 20 or more points in 10 games, including a 28-point performance against Northwest Halifax in the second round of the state playoffs.

I think a lot of the things (Adam) does, they don't necessarily show up on the box score," said Chatham Charter head coach Jason Messier. "He's always a factor because he's always a threat in many facets of the game. His hands are phenomenal. He rebounds well and goes and gets the ball over bigger players. He's a good ball-handler. He can

shoot the three. He has all facets of the game, and all those facets have continued to expand."

Chatham Charter made it to the final four of the 1A tournament twice in the past three seasons. If they want to get back to that stage — and this time finish the job — they'll have to lean on Harvey to lead the way.

Abby Emrich, sophomore

Northwood girls swimming

Northwood's 2021-22

swimming and diving team was a talented group led by several seniors who have gone on to join collegiate programs, but the Chargers' best swimmer last winter might have been a freshman — Abby Emrich.

Emrich, who returns as a sophomore in 2022, finished third in the 200-yard individual medley and fifth in the 100-yard butterfly at last year's 3A state championships. She also was part of the Northwood team that won the 200-yard freestyle relay. Emrich was a big reason why the Northwood girls finished third overall as a team at the state meet.

This season Emrich will take on even more responsibility as a leader along with her older sister, senior Lauren Emrich. The duo will try to mitigate the losses of several top swimmers from a year ago, including Mia Corrado, Julia Earnshaw and Gwen Hoeg.

Northwood is in the process of turning around its program in its second year under head coach Rebecca Reed, who took over two weeks before the 2021-22 season. Expect the Chargers to lean on Abby Emrich as one of their top swimmers again this winter.

Layne Armstrong, sophomore

Being the child of a head coach can bring immense pressure, but Seaforth's Layne Armstrong didn't have an issue dealing with the added expectations as a freshman last season.

Competing at the 2A state championships in Greensboro last season, Armstrong was the only Seaforth wrestler to earn a win, defeating West Davidson's Abraham Taha by decision in the 113-pound weight class. The match featured some high drama: the freshman came back from a 7-0 deficit to eventually win the match, 15-14.

Armstrong finished the year with a 25-3 record in individual bouts, and he's expected to be one of the Hawks' top options in 2022-23. If he can build on his performance from last year, there's no reason to see why Seaforth can't possibly qualify for the 2A dual team state championship in only their second season as a varsity program.

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

BOYS BASKETBALL

Northwood Chargers, Chatham Charter Knights have eyes on state championships

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

Could two Chatham County boys basketball teams win state championships this season?

It's certainly possible. There are two real contenders to do so in 2022-23 — Chatham Charter and Northwood. The Knights and Chargers were a combined 57-6 last season and figure to be the top teams in Chatham County again this winter.

Chatham Charter's motivation is simple: redemption. The Knights (33-2 in 2021-22) are trying to make up for a loss in last year's 1A state title game, a 54-43 defeat to Hayesville. Luckily for head coach Jason Messier, he returns his entire roster this winter.

"We're going to be getting everybody's best shot every single night, and I think that experience being in big games is going to help us," Messier said. "We had three juniors and two freshmen playing at Reynolds Coliseum (in the state final) for the first time ever. Really, I couldn't tell you any of them have even been to a state championship game just to watch and be in that type of environment."

The Knights are led by senior Adam Harvey, who led his team in points (16.3) and rebounds (7.0) last season. Chatham Charter isn't dependent on just one player, however, as senior Aamir Mapp (11.5) and sophomores Beau Harvey (10.3) and Brennan Oldham (10.0) each averaged more than 10 points per game last season.

Charter averaged 66.1 points per game last winter, and they've

picked up right where they left off offensively. In each of the team's first three games this season — all wins — the Knights have scored at least 70 points.

Northwood, meanwhile, doesn't begin its season until Saturday afternoon, but the Chargers (24-4 in 2021-22) are ready to take the next step this winter after losing in the fourth round of last year's 3A state playoffs.

Head coach Matt Brown has a lot of talent at his disposal, but the top player for the Chargers on both ends of the court is undoubtedly junior Drake Powell. The 6-foot-6, 180-pound wing

led Northwood in points (16.1) and rebounds (6.2) per game while also averaging 3.2 assists and 2.6 steals.

Powell is committed to play college basketball at UNC-Chapel Hill and is considered the No. 50 player nationally in the Class of 2024 according to 247Sports' composite rankings. If he can improve on his 3-point shooting (24.6% in 2021-22), it might be enough to lift the Chargers past the fourth round — and possibly to a state title.

"(Drake)'s definitely a once-in-a-lifetime player," Brown said. "I'm pretty blessed to be able to coach a player like him. Not just the player,

but the person ... The thing is, he's not even near his potential yet, which is pretty scary."

Elsewhere in the county, the top team outside Charter and Northwood might be Seaforth, which is only in its second season as a varsity program. The Hawks finished the 2021-22 season at 12-10 overall — a campaign that ended with a loss to Goldsboro in the first round of the 2A playoffs.

Seaforth is led by junior Jarin Stevenson, a 6-foot-10 forward who averaged a county-high 20.6 points, 11.3 rebounds and 3.5 blocks per game last season. Stevenson is one of the top prospects in his

class, listed as the No. 13 player nationally and the No. 1 player in North Carolina according to 247Sports' composite rankings.

The key for Seaforth will be getting contributions from its other players. Last year, only Stevenson and current junior Chris Walker (7.9) averaged more than five points per game.

The top competition for Seaforth in the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A Conference this season will be Cummings, which went undefeated in the regular season in 2021-22 before eventually winding up 22-1 overall. The Hawks lost their two meetings with

the Cavaliers by an average of 27.0 points per game last winter.

Chatham Central and Jordan-Matthews are also members of the Mid-Carolina Conference. The Bears and Jets combined to go 14-29 overall last season and ranked third and fourth, respectively, in the league standings.

Jordan-Matthews was one of two Chatham County boys basketball teams not to make the playoffs last season. The other was Woods Charter, which went 5-14 overall and 4-6 in Central Tar Heel Conference play in 2021-22.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood junior Drake Powell slams one home early in the Chargers' blowout win over West Brunswick in the second round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs on Feb. 24.



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

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Defending 3A champion Northwood leads talented group of Chatham girls basketball teams



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth freshman Gabby White (3) lays the ball in during the Hawks' 71-28 blowout win over the Jordan-Matthews Jets on Jan. 7.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood junior Gianna McManaman shoots a floater in the Chargers' 51-50 upset of the Terry Sanford Bulldogs in the 3A East Regional Championship on March 5.

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

A year after winning the first state championship in school history, the Northwood girls basketball team is once again the team to beat in Chatham County.

The Chargers are coming off a historic season that saw them go 30-1 overall and win their final 21 games, including a 70-42 beatdown of Enka in the 3A state championship game.

Now, head coach Kerri Snipes is tasked with trying to help her team repeat.

One thing Northwood will have to deal with is the loss of Olivia Porter, who led the team in points (16.4), rebounds (6.4), assists (3.8) and steals (4.3) in 2021-22. Porter is now in college at Michigan State, and the Chargers will have to find a way to mitigate her not being on the court with them this winter.

Northwood does still have plenty of talent on its roster, though. The Chargers have two players on their roster who are

committed to play collegiately at Division-I schools — seniors Gianna McManaman (New Mexico) and Te'Keyah Bland (Howard).

Bland is the Northwood's tallest player at 6-foot-1 and the team's top returning scorer (8.8 points per game). She'll be tasked with anchoring the Chargers' lineup as both a low-post scorer and rim-protector.

"(Te'Keyah) has certainly worked hard over the last three years," Snipes told the N+R earlier this offseason. "She's really gotten a lot stronger, especially this past season, so that's what we've continued to work on this offseason. We're trying to make sure she can be physical and can compete."

Behind Northwood, the county's other five teams will all have potential to make the state playoffs, as four of them did so in 2021-22. The teams with the biggest expectations among this next tier of schools are Seaforth and Chatham Charter, who combined to go 38-17 overall last season.

The Hawks went 19-8 in their first season as a program in 2021-22 and won the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A Conference with a 12-0 mark in league play. Head coach Charles Byrd welcomes back all of his players from last year's team, including three players who averaged at least 10 points per game.

The top scorer for Seaforth last season was sophomore Gabrielle Wright, who averaged 15.6 points and 10.0 rebounds as a freshman last winter. Sophomore Peyton Collins (12.0) and junior Hannah Ajayi (10.8) also averaged in double-figures.

Chatham Central and Jordan-Matthews also belong to the Mid-Carolina Conference. The Bears finished 14-14 overall last winter, but they were the second best team in the league standings at 9-2, with their only losses coming against Seaforth.

The Jets matched the Jordan-Matthews boys team with an overall record of 5-17. J-M will have its work cut out for it this season, as the team graduated its

top two scorers from last year — Elia Wright and Tatyn Siler.

Chatham Charter, meanwhile, went 19-9 overall last winter and 7-1 in league play. The Knights are led by senior Tamaya Walden — who averaged a county-high 22.0 points per game last season. Walden is the only active girls basketball player in the county with at least 1,000 career points (1,188).

Last season, the Knights won the Central Tar Heel Conference tournament title before falling to Clover Garden School, 53-47, in the second round of the 2A state playoffs. Chatham Charter has an overall record of 54-16 since the start of the 2019-20 season.

Chatham Charter's top rival in its conference is Woods

Charter, which is coming off a 12-7 campaign in 2021-22. The Wolves will be without their top scorer from last season, though, as junior Lexi Smollen (19.2 points per game) transferred to Chapel Hill High over the offseason.

The top returning scorer for the Wolves this winter is junior Caroline Mitchell, who averaged 10.7 points per game last season. Mitchell scored at least 20 points on three occasions last season, including a 20-point performance against Southside High in the first round of the 1A playoffs.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@jbo_ernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_ernon).



"I'd like to thank the voters of Chatham and Randolph counties for their continued support. As your State Representative, I look forward to proudly serving our communities for another two years."

—Robert Reives II

THE VOICE
of Rural
North Carolina

Representative **Robert Reives**
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

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SWIMMING & DIVING

Northwood girls look to build on 3rd-place finish at 2021 state championships

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

After a third-place finish at last year's 3A swimming and diving state championships, the Northwood girls are expected to be among the top teams in the area again during the 2022-23 season.

The Chargers bring back tons of talent from last year's team, including sisters Lauren and Abby Emrich. Abby, a sophomore, finished third in the 200-yard individual medley, fifth in the 100-yard butterfly and was part of the Northwood 200-yard freestyle relay team that placed second at last year's state championships.

Lauren, now a senior, finished sixth in the 100-yard breaststroke and was a member of the Chargers' foursome that finished second in the 200-yard medley relay at the state meet last February.

The Northwood girls felt like they could have finished even better at last year's state championships. One thing holding back was the lack of a 400-yard freestyle relay team; the Chargers were controversially disqualified in that event in the regional finals the previous weekend after judges ruled senior Julia Earnshaw didn't use her feet to push off the wall during her leg of the race.

The Chargers will have to replace some team members who graduated over the offseason. Northwood had a number of seniors contribute to last season's success, including Mia Corrado, Gwen Hoeg and Earnshaw. All three swimmers were part of the team that finished second in the 200-yard



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

The Northwood girls swimming and diving team finished third at the 3A state championships last winter.

medley relay.

"We've got a lot of different personalities, and we have a lot of really great attitudes about improvement," Northwood head coach Rebecca Reed said. "Everybody is really receptive to feedback, supportive of each other, supportive of the team and happy to be there. They are a really good and

awesome team to coach."

The Northwood girls were the only Chatham County school to compete as a team at last year's swimming and diving state championships. Northwood's boys team didn't make the state meet after finishing 14th at the 3A central regionals.

Jordan-Matthews finished 11th as a team at last year's

1A/2A state championships, but that was because of a big performance from senior Jennah Fadely, who won the 100-yard breaststroke and finished second in the 200-yard intermedley.

Fadely graduated and is competing collegiately at Kenyon College in Ohio. This past summer, Fadely won a Division-III national

title as a member of the Owls. She was part of two relay teams that won national championships, while she finished third in both the 100-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard breaststroke.

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

THANK YOU

I'm so grateful for the hard work and dedication of the supporters of this campaign. It has been an honor to run for the opportunity to represent you.

Although it didn't work out this time, your voices have been heard in Raleigh.

Please know how proud I am of everyone who helped pick up our campaign signs to return our roadways to their pre-campaign beauty.

I also want to congratulate Rep. Robert Reives on his win and wish him well as he represents us in Raleigh.

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Staff photo by James Kiefer

Northwood 220-pounder Jake Dunning (left, in uniform) screams after pinning Orange's Elijah Acosta, who defeated him three times this season, during the NCHSAA 3A Mid-east Wrestling Regionals.

WRESTLING

Wrestling returns in Chatham after 7 competed at 2022 individual championships

BY JEREMY VERNON
 News + Record Sports Editor

There's reason for optimism as the 2022-23 wrestling season begins in Chatham County.

The two top programs in Chatham County are Northwood and Seaforth, which both brought a handful of athletes to last year's state championships in Greensboro. The Hawks are in their second season as a program, while the Chargers are in their second year competing for head coach Joe Harris.

Northwood had three individuals compete at last year's state tournament — Andrew Kimbrel, Ethan Kuball and Jake

Dunning. Kimbrel and Kuball both lost their first bouts, while Dunning won his first match at 220 pounds before falling in the quarterfinals to Eastern Guilford's Karin Sein.

"I think that these guys have a chance to be a very strong team," Harris said. "They have to come in and put in the work. We can give them the tools they need, but they have to be the ones to work at it and apply it."

Seaforth, meanwhile, had four wrestlers compete at last season's state tournament — Layne Armstrong, Chance Cody,

Lockard Bowen and Judge Lloyd.

Armstrong, the son of Seaforth head coach Ryan Armstrong, was the only Hawk wrestler to win a bout at the 2A state championships, taking his first match in the 113-pound weight class before falling to R-S Central's Sumter Horton.

All four wrestlers will be back for the Hawks this winter.

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

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Seaforth, Northwood set for indoor track season

BY JEREMY VERNON
 News + Record Sports Editor

If the cross country season was any indication, the 2022-23 indoor track and field season should be an entertaining campaign for Northwood and Seaforth — the only two Chatham County teams to compete in the sport.

Among the top storylines in the county heading into the season is how Northwood will adjust to losing a handful of senior leaders. The biggest challenge for the Chargers will be replacing Caroline Murrell, who won the 3,200-meter race at last year's 3A state championships in a time of 10:49.69.

Murrell, who also won the 1,600- and 3,200-meter race at this past year's 3A outdoor state meet and placed third at the 2021 3A cross country championships, is now a freshman at N.C. State. Murrell's performance led the Northwood girls to a 11th place team finish at last year's indoor championships.

On the boys side, the Chargers have graduated their only individual competitor from last year's state championships in Colin Henry, who finished 10th in the 3,200-meter race. The Northwood boys did win a state championship in last year's meet, taking the 4x800 relay

in a time of 8:25.61.

Northwood will compete as a team for the first time at the COROS Explore Perfection Invitational at the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem on Dec. 10.

Elsewhere in the county, Seaforth will look to improve on its first season as a varsity program last season. While the Hawks did not qualify for the 2A state championships as a team, they were represented by sophomore Jack Anstrom.

Anstrom finished third in both the 1600- and 3,200-meter races at last year's state championships in times of 4:39.85 and 10:02.19, respectively. Anstrom will be among the favorites to take the title in both events this season, as the two finishers above him in both races were seniors and have since graduated.

Seaforth will hope Anstrom carries over some momentum from cross country season. Just a few weeks ago, the sophomore won the 2A cross country state championship in a time of 16:15.43.

The Hawks have not yet released their schedule for the 2022-23 season.

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

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SHOP Local

POLICE REPORTS

Chatham County Sheriff's Office

On Nov. 1, Andrew Raul Perez, 37, of 2111 Orange Grove Road, Apt. T2, Hillsborough, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for two counts of misdemeanor probation violation. He was issued a \$15,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 16.

Perez was also arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for misdemeanor probation violation. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 16.

Perez was also arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for failure to appear related to driving while impaired. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on Nov. 22.

On Nov. 2, Ricky Earl Darnell, 51, of 1163 Reno Sharpe Store Rd., Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for obtaining property by false pretense. He was issued a written promise to appear in Lee County District Court in Sanford on Nov. 9.

On Nov. 2, Adrian Demond Hyman Jr., 22, of 334 Laster Rd., New Hill, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for embezzlement. He was issued a written promise to appear in Wake County District Court in Raleigh on Nov. 4.

On Nov. 3, Ronald Haywood Stone, 32, of 95 Roberts St., Pittsboro, was arrested by Cpl. Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. He was issued a \$50,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Lee County Superior Court on Nov. 7.

On Nov. 4, Larry Wilson Harris Jr., 50, of 724 McLaurin Rd., Siler City, was arrested by Sgt. Ashley Ellington for failure to appear related to child support. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court.

On Nov. 5, Thomas Lee Saunders, 32, of 202 Post Office Rd., Moncure, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for assault on a government official or employee. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Nov. 30.

On Nov. 7, Jalen Andre Staley, 21, of 883 Gees Grove Church Rd., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Vincent Iorio for failure to appear, speeding, expired registration card or tag and window tint violation. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court on Nov. 7.

On Nov. 7, Larry Donnell White Jr., 35, of 1021 Mt. Vernon, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Vincent Iorio for assault on a female and injury to personal property. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County

District Court on Nov. 22.

On Nov. 8, Ieesha Nichole Alston, 31, of 902 Driftwood Drive, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for possession of controlled substance on prison or jail premise. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on November 16.

On Nov. 8, Brian Antonio Franco, 25, of 7 Beech Road, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for possession of tobacco by inmate. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court on November 16.

On Nov. 9, Wanda Sue Stuart, 63, of 102 N Guthrie Avenue, Durham, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for probation violation. She was issued a written promise to appear in Durham County District Court in Durham on December 2.

On Nov. 9, Nancy Marie Owens, 47, of 208 Underwood Road, Asheboro, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for failure to appear related to a criminal summons. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on November 21.

On Nov. 9, Ms. Owens was also arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for failure to appear on a citation. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in

Davie County District Court in Mocksville on December 15.

On Nov. 10, Levi McPhearsen Austin, 30, of 5115 Airport Road, Siler City, was arrested by Cpl. Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. He was issued a \$100 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Guilford County District Court on December 9.

On Nov. 10, Desi Sterling Lamont Waters, 29, of 1225 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, Virginia, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for non-physical resist, delay, and obstruct. He was issued written promise to appear in Durham County District Court on December 1.

On Nov. 10, Christopher Charles Reed, 34, of 117 The Church Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for obtaining property by false pretenses, financial card theft and misdemeanor larceny. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court on November 23.

On Nov. 11, Matthew Charles Champion, 37, of 1235 Deane Beavers Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Cpl. Brandal Harrington for breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering, larceny of a firearm and obtaining property under false pretenses. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on January 30.

On Nov. 11, Joseph Wiley Beal, 41, of 240 Waylon Stinson Drive, Goldston, was arrested by Depu-

ty Brooke Roberts for possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on January 30.

On Nov. 11, Angela Jo Farmer, 49, of 222 Searcy Lane, Staley, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for second degree trespassing. She was issued a written promise to appear in Guilford County District Court on December 9.

On Nov. 11, Andrew David Eyer, 72, of 160 Stone Wall Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for assault on a female. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court on December 7.

On Nov. 11, Octavio Guerrero Hernandez, 35, of 184 Camel Back Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Zackary Gross for assault on a female. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on November 22.

On Nov. 12, Wayne Lee Wilson Jr., 25, of Atkins Road, Mebane, was arrested by Deputy Conner Lee for felony possession of a Schedule II controlled substance, felony possession of cocaine, felony possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance, possession of marijuana up to 0.5 ounces and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on November 23.

PITTSBORO COMMISSIONERS

Board highlights water and sewer expansions and demands

BY MAYDHA DEVARAJAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Wastewater woes have troubled Pittsboro for years, but some town officials hope solutions are within reach. Commissioner Kyle Shipp, along with Interim Town Manager Hazen Blodgett and Engineering Director Kent Jackson, led a two-hour discussion on how the town's sewer and water capacities reached their current states — with demand currently threatening to outpace space — during Monday's board meeting.

Shipp, who focused most of the presentation on ways for Pittsboro to move forward, said the past can help inform future agreements as the town addresses capacity issues. "What I really want to focus on is where we're at today and where we can go in the future," he said.

Moratoriums on development in Pittsboro date back to 1999 and span through

2011, when the town implemented functional limits on sewer capacity.

Pittsboro's wastewater treatment plant was constructed in 1977, with a major upgrade completed in 1989; it has a current capacity of 750,000 gallons of wastewater a day. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) allowed the town in 2021 to use up to 90% of the capacity, at 675,000 gallons, where Pittsboro's wastewater capacity sits today.

Shipp said as the Chatham Park Water Recovery Center starts up and with the expected increased capacity from the Sanford force main, which is looking to open in 2024, Pittsboro's capacity should expand to 1.25 million gallons a day. A force main is a pressurized sewer pipe to transport wastewater.

At the start of Monday's meeting, commissioners also accepted a state revolving loan of more than \$26,000,000 from the N.C.

Dept. of Environmental Quality for the purposes of constructing Wastewater Treatment System Improvements.

Shipp also said based on estimates from a report provided by Freese and Nichols — a privately owned engineering, planning and consulting firm Pittsboro hired to explore the town's capacity options — the town will be out of water capacity around 2024 or 2025 with the current plan of 2 million gallons a day. Pittsboro's Water Plant was built in 1964, and is currently handling about one quarter of its production capacity.

The Western Intake Partnership — a raw water intake and pump station out of Jordan Lake — would see an additional 6 million gallons a day for Pittsboro, but is only expected to be operational by 2030. Shipp also noted there is also an agreement between Chatham Park and Sanford directly for a 3 million-gallon-a-day water line, which would

stretch from VinFast's Moncure megasite up to the town of Pittsboro and is expected to open around 2026.

Shipp also walked through projections of how Pittsboro's water and sewer capacities will change as the Sanford-Pittsboro water system merger takes place:

- By 2026, Pittsboro could have 5 million gallons a day of water treatment and 5.49 million gallons a day of sewer treatment

- By 2035, Pittsboro could have 15 million gallons a day of water treatment and 8.22 million gallons a day of sewer treatment

As the merger takes place, Commissioner John Bonitz raised questions about how utility rates will change and how the town is planning for the capacity expansions.

"We need to have a plan for that, whether or not Sanford has a plan," Bonitz said. "Is our plan just to throw ourselves at the mercy of Sanford? That doesn't sound very good, if we're giving up all of our infrastructure and then we

don't have any control or say on future rate-setting — I hope we don't go there."

Blodgett said staff and town officials don't know the details of the merger, but the issues raised by Bonitz can be addressed as the town moves forward with Sanford.

"We have certain interests we need to protect and Sanford's got interests they need to protect," he said. "I think, ultimately, it's in the best interest of the region — the state understands this, that's what y'all went through, is that distress [designation]. So it's really like small communities probably need to get out of the water and sewer business long-term, and I think it's smart for us to be ahead of the curve with all the development here, not only adjacent to us but this region is exploding. We need to be part of that."

Since opening bids for the Sanford force main infrastructure project on Nov. 8, Jackson said the town has received four bids each for two contracts they are considering. The first contract, with the base bid priced at \$15,481,000,

would convert the Wastewater Treatment Plant to an equalization station and a lift station to collect and transmit wastewater to Sanford. The second contract focuses on the effluent connection and line work for the force main to get down to Sanford — the base bid for the second contract was \$39,588,650.

Jackson said the Wooten Company and staff are examining specifications and the bid to identify potential value of engineering or cost savings that could be realized for the contracts. He said in the next 90 days, the town needs to identify a financing strategy for the force main projects.

In considering the sewer service area, Jackson said the town also has a grant to create a Wastewater Master Plan in 2023.

"That's important for a number of reasons, specific to tonight's discussion," he said. "And we need to understand what is our ultimate sewer demand or what do we estimate, analyze, is our future sewer demand."

Both the town and Sanford expect to receive a report from Freese and Nichols on Dec. 13.

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BEST OF CHATHAM 2022 READERS' FAVORITE

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

DISORDERLY CREATURES

ACROSS: 1 Old-time crooner Julius, 7 James — Garfield, 12 Taxing org., 15 Old news-paper section, 19 On cloud nine, 20 Having fine granules, 21 Refilled to the brim, 23 Nocturnal burrower wearing clothes?, 25 "Rocky" star, 26 French "a", 27 Taking after, 28 Semiaquatic reptile that's really zealous?, 30 Big spotted cat released from jail early?, 34 Doc treating laryngitis, 35 Orig. texts, 36 Sports official, 37 Interprets, 39 Antifraud org., 42 1990s Toyota coupe, 45 "McQ" actor Gulager, 46 Ready — (precooked), 48 Region, 49 Tesla's Musk, 50 Lobe-finned swimmer turning red?, 54 Pioneering email co., 55 One-eighty, 57 Mini-guitar, 56 Elizabeth — Browning, 58 Spiny ant eater on a leash?, 64 Put in very hot water, 65 Solid ground, 66 Actor Wallach, 67 Seat winners, 69 Florida city, 72 Quark's place, 74 Very small monkey from the red planet?, 79 Rhine siren, 82 "Sliver" writer Levin, 83 "Emma" has two of these, 84 Slalom, e.g., 85 Whip-tailed marine menace going off course?, 90 Bard, 91 Composer Khachaturian, 92 Fix up, as an old house, 93 Hard wood, 94 Actress Blair, 95 Kid's amuser, 96 Eighth Greek letter, 98 Mil. bigwig, 99 Irish dance, 100 Waterloo marshal Michel, 101 Wheel-spinning rodent that's a Bay State college mascot?, 108 Large lizard from northern South America?, 112 Dialect suffix, 113 Penny prez, 114 Electric circuit component, 115 Mimicking bird that's predatory?, 119 Classic typewriter brand, 120 TV show blocking device, 121 Text alterer, 122 Trait carrier, 123 Enervate, 124 Latin abbr. meaning "and the following", 125 Sailor's morning warning, 33 Aussie birds, 38 "... three men in —", 39 She starred in "Room", 40 — Actress (award for 39-Down), 41 Thai currency, 42 Serenity, 43 "Hi," in Hilo, 44 Nonpolluting power source, 45 Bonnie's pal, 46 — torch, 47 Linear, briefly, 48 Sahara's land, 49 Dust picker-upper, 50 Agent's cut, 51 "Say what?", 52 Seize, 53 Spruces up, 55 Sinful, 59 Group of PC gurus, 60 Hard wood, 61 Covert org., 62 Actress Long, 63 Actress Jillian, 68 Fajita meat, 70 Was keen on, 71 Singer O'Day, 73 "Don't tell — can't!" letter, 75 Singer Coolidge, 76 Chi-Town daily paper, 77 Singer Janis, 78 Novelist Tan, 79 Future atty.'s exam, 80 Other, in Oaxaca, 81 Pertaining to, 86 "Return to reality!", 87 SeaWorld whale, once, 88 Leaves, 89 Vent vocally, 90 Sty animals, 94 Greenish citrus drink, 96 All wound up, 97 "Regency" hotels, 98 Pie charts, e.g., 99 Quartz type, 100 Easily duped, 102 Presnell of "Fargo", 103 Legislate, 104 That girl, 105 Petite pies, 106 Kindie buy, 107 New attempt, 108 Sailor's quaff, 109 700-mile-long Congolese river, 110 "The check — the mail", 111 Ninth Greek letter, 116 Game draw, 117 Trio before R, 118 Free (of)

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

BREAKFAST OF OPTIMISTS

R.F.D. by Mike Marland

"HE'S GOT NO GAME!" HAS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT MEANING OUT HERE IN THE COUNTRY...

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

GRIN and BEAR IT

Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: SET IN FROM THE MARGIN

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Accident | Dentist | Identify | Rodent |
| Dental | Denture | Imprudent | Student |
| Dentil | Dependent | Incident | Trident |
| Dentin | Evident | Prudent | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | | 4 | | | | 9 |
| | 2 | | | 1 | 7 | |
| | | 6 | 8 | | | 2 |
| 4 | | | | 2 | | 8 |
| | 3 | 7 | 9 | | 6 | |
| | | 1 | 6 | | | 4 |
| 6 | | | | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| | | 3 | | | 5 | |
| | 1 | 8 | | | | 9 |

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

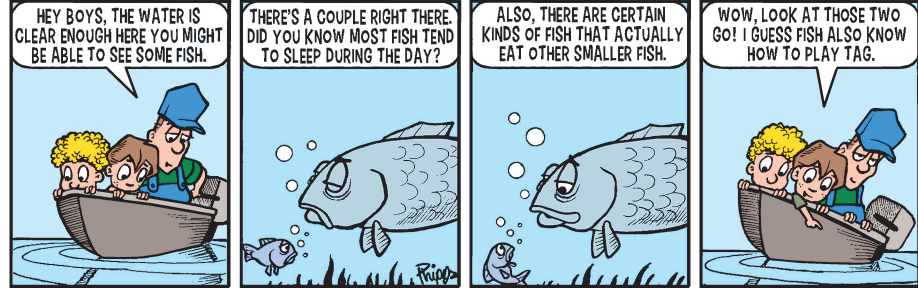
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



John Cheesborough, MD



Dawn E. Kleinman, MD



Mary Candace Seagle, PA-C



Brittany Atkinson, PA-C



Candace L. Marin, APRN

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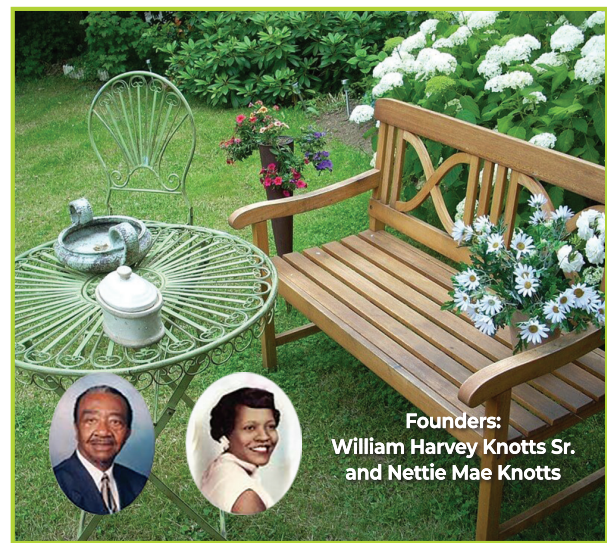
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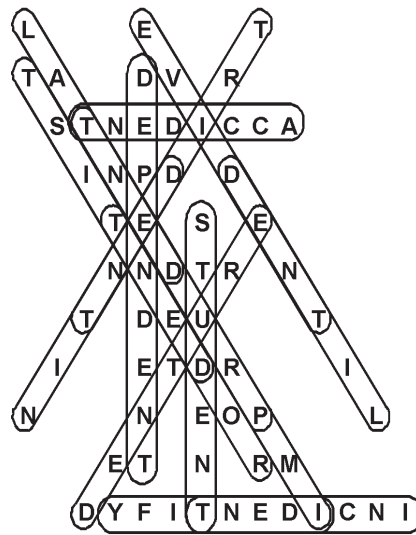


Founders:
William Harvey Knotts Sr.
and Nettie Mae Knotts

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DENTED WORDS



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| 3 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| 1 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| 5 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 |
| 9 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 7 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 5 |

Cobbled together



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

Last Sunday, my friend Darby and I went to Banner Elk and Valle Crucis. At supper time, we went to a place close to Mast General Store.

We were very excited to try a dish that we had never heard of but sounded really interesting and delicious — tomato cobbler.

Our dinner was really good. I discovered an astonishing salad dressing that I will share with you in another column. We had roasted okra, fresh sourdough bread with mountain butter, and for dessert, a butterscotch pudding.

But the tomato cobbler was so disappointing, it kind of

made us sad. It was a clunky dish made stodgy from an abundance of tomato paste, containing one thin slice of tomato, and topped with a thick slice of gooey cheese under a very flat biscuit that was so overworked it was almost rubbery.

As we dined, we began talking about what we were expecting in a tomato cobbler, and how, in the fall, we could make a much fresher, lighter, improved version of the dish.

Today, I made that dish.

I used grape and cherry tomatoes because this time of year regular ones are pale, mealy imitations of bright, fresh summer tomatoes.

Darby and I enjoyed eating the tomato cobbler that we should have had last week.

Let me know what you think, Gentle Reader.

Thanks for your time.

Contact me at dm@bullcity.mom.



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Tomato cobbler fresh out of the oven.

Tomato Cobbler

8 ounces diced pancetta
6 cups cherry or grape tomatoes
1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme
1 teaspoon finely chopped fresh rosemary
1-2 tablespoons vegetable oil

½ cup white wine
1 teaspoon corn starch mixed into 2 tablespoons water
Salt and pepper

Cheese Straw Crumble

1 ¼ cups all-purpose flour
6 tablespoons softened butter

1 cup finely shredded sharp cheddar
Salt and pepper

For tomato filling:

In a large, heavy pot render pancetta on medium low until the fat has cooked out and the meat is crispy. Remove and set aside. Turn off burner but leave the rendered pancetta fat in pot.

Place all the tomatoes in a bowl. Drizzle with oil and liberally season with salt and plenty pepper.

Turn burner under pot of pancetta fat on medium-high and let it go until it just begins to smoke. Pour in all the tomatoes at once; let the tomatoes cook, stirring occasionally until there is some stuff (called fond) sticking to the bottom of the pot, and the tomatoes have begun to split and release their juice.

Add the wine and give it a stir. Tomatoes have flavors that are only developed when they are exposed to alcohol (called alcohol soluble flavors). Now stir together the water and corn starch (slurry) and once the alcohol smell has mostly dissipated, pour in the slurry and once it's all stirred in and the juice is slightly thickened, take off the heat and stir in the herbs.

Set aside and let cool down a bit.

For cheese straw crumble:

Put the butter and flour into a bowl and mix it until the mixture looks like coarse sand (like you are making biscuits. Add the cheese and mix it in — you want it to look like a crumble for a Dutch apple pie. You may need to add a little vegetable oil to make it come together into pea-sized shards.

Preheat oven to 375°.

Spray a single-serve flattish dish with non-stick cooking spray. Add 1 ½ to 2 cups of tomato mixture into the dish and generously sprinkle the cheese straw crumble on top.

Place on the middle rack and bake for 15-18 minutes or until the juice begins to bubble around the sides of the dish.

Turn broiler on high and cook for a few minutes until the topping begins to brown. Remove from oven and allow to cool for five or ten minutes and serve with savory whipped cream on the side.

Savory Whipped Cream

1/3 cup heavy whipping cream
Big pinch of salt

Pinch of pepper

Place everything into a tall vessel and, using an immersion blender, blend until you have soft peaks. Check for seasoning.

*If you don't have an immersion blender, use a mixer or whisk. A blender gets too warm and will not make a pleasant texture.

Blasted Okra

1 pound of fresh, small okra
Vegetable oil

Salt and pepper

Slice the okra in half, long ways. Get a cast iron skillet screaming hot. In batches, add a tablespoon or so of oil into the pan and lay the okra, cut side down. Cook for about a minute or so, until the cut side is almost charred. Remove from pan, season, and add the next batch to the pan. Repeat until all the okra is cooked.



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



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