

# Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | MARCH 16 - 22, 2023 | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | \$1



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Chatham Charter senior Tamaya Walden (center) is swarmed by two Bishop McGuinness defenders in the Knights' 73-43 loss to the Villians on Saturday in the 1A state finals.**

## BIDS FOR STATE TITLES FALL SHORT

# Chatham teams go 0-3 in Saturday's basketball finals

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

It was a tough day to be a fan of high school basketball in Chatham County.

Each of the three county schools playing in their respective state finals — the Seaforth girls, the Chatham Charter girls and the Northwood boys — failed to bring home the top prize Saturday.

The runner-up state finishes ended spectacular seasons for each team, albeit on a tough note.

### Chatham Charter girls

In the 1A girls final, Chatham Charter was dominated by Bishop McGuinness, 73-43, at Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh. The win marked the second straight 1A title for the Villains and the team's 11th

overall since the start of the 2006 season.

Leading the way for the Knights was junior Meah Brooks, who had a team-high 18 points and nine rebounds. Senior Tamaya Walden also chipped in 11 points, though she was held to 2-of-15 shooting from the field. Meanwhile, Bishop McGuinness' top-scorer

See **BALL**, page A6

## VinFast: we're delaying vehicle rollout

**BY BILL HORNER III**  
News + Record Staff

MONCURE — VinFast's plan, from the start, was ambitious: to roll out electric vehicles from a sparkling new plant at Chatham County's Triangle Innovation Point beginning in July of 2024.

The Vietnamese carmaker now says those plans are delayed, attributing the change in schedule to the need for "more time to complete administrative procedures" at its 1,756-acre site. The announcement, which came Friday, marked the first major delay for the assembly plant and coincides with VinFast's preparations for an initial public offering to help fund it — as well as some unfavorable winds in the economy and stock market and pressures on EV manufacturers to lower prices.

Michael Smith, the president of the Chatham Economic Development Corporation, told the News + Record Friday afternoon he'd informed his board and key county officials that VinFast will hold off on the start of vehicle production at the North Carolina facility until 2025.

"This is the result of administrative delays that have forced the company to revise the schedule for the start of full-scale vehicle production," Smith said. "They remain fully committed to the successful development of their first

See **VINFAST**, page A3

## CHATHAM MEAT CO.

# Beal brings 'pasture to plate' mission to Siler City

**BY BEN RAPPAPORT**  
News + Record Staff



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**The storefront of the new Chatham Meat Company in downtown Siler City is part of a multi-million dollar revitalization project from Wren Industries.**

SILER CITY — When his grandfather fired up the smoker, Chris Beal's mouth would begin to water. The smell of the pork wafted throughout the Goldston farmhouse.

The nostalgic bliss of that first bite is what led to Beal's career in hospitality. Now, he's bringing that feeling back to his roots.

Beal, a Chatham County native, is the owner of Tribeca Hospitality, which operates three restaurants in the Triangle — Tribeca Tavern, Mash House Brewing and WCC Café. He also owns Chatham Meat Company, which distributes poultry, beef and seafood to those restaurants.

Chatham Meat Co. has a meat market location in Sanford, but Beal is expanding: he's bringing that concept to Siler City, at 116 W. Raleigh St.

He'll open Saturday, March 18.

The new market is part of developer Wren Farrar's revitalization efforts of downtown Siler City. Farrar is the great-grandson of L.L. Wren — one of Siler City's pioneering, industry leaders of the early 20th century. His company, Wren Industries, has almost finished renovations of several properties from 114 to 120 W. Raleigh St. that will soon house a 16-unit apartment complex and brewery alongside the meat market.

### Beefing up the community

About 90% of the beef that'll be pro-

cessed and sold in the facility will come from Chatham County farmers, and the rest will come from Randolph County. That's something Beal said was especially important to him.

"Our goal is really closing the gap between the farmer and consumer," Beal said. "That's how we build a stronger community here."

In addition to select beef cuts, chicken and seafood, the new market in Siler City will also sell locally made sauces, steak seasonings and sides to accompany the meats customers buy at the shop.



The shop is laid out to prepare all cuts of beef. A large bandsaw sits in the back room alongside an industrial grinder that'll be used to process the local beef. Beal says the pasture-to-plate process ensures people are getting the best parts of the cow in their ground, not just "the leftover bits."

"The positive for us is that we have those restaurants," he said. "Anything we don't sell here, we're able to cross-utilize at our other locations."

Being able to buy the whole animal has proved beneficial for Chatham Meat Co. because nothing needs to go to waste. The new facility is also equipped with two meat freezers and a chamber vacuum machine to give packaged meat a 30-day shelf life.

"For me, this place is about doing something for our community," he said. "This takes somebody that's committed

See **MEAT**, page A7

## BACK TO THE ROOTS

# Briar Chapel native plant enthusiast is reinvigorating her neighborhood

**BY ANNA CONNORS**  
News + Record Correspondent

CHAPEL HILL — Jerilyn Maclean arranges dozens of native plants on a folding table outside Woods Charter School. In front, she props handwritten signs with names of each plant and how to care for it. When someone stops at her table, she explains how native plants changed her life. She hopes she might persuade them to buy one.

Maclean didn't know her passion would touch the lives of hundreds of her neighbors in two short years.

"Jerilyn has changed my life," Kathleen Southworth, one of Maclean's neighbors, said. "Nature is coming back

See **PLANTS**, page A7



Staff photo by Anna Connors

**Jerilyn Maclean poses for a portrait in her backyard in Briar Chapel. Maclean is the founder of the Briar Chapel Native Plant Club, a neighborhood group with more than 500 members.**

## PROVIDING CARE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

# UNC dental study aims to close healthcare gap in rural N.C.

**BY TAYLOR HEEDEN**  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Vidas De Esperanza has partnered with UNC to provide free dental care to low-income residents in Siler City — and an additional \$200 in cash — if they participate in the dental school's study examining the progression of oral diseases.

Dr. Julie Marchesan from UNC's dental school is one of the head researchers for UNC's study. She said this study is among the first looking exclusively at the gene that triggers periodontal disease, more commonly known as gum disease.

"It's the leading cause of tooth loss in the world in adults," Marchesan said. "About half of the American

population has some type of periodontal disease, so it's very prevalent."

UNC's Dental Research Project Manager S.T. Phillips said the study — which started in January and will run until June — would provide participants with free treatment for moderate to advanced gum disease, which would normally cost thousands of dollars.

"What we're passionate about with this is we're able to still do the research we need, but we can still do care at no cost to those who need it," he said. "This is more of a satellite study to reach a different population ... we're grateful to be working with a clinic that's accommodating and will-

See **DENTAL**, page A6

# 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 Commissioners** will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 20, at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center at 1192 U.S. 64 W. Business, Pittsboro. For more information, go to [chathamcountync.gov](http://chathamcountync.gov).  
 • The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 20, at the Siler City Courtroom at town hall. The meeting will also be livestreamed via Zoom. For more information, go to [silercity.org](http://silercity.org).

## OTHER

• **Siler City's City Hall** is currently under renovation. The Planning and Community Development Department is now located on the first floor and can be accessed through the front door to City Hall (door facing North Second Avenue). Public parking is available in the town parking lot located along the 100 block of East 3rd Street (parking lot is located between North 2nd Avenue and North Chatham Avenue).  
 • Chatham County invites the community to enjoy its 4th annual **Spring Ag Fest at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center (CCACC)** on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The CCACC is located at 1192 US 64 Business West, Pittsboro. The event is free and open to the public. Overflow parking will be available at two locations, each with free shuttle service to

the Ag Fest from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.: Central Carolina Community College (next door to the Agriculture & Conference Center) or people may park in either parking lot of the Chatham County Government Annex Building (12 East Street, Pittsboro) or Chatham County Justice Center (40 East Chatham Street, Pittsboro). The shuttle will leave from the front of the Justice Center on East Chatham Street.

• **Silk Hope Ruritans** will host the club's 3rd annual spring celebration from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 25, at 4221 Silk Hope Rd. The Easter Bunny will make an appearance.

• The **Chatham County Historical Association** will hold a dedication and open house for the early 19th century smokehouse on the property of the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro beginning at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, March 25. The event is free and open to the public. The program includes a welcome by CCHA president Dan Sundberg, history of the "Kentucky" property and the smokehouse by Walter Harris, history of the preservation by Grimsley Hobbs and introduction of donors by Sundberg.

-- The smokehouse is the most intact of the architectural remains of the summer home "Kentucky" of Frederick Jones Hill from the early 1800s. In 2014 CCHA was granted access to the parcel, upon which the conference center was to be built. Renovation began in 2017 with the smokehouse being deconstructed and moved to the Central Carolina Community College campus, where skilled craftspersons and CCCC students restored the structure.

• In recognition of Women's History Month in March, **Chatham Community Library** will host a virtual film screening of *Storming Caesars Palace* (2022). This program is free and open to the public. Access to the virtual screening is available now, by visiting: <https://www.wmm.com/virtual-screening-room/storming-caesars-palace-watch-page-chatham-community-library>. A password is required at the time of viewing. Those who are interested may contact [social.library@chathamlibraries.org](mailto:social.library@chathamlibraries.org) to request the password or for additional information. The library has purchased a hard copy of the film if residents who wish to see the film miss the virtual screening window.

• The **Goldston Public Library** announces new events during March for the Chatham County community to enjoy. Goldston Pop-up Art Gallery runs through Friday, March 31. In celebration of Youth Art Month, the library will display art pieces from surrounding Chatham County schools (JS Waters, Bennett, Bonlee, and Chatham Central), throughout the library.

• The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) of the **Chatham Community Library** announces a Teen Poetry Contest. Local teens in grades 6-12 are encouraged to submit an original poem using any poetic form. Submissions will be accepted through April 15. Participants should email their submission to Kathleen Pierce, Youth Services Library Assistant and TAB advisor. TAB members will judge the submissions. Three \$25 gift cards to McIntyre's Books in Pittsboro will be awarded. Prizes for the Teen Poetry Contest are sponsored by the Friends of

the Chatham Community Library. For more information, individuals may visit the Chatham County Public Libraries website [www.chathamlibraries.org](http://www.chathamlibraries.org), or contact Youth Services at [youth.services@chathamlibraries.org](mailto:youth.services@chathamlibraries.org).

• The Chatham County community is invited to join the **Chatham County Watershed Protection Department** and Clean Water Education Partnership (CWEP) for their Regional Creek Week March 18 - 25. The CWEP Regional Creek Week celebrates the four rivers and numerous creeks that provide water for residents, animals, and plants that live in Chatham County, as well as the waterways in surrounding counties of the Piedmont region, offering the opportunity for the public to interact with the waters of Chatham County through a variety of free river-oriented activities. There are programs where people can visit the rivers, explore ephemeral pools, meet aquatic insects like dragonflies and damselflies, learn about plants that are good for streams, and participate in river clean-ups. Individuals may also participate in the Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Oh My! Scavenger hunt for fun and prizes. Programs will take place in person, via Zoom, Facebook, and Instagram. To learn more about the free programs being offered during Creek Week, or to register for those programs, individuals may visit Chatham County Creek Week or CWEP Regional Creek Week and find out how to get involved locally and regionally. Questions about this event may be directed to Phillip Cox, Chatham County Watershed Protection Department, at (919) 542-8268 or [phillip.cox@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:phillip.cox@chathamcountync.gov).



## NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW

**Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 105-322 the Chatham County Board of Equalization and Review will meet as required by law.**

**PURPOSE OF MEETING**  
 To hear upon request, any and all taxpayers who own or control taxable property assessed for taxation in Chatham County, with respect to the valuation of such property or the property of others, to schedule hearings, and to fulfill duties and responsibilities required by law.

**TIME OF MEETINGS**  
 The Board will convene Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held at 12 East Street, Pittsboro NC. The Board will be open to receive appeals of value and will adjourn on April 27, 2023, at 5:00 PM. At that time the Board adjourns, no additional appeals can be accepted by the Board of Equalization and Review for tax year 2023.

Those individuals with written requests for hearings received prior to 5:00 PM on April 27, 2023, the advertised date for adjournment of the Board of Equalization and Review, will be notified when and where to appear for their individual hearings.

In the event of earlier or later adjournment, notice to that effect will be published in this newspaper.

The schedule for the hearing of appeals timely filed will be posted at the Office of the Assessor, serving as Clerk to the Board of Equalization and Review.

**All requests for hearings should be made in writing to:**

**Tax Administrator  
PO Box 908  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
Telephone (919) 545-8404**

# How did you LAND here?



**Eric Andrews**  
Accredited Land Consultant

- **960 CAREER TRANSACTIONS**
- **OVER \$325 MILLION IN SALES**
- **4.9 STAR REVIEW (GOOGLE & ZILLOW)**
- **APEX AWARD WINNER**
- **TRIANGLE TOP PRODUCER**

CURRENTLY FOR SALE

<p><b>Residential</b></p> <p>47 McLaurin Rd (Siler City) 2 Bdrm 1 Bath \$500,000</p> <p>4377 N Old US 421 (Siler City) 4 Bdrm, 2 Bath \$530,000</p> <p>4301 Amberwood Rd (Haw River) 4 Bdrm, 3 Bath \$600,000</p> <p>82 Williams Pond Rd (Pittsboro) 5 Bdrm, 4 Bath \$650,000</p> <p><b>Land</b></p> <p>170 Cherokee Dr (Chapel Hill) 1.150 acres \$125,000</p> <p>188 Cherokee Dr (Chapel Hill) 1.150 acres \$125,000</p> <p>1388 Henry Oldham Rd (Bear Creek) 4.840 acres \$150,000</p> <p>108 Spring St (Apex) 3.670 acres \$150,000</p> <p>821 Alton King Rd (Goldston) 13.829 acres \$180,000</p> <p>955 Alton King Rd (Goldston) 11.566 acres \$185,000</p> <p>1277 Alton King Rd (Goldston) 12.550 acres \$195,000</p> <p>1049 Alton King Rd (Goldston) 11.548 acres \$200,000</p> <p>889 Old Stone House Rd (Chapel Hill) 6.461 acres \$225,000</p> <p>1223 Alton King Rd (Goldston) 12.737 acres \$225,000</p> <p>1544 Roberts Chapel Rd (Goldston) 17.632 acres \$225,000</p> <p>1710 Roberts Chapel Rd (Goldston) 17.643 acres \$225,000</p>	<p>5663 NC 751 Hwy (Apex) 1.771 acres \$325,000</p> <p>893 Alton King Rd (Goldston) 24.938 acres \$325,000</p> <p>00 Thomas Kelly Rd (Sanford) 36.000 acres \$350,000</p> <p>37 E Cotton Rd (Pittsboro) 0.996 acres \$350,000</p> <p>0 Hal Clark Rd (Siler City) 29.730 acres \$360,000</p> <p>Tract 3 Thomas Kelly Rd (Sanford) 32.360 acres \$400,000</p> <p>1406 Jessie Bridges Rd (Siler City) 25.500 acres \$400,000</p> <p>5645 NC 751 Hwy (Apex) 3.584 acres \$625,000</p> <p>7587 Siler City Snow Camp Rd (Siler City) 50.000 acres \$1,200,000</p> <p>13120 Strickland Rd (Raleigh) 16.250 acres \$1,500,000</p> <p>499 Olives Chapel Rd (Apex) 12.619 acres \$1,750,000</p> <p>00 Alston Chapel Rd (Pittsboro) 176.000 acres \$2,288,000</p> <p>00 Olives Chapel Rd (Apex) 33.662 acres \$3,366,200</p> <p><b>Commercial Unimproved</b></p> <p>58 Buffalo Lake Rd (Sanford) 6.70 acres \$650,000</p>
---	--

CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT

<p><b>Land</b></p> <p>800 Southwind Rd (Siler City) 10.511 acres \$200,000</p> <p>373 J C Corner Rd (Pittsboro) 7.382 acres \$275,000</p> <p>147 Oldham Estate Dr (Chapel Hill) 12.591 acres \$499,000</p> <p>0 Hamlets Chapel Rd (Pittsboro) 42.804 acres \$1,200,000</p>	<p>12190 E US 64 Hwy (Apex) 15.158 acres \$1,894,750</p> <p>0 Olives Chapel Rd (Apex) 75.430 acres \$9,051,600</p> <p><b>Commercial Unimproved</b></p> <p>10681 E US 64 Hwy (Apex) 3.97 acres \$1,500,000</p>
--	---

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

Will There be Foreclosures in 2023 in Pittsboro and Siler City, NC?

https://www.youtube.com/c/ericandrewsrealtor





**919-542-0523**

Email your questions to [eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com](mailto:eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com)

For RWCP Property Management Call **Jennifer 919-545-9405**

RWCP is hiring Sales Agents. Call **919-545-9911**

## Chatham News + Record

[www.chathamnewsrecord.com](http://www.chathamnewsrecord.com)

### Chatham Media Group LLC

303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, North Carolina 27344  
 COPYRIGHT 2023 CHATHAM MEDIA GROUP LLC

### CONTACT US

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

**To place a classified or display ad:**

919-663-3232; Fax: 919-663-4042

**To submit a news tip or correction:**

919-663-3232; email: [news@chathamnr.com](mailto:news@chathamnr.com)

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Subscription rates begin at \$6.58/month (1 year print + digital, paid annually) or \$4.92/month (digital only, paid annually). Pick your plan at [www.chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe](http://www.chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe).

*Auto-renew; cancel anytime*

### NEWSROOM

Taylor Heeden, *Reporter/Web Editor*  
[theeden@chathamnr.com](mailto:theeden@chathamnr.com)  
 Ben Rappaport, *Reporter/Social Media Editor*  
[brappaport@chathamnr.com](mailto:brappaport@chathamnr.com)  
 Jeremy Vernon, *Sports Editor*  
[jeremy@chathamnr.com](mailto:jeremy@chathamnr.com)

NEWSROOM INQUIRIES, PRESS RELEASES AND WEBSITE QUESTIONS  
[news@chathamnr.com](mailto:news@chathamnr.com)

### ADVERTISING

JASON JUSTICE  
[jjustice@chathamnr.com](mailto:jjustice@chathamnr.com)  
*Advertising Specialist*  
[advertising@chathamnr.com](mailto:advertising@chathamnr.com)

### OFFICE

KAREN PYRTLE  
[karen@chathamnr.com](mailto:karen@chathamnr.com)  
 DORIS BECK  
[doris@chathamnr.com](mailto:doris@chathamnr.com)  
 FLORENCE TURNER  
[billing@chathamnr.com](mailto:billing@chathamnr.com)

BILL HORNER III, *Editor/Publisher*  
[bhorner3@chathamnr.com](mailto:bhorner3@chathamnr.com) 919-774-2728

The Chatham News + Record (USPS #101-160) is published weekly, 52 weeks a year, by Chatham Media Group LLC, 303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, N.C. 27344.

**N.C. POSTMASTER:**  
 Send address changes to The Chatham News + Record, PO Box 290, Siler City, N.C. 27344

# Siler City cited another \$28K for water quality violations

Public invited to comment on special order

BY LISA SORG  
N.C. Policy Watch

SILER CITY — Siler City’s wastewater treatment plant continued to violate the Clean Water Act last year, bringing total fines to more than \$267,000 for chronic water quality issues since 2016, state records show.

The latest fine of \$28,000 was assessed by the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality for violations incurred last July. At that time, average monthly levels of total nitrogen, which includes nitrites and ammonia, in the plant’s discharge exceeded legal limits by

206%. That discharge enters Loves Creek, a tributary of the Rocky River.

The source of the nitrogen and ammonia is the Mountaire poultry slaughter facility, which sends as much as 1 million gallons of wastewater each day to the plant in western Chatham County. Because Mountaire doesn’t adequately pre-treat its wastewater, Siler City bears the burden of doing so — a burden the wastewater treatment plant, as currently built, can’t handle.

The plant in July also violated its monthly permit limits for cadmium by 43% and its Biological Oxygen Demand by 15%. BOD, as it’s known, is a way to measure dissolved oxygen in a water body, which is essential for the health of fish and other aquatic life.

The plant has a long history of violations — 90 since 2019, prompting the EPA to flag it as a “significant non-complier.” In May 2022, the plant reported total nitrogen exceedances of 159%, and state regulators finally imposed a moratorium on new wastewater connections. That would include the Wolfspeed silicon carbide factory, which promises to create 1,800 new jobs.

The planned Chatham County-Siler City megasite would also strain the capacity of the wastewater treatment plant unless it is upgraded.

Those upgrades, worth millions of dollars, are central to a draft Special Order by Consent between DEQ and the town.

SOCs are legal agreements between the state and a facility that can’t meet their permit requirements. Under an SOC, a facility is still required to eventually comply, but is often given additional time to do so, with benchmarks along the way.

The draft SOC focuses on a schedule of improvements and overhauls over

the next two and a half years. If the town meets these milestones, the state would lift the moratorium. Failure to adhere to the schedule or to file progress reports carries fines of \$1,000 to \$2,000 per day.

The state can still enforce limits on nitrogen, cadmium and other pollutants currently in the discharge permit.

The public can comment on the draft SOC through Saturday, March 25.

Comments may be submitted by email to: publiccomments@ncdenr.gov. Please include “Siler City SOC” in the email subject line. Written comments may be sent to N.C. Division of Water Resources, Attn: Sydney Carpenter, Compliance and Expedited Unit, 1617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1617.

*This story was first published in The Pulse, a nonpartisan blog about the issues, debates, and people that affect North Carolina public policy. Follow N.C. Policy Watch news at www.ncpolicywatch.com.*

## Should Investors ‘Go It Alone’?

If you’re going to enjoy a comfortable retirement, you should know, among other things, how much money you’ll need. And you may have a much better chance of knowing this if you get some professional help.

Consider these findings from a 2021 study by Dalbar, a financial services market research firm:

- Investors who worked with a financial advisor were three times more likely to estimate what they would have saved at retirement than “do-it-yourself” investors.

- More than two-thirds of investors with a financial advisor were satisfied with the amount they would have saved at retirement, compared to about 27% of the do-it-yourselfers.

How do financial professionals help their clients in these ways?

First, consider the issue of determining how much money will be needed for retirement. It’s not always easy for individuals to estimate this amount. But financial professionals can help clients like you arrive at this figure by exploring your hopes and goals. How long do you plan to work? What kind of lifestyle do you anticipate enjoying in retirement? Where would you like to live? How much would you like to travel? Are you open to pursuing earned income opportunities, such as consulting or working part time?

Next comes the other key question: How much money will be available for retirement? This big question leads to many others: How much do you need to save and invest each year until you retire? About what sort of investment return will you need to reach your retirement income goals? What level of risk are you willing to take to achieve that return? What is the role of other income sources such as Social Security or any pensions you might have?

Having a financial professional help you gain a clear idea of your retirement income picture can certainly be reassuring. But there may be other reasons why “going it alone” as an investor might not be desirable.

For example, when the financial markets are down, as was the case for much of 2022, some investors make decisions based on short-term volatility, such as selling investments to “cut their losses,” even if these same investments still have solid business fundamentals and good prospects for growth. But if you work with a financial professional, you might decide to stick with these investments, especially if they’re still appropriate for your long-term strategy. Other times, of course, the advice may be different — but it will always be advice based on your goals, needs and time horizon.

Furthermore, if you’re investing on your own, you may always be measuring your results against the major market indexes, such as the S&P 500 or the Dow Jones Industrial Average. But in reality, your portfolio should contain a wide range of investments, some of which aren’t contained in these indexes, so you might not be assessing your performance appropriately. A financial professional can help you develop your own, more meaningful benchmarks that can show the progress you’re actually making toward your goals.

In some areas of life, going it alone can be exciting — but when it comes to investing for your future, you may benefit from some company on the journey.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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

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

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

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

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

**Chapel Hill**  
Jessica L Villagrana, CFP®  
180 Providence Rd  
Suite 1c  
984-219-6635

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

**Pittsboro**  
Blake Stewart  
114 Russet Run Suite 120  
919-542-3020

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

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

edwardjones.com Member SIPC

## VINFAST

Continued from page A1

U.S. production facility in North Carolina and are working to complete development of the site and construction of the facility as quickly as possible.”

Smith said that in a call with VinFast officials, he was assured there were no changes in the scope or vision for the project, which, when announced last spring, was the largest in North Carolina history. Plans for the \$4.5 billion carmaker’s plant, along with its 7,500 jobs, are still on, Smith said, but a number of factors have interfered with movement forward.

A VinFast spokesperson told the News + Record on Monday the company is still fully committed to the project.

“We have the necessary approvals to finalize site development and plan to start construction soon,” the spokesperson said. “While the timeline has adjusted, our vision for the project remains clear. We are eager to move forward with construction and further contribute to this community by providing high quality jobs and economic benefit to the entire state.”

When the project was announced nearly a year ago, VinFast’s original goal was to have cars rolling off an assembly line by July 2024, with target production of 250,000 premium SUVs per year.

That would begin with an initial production output of 150,000 EVs annually at the plant, which will also produce electric batteries.

“As we have seen in many businesses, supply chain issues have slowed the progress of their



Staff photo by Peyton Sickle

**N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper and Le Thi Thu Thuy, Vingroup’s vice chairman and the CEO of VinFast Global, check out the front seat of one of the two VinFast SUVs displayed at the company’s plant announcement last March.**

project,” Smith told EDC board members

and others in an email Friday afternoon. “They are continuing to work with the many allies and partners here on this transformational project. We have our next team call with them (Tuesday), and we expect to continue on this journey to bring these jobs and investment to our community.”

After Tuesday’s regular call — which he described as “excellent” — Smith said VinFast is “full speed ahead.” The project remains “in a very positive light,” with no other changes other than a delay in EV production.

“There’s no change in scope or vision on the project,” he said. “It’s business as usual there. They are carrying on.”

Supply chain disruptions have compressed VinFast’s timeline, Smith said.

“They’re still going forward, it’s just not going to be July of 2024, which is what we initially had been told,” he said. “And so they’re still going forward, it’s just not going to be July of 2024, which is what we initially had been told and talked about.”

Smith said from everything he’s seen, VinFast still “feels good about Chatham County, they

feel great about North Carolina.”

He, his staff, county and state officials and others involved in the project have been meeting regularly he said, often with as many as 25 or 30 people taking part in regular conferences.

“I just think they wanted to go ahead and just make the public and make the market aware that they are not going to be hitting the July 24th timeline as they initially had talked about,” Smith said. “But they are still excited about where they are and where we’re headed.”

VinFast’s U.S. headquarters are in Los Angeles. Earlier this month, the company delivered its first VF 8 City Edition SUVs to customers in California, according to the Triangle Business Journal, marking its official entry into the North American market.

The VF 8 — a five-seat SUV costing around \$59,000 — is one of two cars planned for the Moncure plant. The price of its seven-seat VF 9 has been projected to start at around \$83,000.

VinFast, founded in 2017 as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Vietnamese conglomerate Vingroup, is a global producer of premium automobiles. Headquartered in Hanoi, Vietnam, it has a state-of-the-art vehicle production facility in Hai Phong, Vietnam, that has the capacity to produce 950,000 vehicles per year by 2026.

VinFast’s rapid growth has seen it establish global operations in the U.S., Canada, Germany, France and the Netherlands. VinFast currently provides an ecosystem of EV products in its home country of Vietnam, including e-scooters, electric buses and electric cars, charging station system and green energy solutions.

When announced, VinFast was the largest economic development project in North Carolina history. Wolfspeed’s announcement in September to build a microprocessor plant at Siler City’s Chatham Advanced Manufacturing site eclipsed the VinFast project in terms of total investment, at \$5 billion. Wolfspeed plans to employ 1,800 at its facility.

VinFast has begun clearing its site in preparation for its plant, Smith said, but is still awaiting some permits, including environmental, before actual construction begins.

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



Scott Harris  
919-498-4077



Renee Kennedy  
919-548-1329



Chris Walker  
919-768-2811



Billy Williams  
919-548-1404



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



Serving Pittsboro, Siler City, and surrounding areas

1325 N. Second Ave. Siler City, NC | JerryHarrisRealty.com



# VIEWPOINTS

GUEST EDITORIAL | N.C. PRESS ASSOCIATION

## It's Sunshine Week. Here's why we back the bipartisan 2023 Government Transparency Act.

A newly sworn-in North Carolina General Assembly and a fresh legislative session present an opportunity to significantly advance government transparency and the people's right to know.

Coinciding serendipitously with Sunshine Week — March 13-19, 2023 — a bill has been filed that would vault our state from the bottom of the pile in government transparency.

The legislation, in the form of Senate Bill 254, mirrors last session's Government Transparency Act — with an important difference. Imprinting the bill with bipartisan sponsorship for the first time, Sen. Graig Meyer (D-Orange) has joined ranking Republican Sens. Norm Sanderson and Bill Rabon as primary sponsors of the bill. Putting the Government Transparency Act of 2023 on the legislative docket sets the stage for another

showdown in the quest to allow public access to state and local government employee disciplinary records for the first time.

Compared the most robustly open states, this bill represents a modest step toward improving the public's right to know. It only gives the public the right to see a "general description" of the reasons for a state or local government employee's demotion, suspension, transfer, separation or termination. The bill stops far short of affording the public and press access to all personnel files of public employees the way the law allows in top open government states like Georgia, Ohio and Florida. In fact, more than 38 other states offer better access to disciplinary records than North Carolina does.

As we celebrate Sunshine Week, it's worth pointing out

that the Government Transparency Act is the best vehicle we've had in years to protect the public's right to know, hold elected leaders and managers to account and expose wrongdoing when wrongdoing has happened.

The record is replete with stories of terminations or demotions — even crimes committed — that are reported but unexplained. A schools superintendent in Alamance County abruptly resigned and pocketed a large farewell check while the public is left in the dark. A preschool Title II reading teacher in Henderson County who was quietly passed along from school to school eventually was convicted of multiple child sex offenses and sent to prison for life — though his personnel file remains locked in a file cabinet. A police body cam or bystander's smartphone may record a

rogue cop's excessive force and although there may be a disciplinary action by his superiors, the local newspaper reporter requesting documentation will confront a stone wall.

The North Carolina Press Association and its 173 members have been working for the passage of the Government Transparency Act since 2021 and we've advocated for improved access to personnel records for decades before that.

The State Employees Association of North Carolina, the North Carolina Association of Educators, the Teamsters Union and other opponents of Senate Bill 254 will issue their usual canard about "fishing expeditions" and argue that public employees deserve due process protection. The bill takes care of the latter, guaranteeing employees an avenue of appeal before a disciplinary

record is released.

To their credit, Sens. Sanderson, Rabon and Meyer and other friends of open government have not been cowed by the stale talking points designed to derail the Government Transparency Act.

It's high time for North Carolina to join the ranks of the better-performing states when it comes to public records and government accountability. Enacting Senate Bill 254 is the way the General Assembly can do that.

*This guest editorial was written by Bill Moss and Phil Lucey. NCPA president Moss is the editor and publisher of the Hendersonville Lightning. Lucey is the executive director of the NCPA. News + Record Publisher and Editor Bill Horner III is a past president of NCPA and a serves on the organization's board of directors.*

## Ol' Man Winter reserving right for a return visit



**BOB WACHS**  
Movin' Around

Sunday we had snow. Not much. And not for long. But at least, it snowed. Now the question is "will there be more" — or was that our first and last hurrah? A few weeks back, the groundhog told us we were in for more winter, but ask yourself: "Do I want to count on what a furry rodent says?"

Long ago and far away the late American philosopher and humorist Will Rogers said, "Everybody talks about the weather but nobody does anything about it."

That was, of course, his nod to the fact that the weather affects us all in varying degrees, but there's not a thing we can do to make it or change it. All we can do is respond to it and how we dress, work or play. That's why, of course, when the TV weather geeks mention the word "snow" we all run (or drive) to the grocery for milk and bread even if we've already got some. We've just got to have some more on hand.

Usually the weather follows this pattern: it's too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry, too this or too that.

I say all that to say the weather is a big deal, so big, in fact, that folks down through the ages have written all sorts of proverbs and sayings about it, particularly this time of year and the month of March. Among them are: "A dry March and a wet May fill barns and bays with corn and hay."

There's also, "March winds and April showers bring forth May flowers."

Also included is, "As it rains in March so it rains in June." That one isn't especially cute and certainly doesn't rhyme. And don't forget perhaps the most famous March weather saying, namely, "If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb."

That, of course, is testimony to the reality that March can be the forerunner of spring or the dead of winter. It means if March comes in harsh (lion) it will end nicely (lamb). That old saying is often said in reverse, as well.

And the reality now of the weather this third month, as well as the immediate forecast for much of it, shows signs of both spring and summer. At the moment it's been spring — actually more like summer — midweek last week. And then we had great kite-flying winds. And really, somehow, the last few days of February and the first several of March were more like June or even July, just without the humidity.

But I remember — as do many local folks my age — the March of 1960, not all that long ago for me but ancient history for this year's crop of 7th-graders. It was in that ancient time that Chatham County, as well as a good chunk of the Piedmont, had snow every Wednesday, at least the first three, of the month. And I don't mean a dusting. It snowed.

Snow fell on top of snow. In some places there was ice on snow on ice on snow; it made for great sledding. Even if you didn't have a fancy store-bought sled you got along very nicely, thank you, on a big round metal Coke sign or one side of a cardboard box that had recently been a refrigerator shipping carton.

As I remember it, we went to school about five days that month. We went on Saturdays. The state just simply forgave some days. It snowed so much we got tired of snow.

So are we in for more of that or something similar or is winter really over? Well, apparently only the Good Lord and the groundhog know. But don't be surprised if we don't pay for those several days of 70-plus degrees with a big ol' honking blizzard later this month.

And, by the way, if you're looking for more reflection about the month, try this: Why is the calendar so tired on April 1?



CHATHAM SCENE | TAYLOR HEEDEN

## Siler City needs to advocate for all of its residents



**TAYLOR HEEDEN**  
Columnist

Elected officials and Siler City town staff took a crucial step in reaching out to residents by hosting a town hall at First Missionary Baptist Church in late February.

It was the first event of its kind — Mayor Chip Price, Town Manager Hank Raper, Community Development Director Jack Meadows, Commissioner Albert Alston and other officials meeting and opening the floor

for residents to voice their concerns and questions. And, oh boy, did they.

Around 50 residents gathered in the meeting room to discuss a wide variety of issues, ranging from affordable housing, the town's sewer moratorium, cost of living and more. As residents would pose a question, the panel of officials would provide responses.

There was one common theme, however: those residents consistently said they felt left behind by the town, its staff and its elected officials.

I'm not here to argue the validity of that claim. But I do think Siler City's governmental officials should make a practice of listening to ALL of its residents, particularly those who have traditionally been marginalized.

Most of the residents present at the town's forum came from marginalized groups, particularly Siler City's Black community. They feel they've been left to fend for themselves by the town, whether staff or officials realize that or not.

Throughout my time in Siler City as a reporter, as I've talked to people of color for stories, I often hear them say they feel neglected or that the town doesn't care for all of the people who live here.

When working on the story about the new mural on Birch Avenue dedicated to Black business owners during the days of segregation, members of the Citizens in Action group said various processes in town made it difficult for marginalized groups to establish anything in town.

In fact, they say they faced intense questioning from some members of the board of commissioners when Citizens in Action went to apply for the permit they needed to commission their mural. Rev. Donald Mat-

thews said some commissioners were concerned the mural would be "offensive," as well as asking whether the group had gone through the town's mural committee. When Matthews looked into it, the public arts body the board member mentioned had been disbanded years prior.

Something similar happened during a public hearing last month when a new soul food restaurant/catering business was pursuing a rezoning request. Commissioners did grant the rezoning request, but some spent half an hour grilling the business owners — who happen to be Black — about their proposed hours of operation, and how it would impact the people who live in the houses behind the proposed eatery.

However, during that same meeting, Wolfspeed came forward with a rezoning request for land it acquired for its proposed Siler City manufacturing site. Commissioners spent all of five minutes listening to the presentation and approving the rezoning request — no questions asked.

Actions speak louder than words: the double standard is there, and residents claim they can see it, clear as day.

Town officials say they want a better Siler City for all, but these actions and other decisions from the past say otherwise. With new and growing staff now in place, though, the town does seem to be moving in the right direction.

Raper, the town manager, has made crucial hires since his first day on the job and has made decisions to help the town prepare for the incoming growth, as well as rework town hall's innerworkings to help address the needs of all residents.

Roads are being repaired while before they were neglected. The water billing software had been glitching for years and when it was revealed to be the case, town staff worked to get the issue fixed.

Steps like those are positive, but residents feel there's still plenty of work that needs to be done for all residents to trust the town and its officials.

These community forums are the first step toward conversations and, hopefully, progress.

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

# VIEWPOINTS

## LETTERS

### Mind games in D.C. as B.S. deepens

#### TO THE EDITOR:

The Wall Street Journal last week wrote, “Robust hiring

in February added to recent evidence the economy got off to a strong start this year, despite rising interest rates aimed at slowing growth and high inflation.” I wish Washington would

quit playing mind games. Several economists and business leaders suggest such hype over employment is hokey. The “robust hiring” is coming primarily from service industries that

are hiring and paying considerably less to employees who have been laid off, or severed from, much higher paying jobs. So, a Silicon Valley employee terminated from a \$100K job

is now making \$50K working two jobs at the local motel and Mickey D’s. The B.S. only gets deeper. **Philip H. Johnson**  
Siler City

## The religion of pickleball



**ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN**  
Hope Matters

The U.S.A. Pickleball association boasts that pickleball is “the fastest-growing sport in the country.”

From what I’ve witnessed, there is no question that devotees spread their gospel with evangelical zeal. But why claim pickleball is actually a religion? Hear me out.

First, there are rules and laws of behavior. In pickleball, thou shalt serve underhanded and diagonally across the net. Thou shalt not serve in “the kitchen.” Huh?

Religions have insider terminology. In addition to the kitchen, pickleballers know

faults, lets, side outs and dinks. This dink does not refer to a household with “dual income, no kids” (but pickleballers seem to have extra time on their hands).

Thinking of terms, just what is up with the name “pickle” anyway? In the biblical book of Genesis, there are two creation stories in the opening chapters. And there are two legends for the origin of the pickle.

Joan Pritchard, wife of one of the founding fathers, Joel Pritchard, was a competitive rower in college and knew the term “pickle boat” as a reference to a collection of rowers from different boats. The idea is that pickleball borrows elements from various racquet sports (tennis, badminton, ping pong). This is probably the real story, but it’s rather esoteric knowledge.

The more popular legend is that the game was named after the Pritchards’ cockapoo. Fun-loving Pickles loved to steal the ball! But this begs the question, why would you name a dog Pickles? Wouldn’t it make more sense that the dog was named after the game and not the other way around?

It is common for religions to have different, even conflicting, origin stories because tales were first passed down through word of mouth. The larger point is that telling the stories brings people together. This is fundamental to the role of religion.

The word religion is derived from the Latin *ligno*, meaning “to bind together.” Ligament is from the same lexical root. The prefix *re-* connotes repetition. Religion binds people together, again and again.

(An aside in terms of ligaments — I wonder if the popularity of pickleball is directly proportional to the job security of orthopedic surgeons, although that might be more attributable to the cult of CrossFit.)

Religious binding together takes place in sanctuaries, temples or pickleball courts. Gatherings can be indoors or outdoors. From what I can tell, pickleball lacks clergy, priests or shamans, but experienced practitioners teach the traditions to young converts — say, recently retired people in their 60s.

The shadow side of this group dynamic is that people can bind together in opposition to others. This results in much of the world’s violence. While not exactly Protestants versus Catholics or Sunnis versus

Shiites, I have seen tension between pickleballers and tennis players. Let’s hope this doesn’t devolve into paddling each other. Love thy racquet-waving neighbor!

Many would contend that a religion must include a belief in a higher power. The binding has a communal or horizontal dimension to other people and a transcendent or vertical dimension to God or gods. Pickleball has both dimensions. Just the other day I happened to walk past a game in progress and heard a devotee explicitly evoke the name of Jesus Christ.

*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.”*

## GUEST COLUMN | ERIKA HOFFMAN

# Travel enhances what you know ... exponentially



**ERIKA HOFFMAN**  
Guest column

“I’ve got an albatross around my neck!”

How many times do we hear that idiom, know what it means, but can’t recall its origin?

Travel fleshes out whatever you’ve learned in school, seen in movies, read in newspapers, or heard on the nightly news emanating from your TV. Back in college or maybe high school, you were assigned Coleridge’s “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” where an old sailor narrates to a wedding guest the supernatural events of his voyage in the seas of Antarctica. His crewmates blamed him for killing an albatross, which guided them through the ice jams. So as punishment they hung the large, dead, innocent creature around this sailor’s neck to remind him of his guilt.

Students might suppose the albatross to be like the unicorn — make believe. It’s not! I saw loads of albatrosses gliding over the ocean waves while on our cruise ship as it journeyed to the fin del mundo (the end of the world.) So, a forgotten poem of 1797 came to life as I admired the large, graceful birds!

Going through the Beagle Channel reminded me of history lessons I’d learned about Darwin, a young intellect and writer, who was on the ship HMS Beagle, captained by Fitzroy. Now I saw what Charles Darwin had seen: sea lions roaring, penguins basking on the islands near the shore, a giant condor spreading its wings. Of course, Darwin back then witnessed the inhabitants of Tierra del Fuego, who lit fires along the shoreline.

**Never was sailing from Buenos Aires, Argentina to Santiago, Chile, on my bucket list. Yet, it should have been. At the suggestion of good friends, we signed up for the two-week Princess cruise. American Airlines flew us to Miami from Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Then, we connected for our overnight flight to the capital of Argentina, which is surprisingly European in architecture. The warmth of summer in February was delightful.**

A few days earlier, we had flown to Buenos Aires where we strolled the Recoleta Cemetery where Eva Peron was buried. Back in the 1970s, I attended the Broadway musical *Evita* and later saw Madonna as the lead in the film version. “Don’t Cry for Me Argentina” took on new meaning when our guide told us that Eva Duarte Peron’s body went missing for 17 years because it was whisked away and hidden in sundry places and finally discovered an ocean away. This new knowledge added another layer of pathos when I heard a singer belt out “Don’t Cry for Me Argentina,” after we’d seen a fast-paced tango show.

An excursion called “74 Days to Victory” in the Falklands reminded me of that war in 1982, when I didn’t even know where the Falklands — these stony islands — were located. As we heard stories of the bombing of the British naval ships and the loss of life and climbed hills to see the many memorials to the troops that kept the islands British, I realized how deep the loyalty to the crown runs among these folks who speak with a British accent, serve you tea and scones, and frequent their pubs when not shearing sheep. Suddenly, I understood this conflict between the UK and Argentina that I never understood back when it happened.

The first time I heard the word “Patagonia” was when Paul Newman and Robert Redford, starring in “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid,” planned their escape from the law. The handsome bank robbers hoped to evade U.S. lawmen and live out their days where gauchos roamed in the south of Argentina. This place, Patagonia, was a mention, a small clip in the film. I saw that western as a young co-ed back in 1969. I never pondered exactly where Patagonia was or the name’s origin: it was named by Europeans after the Big-Footed natives of the region.

Now, I’m a grandma of eight, an ARP qualifier, and one of few Americans who can say they’ve visited this land where those robbers of yore blended in with Welsh sheep farmers after disembarking in Buenos Aires in 1901.

Never was sailing from Buenos Aires, Argentina to Santiago, Chile, on my bucket list. Yet, it should have been. At the suggestion of good friends, we signed up for the two-week Princess cruise. American Airlines flew us to Miami from Raleigh-Durham International Airport. Then, we connected for our overnight flight to the capital of Argentina, which is surprisingly European in architecture. The warmth of summer in February was delightful. Through glacier fields in Chile

we glided and were surprised at the German villages near Puerto Montt, Chile. Lake Llanquihue with the Orsono Volcano as a backdrop looked like Switzerland! On to horse ranches, wineries, and the capital Santiago, from which we departed after a wonderful 14 days of being entertained nightly by comedians, magicians, impressionists, singers, pianists, violinists, tango dancers and various other performers aboard the ship, which served lobster, escargot, and other wonderful delights and foreign foods I’d never eaten before while surrounded by passengers from all corners of the earth speaking their own languages.

Thoughts evoked by this trip concerned heritage and genealogy. What if my Prussian soldier great-grandfather had set sail for Chile instead of New York, or my Welsh Hopkins had ended up in Patagonia rather than Philly? Travel evokes these “what if” questions.

Not only does one consume cultural lessons and enhance one’s knowledge of history, literature, art, dance and humanities; in general, one learns so much about weather, zoology, botany, geology, mythology, religion, sports, and of course math, when you must calculate how much 50,000 pesos for a souvenir placemat is in dollars if 860 pesos equals one dollar.

I hope you, who are curious to learn and experience out-of-the-ordinary events, stick South America on your Bucket List. NC Travel in Siler City handled our arrangements and made it smooth sailing!

Carpe diem! Discover, y’all!

*Chatham County resident Erika Hoffman is a retired school teacher and writer.*

# Partisan elections are the best kind



**JOHN HOOD**  
John Locke Foundation

When I returned home to North Carolina from the nation’s capital in 1989 and subsequently registered to vote, I opted not to join a political party. Although

my conservative views were already well-established — and publicly on display in the syndicated newspaper column I’d created three years earlier — I considered it inappropriate for a journalist to join a partisan team. I was, and remain, unaffiliated.

At the time, North Carolina was an overwhelmingly Democratic state. Since then, the share of voters registering as Democrats has fallen precipitously. The Republican share rose for a while, then leveled off. The ranks of independent voters have, by contrast, kept growing rapidly. As of early

March, about 36% of the state’s 7.2 million voters are unaffiliated, with 33% registered as Democrats, 30% as Republicans, and the rest as Libertarians or Greens.

I’m unaffiliated. So is a plurality of our state’s electorate. Nevertheless, I strongly favor partisan elections. They’re more transparent. They’re more competitive. And with few exceptions, those who strongly advocate nonpartisan elections are partisan actors who think their team benefits by keeping voters in the dark about their favored candidates’ affiliations.

That’s what happened two decades ago when the General Assembly removed the party labels from elections for North Carolina Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. The Democrats then in charge of state government had been entirely comfortable with decades of partisan elections for those offices — until voters started choosing Republicans.

In 1998, the GOP won a majority on the high court for

the very first time. Republicans had also been doing better in other judicial races.

Was this because swing voters without much else go on assumed Republican judges would be tougher or crime and less likely to legislate from the bench? Probably. Whatever the explanation, by 2002 Democratic leaders had seen enough. They took the party labels off. Both major parties kept running candidates for the appellate courts, of course, but it became much harder to convey their philosophical differences to voters. That was the plan. It helped keep Republicans from increasing their majority on the high court. Indeed, they went down a seat in 2004.

Years later, after voters put Republicans in charge of the state legislature, it was the GOP’s turn to play the game. In 2016, strategists feared the party would have a rough election cycle with Donald Trump at the top of the ballot. Worried about losing the one Supreme Court race up that year, they

first tried to convert it into a retention election, placing only the incumbent’s name on the ballot for an up-or-down vote. Once this was (properly) ruled unconstitutional, they consciously kept the Supreme Court race nonpartisan even as they restored party labels for Court of Appeals.

The gambit backfired. While Republicans ended up having a pretty good cycle — winning all five Court of Appeals races, for example — they lost the “nonpartisan” race for Supreme Court. That’s probably because, by the luck of the draw, the name of the Democrat, Mike Morgan, was listed above that of the Republican incumbent, Bob Edmunds. In the partisan races of 2016, the Republicans were listed above the Democrats. Morgan got lots of votes from North Carolinians who assumed he was the Republican.

The legislature finally ended the farce of nonpartisan judicial elections. So why am I revisiting the issue today?

Because lawmakers have also been converting previously opaque school-board races into transparent ones. A decade ago, only one in 10 school boards featured officially partisan contests. Today it’s one in three. More will follow.

Democrats are up in arms about this. Not coincidentally, Republicans are winning most of the newly labeled school-board races.

Now, I’m open to the argument that we shouldn’t elect our judges. I’ve long been convinced that we should let county commissions appoint school boards as administrative bodies. But as long as we elect these public officials, voters should have as much information as possible about them — including their party affiliations, if any.

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

# DENTAL

Continued from page A1  
ing to have people come in at whatever means to provide care for the community.”

Vidas De Esperanza, located at 401 N. Ivey Ave., was founded in 2009 and serves as a local nonprofit health clinic designed to help address the burden of high-cost healthcare for low-income individuals by providing free or minimal-cost care. The clinic sees between 45 to 60 patients a day and has both medical and dental clinics. Most served by Vidas De Esperanza only speak Spanish.

When Marchesan was looking for a place where her research could have the biggest impact on rural and marginalized populations, she reached out to Vidas De Esperanza’s founders, Arcary Arias and Dr. John Kizer, about the study.

“It’s difficult to be able to combine research, teaching and community service, which is something we’ve tried to do,” Marchesan said. “And so we found out about the clinic, and we really enjoy working with that community and leaders of the Siler City clinic.”

Interested patients must undergo an evaluation to determine if they qualify to participate in the study, with the main requirement being they must have moderate to severe periodontal disease.

Once a patient is accepted into the study, they will have a dental exam and have an impression made of their teeth to create a stent — which will block off a certain area of the patient’s mouth to study the progression of gum disease.

From there, a patient will wear the stent and brush their teeth as normal. They will also go in for weekly cleanings and exams.

After three weeks of wearing the stent, a biopsy will be taken of the underbrushed area. The patient will then receive a full cleaning and scaling procedure to fully treat their diagnoses.

Phillips said the study was designed to ensure there’s no further gum disease progression in participants during the three-week-long period of wearing the stent.

“There’s a lot of safety involved as we want to

continue to monitor their oral condition,” Phillips said. “That window of time has been thoroughly researched to know that we’re not increasing any risk of an increase in cavities or progression of gum disease — it’s why it’s the length that it is.”

Rural communities like Siler City typically don’t have access to specialized care, such as dental care, or it’s very limited.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a study in 2017 examining the disparities in healthcare between urban and rural areas. The study showed minorities suffered the most — almost 25% of non-Hispanic Black populations and 23% of Hispanic populations couldn’t see a physician because of costs, compared to 15% of their white counterparts.

Marchesan said she wanted to make sure her research was able to reach those who need care the most, and as a Brazilian immigrant herself, she wants to help out an immigrant community she feels a close connection with.

“What we’ve been seeing also is there is more than a need — a lot of our patients have never ever gone to a dentist,” she said. “There’s a trust with them that we establish with them to be able to have the problems fixed or taken care of ... these are people that don’t normally have access to this type of dental care, that’s why we served this area.”

For Marchesan, she said she’s glad her research was able to benefit others and in some cases, change lives for the better.

“Reaching the people that actually need care and have severe disease is not so easy, and so I think that going to this clinic really gave us the perspective and the ability to be able to do research that has an impact,” she said. “It allows us to see that there are different types of gum disease ... we’re actually finding out that gum disease in men may not be the same as gum disease in women, and it’s the same for different races. You can’t treat everybody the same, and so that’s where care is being taken in general.”

UNC’s study will continue at both the dental school in Chapel Hill and at Vidas De Esperanza until June, according to Phillips and Marchesan.

# BALL

Continued from page A1  
was sophomore Adelaide Jernigan, who had 21 points.

Finishing the season with a record of 26-6, Chatham Charter will graduate four seniors, including Walden, who finishes her career as the all-time leading scorer in Chatham Charter hoops history, girls or boys (1,866).

## Seaforth girls

Playing at the same time as the Knights on Saturday were the Seaforth girls, who lost to Salisbury by a score of 48-39 in the 2A finals in Chapel Hill.

The Hawks opened the game with a 13-0 run, but the Hornets rallied to take back the lead by halftime and never looked back. The second half saw Seaforth plagued by foul trouble, with sophomore Gabby White picking up her fourth midway through the third quarter.

White finished with 15 points, 11 rebounds and four assists to lead her team and was named Seaforth’s Most Outstanding Player of the 2A final.

White, along with fellow starters Peyton Collins, Hannah Ajayi, Katie Leonard and Sydney Ballard, are all expected to return for Seaforth next season. The Hawks are the only county team without a senior on their roster.

## Northwood boys

Finally, playing at Reynolds Coliseum on Saturday night, the

Northwood boys saw their season come to an end by way of a 65-51 loss to Central Cabarrus.

Despite having a clear size advantage and the presence of five-star guard Drake Powell — a UNC commit — the Chargers had a hard time dealing with the Vikings’ on-ball defense and failed to slow down Central Cabarrus on the offensive end. The loss was Northwood’s worst since falling to Cannon (N.J.), 60-36, at the John Wall Holiday Invitational in December.

Finishing the year with a 28-3 overall record, the Chargers will graduate a pair of

starting forwards this offseason in seniors Kenan Parrish and Max Frazier. Powell will return for his senior season in 2023-24, and he hopes his last campaign with the team will end with a state championship ring.

Among the other players expected to return for Northwood next year are Fred Whitaker, Ashton Elliott, Jake Leighton, Cam Fowler and Griffin Hobbs, among others.

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

Worth knowing.  
Worth reading.

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

RYLA

rotary youth leadership awards

Applications Still Open!

An Amazing Opportunity for a rising junior or rising senior in high school!



Scan QR Code To Complete Interest Form

A 4-Day, 3-Night Leadership Conference from June 15-June 18 in Oak Ridge, NC

Tuition Funded By The Rotary Club of Pittsboro

Sponsored By:





# HEALTHY STOMACH, HEALTHY YOU.

When it comes to your gut health trust the **Digestive Specialists** of Pinehurst Medical Clinic.

[pinehurstmedical.com](http://pinehurstmedical.com)



March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month and with over 10,000 colonoscopy procedures performed annually, our experts are prepared to serve you.

 **Pinehurst Medical Clinic**  
GASTROENTEROLOGY & ENDOSCOPY

PINEHURST | PITTSBORO | SANFORD

SIGNS TO LOOK FOR PERIODONTAL DISEASE

PERSISTANT BAD BREATH

A persistent bad taste is also common in those who have gum disease.





RED OR SWOLLEN GUMS

The gums may also be tender and bleed when brushed.



PAINFUL CHEWING

The teeth may also be sensitive to certain foods.



GUMS HAVE PULLED AWAY FROM TEETH

Teeth may also be loose or may not fit together like they’re supposed to.

TREATMENT

Treatment for moderate to severe disease is a deep cleaning and scaling procedure to remove tartar and remove tooth decay.

# PLANTS

Continued from page A1

to my yard. And it's all because of her."

Maclean is the founder of the Briar Chapel Native Plant Club, a neighborhood organization with more than 500 members. Every Saturday morning from March through June and September through November, she sells plants in the parking lot of Woods Charter. Almost every other day of the week she can be found gardening in her yard and in the park behind her house, offering advice to neighbors interested in transforming their own yards, fighting for change in her neighborhood's landscaping practices, and giving talks about native plants at local schools and community centers.

Maclean is on a mission to prevent the extinction of native species — one plant at a time.

## More than a garden

Gardening was not always the focus of Maclean's life. A native of Napa, California, Maclean began her career in accounting.

But in 2014, with four kids between the ages of 5 and 11, Maclean was diagnosed with a chronic illness. The doctor's prognosis was bleak.

Maclean's garden became her escape. Outdoors, with her hands and feet caked in dirt, she felt at home.

The more she planted, the more her backyard filled with life.

Hummingbirds began to feed on the coral honeysuckle by her back fence. Monarch caterpillars crawled up stems of milkweed. Bees buzzed around blossoms of coneflower.

"If you plant, wildlife will come," Maclean said. "Every plant makes a difference."

Maclean began posting images of her yard in neighborhood forums like Nextdoor. And her neighbors started to notice.

In the fall of 2021, Amy Coughlin, Maclean's neighbor and the owner of Breakaway Cafe, asked Maclean if she wanted to sell her plants outside Breakaway.

Those plant sales helped spread the word about Maclean's business.

"She got a lot of attention, and she had a lot of opportunities to promote the importance of native plant sales," Coughlin said. "Customers and patrons really, really liked it."

Soon, Maclean had customers driving in from Cary, Apex and High Point to buy her plants.

Not everyone, however, was happy about Maclean's burgeoning business.

The Briar Chapel Homeowners Association protested Maclean's unruly yard — saying her wild greenery was too messy. A tenant next to Breakaway Cafe complained to the complex's landlord about Maclean's Saturday plant sales, forcing her to move her sales elsewhere. When Maclean approached her HOA about holding her sale at the community center in Briar Chapel, they asked for a 10% cut of her profits.

Maclean didn't give up.

## 'They want old-fashioned'

Briar Chapel is a suburban sprawl of 2,000 identical row houses that prides itself on its green grass and perfectly pruned trees. The manicured look comes with a price tag.

Maclean says the Briar Chapel HOA spends \$150,000 per year on pine needles alone, which are used to cover empty garden beds surrounding non-native trees. Sod, the neighborhood's grass of choice, requires constant watering in the summer. Hired landscapers leaf blow the medians and sidewalks three times per week.

"They want an old-fashioned, colonial look," Maclean said of her neighborhood

homeowners association. "Even if it means the extinction of our butterflies, bees, birds, moths, fireflies, amphibians."

Liz Rolison, president of the Briar Chapel Community Association, said in an email she is "a fan" of Jerilyn's work in Briar Chapel but could not comment individually on the BCCA's landscaping practices.

Nearly one million plant and animal species are at risk of extinction, some within decades, according to a 2019 report by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

The loss of native habitats is one of the largest contributors to this decline.

With estimates of private land ownership in the United States as high as 78%, Maclean says the onus falls on private landowners to make a difference.

The American fascination with manicured lawns dates back to the 1600s. A New York Times video "The Great American Lawn" explains that as European farm animals ate through native grasses, foreign seeds began to be imported to replace native grasses. Green lawns became a symbol of wealth and status — a symbol that continues today.

Maclean says the American ideal of a manicured lawn needs to change.

"Five years ago there were butterflies all over my yard every day," Maclean said. "And now I see fewer and fewer, even with all the food that's available to them. Do people care about that? How much do you care? Do you care more about having your four little round shrubs and your sod? Or do you care more about the future of the planet, for your children and grandchildren?"

Doug Tallamy, an ecologist at the University of Delaware, has led a growing movement to better understand how habitat

loss and fragmentation impact native wildlife. Tallamy's book "Nature's Best Hope" explains insects can't feed on non-native plants. In turn, their decline has the potential to wreak havoc through every level of ecosystems.

Maclean says Tallamy's work is what led her to begin gardening and start the Native Plant Club in Briar Chapel.

His book introduces the idea of a "Homegrown National Park" as one potential solution — an idea Maclean says she attempted to implement in her own neighborhood.

Maclean's yard is small, no more than 1,000 square feet. Every inch is covered with native plants. Bee balm, golden alexander and coreopsis — now dormant for the winter — run along her front sidewalk. On either side of her house crawl tangles of mountain mint and goldenrod. In the back, framed by a white fence, lies a patchwork of potted plants, their leaves only just starting to peek through the soil. Come spring, Maclean's yard will be teeming with life.

## A grand vision

On a cold day in early February, Maclean walks through her garden, pulling out the occasional weed and admiring the baby leaves of her plants poking through the soil. Spring is on its way, Maclean says, and this year will be her biggest year yet. She's ordered 1,400 milkweed plants from a local nursery, fronting the cost out of her personal bank account. Her backyard is brimming with hundreds more potted plants she's cultivated over the winter in preparation for her spring sales.

In the last two years, Maclean estimates she has sold more than 5,000 native plants. She's given away hundreds more to those who can't afford them.

Soon, Maclean plans to an-

nounce her newest initiative: the Briar Chapel Pollinator Pledge. She hopes to commit 250 houses to planting community gardens of native plants.

The difference she's made is tangible, her neighbors say.

"What Jerilyn has done is educate so many neighbors like me who had the same mission and goals, we just didn't know how to get there," Rhonda Jones, member of the Briar Chapel Native Plant Club and Maclean's neighbor, said. "I probably have a hundred different species now... that I've bought from [Jerilyn]. I haven't been back to a garden center in two years. And I see my little plot of land flourishing."

But Maclean doesn't know how much longer she'll be able to keep selling her plants.

With four kids and her aging mother all living in Maclean's house, the bills are piling up — and her plants can't always pay them.

"I have a grand idea in my head," Maclean said as she gazed toward the community garden behind her house. "But I don't know how to get there."

Maclean's dream is to find an investor to back her work. If someone could fund salaries for a team of three to five people, Maclean says her team could give talks about native plants and work with local organizations to help them develop plans to make their land more sustainable.

"If we could report on what we're doing around the Triangle," Maclean said, "We'd have HOAs calling us and asking us to help save on their maintenance costs, help with runoff and erosion, and help bring butterflies and bees and birds back to neighborhoods."

"Plant by plant, yard by yard," Maclean tells people. "They won't go extinct unless we let them."

# MEAT

Continued from page A1

locally and understands the town, sees the potential and wants to add value."

## Know your food, know your farmer

Beal grew up with a farming background and said he was first inspired to start Chatham Meat

Co. to bring value to those same local farmers he was raised around. The company attempts to break up the middle man in the farmer-consumer relationship, Beal said.

The Siler City facility also differs from the one in Sanford. The new facility here was built from scratch and specially designed for the needs of Chatham Meat Co. The Sanford facility was previously a butcher

shop. The focus of the that shop's owner was purchasing boxed beef from large distributors, which meant less flexibility in the design when Beal took it over.

"It's more of a market feel than a butcher shop," Beal said of the Siler City location. "We want to provide the guest with something they can't get just everywhere else."

The Sanford shop was Beal's first time

experimenting with the retail side of the meat industry. Before, he was only handling distributors for his restaurants. Chatham Meat Co. prides itself on sticking to an "old-school" way of doing things — getting your hands dirty, feeling pride in your work and, most importantly, knowing where your food comes from.

"Knowing your food, knowing your farmer," Beal said. "We're really big on that as a company and to make that a reality I think you have to understand both worlds."

## 'Add value where we're at'

Chatham Meat Co. wasn't always a business idea for Beal. It first began when the COVID-19 pandemic upended the meat industry. He said he struggled to bring enough beef in for his restaurants from distributors.

Meanwhile, he was leasing a cattle pasture in Silk Hope to a friend who owned beef cows.

"This is crazy," he thought. "I'm looking at it every day, but I can't bring it to the customer and make money on it."

When he got fed up with staring at the cash cow from the window, he got connected with Abdul Chaudhry, owner of Chaudhry Halal Meats. Chaudhry told Beal he was swamped, but he would help him butcher the beef.

"I told him, 'That's fine, just get us those big pieces of beef and we'll figure it out,'" Beal said.

In that figuring out, Beal and Tribeca's Executive Chef Scott Jankovictz created Chatham Meat Co. Beal said it's been a long journey, but he's learned how to make it a valuable experience, and something he's more passionate about giving to the customer.

"We could've brought this to Cary or somewhere with a big market and we know we would've been success-



**CHATHAM MEAT CO**  
A PASTURE TO PLATE MISSION



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**The new meat market in Siler City will serve local beef, chicken and seafood along with sides, special made sauces and pre-prepared dinners. The grand opening of Chatham Meat Co. will be on March 18.**

ful," he said. "But that's not what we're about. We want to add value where we're at."

Jancovitz said the meat at the market would be affordable for locals, but buying local meat does come with a higher price tag. He said, however, knowing that dollar is going directly to the farmers — along with the superior taste — is worth any extra cost.

The meat market is just the latest in a string of growth in downtown Siler City. Last July, Down Town Café opened its doors, and more businesses appear to be on the way. Farrar's vision for the space is to revitalize the downtown and create community spaces to spark engagement, he previously told the News + Record.

"We're very excited for the future of Siler City, and we're excited to be in a position where we can do this redevelopment and contribute to the revitalization efforts,"

Farrar said in October 2021, when the project first made headway.

Beal said the excitement around town is beneficial because it can help create a circular economy. Supporting a farmer in the community means the money stays local, instead of leaving the community.

"We're a part of the development and growth in this area, but we're also supporting the farmers that are here right now," he said. "We're helping the people that are farming here and want to keep their land instead of developing it."

Chatham Meat Co. will host its grand opening at 9 a.m. on Saturday. The event is open to the public. Chatham Meat Co. will be open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each Monday through Saturday, and closed on Sundays.

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

**2023**

*Chatham County*  
**SENIOR GAMES**  
SilverArts

**SAVE the DATE**  
**April 28 — May 11, 2023**

**Early Bird Registration March 3 - 17, 2023**  
**Registration Deadline: March 31, 2023**  
Register Online: <http://torch.ncseniorgames.org>

**For More Information:**  
Liz Lahti, 919-542-4512 ext. 228  
[liz.lahti@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:liz.lahti@chathamcountync.gov)

**Events Offered**

**April**

- 18 Archery
- 24 SilverArts Intake
- 28 T-Shirt and Packet pickup
- 29 Track & Field

**May**

- 1 Golf
- 1 Basketball Shoot
- 1 Cornhole
- 2 SilverArts Open House & Reception
- 2 Swimming
- 2 Tennis—Women's Singles/Men's Doubles
- 3 Cycling
- 3 Tennis—Men's Singles/Women's Doubles
- 4 Women's Bocce
- 4 Horseshoes
- 4 Fun Walk
- 4 Tennis—Mixed Doubles
- 5 Disc Golf
- 5 Football/Soffball Throw
- 5 Bowling
- 8 Croquet
- 9 Pickleball—M/W Singles, M/W Doubles
- 9 Table Tennis
- 10 Pickleball—Mixed Doubles
- 11 Men's Bocce

**Christina L. Fisher**  
**Agent, REALTOR®**  
**919-656-9933**  
[christina.fisher@allentate.com](mailto:christina.fisher@allentate.com)  
**Allen Tate**  
**114 Russet Run, Ste. 110, Pittsboro, NC 27312**

Did you know Allen Tate's sister company, Howard Hanna in the northeastern United States, gives your listing additional multi-state exposure? Allen Tate always strives to bring added value to your listing!

**We are home.®**

# OBITUARIES

## BRIAN KEITH BARNETT SR.



October 3, 1965 ~ March 8, 2023  
Brian Keith Barnett Sr., 57, of Snow Camp, passed away on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at his home.

Brian was born in Beckley, West Virginia, on October 3, 1965, the son of Adron Keith Barnett Sr. and Norma Simms Barnett. He was employed as an Auto Mechanic for Silk Hope Transmission. He enjoyed riding Harley Davidson motorcycles, and working on cars. He was very proud of his wife, children and grandchildren.

He was always somewhere fishing, often catching the biggest fish. He was preceded in death by his mother, Norma Simms Barnett, and maternal and paternal grandparents.

He is survived by his wife, Rita Vandall Barnett of Snow Camp; son, Brian Keith Barnett II of Siler City; daughter, Monique Barnett Green and husband Bryant of Siler City; father, Adron Keith Barnett Sr. and wife Tamara of Danese, W.V.; sisters, Cheryl Barnett and Leanna Hamrick and husband Scott, all of Danese, W.V.; brother, Adron Keith Barnett Jr. and wife Jasmine of Danese, W.V.; seven grandchildren, Kenzie, Kyndall, Huxley, and Briana Barnett, Cassidy, Carter, and Colton Green; special friend, Richard Pickett; and his dog, Bentley.

Friends are welcome to visit at the home. In lieu of flowers, donations to his wife are welcomed.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Barnett family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.smithbucknerfh.com](http://www.smithbucknerfh.com).

## BOBBIE JO BELL MILLER



Bobbie Jo "Warrior Queen" Bell Miller, 79, of Siler City, peacefully passed away with her family by her side on March 10, 2023, at Badin Lake.

She fought her war on cancer and gained her angel wings to rest with our heavenly father. Bobbie was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Dorothy Bell.

She is survived by her sons, Henry Ferree (Jacelyn) Miller IV and Keith Edward Miller; her sisters, Brenda

B. Smith, Ann Bell (Jerry) Moody; her niece, Sheri (Scott) Floyd; and her granddaughter, Mikaela Driggers.

The family will hold a private celebration of life.

## MARIA DOLORES CASTILLO

January 22, 1948 ~ March 7, 2023

Maria Dolores Castillo Sloan, 75, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at First-Health Hospice.

The family received friends on Saturday, March 11, 2023, at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with service following at 2 p.m. with Deacon Bob Bridwell officiating. Burial followed in Buffalo Cemetery.

Maria was the daughter of Arturo and Tomaso Rivera Castillo, who preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband, Ernest; daughter, Katherine Eubanks of Vass; son, Christopher Michael Sloan of Sanford; brother, Arturo Castillo Jr. of Texas; sisters, Stella Martinez of New Mexico, and Yolanda Ruiz of Texas; three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

## ALMA JEANETTE OAKLEY

February 5, 1934 ~ March 6, 2023

Alma Jeanette Oakley, 89, of Sanford, formally from Old Salem, passed away Monday, March 6, 2023, at Westfield Rehabilitation Center.

The graveside service was held Thursday, March 9, 2023, at Jonesboro Cemetery with Rev. Robert Thomas presiding.

Jeanette was the daughter of the late Robert M. and Mary Angel Oakley. She was a nurses assistant and manicurist, a member of Home Moravian Church in Old Salem, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Humane Society of the U.S. She was preceded in death by her parents; and sisters, Martha O Shepherd, and Beulah O. Dickens. She was a nurses assistant and manicurist.

She is survived by a sister, Ruth O. Cox of Sanford.

The family request donations be made to Home Moravian Church, 529 S. Church St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 in memory of Joseph Alford Patterson, MD.

## CORA LEE CAVE WOMBLE

December 15, 1935 ~ March 8, 2023

Cora Lee Cave Womble, 87, of Siler City, passed away on Wednesday, March 8, 2023.

The family received friends on Sunday, March 12, 2023, at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home. A funeral service followed in the Chapel with Rev. William Sabis-

ton officiating. Burial followed in Rives Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Womble was the daughter of Tom and Bessie Cave. She was a member of Rives Chapel Baptist Church. She was a sales representative for Cato. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Melvin Womble.

She is survived by her daughters, Theresa W. Joyner and Melva W. Cleary, both of Siler City; two grandchildren; brother, Johnny Cave of Virginia; and sister, Jane Bunker of Mt. Airy.

## DOUGAL WESLEY BUIE

September 23, 1951 ~ March 8, 2023

Dougal Wesley Buie, 71, of Broadway, passed away Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at Liberty Commons in Sanford.

He was the son of the late Johnson and Flossie Harrington Buie. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Van Buie. A graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, he taught school and coached. He later returned to Sandhills Community College where he earned a degree in respiratory therapy. He then worked as a registered respiratory therapist at Central Carolina Hospital and Wake Medical Center from which he retired. He was a member of Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his sisters, Glenda B. Taylor and Sue Buie of Broadway; and a brother, Larry Wayne Harrington of Clinton.

The funeral service was held at Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church with Rev. Doug Houston officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

## MARY RAGLAND MCNEILL

April 14, 1934 ~ March 12, 2023

Mary Ragland McNeill passed away on March 12, 2023.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 16, 2023, from 2 until 2:50 p.m. at Countryside Presbyterian Church and other times at the home of Steve McNeill. The funeral service will follow at 3 p.m. with Rev. Dave Kinney officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Calvin McNeill; her father, James Marvin Ragland; mother, Beulah Campbell Ragland Holt along with brothers, Elbert Ragland, James Ragland and sister, Estelle Cameron. Mary was a graduate of Benhaven High School where she later worked in the school cafeteria until retiring. She was a founding

member of Countryside Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by sons, Steve and Ted; daughter, Kathy Gall; brother, John Ragland; four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

## WILMA LOUISE JUDD

May 16, 1979 ~ March 4, 2023

Wilma Louise Judd, 43, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, March 4, 2023.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 11, 2023, at St. Mark United Church of God with burial following at Lee Memory Garden.

## ELBA SHANIQUA WICKER

December 22, 1987 ~ March 1, 2023

Elba Shaniqua Wicker, 35, of Fayetteville, passed away on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center.

The funeral service was held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 13, 2023 at Blandonia Presbyterian Church.

## MARCELL DA-SHAWN EUGENE WOODARD

October 10, 2002 ~ March 9, 2023

Marcell Da-Shawn Eugene Woodard, 20, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at his residence.

## CAROLYN ANN BALDWIN

December 3, 1942 ~ March 12, 2023

Carolyn Ann Baldwin, 80, of Sanford, passed away Friday, March 3, 2023, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

## LAWRENCE EDWARD SMITH

November 22, 1943 ~ March 11, 2023

Lawrence Edward Smith, 79, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, March 11, 2023, at Cary Health and Rehabilitation Center.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

## CHARLES LEE 'BILL' MOODY

December 21, 1933 ~ March 14, 2023

Charles Lee "Bill" Moody, 89, of Siler City, passed away on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at his home.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, March 18, 2023, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Plainfield Friends Meeting. A funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. with Wayne Lamb and Rev. William Fields officiating. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Bill was the son of Charles Lewis and Argie Gaines Moody. A member of Plainfield Friends Meeting, he served as Sunday School Superintendent and an adult Sunday School teacher. In addition to his parents, Bill is preceded in death by his son, James L. "Bo" Moody; and brothers, Roger Vann, Jimmy Earl, Randy Lewis, and Larry Moody.

Bill is survived by his wife of 71 years, Peggy Hargrove Moody; brothers, Jerry W. Moody of Goldston, and Kenneth Ross Moody of Siler City.

Memorials may be made to Amedisys Hospice, 2975 Crouse Lane, Burlington, N.C. 27215.

## MILDRED HART



September 25, 1933 ~ March 9, 2023

Mildred Hart, 89, of Siler City, passed away peacefully on Thursday, March 9, 2023.

Mildred was born September 25, 1933, the daughter of Charlie and Thelma Gaines. She married her sweetheart, Clyde "Buck" Hart on November 1, 1952. They went on to have two children, Cindy and Neal. Mildred was one of the first employees hired during the grand opening

of the Siler City Walmart and she enjoyed answering the phones and helping customers in the ladies department until her retirement at the age of 82.

Mildred was a member of Gaines Grove Primitive Baptist Church. She loved attending local church services with her sisters. She also enjoyed reading suspense and romance novels, and vacationing with her family. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the light of her life. She always took care of them, had a freezer full of Schwan's ice cream for weekend sleepovers, and loved cheering on the sidelines of their soccer games and dance recitals. She loved them all dearly, but everyone knew that Christy was her baby.

She is survived by her daughter, Cindy Dixon (Danny); son, Neal Hart (Shelia Joyner); grandchildren, Christy Sloan (Bobby), Stephanie Tilton (Jared), Jasmine Lauer (Terry), Sammy Hart; great-grandchildren, Ambur Phillips, A.J. Phillips, Brayden Tilton, Cora Tilton, and Hartlee Lauer; great-great grandson, Tanner Phillips; sisters, Blanche Birchett and Virginia Birchett; and sister-in-law Carolyn Gaines.

Mildred is preceded in death by her husband, Clyde "Buck" Hart; father, Charlie Gaines; mother, Thelma Gaines; stepfather, Addison Stutts; sisters, Mary Stutts, Erma Truelove, and Alice Frazier; and brothers, Ralph Gaines and Cullum Stutts.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at Smith and Buckner Funeral Home Chapel at 2 p.m. The family received friends prior to the funeral from 1 to 2 p.m. The burial took place at Gaines Family Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Gaines Grove Primitive Baptist Church, care of Blanche Birchett, 57 Stone Street, Siler City.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home assisted the Hart family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.smithbucknerfh.com](http://www.smithbucknerfh.com).



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



396 West Street, Pittsboro NC 27312

919.542.3057

[donaldsonfunerals.com](http://donaldsonfunerals.com)

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



Courtesy of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office

## Pets of the Week: Joey & Zoey

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Joey and Zoey, two sweet furballs who need a loving home. They are a bonded pair, together for 13 years, and must be adopted together. But what's better than one fluffy couch potato? That's a no-brainer: two fluffy couch potatoes! They are quite a pair! Where one goes, the other is not far behind. This cuddly duo would love nothing more than to find a loving family to cuddle with on the couch. They would make a wonderful addition to any family who enjoys intense love and cuddle sessions, and their supply of love and affection is unlimited. If you are interested in adopting Joey and Zoey, please contact the Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center at 919-542-7203 to ensure their availability and schedule an appointment for a visit at 725 Renaissance Dr., Pittsboro.

# Annual EGGstreme Spring Fling set for April 1

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Parks and Recreation invites the community to step into spring with The EGGstreme Spring Fling.

This epic Easter egg hunt will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 1, at Central Carolina Community College's Main Campus located at 764 West St., Pittsboro.

Community members are invited to enjoy the many different activities that The EGGstreme Spring Fling has to offer. There will be balloon twisting, hula hoops, glitter tattoos and multiple other community organizations hosting other spring-themed activities, including the Maple View Mobile Ice Cream Truck.

Starting at 11 a.m., there will be field games including a sack

race and water balloon toss. Participants will have a chance to win a prize during these games. The egg hunts will begin at noon and will wrap up the event. The egg hunt will be tiered into age groups: under age 3, ages 4 to 6, ages 7 to 9, and ages 10 and older. Community members are encouraged to bring their own baskets for the egg hunt.

"We are excited to offer The

EGGstreme Spring Fling year after year," Chatham County Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett said. "While the kids will enjoy hunting for eggs, everyone can enjoy many of the activities we are offering and show off their skills with the sack race, balloon toss and hula hoops. We encourage people of all ages to come on out and mingle with the community and enjoy the fun."

For more information, individuals may visit The EGGstreme Spring Fling event on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CCParkandRecNC/events>, or contact Mallory Peterson at 919-642-7086 or [mallory.peterson@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:mallory.peterson@chathamcountync.gov). Organizations looking to table at the event can email Peterson for more information.

# Chatham County Senior Games registration ongoing

From the Chatham Council on Aging

PITTSBORO — Chatham County athletes and artists 50 years of age and over will have the opportunity to put their skills to the test when the Chatham County Senior Games & SilverArts kicks off April 29 at various sites throughout the county.

Running through May 11, a total of 19 events will be offered to include archery, track and field, football throw, softball throw, fun walk, golf, croquet, disc golf, swimming, cycling, men's bocce, bowling, table tennis, basketball shooting, corn-

hole, pickleball, tennis, women's bocce and horseshoes. Tennis, pickleball and table tennis events include singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

For 2022, Chatham County Senior Games sites will include Carolina Meadows, Carolina Preserve, Duke Center for Living at Fearington, Eastern Chatham Senior Center, Siler City Country Club, Paul Braxton Gym, Union Grove Church of Hillsborough, Cates Creek Park in Hillsborough, Central Carolina Community College (Pittsboro), Bufaloe Lanes of Cary and Paddles Swim & Pickle-

ball Club.

Also returning is Chatham County SilverArts, which encompasses creative expression in five areas of competition — visual arts, literary arts, performing arts, heritage arts and cheerleading. An open house for SilverArts will be held at 10:30 a.m. on May 2 at the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City.

Chatham County Senior Games was honored by North Carolina Senior Games in 2021 for having the highest participation increase over a five-year period and followed with a record 262 participants in 2022. Athletes and Silver

Artists will compete at the local level for the right to compete at the North Carolina Senior Games & SilverArts in September and October. A total of 53 local games, which include all 100 North Carolina counties, feed athletes and artists into the North Carolina Senior Games & SilverArts.

Early bird registration ends Friday, March 17, with regular registration beginning March 18 and closing March 31. Early bird registration is \$15, while regular registration will be \$20. The registration fee will cover an unlimited number of events for participants.

For volunteer and registration opportunities, contact Liz Lahti at 919-542-4212, ext. 228 or [liz.lahti@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:liz.lahti@chathamcountync.gov).

Registration forms may be picked up at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center in Pittsboro as well as the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City. Registration may also be found at Chatham County Parks and Recreation, Carolina Meadows, Duke Center for Living at Fearington and Siler City Parks and Recreation.

Gold sponsors for the 2023 Chatham County Senior Games include

Carolina Meadows, Humana, Chatham Parks and Recreation, Don & Marian Lein, the League of Women Voters and the Chatham News + Record.

North Carolina Senior Games Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing year-round health promotion and wellness for adults 50 years of age and better. NCSG, Inc. is sponsored statewide by the N. C. Division of Aging and Adult Services.

For more information on the Council on Aging, phone 919-542-4512 or 919-742-3975 or visit the Council's website at [www.chathamcoa.org](http://www.chathamcoa.org).

# Four CCS students' entries advance to State Science Fair

From Chatham County Schools

PITTSBORO — Four entries from Chatham

County Schools students were selected to advance from the Regional Science Fair to the State Science and Engineering

Fair competition.

Advancing are:

- Chatham Grove Elementary students Ayla Cousett-Keyser, Ava Delaney and Emma Heron for their project "The Best Roof Case Scenario."
- North Chatham Elementary students Makenzie Cress, Annalise Miller and Amaya Milliken for "Stop! Get Out of the Pool."
- Margaret B. Pollard's Rebecca Hoopes for "Trunks and Tops: Estimating the Relationship Between Tree Height and Circumference in Pinus taeda."
- Chatham School for Science and Engineering students Caben Bailey, Mason Kratky and Leah Riggsbee for "Testing

Trebuchet Trajectory."

In addition, several entries from Chatham Students took home honors:

- Chatham Middle's Khalil Shaw won third place for "Vitamin C Levels and Sunlight."
- Chatham Middle's Kinley Jordan, Reagan Sandel and Madelyn Smith won third place for "What Secrets Do Macroinvertebrates Tell About Chatham County's Waterways?"
- North Chatham Elementary students Lydia Zwahlen and Andrew Zwahlen received an Honorable Mention for "Which Liquid Is Best for Propagating Potholes?"
- Jordan-Matthews High School students

James Bain, Skylar Breedlove and Markel McSwain received an Honorable Mention for "Fast-Food Burger Project."

Three district entries received special awards at the fair:

- Khalil Shaw received the Office of Naval Research Award for "Vitamin C Levels and Sunlight."
- Jaden Guzman also received the Office of Naval Research Award for "Thermal Alternatives."
- Reagan Sandel, Kinley Jordan, Madelyn Smith received an award certificate and gift card with the NC 1 Award for "What Secrets Do Macroinvertebrates Tell

About Chatham County's Waterways?"

"We are proud of all of our students who participated, and excited for the students who are moving on to the state level," LaShonda Hester, executive director for middle grade instruction, said. "We have highly competitive entries, and are looking forward to our students having the opportunity to showcase their talents and knowledge with projects from across the state."

The State Science and Engineering Fair will have the virtual judging on the morning of March 23, with in-person judging being held March 24 and March 25.

**ANNUAL GOSPEL SING**  
**at New Salem Church**  
**Sunday, March 19**  
**at 6:30 p.m.**

- GOSPEL BAND  
 - GOSPEL QUARTET  
**"REDEEMED HARMONY"**

Plan to attend and invite a friend!  
**5030 Old Graham Rd., Pittsboro, NC**  
**919-542-4832**  
[www.visitnewsalem.com](http://www.visitnewsalem.com)

**Meroney Methodist Men BBQ Sale**

PREPARED BY METHODIST MEN  
 ~ OFFERING ~  
 CHOPPED BBQ - \$55.00 - 5 LB. CONTAINERS  
 BOSTON BUTT ROASTS - \$40.00 EACH  
 HAMS - \$70.00 EACH  
 ALL ITEMS FULLY COOKED

**PICK UP AT**  
**MERONEY METHODIST CHURCH**  
**BUS GARAGE**

**SATURDAY, April 1, 2023**  
**9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**TO PLACE AN ORDER CONTACT:**  
 MICHAEL DOWDY 919.548.3993  
 ERIC SHAW 919.548.1268  
 JUSTIN SHAW 919.548.2406  
 JEFF WILSON 919.548.2131  
 ORDER DUE MARCH 26, 2023

# CCCC's Jalen Cheek selected for national recognition

From Central Carolina Community College

SANFORD — Jalen Cheek, an education navigator at Central Carolina Community College's Chatham Main Campus, was recently selected for the 2023 Outstanding New Professional at a Two-Year College Award by the American College Personnel Association (ACPA). This national award recognizes a new education

professional employed at a two-year college who has displayed outstanding professional potential and commitment to Student Affairs/Student Development. Cheek completed his Associate in Arts degree at CCCC in 2018 and received his Bachelor's degree in Communication from the University of North Carolina Greensboro in 2020. While completing his degree at UNCG, he also served as a peer advisor

and student reflection leader. His colleagues note that even as a CCCC student, he was always providing assistance to other students, served as an academic tutor and volunteered to support campus activities.

Cheek began his career in education at Central Carolina when he was hired as a student support specialist in 2021 and was promoted to education navigator at the Chatham Main Campus in the spring of 2022. In this role, he assists students who are exploring college programs, helps them understand and complete the onboarding and advising process, and continues to support students as they achieve their academic and career goals at the college.

"I decided to work in community college education because I remembered the connections I made as a student here at CCCC," Cheek, who lives in Sanford, said. "The dynamic between high school and four-year institutions differs entirely from the community college. You get to follow the students through to graduation — they stop by your office and can create a space where they feel comfortable. Another reason I decided to come to CCCC is because my advisors impacted my education.

"My role as an educational navigator is a fun

and supportive way to engage with the students here as a community," Cheek said. "While we ensure students stay on track, it is also amazing to see their growth and development while taking classes with us."

Amy Gustavson, CCCC assistant director of student advising and success, works closely with Cheek and praises him for how he helps students.

"Jalen Cheek truly cares about students and wants to help them succeed," Gustavson said. "He is everything you would want in a higher education professional — caring, compassionate and knowledgeable about the college."

CCCC Chatham County Provost Mark Hall stated that Cheek has been a valuable member of the student support team since he joined the college.

"Jalen has demonstrated the ability to interact productively with potential and current students from many different backgrounds and situations, helping them navigate the processes involved in enrolling in programs and being successful in their courses," Hall said. "Jalen has a history of supporting others, especially those who seem to need the most help, to realize the opportunities afforded them through education."

*Ladies, you are invited to our*

## Ladies' Night in Flight

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm

AT THE **BestFood Cafeteria**  
 PRIVATE DINING ROOM

With Guest Speaker  
**RENEA HENDERSON**

~ Free Dessert!  
 ~ Christian Fellowship!  
 ~ Lots of Door Prizes!  
 ~ and more!

**Admission: No Cost!**  
 However, if you would like, you may bring a can of food or some coins that will be donated to the West Chatham Food Pantry in Siler City.

If you or your group would like to come early to have dinner, you may be seated in the dining room, but the program will begin at 6:30 pm.

SPONSORED BY:  
**LADYBUGS for JESUS**  
 A ministry of the Community Baptist Church of Siler City  
[www.CBCSilerCity.com](http://www.CBCSilerCity.com)

For more info, please call (919) 742-5446 or (919) 742-3968

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

Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each

**PLUS: Your ad is posted on [chathamnewsrecord.com](http://chathamnewsrecord.com) for FREE!**

# CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE

**LAND - 3.74 acres** in desired Bear Creek area of Chatham County. New Survey - Soil Test for 3 bedrooms, wooded very private. Come build your dream home. Call Realtor Cindy Dameron, 919-548-3548 with Realty World Carolina Properties. M2,9,16,23,4tp

**LEARN ABOUT LAND** - Chatham Land Experts - [www.learn-aboutland.com](http://www.learn-aboutland.com) - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

## RENT

## RENTALS

**128 LOFTS** - Newly Renovated in Historical Building downtown Siler City. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, open floor plan, separate laundry room. \$40 application plan fee, each Adult. Seen by appointment. EHO. Call Realtor Cindy Dameron at 919-548-3548, with Realty World Carolina Properties. M2,9,16,23,4tp

## APARTMENTS

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

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

## FOR SALE

**FOR SALE - 2018 KX 71-3** Super series excavator with thumb. Has 18 and 24 inch buckets. 919-337-5775. M9,16,23,30,4tc

## YARD SALE

**HUGE ANNUAL YARD SALE,** Pittsboro Christian Village, 1825 East St., Pittsboro, Fri & Sat, March 24th 8 am - 5 pm, March 25th 8 am - 1 pm. Furniture, Kitchen Appliances, Cookware, Bakeware, Home Décor, Linens, Craft items, and much more! M16,1tc

## 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](http://www.Jerry-HarrisAuction.com), 919-498-4077, J6,tfnc

## SERVICES

**SPRING CLEANING TIME** - Brush cleaning, drive ways and bush hogging. Heavy duty yard cleaning. Call Ed at 919-352-5599. M9,16,23,30,4tp

**PAY CASH** for junk cars and trucks. Call 336-581-3423. M9,16,23,30,4tp

**RETIRED SECURITY GUARD/ COACH** - will watch property, animals. Caretaker to hook up RV and watch property. 110 30 amp. Very quiet, no parties, Reliable, 919-828-4247. F23tfnc

**DIGGING AND DEMO** - Land improvements, mini-excavating, stump removal, mobile home and building tear down, all digging. Call John Hayes, 919-548-0474, J19-Ju1,20tp

**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 unsta-

ble 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

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

## LEGALS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 23 E 57** All persons having claims against **LARRY WAYNE BINKLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of May, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 23rd day of February, 2023. Susan Meece, Executrix 1968 Harold Andrews Rd. Siler City, NC 27344 F23,M2,M9,M16,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** James D. Ayres qualified before the Chatham County Clerk of Court on February 8, 2023, in File 22 E 430 as Executor of the Estate of **RUTH JEANNE AYRES**, 500 Carolina Meadows, Chapel Hill, NC 27517. This is to notify all persons, firms and corporations, as required by NCGS 28A-14-1, having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the attorney designated below on or before May 23, 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. Payments and claims should be presented to Robert Gilleland, Attorney, P.O. Box 1045, Sanford, NC 27331-1045. F23,M2,M9,M16,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **KIM SAMIULLAH WILLIAMS**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of May, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 16th day of February, 2023. Mary Farrar, Administrator of the Estate of Kim Samiullah Williams 15 Springdale Drive Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee Attorneys at Law Box 629 Siler City, North Carolina 27344 (919) 663-2850 F23,M2,M9,M16,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** All persons having claims against **CLARA LOVITZ GLEISSNER** aka Clara L. Gleissner (hereinafter "Clara Lovitz Gleissner") of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 13th day of December, 2022, are notified to present them to Trustant Bank, Executor of the Estate of Clara Lovitz Gleissner in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before May 30, 2023. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Clara Lovitz Gleissner. Those indebted to Clara Lovitz Gleissner are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. Dean P. Broz, Atty for the Estate Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 F23,M2,M9,M16,4tc

**EXECUTOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** All persons having claims against the estate of **DELORES LADD** of Chatham County, NC, who died on December 22nd, 2022, are notified to present them on or before June 1st, 2023 to Diane Elaine Ladd, Executor for the Estate, c/o Alexander, Miller, Schupp & Hamilton, P.L.L.C., P. O. Box 3200, Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Alexander, Miller, Schupp & Hamilton, P.L.L.C. P. O. Box 3200 Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3200 F23,M2,M9,M16,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** The undersigned, having qualified as Executors of the Estate of **RUTH FITTING**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 23rd day of May, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 23rd day of February, 2023. **BRIAN R. KEYES, CO-EXECUTOR** ESTATE OF RUTH FITTING LUISA WHITE, CO-EXECUTOR ESTATE OF RUTH FITTING c/o Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514, F23,M2,M9,M16,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 23 E 20** All persons having claims against **CLARISTINE BRYANT AKA CLARISTINE MATILDA DANIEL BRYANT** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of May, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 23rd day of February, 2023. **Yolanda Bryant, Executrix** 14130 Angelton Ter Burtonsville, MD, 20866 F23,M2,M9,M16,4tp

**NOTICE OF HEARINGS Town of Siler City** The following item will be considered by the **Siler City Planning Commission on Monday, March 13, 2023. The hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Siler City Court Room of the Siler City Town Hall at 311 N. 2nd Ave.** The item will also be heard by the **Town Council for Siler City on March 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Siler City Court Room of the Siler City Town Hall located at 311 N. 2nd Ave.** **LEGISLATIVE HEARING R23-0301.** Conditional Rezoning of two tracts from Agricultural-Residential (A-R) to Mobile Home Conditional (MH-C), tracts totaling 6.00 acres ±, addressed as 215, 217, 219, and 221 George Hudson Road (parcel numbers 69433 and 95708), and being the properties of Liberty Hill, LLC, represented by Jose Guevara. R23-0302. Conditional Rezoning of two tracts from Residential 10 (R-10) to Highway Commercial Conditional (H-C-C), tracts totaling 1.61 acres ±, addressed as 1114 and unaddressed Greensboro Avenue (16484 and 16447), and being the properties of JK Scott, LLC, represented by Kate Scott, DVM. TA23-01. Text Amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance to Section 148.f.3.a. amending the requirements for swimming pools. The proposed items are available for review by contacting Jennifer C. Baptiste at [jbaptiste@silercity.org](mailto:jbaptiste@silercity.org) or 919-726-8626. All persons interested in the outcome of the item are invited to attend the legislative hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced item. These are separate hearings: Interested parties may submit evidence and written comments. Written comments or evidence on these applications can be submitted by email to [jbaptiste@silercity.org](mailto:jbaptiste@silercity.org). Individuals desiring to speak must sign up by calling 919-726-8626 before 12:00 p.m. on or before the scheduled public

hearing date. The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such as arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or other language upon request. Please contact Tammy Thomas at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or [tthomas@silercity.org](mailto:tthomas@silercity.org) for accommodations for this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Tammy Thomas at [tthomas@silercity.org](mailto:tthomas@silercity.org) o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. M2,M9,M16,3tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 2023 E 000121** All persons having claims against **WENDELL WITHERSPOON BALLOU, JR.** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of June, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of March, 2023. Steven Ross Hamm, Administrator 603 6th Avenue, NE Conover, NC 28613 M2,M9,M16,M23,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 2023 E 000110** All persons having claims against **THOMAS HOWARD JONES** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of June, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of March, 2023. Randy J. Shepherd, Executor 1081 Fearington Post Pittsboro, NC 27312 M2,M9,M16,M23,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 22 E 505** All persons having claims against **WILLIAM BERNARD WILBORN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of June, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of March, 2023. Joyce H. Elmore, Executrix 908 Bonlee Caribnton Rd Bear Creek, NC 27207 M2,M9,M16,M23,4tp

**PUBLIC NOTICE Chatham County Schools' federal projects under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 are presently being developed.** Projects included: Title I (Helping Disadvantaged Children Meet High Standards); Title II (High Quality Teachers and Principals); Title III (Language Acquisition) Title IV (Student Support and Academic Enrichment) McKinney-Vento (Homeless Education) Migrant Education Program Career and Technical Education High school students can enroll, without cost, in college credit classes through the Career and College Promise program. This includes Career and Technical Education pathways of study. IDEA (Students with Disabilities) The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project is presently being amended. The Project describes the special education programs

that Chatham County Schools proposes for Federal funding for the 2023-2024 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. These projects describe the programs that Chatham County Schools proposes for federal funding for the 2023-2024 school year. Non-profit private schools and interested persons are encouraged to review these federal guidelines for the above listed projects and indicate their interest in participation in the projects if qualified. These projects are being developed during April and May and are due to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction on June 30, 2023. The initial Equitable Services for Private Schools meeting will be held virtually on April 6, 2023 at 2:00 pm. Interested parties are encouraged to contact the office of Carol Little, Executive Director Federal Programs, at [cmittle@chatham.k12.nc.us](mailto:cmittle@chatham.k12.nc.us) or at 501 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Siler City, NC, 27344 by April 3, 2023. Spanish version below: **Noticia pública** Estamos en proceso de desarrollo de los proyectos federales de las Escuelas del Condado Chatham bajo la Ley Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) de 2015. Los proyectos incluyen: Título I (Ayuda a los niños des-

## 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.

favorecidos económicamente a alcanzar altos estándares académicos) Título II (Maestros y directores de alta calidad) Título III (Adquisición del Lenguaje) Título IV (Apoyo Estudiantil y Enriquecimiento Académico) McKinney-Vento (Educación para personas sin hogar) Programa de Educación Para Familias Migrantes (MEP por sus siglas en Inglés) Educación técnica y profes-



## DRIVERS WANTED Hiring Local Drivers Full & Part Time Available

- Feed Haul & Pallet Haul Drivers
- Local Loads – Home Daily
- 200-300 Miles Per Day
- Late Model Trucks
- Good Driving Record/ Clean History Required
- Competitive Pay & Benefits Package Includes: Medical, Dental, Life, STD and LTD Insurance, 401K Plan, Holiday & Vacation Pay



**\$2,500 Sign-On Bonus** ...come grow with us!  
**Immediate Openings!**

Please Inquire At: Wilson Brothers Main Office  
20412 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207  
**(919) 837-2131**

EOE/M/F/V

## PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS

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



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES



## HIRING CNA's ALL SHIFTS

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



## Career Opportunities Available

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

sional Los estudiantes de preparatoria pueden inscribirse, sin costo, en clases de créditos universitarios a través del programa promesa Career and College. Esto incluye vías de estudio de Educación Técnica y Profesional. IDEA (Estudiantes con Discapacidades) El Proyecto de la Ley de Educación para Individuos con Discapacidades (IDEA-Parte B, Ley Pública 108.446) está siendo enmendado... El Proyecto describe los programas de educación especial que las Escuelas del Condado Chatham proponen para el financiamiento federal del año escolar 2023-2024. Se anima a las personas interesadas a revisar las enmiendas al Proyecto y hacer comentarios sobre la implementación de la educación especial bajo este programa federal. Todos los comentarios serán analizados antes de la presentación del Proyecto modificado al Departamento de Instrucción Pública de Carolina del Norte en Raleigh, Carolina del Norte. Estos proyectos describen los programas que las Escuelas del Condado Chatham proponen para el financiamiento federal del año escolar 2023-2024. Nosotros promovemos que las escuelas privadas sin fines de lucro y a las personas interesadas revisen estas directrices federales para los proyectos enumerados anteriormente e indiquen su interés en participar en los proyectos si califican. Estos proyectos se estarán desarrollando durante abril y mayo y deben presentarse al Departamento de Instrucción Pública de Carolina del Norte el 30 de junio de 2023. La reunión inicial

de Servicios Equitativos para Escuelas Privadas se llevará a cabo virtualmente el 6 de abril de 2023 a las 2:00 pm. Las partes interesadas se pueden comunicar con la oficina de Carol Little, Directora Ejecutiva de los Programas Federales, al correo electrónico [cmittle@chatham.k12.nc.us](mailto:cmittle@chatham.k12.nc.us) o en 501 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City, NC, 27344 antes del 3 de abril del 2023. M9,M16,M23,M30,4tc

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO.: 19 JT 61 IN RE: "D.A.D.M." DOB: 8/30/17 NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PROCESS OF PUBLICATION TO: Luis Alberto Diaz/Biological father/Father/unknown father of the above male child, born in El Salvador to Rosibel Mejia Ventura PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed to terminate your parental rights to the above-referenced minor child. You have forty days from 3/9/23, the first date of publication of this Notice to respond to said Petition by filing a written answer to the petition with the Chatham Clerk of Court. Your parental rights to the juvenile may be terminated upon failure to answer the petitions within the time prescribed. Any attorney appointed previously in an abuse, neglect or dependency proceeding and still representing you shall continue to represent you. If you are indigent and**

not already represented by an attorney, you are entitled to a court-appointed attorney by contacting the Orange County Clerk of Court. STEPHENSON & FLEMING, L.L.P. BY: /s/ ANGENETTE STEPHENSON Attorney for Petitioner, CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 109 Conner Dr. Suite 208 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514 Telephone: (919) 869-7795 M9,M16,M23,3tc

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO.: 20 JT 75 IN RE: "A.C.B." DOB: 8/11/13 NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PROCESS OF PUBLICATION TO: Fred Sloan/any unknown father of the above male child, born at Central Carolina Hospital, Sanford, NC to Samantha Bierman. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed to terminate your parental rights to the above-referenced minor child. You have forty days from 3/9/23, the first date of publication of this Notice to respond to said Petition by filing a written answer to the petition with the Chatham Clerk of Court. Your parental rights to the juvenile may and will be terminated upon failure to answer the petitions within the time prescribed. Any attorney appointed previously in an abuse, neglect or dependency proceeding and still representing you shall continue to represent you. If you are indigent and not already represented by an attorney, you are entitled to a court-appointed attorney by contacting the Chatham County Clerk of Court. STEPHENSON & FLEMING, L.L.P. BY: /s/ ANGENETTE STEPHENSON**

Attorney for Petitioner, CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 109 Conner Dr. Suite 208 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514 Telephone: (919) 869-7795 M9,M16,M23,3tc

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 14th day of February, 2023, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF ROBERT M. SEIFERT aka ROBERT MICHAEL SEIFERT, 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 12th day of June, 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 27th day of February, 2023. JENNIFER DALMAN, EXECUTRIX ESTATE OF ROBERT M. SEIFERT aka ROBERT MICHAEL SEIFERT Walker Lambe, PLLC Post Office Box 51549 Durham, North Carolina 27717 M9,M16,M23,M30,4tc**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 21st day of February, 2023, as Executor of the ESTATE OF HELEN MARIE NELSON, 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 12th day of June, 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 9th day of March, 2023. Robert W. Williams, Executor c/o Margaret K. Winfield PO Box 10669 Raleigh, NC 27605 M9,M16,M23,M30,4tp**

This, the 9th of March, 2023. PHILIP NELSON, EXECUTOR ESTATE OF HELEN MARIE NELSON c/o Richard G. Long III Walker Lambe, PLLC Post Office Box 51549 Durham, North Carolina 27717 M9,M16,M23,M30,4tc

meeting Thursday, March 23, at 11 a.m. in the Holmes Family Meeting Room at Chatham Community Library, 197 NC-87, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312. The public is invited to attend. M16,1tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 23 E 145** All persons having claims against **NINA PAULINE DODD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of June, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 9th day of March, 2023. Randall C. Dodd, Co-Executor 108 Circadian Way Chapel Hill, NC 27516 Mark R. Dodd, Co-Executor 106 Keeneland Court Durham, NC 27713-7259 M16,M23,M30,A6,4tp

**PUBLIC NOTICE LEASE OF COUNTY PROPERTY** The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County intends to approve a lease agreement with **Chatham Outreach Alliance, Inc.** for the County-owned office building and lot located at **40 Camp Drive, Pittsboro**, North Carolina, consisting of approximately 4,948 square feet of office space, together with access driveway and parking area (hereinafter "Premises"). The County intends to lease the Premises for a term that will expire on the 28th day of February, 2033. In consideration of the lease, Lessor has agreed to allow the Lessee to use the Premises for the public service of a food bank and without monetary payment to the County. A copy of the proposed Lease is available for review in the Office of the Clerk to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners during regular business hours. All persons interested in this lease are invited to attend the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to be held at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center, 1192 US Highway 64 Business, Pittsboro, NC, on Monday, April 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. Posted: Lindsay K. Ray, NCCCC Clerk to the Board March, 2023 M16,1tc

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE TOWN OF PITTSBORO** The **Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners** will hold the following Public Hearing on **Monday, March 27, 2023, at 7:00 PM in person at Chatham County Agriculture Center and via Zoom** to consider the following item: 1. A Legislative Public Hearing on changing the Town of Pittsboro Water and Wastewater System Development Fees. The Town of Pittsboro has updated its System Development Fees Analysis for public infrastructure and will consider changing its System Development Fees for water and wastewater based upon said analysis up to the maximum fees set forth therein. The meeting will be held in person and via Zoom, a teleconference software. Instructions on how to join the Zoom Meeting can be found on the Town's website at [www.pittsboronc.gov](http://www.pittsboronc.gov). Please sign up with the Town Clerk, Carrie Bailey by 4:00 p.m. on March 27, 2023 if you wish to participate. If you wish to make written comments, please send them to the Town Clerk, Carrie Bailey, PO Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or via email at [cbaily@pittsboronc.gov](mailto:cbaily@pittsboronc.gov) by 4 p.m. on March 27, 2023. M16,M23,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 22 E 409** All persons having claims against **MAYNARD LEE RUSSELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of June, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 9th day of March, 2023. Mary Alston, Administrator 304 Bingham St. Greensboro, NC 27401 M9,M16,M23,M30,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY FILE NO: 22 E 409** All persons having claims against **MAYNARD LEE RUSSELL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of June, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 9th day of March, 2023. Mary Alston, Administrator 304 Bingham St. Greensboro, NC 27401 M9,M16,M23,M30,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against JOSEPH EDWARD KRESS** deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before June 16, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This is the 9th day of March, 2023. Elizabeth Smith, Ancillary Administrator c/o Hopler, Wilms & Hanna, PLLC 2314 S. Miami Blvd., Suite 151 Durham, NC 27703. M16,M23,M30,A6,4tc

**REQUEST FOR BIDS Central Piedmont Community Action, Inc.** (CPCA) is opening its bid for HVAC, Electrical, and Plumbing contractors in Anson, Chatham, Orange, and Richmond counties. Bids will be received March 16, 2023, through April 15, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. RFP will also be available on our website through Sept. 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a contractor for Central Piedmont Community Action in any of our counties, please contact Doug Dixon at (919) 742-2277, ext. 105, M - TH, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or via email at [dougdc@cpccnc.org](mailto:dougdc@cpccnc.org). M16,M23,M30,A6,4tc

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT The United Way of Chatham County** will hold its annual

**Statewide Classified**

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

**EQUIPMENT - TRUCK AUCTION FORD Diesel Dump&Flat-Bed-Trucks, JOHN DEERE& KOMATSU Excavators, CASE Off-Road-Articulated-Dump-Truck, KOMATSU Dozer-with-2-Blades, RAM-3500 Service-Truck, INTERNATIONAL Dump-Truck, Much-More, ONLINE ONLY AUCTION, Bidding-Ends-MARCH 28 at 7:00PM Morehead City,NC www.HouseAuctionCompany.com 252-729-1162 NCAL#7889&7435**

Residential Warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE/ \$100OFF POPULAR PLANS. 888-993-0878

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-877-224-7739

**ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS!** Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 866-579-0885

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

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

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-866-642-1883

BCI Walk In Tubs are now on SALE! Be one of the first 50 callers and save \$1,500! CALL 855-737-1822 for a free in-home consultation.

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

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

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

**SAVE MONEY ON EXPENSIVE AUTO REPAIRS!** Our vehicle service program can save you up to 60% off dealer prices and provides you excellent coverage! Call for a free quote: 877-324-4071 (Mon-Fri :9am-4pm PST)

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

**LONG DISTANCE MOVING:** Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 833-586-8395

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

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

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

Dish Network: Only from Dish-3 year TV Price Guarantee! 99% Signal Reliability, backed by guarantee. Includes Multi-Sport with NFL Redzone. Switch and Get a FREE \$100 Gift Card. Call today! Call today! 1-877-920-7405

Caring for an aging loved one? Wondering about options like senior-living communities and in-home care? Caring.com's Family Advisors are here to help take the guesswork out of senior care for you and your family. Call for your FREE, no-obligation consultation: 1-866-327-0721

Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! American

SWITCH & GET \$25 OFF Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590 Consumer Cellular CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 844-341-3507

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 844-341-3507

**Upgrade Your Home with a NEW METAL ROOF** Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime! **LIMITED TIME OFFER 60% off YOUR INSTALLATION + TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% off** Install for Military, Health Workers and First Responders **STRONG AS STEEL WITH THE ATTRACTIVE LOOK OF VARIOUS ROOF STYLES** From Dimensional Shingles to classic styles reminiscent of Cedar Shake and Spanish Tile, an architectural roofing system by Erie Metal Roofs can enhance the beauty of your home while protecting your family and property for a lifetime.

Call today to schedule your **FREE ESTIMATE 1-855-585-1815** Made in the USA **ERIE Metal Roofs** New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction, Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. Offer expires March 31, 2023. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on [homeresources.compliance.com](http://homeresources.compliance.com). All rights reserved. NC License Number: 83195

**LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION** BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE **EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!** 20% OFF + 10% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE\* SENIORS & MILITARY! FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET! Subject to credit approval. Call for details. USA Promo Code: 285 FREE GUTTER ALIGNMENT + FREE GUTTER CLEANING\* CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-877-649-1190 Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST A COMPANY OF LEAFHOME

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2019 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Pawnee, Michigan and processed at LMF Mower Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. Registration #136652022 CSL#R 1035795 Registration# HIC\_060905 License# C0205678 License# KJ-C3-51604 Registration# C127230 License# 39564 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 21022298 License# 202000022 License# 202000042 License# 210621294 License# MARCH 11,22, Registration# 19445 License# 42330 Registration# #731804 License# 50145 License# 408693 Registration# 13049993000 Registration# #119114 License# 218294 Registration# #A603083 License# #154 License# 7054 DOR# #0787868-5501 License# 42330 License# 270110445 License# LEAFHOME#222 License# W956912

**FREE INTERNET** Qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program **YOU QUALIFY for Free Internet if you receive Housing Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline and Tribal.** Bonus offer: 4G Android Tablet with one time co-pay of \$20 **CALL TODAY (877) 224-7339** maxsip CONNECTS ACP program details can be found at [www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq](http://www.fcc.gov/affordable-connectivity-program-consumer-faq)

**POND STOCKING** Pre-Order NOW! 803-776-4923 **FISH DAYS** Call to find your nearest pick-up location. @Southland Fisheries



Courtesy of the Chatham Council on Aging

**'6 Over 60' winner** Genevieve Megginson (right), one of the inaugural class of '6 Over 60' honorees in Chatham County, was presented her award by Council on Aging director Ashlyn Martin last week. Megginson, the executive director of the Chatham County Partnership for Children, was unable to attend the Feb. 24 '6 Over 60' luncheon because of a previous commitment. For the past 29 years, Megginson has served as the executive director of the Chatham County Partnership for Children, expanding and enriching opportunities for high-quality early childhood education in our county. A recognized leader in the field of early childhood education, Megginson also served in a leadership capacity for N.C. Smart Start as a mentor for the National Technical Assistance Center, helping other states develop and launch early childhood initiatives.

CHATHAM CHAT | CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# Chamber rolls out new member platform

This week, we speak with Chatham Chamber of Commerce President Cindy Poindexter about its new member platform and other Chamber news.

**The Chamber has just introduced a new platform for members to connect with each other. What can you share about that?**

The Chatham Chamber is now using a Member Management Software called GrowthZone. Members now have the capability to log in and make changes to their business listings, connect with Chamber members and more as we move further along. We are excited about the new platform and hope that the members are as well.

**How do Chamber members create accounts on the platform?**

A Chamber member account is created when they join the Chamber by completing a Membership Application through the Chamber's website — <https://www.ccucc.net>. Accounts were created through the Chamber staff for businesses and individuals that were members prior to the integration of GrowthZone.

The new system allows members to post their Community Events on the Community Events calendar.

Members can self-post their community and public events on the Chamber's Community Events calendar. Once these events are posted, the Chamber admin receives an email regarding the event. The admin reviews the event and once approved, the event will go live on the Community Events Calendar. This is typically a quick turnaround from the time events are posted and the time the events are live.

Chatham Community events can be viewed at <https://business.ccucc.net/chatham-community-events>.

**Can you speak to the kinds of events the Chamber hosts and provides, and what's coming up on the calendar in the next few months?**

The Chatham Chamber hosts events that focus on public policy, development, education, business exposure, Chamber updates, etc. We also offer networking events and Lunch & Learns.

The Chatham Development Briefing is coming up on April 26 at the Chatham Agriculture & Conference Center. Attendees of this event can expect to hear the latest in development news for Chatham County. This event also features a full breakfast.

The Chamber will host a Chatham Business Showcase in June, a Golf Tournament in September, a State of Chatham event in October, which includes a presentation on a wide array of data related to Chatham County, and a Chamber Annual meeting.

Chamber-organized events can be viewed at <https://business.ccucc.net/chatham-chamber-calendar>.

**Obviously, with major industrial announcements for Chatham making so much news, we've been talking a lot about jobs. The "Jobs" section on the new platform — what can you share about that?**

We will have the capability of posting member business employment opportunities in the Jobs section of the new platform. We will also push these opportunities out through social media networks, in hopes that these measures help assist our member businesses in hiring appropriate and trained candidates for their open positions.

**What else is going on with the Chamber these days?**

The Chamber has been very busy — training for the new member management platform, planning for events, working on our three-year Strategic Plan, working through numerous committee meetings which are chaired by Chamber board members and working on many other projects.

**CCCC to host Career Expo Job Fair on March 29**

SANFORD — The Central Carolina Community College Career Expo Job Fair will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 29, at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center, 1801 Nash St., Sanford.

The Career Expo Job Fair is open to the general public, including CCCC students and alumni.

Felicia Gilmore, CCCC Career Center coordinator in Lee County, says there will be a variety of employers represented at the event.

"Our job seekers can expect to speak with employers with current job openings and receive more information about possible career opportunities," Gilmore said.

There is no charge for those attending the CCCC Career Expo Job Fair. However, participants are reminded to bring résumés and dress professionally (business casual) for the event to make that favorable impression at first glance. Reserve your spot at <https://CCCCCareerExpo2023.eventbrite.com>.

Earlier in the day, the Career Expo Information Session — in partnership with Lee County Schools — will be held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center. Students will have the opportunity to explore different career options and future opportunities at this event.

Those with questions about the CCCC Career Expo Job Fair can contact CCCC Career Center Coordinator Felicia Gilmore at [careercenter@ccc.edu](mailto:careercenter@ccc.edu) or call 919-718-7283.

The CCCC Career Center offers the following services: career and internship advising, online career assessment, career exploration, resume writing, interviewing etiquette, on-campus interviews and a career resource library.

The Center is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday. To schedule an appointment or for more information, people can contact the Career Center at 919-718-7283 or visit <https://www.collegecentral.com/cccc/>.

For more information on Central Carolina Community College - which is dedicated to providing pathways to achievable dreams, visit [www.cccc.edu](http://www.cccc.edu).

**Mountaire insisting contractors follow protocols after spill**

SILER CITY — Mountaire Farms says waste spilled on the roadway outside its plant was the result of a contractor accident.

On the night of Feb. 14, an outside contractor for Mountaire Farms had an accidental spill on a local roadway of egg waste they'd picked up from one of the company's hatcheries, according to Cathy Bassett, Mountaire's director of communications. Bassett said the contractor cleaned up the spill on Feb. 15.

"We regret any inconvenience this may have caused, and will be working with all outside contractors to ensure they are following all health and safety protocols," Bassett said.

**Spring Ag Fest set for March 25**

PITTSBORO — Chatham County invites the community to enjoy its 4th annual Spring Ag Fest at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center on Saturday, March 25.

The event is free and open to the public; it'll be held 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ag Center at 1192 U.S. 64 Business

**NEWS BRIEFS**

West, Pittsboro.

The Spring Ag Fest is a celebration of Chatham County's agriculture, forestry, and natural resources. More than 75 indoor and outdoor exhibitors and vendors will highlight local farms, farmers' markets, sustainable agriculture, agricultural support and advocacy, agribusiness, beekeeping, livestock, forestry, green industry, wildlife, conservation, and more.

The event will offer activities for people of all ages including: livestock arena events such as rider demonstrations, cutting horse demonstrations, cattle parades, and livestock costume contest; animal exhibits including cattle, horses, sheep, and goats; free pony rides; and milking demonstrations. Several food trucks will offer a variety of tasty options for lunch.

Overflow parking will be available at two locations, each with free shuttle service to the Ag Fest: Central Carolina Community College (next door to the CCACC), and the Chatham County Annex/Chatham County Justice Center downtown just south of the traffic circle.

You can find full details, including event schedules, on the Growing Small Farms website at <https://growing-smallfarms.ces.ncsu.edu/2023/03/save-the-date-for-our-2023-spring-ag-fest/#parking>.

**House in the Horseshoe celebrates 250 years**

SANFORD — In October of 1772, Philip Alston purchased 4,000 acres of land in the bend of the Deep River. Not long after the purchase, he had a large two-story wood frame house built on a rise in the land overlooking the river.

This house would become the sight of an iconic battle, of which you can still see evidence of today. Alston's house became known as the "House in the Horseshoe" and it will be celebrating 250 years of historic legacy on March 25, with a birthday celebration scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

An opening ceremony will take place at 11 a.m. with a brief presentation about the history of the house along with recognition of preservation groups present. The cake will be cut at the conclusion of the opening ceremony for visitors to enjoy.

The Alston House will be open for guided tours featuring highlights throughout the home's 250 years. Visitors for the day are asked to bring any photos of them through the years at the Alston House to add to the "Bullet-in" board. Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book and leave their own memories.

Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy it on the grounds of the Alston House during the program. No chairs or tables will be provided for the picnic, but visitors are welcome to bring their own chairs or blankets.

Located at 288 Alston House Road, Sanford, House in the Horseshoe is 16 miles west of Sanford off N.C. 42 and 10 miles north of Carthage on the Caribton-Carthage Road.

During the American Revolution, Alston proved a fiery leader for the Whig cause. In 1781 the Alston house was the site of militia skirmish between the owner, Whig Col. Philip Alston, and Loyalist Col. David Fanning. The house still bears some scars from this engagement. From 1798 to 1814 the House in the Horseshoe, under the name Retreat, was home to another Patriot leader and four-time North Carolina governor, Benjamin Williams.

House in the Horseshoe is part of the Division of State Historic Sites

within the N.C. Dept of Natural and Cultural Resources.

**Siler City's Easter event set for April 1**

SILER CITY — Join the town of Siler City Parks and Recreation Department for the Easter Eggstravaganza from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, April 1, at Bray Park Sports Complex.

This is a free event that the whole family is certainly going to enjoy! and the "Easter Egg Dash" is offered to children ages 12 and younger. Festivities will begin at 10 a.m. with inflatable attractions, games, community resource booths, and music. Concessions will be available for purchase. Additionally, be sure to bring your camera, as the Easter Bunny will "hop in" for photo opportunities and visit with the children throughout the event.

Note: The main event, the "Easter Egg Dash," will begin promptly at 11 a.m. on various fields categorized by ages.

Siler City's annual Easter Eggstravaganza event will have 6,000 candy and toy filled Easter eggs that will be hidden throughout Bray Park for eager egg hunters to find. While seeking to provide an exceptional experience for families and children to enjoy!

"We are thrilled to organize the annual Easter Eggstravaganza event again this year with exciting activities for the whole family," said Jack Clelland, the department's director. "With the overwhelming success of this event in past years, we look forward to seeing the joy that this event brings to children and families in our community this Spring."

Bray Park is located at 200 Bray Park Complex Dr. In case of inclement weather, the event rain date is scheduled for Sunday, April 2, with only the Easter Egg Dash being held at 2 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at 919-742-2699 or [recreation@silercity.org](mailto:recreation@silercity.org).

**CarSmart Collision gets certification**

PITTSBORO — CarSmart Collision Pittsboro is now a Certified Collision Repair Provider, which ensures customers their collision repairs will adhere to the latest industry quality and safety standards.

This new certification guarantees that collision repairs will be performed according to the manufacturer's repair protocol by a properly trained and qualified technician, using the correct tools and equipment for the job. This certification was provided by Assured Performance Collision Care of Aliso Viejo, California, a nonprofit consumer advocacy organization that promotes automotive safety within the collision care industry.

The new certifications for CarSmart Collision Pittsboro come with industry recognition by the top automotive manufacturers including Assured Performance, FCA, Infiniti and Nissan. CarSmart Collision Pittsboro is now an integral part of the most advanced Certified Repair Capable and efficient Collision Care Network in the world.

"This certification supports our reputation for serving our community with superior customer service," said CarSmart Collision Pittsboro's owner, Mark Wasmuth. "We believe in providing our customers with the peace of mind that their vehicles are being repaired properly by highly trained professionals who genuinely care about them."

## Dental Insurance

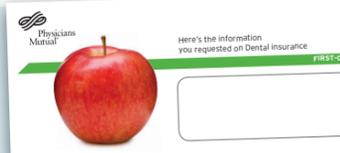
Get the dental care you deserve with dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It can help cover the services you're most likely to use -

-  Cleanings
-  X-rays
-  Fillings
-  Crowns
-  Dentures

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

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

Call now to get this **FREE** Information Kit!  
[dental50plus.com/chatham](http://dental50plus.com/chatham)



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



**SPRING**  
*...in the home of your dreams!*

One of the first signs of spring, other than blooming flowers, are the "sold" signs on the lawns of Realty World Carolina Properties clients. Sherry Johnson Allen is an agent that will go that extra mile to get your home SOLD!

Dedicated to Service, Knowledge & Results Since 1999

**Sherry Johnson Allen**  
Realtor, Broker, GRI, CRS, ABR, SFR

**REALTY WORLD CAROLINA PROPERTIES**

919-200-2135  
[sherryjallenrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:sherryjallenrealtor@gmail.com)  
1609 E. 11th St, Siler City, NC  
[sherryjallenrealtor.com](http://sherryjallenrealtor.com)



**CAROLINA PROPERTIES**

# SPORTS NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT

MARCH 16 - 22, 2023 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

CENTRAL CABARRUS 65, NORTHWOOD 51

## Chargers fall to undefeated Vikings in 3A final



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior Max Frazier dunks the ball in the Chargers' 65-51 loss to Central Cabarrus in the 3A boys state final Saturday.

BY JEREMY VERNON  
News + Record Sports Editor

RALEIGH — The Northwood boys basketball team made its first state final in program history back in 2021, a season shortened by COVID restrictions.

The Chargers only played 17 games that year, the last of which was a loss to Weddington in the 3A final. Instead of playing at the normal venues like the Dean E. Smith Center in Chapel Hill and Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh in front of thousands of fans, Northwood played that year's state final at 10:30 in the morning at Providence Grove High in Climax.

After a fourth-round exit in 2022, this year's Chargers had a goal in mind of playing until the final weekend of the season. They accomplished the feat by earning a bid into the 3A boys finals against Central Cabarrus.

But with a chance to bring home some hardware Saturday night, Northwood couldn't take advantage of its edge in height or talent, falling to Central Cabarrus, 65-51.

"I'm very proud of our guys



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood junior Drake Powell had 17 points on 8-of-11 shooting Saturday in a 65-51 loss to Central Cabarrus in the 3A boys state final.

with how they battled," said Northwood head coach Matt Brown. "We had a terrific year. It wasn't the outcome we expected or wanted, obviously, but I'm a blessed human being to be able to coach guys like these."

Northwood (28-3) came out of the gate hot offensively. The Chargers set up back-to-back plays for 6-foot-10 senior Kenan Parrish to open the game, and he had no issue working past smaller defenders for two

easy buckets. Drake Powell then hit a mid-range shot to put the Chargers up 6-0. But that was the biggest lead Northwood would have at any point Saturday.

Central Cabarrus finally settled in after the opening few possessions and began working offensively to counteract Northwood's full-court pressure. The Vikings found success by pushing the ball down court to players in the corners, who either put up a 3-point attempt or drove baseline to find some open space and drag Northwood's taller players out of the paint.

The long ball was crucial for Central Cabarrus in the first quarter. The Vikings nailed six threes, five of which came from seniors Adriel Miller and Gavin Bullock. At the end of the first period, the Chargers found themselves down, 24-15, thanks to Central's ability to knock down outside shots.

"The first quarter really hurt us," Brown said. "They jumped on us quick. We made a run, but with them shooting how they did, it was tough.

See **CHARGERS**, page B4

BOYS LACROSSE

## Northwood boys off to undefeated start

BY JEREMY VERNON  
News + Record Sports Editor

Through the first few weeks of the boys lacrosse season, only one Chatham County team still has an undefeated record.

That accomplishment belongs to Northwood, which was 4-0 entering its game against Seaforth on Tuesday night (late score). Head coach Randy Cox's team is coming off an 11-6 season in 2022 that saw the Chargers finish second in the Central 3A Conference with a 9-3 league record.

Through their first four games, the Chargers outscored their opponents by a total of 82-18. Northwood has won all but one of its games — a 13-10 win over Jordan on March 6 — by double-digit goals.

"I think the first few weeks have gone pretty well," Cox said. "We just try to make sure we improve and get a little better every time we step on the field or go out to practice. I think the boys are working hard to do just that."

Northwood lost in the first round of the state playoffs last season to conference opponent Williams, but this year's Chargers look ready to build on last season's post-season struggle. The Chargers got revenge on Williams on March 7 by way of a 16-2

See **RECORD**, page B4

BISHOP MCGUINNESS 73, CHATHAM CHARTER 43

## Knights fall to defending champion Bishop McGuinness in 1A final

BY SHELBY SWANSON  
News + Record Correspondent

RALEIGH — Chatham Charter head coach Jeff Patterson likened the Knights' experience in the NCHSAA 1A girls basketball state championship game to that of the small-town Indiana team in the 1986 film "Hoosiers."

Entering Saturday's contest, Patterson reminded his players and the coaching staff that the goal is still 10 feet tall, the court is still 94 feet long, but "it's just a bigger stage and bigger lights."

The bright lights and big stage, though, proved to be too much for the Knights, as they fell to Bishop McGuinness, 73-43, in the NCHSAA 1A girls basketball championship Saturday at Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh. The Villains became back-to-back state champions and claimed their 11th title overall since 2006. As for the Knights, they were playing for a state championship for the first time in program history.

In the words of senior guard Tamaya Walden, that's a "big step in a basketball career."

"I thought, coming in, that the atmosphere and the lights of the bigger stage would affect our ball club, and it did," Patterson said.

After the opening quarter, Chatham Charter appeared to be in good shape, trailing by just five points, 17-12. However, turnovers soon began



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Chatham Charter senior Tamaya Walden (4) had 11 points Saturday against Bishop McGuinness in the 1A girls state final.

to plague the Knights, and Bishop McGuinness jumped out to a 16-point lead at halftime thanks to numerous fast break opportunities.

"We started letting them do what they wanted to do and they got anything they wanted," Patterson said. "It just started getting out of hand."

In the practices leading up to the state title game, Patterson ran over the scouting report extensively. The

Knights felt that they were prepared for the Villains' full-court man coverage and the impending 1-3-1 half-court trap. Ultimately, though, Patterson said his team just didn't execute.

On the defensive end, the game plan was for Chatham Charter to get out on the Villains' shooters, even at

See **KNIGHTS**, page B4

SALISBURY 48, SEAFORTH 39

## Foul trouble hinders Hawks after hot start



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Seaforth sophomore Peyton Collins (23) dives for a loose ball in the Hawks' 48-39 loss to Salisbury in the 2A girls state final Saturday.

BY EVAN ROGERS  
News + Record Correspondent

CHAPEL HILL — With the 2A girls basketball state title runner-up trophy sitting between her feet, all Gabby White could do was watch.

One by one, each Salisbury High player walked up to receive her championship medallion following the Hornets' 48-39 triumph over Seaforth in Chapel Hill on Saturday.

White bit her jersey, even tucking her face beneath her shirt at times, to hide the scene. Teammate Katherine Leonard aimlessly stared at the Dean E. Smith Center floor as Salisbury raised up its newly

minted state title banner.

The loss ended what was a magical run for the young Hawks, a team whose lone upperclassmen are a pair of juniors. As those in maroon and gray stared at the Hornets' celebration, Seaforth athletic director Jason Amy walked over to White and offered the lead guard some words of encouragement.

"(Amy) was just really proud of us," White said. "He was telling me how much he's seen us grow and how proud he is to see us on this stage. He said we'll be back, so just be ready for this moment."

Despite its youth, the Hawks displayed a poise and maturity much beyond their years to

start the game.

Junior guard Hannah Ajayi maneuvered her way between a pair of Hornets to convert the night's first bucket. Minutes later, a Peyton Collins corner 3-pointer opened up a 13-point lead for the Hawks, forcing Salisbury to call a timeout.

The quick start may have come as a surprise to many, especially considering Seaforth was battling against the defending state champions. But it wasn't to Hawks' head coach Charles Byrd.

"It just shows how hard we've worked," he said. "We had a really good game plan this week and the girls defi-

See **HAWKS**, page B2

**SCORES & SCHEDULES**

**SCORES** Northwood 19, Seaforth 4

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7**

**Boys golf**

Providence Grove 202, Chatham Central 211

**Softball**

Chatham Central 16, South Davidson 2

**Baseball**

Northwood 5, Eastern Alamance 4  
Seaforth 17, Southern Wake Academy 1  
Chatham Central 13, Grace Christian 7

**Boys lacrosse**

Northwood 16, Williams 2  
Seaforth 11, Cedar Ridge 4

**Boys tennis**

Seaforth 8, Chatham Central 1

**Girls soccer**

Apex 7, Seaforth 3

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8**

**Boys tennis**

Triangle Math & Science 9, Chatham Charter 0  
Cedar Ridge 5, Northwood 4  
Seaforth 9, Voyager Academy 0  
Jordan-Matthews 7, Chatham Central 2

**Girls soccer**

Williams 3, Northwood 2  
Cornerstone Charter 10, Chatham Charter 0  
Woods Charter 6, Franklin Academy 4

**Softball**

Northwood 11, East Chapel Hill 5  
Providence Grove 6, Jordan-Matthews 0

**Baseball**

Jordan-Matthews 10, Cedar Ridge 4

**Girls lacrosse**

Northwood 17, Carrboro 6

**THURSDAY, MARCH 9**

**Girls soccer**

Middle Creek 3, Seaforth 0  
Jordan-Matthews 1, Voyager 1

**Softball**

Apex Friendship 25, Seaforth 0  
Jordan-Matthews 6, Union Pines 4  
Chatham Central 7, Lee County 5

**Baseball**

Chatham Central 11, Southern Wake Academy 1 (Game 1)  
Chatham Central 19, Southern Wake Academy 0 (Game 2)  
Voyager 4, Jordan Matthews 3  
Chatham Charter 10, Clover Garden 2

**Girls lacrosse**

**Boys lacrosse**

Chapel Hill 15, Seaforth 3

**FRIDAY, MARCH 10**

**Baseball**

Eastern Alamance 9, Northwood 2

**Softball**

Seaforth 17, Northwood 1

**Girls lacrosse**

Northwood 17, Corinth Holders 9

**SATURDAY, MARCH 11**

**Girls basketball**

Bishop McGuinness 73, Chatham Charter 43 (IA state final)  
Salisbury 48, Seaforth 39 (2A state final)

**Boys basketball**

Central Cabarrus 65, Northwood 51 (3A state final)

**MONDAY, MARCH 13**

**Boys tennis**

Jordan Matthews 7, Graham 2  
Seaforth 9, North Moore 0

**Girls soccer**

Seaforth 4, Northwood 0  
Woods Charter 9, River Mill 0

**Girls lacrosse**

East Chapel Hill 21, Northwood 10

**SCHEDULES**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14**

**Boys tennis**

Chatham Charter vs. Cornerstone Charter (4 p.m.)

**Softball**

Chatham Charter vs. Cornerstone Charter (4:30 p.m.)  
Northwood vs. Williams (6 p.m.)  
Chatham Central vs. Cummings (4:30 p.m., double-header)  
Jordan-Matthews at North Moore (6 p.m.)

**Baseball**

Chatham Charter at Southern Wake Academy (5 p.m.)  
Northwood vs. Williams (6 p.m.)  
Chatham Central vs. Cummings (4:30 p.m., double-header)  
Jordan-Matthews at North Moore (7 p.m.)

**Boys lacrosse**

Northwood vs. Seaforth (6 p.m.)

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15**

**Track and field**

Seaforth vs. Jordan-Matthews, Chatham Charter and Woods Charter (4 p.m.)

**Boys tennis**

Chatham Charter at River Mill Academy (4 p.m.)  
Northwood vs. Wakefield (4:30 p.m.)  
Seaforth vs. Chatham Central (4:30 p.m.)  
Jordan-Matthews at North Moore (4:30 p.m.)

**Softball**

Northwood at Orange (6 p.m.)  
Jordan-Matthews vs. Apex Friendship (6 p.m.)  
Seaforth vs. Cedar Ridge (6 p.m.)

**Baseball**

Chatham Central vs. Eastern Randolph (7 p.m.)  
Seaforth at Providence Grove (7 p.m.)

**Girls soccer**

Northwood vs. Southern Lee (6 p.m.)  
Woods Charter vs. Triangle Math & Science (6 p.m.)

**Girls lacrosse**

Seaforth vs. Chapel Hill in Carrboro (5 p.m.)  
Northwood vs. Riverside

**THURSDAY, MARCH 16**

**Boys tennis**

Jordan-Matthews vs. North Moore (4:30 p.m.)

**Girls soccer**

Northwood at Orange (5 p.m.)  
Jordan-Matthews vs. Seaforth (6 p.m.)

**Baseball**

Northwood at Union Pines (6 p.m.)  
Jordan-Matthews at Southwestern Randolph (7 p.m.)

**Boys lacrosse**

Seaforth at Riverside (6 p.m.)

**FRIDAY, MARCH 17**

**Softball**

Chatham Charter at Bethany Community (5 p.m.)  
Northwood at Cedar Ridge (6 p.m.)  
Chatham Central vs. Seaforth (6:30 p.m.)  
Jordan-Matthews vs. Graham (6 p.m.)

**Baseball**

Chatham Charter vs. Triangle Math & Science (5 p.m.)  
Northwood at Williams (6 p.m.)  
Seaforth vs. N.C. Science & Math (6 p.m.)  
Jordan-Matthews vs. North Moore (7 p.m.)  
Chatham Charter vs. Triangle Math & Science (7 p.m.)

**Boys lacrosse**

Northwood at Chapel Hill (6 p.m.)  
Seaforth vs. Orange (6:30 p.m.)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 18**

**Baseball**

Chatham Central at East Surry (1 p.m.)

**Track and field**

Seaforth at Cary Academy Invitational (TBA)

**HAWKS**

Continued from page B1

nately executed early on — I'm super proud of them."

After opening up the game defending the Hawks in man defense, the Hornets switched to a 2-3 zone trap out of that first timeout. The new tactic left Seaforth searching for different ways to find quality looks.

During the first eight minutes of play, the Hawks only coughed the ball up twice. One quarter later, Seaforth turned the ball over six times.

Open kick-outs off drives were no longer there and skip passes were intercepted by a lurking Salisbury defender. The Hornets outscored Seaforth by nine points in the second period and took a three-point advantage into the break. "We were expecting a

man defense and when they didn't come out with it, I guess it kind of threw us off a little bit," Collins said.

Out of halftime, Seaforth's offense regained its stride.

White connected on a pull-up jumper and Collins canned her second triple of the game to knot the two teams up at 30 apiece. But midway through the quarter, White was whistled for her fourth foul, this time on the offensive end, after hooking a Hornet on her way to the basket.

It was a moment Byrd described as the most "pivotal" part of the game, as the second-year head coach was forced to sideline the Hawks' leading scorer for the remainder of the period. Even after White subbed back in to start the final quarter, the sophomore guard was more cautious on both ends of the floor, resulting in multiple easy layups for the Hornets.



Staff photo by James Kiefer

**Seaforth sophomore Gabby White walks off the floor after the Hawks' 48-39 loss to Salisbury on Saturday in the 2A state finals.**

"It was really big because I'm a really aggressive player and having my fourth foul I knew that I couldn't put my team in a position where I wasn't on the

court," White said. "I had to sacrifice my usual two blocks a game or me driving to the basket over someone. It was just really tough to hit my easy buckets and (get) easy defensive stops."

With White hindered by foul trouble, Makayla Noble came to life for the Hornets. The junior wing drove by the heart of the Hawks' zone defense, and her eight fourth-quarter points helped Salisbury cruise to victory.

Looking toward a pool of reporters following their championship defeat, multiple Hawks thanked the support they received from family and friends during their unprecedented playoff run. Each echoed that Byrd implemented a strong game plan, and they also reflected on the plays that lead to Seaforth's early lead slipping away.

From White's critical foul to the inability to adjust to on the fly to the Hornets' new zone, there

are a plethora of tipping points from Saturday that — had they gone the other way — may have resulted in the Hawks hoisting their first state championship trophy.

But for White, she's only focused on what she can control now: next

season — her junior year.

"This one really stings, losing, you know, the championship," she said. "We'll be sad about it today, but get back in the gym tomorrow and the next day. That way when we get back in this situation we'll win."



**Animal Resources**

---

**Low Cost Spay / Neuter - Only \$20**

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

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

---

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

---

For a printable application, visit:  
[www.chathamsheriff.com](http://www.chathamsheriff.com)

CLIPBOARD Q&A | SEAFORTH SOPHOMORE JACK ANSTROM

# Competing at New Balance Nationals was 'amazing experience'

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

Anstrom became the first state championship winner in school history by claiming the 2A cross country crown. Anstrom's time of

16:15.43 was over two seconds faster than the second-place finisher. His run helped Seaforth finish fourth overall in the boys competition

behind Owen, Lincoln Charter and N.C. Science & Math. A few weeks ago, Anstrom was presented with his state championship ring alongside his parents and coaches.

The sophomore also competed during the indoor track season and was a member of the 4x400 relay team that finished fourth at the state championships in February. Another member of the 4x400 team, sophomore Will Cuicchi, won Seaforth's second-ever state title by finishing first in the 1,000-meter race at the event.

This past weekend, both Anstrom and Cuicchi competed at the New Balance Nationals Indoor Championships in Boston. In a field alongside some of the best high school runners in America, Anstrom finished 43rd overall in the 2-mile race with a time of 9:16.38. Anstrom was the third sophomore to finish the race, and his time would have won the same event at the 1A/2A and 3A championships this winter and finished second in the 4A race.

Earlier this week, Anstrom spoke with the News + Record about his experience running at the New Balance Nationals, his expectations for the outdoor season and his new state championship ring.

**What was it like competing at the New Balance Nationals Indoor against some of the best high school athletes in the country?**

**JACK ANSTROM:** It was an amazing experience. It was a really new venue. They just opened it up in October, I believe. Everything was clean, shiny, new. It was a top-tier facility as well, right on New Balance's campus. It was really cool.

**You finished well in the 2-mile race. What was your mindset heading into that event? And how did you feel during the race?**

For that race, I went in saying that, really, the big part was just getting there. Once I went in, I told myself, "I don't care what the time is. I don't care what the place is. I just want to go in and have fun, hang with the pack and give it a good kick and see how that works." And obviously, it worked pretty well.

**How do you feel about where you are from a preparation standpoint heading into the spring season?**

I'm feeling great. I had been increasing mileage and therefore not doing many workouts simultaneously, making sure I'm not getting injured in the process. But as I've got that mileage increased behind me, I can now start working on harder

workouts and increasing my speed and fitness. That's what is going to pay dividends.

**What was it like watching your teammate, Will Cuicchi, win a state championship this winter at the indoor championships?**

He did a great job. We've all been kind of wanting and stressing that we have to be good as a team, not just as individuals. But I think as a lot of individuals start to do well, that's when we start bringing it together. Even back in the indoor championships, we were fourth in the 4x800 and we're going to bring it back out in the spring and see what we can maybe do. Maybe we can go for a championship.

**You were recently presented with your state championship ring. What did it mean to finally receive that and celebrate that achievement with your family.**

It was a very cool experience. They brought my parents into the cafeteria without my knowledge and presented it to me. The ring's very heavy, so I'm not really planning on wearing it that much. But it's definitely a cool experience to have that, and it's really nice to be able to put it up on the wall and look at it from time to time.



## Council on Aging Weekly Activities Calendar

Monday, March 13

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz (at Chatham Grove Community Center and on Zoom)**
- 10 a.m. - **Arthritis Exercise w/Jackie; Choir to Siler City**
- 11 a.m. - **Bingocize; Golf at Siler City Country Club**
- 2 p.m. - **Table Tennis**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Cornhole**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Gospel Choir**
- 2 p.m. - **Strength & Tone w/Olivia**
- 3 p.m. - **Caregiver Support Group**

Tuesday, March 14

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **3G's Men's Group**
- 10 a.m. - **Woodcarvers; Bingo w/Joe**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Gym Orientation**
- 11 a.m. - **March Birthdays at St. Patrick's Day Party w/Liz**
- 1 p.m. - **Rummikub**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:45 a.m. - **Chair Exercises w/Olivia (in-person and Zoom)**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Ping Pong**
- 1 p.m. - **Rook/Phase 10/Rummikub; "Bring Your Own Project" Gathering**
- 2 p.m. - **Fitness Room Orientation**

Wednesday, March 15

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 10 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz (in-person and Zoom); Coffee & Games w/Pittsboro Police Department**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Lunch Bunch (Mrs. Lacy's Magnolia House, Sanford - RSVP w/Jackie ONLY before March 8)**
- 11 a.m. - **Bingocize**
- 1 p.m. - **Open Art Studio (Bring Your Own Project)**
- 3 p.m. - **Zumba Gold Intro**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Bible Study**
- 11:30 a.m. - **Nutrition Education w/Ann Clark**
- 2 p.m. - **Crafting w/Kathryn**
- 3:30 p.m. - **Beginning Quilting**

Thursday, March 16

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 10 a.m. - **Crafts & Chat; Chair Volleyball; Walmart Shopping Trip**
- 11 a.m. - **Diabetes Discussion Group - Breakfast for One (Cooking Demo w/Tara Gregory)**
- 1 p.m. - **Games/Cards**
- 1:30 p.m. - **Line Dancing**
- 3 p.m. - **Gentle Yoga w/Liz**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:30 a.m. - **Men's Coffee & Conversations**
- 10 a.m. - **Music Jam Session; Bocce & Horseshoes**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Show & Tell**
- 1 p.m. - **Book Club**
- 2 p.m. - **Tai Chi**
- 3 p.m. - **Thursday Social (Movie - "Hoosiers")**

Friday, March 17

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 11:15 a.m. - **Stories w/Neria; Cornhole & Shuffleboard**
- 1 p.m. - **Card Games/Euchre**
- 3 p.m. - **Jukebox Live! (Grateful Hearts)**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Beginning Quilting; Shuffleboard**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Drawing w/Lacy**
- 7 p.m. - **Friday Night Dance (fee required to attend)**

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

Eastern Chatham Senior Center  
919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center  
919-742-3975

Visit our website at [www.chathamcoa.org](http://www.chathamcoa.org)



Seaforth sophomore Jack Anstrom shows off his state championship ring alongside his parents and Seaforth head coach Donnell Mitchell.

# AT YOUR SERVICE

**THIS SPOT CAN BE YOURS!**

Call Advertising @ 919-663-3232

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

**LearnAboutLand.com**

Atkinson Properties Group  
bobatkinson321@gmail.com

**TREE MASTERS**

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

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

**D & G PLUMBING**

Plumbing Problems?

Commercial and Residential Installation and Service  
Located in Siler City

Locally Owned and Operated by Greg and Donna Kennedy  
Licensed and Insured

Office: 919-742-4587 Cell: 919-427-2374

**JHJ Painting & Power Washing**

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

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

John Hayes, Jr • 919-548-0474

**ASHEBORO TIE YARDS, INC**

Beautiful Yards Start Here!

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

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

FIND THE HELP YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

Chatham News + Record Local Service Directory

# CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

In the second, third and fourth, we did what we normally do. Live them credit. They made their shots.”

The Vikings opened the second quarter on a 4-0 run, prompting Brown to call his first timeout of the night. Northwood was able to battle back to within eight points at halftime, but it was clear the final two quarters would be a slog the Chargers had not expected heading into the night.

Frustrations boiled over several times in the second half. After a Powell 3-pointer cut the score to 39-33 in the third quarter, Brown was called for a technical foul after arguing with officials that allowed Central Cabarrus to go up 41-33 and retain possession of the ball. Brown's assistants were equally perplexed with the officiating at times Saturday night. In the fourth quarter, Northwood volunteer assistant and former UNC star Tyler Zeller put his head in his hands in disbelief after Parrish was called for his second offensive foul of the period.

The frustration eventually bled into the minds of the players. On the next Central Cabarrus possession, Northwood was called for a blocking foul after harassing a Viking who was driving to the basket. Parrish took exception to the foul, spiking the ball on the court in front of the officials and screaming in front of the CC bench.

The outburst did more to amuse the Vikings' bench than intimidate, and after another technical foul was called, Central Cabarrus canned another two free throws and took over possession in what was the final nail in the coffin for the Chargers.

“They did a really good job of trapping us and putting pressure on the ball,” Brown said. “I thought we handled it, at some points, pretty good. At other points, we didn't.”

The only players able to do much offensively for Northwood was Powell, a UNC commit who totaled



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Northwood head coach Matt Brown (center) and players Drake Powell (left) and Max Frazier speak with the media following Saturday's 3A boys final.**

17 points on 8-of-11 shooting. Parrish was the only other Charger in double-figures with 10 points on 5-of-10 shooting, while the rest of Northwood's roster managed 24 points on 10-of-26 (38.4%) shooting from the field.

Despite not making a three over the final three quarters, Central Cabarrus scored points in other ways. Among the most effective strategies for the Vikings in the second half was flashing forward Desmond Kent to the high post. Playing against Northwood's zone defense, Kent would either turn around and nail an uncontested mid-range shot or drag Parrish and fellow senior Max Frazier — who stands at 6-foot-8 — out of the paint to free up space for cutters and shots at the basket.

The strategy was the perfect answer to Northwood's distinct size advantage, as it often forced Frazier and Parrish to make a decision on which open shot to allow on each possession. The Vikings were also able to rebound several of their misses.

“They're a great team,” said senior Max Frazier. “They've been playing against bigger teams all season. I think they were kind of used to it, I guess. Them crashing the boards, all five guys, kind of hurt us, because we didn't really box out.”

Defensively, Central Cabarrus completely overwhelmed Northwood's ball-handlers, forcing

turnover after turnover over the game's final two quarters. The Chargers finished the night with four more giveaways (19) than assisted baskets (15). Cabarrus held an 8-2 advantage in fast-break points and a 20-10 edge in points off turnovers. The Vikings also managed the same number of paint points (28) as the Chargers.

“They were just a good team that played well together,” Powell said. “I feel like we were battle-tested, but we just came up short against Central Cabarrus, which is obviously a very talented team.”

With its 2022-23 season now over, Northwood will now shift its focus to the offseason. The Chargers will graduate two senior starters in Parrish and Frazier, but they will welcome back Powell, who will be among the top seniors in the entire state next season. This year, the junior finished the season as Northwood's leader in points (18.6), rebounds (7.0) and assists (4.1) per game.

Among the other players expected back next season are Fred Whitaker, who missed the majority of the playoffs with a knee injury, as well as starter Jake Leighton and reserve contributors Ashton Elliott, Cam Fowler and Griffin Hobbs.

One name to watch out for next year is current freshman Chad Graves, a 6-foot-8 forward who seems like the obvious choice to take on some of the minutes left behind by Frazier and Parrish.

# The Panthers made the right call trading up



**JEREMY VERNON**  
Sports Editor

Whoooooo boy. Last Friday, the Carolina Panthers made arguably the biggest swing in franchise history by trading up from No. 9 to No. 1 in the upcoming 2023 NFL Draft. The Panthers swapped picks with Chicago, also sending the Bears their 2024 first, a 2023 second, a 2025 second and receiver D.J. Moore to get the job done.

Some people might think Carolina gave up too much to leapfrog to the top of the draft, but this move was beyond necessary for a team that has been in quarterback limbo for the better part of the past several seasons.

Last year, the Panthers ranked 29th in passing yards per game (176.2). Three players — Baker Mayfield, Sam Darnold and P.J. Walker — combined to throw 16 touchdowns against 13 interceptions while fumbling the ball 10 times.

Without any sort of viable passing attack, Carolina limped to a 7-10 finish to the season. Rumors swirled over the first month of the offseason about whether or not the Panthers would try to make a play for the top five or stay put at No. 9 overall and hope a QB fell to them. Instead, they now how their pick of the litter of this year's top throwers.

With the relatively hard part out of the way, the Panthers can spend the next several weeks scouting the top quarterbacks in this year's class. Among the top names expected to come off the board early in the first round are Alabama's Bryce Young, Ohio State's C.J. Stroud and Florida's Anthony Richardson.

While none of the three are perfect prospects, each have interesting elements to their game that would make them an intriguing option at No. 1.

Despite Young's size at 5-foot-10 and 195 pounds, he is considered to be the top overall prospect in this year's draft by several outlets. The former Heisman Trophy winner possesses many desirable traits for a quarterback, most notably his poise under pressure and command of the offense. The main thing working against Young is his size, as scouts have concerns about his durability with his slight frame. His believers will cite Drew Brees as a similar sized player who experienced extreme success at the NFL.

Stroud has the prototypical NFL body at 6-foot-3 and 220 pounds, and he has a cannon of an arm to go with it. The former Ohio State quarterback can regularly make throws to the opposite hash, and among his other strengths is his ability to diagnose what's happening after a play begins and go through his reads before finding the right option.

Right now, Stroud is my clubhouse leader to be Carolina's choice at No. 1. That said, he still has some things in his game to work out, including occasionally staring down his No. 1 read and forcing passes into double and triple coverage.

The true wildcard in this situation is Richardson, who is among the most polarizing prospects to come out in the past several seasons.

Believers of Richardson believe he can follow the mold of Josh Allen, a raw college prospect who has blossomed into one of the league's best quarterbacks thanks to some pro coaching in Buffalo.

Richardson has an even bigger frame than Stroud at 6-foot-4 and 231 pounds. He's also the only one of the three who is considered a true dual-threat. In his last season at Florida, Richardson ran for 654 yards and nine touchdowns. And recently at the NFL Combine, Richardson ran a 4.43 second 40-yard dash, faster than the 4.46 Justin Fields ran last year before being drafted by the Bears.

Richardson also has a cannon attached to his right arm. He might have the strongest arm in this class, but the key for whichever team drafts him will be dialing in his accuracy.

Last season, Richardson completed just 53.8% of his passes in 2022, the lowest of any top quarterback prospect in this year's class.

The 2023 NFL Draft kicks off Apr. 27 from Kansas City. The Panthers own the No. 1 overall pick, as well as picks No. 39, No. 93, No. 114, No. 132 and No. 145 overall.

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

# KNIGHTS

Continued from page B1

the expense of giving up the inside game. However, as evidenced by sophomore shooting guard Adelaide Jernigan's 21 points, the Knights weren't successful in that goal.

Bishop McGuinness continued to pick apart Chatham Charter's defense thanks to its consistent ball movement. By the end of the game, the Villains had canned eight 3-pointers on 40% shooting from downtown.

“We were worried about their shooters,” Patterson said. “If you don't get out and close out on their shooters, like you see, they're a great shooting team.”

Chatham Charter's sole bright spot was junior forward Meah

Brooks, as her aggression on the offensive boards and high release point allowed her to compete against an oversized Villains team. The Most Outstanding Player for Chatham Charter in the title game ended with 18 points and nine rebounds despite playing limited minutes due to foul trouble.

“I feel like I played pretty good,” Brooks said. “I could've did a little bit more on the defensive end and rebounding. But on offensive I feel like I gave it my all.”

While the seniors — including Walden, the program's all-time leading scorer (1,866 points) — went out on an unhappy note, players like Brooks should give the Knights more hope for the future. And, considering the team's unlikely ascent to the title game, the past few weeks, despite the sour ending, have still been “surreal.”



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Chatham Charter junior Meah Brooks (44) scored a team-high 17 points in the Knights' 73-43 loss to Bishop McGuinness in the 1A girls state final Saturday.**

“No one really expected us to get here,” senior guard Lillian Jones said. “Game after game, when we would win, you don't know what to expect. You don't know what to feel. You just have to keep playing.”

# RECORD

Continued from page B1

victory, and they followed it up two days later with a dominant 18-4 victory over league opponent Cedar Ridge.

Northwood will try to play catchup this season to Orange High, which won last season's conference regular season title. This year, the Panthers are off to a 4-1 start, including a 3-0 mark in conference play.

The Chargers will face Orange for the first time this season Monday, a matchup that could very well shift the balance of power inside the conference.

“The more success, the more pressure there is to continue to be successful,” Cox said. “Other people are gunning for you. We've tried to emphasize that and work hard in practice, or even if you're not in practice. We try to emphasize being great at the basics.”

This year's Northwood squad is led by a talented group of seniors, including Taylor Laberge and Will Smith, who combined to score seven goals in the team's season-opening win over Carrboro on March 1. Cox also highlighted the team's other captains, William Johnson and Taylor Zelhof.

As far as younger players, freshman James Flanagan has started all the Chargers' games in goal, allowing fewer than five goals per game. Other players Cox expects to contribute this season are Van Reece, Jason Walden, Coltrane Northington, Grayson Cox and Carson Fortunes.

“Our seniors, they know how to play the game, so there are critical times in the game where they're making the right decisions,” Cox said. “We collectively, are working toward making the right decisions ... I feel like the entire team is buying into the goals that we've set and that they set individ-

ually. Now they're trying to achieve them.”

Following its Tuesday game against Seaforth (after press time), Northwood's next game is Friday on the road against Chapel Hill. The Chargers are 1-15 overall against the Tigers since the start of the 2011 season.

## Central Electric sponsoring two youth to attend basketball camp

Central Electric awards two Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships annually to local students in Chatham, Harnett, Lee, Moore, or Randolph counties. A young man will be selected to attend the Carolina Basketball School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a young woman will be selected to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at N.C. State University in Raleigh.

To be eligible to apply, the student must be in the sixth or seventh grade during the upcoming school year, have permission from a parent or guardian to attend the overnight camp and must provide their own transportation if selected to attend.

Scan the QR code or visit [CEMCPower.com](http://CEMCPower.com) for more information or to apply. The deadline for applications to both camps is March 31.



# Pittsboro Elementary teacher removed from position shortly after being reinstated to classroom

BY BEN RAPPAPORT  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Schools officials say Eric Hudson, a 4th-grade teacher at Pittsboro Elementary, is no longer teaching at the school.

Hudson was reinstated as a teacher there not long after a Chatham County District Court judge dropped all five charges of assault with a deadly weapon against him related to an event that occurred last July. The dropped charges

came after a review of the case and positive testimonies about Hudson's character from his neighbors.

Charges were dropped Jan. 25; Hudson returned to the classroom Feb. 27, according to Chatham County

Schools. But he was released from his position on Thursday, March 6.

"He came in and he pled and took responsibility for careless and reckless driving and injury to personal property," Assistant District Attorney Lynn Kelly previously told the News + Record. "He has been ordered to do an anger management class and community service."

**Case background**

On July 30, Hudson was arrested and charged after an incident that had occurred on July 10. Two teens involved — a brother and a sister — told the News + Record that on that day, Hudson chased after the car in which they and three others were traveling on Pleasant Hill Road. Hudson was accused of chasing the teens, passing them in his car, and stopping suddenly in front of them, causing a collision. Hudson continued to follow the teens, they say, until they were able to elude him.

After an investigation, the District Attorney's Office said it was unlikely Hudson had a gun in the incident, as the teens initially reported. While the Chatham County Sheriff's Office listed a handgun as a "weapon" on its official report, a copy of the original arrest warrant for Hudson, dated July 30, lists the "deadly

See TEACHER, page B7



**Less than half of North Carolina's 25-44 year olds have a high school diploma.**

Source: MyFutureNC.org

**DID YOU KNOW?**




**CUSTOM HOMES & RENOVATIONS**

BUILD WITH PASSION. BUILD BOLD.



CONTACT US TODAY FOR A FREE CONSULTATION! **919.929.6288**



**Bowen**  
Insurance Agency, Inc

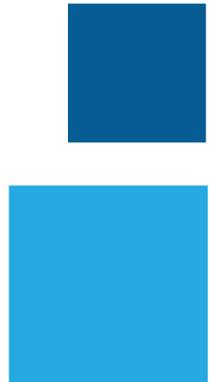
**We are OPEN and here for you.**

**Bowen Insurance Agency**

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



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



Jennifer McLaurin

Bowen Insurance Agency is located at:  
1345 Thompson Street

Give us a call at 919-444-2499  
[www.boweninsurance.com](http://www.boweninsurance.com)



CHATHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

# Teachers, families push against year-round school model, citing accessibility concerns

BY BEN RAPPAPORT  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Citing concerns about lack of community engagement and inadequate solutions, community members and teachers voiced objections about the year-round school model to the school board Monday night.

During the public comment period of the Chatham Board of Education meeting at George Moses Horton Middle School, four people spoke against a pending proposal for three Chatham County Schools schools — Siler City Elementary, Virginia Cross Elementary and Chatham Middle — to

transition to a year-round schedule from a traditional school calendar.

A year-round system operates with nine weeks of teaching, then three weeks of a break repeated throughout the year, with a longer summer break.

According to the district, former principals in the Jordan-Matthews High School feeder pattern — schools in Siler City — approached the district prior to the COVID-19 pandemic with the concept of incorporating year-round school as a calendar option. The district claims the plan would support student learning and reduce the amount of

summer learning loss. Research Triangle Institute Consulting is aiding the district with this proposal.

The district is seeking community feedback from teachers, staff and families on the proposal through an online questionnaire. Last month, the three schools each hosted community listening sessions to explain the proposal and its impact.

Michelle Maxfield, a teacher at Chatham Middle School, said, however, CCS has not done enough to engage with Spanish-speaking families. She said many of them do not have internet access to take the feedback survey.

During the public comment period Monday, she said she believed it was unfair to use those three schools as the tests for this year-round model because all three are “low performing,” according to test scores and accountability grades from N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction.

“We have had principal turnover at all three of these schools in the last five years,” Maxfield said. “So, who are the leaders who have asked for this and are they still with our district?”

CCS outlines of the plan also suggest a shift to more parents working from home due to the pandemic may make a year-round model preferable in an

effort to improve student attendance amid lifestyle changes.

Maxfield believes, however, many of those changes have not occurred in Siler City. She said her experience is that many families do not have parents working from home. She said working from home should not be considered in the board’s final proposal.

The district also said other areas often adopt year-round models because they are proven to help low-income students. Katherine Skipper, also a Chatham Middle School teacher, said she studied data from her school for two summers and

See BOARD, page B8

PITTSBORO COMMISSIONERS

# Board holds public hearing on system development fees

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The town’s board of commissioners held a public hearing Monday regarding updating its system development fees.

Town Engineer Kent Jackson brought the item before the board and explained how the state requires municipalities to reexamine the fees charged for tapping into the water and wastewater system every five years.

“We started this in the fall of 2021,” he said. “The town originally conducted an analysis and adopted a fee in 2018, and so according to the North Carolina statutes, that analysis has to be updated every five years.”

System development fees (SDF) are one-time payments made by developers during construction to connect to municipal water and sewer systems. The fees help pay for the connection as well as to help fund projects to improve and expand existing infrastructure.

The town contracted engineering firm Freese and Nichols to perform an analysis on the town’s capacity and estimate the maximum amount the town could charge per service unit. That analysis showed the town could charge a maximum of over \$39,000 to connect one service unit to both the water and wastewater system, which is significantly above the town’s

current \$4,200 SDF.

Surrounding municipalities like Apex charge between \$12,000 and \$15,000 in SDFs per service unit, which is three times higher than the current SDF Pittsboro has in place.

Commissioner Kyle Shipp previously told the News + Record that Pittsboro needed to raise its fees to be comparable to these other towns.

“We’re going to have to land somewhere near other municipalities in terms of SDFs,” Shipp said. “It’s an economic reality that we have to be near our neighbors, and I think we can be higher than some of our neighbors because we have more cost than them and more growth ahead.”

The SDF update report projected population growth to increase from 8,566 residents to more than 50,000 by 2042.

The Pittsboro water treatment plant and the wastewater facility are already nearing full capacity, though, meaning the town needs funding for projects to expand the town’s infrastructure.

Some developers aren’t satisfied with the results of the analysis.

Tim Smith represented Chatham Park developers and was the only speaker during the public comment period of the hearing. Smith, who along with partner Bubba Rawl head up the investors for Chatham Park, argued the numbers used to calculate the maximum

SDF were larger than what Chatham Park and other developments in town use, or are allowed to use, when tapping into the system.

“The average use for a house in town is around 102 gallons per day, and on their chart, they have 500 gallons,” Smith said to commissioners. “So to penalize a home builder for using 500 gallons when he’s only going to be using 102, to me, that’s five times more than what’s necessary.”

Smith went on to say Chatham Park shouldn’t be “punished” for using fewer gallons than the number used in the SDF calculations, and therefore, the town shouldn’t implement the maximum. “I do think more

development should pay its way and pay for all these improvements as they have outlined them here,” Smith said. “But I just have questions about the numbers used for the usage of water and sewer.”

Shipp said it was very unlikely the town would raise the SDF to the calculated maximum, but an exact number hasn’t been suggested by board members yet.

“I think it’s unlikely we’ll do the maximum, but we don’t know how we would determine a different number,” he said.

The board voted to accept the results of the study and set a public hearing on March 27 to discuss the possible amount for the new SDF.

**DO YOUR FAMILY A FAVOR AND BUY A CHATHAM PLAY FARM OR LET BOB ATKINSON BUILD ONE FOR YOU IN 2023.**



**Wolfspeed Construction Started Monday 3/3/2023! SILER LAND PRICES GOING UP MONTHLY!!!!**

**-To learn more contact “The Land Man”-**

**Bob Atkinson, Atkinson Properties**

**919-362-6999 or [www.learnaboutland.com](http://www.learnaboutland.com)**

One of the most overlooked investments is rural land you can buy cheap and enjoy while your family is growing up.

I have been buying land for years and making it look like a park. The land I have bought is within a 35 minute drive of the Apex area.

As you can imagine, it has significantly appreciated.

We have enjoyed the land as a great escape and have enjoyed it with our friends and clients.

In the future, we see many people discovering what we already know.

If you would like to know more about Play Farms or weekend retreats for families, please let me know.

Presently we are improving 5 different tracts of land in Chatham County in the 15-50 acre range. These properties we have purchased and hope to have them available in 2023.

# POLICE REPORTS

## Siler City man faces assault, kidnapping charges

On March 7, Wesley Roy Stacey, 43, of 17394 U.S. 64 West, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Caitlyn Cade for crimes against nature, assault by strangulation, first degree kidnapping and assault on a female. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 27.

On March 3, the Chatham County Sheriff's Office received a report of an assault which had taken place at Stacey's home. The victim, who knew her assailant, said she was held against her will, assaulted and sexually abused at the residence. Investigators observed on the victim injuries consistent with an assault.

## Felon charged with indecent exposure, firearm possession

On March 8, Marcellious Sharta Phillips, 41, of 140 Dalton Drive, Chapel Hill was arrested by Deputy Reid Allshouse for possession of firearm by felon and indecent liberties with a child. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 27.

Phillips was also arrested by Deputy Reid Allshouse for indecent exposure defendant over age 18 and victim under age 16 and two counts of indecent exposure. He was issued a \$80,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 27. On March 2, the Chatham County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a man indecently exposing

himself in view of neighbors. The neighbors told investigators that the man, identified as Marcellious Sharta Phillips, 41, of 140 Dalton Drive, Chapel Hill, had behaved in a similar way within their view at least 10 times over the last several months. Phillips is a registered sex offender.

Previously, on February 25, Chatham County deputies received a report of Phillips in possession of a shotgun at a disturbance. When deputies arrived at the scene, Phillips had left. A search was later conducted at his home, where authorities located and seized three firearms, one of which had been reported stolen in 2005.

## Arrest blotter

On March 7, Joshua Antonio Womack, 31, of 605 Solar

Drive, Raleigh, was arrested by Deputy Paul Durazo for failure to report new address – sex offense. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and was scheduled to appear in Wake County District Court on March 9.

On March 10, Tony Wayne Foxx, 52, of 340 Alma and Roland Rd., Siler City, was arrested by SSgt. Ashley Ellington for failure to appear – child support. He was issued a \$500.00 cash purge payment.

On March 10, Jacob Benjamin Dowd, 24, of 849 Glover's Church Rd., Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for assault on a female, battery of unborn child, interfere emergency communication, resisting public officer, and assault on government official/employee. He was issued no bond

and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 28.

On March 13, Dowd was arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for failure to appear – child support violation. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 24.

On March 13, Clifton James Farrell, 32, of 4191 Chatham Church Rd., Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for failure to appear. He was issued a \$2,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 28.

Farrell was also arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for failure to appear. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court on March 28.

# UNC Law students tour Detention Center

From Chatham County Sheriff's Office

PITTSBORO — As part of their curriculum, 15 students studying law at UNC-Chapel Hill recently met with Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson to tour Chatham County's Detention Center and bolster their understanding of the role law enforcement plays in the judicial system.

Spending several hours at the 110-bed Detention Center on Renaissance Drive on Thursday, February 23, the students — all second- and third-year law students in UNC Law Professor Jamie Markham's Judicial Sentencing class — observed every aspect of the facility, from the space where detainees are booked to the commercial-grade kitchen where their meals are prepared.

Such real-world observation is important to their studies, Markham

said. "We spend a lot of time in the class talking about prisons, probation, sentencing policy," the law professor said. "And we do a lot of interaction with sitting judges and prosecutors, defense lawyers, probation officers. I wanted to add the piece of getting the sheriff's perspective, the law enforcement perspective."

Markham said he routinely arranges a tour of a prison for his students, but their visit to the Chatham County Detention Center was a first. "I wanted to bring them to a jail," Markham said, "to give them a complete picture of being charged with an offense to being sentenced and then maybe winding up in prison."

The soon-to-be lawyers represented a wide cross section, hailing from North Carolina, Maine, Virginia, Tennessee,

California, New York and England, but all came prepared with lots of questions which Roberson spent several hours answering.

"I think this is really important," Roberson said, "not only for you but also for us to make sure we're putting out information about what we really do."

Often, the Sheriff said, the public sees only one side of the bigger law enforcement picture.

"You only see the chases, the fights, the shootouts and the crime scene tape," Roberson said. "We don't always show people the other side, which is 99% of what we do."

Markham said the overview his students received in Chatham County would be helpful as they soon pursue a variety of careers.

"Some of them are interested in prosecution, some are interested in

being defense lawyers," Markham said. "Some day, some will probably be judges. I want them to have a real picture of the work they do and the decisions they make, what happens in real life."

Courtesy of a video training tool that virtually places participants in a potentially life-threatening scenario, the law students during their visit also got a brief taste of the split-second decision-making that law enforcement officers could encounter on any given day.

The "shoot/don't shoot" virtual experience is one of the training tools officers use to prepare for real-life encounters.

Armed with a realistic Glock 17 air pistol, each student — taking on the role of an officer investigating a late-night burglar alarm activation at a business — took

a turn before a large video screen as a virtual encounter with a potentially armed suspect played out. Entering the business, the students came face-to-face with a suspect who — one hand concealed from view — may or may not have been armed with a deadly weapon. Depending on which scenario they faced, the suspect brandished either a gun or a stapler, and the students were tasked during the interactive experience with deciding whether to fire their gun or not.

As the exercise got underway, Devon Rhodes, a third-year law student from New York, virtually entered the business, making her way into a poorly lighted room where she encountered the suspect and began attempting to question him. Quickly revealing his hidden hand, the suspect produced a gun and suddenly opened fire.

Reacting fast, Rhodes shot back.

"Oh, my goodness!" she said, a smile returning to her face after the pulse-raising encounter. Though a virtual experience, it left her a bit unnerved, Rhodes said, but also with a broader appreciation for the work law enforcement officers do every day.

"That wasn't easy," she acknowledged, saying she'd never fired a gun of any kind in real life. "But that was cool! Thank you. And it was good to get that glimpse into what an officer might encounter in those situations."

Markham was so impressed with the welcome he and his students received during their visit — the professor commented that Chatham County's Detention Center is "the nicest jail I've ever been in" — he said he would like to make the tour a regular part of his class.

## TEACHER

Continued from page B5

weapon" as a gray Lexus and doesn't refer to a gun.

At a Jan. 25 court appearance, the assault charges were dropped, but Hudson did accept the charges of injury to personal property.

## A return to the classroom

Hudson lobbied for his return to the classroom, and he was reinstated. But in the two weeks following his Feb. 27 return to Pittsboro Elementary, parents of a student in Hudson's

class raised concerns about Hudson's presence in the classroom, citing the court-ordered anger management classes he was ordered to take and happenings at the school following his return.

In a message to the News + Record that was also posted on a Facebook page they created and shared with CCS administrators, Catherine Overman Hayes and Mikey Hayes, the parents of the student, said Hudson bought blue t-shirts for the students that read "Team Hudson" on the front and "Simply the Best" on the back.

"The children were

expected to figure out how to navigate this situation with no help, a complete disregard for how they might receive the gift," the Hayeses wrote in the letter. "Mr. Hudson allowed them all to go the restrooms to change into the shirts."

Chatham County Schools confirmed t-shirts were given to students.

"The t-shirts were distributed, but they had not been authorized by the principal," Nancy Wykle, CCS public information officer, said on March 6. "We are meeting and responding to any parents with concerns."

Wykle told the News + Record last week the investigation is ongoing. Final employment status will be determined by the Chatham County Board of Education once the investigation is completed.

In a letter to parents of students in Hudson's class, Pittsboro Elementary Principal Lemondrè Watson said the school is working to "secure a long term sub for the class." Watson said counselors and school administration will be available to students to ensure their social-emotional well-being.

Catherine Overman Hayes told the News + Record she and her husband met with CCS administration and the Pittsboro Elementary principal following the incident to request their child be moved out of Hudson's classroom.

Their request was initially denied, according to Hayes, but granted on Wednesday. CCS officials told the News + Record on Friday that Hudson is no longer employed at the school.

In a separate Facebook post Friday, Hayes said it was the correct decision for Hudson to be removed from his position. She also praised CCS staff and administration for addressing their concerns.

"The children are safe and in a class with a teacher dedicated to their education and well-being," they said. Hudson declined to comment.

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

# Body of missing teen recovered at Jordan Lake

CN+R Staff Report

The body of Roberto Enrique Deleto, a 15-year-old who went missing after his jet-ski malfunctioned on the evening of Tuesday, March 7, was found last Thursday morning.

Chatham County authorities recovered the body of the Carrboro High School sophomore, who'd gone missing while jet-skiing near Farrington Point Boat Ramp at Jordan Lake, at around 11 a.m. Thursday.

Authorities had launched a search of the water and the lake's shoreline. The search continued all day Wednesday and resumed Thursday morning.

"The loss of a loved one is always difficult," Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson said. "And while this isn't the outcome we had hoped for when we began our search Tuesday evening, we hope this provides the young man's family with closure and some peace. I also want to thank all the first responders who worked so hard to bring closure to the family."

The pastor of the family's church identified the teen as Roberto Enrique Deleto, according to ABC11-TV.

Assisting the Sheriff's Office throughout were members of N.C. Wildlife Resources, N.C. Highway Patrol, North Chatham Fire Department, Moncure Fire Department, FirstHealth EMS, and Jennifer Miller of the REDS Team, who assisted with a K9 trained to locate missing people.

Also on hand to assist the teenager's family were two pastors from their church as well as Dan Robinson, pastor at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Pittsboro, who also serves as chaplain for the North Chatham Fire Department; and Berenice Lazaro, victim services coordinator with the Chatham County Sheriff's Office. Many of the family's friends also gathered with them while search efforts were underway, offering them their support and comfort. Numerous volunteer helpers from the community also aided by bringing food and beverages for the family and assisting authorities in the search effort.



**LIFESTYLE**  
LAUNDRY CO.

**WE MAKE YOUR LIFE EASY!**

[WWW.LIFESTYLELAUNDRYCO.COM](http://WWW.LIFESTYLELAUNDRYCO.COM)

**New Location:**

Siler City (120 Chestnut Street)  
Graham • Fuquay-Varina • Zebulon

**Call Us: 833.DRY.FOLD**

FREE PICKUP & DELIVERY SERVICES AVAILABLE  
Wash & Fold, Drop-Off, Self-Service, Commercial  
Senior & Veteran Discount  
Serving 5 counties  
(Chatham, Wake, Orange, Alamance, & Durham)

CHATHAM BOOKSHELF | 'AFTERNOONS WITH HARPER LEE'

# Porch stories revealed the Southern women behind American classics

BY BEN RAPPAPORT  
News + Record Staff

It's a classic Southern tradition: sipping iced tea or lemonade on the porch and sharing stories until the sun goes down.

But what if those conversations weren't with your auntie or a treasured grandparent, but with the mind behind "To Kill a Mockingbird"?

That's where Dr. Wayne Flynt found himself 64 times over the course of a decade. It led to his latest book, "Afternoons with Harper Lee."

Flynt didn't think he'd ever get to meet the infamously private author, let alone develop a deep friendship with Nelle Harper Lee. In fact, after his first interaction with her, he thought the two may never talk again.

As a professor at Auburn University in Alabama, Flynt knew one of Lee's sisters, Alice Finch Lee, well; he coordinated with her often in the development of "History and Heritage" programs. Alice was considered an astute historian of southwest Alabama.

The programs hosted panels and educational events about Alabama's history. One of these panels was supposed to host another famed southern novelist: Truman Capote. But Capote struggled with addiction and substance abuse issues at the time, so Lee's sister proposed bringing Harper as an alternative.

"We were all sort of in an ethereal realm when she showed up," Flynt said. "And she offered these very romantic early versions of Alabama history."

But as a professional historian with more than a dozen books published

on the history of the state — including multiple Pulitzer Prize nominations — Flynt founds himself disagreeing with some of Lee's romanticized interpretations. Regardless, Flynt remained a fan. When the program ended, he asked to have his copy of "To Kill a Mockingbird" signed.

"Absolutely not," Lee told him. "I only sign for children." It was clear to Flynt that Harper Lee read the disagreement on his face throughout the program.

Decades later, after Lee suffered a stroke and found herself alone and in declining health, Flynt visited her to help provide some company. He and his wife brought books on tape to her hospital room and exchanged stories. They fawned over the prose of Jane Austen, C.S. Lewis and Eudora Welty.

"She was just absolutely charming," Flynt recalls.

That charm led him to lift the mask of the woman he got to know over the decades to come. Flynt previously published a book on his friendship with Lee in 2017 entitled "Mockingbird Songs: My Friendship with Harper Lee," about their written communications between 1992 and her death in 2016. Through their enduring correspondence, the Lees and the Flynts became completely immersed in each other's lives.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 18, Flynt will visit McIntyre's Books in Fearrington Village to discuss his newest book. For more information visit <https://www.mcintyresbooks.com/event/wayne-flynt-afternoons-harper-lee>.

*The following conversation with Dr. Flynt has been edited for clarity and brevity.*

**At this point, many of us know Harper Lee the author. What made her unique as a person?**

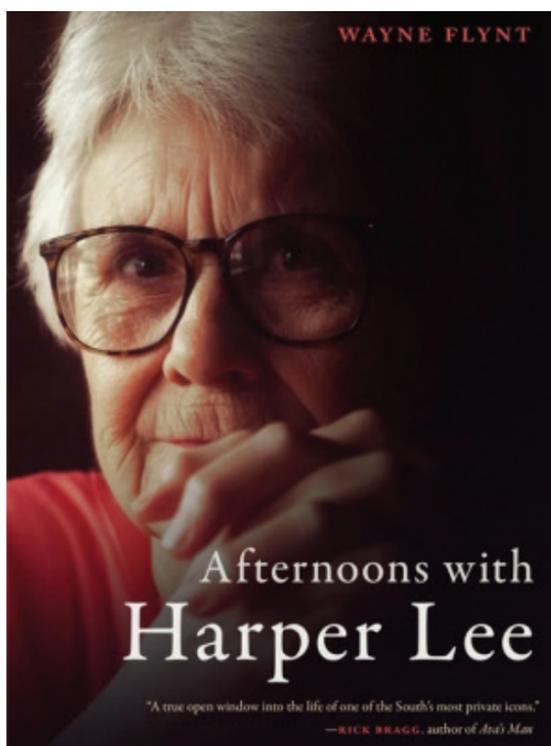
As guarded and private as she was to the public, she was open and intimate in those close moments. She would tell stories without boundaries that were incredibly revealing about the woman she was. She was just a brilliant storyteller and our afternoons together felt almost magical.

I feel blessed that I got to see the real human being of Harper Lee: a Southern woman, not just some marble statue of who people thought she was. Story by story you begin to reconstruct a life — the anguish of writing, her secret famous friendships.

Of course, "To Kill a Mockingbird" is probably one of the most famous literary works in the world, but she always told me, "All I did was write a book." And that's true, but much like her story, what I try to do in this book is embed her story within the larger story of Alabama, the South and ultimately the country's story.

**What were her personal relationships with others like, given her private nature?**

She was often intimidated by people of status, even though that's constantly who she found herself around. She was best friends with Capote and had a fondness for Lady Bird Johnson — the first lady during President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration. Those



Courtesy of NewSouth Books

**'Afternoons with Harper Lee' has been described as 'a celebration of friendship, literature, and how place and history shape us all.' Wayne Flynt's book was published last October.**

are just two examples of her significant batch of prominent friends. But she always claimed to be intimidated by their level of genius. She had almost an impostor syndrome about not matching their standards of brilliance.

The sort of overwhelming popularity of her work is something she never dreamed of and never wanted, really. It consumed her. She never quite came to terms with fame, and she hated the ways it intruded on her life.

Because people love her book, and because the book has such profound meaning to different generations, people have this parasocial relationship with her. They think they know her as a person, but all

they know is her work. And that made her into a private person.

**What did you learn about yourself from your conversations with Harper Lee?**

I tried to present the authentic woman, not a saint or marble lady, or some deeply insecure person. I'm a garrulous person and I never quite understood the importance of not saying anything until I spoke to her.

What I learned is that people who listen are better off because they are processing a lot of different things at once from different folks. People who are talking are either projecting or protecting themselves — she taught me to talk less, listen more.

If I tell a story, then

you tell a story, then me, then you over and over we are explaining who we are through our stories — that's as Southern as it gets.

I've been a historian for many years and doing that you often stick to the facts, find historical documents to back up your facts, etc. Harper Lee didn't do any of that in her tellings of the past. She always told me the problem with historians is you ruin a good story by trying to find all the facts. Her history came from oral narratives — she got her history not from books, but from living.

**How do you see her story fitting in with the larger story of the South?**

Southerners will let you know who they are if you'll just be quiet. That's who Nelle was, too.

In writing "To Kill a Mockingbird" she wrote something universal — it's become an anthem for people all over the world. The story is not about a town called Maycomb, it's about all the ways private people get dismissed and are misrepresented. Everyone is Boo Radley and she gave them a voice.

The South lives through her because she just wants to drift in the background, process and observe. The same way Boo Radley is misunderstood, retreats to the background but finds a way to survive, so does the South. A lot of literary scholars and such believe Harper Lee is Scout Finch, but I firmly believe she is Boo Radley.

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

## BOARD

Continued from page B6

found that there was no learning loss caused by "the summer slide," the term used to refer to the information loss during the summer break.

"The result of crunching the numbers for two summers worth was the average change was an increase of 23 points," she said. "The data suggests our students aren't experiencing a summer slide. So, building a year-round calendar to address this problem doesn't make sense."

Skipper said a better focus would be on improving proficiency among students rather than changing a calendar.

No action was taken on this item. If implemented, the year-round calendar would begin at the schools in the 2024-2025 school year. For more information on the current plan and to provide feedback visit <https://www.chatham.k12.nc.us/Page/23652>.

### Other business

• Catherine Overman Hayes, the parent who wrote to administrators — sharing her comments

with the News + Record and on Facebook — about concerns with her child being in Eric Hudson's class at Pittsboro Elementary School, spoke during the public comment section. She reiterated her concerns and urged the board to take action by terminating Hudson's employment. Hudson was previously charged with destruction to personal property then mandated to take anger management courses following an incident near his home last July.

"There is a teacher who works for Chatham County Schools who should

not be," she said.

Hayes laid out a timeline of events that she deemed "unacceptable," including an incident involving Hudson giving his students t-shirts upon his reinstatement. While Hayes did not mention Hudson explicitly in her remarks because it is against district public comment policy, she made it clear to the News + Record she was referring to him. Hudson is no longer working at Pittsboro Elementary as of last Friday and his employment status is under investigation, according to CCS officials. See more details in a separate story in this week's edition.

• The board approved the purchase of new 1,850 student Chromebook computers for the 2023-24 school year. The computers will be given to students to help ensure every student has a device. The Chromebooks will cost \$650,000. The board also approved the purchase of new network cabling for school internet servers, a project supplemented by the state and federal government. The local cost of the new network cables is \$405,000.

• The calendars for the 2023-2024 school year and 2024-2025 school year were approved. The approved calendars follow state guidelines by including a minimum of 1,025 hours

of instruction, and at least nine teacher workdays. CCS also built in an extra five teacher workdays to allow for the science of reading training, also known as LETRS. A copy of the approved calendars will be posted online at [chathamnewsrecord.com](http://chathamnewsrecord.com)

The next Chatham County Board of Education meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 3, at the George Moses Horton Middle School multipurpose room. For more information visit [www.chatham.k12.nc.us](http://www.chatham.k12.nc.us).

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

At Dossenbach's you have choices!



With hundreds of options, you are sure to find the style right for your life!

At Dossenbach's, we take pride in getting to know you and what you're looking for in your furniture needs. Modern, contemporary, or farmhouse, we offer a wide variety of fabrics and finishes to create a look that suits YOUR lifestyle.

### Downtown Sanford

215 Wicker Street  
4 Building 1/2 Block Showroom  
(919) 775-7237  
[www.dossenbachs.com](http://www.dossenbachs.com)

\*New Inventory Arriving Daily.



**Mental Health Services that Meet Your Needs.**



- Outpatient Therapy
- Intensive In-Home Therapy
- Outpatient Plus
- School Based Counseling
- Substance-Abuse Intensive Outpatient Therapy

919-704-8449 • [rwellnessservices.com](http://rwellnessservices.com)

288 East St, Suite 1001-F7  
Pittsboro, NC 27312

235 E Raleigh St.  
Siler City, NC 27344

# CN+R ENTERTAINMENT

**GET IN *line.***

Amusement parks and retirement communities do have one thing in common. *Long wait times.*

EXPLORE MORE AT [GALLOWAYRIDGE.COM](http://GALLOWAYRIDGE.COM)

GALLOWAY RIDGE AT FEARRINGTON

**Your Chatham Real Estate Source**  
*Featured Agent of the Week!*

**Greg Lask**  
919-842-2370  
gmarklask@gmail.com

**CHR** Chatham Homes Realty

110 E. Raleigh St. Siler City 919-663-0073

490 West St. Pittsboro 919-545-2333

[chathamhomesrealty.com](http://chathamhomesrealty.com)

**BEST OF CHATHAM 2022 READERS' FAVORITE**

**Amber Waves** by Dave T. Phipps

THE SNOW IS MELTING. SPRING IS DEFINITELY ON THE WAY.

NO MORE SLEDDING OR ICE SKATING. GEEZ, NO MORE SNOWBALL FIGHTS EITHER!

OK MOTHER NATURE, BRING ON THAT WARM WEATHER! TIME FOR SWIMMING AND BASEBALL!

OK, I GET IT. YOU'RE TAKING A "RAIN CHECK", VERY FUNNY.

**Out on a Limb** by Gary Kopervas

WHAT IF INSTEAD OF MONOPOLY, WE PLAY CONNECT FOUR?

SURE. FINE. WHATEVER...

OWEN VAN OWEN, GAMECHANGER

**The Spats** by Jeff Pickering

HAROLD, YOU'RE GETTING FAT!!

I AM NOT GETTING FAT.

YOU'RE NOT??

NO, I'M GETTING EASIER TO SEE.

**Don't let daylight savings change without booking**

**Your Dream Vacation!**

**CALL NC TRAVEL**

919-742-2839 or Email Amy: apugh@northcarolinatravel.net

Check out our website: [www.nctravel.world](http://www.nctravel.world)

105 N. Chatham Ave, Siler City, NC

**TEMPLE THEATRE**

**All Shook Up!**

THE STORY IS ALL NEW

THE HITS ARE ALL ELVIS!

**APRIL 13-30**

[www.templeshows.org](http://www.templeshows.org) (919)774-4155

**AMERICA'S BEST STORAGE SPACE**

*Don't sell it, Store it!*

\$50\* Credit on Second Month

**Our facility features:**

- Conference Room
- Drive-Up Access
- Fully Fenced Property
- Electronic Gated Entry
- Secure Units
- Online Bill Pay

\*OFFER VALID THROUGH THE END OF MARCH

60 Andrews Store Rd., Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-968-8705  
[americasbeststoragespace.com](http://americasbeststoragespace.com)

**AGENT SPOTLIGHT**

Ashley joined Harris & Company in 2019 with over 18 years experience as an insurance agent. He is the Pittsboro agency's primary sales agent and is eager to serve clients with Personal, Business and Life Insurance needs.

**HARRIS & COMPANY**  
Insurance Since 1935  
Auto - Home - Business - Life

An Independent Agent Representing **Erie Insurance**

**ASHLEY BEAL**  
Insurance Agent  
ashley@hc1935.com

60 Mosaic Blvd., Ste. 130 Pittsboro  
919-726-3003  
[www.HC1935.com](http://www.HC1935.com)

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

**ACROSS**

- 1 Wish-granting spirits
- 7 Greek vowel
- 12 Records file
- 20 Punch combo
- 21 Splochy GI garb
- 22 He played Al Bundy on TV
- 23 Planners of campus events
- 25 Often-pickled red vegetable
- 26 Atop, in poems
- 27 Lena of "The Reader"
- 28 Latin "I love"
- 30 Patron saint of sailors
- 31 Brotherhood
- 39 Capital of a Mexico state
- 40 Hard to find
- 41 Burdened
- 42 Travail
- 44 Political campaigners for a particular issue
- 50 Wonderment
- 53 Dragon in "The Hobbit"
- 57 Suffix with racket
- 58 Not at all tight

**DOWN**

- 19 "Your Song" singer John
- 24 Whole lot
- 29 Ice cream drink
- 32 "Tsk!"
- 33 — friendly
- 34 She was Mrs. Gorbachev
- 35 Stephen of "Still Crazy"
- 36 Nuptial oath
- 37 Buddhism branch
- 38 Point of view
- 43 K-O linkup
- 45 Toon frame
- 46 Fish eggs
- 47 Seep out
- 48 Wields
- 49 Crime doer
- 50 French bud
- 51 Join nuptially
- 52 Pitching stat
- 54 Sharp as —

**59 Medieval protectors of trade**

**60 Avocado dip, for short**

**61 Sweltering**

**62 "... sad and dreary everywhere —"; Stephen Foster**

**63 Suitable**

**64 Disloyal sort**

**67 Ivy and kudzu**

**68 Claimed**

**69 Regulators of a moral code on TV**

**70 Go in haste**

**71 Electees, e.g.**

**72 Diner offering**

**73 "— Lisa"**

**74 PC key**

**75 Gin inventor**

**76 Ski lift type**

**77 Pakistani language**

**78 Tennis' Björn**

**82 Positive vote**

**83 And so on:**

**84 Dark loaf**

**86 Fly trapper**

**87 Zaz's — Gyra**

**88 Mecca-to-Medina flight**

**89 Country east of Arg.**

**90 Little drink**

**91 Giraffe's kin**

**92 Positive vote**

**93 Be certain**

**97 Actor Ayres**

**98 A, in Berlin**

**99 Self-help author**

**101 Lyric-penning**

**102 Ballplayer of D.C., in brief**

**105 Apple computer camera**

**106 Bible book before Job**

**107 Mark with multicolored spots**

**109 Optical**

**110 Exact**

**111 Licorice-like seeds**

**112 Listens to**

**113 Classic song**

**114 Actress**

**115 PC key**

**116 Dutch painter**

**117 Dove's call**

**123 Roman 1,200**

**124 Biblical**

**125 — de plume**

**127 Figure skater**

**128 To's partner of Arg.**

**129 Company**

**130 Timothy Leary's drug**

Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

**Pittsboro Youth Theater**

**BUSINESS FOR SALE**

**Assets Include:**

- Community performing arts organizations with 10-years growth interrupted only by COVID,
- Exceptionally affordable 15-year lease
- Everything a community youth theater needs to do business, including: lists, costumes, props, set pieces and technical equipment (lighting, audio, etc.), furniture, fixtures, etc. Equipment, software, procedures, experienced staff contacts, and more.

For more information visit,

**PITTSBORO YOUTH THEATER .com**

**Downtown Siler City**

**OLD NORTH STATE**

INSURANCE SERVICES

**Storms? Accidents? Fire!**

Let us help you avoid the major costs of the "What Ifs" of life

**Kim Lindley, CISR**  
919-742-3422 Ext #2 | [kim@oldnorthstateins.com](mailto:kim@oldnorthstateins.com)

**Kevin Reavis, CRM, CIC, CPIW**  
919-742-3422 Ext #7 | [kevin@oldnorthstateins.com](mailto:kevin@oldnorthstateins.com)

**Trusted Choice** INSURANCE SERVICES

# CN+R ENTERTAINMENT



Locally owned and operated

**ONE STOP INSURANCE AGENCY**

**919-930-4780**

Cindy Carter at your service!  
189 Thompson St.  
Pittsboro, NC



**SILER CITY CENTER NOW HIRING**  
*RNs, LPNs, and CNAs*

Siler City Center offers shift differentials, benefits, 401k, updated wages, and new sign-on bonuses:  
RN-\$15,000  
LPN-\$15,000  
CNA-\$5,000

Contact Brittany Burton with inquiries or to apply:  
brittany.burton@genesishcc.com



900 West Dolphin St, Siler City, NC 27344 • 919-663-3431

**New Horizons downtown**  
A Unique Boutique in Pittsboro Women's Apparel & Shoes and Gifts for the whole family.  
53 Hillsboro Street  
(919) 542-7366  
Monday - Saturday 10 - 6  
Every Sunday 12 - 5

**New Horizons west**  
Provisions for Work, Travel & Outdoor Adventure!  
674 West St. Pittsboro, NC  
10-F 10-6 Sat 9-4 Sun 11-5  
(919) 542-5487

To ensure the operation of safety systems as intended by the manufacturer, our staff is **"Factory Trained & Certified"** to repair your vehicle--this helps to keep you, and your family, safe in the event of another accident



**CARSMART** THE INTELLIGENT CHOICE IN COLLISION REPAIR

**Chapel Hill** 1174 US Hwy 15-501 N 919-537-0770

**Pittsboro** 1022 Sanford Rd 919-542-2334

**Burlington** 1238 Rauhut St 336-228-6684

**MAGIC MAZE ● U.S. WOMEN IN SPACE**

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
 Unlisted clue hint: **First American Woman Sally** —

- |        |              |        |          |
|--------|--------------|--------|----------|
| Chawla | Dunbar       | Magnus | Rubins   |
| Clark  | Fisher       | Meir   | Seddon   |
| Cleave | Higginbotham | Ochoa  | Sullivan |
| Currie | Jemison      | Resnik |          |

©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

5			1				3	
		1		2				7
	7				3	4		
8			9		4			5
	9		2					8
		3		7		2		
	5			1				7
		4			8			9 6
1			6				3	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

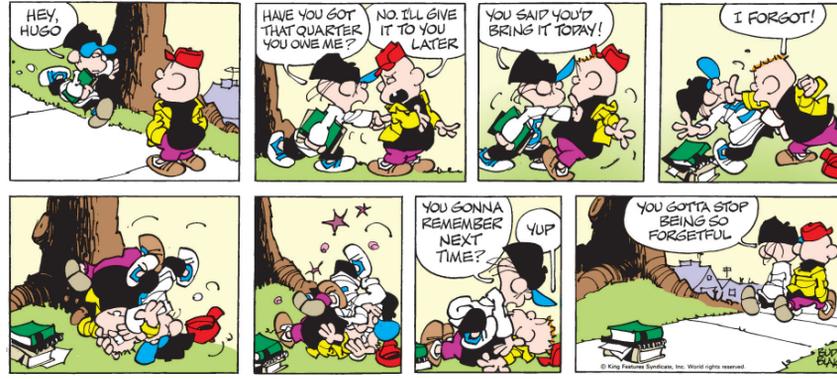
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆**

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**TIGER**

by BUD BLAKE



**GRILL OUT FOR LESS THIS SUMMER**  
**20# TANKS FILLED FOR \$15.98 + TAX**  
**WE FILL ALL SIZES!**  
 STOP IN TODAY!

**Get Ready to Grill!**

**STRICK'S LP GAS**  
919-704-8589  
Pittsboro, NC

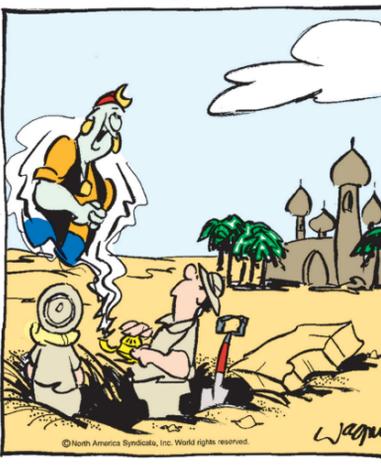
193 Lowes Dr., Suite 110,  
Pittsboro  
919-704-8589  
strickslpgas.com

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



**GRIN and BEAR IT**



## Sanford Dermatology

Accepting New Patients Any Age

Conveniently located in Platinum Commons

959 East Street, Suite B - Pittsboro

919-775-7926

www.sanforddermatology.com

Medical & Cosmetic Dermatology

Dysport, Botox & Fillers

Self-Pay & Insurance

# CN+R ENTERTAINMENT

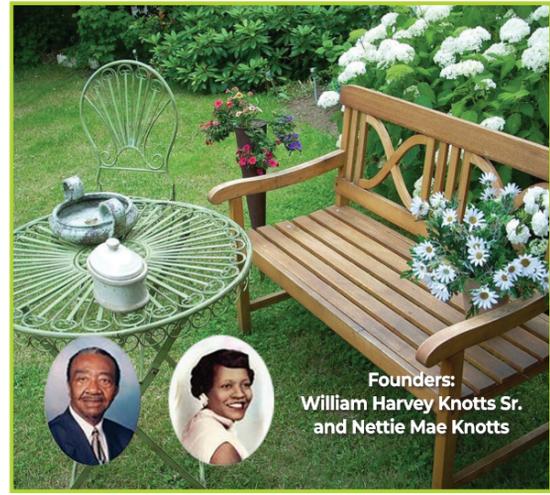
Working tirelessly to provide you with a beautiful, lasting tribute to your loved one

*Thank you*  
for allowing us  
to serve your  
families for more  
than 60 years

*Knotts*

FUNERAL HOME

**SANFORD:** 719 Wall St • 919-776-4345  
**CHAPEL HILL:** 113 N. Graham St • 919.968.7780  
**PITTSBORO:** 50 Masonic St • 919-542-6180  
knottsfuneralhome.com



Founders:  
William Harvey Knotts Sr.  
and Nettie Mae Knotts



*Spring to-do List?*  
Mr. Handyman® can help with that!

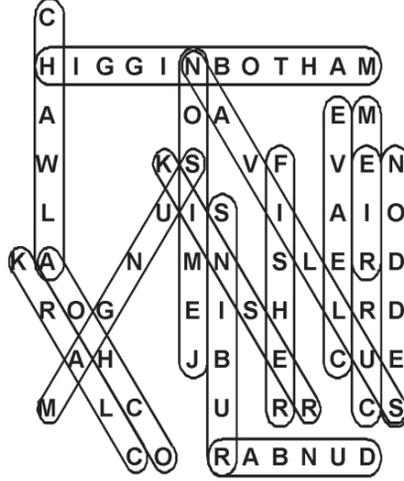
**To-Do List:**

- ✓ Carpentry
- ✓ Ceiling and Wall Repair
- ✓ Tile and Grout
- ✓ Cabinetry
- ✓ Doors and Windows
- ✓ Deck Maintenance
- ✓ Garage Organization
- ✓ Shelving and Storage



**Mr. Handyman of Chapel Hill and West Durham**  
**919.230.1230**  
chd@mrhandyman.com  
Mrhandyman.com

**U.S. WOMEN IN SPACE**



**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

5	4	6	1	8	7	9	3	2
9	3	1	4	2	6	5	8	7
2	7	8	5	9	3	4	6	1
8	1	2	9	6	4	7	5	3
7	9	5	2	3	1	6	4	8
4	6	3	8	7	5	2	1	9
6	5	9	3	1	2	8	7	4
3	2	4	7	5	8	1	9	6
1	8	7	6	4	9	3	2	5

## The fondest of fond farewells



**DEBBIE MATTHEWS**  
The Curious Cook

Another victim of Covid. I moved to Durham in 1986. The Bull City is a town built on tobacco. In the mornings, the air was ripe and moist with the aroma of tobacco. To some it was the smell of home. To others, the herbaceous smell was the green of money. To me, it was the damp, mysterious odor of the history and “otherness” of my new home.

In the next two years, both the American Tobacco Company and the W.T. Blackwell Company, manufacturers of Bull Durham Tobacco, either ceased production of moved offshore.

Durham’s downtown and Durham’s prosperity were replaced by boarded up buildings and blighted streets.

The center of this wonderful little town became a wasteland.

One of the more arresting empty edifices was the former Jack Tar Hotel, right in the very center of downtown. Built in 1962, large and turquoise, it was the perfect example of mid-century car culture modern.

At some point after the closure, someone put up letters in upstairs windows reading, “WE WANT OPRAH.” Still not quite sure what Oprah was wanted for; was it to bring her show to town, invest in the Bull City, or maybe just move here and hang out?

For years the property languished; the call for Oprah and the gaudy façade were the only distinguishing features of the building.

**French Silk Pie**

- 1 cup heavy cream, chilled
- 3 large eggs
- ¾ cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons water
- 8 ounces bittersweet chocolate, melted and cooled
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into ½-inch pieces and softened
- 9-inch pie shell, baked and cooled

1. Whip cream: With electric mixer on medium-high speed, whip cream to stiff peaks, 2 to 3 minutes. Transfer whipped cream to small bowl and refrigerate.
2. Beat eggs: Combine eggs, sugar, and water in large heatproof bowl set over medium saucepan filled with ½-inch barely simmering water (don’t let bowl touch water). With electric mixer on medium speed, beat until egg mixture is thickened and registers 160 degrees, 7 to 10 minutes. Remove bowl from heat and continue to beat egg mixture until fluffy and cooled to room temperature, about 8 minutes.
3. Add chocolate and vanilla to cool egg mixture and beat until incorporated. Beat in butter pieces, a few at a time, until well combined. Using spatula, fold in whipped cream until no streaks of white remain. Scrape filling into pie shell and refrigerate until set, at least 3 hours and up to 24 hours. Serves 8-10.

Then, in 2016, the hotel was renovated and reopened as Unscripted, a boutique hotel. Two years later, local chef Gray Brooks created Jack Tar and The Colonel’s Daughter in the ground floor of the hotel, an upscale, thoughtful diner.

Tucked into the back of the eatery was an almost hidden, sort of secret bar that reminded one of a sort of secret speakeasy.

Not long after it opened, Chef Gray held a dinner for local press and food writers. I was invited and for the first time really was able to experience the Renaissance of downtown Durham.

I arrived early, and went up to the pool deck and watch the sun set while listening to a street musician play something jazzy and mellow. The music wove through the streets like a multi-colored ribbon blowing

through the streets. It was honestly one of the most magical moments I’ve ever had in the Bull City.

That was the moment I fell in love all over again with Durham. The pride and the awe I felt from the rebirth of this town has stayed with me. The dinner I attended that night was basically a feast of the menu and a bacchanalia of cocktails from the bar.

It was love at first bite. JT&TCD became a favorite spot and a symbol of the Bull City’s revitalization for me.

Two of my favorite dishes were their French Silk Pie and their take on the Canadian dish, poutine (fries, gravy and cheese curds).

Then Covid hit and the restaurant closed down for the duration.

Finally they reopened for take-out, then they reopened



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

**The kitchen at Jack Tar & The Colonel’s Daughter in Durham.**



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

**Steak frites, as served at Jack Tar & The Colonel’s Daughter in Durham.**

for in-dining. But that nefarious virus had already done its work. Now it’s closed: today was Jack Tar’s last day; Covid and increased rent did them in.

I will miss them — luckily, Chef Gray has two other Durham restaurants; Littler and Pizzeria Toro. Below is the

America’s Test Kitchen version of their delicious pie. While good, nothing will replace drinking cocktails and gorging on poutine and pie.

Thanks, Chef Gray, and thanks for your time. Contact me at dm@bullcity.mom.



We are cooperative, social-minded, curious, inclusive, searching.  
A niche firm with an environmental ethic.

Reach out to Weaver Street Realty when it’s time for a change.

919-929-5658 • info@WeaverStreetRealty.com

WeaverStreetRealty.com

The local pharmacy you can trust to provide the best personalized care, professional advice, and convenient services. We offer FREE\* walk-in Shingles vaccinations. Have allergies? We have solutions!

*Angelynn Fox McClary*

Pharmacist Manager & Owner



202-A East Raleigh Street  
Siler City, NC 27344

T: 919-663-5541

www.silercitypharmacy.com  
info@silercitypharmacy.com

\*Cost covered by most insurance plans

# GROW YOUR CAREER WITH MOUNTAIRE



## CDL DRIVERS GET A **\$5,000** SIGN-ON BONUS



**MOUNTAIREJOBS.COM**

1100 E THIRD STREET | SILER CITY | NC  
4411 W GATE CITY BLVD. | GREENSBORO | NC  
8 AM - 5 PM | MONDAY - FRIDAY  
(919) 663-6712