

Chatham News + Record

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Elections promise a hefty ballot for Chatham

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

While Chatham County residents faced fairly simple ballot choices in the 2019 election, 2020's will be anything but. Along with voting for U.S. President, U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives, registered Chatham County voters will also make choices for state Governor, all the major state offices and representatives in the N.C. General Assembly as well as Chatham County Boards of Commissioners and Education representatives. Candidate filing for the March 2020 primary began at noon Monday, and multiple people have already submitted their names, including state Rep. Robert Reives II (D-Dist. 54), Sen. Valerie Foushee (D-Dist. 24) and school board member David Hamm. Filing ends at noon on Dec. 20. Early voting starts Feb. 12 and ends Feb. 29 while the primary date is March 3. The general election day for 2020 is Tuesday, Nov. 3. Here's a rundown of the federal, state and county-level races that will be on 2020 ballots:

Federal Elections

The most notable race will be that for President of the United States. Republican Donald Trump, despite impeachment woes, will seek re-election and, as of now, there are more than a dozen candidates lining up on the Democratic side. Iowa kicks off the Democratic presidential primaries on February 3. On a more local note, U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) is up for re-election in 2020, but is already facing some primary challengers. Five individuals, including former Senate candidate Cal Cunningham, have declared their intention to seek the Democratic nomination. Chatham's U.S. House representative in all likelihood is going to change. A redraw of the state Congressional maps moved Chatham out of the 6th District and split the county between the 4th District, covering the majority of the county, and the 13th District in the far west. Democrat David Price currently represents the 4th District, while Republican Ted Budd holds the 13th District seat — and both men have indicated they intend to seek re-election, according to media reports. Walker said in a campaign press release Monday that he would take his time to make a decision. "From the pulpit to the

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TAKING A RIDE WITH CHATHAM TRANSIT



Staff photo by David Bradley

On her journey home from work, Kelsey Quinn, Ph.D, a research physiologist at UNC-Chapel Hill, relaxes from the day's efforts by taking Chatham Transit to and from her job on the campus. Picking up the bus in Pittsboro saves money and the stress of driving, while opening up some time to study for her work, read, or listen to music.

County's bus service fills transportation void, provides ease

BY DAVID BRADLEY
News + Record Staff

On a recent cold, wet, blustery afternoon, Dr. Kelsey Quinn climbed aboard a bus to make the trip home from her job on the campus of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill via Chatham Transit, a county-wide service that carries paying passengers to destinations across Chatham. A professional researcher, Quinn is one of the many persons of all walks of life in Chatham County to take advantage of the service. "I've been using it for about a year," she said. "I live in Sanford, and it's easier for the commute. It's nice to be able to hang out." Quinn was riding the CT Express, the standard loop around the UNC campus and other locations in Chapel Hill. It's one of the many "get there" options provided by the non-profit Chatham Transit, a prime force in transportation in Chatham County. The service includes weekday trips from Pittsboro and Siler City to various locations throughout Chatham. **Enhanced quality of life for seniors** Senior citizens in the community, in need of transportation to senior centers, medical appointments and shopping requirements, are



Staff photo by David Bradley

Robert Gullie boards a Chatham Transit bus at Lowe's Home Improvement in Pittsboro. Gullie, a construction worker, uses the service to get to work daily.

participants who answered. Responders commonly said that without the service to take them to the center, many wouldn't get a nutritious, hot meal for their lunch — some indicated they'd just have a sandwich and soup, leftovers, or Vienna sausage. But it's not just the good food that improves the day. It's the ability to interact with your peer group that you wouldn't have otherwise, responders said. A ride to a meal and a chat with friends makes a difference for many of the visitors to the center. "Getting on the bus to go to the senior center or doc-

transportation. Medical needs are prevalent with seniors, some requiring several trips each month for doctor visits. Through Chatham Transit, seniors can get three medical trips per month at a low fee, or up to five with a chronic condition, and the process is a "godsend," according to some that take advantage of the service. Sigi Markworth, who manages the Medical Transportation Program for the Council on Aging, called the Council on Aging's Medical Transportation Program "a valuable

See **TRANSPORT**, page A6

Confederate monument case now dismissed

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — For now, it's over. Superior Court Judge Susan Bray granted Chatham County's motion to dismiss the case against the Board of Commissioners filed by three residents and the Winnie Davis Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy regarding the Confederate monument that previously stood on the grounds of the Chatham County Historic Courthouse in Pittsboro. The decision, handed down Monday, may be the end of the legal battle over the county's removal of the monument, which was first installed in 1907. Though the monument was removed two weeks ago, the UDC was still seeking in court a declaratory judgment on its ownership. The UDC argued that the statue was a gift, but the county argued that a license created by the county in 1907, entered into with the UDC, and stored at the N.C. Archives demonstrated that the statue was owned by the UDC. During Monday's proceedings, attorneys for the county and the pro-removal group Chatham for All argued that Judge Bray should dismiss the case on the UDC's lack of standing, or right to sue someone. Nick Ellis, an attorney for the county, listed several court cases to define precedent for the argument, and included the May 2019 incorporation of the Winnie Davis Chapter, which was done under an assumed business name for the United Daughters of the Confederacy-NC Inc. Cabell Regan, an attorney for the UDC, filed an affidavit last week on behalf of Barbara Pugh, the UDC's president and one of the named plaintiffs, where she had amended the original filing for assumed name to try to improve the defendants' chances for having standing in the case. But as the affidavit was only served to the county's attorneys minutes before the case was heard on Tuesday, the judge ruled that it was not admissible. James Davis, another attorney for the UDC, argued that the group had standing as the county had expended tax dollars to remove the statue and, as taxpayers, they had the right to sue if those dollars were spent outside the scope of the board's authority. Davis also argued that the commissioners had "manufactured a controversy."

See **DISMISSED**, page A3

Pastor plans Dec. 21 tribute to Pittsboro's Bryant family

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Rev. Ricky R. McKinney Sr. says it's hard to overstate the importance of the Bryant family and the contributions made by the African-American family to Pittsboro during the last century. Now pastor of Jordon Grove AME Zion Church in Siler City, McKinney got to know the Bryants well, hanging out with them on their farm as a young man growing up in Pittsboro in the 1970s.

See **BRYANT**, page A12



Staff photo by David Bradley

Carl Bryant (left) and Rev. Ricky R. McKinney Sr. relax on the front steps of Carl's old home on Gade Bryant Road in Moncure, where he and his siblings were raised. Carl is the last surviving member of the Bryant family.

CHATHAM COUNTY ARTISTS GUILD Local artists open studios to the public for annual studio tour

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

Local photographer Craig Greiner wasn't sure what to expect last fall when he and his wife Amanda, an oil painter, first opened their Bynum art studios to the public for the Chatham County Artists Guild Open Studio Tour. "I was pleasantly surprised," said Craig. "Photography can be a difficult medium and I was impressed by the turnout. And the number of buyers we had come through was really nice, too." This year, the pair — along with 43 other Chatham County artists, representing a wide variety of media — will again enthusiastically open their studios for the 27th annual installment of the popular showcase of local arts and

See **TOURS**, page A3



Submitted photo

Bynum-based artists Craig and Amanda Greiner, along with more than 40 other Chatham County artists, will open their studio to the public for the next two weekends as the 27th annual Chatham Artists Guild Studio Tour gets under way.

IN THE KNOW

Where to see upcoming Christmas parades in Chatham County. **PAGE A3** Chatham public libraries focusing on early literacy year-round. **PAGE A7** Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner on department's plan, mission. **PAGE A8** 'Chatcast' creators on process, what they hope listeners will learn. **PAGE B5**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ON THE AGENDA

• The **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9 at Pittsboro Town Hall located at 635 East St. in Pittsboro.

• The **Chatham County Board of Education** is holding a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9, in the courtroom of the Chatham County Historic Courthouse, 9 Hillsboro St., Pittsboro.

• The **Chatham County Soil and Water Conservation District** will meet Thursday, December 12 at 7 p.m. at the Dry Dock in Siler City. This is an open meeting. To confirm the meeting or for additional information, call the office at 919-542-8240 or 919-55-8440, ask for Brenda.

• The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 16 at the Town Hall Courtroom located at 311 N. Second Ave. in Siler City.

• The **Chatham County Board of Commissioners** is scheduled to have a regular meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 16, in the courtroom of the Chatham County Historic Courthouse, 9 Hillsboro St., Pittsboro.

WEDNESDAY

• Chatham County’s chapter of **Business & Professional Women** will meet from 5:30 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 4, for the annual “Holiday Sip & Shop” event at Pittsboro Roadhouse in Pittsboro. A number of vendors, crafters, artisans and writers, including AlexSandra Lett, who will be signing copies of her new book, “Timeless People Making a Difference.” For more information, go to ChathamCountyBPW.com.

THURSDAY

• **Creating Connections Through Fellowship and Food - The Community Lunch** serves a free hot meal to our walk-in guests from noon to 1 p.m. every Thursday in the parish hall of St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church. Our mission is simple: to provide a healthy, appetizing meal at no cost to all who come to us hungry. We provide a place of hospitality and fellowship for everyone. We welcome all, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

• The **Second Bloom of Chatham Thrift Shop** is

now open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. We have adult clothing, shoes and accessories in all sizes for your winter weather needs. All proceeds support domestic violence services and education in collaboration with Chatham County. The shop is located on the Courthouse Circle in Pittsboro.

• The **Pittsboro Farmers Market** is open with available items year-round from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays. They are located at 287 East St., Pittsboro.

FRIDAY

• **Free Friday Music Jam** at the Oasis Open Air Market in Siler City from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30-7 every Friday. Get together with the acoustic community of Siler City to play, and sing while enjoying Open Blue Grass, Old-time and County music. If you want to join, show up or email John Eichorn, johneichorn72@gmail.com.

SATURDAY

• Join the gathering for the **Bluegrass Jam Circle** at Bynum Front Porch Pickin’ and make music every 2nd and 4th Saturday throughout the year, at 950 Bynum Rd. The circle forms around 10 a.m. until 12ish. Singers, new pickers, (spoons, washboards) and audience members are all welcome! This is an open circle type jam for all skill levels and ages. If you pick, bring your instrument (Acoustic instruments only). If you sing, bring your voice. Come to enjoy great music at the historic Bynum General Store. As always, the Circle Jam is free and open to the public!

• The **Town of Goldston’s Annual Christmas Parade** will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 7. There is no entry fee and there will be first and second prizes for Best Entries.

• **Mark Hewitt Pottery’s Holiday Kiln Opening** will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays, Dec. 7 and 14, and noon until 5 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 8 and 15. The opening will feature wood-fired, salt-glazed dinnerware, vases, and Mark’s signature big pots from the 102nd firing! His facilities are located at 424 Johnny Burke Rd., Pittsboro, just 3 miles east of downtown.

• **A Stream Watch** with NHAS will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, December 7, when John Kent leads a volunteer team conducting monthly water quality monitoring at several sites on New Hope Creek. If interested in participating, contact John Kent at jnkent25@gmail.com.

SUNDAY

A **Bird Walk** with the NHAS is scheduled for 8 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 8. Meet at 8 a.m. in front of the Wild Bird Center in Eastgate Shopping Center in Chapel Hill. For questions, contact Bo Howes at bohoves@gmail.com. - Another Walk at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 11, also meeting in front of the Wild Bird Center in Eastgate Crossing Shopping Center. For questions, contact Fleeta Wilkinon at fleetalee@gmail.com. All walks, wear long pants and closed toe shoes with socks. Bring snacks and water if you like.

• The **Town of Pittsboro’s Annual Christmas Parade** will be held at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8 on East Street.

MONDAY

• Welcome to **Writing Toward Resilience**, a weekly opportunity for all those who are grieving or current caregivers. We meet Mondays at noon at SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC. Come and enjoy a respite from the demands of your day – to reflect and write. No writing experience necessary. Facilitated by Carol Henderson, a professional writer and workshop leader who has facilitated workshops all over the U.S. and in Europe. No registration needed. The UNC Hospice Home is at 100 Roundtree Circle, behind Bojangles in Pittsboro. 919-984-2675. For further information email ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu.

• **Circle City Squares** is a square dance group in Pittsboro that usually dances from 2 to 5 p.m. on Monday afternoons, but verify the exact time and place. The usual meeting space is the Old Agriculture Building Auditorium, 65 East Chatham Street, located downstairs in downtown Pittsboro. Cost is \$5 per person each week. For more information or to verify the time/place, email: gunnhsd@embarqmail.com.

• **Big Band swing and jazz sounds** from 2 to 5 p.m., every Monday at the Pittsboro Roadhouse and General Store. The dance floor is open and bands rotate. For more information, see our website: www.pittsbororoadhouse.com.

UPCOMING

• The Second Annual “**Magical Lights of Christmas and Song**,” a luminary service sponsored by Chatham Cares Community Pharmacy will be conducted at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8 at Siler City First United Methodist Church, 1101 West Raleigh St. Light refreshments

will be served after the program. Tickets are also available from any board member or by contacting Lynn Glasser at (919) 542-9411, Patricia Dowdly at (919) 542-9300, Becky Loflin at (919) 548-6142 or by calling the Pharmacy at (919) 663-0177.

• The **Staley Christmas Parade** will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, December 14. There will be a best float contest with top three prizes. (No horses will be allowed in the parade, and no Santa on floats except the one sponsored by The Staley Town Council.) If interested in entering the contest, you must get a judging number from a member of the Town Council during the parade line-up. The Staley Town Council strives to make this a fun and safe event. Please support this event.

• **Sharing Our Stories**, a 8-week grief support group sponsored by UNC Hospice, is scheduled for Jan. 8 through Feb. 26 at the SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC in Pittsboro. This will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for eight consecutive Wednesdays in the sunroom of our facility. The group supplies educational resources and mutual support to help participants explore their grief in a non-pressured environment. This

is open to hospice families and to the community. There is no fee but registration is required. Contact Annie Ritter at 984-215-2650 or ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu for further information. All who have experienced the loss of a loved one are welcome.

• The **Carolina Mountain Dulcimer Players** meet at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Seymore Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill. Beginners, experts, and all stringed instruments welcome. For more information and/or directions, contact Shirley Ray at ShirleyRay@aol.com or 919-929-5359.

• The **Chatham Historical Museum** is open from 11 am until 4 pm Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Adult and kid friendly, there is no admission fee. Our special exhibit for Dec - Jan is Chatham’s Deep River Coal History. There are lots of interesting artifacts to see, as well as our permanent exhibits on all aspects of Chatham’s history. Bring your holiday visitors and enjoy Chatham’s unique history. Please note that the Museum will be closed on Christmas Day.

• **Caregiver Support Group** sponsored by UNC Hos-

pice - This group offers support for those currently providing care to a loved one. Hear information about effective caregiving and share experiences in comfortable surroundings. No registration necessary. Just Come! 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Sunroom at SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home, 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro, 984-215-2675. For more information, contact Annie Ritter: 984-215-2650 or ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu . Group meet the third Monday of every month.

• The **Circle of Support** for those who have lost a loved one to death meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m., the second Monday of each month at the SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice Home, 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro. Come to one or come every month to give and gain support from others who have lost a loved one. Volunteers will facilitate the circle of support. Participants can bring pictures and stories of their loved one as well as questions and concerns. No need to register! Just come! If you’d like further information, contact Ann Ritter, 984-215-2650 or ann.ritter@unchealth.unc.edu. If you need directions, call the Hospice Home at 984-215-2675.

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Holidays bring changes in deadlines and delivery schedule for some editions of the CN+R

The holiday season will bring some changes in deadlines and other schedules for the News + Record. CHRISTMAS is on Wednesday, Dec. 25. Advertising deadlines for the News + Record’s Dec. 26-Jan. 1 edition won’t change, but the deadline for obituaries and news is at noon on Monday, Dec. 23. Distribution and mailing will be done on Thursday, Dec. 26, meaning subscribers and readers will get that week’s edition one day later than normal.

The News + Record’s offices will close for Christmas at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and re-open on Thursday, Dec. 26.

NEW YEAR’S DAY is on Wednesday, Jan. 1. As with the week prior, advertising deadlines won’t change, but obituary and news deadlines will be at noon on Monday, Dec. 30. As with Christmas week, distribution and mailing will be done on Thursday, Jan. 2, meaning subscribers and readers will get that week’s edition one day later than normal.

The News + Record’s offices will close for the New Year’s holiday at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 31, and re-open on Thursday, Jan. 2.

Chatham News + Record

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

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Where to see Christmas parades in Chatham

Christmas time is fast approaching here in Chatham County, and one of the county's favorite traditions is just around the corner — parades.

Goldston will hold its annual Christmas parade at 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 7, while Bennett's celebration is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 14.

Here's some additional information on other area parades.

Siler City:
Thursday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

The Chatham Chamber of Commerce is presenting this year's edition of the Siler City Christmas Parade, titled "An Old-Fashioned Christmas."

The parade will take place in downtown Siler City, kicking off down South Chatham Avenue, right onto Beaver Street to South Birch Street and then a left on West Raleigh Street to Park Shopping Center. After the parade, Santa and Ms. Claus will be available to visit with children in the Chatham Avenue courtyard.

The Hangout Worship Band will

be performing before and after the parade. Additionally, Siler City Mayor John Grimes will light a Christmas tree at 6:30 p.m. at the Oasis Open Air Market & Deli as part of the Siler City Merchant Association's Annual Tree Lighting.

Pittsboro: Sunday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m.

Always scheduled for the second Sunday in December, this year's Christmas parade will start on MLK Drive and take a left onto East Street. After going through the traffic circle and down West Street, the parade will end after a left turn onto Farrell Street. Attendees can expect floats, marching bands, antique cars and more.

Staley: Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m.

A Christmas parade is also planned in Staley at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 14. There is no charge for parade entries. All parade traffic will line up on Weeden Street between Brooksdale Road and Olivers Chapel Road beginning at 1 p.m.

TOURS: 'Chatham respects and values creativity'

Continued from page A1

artists, which gets under way Saturday morning. "I'm looking forward to it," said Craig.

Six new artists join this year's tour, which will be held over the next two weekends: December 7th and 8th and December 14th and 15th, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Hosted by the Chatham Arts Guild, the popular annual event — the self-guided tour was dubbed one of the best "Uniquely Chatham Events" in 2019 by Chatham Magazine — is a great way for area art lovers to meet the people behind the work, Craig said.

Studio spaces range from small, intimate cottages to expansive workshops. All offer a unique opportunity, Craig said.

"It's a more intimate environment than some other shows," he said. "People can talk to the artists, talk about the arts, about the creative process. It's a much more intimate experience."

The event is "one of the oldest tours of its kind in North Carolina," said Lesley L. Landis, former president and now a board member of the Chatham Arts Council.

Not only long-lived, the tour is consistently popular with patrons.

"I've heard from several people who first came to Chatham to take the tour," said Landis. "Many return year after year. Others, when they realize that Chatham respects and values creativity and innovation, move here to further build on what attracted them in the first place."

Participating artists, all members of the Chatham Artists Guild, employ a wide variety of art media, including acrylics, watercolor, pottery, photography, woodworking, sculpture, metal art, jewelry, mixed media and more.

Craig noted that patrons, whether seasoned art collectors or beginning students, will find the Chatham tour to be a unique opportunity to connect with artists and learn about their work. Each artist, he noted, has work for sale in their space.

And while the tour — it's the Chatham Artists Guild's "signature event, by far," Craig said — is important to the roster of participating artists,

2019 CHATHAM STUDIO TOUR

Dec. 7-8 & 14-15
45 Professional Artists with Open Studios

Annual self-guided tour of Chatham County Art Studios open to the public for two weekends each year

Just look for the # road signs marking studio locations

www.ChathamArtistsGuild.org

1 Janet Resnik 132 Collins Mountain Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516	7 Louise Hobbs 115 Hobbs Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	14 Leslie Palmer 110 Chestwood Pittsboro, NC 27312	21 Karen West 923 Woodham Pittsboro, NC 27312	27 Linda Callihan Watkins 400 Pine Creek Pittsboro, NC 27312	32 Lee Kazanas Rural Pottery Studio 52 George Bay Road Monroe, NC 27559
2 Vince Pitelka 714 Old Stonehouse Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516	8 Judy Bauman Art by Judy Bauman 549 Hawthorne Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27517	15 Forrest Greenslade Organic Pottery 149 Timberland Pittsboro, NC 27312	22 Andi Sobbe Second Nature Pottery 502 Hogan Farm Road Aps, NC 27323	28 Julie Alberdi Alberdi Sculpture 740 Hills of the Hawk Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	33 Lara O'Keefe 33 Janice Reeves 33 Diane Swan
3 Jeffrey Clark 3 Jonathan Clark 3 Barry Udis	9 Rusty Sieck Chicken Bridge Pottery 1407 Chicken Bridge Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	16 Lani Chaves 147 Waterside Pittsboro, NC 27312	23 Shannon Bueker New Wave Pottery Fine Art Studio 167 Eddie Perry Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	29 Linda Collura Live Pottery 366 West Salisbury Street Pittsboro, NC 27312	34 Kim Campbell 34 Heather Gerni
4 Marie Wright Marie Wright Pottery 19 Weeden Branch Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	10 Annabelle Stein Albion Arts 997 Rock Rest Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	17 Steve Shafer 337 Whiggenwood Close Pittsboro, NC 27312	24 Selden Lamoureux Earth On Pottery 70 Heame Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	30 Mark Hewitt Mark Hewitt Pottery 424 Johnny Burke Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	35 Beth Bale 35 Sarah Graham
5 Cathylee Mahin Citizens & Colors 89 Severely Hill Circle Chapel Hill, NC 27516	11 William Moore 1075 Rock Rest Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	18 Eric Saunders 485 Beechmont Pittsboro, NC 27312	25 Craig Greiner Greiner Studio 814 Byrum Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	31 Rita Baldwin 31 Judith Smith	
6 Hamish Jackson 120 Polle Landing Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516	12 Andrew Wilson radiantEarth 276 Medemart Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	19 Vidabeth Bensen House of Life Pottery Studio 461 Stoneview Pittsboro, NC 27312	26 Brownyn Watson 72 Millbrook Drive Pittsboro, NC 27312		
	13 Doug Dotson 226 Mackern Road Pittsboro, NC 27312	20 Michael Blotzer Michael Blotzer Photography 15 Caldwell Pittsboro, NC 27312			

Landis notes it has broad- ancillary benefits, too.

"In addition to high-lighting and supporting the world-class, creative talent of our neighbors here in Chatham — who all run small businesses, by the way — the tour attracts visitors to Chatham County who buy lunches, drinks, and dinners in Chatham's restaurants, and snacks and gas in Chatham's convenience stores. This creates an economic 'multiplier effect' that benefits all of Chatham," she said.

According to the North Carolina Arts Council's website, "The growth of the creative sector — both nonprofit and private sector creative businesses — has contributed to the strength and resilience of North Carolina's economy. Communities with a strong arts presence draw people who want to live, work or visit there. Non-profit arts and culture alone are a \$2.12 billion industry. The state's nonprofit arts and culture sector transforms lives, builds stronger communities and strengthens North Carolina's economy, supporting nearly 72,000 full-time-equivalent jobs and returning \$201.5 million to local and state government."

The North Carolina Arts Council notes, too,

that the state's creative industries account for 405,567 direct and indirect jobs, which is nearly seven percent of the state's workforce. And between 2006 and 2016, jobs in creative occupations increased 27 percent.

"When you consider," Landis said, "the Chatham Artists Guild's Open Studio Tour, the tremendous work of the N.C. Arts Incubator in Siler City, the vitality of the Shakori Festival of Music & Dance, and the ongoing work of the Chatham Arts Council, which presents ClydeFEST, awards grants, and administers the Arts in Schools Initiatives, you can understand why the NC Arts Council has called Chatham 'an arts goldmine.'"

The tour is self-guided so participants set their own pace with a map highlight artists' studios provided in the tour brochure, available online at <http://www.chathamartistsguild.org>, at The Joyful Jewel, 44A Hillsboro St., Pittsboro, or at many local businesses throughout the area.

A juried preview show to kick off this year's tour was held at the Carrboro ArtsCenter, from October 30 to November 29.

In conjunction with the tour, a K-12 student art



Submitted photo

Hamish Jackson and his wood-fired, salt-glazed pottery are among the artists and their art featured in the 2019 Chatham County Artists Guild Open Studio Tour, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, December 7.

show — sponsored by the Chatham Artists Guild and Chatham County Schools — will be on display at the Peppercorn, 138 N. Chatham Ave., Siler City, North Carolina. Following a kick-off party Friday, the show will remain in place through January 4.

All tour events are free and open to the public.

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MC

Continued from page A1

The commissioners voted 4-1 in August to remove the monument from the lawn of the Chatham County Historic Courthouse in downtown Pittsboro and return it to the UDC. But the group filed a lawsuit, first seeking a temporary restraining order and later a preliminary injunction against the removal of the monument. While the temporary restraining order was granted, the group was later denied the preliminary injunction and the statue and its pedestal were taken down two weeks ago and moved to an undisclosed location for storage.

County Commissioner Karen Howard, one of the four board members who voted to remove the

monument, said Monday she was "relieved" by the decision.

"I'm ready for Chatham County to return to the warm, loving, wonderful, inclusive community I know it to be," she said, "and just in time for the holidays."

In a statement released by Chatham County following the ruling, county officials said they are pleased with the judge's decision.

"The County looks forward to putting this difficult time behind us as we continue to move forward as a community," the statement read. "The components of the monument were transported to a warehouse where they will be preserved and stored until such time as the UDC finds a more appropriate location to place them."

What's next with Chatham's monument is uncertain. However, there's recent precedent for handling of a previously-removed Confederate monument. The UNC Board of Governors and North Carolina chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans came to a settlement last week over the fate of the "Silent Sam" monument that previously stood on the Chapel Hill campus. "Silent Sam" will be given to the SCV, along with \$2.5 million, but the group will not be allowed to place the monument in any of the 14 counties where University of North Carolina system campus are located.

Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at CaseyMann@Chathamnr.com.

ELECTIONS: 'No pressure to rush a decision'

Continued from page A1

halls of Congress, I have always sought the counsel of others as I strive towards service," he said. "This is no different. Filing will remain open

until December 20 and I feel no pressure to rush a decision."

State Elections

Another big race on 2020 ballots is that for Gover-

nor of North Carolina. Democrat Roy Cooper currently holds the office, but current Lt. Gov. Dan Forrest, a Republican, has announced his intention to seek the seat.

A smattering of other state races are also up for election, including Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State and Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Every seat in the N.C. General Assembly is also open in 2020, including those held by Foushee and Reives. Reives officially filed Monday to seek his seat for a fourth full term, followed by Foushee on Tuesday morning.

County Elections

2020 brings elections for the Chatham County Boards of Commissioners and Education.

Every registered voter in Chatham County votes for commissioner candi-

dates, which represent five different districts across the county. Seats held by Democrats Karen Howard (District 1, northeast Chatham) and Mike Dasher (District 2, Moncure and Pittsboro) will be open. The terms of school board members Melissa Hlavac (District 1) and David Hamm (District 2) will also expire in 2020.

County residents will also have two referenda on their primary ballots — one for a quarter-cent local option sales tax and another for unfortified wine and malt beverage sales in unincorporated areas of the county. Additionally, Register of Deeds Lunday Riggsbee's term will come to an end.

In addition to Hamm, Riggsbee filed for re-election on Monday.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@ZachHornerCNR](https://twitter.com/ZachHornerCNR).

The Meroney UMC Choir will present

"Come & Adore Him"

Sunday,
December 8th
11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

The Church is located at:
10568 NC Hwy 902,
Bear Creek

VIEWPOINTS

THE CN+R EDITORIAL

Memo to Congressman Walker: Walk your talk

He may not be our Congressman in a year's time — whether by defeat in election or redistricting — but Mark Walker is giving Chatham County residents a reason to be wary of his claims of “people over politics.”

Jumping on the anti-impeachment bandwagon in a big way, Walker and his re-election campaign have created a donation drive whereby lumps of coal will be delivered to Rep. Adam Schiff, a Democrat who is leading the Trump impeachment inquiry, in return for financial support for Walker. The North Carolina Congressman, who represents Chatham County in D.C., has made the Fox News rounds in recent weeks criticizing the proceedings and backing his man Trump in an unorthodox — and unfortunate

— fashion.

The latest effort is this fundraising pledge. For a donation to Walker4NC of any amount, a lump of coal will be delivered to Schiff in the person's name. If you donate \$30 or more, the campaign will send you a T-shirt with Schiff's face imposed on a cartoon Grinch with the words “You're a mean one, Mr. Schiff” emblazoned below.

In his official House biography, discussing his 2014 run for office, Walker is introduced thus: “With no political pedigree or capital, he built a grassroots campaign that centered on a simple idea: PEOPLE OVER POLITICS ... he refused to engage in mudslinging politics and chose to lead a positive campaign, focusing on hope, opportunity

and solutions.”

It's clear that Walker has ditched that motto and that approach.

We see the merits in building a factual and respectful disagreement to policy or procedure. Without that, government can run amok and do all sorts of foul things. But what we're seeing from Walker with this new anti-Schiff coal drive is the opposite of that.

Really, it's reflective of the political season we're in. Desperate to support Trump — the man who wanted him to run against Thom Tillis for Senate, according to media reports — Walker has started to play the President's game. The Christian minister has gone rogue. Maybe it's a good time to ask — “What would Jesus do?”

No doubt Walker has read

these words: “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?” (Matthew 5:43-47)

What Jesus says here is that only loving your own kind, only treating your own kind or those who you agree with well, is easy. Everyone does that, even the outsiders and those society

frowns upon. The real faithful person, the good man, loves his enemies and those that speak unwell of him.

Whether you believe Jesus was the Christ, a good moral teacher or a myth, the message rings as a strong reminder for these divided, deeply political times. We're not asking Mark Walker to agree with Adam Schiff all of the time or even one time. The Congressman, of course, is entitled to his opinions.

We just simply ask that the former preacher live up to his own campaign motto and his self-professed faith. Because sending lumps of coal to someone you disagree with, and raising money for a campaign off of it, is not people over politics. It's quite the opposite.

The evolution of deception



RANDALL RIGSBEE
Randall Reflects

As a junior high schooler in the 1970s, I took a class called Typing.

One of several Business courses the school offered, Typing — it was taught by the same lady who doubled as Music/Band/Chorus teacher and who, coincidentally, was the subject of the first interview I ever conducted (for the school newspaper; she also introduced me, as she dropped a few hot tidbits my way during the interview, to the term “off the record,” which, observing no pause in my note-taking, she had to explain to me) — was conducted in a room packed with desks and, atop each desk, an industrial-strength electric typewriter durable enough to withstand the abuses a roomful of 13-year-olds can dish.

Those abuses included a hard-to-explain game, invented by my next-desk neighbor, that utilized the typewriter's carriage release and rapid deployment of the letter X key to attempt to strike the target: a series of zeros pre-typed on a sheet of paper. It was, sort of, a rudimentary version of a video game — think Asteroids — and the pair of us fledgling typists found it a fun and diverting activity to pursue when we weren't otherwise engaged in actually learning how to type and the teacher wasn't near enough to observe.

I don't recall anybody back then ever using the word “technology” — an indispensable term in many academic environments today — to describe typing, or typewriters, though that's what it was. Since I took Typing, technology has greatly evolved and typing — on typewriters, at least — isn't a class anymore, all those obsolete typewriters — unless one or two were saved for posterity in a museum — likely ending up in a heap somewhere or sold for scrap.

As fun as the impromptu typewriter/Asteroids game was, my inventive classmate was hardly a pioneer, though. I suppose as long as there's been technology, there's been someone devising new ways to mess with it.

And as technology has evolved — even refrigerators are “smart” now and capable, I've heard, of telling us when we're hungry an hour before our stomachs know it — so have the ways in which it's mis-used.

There are, for instance, the notorious and notoriously comical Nigerian letters, those unsolicited e-mail queries promising riches from royalty to which we knew not we were kin, if we'll simply reply with some personal data. It's a nefarious act far more advanced on the techno-evolutionary scale than, say, using a rotary phone to dial the local pharmacy to inquire if they have Prince Albert in a can and, if so, to please let him out; but that's how these things evolve.

Deceptions as clumsy as Nigerian letters and such pale in comparison, though, to the more advanced and more deeply sinister ways technology is corralled.

It gets much uglier and I got a taste of how ugly when my work email account was hacked last week.

Somehow — and if I truly understood these things, my life's path might have been much different — somebody over the course of our technological advancement figured out ways to transmit problem-causing viruses through emails.

My e-mail contacts — and if you were one, I'm truly sorry — began receiving suspicious e-mails sent, it appeared, from my address. “Please see the attached file for your reference,” the email instructed.

Where all of this originated, and why — not to mention why me? — I have no idea. Nor do I understand what anyone could gain from such a thing, other than to create chaos.

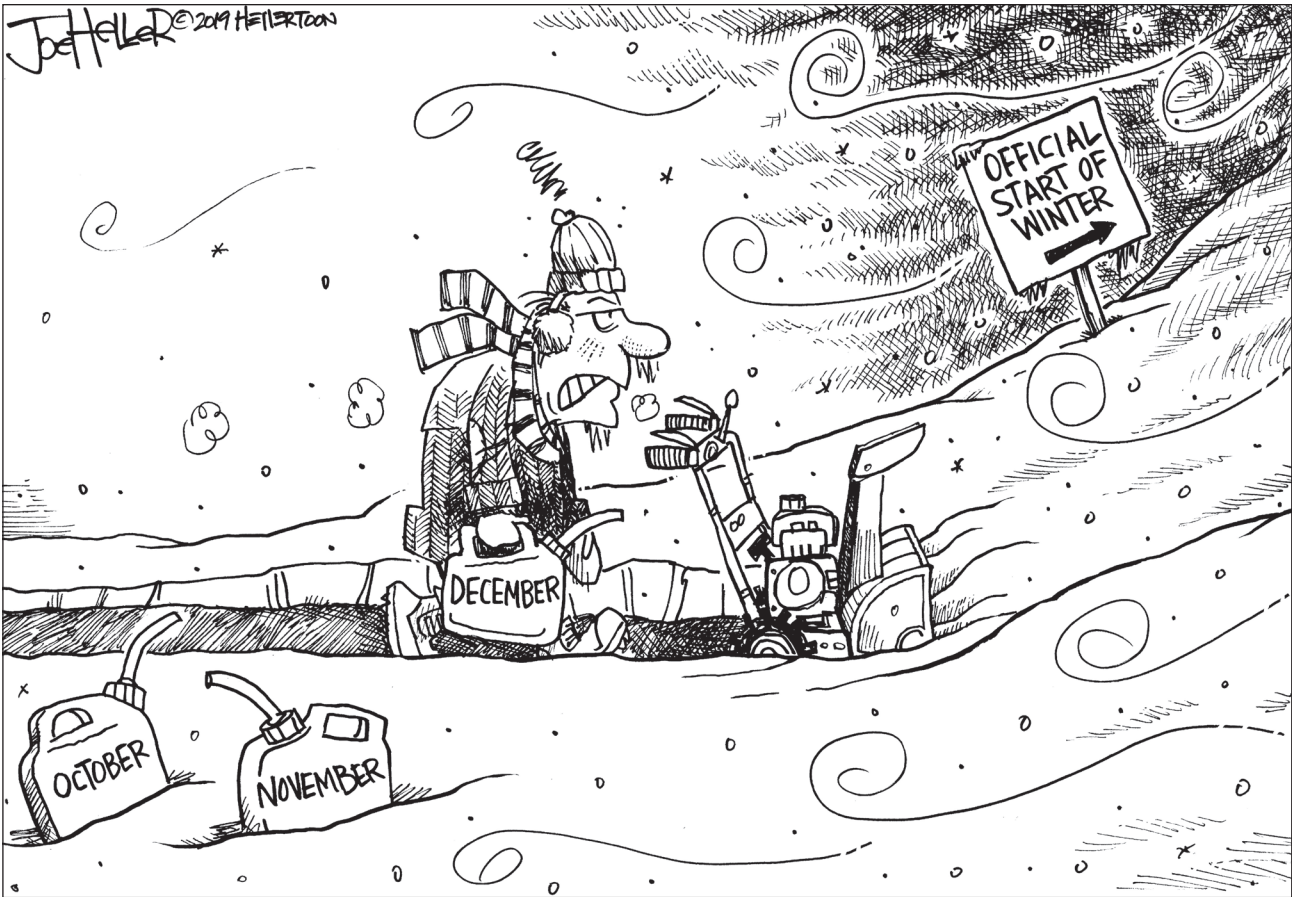
I scurried for the next couple of days to send out legitimate emails to let the innocent recipients of the bogus ones know I'd been hacked, but my response seemed inadequate and puny compared to its ominous counterpart.

I'm still a little shaken by the experience.

Though I don't like, or even fully comprehend, the downsides of technology (hacking and viruses), I know we can't go backwards to the days of un-hackable, virus-free typewriters, though I recognize the nostalgic appeal.

Rotary phones and Prince Albert suffocating in a can? Still funny, I think.

A computer virus? That's no joke.



Old ballfields were once where game of life played out



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

Every time I drive from my house to Pittsboro I pass by a place that gives me food for thought about life.

I've seen it hundreds, maybe even thousands of times through the years— this patch of mostly bare ground alongside N.C. Hwy. 902 between St. Matthews AMEZ Church and the nearby woods. The only thing that gives a clue to what the property is (or was) if you didn't know, are the four or five tall poles in a cluster sticking out of the ground at various angles.

Those poles once held the wire that was the backstop of this neighborhood ball field beside the church. Now the wire is gone, either taken down on purpose or by Mother Nature and Father Time, and the ball field is silent.

Years ago when I was in full pursuit of my better half (before she was my better half), I'd go by that field on the way to her house. And as often as not, especially in spring or summer, there would be a crowd on hand both on the field and off — men, women, boys and girls, young and old. It didn't seem to matter.

I'd tell myself often that one day I was going to stop and take in the big game, reasoning that I would likely know at least a handful of players and fans, most of whom, at least the home team, I thought, would be from Pittsboro. Of course I never did that and now I can't remember

Our obsession with technology is creating an artificial world. Why do you need “virtual” reality when you can find the real thing by volunteering at a nursing home? How can people “go” onto Facebook to find friends when they could have the same thing by saying “Hello” in person? What is the advantage to earning a degree online and never setting foot onto a campus or into a classroom?

the last time I saw somebody taking a cut at a curve ball or smashing a line drive to centerfield or running the bases.

Too bad.

In my humble opinion we're losing something valuable when we lose places like that. I've long believed that when schools are consolidated and communities lose them and when post offices are closed in some sort of effort to save money so rates can go up again and when churches fold up because not enough folks care, that both the places that made us great and our greatness itself are going by the wayside.

Our obsession with technology is creating an artificial world. Why do you need “virtual” reality when you can find the real thing by volunteering at a nursing home? How can people “go” onto Facebook to find friends when they could have the same thing by saying “Hello” in person? What is the advantage to earning a degree online and never setting foot onto a campus or into a classroom?

The reality of life is we are made for companionship and we need people. That's what the good folks at the field beside St. Matthews — and

countless others — had when they played ball. They had community because they had each other. It didn't matter how good you were or weren't or whether you won or didn't. What mattered was you were there and you were part of somebody's life and they were part of yours. Games were won and lost, to be sure, but more than a game was being played. Life, itself, was unfolding.

We need that...and what it can do for us. It's like the story handed down almost as legend in my family. One day, my daddy and his father-in-law were out somewhere miles away from home when they chanced upon a country ballgame at a similar field. Pulling over, they parked and got out of the car and leaned against the fender to take in the sights.

“What's the score?” Grandpa eventually asked of an outfielder.

“Sixty-three to nothing,” the man said.

“Good gracious,” Grandpa said. “You're getting beat pretty bad, aren't you?”

“Nah,” the player replied. “We haven't had our turn at bat yet.”

Can you get that online?

Chatham News + Record

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

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DON BEANE, *Sports Editor*

DAVID BRADLEY, *Photographer*

What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

VIEWPOINTS

LETTERS

Let's be governed by people who will listen to everybody

TO THE EDITOR:

On November 19, the Confederate Memorial statue was taken down in the middle of the night. There are passions on both sides of that action. Many who wanted the statue to remain as a historical artifact blame one faction of protesters for the unrest. Many who wanted it taken away from the courthouse blame their opposing protesters.

I would like to focus first on the people who I think are primarily responsible for opening this hornet's nest: the four Democrat County Commissioners who voted to remove the statue and went through all the legal motions to make it happen.

They would tell you that what they did was the legitimate end of a government and legal process, and after one gets done splitting all the legal hairs that a friendly judicial environment afforded them, they might be right.

My focus is not about the legitimacy of that process, even if I think it is arguable. It is about the arrogant and ham-handed manner in which they went about doing it. Enough people lined up to object to their proposal in person and more by petition to inform the Commissioners that they didn't have the support in the county to justify taking it down. They asked for and were given other options to consider. If they chose to place another statue at the courthouse that more directly reflected the views of those who wanted the original statue removed, but left the soldier alongside as a compromise, they might have had enough support to avoid most of this unrest.

This style of governance is reflecting itself in other ways as we speak. They raised property tax valuations last year, knowing full well that the home assessments that were done afterward would increase property values that, in combination with the valuation, would likely increase the average resident's property taxes by something approaching 10 percent.

Now they are proposing a sales tax increase, to be voted on not next November, but during the primary ballots in March 2020. One of the effects of this is that there will be a lower voter turnout, making it will be easier for them to get a winning majority.

They do all this in a fashion similar to the countywide zoning ordinance they passed — let the objectors line up, listen to their concerns and complaints, and then as soon as the last one is done talking, vote on what they planned all along. This is government by arrogance.

Three seats are up for election in

November 2020. Andy Wilkie, the lone Republican on the County Board of Commissioners, is the only one on that board who is speaking up against any of this. He was the only vote to leave the courthouse statue in place.

I respect Commissioners [James] Crawford and [Mike] Dasher, but I think they govern by listening only to people who agree with them. I also think that their passion on the statue issue has lent them the political sensibilities of a urinal mint. Voting to re-elect Mike Dasher in 2020 may ensure you that if you get on his bad side, he will forget about his own requests for public civility, and have him refer to you and yours as a "bunch of d**ks," as he did recently with some of the protesters.

Vote Republican next year for County Commissioner. Aside from a four-year hiatus from 2010-2014, Democrats have run everything in Chatham County government since Reconstruction, which seems to give them a sense of entitlement to power. Let's be governed by people who will listen to everybody, even those who disagree with them.

Bill Crawford
Pittsboro

Impeachment based on innuendo

TO THE EDITOR:

In his 1974 book "Impeachment: A Handbook," by Charles Black, the author writes impeachment of a president is a grave step, because it overturns a national election. It should not be used for all types of misconduct. It must be only acted on for serious assaults on the process of government, as to make his continuance in office dangerous to the public order.

In 1865, Andrew Johnson favored quick return to civilian rule in the occupied South. The Republicans in Congress supported harsher treatment. The conflict flared when Johnson fired the Republican Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, and three days later, the U.S. Congress impeached him for violating the "Tenure of Office Act," which required Congressional Permission before a president can fire an executive officer. At the Senate trial, Johnson was saved by one vote. His impeachment tested separation of powers between Legislative and Executive Branches.

In 1926, the Supreme Court invalidated The "Tenure of Office Act," bolstering the President's authority to remove executive officers without legislative consent.

In 1974, Richard Nixon resigned before he was impeached. He was charged with obstruction of justice when self-in-

criminating Oval Office audio tapes revealed that he played an active role in obstructing a burglary investigation at the 1972 Democratic headquarters.

In 1998, Bill Clinton was impeached for grand jury perjury and obstructing justice by concealing evidence of a salacious affair with a White House intern. A blue dress with Clinton's DNA plus the intern's grand jury testimony represented factual and first-hand evidence. His Democratic defenders and White House counsel argued neither charge rose to the level of "high crimes and misdemeanors" and the Senate agreed by acquittal.

The impeachment process against President Trump (as conducted by Adam Schiff's Intelligence Committee) should be disturbing to average Americans. It is reminiscent of Joseph Stalin's Soviet Committees: No Due Process due to secret meetings in a secret room under the Capitol while protecting a secret accuser (Whistleblower); blocking witness testimony requested by the minority, blocking questions by the minority; blocking counsel for the accused. All three prior U.S. presidential impeachment inquiries debated factual evidence: Johnson's firing the secretary of war; Nixon's audio tapes; and Clinton's blue dress. Only the Nixon presidency was prematurely terminated. The Johnson acquittal decided the president has authority to fire executive branch officers; the Clinton acquittal decided a salacious affair did not endanger performance of his constitutional duties.

Schiff's esoteric process in the House Intelligence Committee debases evidence to hearsay and opinion by State Department witnesses about a telephone call between two presidents. Hearsay opinions simulate water cooler gossip which should be dismissed as unacceptable by decent Americans of all political stripes.

Frank Dunphy
Pittsboro

It's past time for middle school football

TO THE EDITOR:

They say great minds think alike. I was working on this letter regarding middle school football when I purchased a recent edition of the Chatham News + Record. As always I went right to the sports section and saw Don Beane's column on middle school football.

It's way past time, Chatham County schools. Once again the state football playoffs started and once again NO Chatham County high school is participating in them. Now I'm not getting on the three high school head coaches

or their staffs; I for one know how hard they work. I am once again getting on Chatham County and Chatham County Schools. It's time to untie the hands of these hard-working staffs.

As a former head football coach at Northwood I was very fortunate to have great players and great staffs. We were fortunate enough to make it to the 3rd round of the playoffs five consecutive seasons. Coach Phil Senter and Coach Marty Scotten also made great runs in the state playoffs at Jordan-Matthews. But what bothers me and a lot of individuals in Chatham County is, what could have been had these staffs not had to spend most of these players freshman years teaching what they should have already been thought in middle school football?

Imagine if Jason Freeman's band members got to Northwood for band and they did not have a middle school band. And before you jump on me and say I'm anti band, I'm not. Jason played football for us and was also in the marching band. We worked together and now Jason is doing a great job with the band. Imagine if there were no middle school cheerleaders! No middle school baseball or softball. No middle school basketball! Oh, the outrage.

Don Beane and myself have been pushing for years to get middle school football. We have even had meetings with folks at the county office to discuss and yet here we are in 2019 and no change. As Don stated in his column, he's looking for other options. I'm not at that point yet.

The bottom line is I can't do it. Don can't do it. There is a very successful program in Pittsboro for our younger players, the East Chatham Chargers. There is a ton of young talent on these teams. I'm not as familiar with the younger teams in Siler City and Bear Creek but I know it's a battle every time these teams meet on the gridiron.

Parents of these talented players, your voice can be loud. Get organized, ask for meetings. Ask why. Continue to ask why in 2020 is there no ball for these athletes. Don't accept the same answers. Continue to fight for it and maybe just maybe these talented kids will be able to represent their middle school on the football field.

So that's why on a recent Friday night, I headed to Randleman to watch some of my Coaching buddies from East Duplin take on Randleman in the 2nd round of the state playoffs. FYI, Duplin County had three teams play for a state championship two years ago. Just imagine.

Bill Hall
(former Northwood High School head football coach)

When taxes (almost) killed tap

RALEIGH — I write a syndicated column on politics and public policy that often centers on the issue of taxation. I am also a sometime practitioner and teacher of tap dancing. Combining my two interests was only a matter of time. That time is today.



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation

During the golden age of tapping, in the 1930s and early 1940s, this quintessential American art form played a sizable role in pop culture. You could watch the likes of Fred Astaire, Eleanor Powell, and the brother act of Fayard and Harold Nicholas at the movie house. Every city of at least modest size had thriving nightclubs that boasted swinging big bands and, frequently, tap virtuosos. Traveling acts still plied their trade throughout the extensive network of small-town theaters and venues once known as vaudeville. And because it was as much a form of percussive musical performance as of dancing, tap could even be heard on commercially produced records and radio's top-rated variety shows.

The economics of tap dancing took a stumble during and just after World War II. For a fortunate few dancers such as Astaire and Gene Kelly, film would sustain their tap careers for years. But for most — and especially for black performers whom predominantly white audiences would not yet accept as cinematic leads — earning a decent living as a tap dancer in America became nearly impossible.

Some transitioned into teaching while occasionally earning a few bucks doing gigs on the TV variety shows of the 1950s. A few emigrated to Europe and continued to perform on stage. Others transitioned into other roles in show business.

Consider one of the greatest duos in tap history, Honi Coles and Cholly Atkins. During tap's golden age, they performed peerless routines with the likes of Cab Calloway, Count Basie, and Louis Armstrong. By the early 1960s, Honi Coles was working as a production stage manager at the Apollo Theater. Cholly Atkins was working for Berry Gordy's Motown, choreographing for such musical acts as the Supremes, the Temptations, and the Four Tops. Each had rewarding second acts in their respective careers. But they should have been headliners all along.

What brought an end to tap dancing's golden age? As with most social phenomena, it was a complex event with many causes. The nightclub scene that play such a huge role in sustaining the economics of big bands and live dancing would likely have undergone eventual decline anyway thanks to long-term shifts in urban development, technology and consumer tastes. But historians of swing music and tap dancing alike point to a proximate cause for the sharp decline of the mid-1940s: a federal excise tax.

Constantly on the lookout for new sources

of revenue, a wartime Congress imposed a "cabaret tax" in 1944. Specifically, any venue that served food and drink and featured dancing had to surrender 30 percent of its gross receipts to the federal government as an excise tax. The highest-end clubs in New York and other cities swallowed their objections, paid the excise, and hiked prices on their patrons. But it was more than most of the market could bear. To remain viable businesses, thousands of nightclubs got rid of their floor shows and dance floors. Big bands shrank into jazz ensembles and trios. "There were fewer and fewer places for a tap dancer to dance," observed Brian Seibert, dance critic for The New York Times and author of the indispensable tap history, "What the Eye Hears."

Under public pressure, Congress later reduced the excise tax to 20 percent, then to 10 percent in 1960, and finally repealed it altogether in 1965 (if you are surprised that a "wartime" revenue measure long outlasted the war in question, you probably aren't that familiar with the history of taxation.) By then, however, the economic damage had been done.

Fortunately, tap never died out entirely. New generations have fallen in love with the art form and renewed it, on Broadway and elsewhere. Tap found its legs, again — no thanks to the taxman.

John Hood (@JohnHood-NC) is chairman of the John Locke Foundation and appears on "NC SPIN," broadcast statewide at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and 12:30 p.m. Sundays on UNC-TV.

Author John Grisham clears the innocent

"After 36 Years in Prison, 3 Men Cleared in Killing," a headline in *The New York Times* streamed last week.



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Such a story is more and more common as efforts to establish the innocence of people convicted of murder expand throughout the country.

In this recent case, three men imprisoned for more than 30 years are being released after prosecutors found that another person committed the crime.

An increasing number of convictions are being found to be erroneous, in part because law enforcement officials were under enormous pressure to solve horrible crimes, whether or not there was a clear perpetrator.

A state agency, the North Carolina Innocence Inquiry Commission, began operation in 2007 and is charged with investigating post-conviction claims of factual innocence. The commission claims to be first and only of one of its kind in the country.

There are other ongoing innocence efforts in North Carolina. For instance, earlier this year Charles Ray Finch, 81, was released after being wrongfully convicted 43 years ago of a murder in Wilson County. His release came after a 17-year effort by students in the Duke Law Innocence Project.

Why does it take such a long time to undo a wrongful conviction?

John Grisham gives an answer in his latest bestseller, "The Guardians." His hero is Cullen Post, a lawyer and Episcopal priest, who works for Guardian Ministries in Savannah, Georgia. Post lives in a small apartment above the ministries' offices, but spends most of his time on the road, visiting prisoners all over the Southeast.

He interviews prospective clients, most of whom he concludes are guilty. For those who have persuaded him of their innocence, he sits with them as they await execution, even sharing the last meal before the scheduled event. With others, he brings them up-to-date on the status of their various appeals and tries to unearth facts and connections that might bolster their innocence claims. Back at the office, he helps draft legal

documents to persuade courts to open the door for a review of their clients' convictions.

After all this hard work the ministries has only gained the release of eight innocent prisoners.

Grisham gives his readers a look at several imprisoned clients who are almost certainly innocent. But he concentrates on the situation of an African-American former truck driver, Quincy Miller, who 22 years earlier had been convicted of murdering Keith Russo, a small-town white lawyer who had done a lousy job representing Miller in an acrimonious divorce. The evidence against Miller was thin and contrived. But the local sheriff was determined to pin the murder on him.

Why was the sheriff so motivated? That is the question Post must answer. His probing is, at first, inconclusive. Then, as he learns that drug dealing might be involved and that the murdered Keith Russo was involved in the drug trade, things get scary.

Post meets Miller's original defense lawyer and learns that a drug cartel had subjected him to torture and terror so frightening that he would not speak of Miller's case in public.

When Miller is attacked and almost killed by prisoners on the drug cartel's payroll and strange and threatening men begin to follow Post, Grisham injects his patented skillful storytelling to weave a disturbing tale.

Post always makes clear that his job is to prove that his clients, in this case Miller, are innocent, and not necessarily to find the actual murderers or prove their guilt.

Nevertheless, after all Grisham teaches us about the horror of the drug cartels and local officials involved in Keith Russo's murder, it disappointed this reader not to have the real trigger man and his handlers brought to justice.

Maybe Grisham is just leaving the door open for a sequel.

If so, I will be in line to buy the first copy.

D.G. Martin hosts "North Carolina Bookwatch," at 11 a.m. Sundays and 5 p.m. Tuesdays on UNC-TV. The program also airs on the North Carolina Channel at 8 p.m. Tuesdays and other times.

TRANSPORT: ‘Gives me a chance to get out of the house’

Continued from page A1

and necessary program for our Chatham County seniors, particularly for those in our rural communities and for those who require wheelchair transportation.”

The survey responders said things like: “I have no other way of getting to doctors,” “They take me to the door of the doctor’s office or clinic; better than trying to do it myself. They pick you up and take you back home. I don’t think I could do without this service,” and “I couldn’t go without this service; couldn’t ask for anything better.”

Some of the riders are wheelchair-bound, but Chatham Transit doesn’t impose ridership limits on those who are infirm.

“I am in a wheelchair — I need the lift on the Chatham Transit van,” said one survey responder.

CT driver Faydean Milliken works many of the medical needs trips, but says she has a warm spot for dialysis patients. “I know how they live,” she said. “They need a way to get around, and give value to life. Sometimes the family is working, and can’t help.”

CT drivers have mandated training in dealing with some of their riders who may have dementia, or other mental health issues.

To accommodate needs for necessities for the seniors, Chatham Transit offers trips to Walmart once a month, and Food Lion once a week. Twenty-five percent of the survey responders who use the bus for grocery shopping do so because they have no other way to obtain groceries, or who have aides who don’t like to shop. Responders call it a vital service.

Exciting and new ways of living

Another service offered by Chatham Transit is transportation for the intellectually disabled.

This is part of a contracted service through Chatham Trades. The service is designed to provide safe transportation on the basis of a contracted fee per mile on the maroon and white buses to the Chatham Trades production facility. Some clients of this service also pay a fee per trip, depending on their funding, which are from various sources. Daily trips are offered for the differently-abled individuals who travel to locations for jobs and get training for a better future, while trusting the fleet of buses that give care-givers peace of mind.

It’s more than that, though. The transportation arranged through Chatham Trades is the linchpin for these consumers who use the bus service to improve their lives and employability. Chatham Trades Executive Director Shawn Poe says “Without transportation services, many consumers would not be able to come to Chatham Trades for employment and training.”

But Chatham Transit’s service are not just about jobs for these residents.

“We also contract with them for special trips that are designed to help meet individual goals and integration into the community,” Poe said. “Some of these outings include inclusive dance classes, public library, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, caroling and theater events.”

Without these services by CT, Poe said, “Many consumers would not be able to come to Chatham Trades for employment and training. Families depend on this service so that they themselves can continue to work and do activities during the day. Chatham Transit



Staff photo by David Bradley

Robert Gullie rides the CT service fleet for the convenience offered. ‘I can go anywhere I want to go,’ he says. He’s been riding the buses for about two years to take him to his construction job.

provides a safe, reliable mode of transportation for them.”

On-call services are available

If you need to go somewhere in Chatham County, Chatham Transit offers a service for a low, fixed price-per-mile cost. All that is required is a 48-hour notice by calling 919-542-5136.

This service sets the price based on the mileage traveled by the bus service from the start to end point of the trip. For a trip of up to 20 miles, for example, the cost is just \$7. The price is determined by Chatham Transit, which is governed by a board of directors.

The price for the CT Express loop around UNC is about the same as a Cafe Latte at Starbucks.

It’s just \$3.

So what do you get for your money?

Clean, efficient travel to work by well-trained drivers, without the stress of driving in busy traffic in the county.

Driver Milliken says that she likes to drive, adding it’s her “way to help the community.”

“We don’t know when we might need help, anytime you want a lift, we can,” she said. “Safety is the most important thing. I have peoples lives in my hands. It’s not just a job, it’s responsibility.”

There’s also a potential economic impact on the county. The American Public Transportation Association says that studies on the economics of mass transit have shown that every \$1 invested in public transportation will create a \$4 benefit in that economy. Testermann feels the service helps the economy by getting people to shop in the local area, and it’s a good selling point for coming here to live.

Last year Chatham Transit drove some 100,000 riders 1,000,000 miles to destinations throughout Chatham County’s 710 square miles, even though some residents have never taken a trip on one of its maroon and white buses.

Some Chatham County residents rely on them as essential transportation. Current ridership is already 5 percent above last year.

The service is available for all, Testermann said.

“I do know that there are a lot of people in the county that do not realize that we are providing a ‘public’ service in the county, which is available for anyone,” Testermann said. “I believe most people think there is a ‘qualifying’ process, but there is not.”

With gas at a low price, and low unemployment, some residents may wonder, “Why should we have a transit system here in Chatham?”

The basic answer, she said, is that it allows the rider to relax while saving the carbon footprint of each vehicle. A full bus of 21 riders saves gas, wear and tear on 21 cars, doesn’t emit carbon dioxide into

the atmosphere from them, and allows a stress-free environment to and from work or other locations.

It’s an easier trip, rider Quinn said, because “I don’t like to drive, and it reduces mileage on the car.”

Robert Gullie uses the CT service often to get to his construction job, and he rides Monday through Friday when weather permits. “I can get about anywhere I need to go. Without it, I’d probably use Uber, which is very costly. I’ve been riding for about two years. It’s so congested in Chapel Hill, you can’t find parking. It’s a big help for handicapped, a godsend for them. The drivers are friendly, and the vehicles are in excellent shape, give a good smooth ride. It’s nice to relax on the way, they’re always on time.

I rode a long time on Chapel Hill Transit, and didn’t know about the CT service.”

For those who ride the CT bus, the map of coverage areas is expanding, along with their fleet of vehicles.

“We are looking at adding a stop in Lee County for our fixed route service,” Testermann said. “I am unsure as of yet of the fare but it will probably be the same as the mileage is not that different between Pittsboro and Sanford and Pittsboro and Siler City. There’s a lot of call to go to CCCC in Lee County.”

Also in the plans are for the construction of a bus shelter at Briar Chapel for the new college building being built by CCCC. CT will need riders to support the route.

“We’re really reliant on riders to tell us what they need,” Testermann said.

So, who rides the bus in Chatham?

“Everybody,” Testermann said. “For a long time, people were stigmatized who didn’t have a car, but that’s not the case now.”

A variety of people and age groups ride on the service fleet, and the minimum age to ride alone is 13.

“We have a good mix,” Testermann said of the ages that ride the CT. “We heavily lean to seniors. But why drive when you can leave it to someone else? It’s nice to relax on the way.”

There are some stories that affect the professionals at Chatham Transit, though. “Children that have been removed from their homes and placed into foster care,” Testermann said. “The foster home is in a different school zone, so we end up transporting them to school so they don’t have to change schools at a difficult time in their life.”

Another story is about the economics of work and transportation. “A single parent that only has one car [that] isn’t running, but they still need to get to work so they can repair the car.” They are able to use CT to get to the job, and have the cash to repair the car. For Spanish



Staff photo by David Bradley

A Chatham Transit bus makes its way on the loop through the parking lot of Lowe’s in Pittsboro. The bus, on the CT Express route, makes a one-hour trip several times a day to Chapel Hill.

speakers, some of the drivers and office staff speak the language.

To pay the low fee of each trip, the riders can pay with an electronic pass system that is in operation, but the drivers do take cash.

“The drivers are trained in serving the variety of people who ride their buses, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as other physical disabilities, including the hearing impaired,”

“There definitely is a personal knowledge and relationship between Chatham Transit and consumers,” Poe said. “It goes way beyond just providing transportation.”

It goes to the heart.

Of the hundreds of riders and thousands of miles driven by her fleet of buses each year, Testermann has one story that brings home for her the value of the service in no other way.

She recalled the story of an elderly client who needed to spend time each day with his seriously ill wife. In her last days, he wanted to spend his time with her at UNC Hospital, where she was undergoing care, but he hadn’t been driving much in his later years. Each day, the CT service buses took him there to vis-



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Transit driver Faydean Milliken is on her one-hour route from the Lowe’s Home Improvement in Pittsboro to the campus of UNC for another pickup. After driving school buses and training for tractor-trailer rigs, she says she prefers Chatham Transit. She’s been on the job for three years.

it her, and because of this service, for the two weeks

until she passed away, they were able to be together.

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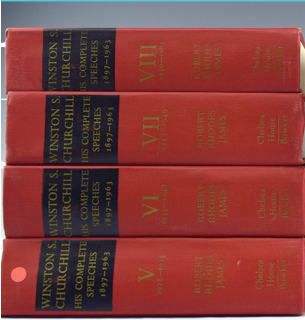
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Carla Ferguson has been driving for Chatham Transit for about five years, she says, and really enjoys it. Before driving for CT, she owned a restaurant.

Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham’s public libraries focusing on early literacy year-round

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Michelle Morehouse sat at the front of the room, backed by a mural of children in flight, trying to hold the attention of five toddlers. Not an easy task.

“For my young friends, we have two rules at story time,” she said. “No. 1, turn on your listening ears. And No. 2, have fun.”

It was a Monday morning, and her audience was children between the ages of 18 and 36 months and their mothers. It was Toddler Story Time at the Chatham Community Library in Pittsboro, one of the many weekly events the library branches hold in the area of early childhood literacy.

The 2019 State of the County Report stated that Chatham’s libraries hosted 234 early literacy programs during the 2018-2019 fiscal year, serving 6,357 children. That’s an average of 27 children per event ages birth to 5. When tallying up those numbers, Youth Services Librarian Katy Henderson said she was “quite pleased.”

The library’s branches — one each in Pittsboro, Siler City and Goldston — hold seven story times for children 5 and under each week across the county. Planning those events, Henderson said, takes three months throughout the year. For instance, the current story time lineup runs through December 21, and staff will plan for the next 12-week session during January. Programs resume in February.

The various programs are designed, Henderson said, to

help children who aren’t yet in school.

“We do see our programs as a way to engage with children who aren’t yet in any type of formal educational setting,” she said. “Our attendees are typically children who are at home during the day with a parent or other caregiver, but we do also have classes visit from local preschools and day-care facilities.”

Reaching those children with literacy skills prior to entering the classroom is a research-based approach to help prepare kids for school, Henderson said. She cited as “concerning news” the state of North Carolina’s student test scores in reading.

Earlier this fall, test results on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, a nationwide reading and math assessment for 4th- and 8th-graders, revealed that North Carolina’s students had shown no progress since 2017, the last time the test was taken. The 4th-grade proficiency rate on the test dropped from 39 percent to 36 percent, which was described by NAEP as “not significantly different.” The N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction described the scores as the state “holding steady.” Most states and America as a whole saw decreased reading scores or no significant change.

It’s in this environment of reading scores that Chatham’s libraries hope to provide a head-start for these children, and ideally, a framework for parents to replicate at home. The four early literacy skills

programs focus on, Henderson said, are reading, talking, singing and playing — writing is a fifth skill, but not a focus of the programs. But something else is most important.

“The centerpiece of any story time program is interaction between the presenter and the babies and children and their caregivers,” she said. “Youth Services library staff should be familiar with child development, and what each age group is capable of in terms of prior knowledge, gross motor skills, and attention span. We use what we know about each age group to design a story time that is age-appropriate and fun.”

For the Baby Rhyme Time, for ages birth to 18 months, staff focuses on songs, nursery rhymes and bouncing. But similar to the approach for all the programs, Baby Rhyme Time is about parents.

“We share a take-home sheet with the lyrics to the songs and rhymes used in the program, so they can repeat them at home,” Henderson said. “We build in time at the end for the babies to play with a variety of toys, and for parents to get to know each other and share their experiences as parents of babies.”

Toddler Time and Preschool Story Time include stories, songs and dances as well as flannelboard stories. Built in, Henderson said, are literacy benchmarks like counting to 10, learning colors and shapes and recognizing letters of the alphabet.

During last week’s Toddler Time, Morehouse did songs,



Staff photo by Zachary Horner
Toddler Time presenter Michelle Morehouse reads ‘Black Dog Gets Dressed’ to a group of toddlers and parents last week at the Chatham Community Library.

dances, books and helped the children “dress” a flannel man with some flannel clothes on a flannelboard. She said that at Toddler Time the goal is “all those pre-literacy skills” as well as the social aspect.

“A lot of it just social,” she said. “A lot of our baby and toddler time is about modeling for parents those pre-literacy skills. I try to do as much participatory activities with them as possible.”

And at the end, they all got a hand stamp.

Rita van Duinen, the branch manager of the Pittsboro library branch, said these types of programs are “vital to the mission of public libraries” and

in some cases are the “main focus” or “only type” of programming.

And Henderson said that staff loves to do it.

“We are here to help instill a love of books and reading, and to promote literacy,” she said. “Everyone is welcome, and we are always happy to see both new and familiar faces in our programs. Our Youth Services staff are happy to help parents and caregivers find the right books to borrow and share with their children.”

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Zach-HornerCNR.

WINGS to set flight at Pittsboro Christmas Parade

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — A group of up to 100 women will dance their way down the one-mile parade route this Sunday at the Pittsboro Christmas parade in hopes to spread peace, love and unity in a town that has seen its challenges over the past few months.

WINGS — an acronym for Women in Nice Gowns — was created more than a decade ago by a group of local friends in hopes to inject some fun, frivolity and female empower-

ment. Andrea Batsche, owner of New Karma for Old Threads in downtown Pittsboro, said that at the time, the women wanted to do something and dress up for no specific reason — no fundraiser, no event — other than having fun and crossing boundaries.

At the first inspiration, the women weren’t sure where to do it. Batsche noted that Tami Schwerin, co-owner of The Plant in Pittsboro, got the idea of pairing local non-profits and local businesses for the Pittsboro Christmas parade, and the group began to take

flight. The women would get together, dance in choreographed routines, wearing evening gowns and wings for the Christmas parade and Mardi Gras celebrations.

“It was all age groups and it was a complete blast,” Batsche said.

“It was true community building,” Schwerin said. “That’s where people got to know each other.”

Over time, the group of about 40 began to dissipate and children began to grow and responsibilities took over. Earlier this year, one of those women, Beth Barrickman Davis, lamented with another founding member, Pam Smith, over drinks at Pittsboro’s City Tap about the loss of WINGS.

“It’s been 10 years since we did the parade,” Barrickman Davis said. “It was so much fun and we all had a blast. We would run into each other and talk about it. So we just decided to make this happen.”

With the blessings of the original founders,

Barrickman Davis started sending out messages to women who had been involved before and then created a Facebook group that she said “snow-balled.”

Thus, WINGS was reborn.

About 20 women have been meeting every Wednesday for more than a month, planning for the Pittsboro Christmas parade, which is scheduled for 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8.

“It’s been such a wonderful collaboration with everyone,” Barrickman Davis said. “There’s been great feedback, great ideas, and it’s come together so well. It could almost become a movement of sorts.”

“I have loved Beth’s energy and bright, bright spirit pulling this together,” Batsche said.

This year, there are many of the founding women, but many, many more. The original group stood at about 40 women, while this year’s Facebook group has attracted



Submitted Photo
Pam Smith, who was one of the original members of WINGS, is returning with the group ‘to bring peace and love to the community.’

more than 100. Barrickman Davis describes the group as women who don’t want to take themselves seriously, but want to have a purpose and spread a message. That message is “bring peace to Pittsboro.”

“It’s timely,” Batsche said. “We need something to enjoy with everything going on politically, environmentally and economically. Something for women by women — a real empowerment statement.”

“It’s so good after the statue,” Schwerin said. “It’s about peace, love, understanding and community. It’s an antidote to what’s been going on in Pittsboro.”

Smith added, “This is a time where we need some peace and love in our community.”

And the draw to spread that message has been significant. Smith notes they had no idea so many women would sign up to participate.

“That just goes to show you there’s a lot of interest,” Smith said. “It’s going to be powerful.”

Smith created hearts that they will be handing out to adults instead of candy, hoping to spread the message throughout the community, bring the community back together and close divisions. The

purpose is not to represent a non-profit, foundation, political stance or any other purpose but to spread love and reconnect the community.

“Over 100 strong, powerful women free-styling it down the road is going to get some attention,” Smith said. “That’s the reason we don’t have a choreographer. We don’t need it. Every woman will be dancing to the tune of her own drummer. That free spirit — we want women dancing from their heart.”

Smith noted that each of the women are smart and powerful in their own right as community and business leaders. But together, they will be a force for joy, love and community.

“It makes my heart soar and shout out in joy,” Smith said. “There’s power in numbers. Power in women. We, the women have got to do it.”

“It’s heartwarming to witness the joy happening,” Batsche said. “Joy happens.”

“I hope this isn’t the end,” Barrickman Davis said. “I don’t think this is the end. I feel like there’s a lot more to come for us and spreading positivity.”

Casey Mann can be reached at CaseyMann@Chathamnr.com.



Submitted Photo
WINGS — Women in Nice Gowns — will return to the Pittsboro Christmas Parade at 3 p.m. this Sunday, Dec. 8.

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OBITUARIES

JOYCE PERRY CLARK



March 22, 1935 - November 30, 2019
Joyce Clark of Greensboro, NC gained her angel wings on Saturday, November 30, 2019.
The family will receive friends and loved ones on Saturday, December 7, 2019 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, Siler City. Following visitation, guests are invited to attend a small graveside service at Emmaus Baptist Church where she will be laid to rest next to her husband, Dee Clark.
She is leaving behind her son, John Perry Clark and daughter-in-law, Melissa Clark; granddaughter who was her Pride and Joy; Payton Elizabeth Clark.
Joyce is a Chatham County native who went on to attend Elon College followed by obtaining a Master's Degree at UNC-Chapel Hill. From there she landed as a Professor at Guilford College where in 42 years, she affected the lives of thousands of students.
She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

WILLIAM "SHUG" PHILLIPS

William "Shug" Phillips, 81, of Bear Creek died Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at UNC Hospice, Pittsboro.
Mr. Phillips was born in Chatham County on April 20, 1938 the son of Paul A. and Roslie (Hunter) Phillips. Shug was an active member of Hickory Grove Baptist Church, a Veteran of the US Navy and a self-employed electrician. He was an avid deer hunter and found pleasure in a cup of morning coffee with the regular group at Bojangles. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Madeline S. Moore; and brothers, Homer, Bobby, Harland and Floyd Phillips.
He is survived by sisters,: Betty Carter and husband Richard, Peggy Brooks, Doris DiMeo and husband Tony; brother: James Phillips and wife Bea; several nieces and nephews and his canine companion, Dan.
The family received friends Friday, November 29, 2019 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City.
The funeral was held Saturday, November 30, 2019 at 2 p.m. at Hickory Grove Baptist Church, 17721 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek with Rev. Darrell Garner and Rev. Buster Lucas officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery with Military Rites by the Randolph County Honor Guard.
Memorials may be made to Hickory Grove Baptist Church Building Fund, 17721 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207.
Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

RAY CURTIS, JR.

Ray Curtis, Jr., 76, of Bear Creek died Tuesday, November 26, 2019.
Mr. Curtis was born in New Port News, Virginia on February 14, 1943, the son of Lewis Ray and Margaret (Pierce) Curtis. Ray was of the Baptist faith, worked as a truck driver, carpenter and a self - employed farmer. His greatest pleasure was time spent with his family, especially his granddaughter, "Scooter."
Ray was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Judi (Hales) Curtis of the home; daughter, Annette Curtis of Bear Creek; son, Jeff Ray Curtis and wife Barbara of New Hill; and granddaughter, Sara "Scooter" Curtis.
A memorial service will be held at a later date.
Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family.
Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

CURTIS "CURT" JASPER MATTHEWS

Curtis Jasper Matthews, 65, passed away Saturday, November 23, 2019 at UNC Healthcare Hospice in Pittsboro.
Funeral services were held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at Jordan Chapel AME Zion church with Pastor Ricky McKinney, Sr. officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.
Mr. Matthews was born October 12, 1954 to the late Thomas and Vernell Matthews. A member of Jordan Grove AME Zion Church, he was educated in the Chatham County School System. He then served in the United States Army for 2 years. After the military, he joined Wrenn Brothers Lumber Company, working until his health declined. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Claude and Elbert.
Survivors include a daughter, Anissa Brooks of Prattville, AL; two grandsons; brother; Grover Matthews and sister; Lola Matthews, both of Siler City.

JOSHUA AARON BIBY

Joshua Aaron Biby passed away on Wednesday, November 20, 2019.
The graveside service was conducted at 2 p.m. on Friday, November 29, 2019 at the Williams Family Cemetery.
Joshua was born in Randolph County on August 12, 1981 to Waylon and Shirley Lambert Williams. He worked as a carpenter and a mechanic.
In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sons, Joseph Aaron Biby and Christian James Biby of Carthage; brother, Adam Williams; and adoptive father, James Robert Biby.
Condolences may be offered online at: www.joycebrady-chapel.com.
JIE YI LIANG
Mrs. Jie Yi Liang, 54, of Chapel Hill, passed on Monday, November 25, 2019 at UNC Hospice Home, Pittsboro.
The cemetery services were held at 12:30 p.m., Friday, November 29, 2019 in Markham Memorial Gardens in Durham.

MICHAEL WAYNE BLACKBURN
Michael Wayne Blackburn, 25, of Sanford, died Wednesday, November 27, 2019.
A memorial service was held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home Chapel.
He was born in Wake County on September 23, 1994 to John Michael Blackburn and Wanda Sue Hodges Shoop. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Benjamin Freeman Blackburn. Michael worked in the cell tower repair industry.
He is survived by his father, John Blackburn of Sanford; mother and step-father, Wanda Hodges Shoop and Thomas Shoop of Sanford; grandmother and step-grandfather, Linda and Thomas Garrett of Sanford and grandmother, Mary Coleman of Sanford; sister, Casey Blackburn of Sanford; and two step-brothers, Blade Shoop and Lance Shoop.
Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

DEAN GUNTER
Dean Gunter, 63, of Sanford, passed away Thursday, November 28, 2019.
The family will celebrate his life at a later date.
He was born in Lee County on December 31, 1955 to the late Paul Edward and Faye Kelly Gunter. Dean worked as a journeyman electrician, then decided to follow his love for maintenance, customization and building of Harley-Davidson motorcycles, opening his own business, Thunder Cycles. Survivors include his brother, Gary Gunter of Broadway; and his sister, Debra Russell of Sanford.
Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

CHATHAM CH@T | MIKE WAGNER, SILER CITY CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Wagner talks department's mission, strategic plan and service

Siler Chief Police Chief Mike Wagner started his law enforcement career with the Albemarle County Police Department in Albemarle County, Virginia, in September of 1991. After retiring in May 2019, he was named as the Chief of Police of Siler City last June 3. This week, we speak with Wagner about his transition to Siler City and his goals for the department.
An Army veteran with 13 years of service in the United States Army and the Virginia Army National Guard, Wagner served overseas during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2010. He earned an associate's degree in Police Science from Piedmont Virginia Community College, a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Bluefield College, a master's Degree from Liberty University in Human Services/Executive Leadership and a Graduate Certificate in Police Executive Leadership from the University of Louisville.
How are you settling in as the new Police Chief, and how are you finding Siler City?
I am settling in quite well. I have found the transition to Siler City a rewarding experience. The privilege of meeting great people who are curious to see what waits

for the Police Department under new leadership. The hospitality that I have received by several civic groups, the school system, and public safety partners has provided me with opportunities to listen to the community and their concerns. In addition, the face-to-face conversations I have had with citizens stopping by the department has provided me with a valuable historic perspective.
You've embarked on the task of providing the Siler City Police Department with a mission statement and a strategic plan. Let's talk about the mission statement first. It may be a work in progress, but how do you describe, as you're meeting people, the mission of your department and its officers and staff?
The Mission Statement and the Core Values were developed directly from input from all members of the department. The greatest asset I have is the sworn and civilian staff at the department. They have provided me with an overview of where the department is, where they would like to see it and shared their goals and aspirations.
The mission of the Siler City Police Department is to provide professional police services that improve quality of life

issues, reduce crime and serve our diverse citizens with compassion, dignity and respect. We strive to educate the public on crime trends and to provide the best experiences for our citizens and visitors to make Siler City a safe community to work, live and visit.
Our focus is on:
• Integrity
• Professionalism
• Accountability
• Courage
• Respect
What can you tell us about the strategic plan?
The department is currently developing a strategic plan and we hope to have it completed soon.
The plan will concentrate on creating a vision for the department to meet the demands and expectations of our community and employees. The plan is to align the department with the 21st Century Policing Model recommendations that address community policing, officer wellness, the use of social media, and creating an open line of communication through community engagement activities. It has provisions to expand our training to ensure that our officers are trained to the highest standards and expose them to the changing trends in mental illness,

at risk youth, and crimes targeting our seniors.
Crime, unfortunately, is something we'll always have with us. As you've settled into the position, what are your impressions of trends you're seeing in Siler City, and how do you plan to address specific types of crimes that seem to be prevalent here?
Yes, unfortunately crime will always be with us, but I am committed to making Siler City the safest small town in North Carolina. This commitment will require officers to make themselves available to citizens by providing a balanced approach to crime prevention and enforcement efforts. The only way we can be successful with crime prevention and reduction is by developing open dialogue. In the future we may consider a Crime Stoppers tip line.
Currently, the department is addressing complaints about narcotic sales, loitering, and crimes associated with this behavior. The town has also seen an increase in the amount of aggravated assaults, which causes concerns. Siler City has a wonderful small-town character — let's not become complacent and fail to take the necessary steps to stop or prevent crime.



Submitted photo
Siler City Chief of Police Mike Wagner sits in his office in Town Hall.

Staffing has been an issue for the department, as well as for the city and Pittsboro as well. Can you talk about your philosophy on hiring and training?
Staffing at the department is one of my main topics of conversation. The hiring and training of officers is one of the most critical investments local government can make. We will take advantage of state-of-the-art technology so that my officers can be better prepared and more effective.
Moving forward the police department is looking to develop a workforce that is balanced with the citizens we serve. We will

continue to hire candidates that possess the departments core values and are committed to selfless service. Training in the department has become a high priority. We will enhance and expand training opportunities for our officers and civilian staff.
What's ahead for the department in the near future? Changes?
The future of the Siler City police department will embark upon a new level of exceptional police services that will provide trust among our community and increase the morale of our dedicated employees.

NEWS BRIEFS

Emissions inspections exempts 20-year-old vehicles starting Dec. 1
RALEIGH — Beginning Dec. 1, North Carolina's vehicle inspections requirement will exempt vehicles 20 years old from obtaining a yearly emissions test in the 22 counties which emissions testing is required.
For example, a 1999 model year vehicle would be exempt from obtaining an emissions inspection starting Dec. 1. The following year a 2000 model year vehicle would be exempt from obtaining an emissions inspection.
The change came

about as a result of the passage of Senate Bill 131 (Regulatory Reform Act of 2016-2017). The bill was signed into law in 2017 and then approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. The 20-year rolling inspection is outlined in N.C.G.S. 20-183.2(b)(3).
By law, a motor vehicle must pass an annual safety inspection before it can be registered in North Carolina or the registration can be renewed. All North Carolina counties still require the safety inspection.
Emissions inspections are still be required in 22 counties and will still be required for vehicles under 20 years old, starting Dec. 1. Those counties requiring emissions inspections include Alamance,

Experience an 18th-century Christmas at "O blessed Season!"
SANFORD — The warm glow of candlelight and festive greenery will welcome visitors to "O blessed Season!" at House in the Horseshoe State Historic Site. The Alston House will be adorned for Christmas and opened to the public Saturday, Dec. 7.
Guests will learn how Christmas was celebrated in Colonial America and how many modern holiday traditions had not been introduced. Tours of the candlelit house will be 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$2 each and available at the door (cash only) or at Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.com).

Visitors can enjoy warm cider and cookies by campfire and sing favorite Christmas carols. Children and adults are invited to make and take a Christmas ornament in the museum.
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 the 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.
Located at 288 Alston House Rd., Sanford, House in the Horseshoe is 16 miles west of Sanford off NC 42 and 10 miles north of Carthage on the Carbonton-Carthage Road. The house was built in 1772 by Philip Alston who proved a fiery leader for the Whig cause during the American Revolution.
For additional information call (910) 947-2051. House in the Horseshoe is part of the Division of State Historic Sites within the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Buncombe, Cabarrus, Cumberland, Davidson, Durham, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Guilford, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, New Hanover, Onslow, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Union and Wake counties.
More information on emissions and safety inspections is available on the NCDMV website.
— CN+R Staff Reports

CHURCH NEWS

MERONEY UMC

The Meroney United Methodist Church Choir will present the cantata, "Come & Adore Him" at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 8. There will be light refreshments provided after the 7 p.m. presentation. Everyone is invited. The church is located at 10568 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek.

LYSTRA BAPTIST CHURCH

The Lystra Church Take and Wear Clothes Closet will be open from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7. Anyone needing clothes is welcome to come and shop. Everything is free! There is no advantage in arriving before 8:45. The church is located at 686 Lystra Rd., off 15-501, past Chatham Downs. If more information is needed, please call 919-933-6812.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

You are invited to worship at the First Baptist Church, as the adult choir presents "His Name Is Jesus," at 11 a.m., Sunday, Dec. 8. The cantata explores some of the names of our Lord before His coming and since. Worship with us at 314 North Second Ave., Siler City.

LOVES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

The Loves Creek Baptist Church Choir and Drama Team will present a Christmas Cantata, "Joy! He shall Reign" at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 15. There will be no Sunday School that day. Everyone is invited and will be welcomed.

RIVER OF LIFE CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

The Outreach and Missionary Ministry at the River of Life COGOP will host an After-Thanksgiving Giveaway from 2 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7 at Boling Lane Park, across from the Piggly Wiggly. We will have blankets, outerwear, toiletry items, and food bags. The event will be held rain or shine!

FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

All are invited to the formal homecoming ball from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 at the Chatham County Agriculture Center in Pittsboro, sponsored by the First Missionary Baptist Church of Siler City. You may purchase tickets in advance from a member of the homecoming committee, or at the door of the event.

EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The choir and friends of Ebenezer United Methodist Church will present their cantata, "Everlasting Light," at 6 p.m., Dec. 7 and 8. This will be something different, the story of old Simeon in the temple, where he lifts up the Christ Child and declares, "My eyes have seen your salvation!" Refreshments will be served following each performance.

All are welcome. The church is located at 724 Beaver Creek Rd., Apex, 3/4 mile south of Hwy 64 near Jordan Lake.

FIRECHOSEN MINISTRIES

All are invited to the "Together We Stand" Unity and Empowerment Fellowship Worship Service at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8, at Firechosen Ministries. Join us at 190 Sanford Rd., Pittsboro. All will be welcome.

NEW SALEM CHURCH

New Salem Church has filled Christmas stockings available for needy families on a first come, first serve basis. We have stockings for men, women, and young children, ages 4-10. To pick up a stocking, come to 5030 Old Graham Rd., Pittsboro.

FIRST WESLEYAN CHURCH

The Glory Road gospel quartet will be in concert at 10:45 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 8, at the First Wesleyan Church. This is a free concert, open to the community. A love offering will be collected at the end of the concert. The church is located at 608 N. 3rd Ave., Siler City.

CHATHAM UMC

You are invited to attend our fourth annual Nativity Display from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, at Chatham United Methodist Church. There will be over 200 nativities on loan from members of our church family and community for you to view. Drop in anytime to view the nativities, enjoy some light refreshments and listen to music as we celebrate Advent and the Christmas season. There will be special areas for the children including crafts and other activities. There is no charge to attend but donations of non-perishable food for CORA Food Pantry would be appreciated. The church is located at 1826 Chatham Church Road, Moncure, about 10 minutes south of the traffic circle in downtown Pittsboro.

CHATHAM COUNTY ELEMENTARY AND K-8 SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOL MENUS

Monday, December 2			Tuesday, December 3		
BREAKFAST: Breakfast Round, Pineapples (**Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)			BREAKFAST: Strawberry Parfait w/French Toast Stick, Fruit Cocktail (**Breakfast Griddle Sandwich, Fresh Fruit)		
LUNCH: Big Daddy's Pepperoni Pizza, Macaroni and Cheese w/Roll, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combo, Seasoned Green Beans, Baby Carrots w/Dip. Tropical Fruit Mix (**+ Fresh Fruit)			LUNCH: Chicken & Waffles, BBQ Pork w/Corn Muffin, Southwest Chicken Salad, Oven Baked Fries, Cole Slaw, Fresh Fruit (**+ Chilled Applesauce)		
Wednesday, December 4			Thursday, December 5		
BREAKFAST: Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (**Bacon, Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)			BREAKFAST: Breakfast Griddle Sandwich, Peaches (** Strawberry Parfait w/Fr Toast Stix, Fresh Fruit)		
LUNCH: Popcorn Chicken w/Roll, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Build a Pizza Combo, Baked Potato, Carrot Soufflé, Chilled Pears (** Popcorn Chicken w/Roll, Hawaiian Ham & Cheese, Mozzarella Sticks Combo, Baked Potato, Carrot Soufflé, Chilled Pears, Fresh Fruit)			LUNCH: Tex-Mex Beef w/Chips & Cheese, Fruit & Yogurt Combo, Deli Ham Chef Salad, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Corn, Rainbow Dessert		
Friday, December 6			Saturday, December 7		
BREAKFAST: Sausage Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (**Same)			BREAKFAST: Chicken Biscuit, Fresh Fruit (**Bacon, Egg & Cheese Biscuit, Fresh Fruit)		
LUNCH: Mozzarella Sticks w/Marinara, Fish & Shrimp Basket with Hushpuppies, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combo, Baked Beans, Broccoli w/Cheese, Fruit Explosion (** Bacon Cheeseburger on Bun, Fish & Shrimp Basket w/Hushpuppies, PB&J w/Cheese Stick Combo, Baked Beans, Broccoli w/Cheese, Fruit Explosion, Fresh Fruit, Lettuce & Tomato)			LUNCH: Popcorn Chicken w/Roll, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Build a Pizza Combo, Baked Potato, Carrot Soufflé, Chilled Pears (** Popcorn Chicken w/Roll, Hawaiian Ham & Cheese, Mozzarella Sticks Combo, Baked Potato, Carrot Soufflé, Chilled Pears, Fresh Fruit)		
Cup (**Walking Taco w/Beef & Cheese, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Deli Ham Chef Salad, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Corn, Rainbow Dessert Cup, Fresh Fruit)			Cup (**Walking Taco w/Beef & Cheese, Zesty Garlic French Bread, Deli Ham Chef Salad, Seasoned Black Beans, Seasoned Corn, Rainbow Dessert Cup, Fresh Fruit)		

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

ACROSS											
1	Curved like a pathook	57	Lenin's land: Abbr.	113	Pampering, in brief	12	Land in la mer	47	Kind of IRA	87	Corporate ID
8	Some	60	Tubular pasta	114	Pal, to Yves	13	Voice a quick greeting	51	Determine by ballot	89	Takes unfair advantage of
14	Algonquians	64	Part of REO	115	Demonstrate clearly	14	Inscription on a tombstone	52	Nervousness	90	Girl in a J.D.
20	Gushes lava	65	Riddle, part 4	117	Riddle's answer	15	— -corn (film genre)	53	It shows reflections	92	Part of REO
22	Cartoon cell material	70	— kwon do	125	Bleep bad words from	16	In — (gestating)	54	Passable	93	Hands down, as a verdict
21	Bassett of Hollywood	71	"Toyboat" singer Yoko	126	Warning on an airplane	17	Make a heap	55	Comedian	94	Cato's robe
22	Witch's elixir	72	Caravan	127	Earhart or Lindbergh	18	Up till now	56	"— Fideles" (Yule carol)	95	More wee
23	Start of a riddle	73	See	128	Tramps (on)	19	Talk testily to	58	Atop	96	Lugs around
25	Shoe-	74	Gift for music	129	Sub-locating devices	20	Hi-tech address	59	Doe's partner	97	Recluse
26	collecting	75	Riddle, part 5	130	Greek	21	address	60	"Othello" role	98	Person acting as a link
27	Marcos	79	Ho-hum	DOWN		22	Salty	61	Wide divide	99	China's Sun
28	State whose cap. is Boise	80	Like gear that quells mobs	1	Looked at	23	expanses	62	Earlier	100	Influence
29	Company that retails	81	English lav	2	Apollo 7	24	Many an iDevice game	63	Italian for "years"	101	Shutter slit
30	outdoor gear	82	Chair fixer of a sort	3	astronaut	25	The Lone Ranger's chum	64	"Dumb" bird	102	Ferret cousin
31	FDR follower	83	Bug spray ingredient	4	Wally	26	Gung-ho for	65	Suffix with 45-Down	103	High-IQ group
32	Gather, as a harvest	84	Auction, e.g.	5	Go toward	27	Hamlet	66	Stringed instrument of yore	104	Sacred songs
33	Pooch's yap	85	Oscar winner	6	"— girl!" ("All right")	28	Operates, as a booth	69	Canadian gas station	105	Outer: Prefix
34	32 Riddle, part 2	86	Mercedes	7	Gloria in	29	Northwestern	70	Atop, to	106	Central Asia's
35	Free of	87	100 Toby drink	8	Excelsis —"	30	French department	71	poets	107	— Sea
36	charge, as	88	103 Zodiac lion	9	Guy's sense of self-	31	Many a YouTube journal	72	Essential part	108	Flaky fish
37	legal services	89	104 Hocus-pocus	10	importance	32	Pollen	73	Potential reply to	109	Winning row
41	42 Large simian	90	105 Big retail stores	11	Neighbor of Michigan	33	transporter	74	"Who's there?"	110	in tic-tac-toe
42	Stroke gently	91	106 End of the riddle	12	rep.	34	Triumphs over	75	Round of	111	NYC rail and bus org.
43	44 Riddle, part 3	92	110 Nibble on	13	Entertainer's	35	Lifesaver, perhaps	76	gunfire	112	That'll show ya!"
44	48 Right wrongs	93	111 Be furious	14	Football field unit	36	Footbal field unit	77	Lay's snacks	113	Adam's woman
45	49 Genesis	94	112 With	15	"Ho-hum"	37		78	Oscar's kin	114	Petroleum
46	game system	95	73-Across,	16		38		79	Hop	115	Three, in Italy
47	maker	96	fluorescent paint brand	17		39					
50	Egg, formally			18		40					
54	"Cool beans!"			19		41					

Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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Pittsboro Parks Board urges support for town park growth



A rendering of initial designs of the proposed Historic Louis Freeman Park show a stone path, historical markers and an arbor. The park will be located in the vicinity of Salisbury and Rectory Drive.



The Kiwanis Park, near the Kiwanis Club building on Credle Street, is in the design phase of an expansion which will connect adjacent neighborhoods to the park and may include restroom facilities.

Staff photo by David Bradley

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Pittsboro Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PARAB) urged the Pittsboro town board on Nov. 25 to fill the town’s park planner position left vacant with the resignation of Pittsboro Parks Planner Paul Horne and to support the continued efforts to build new and improve current parks.

PARAB Chairman Stephanie Bass and member Noah Becker conducted a presentation to the town board at its most recent regular meeting providing updates on the town’s park system and recommending the town seek a new Park Planner rather than leave the responsibilities split between the planning and public utilities departments. Pittsboro Town Manager Bryan Gruesbeck announced Horne’s departure last month. At the time, Gruesbeck noted to the board that the division of duties while the position was being assessed.

Bass opened the presentation by noting the park’s departments two major projects, an expansion of Kiwanis Park on Credle Street in Pittsboro and the creation of a new park, the Louis Freeman Historic Park, which will be located near Salisbury and Rectory drives, were both in the development stage with “a lot of pieces in motion.” Bass said the board didn’t want to “lose momentum” on the projects and that the “public is going to expect” a certain amount of progress as well as “needs for improvements in existing parks.”

“We encourage you to move quickly and aggressively with park system development,” Bass said. “We believe Pittsboro needs a full-time parks planner.”

Bass noted that the two departments, planning and public utilities, “couldn’t possibly keep up with what’s going on and what’s coming.” Bass noted that the park system was hoping to apply for a \$250,000 PARTF grant for the park projects and with a March deadline, the process required someone who could put full focus and attention to the application. Becker also urged the board to consider hiring a parks programmer position to manage recreation programs.

Becker then proceeded to provide an update to the board about the various projects underway in the town’s park system. The Louis Freeman Historic Park, named for the freed slave who purchased his wife out of slavery and later owned land in the town of Pittsboro, is envisioned to be both a walking park and an exploration of Freeman’s history and the land.

Grimsley Hobbs of Hobbs Architects donated additional land for the project to allow for a second entrance on Salisbury Street. Hobbs also spoke during the public comment period in support of the park. A bamboo “thicket” is slated to be thinned with play structures installed that will mimic and complement the natural surroundings. The plans include a stone walk, board walk and wooden arbor.

Becker also provided an update on the renovation and expansion of Kiwanis Park, noting the board

had conducted multiple events to receive public input on the project. Initial plans include additional entrances and a path to provide “flow through” from adjacent neighborhoods. The board is also hoping to install bathrooms at the park.

Other projects Becker noted were improvements and enhancements to the Community House to encourage more use. In addition, Becker noted that the tennis courts at the McClenahan Street park were in bad shape, with many of the facilities lights “going out.” Becker noted that there may be USTA grants available for that project, but again would require a dedicated person to apply for them.

Town Lake Park was in “good shape,” but there is a small leak on the lower dam that will need to be repaired. In addition, hurricanes in 2018 did significant damage to the Roberson Creek Greenway. Becker said he believed the town had been awarded \$26,000 in FEMA funds to repair the damaged greenway which will need to include grading and replacement of path materials which had all washed away.

The board, while praising the different parks in town and appreciating the planning improvements, was non-committal on PARAB’s recommendations. This may have been because it was the last board meeting of outgoing Mayor Cindy Perry and town commissioner Bett Wilson Foley. The board’s next meeting will take place on Dec. 9.

Reporter Casey Mann can be reached at Casey-Mann@Chathamnr.com.

Pittsboro’s Parks Planner bids farewell to the town

After 11 years with the town’s park’s department, Pittsboro’s Parks Planner Paul Horne announced that he has taken a new position in Washington state. Horne shared some final thoughts with the Chatham News + Record prior to his last day on the job, which was Nov. 29.



Submitted Photo

Pittsboro’s Parks Planner Paul Horne’s last day was Nov. 29. Horne has accepted a park position in Washington state.

Why do you work in Parks and Recreation?

I grew up on a farm in rural North Carolina, so I didn’t have many neighbor kids nearby. What I did have was hundreds of acres of forest and fields to explore. I think as a result I’ve always felt most connected and alive in nature, the more intense the nature the better. In this field, I get to help other people connect more deeply to themselves and to their neighbors through parks. I find that incredibly rewarding.

Why did you choose Pittsboro?

I did my undergraduate degree at UNC Chapel Hill, where I met my wife. She has a wonderful close family in Chapel Hill so we stayed in this area. I have family roots in Chatham County dating back to the mid 1700s, and I’ve been here a long time. Pittsboro will always feel like home and have a special place in my heart.

What are your biggest accomplishments in Pittsboro?

Well, I have a love for the parks that I’ve helped to design and develop, including Mary Hayes Barber Holmes Park, Rock Ridge Park, Page Vernon Park and the Kiwanis Park renovation. However, I think the project with the most lasting potential is the “One Pittsboro” Parks and Recreation System Master Plan. Parks, greenways, recreational opportunities, and conservation land play such a huge role in the quality of life of a community; I’m proud that the goals and aspirations of Pittsboro residents have been articulated through that plan. Important to me is the fact that the plan lays out a clear path for meeting those needs and aspirations in a fiscally responsible manner.

What are your hopes for your new position?

My hope is to have a lasting positive impact on my new community; I think that’s the most rewarding aspect of public service. I’m ready to tackle the new challenges and opportunities inherent in my new position.

What are you looking forward to?

Washington has such a diversity of amazing landscapes and micro-climates, making it a playground for outdoor recreational opportunities. The culture there really reflects their love of the outdoors. So, I’m definitely looking forward to the play, as well as the rewarding work, as befits a Parks Director.

What will you miss the most?

Honestly, I’ll miss the people of Pittsboro the most — I love the community here. I’ll also miss the amazing teams of designers, planners, architects, and professionals that I’ve had the pleasure of working with.

— CN+R Staff Report



Siler City Christmas Parade

presented by the Chatham Chamber of Commerce

"An Old-Fashioned Christmas"
Thursday, December 5 @ 7:00 p.m.
Downtown Siler City

In the courtyard on Chatham Avenue...

- ♦ "The Hangout Worship Band" will perform before and after the parade
- ♦ Santa will visit with children in the courtyard after the parade

.....

The Oasis Open Air Market proudly presents...

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- ♦ Music provided by Rik Carlson and Faith Tysor from 5-7 p.m.

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CHATHAM BUSINESS ROUNDUP

4 takeaways on economic development from the 2019 State of the County Report

Journalists like me love reports and assessments.



ZACHARY HORNER
Corner Store

I'll have a couple of stories in the coming weeks from the 2019 State of the County Report from the Chatham County government, but here at

the Corner Store, we talk business and the economy. So it only makes sense to go over some of the numbers and things the county wants people to know about Chatham's economy. Here are four takeaways:

2018's big year skews the numbers

Chatham County is estimated to only have seen 161 jobs created this past fiscal year, a decrease of more than 67 percent from fiscal year 2018, and financial investment dropped by nearly 38

percent from the previous year. But don't worry.

Chatham Economic Development Corporation President Alyssa Byrd told me the drop in new jobs from all sectors from 550 in FY 2018 can be attributed to Mountaire Farms, which contributed a large portion of the new jobs in FY 2018. She also pointed to a 35-job expansion at Engineered Plastic Components in Siler City. County officials said during the 2020 fiscal year's budget process that financial growth was stymied a bit by bad weather and other factors, which could have contributed to less construction. The budget message estimated that building inspection revenues dropped by more than \$30,000 from FY 2018 to FY 2019, while residential permit revenues remained flat during the same time period.

An eye to the megasites

Chatham County's business culture will dramatically change if and

when some kind of corporation locates a manufacturing plant at either the Moncure Megasite off of U.S. Hwy. 1 in southeast Chatham or the Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site in northwest Chatham.

The megasites are regularly mentioned by government officials in board meetings and the Report is no different. The document stated that the county has "continued working with property owners" at both sites.

The Report also mentioned the Carolina Core, a branding strategy for acres of development-ready land stretching from Surry County near the Virginia state line all the way down to Fayetteville, along the U.S. Hwy. 421 corridor. It's a regional marketing effort that presents the whole region as a prime place for locating a new business or plant. Chatham is all in on the Core.

Spreading the wealth

The report noted that

job growth and plant expansion happened around the county.

In Pittsboro, announcements by Capital Ready Mix Concrete and EG-Gilero combined to project 120 new jobs with \$9.5 million in capital investment. Siler City saw 26 new jobs and at least \$6 million of investment from new company A.D. Tubi USA and existing business Floorazzo. Southern Veneer's purchase of Boise Cascade and its Moncure facility will include an \$8 million investment, while Wilson Brothers Trucking of Bear Creek is creating 25 new jobs and pouring \$4 million into its business.

It's got to be good for the county, and the business community in Chatham specifically, to see this growth and expansion not limited just to one area of Pittsboro but across the 710 square miles that make up Chatham.

Business is a focus

I've written before

about the intersection of government and business, and it's something I'll likely continue to write about. It's something the Report mentioned as well.

"Chatham County's culture values innovation, hard work and people of all backgrounds, making it an ideal place for families and businesses to flourish," the report stated in its introduction. "The County continuously looks to cultivate competitive employment opportunities and add revenue so people can live and prosper for generations to come."

The government benefits from more businesses and more jobs because it creates more tax revenue, meaning more programs and more improvements to facilities and departments. So making improvements to the business climate a focus is not surprising.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorn@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @ZachHornCNR.

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After eating, many of the children at the Siler City Community Meal took the opportunity to color on a large paper canvas hung for artists in the making.
Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Monthly Siler City Community Meal provides more than food

BY KIM HAWKS
News + Record Staff

Editor's Note: Kim Hawks, who works as a photographer for the News + Record, attended a recent Siler City Community Meal and wrote this first-person account of her time there.

SILER CITY — In March 2017, Wilma Schroeder and Gwen Overturf created the Siler City Community Meal. On the fourth Friday of each month, this event is hosted by the Peppercorn Coffee Shop at 138 N. Chatham Ave. in Siler City. Everyone is welcomed.

The first volunteers arrive around 4 p.m. to prepare for the shared dinner provided primarily by residents of Siler City and a few other towns in Chatham County. Tables and chairs are rearranged and serving stations are set up for meat, vegetables and desserts. The dinner is determined by a monthly sign-up sheet where volunteers commit to a specific main dish/meat, side dish, salad, dessert or bread. Magically, around 5:30 p.m., volunteer chefs walk in with their food offerings cooked, warm, covered and ready to feed at least 20-30 out of the 100-130 normal attendees. Huge pans of dressing, turkey, poppy seed chicken, mashed sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, pans of cornbread, pumpkin, apple crumb and pecan pies were part of last Friday's dinner menu. It was an early, over-the-top Thanksgiving meal, with "community family."

Among the regular volunteers is Selina Lopez, who is in charge of the Youth Leadership Program at the Hispanic Liaison/El Vinculo Hispano in Siler City. Selina arrives with 10 students who help set up tables and serve food buffet-style for community service



Photo courtesy Chris Seifering

Gwen Overturf (left), one of the organizers for the event, and Libby Ann Capaldi share a warm moment during the event. The goal of the Community Meal is to create a space where a diversity of people break bread together and learn from each other.

hours. Selina is a first generation graduate from UNC who majored in Psychology and Hispanic Literature. She offers career readiness counseling to guide and help Latino students become aware of many diverse career choices to consider. They meet weekly after school from 4-7 p.m. Selina provides transportation when needed.

By 6 p.m., approximately 60 people are milling about, visiting and catching up with friends. It's a fun gathering, sharing a meal on a monthly basis. The community meal officially begins with Overturf welcoming everyone to the gathering. She mentions there's a special treat this evening. Heather McIver

of Silk Hope sponsored live music provided by Chatham Rabbits, a local duo made up of Chatham residents Sarah and Austin McCombie. A line is formed, plates are heaped with delicious food and everyone shares a special community meal together. After a wonderful meal, the Chatham Rabbits perform, most of their originals. It's a time of magical community.

This is a lovely model to offer support to people who can't afford three meals a day, a common definition of food insecurity. And it is about more than just sharing food — it's also about building community and support via regular monthly gatherings. To me, it's powerful and beautiful.



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BRYANT: ‘They were very instrumental and so inspirational in my life’

Continued from page A1

“I’ve had the opportunity to know firsthand the value of the Bryant family,” McKinney said. “They’re just a great family. Everybody knew them. And for me personally, they were very instrumental and so inspirational in my life.” Today, only one Bryant from the once-large family — Carl, who is 82 — survives and McKinney is planning a program next month at the Chatham County Agriculture Center in Pittsboro to honor not only the last living Bryant, but also his late siblings, their parents and their contributions to the community.

But it all started, in the early part of the 20th century, with the marriage in 1914 of Gade Bryant, a former sharecropper born in Broadway in 1895, and his wife, Maude Lee Bryant, born in Pittsboro in 1897.

Gade was a hard-working farmer who, by hand and mule, “planted and harvested his own tobacco, wheat, cotton, sugar cane and cucumbers before later becoming a prominent dairy farmer,” said McKinney.

The family farm encompassed 500 acres. In 1954, Hurricane Hazel drowned many of Gade’s cows, driving him out of the dairy cow business. In the hurricane’s aftermath, he turned to sugar cane and cucumber farming.

Maude, who worked alongside her husband on the farm, was also a midwife.

She was, McKinney said, “an amazing woman who gave birth to 11 children of her own. Their names were Evelyn, Nathaniel, Robert, Nannie, Gertrude, Theodore, Louis, Harvey, Margaret, Wilbur and Carl. She raised them all with love, sharing, and prayer. She loved to cook and she could cook, too, because I used to eat her cooking when I was a young boy



Staff photo by David Bradley

The “old home place” at the end of Gade Bryant Road in Moncure is the relic of days gone by. The Bryant Homestead, the home of Gade and Maude and their 11 children, is memorialized with the monument erected by the family to keep the family legacy remembered.

visiting the farm and fishing in their pond.”

On their Pittsboro farm, the Bryants embraced a strong work ethic, McKinney said.

“I’m told that on the day that Ms. Maude gave birth to Carl, April 2, 1937, on the same day she returned to the fields to help her husband plant corn,” he said. “As a midwife, she delivered 97 babies and three of them were white babies. A story is told that she saved the lives of two babies who were thought to be dead; but Maude kept on working and never gave up until life was restored to those two babies.”

Gade also assisted in the building of Ft. Bragg in Cumberland County.

In 1949, Gade donated a portion of his land for the Chatham County Colored Agriculture Fair and he built the JOCCA building for county residents in the Seventies.

“Mr. Bryant also donated the land for one of the first black schools in the county, named New Zion School,” McKinney said. While the school, which

was on a site on Gade Bryant Road, no longer exists, several of the Bryant children attended school there.

Gade Bryant “was very involved with the 4-H program in the county, which led to the Chatham County Fairgrounds Association. He served as president on the board for 27 years; other Bryants have been on the board for years as well. This father, while working hard, amassed 500 acres of land ownership at a time when blacks truly had to struggle to accumulate wealth.”

Gade and Maude’s children “went on to accomplish some very note worthy futures of their own,” said McKinney. “The Bryant children went on to become better-than-average school teachers, barber college owners, daycare providers, entrepreneurs, morticians, public office holders, store owners, gas stations owners, farmers. They have roads named in the honor of Mr Gade Bryant and one of the north Chatham County schools have been named in honor of one of their children.”

McKinney was especially close to Wilbur Bryant who, for decades until his death in 2017 was a well-known figure in Pittsboro, known to many as the man selling produce at various locations around town from the back of his pick-up truck.

“Those who lived in Chatham County, particularly Pittsboro, all knew the person in the personality of Mr. Wilbur Bryant,” said McKinney. “He’s the one who determined early in life that he would stay on and continue to farm and work alongside his dad and mom to keep the Bryant name in farming ongoing. He could be seen regularly all over the county and even surrounding counties selling the fresh produce that he grew to our neighbors. If it would grow, he knew how to tend it and have a harvest. His big hands could hold a half dozen or more ears of corn in one hand as he stood pretty much alongside the roads. You could hear him say to the passersby ‘Roasted ears. Get your fresh roast-



Staff photo by David Bradley

The tricycle and old work boots on the front porch of the Bryant homestead take us to the past days of the family that once lived here. Carl Bryant says he thinks that these boots belonged to one of his brothers.

ed ears here; these ears are as fresh and tender as a mother’s love.’ Boy, he would say that. I suppose that speaks of just how much he loved his mother. Wilbur never met a stranger, and would greet all the same by calling them ‘friend.’ If you were real close, he’d call you ‘cuz.’ What he did for the county and town will be missed for years.”

Of the Bryant family, McKinney said they were “great humanitarians and deserve to have their legacy live on. Their hard work and dedication to Chatham County will be hard to match, to say the least.”

A stone marker erected on the family farm recognizes “the firm foundation” built by Gade and Maude “for their family and community. Their commitment to entrepreneurship, advocacy and civic leadership left a tangible legacy in Chatham County.”

Aiming to recognize the Bryant family and their many contributions to the region, McKinney several months ago began planning an event, which will be held in Pittsboro on December 21, to honor them.

It will be held at the Chatham County Agriculture/Conference Center, 1192 US Hwy. 64, beginning at 4 p.m.

McKinney is lining up

speakers who knew the Bryants to participate.

There will be music, provided by REK KREATION ENTERTAINMENT, with a performance by McKinney’s son, a musician trained at the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Scurlocks Catering in Pittsboro is lined up to provide food.

“Every effort has been made to accommodate an evening of elegance for the Bryant family,” said McKinney.

Everyone is invited.

Tickets for the event are \$25, available in advance at Willy’s, 35 W. Chatham St., Pittsboro; John’s Pizza, 122 Sanford Rd., Pittsboro; Knott’s Funeral Home, 50 Masonic St., Pittsboro; Dan Augustine, 507 East St., Pittsboro; and Peace Makers Gates Of Beauty, 405 E. Main St., Carrboro. Tickets will also be available at the door the day of the program.

McKinney said the Pittsboro venue can accommodate 299 people, and he’s hoping for a good crowd.

“I’m praying we’ll have 299 people there,” he said. “But if there’s only 10 people, I’m still honored to do it.”

Randall Rigsbee can be reached at rigsbee@chathamnc.com.





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Lady Jets trey, hopes for win bound away at buzzer as rival Bears survive upset bid

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — It's been said close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades, a fact the Lady Jets of Jordan-Matthews found to be painfully true in their rematch with arch rival Chatham Central Tuesday night in Gerald L. Binkley Gymnasium.

After being blown out by 21 points in their first meeting six days earlier, J-M battled the Lady Bears to the wire before failing to capitalize on two chances to pull out a win in the final 15 seconds as Chatham Central hung on for a 37-35 non-conference victory.

Sweeping the season series with Jordan-Matthews for the

fifth straight year, the Lady Bears improved to 2-1 while the Lady Jets fell to 1-3.

Mary Grace Murchison led the way for Chatham Central with 17 points and Danielle Vaughn chipped in 10 for the winners, who shot 40% (14-of-35) from the floor while turning the ball over 21 times.

Jasmine Scotten tallied 13 points and Ellia Wright added 10 for the Lady Jets, who connected on 33% (15-of-45) of their field goal attempts and held a 20-16 rebounding advantage while committing 20 turnovers.

"I thought J-M was a much-improved team over the one we played last week," noted Lady Bears' coach Lynda Burke. "Our press didn't hurt them at

all tonight, while they caused us problems running our offense as Mary Grace and Danielle had difficulty going to the basket off the dribble. The third quarter was the key for us when we switched from a zone to man defense, while Danielle stepped up big on offense in the period to give us the lead for good."

Jordan-Matthews' coach Charles Byrd remarked he continues to see his team's leadership improve each outing.

"The girls are really beginning to buy in on how we want to play defense for all four quarters," said Byrd. "While I thought we played well in transition on the open court and did a better job attacking and driving to the basket, our offense appeared stagnant at times and we need to do more movement without the ball."

Behind back-to-back Avery Headen three-pointers to start the game, the Lady Jets jumped out to a quick 6-0 advantage and

Jordan-Matthews' Seniah Wiley shoots for two in last Tuesday's inter-county rivalry game against Chatham Central defender Savannah Stilwell. The close-fought game came down to the last seconds of play, with the Bears clawing the Jets 37-35.

Staff photo by David Bradley

See **HOPES**, page B2

Northwood trounces Triton 57-19

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

ERWIN — It was nothing short of a stampede.

Northwood bolted to a 19-0 advantage after one quarter and never looked back while placing nine players in the scoring column as the Chargers dominated all phases of the game en route to trampling an outmanned Triton team 57-19 on the Hawks' home court Saturday afternoon.

Holding Triton to its fewest points since a 44-22 loss to Whiteville on December 22, 2009, Northwood lifted its record to 3-0 with its third convincing victory on the road, while the Hawks, who slipped to 1-2 for the season, suffered their most lopsided defeat since a 74-28 setback to Terry Sanford on January 5, 2016.

Jalen McAfee-Marion registered 14 points for the winners, while Aaron Ross and Deuce Powell finished with 12 and 10 points, respectively — all in the first half — as the Chargers shot a sizzling 58% (25-of-43) from the floor in addition to out-re-

See **NORTHWOOD**, page B2

Nighthawks soar in second half 67-48

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

GREENSBORO — What a difference a night makes.

Twenty-four hours after destroying Western Harnett 55-9 the Northwood girls basketball team suffered a hard 67-48 loss at the hands of Northern Guilford in Greensboro on Tuesday, November 26.

Northwood dropped to 1-2 on the season with the loss while Northern Guilford, which is certainly poised to be one of the better 3A teams in the state this winter, moved to 1-0 after taking its season opener.

The contest was nip and tuck in the opening half as the teams battled back and forth with lead changers ever present.

Rae McClarty was hot early for the Lady Chargers as the sharp shooting guard canned a trey on the way to seven points in the opening stanza. Gianna McManaman added four as did Tekeyah Bland chipped in four as well as Northwood took a 17-16 lead after one.

See **SOAR**, page B2

Central misses three shots in waning seconds as JM holds on in county thriller



BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — Talk about defying the odds.

Chatham Central coach Robert Burke probably best summed up the closing seconds of Tuesday night's clash between his Bears and arch rival Jordan-Matthews when he remarked, "In high school basketball, when the game is on the line and you get three uncontested looks at the basket in the last five seconds, 99 times out of 100 you win, but tonight it just didn't happen for us."

Burke was referring to Chatham Central's inability to cash in when trailing by a point in the final moments that resulted in the Bears suffering a heartbreaking 54-53 loss to J-M in front of a packed Gerald L. Binkley Gymnasium.

Earning a split of the season series for the third time in the last four years, the Jets raised their record to 3-1 while Chatham Central dropped to 1-2.

Down one with five seconds showing on the clock, Chatham Central inbounded the ball to Michael Moore on the right baseline for a clean shot at the hoop, but when his attempt rimmed out, Lucas Skertich grabbed the rebound and laid up a shot that failed to drop before Nic Wilson attempted to tip in the miss, but the ball rolled off the rim as time expired.

Moore topped all scorers with 22 points and Skertich added 15 for the Bears, who shot 48% (20-of-42) from the floor and commanded a 30-22 advantage in rebounds while turning the ball over 14 times.

Despite playing on a hurt ankle, Camden Fuquay came off the bench to fire in 17 points for Jordan-Matthews, while Jayden Davis and Lanice Hedgepeth contributed 11 points apiece for the victors. The Jets connected on 43% (20-of-47) of their field goal attempts while committing 15 turnovers.

"I thought the big key this evening was after we opened up a nice early lead we got complacent, didn't play good defense and failed to seal the deal when we had the chance to do so," said Burke. "But both teams dug deep and played hard to stay in the game, and my hat is off to Camden Fuquay, who killed us in the paint while playing

Staff photo by David Bradley

Jordan-Matthews' Timothy Eubanks jumps high for two points past Chatham Central's Micah Gurley and teammate Brayden Teague in last Tuesday's game against Chatham Central in Bear Creek. Jordan-Matthews flew past the Bears, winning a close-fought game 54-53.

See **THRILLER**, page B2

Jekyll and Hyde-type Sendek similarities appearing to Wolfpack nation with Doeren



DON BEANE
Sports Editor

As the final seconds ticked off the scoreboard clock on Saturday night inside Carter-Finley Stadium what was left of the North Carolina State Wolfpack fans

were in shock. Or were they? I say that tongue and cheek because most weren't despite leading arch-rival UNC 10-6 at the half. State fans, who showed up in the cold and rainy conditions to support their beloved team, wanted to believe. But there really wasn't any reason to do so as the atmosphere had a distinct Herb Sendek vibe to it. The Tar Heels roared back with 35 unanswered points in the second half to take a convincing 41-10 triumph back to Chapel Hill while also earning a bowl berth with a 6-6 record. The excitement was high for the Carolina blue faithful and its program under the first-year return of future Hall-of-Fame coach Mack Brown, while the Wolfpack fans were left feeling, well, like Sendek had returned on the N.C. State sidelines, albeit in the form of Dave Doeren as a football coach. For N.C. State fans, the similarities are uncanny. Both came from the MAC, both are very dry personality-wise and are about as exciting as watching someone dust furniture, and both have been winners of a few good recruits and games at N.C. State, just enough to get the Wolfpack faithful to feel hopeful, but only to be let down in the end. I can honestly say there are no fans that care more about their athletic programs than Wolfpack fans. Are there other fans that are as passionate and diehard? Of course, all over the nation. But none are moreso than those at N.C. State, and perhaps at times, it's not such a good thing with the agony they are left to endure at times. While watching the game the other night, the comparisons of Doeren and Sendek swirled through my head. Sendek, who took his team to five straight NCAA tournaments in the final half of his 10 seasons at the helm of the Wolfpack basketball program, while also winning ACC Coach of the Year in 2003-2004, won some big games. But certainly nothing

consistent over the Big Blue Two — UNC and Duke, which isn't exactly an easy thing to do admittedly, nor any ACC regular season or tournament championships. Moreover it was the disappointing losses to inferior teams that would make Wolfpack fans want to pull their hair out at times as the cerebral head man Sendek eventually compiled just a 191-132 (59 percent) record. Doeren, well he's seems determined to outdo the mediocrity of Sendek. To me his success has been smoke and mirrors with some definite good luck. In seven seasons, Doeren is 40-46 overall (53 percent), 21-35 (38 percent) in the ACC, and 1-12 (7 percent) against ranked opponents. Now I will give Doeren his dues, he has a 3-2 record in bowl games, but basically was blown out by the two name opponents in Mississippi State (51-28) and Texas A&M (52-13). Doeren also was 9-4 in the two previous seasons before the 4-8 debacle this season. So what happened in 2019 for things to go southward so fast. Well I feel it's two major things in the lack of a quarterback and the coordinator decisions. Doeren had a bit of luck

when Jacoby Brissett transferred in as QB from Florida, then Ryan Finley transferred in later when Eli Drinkwitz came in as Offensive Coordinator from Boise State. This gave the Wolfpack the opportunity to win 10 games on two occasions only to see excruciating losses to Wake Forest among others to prevent that from happening. Of course Doeren deserves credit for hiring Drinkwitz, who is an up and coming star which can be seen at Appalachian State right now and its success under the first year young coach. It was Drinkwitz who actually saved the job for Doeren in my opinion. When Drinkwitz left, Doeren made a fatal mistake in good ol' boying it and giving the Offensive Coordinator job to Dez Kitchings, a great position coach and recruiter, but also someone with no experience in coordinating an offense, and George McDonald, who had a pair of one-year stints as Offensive Coordinator at Western Michigan and Syracuse, and who played at Doeren's previous coaching gig, Northern Illinois. And with two inexperienced OC's and no experience at the quarterback position, a recipe for disaster was laid, especially

when the defense relied once again on Defensive Coordinator Dave Huxtable. Huxtable has drawn the ire of Wolfpack fans wide and far for years, and for good reason. I will give Doeren credit, he did bring in Tony Gibson from West Virginia to help as the Co-Offensive Coordinator to add some new wrinkles. But in the end it certainly was Huxtable's defense to call. So what's next for Doeren? Does he make some tough decisions coordinator wise, or continue on the course of this past season and attribute the shortcomings to youth and inexperience? To say the Wolfpack program under Doeren is at a crossroads, especially given the return of Mack Brown to UNC, and the recent jobs done by Dave Clawson at Wake Forest and David Cutcliffe at Duke. Even Sendek had only one losing record in 10 seasons at N.C. State, and Doeren is already at two — and counting.

Editor's Note: Bob Sutton of the Times-News in Burlington broke the news on Monday, December 2 that N.C. State Co-Defensive Coordinator Dave Huxtable had parted ways with Coach Dave Doeren and the Wolfpack football program.

Northwood girls demolish Western Harnett 55-9

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

LILLINGTON — It wasn't for the faint of heart in Lillington on Monday, Nov. 25 as the Northwood girls' basketball team absolutely crushed host Western Harnett 55-9 in non-conference action. In picking up its first win of the season to move to .500, the Lady Chargers exploded early to a 24-2 advantage after eight minutes of action

and never looked back in taking a win that could have been much worse had NW coach Cameron Vernon not taken it easy on the Eagles. Vernon was able to see many combinations on the court in the victory and the result was a balanced attack. "It was great to get our first win of the season and we were able to get everyone in the game by the third quarter," Vernon said. "We were very balanced and I loved how

we started the game with some energy." Behind a pair of treys and six points from McKenna Snively, and six additional points down in the paint from freshman Tekeyah Bland, Northwood dealt Western Harnett a fatal blow in the form of the 24-2 run. Vernon felt his young team let off the gas a bit in the second quarter and played with less energy and focus. "We do need to learn how to maintain that en-

ergy and effort the entire game," noted Vernon. "We can't play one really good quarter or half and then take a quarter or half off. That's what we are trying to preach daily." Rae McClarty canned a three-pointer in the second and Bland chipped in three more points as the Chargers built its lead to a commanding 32-4 at the half. Northwood picked the intensity back up in the third period and the result was a 15-3 surge

which extended its lead to a whopping 47-7. Natalie Bell collected four points in the stanza for the green and gold while Jy Smith drilled a trey. Jillian McNaught would pump in four points in the fourth for the Lady Chargers who outscored the Eagles 8-2 in the quarter to close out the easy 55-9 win. Snively led all scorers with 11 while Bland chipped in nine, Bell eight and McClarty seven for the balanced Northwood

attack. "McKenna really had a good night shooting and Tekeyah was able to really do well in the post," said Vernon. "We had a nice mix of inside and outside scoring. Obviously holding your opponent to 9 points in the game, I was pleased with our defensive effort. We have a quick turnaround heading to Northern Guilford and they have a very tough squad with everyone back from last year's team."

NORTHWOOD

Continued from page B1

bounding their host 22-10 besides committing 13 turnovers. Keionta Burnett tallied five points to lead Triton, which connected on 29% (nine-of-31) of its field goal attempts while turning the ball over 25 times. "I feel very fortunate to be part of a special group of kids who have shown a lot of senior leadership this season," said Northwood coach Matt Brown. "They are so unselfish and love to share the ball while finding the open man for the best shot. Jumping out to a big lead was fine this afternoon, but I had some concern we weren't communicating on defense in the first quarter, something we did improve upon as the game went on." Hawks' coach T.J. Morrison related the outcome was almost what he expected from such a well-coached team. "They have what you want out of your team, coachable talent," remarked Morrison. "Meanwhile, we were totally embarrassed the first quarter," he said. "We were not poised on offense, we made bad passes and took too many quick shots. I told our guys at

intermission they could either come out and fight hard the second half or continue to be embarrassed, and unfortunately it turned out to be more of the latter." While Triton missed all eight of its attempts from the field and turned the ball over nine times in the opening eight minutes of play, McAfee-Marion, Powell and Ross carried the load for the Chargers in the initial quarter. Following a Ross fast break dunk off a nifty assist from Troy Arnold that put Northwood up 25-0 with 6:17 left in the first half, Dalen Thompson notched the Hawks' initial points on a layup 16 seconds later, and after Triton trimmed the gap to 28-9 on Zydarious McDougald's layup with 3:54 to go until the break, the Chargers closed out the period with a pair of McAfee-Marion free throws, Adam Omar's fast break layup and a Ross tip-in at the buzzer to forge a 25-point lead at intermission. Keeping the pedal to the metal, Northwood made 10 of its 12 field goal attempts in the third stanza while outscoring the Hawks 21-4 in the frame, eventually fashioning its biggest advantage at 55-13 following Sebastian Mehringer's driving basket off the right wing with 17 seconds remaining in the quarter.

THRILLER

Continued from page B1

through pain." J-M coach Rodney Wiley agreed Fuquay turned out to be the difference in the contest. "Turnovers and not being able to hit open looks caused us to fall behind early," Wiley said, "but we found a way to overcome Chatham Central's tough zone and fought hard to get back in the game. Even though he was playing on a bad ankle, Camden gave us a big lift off the bench in the second half and made some huge shots down the stretch. "Our full-court man defense starting forcing some turnovers in the second half that got our offense going," he said, "but we were fortunate to escape at the end." With Jordan-Matthews sinking just one-of-12 attempts from the field in the initial period, the

Bears clawed their way to a 9-3 advantage after one quarter behind three close-in buckets from Wilson and a Preston Cox trey from the left wing. Following back-to-back lane jumpers by Skertich to begin the second stanza that extended Chatham Central's lead to 10, a pair of Huston Causey three-pointers ignited a 19-7 Jets' run that put J-M up by two with 1:13 left in the first half. Moore's inbounds layup was then countered by a Causey free throw with 44 seconds to go until the break, sending Jordan-Matthews into intermission with a 23-22 advantage. The Jets built as much as a four-point cushion on five occasions in the third period prior to Moore draining consecutive three-pointers from the left side over the last 23 seconds of the stanza to give the Bears a 40-38 lead heading into the final eight minutes. Neither squad held more than a three-point

advantage over the course of a fourth quarter that featured three lead swaps and four ties before J-M's Seth Moore canned a bank shot in the lane with 13 seconds remaining to put the winners ahead to stay at 54-52. Wilson was then fouled in the act of shooting with six seconds left, and after making his first charity toss, Wilson's miss on his second attempt was gathered in by Michael Moore, who immediately called a timeout to set the stage for the dramatic finish.

SOAR

Continued from page B1

Jayla Harris had six points, and Taylor Haynes and Janelle Henderson five points apiece including a trey each to keep the host Nighthawks in contention. In the second period, Haynes canned a pair of three-pointers to offset a five points by Bland and a trey from Hannah Hanapkey for Northwood. Northern Guilford would outscore the locals 14-12 in

the quarter to take a slim 30-29 lead at the break. "Northern Guilford is a very talented, well coached team," said NW coach Cameron Vernon. "I thought we played a great first half heading into the half only down by 1. However in the third quarter they went to a matchup zone and we really struggled attacking it offensively and had numerous turnovers." The result was a 19-6 surge by the Lady Nighthawks to balloon the one-point halftime lead to 49-35 entering the fourth.

Jadyn Newsome erupted for 12 points in that third quarter run for Northern Guilford while Henderson added five. Newsome would score five points and Haynes four in the final eight minutes of action as Northern Guilford outscored Northwood 18-13 in the period to close out the 67-48 victory. Bland had five points for the Chargers in the fourth while McManaman chipped in four. Bland closed the night with 16 points and eight rebounds for Northwood

while McClarty added nine points and McManaman eight points and five steals. Northern Guilford was paced offensively by 17 points from Newsome while Henderson chipped in 14 and Haynes 11. "I told the girls after the game that Northern Guilford coaches made better have time adjustments than their coach did and I have to do a better job to help our girls coming out of the half," pointed out Vernon. "So we will watch tape and see what we did and did not do in that third quarter and be

ready next time it happens. But our girls fought and if we want to be at the level of teams like Northern Guilford we have got to play better and I have to coach better. But this was a great test and a great game for us to measure where our program is right now and what we need to do to get better."

HOPES

Continued from page B1

never trailed in the opening stanza, but a pair of Vaughn free throws with 37 seconds to go trimmed J-M's lead to 12-11 after one quarter. A Murchison layup with 7:24 left in the second period gave Chatham Central its first advantage before the Lady Bears expanded their lead to 18-14 on her trey from the left wing midway through the stanza prior to Wright's floater in the lane with 1:50 remaining

in the first half that narrowed the difference to two at intermission. Ashlyn Ray's jumper from the left side with 3:24 to go in the third quarter capped an 8-2 J-M run that put the visitors from Siler City up by four before Vaughn's three-pointer from the right wing with 22 seconds left in the period culminated a 6-0 Chatham Central burst that gave the Lady Bears a 26-24 edge entering the final eight minutes. Savannah Stilwell's jumper in the lane with 5:42 to play increased Chatham Central's advantage to 32-24 prior to consecutive hoops by Wright that triggered an 11-4 Jordan-Mat-

thews' spurt to close the gap to one following Makayla Glover's layup with 31 seconds showing on the clock. After Murchison missed the front end of a one-and-one opportunity with 15 seconds remaining, Wright grabbed the rebound and pushed the ball into the frontcourt before the Lady Jets committed a turnover on the right baseline. Vaughn was then fouled and converted the front end of a one-and-one prior to missing her second attempt, and once again Wright collared the rebound but couldn't advance the ball past midcourt before the horn sounded.



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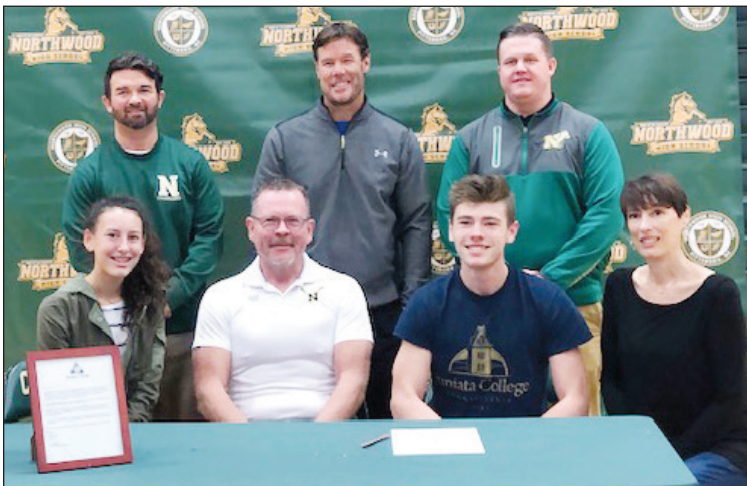
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Chatham County Public Health Department
Holly Coleman, MS, RS, Health Director
www.chathamnc.org/publichealth

Northwood Signing Day Fiesta

Northwood's Dimitri Holst (third from left on front row) signed a LOI to continue his lacrosse career at the collegiate level for Juniata College in Pennsylvania.



Northwood's Jamison Davis (second from left on front row) will attend Belmont Abbey College in Charlotte to continue his wrestling career this fall.

Submitted photo



Submitted photo

Kayla Amy (second from left on front row) of Northwood signs a LOI to continue her equestrian career at St. Andrews College in Laurinburg.



Submitted photo

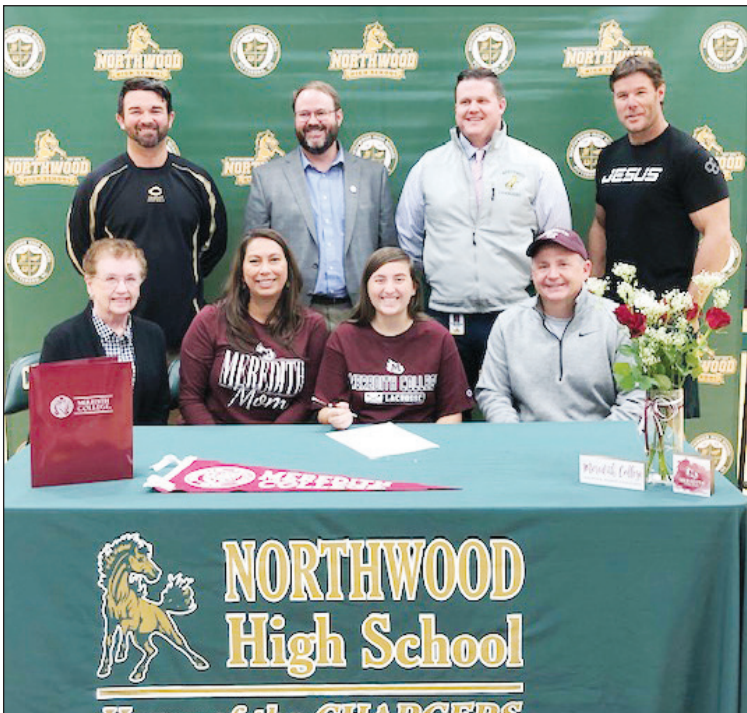
Katie Fuller (center front) of Northwood signs a LOI to continue her soccer career at Appalachian State University in Boone.



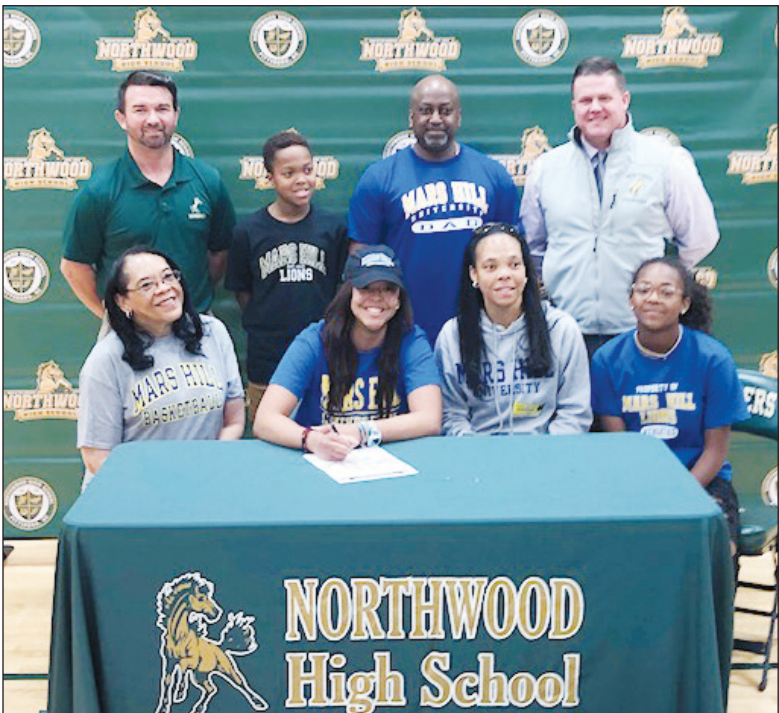
Submitted photo

Jyream Smith (center front) of Northwood signs her LOI with Peace College in Raleigh to play basketball next fall.

Northwood's Madaline Horrel (third from left on front row) signed an LOI to attend Meredith College in Raleigh to play women's lacrosse next fall.



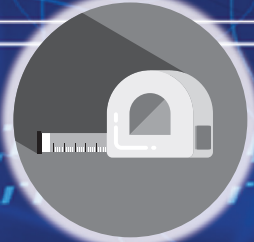
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Chandler Adams (second from left on front row) of Northwood signed a LOI with Mars Hill University in western North Carolina to continue her basketball career.

Submitted photo

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Staff photo by David Bradley

Jordan-Matthews' Ashlyn Ray gets a layup past Chatham Central's Eliana Phillips last Tuesday in Bear Creek. The close fought game ended with a win for the home team, 37-35, marking its second win of the season against cross-county rivals.

Chatham Central's Erin Burke gets taken down for a pin by Northern Guilford's Cowen Beane in last Saturday's Turkey Duals matches at Asheboro High School.

Staff photo by David Bradley



Chatham Central's Lucas Skettich flows past the defense of Jordan-Matthews' Eral Jones, Lanice Hedgepeth and Jayden Davis, left to right, in the second quarter of play last Tuesday in Bear Creek.

Staff photo by David Bradley



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central's Mary-Grace Murchison gets sandwiched by Jordan-Matthews' Jasmine Scotten (left), Makayla Glover, and Ashlyn Ray, (right) on a run to the basket in last Tuesday's game in Bear Creek. The home-court advantage kicked in to give the Bears a 37-35 victory.



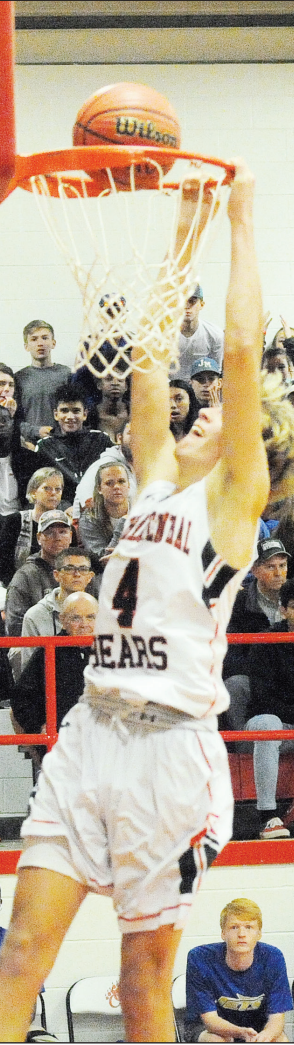
Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central coach Lynda Burke huddles with her athletes in last Tuesday's game against Jordan-Matthews in Bear Creek, giving final instructions for each of her players. Whatever Burke said worked - the Bears held on for a 37-35 win, their second of the season.



Jordan-Matthews' Brayden Teague pushes the ball past Chatham Central defenders Nik Wilson and Lucas Skettich early in the first quarter of play last week in Bear Creek.

Staff photo by David Bradley



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central's Michael Moore, a multi-sport athlete at the school, makes a dunk after a fast break up the court in the first half of play.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central's Danielle Vaughn makes a layup past Jordan-Matthews' Jasmine Scotten in their second inter-county game of the season last Tuesday in Bear Creek. Chatham Central won the nailbiter 37-35.

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WEEK OF Monday, December 16 through
Friday, December 20
COUPON WILL NOT BE GOOD FOR SATURDAY

POLICE REPORTS

PITTSBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Demitritis Wilson, 28, of Pittsboro, was charged Nov. 3 with two counts of simple assault.

Teresa Cooper, 58, of Pittsboro, was cited Nov. 14 for misdemeanor larceny. She has a Dec. 5 court date in Pittsboro.

Adam Donaldson, 40, of Pitts-

boro, was cited Nov. 16 for possession of marijuana. He has a Jan. 8, court date in Pittsboro.

SILER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Nathan Baker, 23, of Staley, was charged Nov. 27 with felony larceny by employee. He was released on a written promise with a Dec. 2 court date in Pittsboro.

Derek Headen, 52, of Siler City, was charged Nov. 27 with two counts of communicating threats and one count of intoxicated and disruptive behavior. He was held under a \$500 bond with a Dec. 3 court date in Siler City.

Cristian Garcia of Siler City was cited Dec. 29 for failure to maintain lane control on West Dolphin Street in Siler City.

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Brandon Barbour of Greensboro was cited Nov. 25 for stop sign violation on East Raleigh Street in Siler City.

James Lucas of Angier was cited Nov. 26 for lane control violation on N.C. 42 in Pittsboro.

Heather Carter of Bear Creek

was cited Nov. 26 for careless and reckless driving on Airport Road in Siler City.

Brandi Turner-Kelley of Cameron was cited Nov. 30 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. 1 in Pittsboro.

Jerrold Garland of Raleigh was cited Nov. 30 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. 1 in Apex.

THE NEW CN+R PODCAST

‘The Chatcast’ creators talk process, surprises and what they hope Chatham learns

CN+R Staff report

As we continue to preview “The Age of Anxiety,” the first season of “The Chatcast,” we want to introduce you to the hosts, creators and reporters on this season.

Zachary Horner is a reporter with the News + Record. After graduating from Elon University with a degree in print and online journalism, the Sanford native worked in communications and marketing for two years before joining the staff of The Sanford Herald for two years. Horner has won multiple awards in both collegiate and professional journalism. He currently covers Chatham County government, education and other topics for the News + Record and writes a weekly business column. He is a member of the Education Writers Association and regularly tweets from government meetings.

Moncure-raised Adrienne Cleven is currently a senior at UNC-Chapel Hill studying journalism. Cleven has worked for Our Chatham, a project of the UNC Hussman School of Journalism and Media’s Reese News Lab. Cleven has also contributed multiple stories to the News + Record, Chapelboro.com and the Raleigh News & Observer.

Horner and Cleven took some time to share their thoughts on the project and the topic. Season 1 of “The Chatcast” will be released for free on December 13 on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and other podcast platforms.

1) Why did you feel this was a project worth pursuing?

ZH: Just look at the numbers. One in nine Chatham teens have attempted suicide, if the numbers are to be believed, and I think they are. When we shared that statistic and others with some of the people we interviewed, they were not surprised. It’s what people on the ground with Chatham’s adolescents are seeing. They’re seeing these pressures and these burdens and they know what happens. So Adrienne and I really felt



Staff photos by Zachary Horner & Adrienne Cleven

Our Chatham reporter Adrienne Cleven, left, and Chatham News + Record reporter Zachary Horner are the creators and producers of ‘The Age of Anxiety,’ the first season of the new podcast ‘The Chatcast.’

it was necessary to take a deep dive on this and bring to light what these teenagers are dealing with on a daily basis and how it affects them.

AC: Mental health issues are real and present in our community. And unlike some other issues the communities face, this is a problem that often becomes more manageable when we discuss it. So podcasting — an entire medium focused around the human voice — seemed like the perfect medium for this topic.

2) What was the most surprising thing you learned?

ZH: I think the most surprising thing I learned was the number of people who are already working on this topic and are aware of it. Mental health and mental health disorders have had a stigma around them for so long, even through most of my 27 years, that it feels to me it’s not talked about or addressed in the way it should be. I still believe that, but to a point. Chatham has a lot of good people doing great things in this arena, and we really wanted to feature that in this podcast.

AC: In my journalism work so far, it’s typically been easier for my sources and I to just hop on a phone call and discuss a story. But getting clear audio for podcasting means that Zach and I

had to drive out to record audio in different of the county. Those drives reminded me of Chatham’s diversity and uniqueness. From Siler City to Pittsboro, we have talked to some amazing people doing great work in mental health resilience. The experience reminded me that Chatham is massive and has so many different strengths and needs.

3) What do you hope for the community to get out of the podcast?

ZH: I want people to notice. I want people to see what’s actually happening to these teenagers. As Chatham Drug Free’s George Greger-Holt told me, “These are the folks that are going to be in our community. They’re going to be walking up and down the street here. Hopefully they’re going to be gainfully employed and they’re going to be able to pay my social security.” I want Chatham residents to realize the long-term impact mental health issues and the pressures teenagers face will have on this county and its schools, cities and neighborhoods, and let that guide how they respond.

AC: I want the community to feel like this podcast has been created especially for them. Because that’s exactly what we’ve done! Zach and I are using the this project

to discuss a national and global issue, but we’re focusing on Chatham’s unique resources and people. This is the only podcast I know that’s taking such a global issue like mental health and narrowing down to the county level. And that’s one of the primary goals of journalism: to take a big issue and show why it matters — and what’s being done — in a community.

4) Do you have any personal connection to this story or this topic? How has that shaped your work on the podcast?

ZH: I take two different medicines for mental health issues. If you meet me in person and ask me about mental health, I’m not shy about it. So yes. And it’s one of the reasons I wanted to pursue this topic in the first place. It’s one of the driving forces.

AC: Mental health is such a broad topic that, whether we put labels on it or not, I think most of us have struggled with it at some point. I know that I, many of my friends and older adults I know have experienced struggle and success in that area. And throughout my growing-up years, I’ve been fortunate enough to have influences that encouraged me to discuss mental health openly. I have heard so many

people in my social circle admit that they weren’t feeling well. I’ve heard my friends feel safe enough to say, “I need to talk to someone about this stuff.” And now here I am, helping develop a podcast about it! It feels like a full circle moment.

5) There are a lot of statistics in this project. What was one statistic that stood out to you and why?

ZH: The rising prevalence of teenagers across America going to the hospital for treatment for non-suicidal self-injurious (NSSI) behaviors, better known as self-harm. We didn’t get a ton of relevant data for Chatham, but starting in 2008, the number of youth going to the hospital for NSSI rose 5.7 percent annually to 2015, when the last data was available. It had been relatively stable during the seven years prior to that. I don’t think that data even made it into the podcast, but it shows just how significant things like self-harm are and how much more ubiquitous they’ve become.

AC: Near the end of the series, we talk about coping mechanisms for mental illness and a well-researched link between mental illness and crime. In one episode we say that “10-25 percent of youth in the juvenile justice system have some sort of mood

disorder.” That leads me to imagine how our society would change if mental healthcare were more accessible and stigma less powerful. If we can catch these illnesses when children are 5 or 6 — instead of when they’re 17, depressed and have a criminal record — our state and nationwide community would be so much stronger.

6) You both listen to a lot of podcasts. Why is this a medium that you feel is catching on and why should Chatham County residents try yours out, if they’ve never listened to a podcast before?

ZH: Podcasts are a mix between audiobooks and TV shows based on real-life stories. They’re not something you have to watch, so you can consume them in the car, while mowing your lawn or cleaning up the kitchen. We really hope “The Age of Anxiety” is not only an informative podcast but an engaging one. We’ve got nearly 30 voices in there along with insights from research and studies in Chatham and across the country. This isn’t a unique phenomenon, after all. We hope Chatham residents try it out because we’ve put a lot of time into it and it’s incredibly relevant in today’s world. Also, we as the News + Record are trying new ways to reach you with the news, and “The Chatcast” is a wholly unique opportunity for Chatham residents to consume news. And it’s free, so what do you have to lose?

AC: Oh goodness. Don’t even get me started on my favorite podcasts. I have too many favorites to count! As a medium, podcasts are simultaneously strange and appealing. Usually, when journalists write stories, we expect people to give our words their undivided attention. Conversely, podcasts are designed for multitasking: listen while you drive, while you do dishes, while you run or walk the dog or garden. And I think there’s so much to be learned by the idea of a faceless voice on a podcast. Why do we trust that person? What can they teach us?

WARM UP WITH A GOOD BOOK

Chatham Libraries’ Winter Reading Bingo starts Dec. 7

Chatham County Public Libraries invite children and teens to participate in the Winter Reading Bingo Challenge “Warm Up With a Good Book” at all Chatham County Public Libraries branches from Dec. 7 through Jan. 4.

The Winter Reading Challenge, sponsored by the Friends of the Chatham Community Library, is open to children ages 2 and up. Readers participate by picking up a reading bingo sheet at their local library branch and completing a 5-in-a-row bingo to earn a free book (one book per participant, while supplies last). All readers who complete at least one bingo will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 Gift Certificate to a local or online bookseller.

Check our calendar

for fun, free family events through the month of December, including:

- Children’s Ornament Decorating Party – 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, December 12, at Goldston Library
- Rags to Riches Presents: The Gingerbread Boy – 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 12, at Chatham Community Library (Pittsboro)
- Family Holiday Party – 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 14, at Chatham Community Library (Pittsboro)
- Children’s Ornament Decorating Party – 6 p.m. on Monday, December 16, at Wren Memorial Library (Siler City)
- Holiday Celebration With Our GrandFriends – 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 19, at the Eastern

Chatham Senior Center (Pittsboro)

• Kids’ Holiday Movie – 1 p.m. on Friday, December 20, at the Chatham Community Library (Pittsboro)

Family Game Afternoon – noon to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 28, at the Chatham Community Library (Pittsboro)

• Happy NOON Year Party – 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 31, at the Chatham Community Library (Pittsboro)

For information about the Winter Reading Bingo Challenge, as well as events at each Chatham County Public Libraries branch during the month of December, contact Katy Henderson at (919) 545-8085 or katy.henderson@chathamlibraries.org.








Sweet Deal

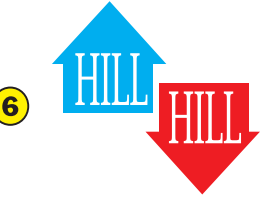
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Chatham News + Record



Kid Scoop Together:
I See What You Mean
Each word-picture puzzle has a meaning. Work with a parent to figure them out.

- 1 
- 2 
- 3 
- 4 
- 5 

- 6 
- ANSWERS:
1. Jack in the box
2. Ants in the pants
3. Brain drain
4. Burning the midnight oil
5. A rose between two thorns
6. Up hill and down hill

Standards Link: Problem-Solving: Use a variety of strategies to solve problems.

Two new Kid Scoop books are here!

They make a great holiday gift. Order from your local bookstore, Target.com, BarnesandNoble.com and Amazon.com today!



Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **DISTRIBUTED**
The verb **distributed** means to divide among several or many.

The books were **distributed** to kids in shelters.

Try to use the word **distributed** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family.

Write On!

Receive or Give?

Some say it is better to give than to receive. Do you agree? Why or why not?

The Season of Giving

As we approach the Season of Giving, Kid Scoop celebrates young people who make a difference all year long.



When Mackenzie Bearup was 14 years old, she had a disease that forced her to stay in bed. To keep her mind off her pain, she read a lot. And the books started to pile up.

Mackenzie learned about a home for abused children that wanted to start a library. She gathered up her books and asked her friends for book donations.

She gave the home enough books to fill their library. She reached out to other homeless shelters to see if they could use donated books. Today, she and her organization have collected over 55,000 books!

Use the code to find out the name of Mackenzie's organization:

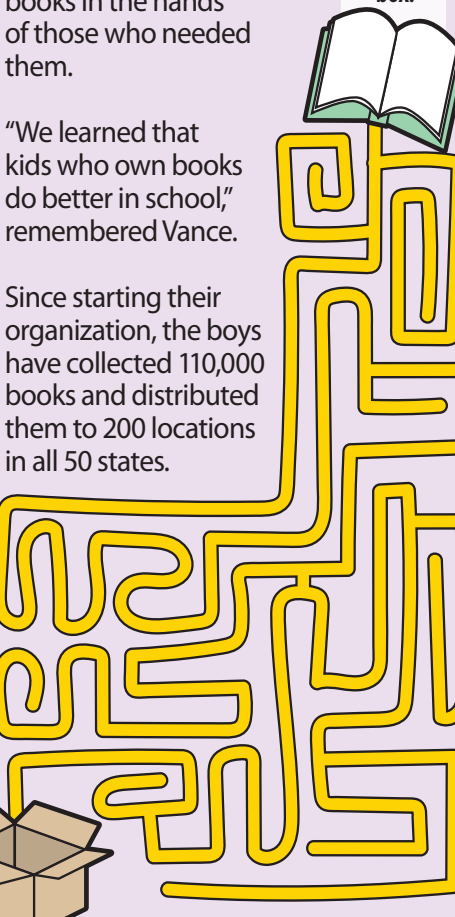
	=B		=E		=G
	=H		=I		=K
	=L		=N		=O
	=R		=S		=T

Donating Books and Helping the Planet at read.repeat.

When Chase Hartman was 10 and Vance Tomasi was 11, they started the organization called **read.repeat.** to get books in the hands of those who needed them.

"We learned that kids who own books do better in school," remembered Vance.

Since starting their organization, the boys have collected 110,000 books and distributed them to 200 locations in all 50 states.



Find the path from the book to the shipping box.

Speaking Up About Bullying Leads to Friendship and a Book

Jemalle Williams was 11 years old when he saw a classmate named Carter being made fun of by other students because he was chewing on his pencil a lot. At first, Jemalle thought he would just ignore the kids doing the bullying. But after a while, he thought, "I should do something."

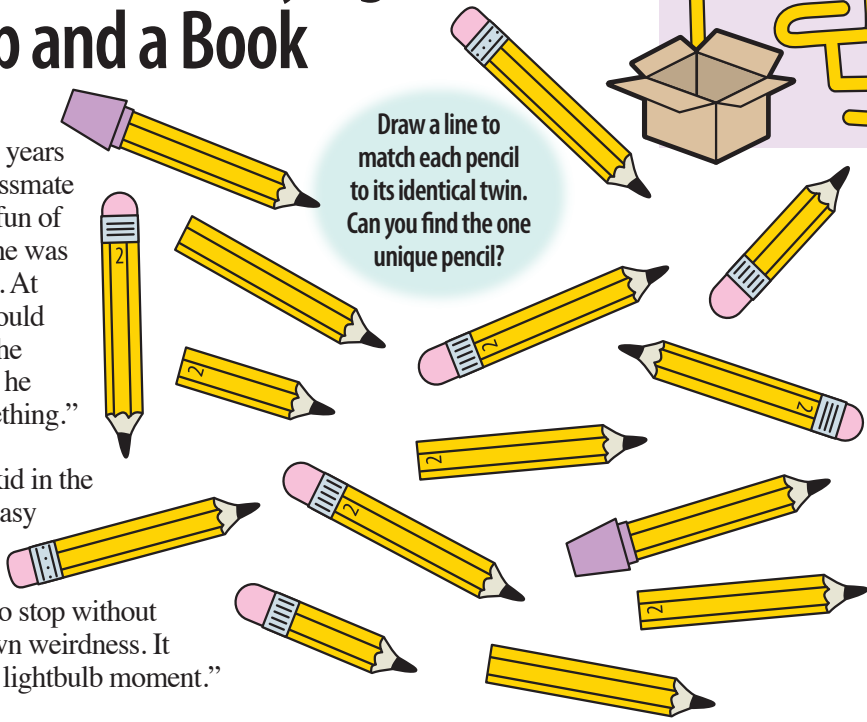
"He was like the smallest kid in the class which made him an easy target," said Jemalle. "I thought long and hard on what to do to get them to stop without drawing attention to my own weirdness. It finally came to me, I had a lightbulb moment."

What did he do? He started chewing on his own pencil.

Then the kids started making fun of him instead of Carter. Jemalle said, "It didn't really phase me because I knew I had done a good thing."

Carter appreciated Jemalle's help and the two of them became friends.

Draw a line to match each pencil to its identical twin. Can you find the one unique pencil?



Jemalle went on to write a book called *Different yet Alike* based on his experience. He illustrated the book himself and made copies to sell. He raised \$160 which he donated to his school to help with bullying education.

You can read Jemalle's book at the website differentyetlike.com

Extra! Extra! Words That Give

There are several words that mean something like the word to give. Find the letters that spell each of these words on a page of the newspaper. Connect the letters to spell each word.

- GIVE
- CHARITY
- PHILANTHROPY
- GRANT
- CONTRIBUTE
- DONATE
- AWARD
- GIFT

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

BOOK LOVERS' PUZZLE:
Can you unscramble these book titles?

IDYRA
FO A
YWPMI
IDK

_____Y
_____A
_____M

DALISN
FO HET
EBLU
PINDOLHS

_____D
_____H
_____L

NIENIW
HET
HOOP

_____N
_____H
_____O

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

Double Double Word Search

- DIFFERENCE
- DONATIONS
- SHELTERS
- FRIENDS
- LIBRARY
- PENCIL
- SEASON
- GIVING
- BOOKS
- ALIKE
- CLASS
- READ
- KIDS
- HELP
- CHEW

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

S D D G N I V I G I
R F O L I B R A R Y
E C N E R E F F I D
T L A D A E W R R H
L A T D S A E I E E
E S I K N L H E C L
H S O I L I C N E P
S O N D E K K D I D
B S S S S E A S O N

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Letters to the Editor

Look through your newspaper for problems in your community. Can you and your friends come up with ideas to solve one of these problems? Work together to write a letter to the editor with your ideas.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.



What did the crow starting a charity say?

ANSWER: "Will you support my caws?"

Write On!

Receive or Give?

Some say it is better to give than to receive. Do you agree? Why or why not?



Chatham YMCA

- CHATHAM YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL

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‘Marriage Story’ effectively captures the angst and agony of divorce by name here



NEIL MORRIS
Film Critic

“Marriage Story” isn’t about the throes of nuptial bliss, but rather the messiness of matrimonial disunion. The film opens with a couple who’s married in name only, dancing around a dissolution that seems inevitable but not yet acknowledged. It’s also a savvy overview of a divorce industrial complex designed to achieve the best possible outcome for individual parties through the most corrosive, destructive means.

Director Noah Baumbach consulted with divorced friends as well as various players in the legal system while doing research for the film. But it’s quite obvious that “Marriage Story” is virtually a roman à clef, drawn heavily from Baumbach’s divorce from Jennifer Jason Leigh seven years ago. Like Baumbach, Charlie Barber (played by Adam

Driver) is a noteworthy New York-based writer-director who met his movie actress wife, Nicole (Scarlett Johansson), while she was doing theater on Broadway. As in Baumbach and Leigh’s breakup, Nicole returns to Los Angeles to initiate divorce and custody proceedings over the couple’s lone son.

Baumbach’s familiarity with the subject matter filters through his screenplay, a compassionate, layered portrait in which every party carries blame but no one person is the sole transgressor. Yes, Charlie carried on a dalliance with one of his production assistants, but that’s almost the least of his misdeeds. Charlie is preoccupied with his theater career and almost oblivious to the sacrifices Nicole made to her acting career to remain in New York with Charlie and their son, Henry.

When Charlie’s inaction extends to any efforts to amicably resolve their acrimony without lawyers, Nicole goes to live with her family in LA and hires a family attorney, Nora Fanshaw (Laura Dern). After Nicole serves divorce papers on Charlie

when he visits California, he engages two attorneys, one a fast-talking hotshot named Jay Marotta (Ray Liotta) who treats family court like a battleground, and the other an older divorcee named Bert Spitz (Alan Alda) who believes the most satisfactory outcomes come from avoiding the courtroom.

The deck is decidedly stacked against Charlie, mainly by his own doing. Beyond his infidelity, his emotional distance from both Nicole and Henry is apparent to even casual observers like a court-ordered evaluator (Martha Kelly). While Charlie clearly loves his son, his attempts to mimic a healthy parental relationship during visits with Henry resemble some sad farce. At the same time, there’s something off-putting about the way Nicole engineers the legal process to gut the naive and relatively economical disadvantaged Charlie.

“Marriage Story” is a sober, incisive assessment of the domestic legal apparatus — scenes in which Nora runs rings around an outmatched Bert during a settlement meeting and, later, Jay and Nora exchange rapid-fire barbs in court about their opposing

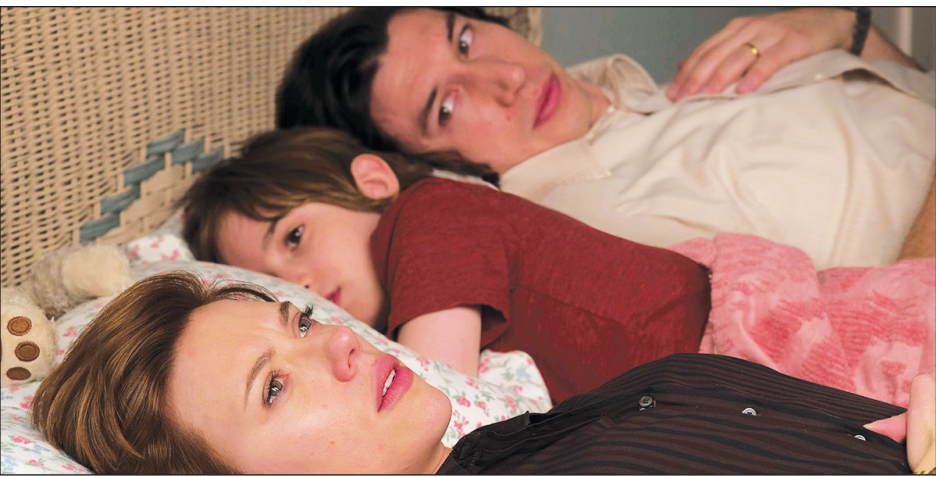


Photo courtesy of Netflix

Scarlett Johansson, Adam Driver and Azhy Robertson star in ‘Marriage Story.’

clients are among the most authentic onscreen renderings of divorce proceedings. But the film packs its personal punch mainly thanks to the superb cast, particularly the two leads and Dern, who merits Oscar consideration. A scene in which Nicole and Charlie meet sans attorneys to iron out their differences quickly devolves from cordial to caustic in the most believable and heart-wrenching fashion.

There’s a fey, self-indulgent quality to Baumbach’s typical tales about the woes of Upper West Side denizens that hovers

MARRIAGE STORY

GRADE: B +

DIRECTOR: Noah Baumbach

STARRING: Scarlett Johansson, Adam Driver, Laura Dern, Alan Alda, Ray Liotta and Julie Hagerty

MPAA RATING: R

RUNNING TIME: 2 hr. 16 min.

over “Marriage Story,” fostering a detachment that keeps some of the emotional impact at arm’s length from the average viewer. Still, this is Baumbach at his most accessible and relatable, from

portraying a meat-grinder legal system that humbles participants of every socioeconomic stripe, to a provocative “happy” ending that posits sometimes a marriage must end in order to succeed.

NEWS BRIEFS

Expecting a drone this holiday? Fly safe and legal

RALEIGH — Drones are a popular holiday gift, but it’s important new drone owners take time to know how to safely fly an unmanned aircraft.

More than 30,000 North Carolinians now own and operate drones for recreational use. With this number growing, the N.C. Department of Transportation is reminding drone pilots to follow safety precautions because drones can be dangerous to others if they are not operated properly.

“It’s amazing how much can be done with a drone these days,” said NCDOT Director of Aviation Bobby Walston. “We’ve just got to make sure everyone is aware that they’re more than just a toy and need to be flown responsibly.”

As such, NCDOT’s Division of Aviation has provided the following tips to help pilots make sure they’re flying safely and legally:

- Always fly under 400 feet above ground level
- Never fly near airports
- Avoid flying over events or crowds
- Don’t fly at night, even if your drone has lights

- Never fly directly over people
- Don’t fly near or above prisons
- Respect people’s privacy
- Always keep the drone within your visual line of sight

By following these guidelines, drone pilots can be more confident that their flights are safe and legal. Pilots should also take the time to learn about the state and federal laws governing drones, as well as local restrictions in their area, before taking off.

North Carolinians interested in flying a drone for commercial or government operations must obtain a permit from the N.C. Division of Aviation. Before applying, prospective users must pass NCDOT’s UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) Knowledge Test. The permitting system began in 2016 and is designed to help drone owners better understand restrictions on drone use through a simple and efficient online process.

CORE offering two ‘Building Stronger Communities’ programs

CORE (Chatham Organizing for Racial


Equity) will be offering the Building Stronger Communities training program again in 2020. In December 2019, we are offering two opportunities to sample the most popular module based on previous attendees’ comments: “Understanding Power”. Power is usually misunderstood and often associated with negative connotations. In this workshop, we will re-examine the definition of power, relationships of power, how power is yielded, and its vital importance to social campaigns and community organizing.

This two (2) hour workshop on “Understanding Power” will serve as a refresher for previous BSC trainees or an introduction for those who have not attended any previous workshops. In addition to the material offered in the original training, we will talk about how Power relates to current events in Pittsboro.

If you are interested, please register for one of the two dates, Dec. 14 or Dec. 21.

The workshop will take place at the Habitat for Humanity Conference Room, 467 West Street, Pittsboro.

— CN+R Staff Reports



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Sunday, December 8
@ 11:00AM

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is located at 314 North Second Avenue, Siler City

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100th ANNIVERSARY FORMAL BALL

Friday, December 13, 7pm-10pm

Come help First Missionary Baptist Church celebrate 100 YEARS at our 100th Anniversary Celebration Ball to be held at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center at 1192 US 64 Bus., Pittsboro, NC. This will be a formal occasion with dinner and entertainment.

Ticket are \$30.00 per person.

For more information call (919) 742-4614
Or email - fmbcsecretary914@gmail.com

THE UNITED WAY OF CHATHAM COUNTY AGENCY PROFILE

West Chatham Food Pantry

Editor’s note: As part of the News + Record’s commitment to the community, we’re partnering with the United Way of Chatham County to help provide insight into the work of the agencies the program helps fund with a series of local agency profiles; information is provided by the agencies in conjunction with the United Way. The United Way relies on donations from individuals and businesses to meet the needs of its member agencies. Please consider a generous gift.

Focus Area: Basic Needs (financial stability)

Name of United Way Supported Programs: Food Pantry/Fuel-Up program

How will Fuel-Up and West Chatham Food Pantry use United Way dollars? The Fuel-Up program has been able to purchase nutritious food for week-end food supplements for those elementary school age children who qualify. The teachers at these schools refer the students who are eligible for the program. The majority

of these children rely on free or reduced lunches at school. Fuel-Up is able to provide weekend nutrition for approximately 220 elementary age students. The West Chatham Food Pantry serves about 240-280 families per month, totaling approximately 600-800 individuals. We are open to clients from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Mondays and 12:30 to 2 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays. We are able to supplement their food at home with meats, vegetables, soup, crackers, rice, peanut butter and jelly, bread and bakery items. Clients may visit the Food Pantry every two weeks. We do provide emergency food and do not turn anyone away.

Why is this program essential to Chatham County? North Carolina is the 10th hungriest state in the USA, according to the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle. Homes often must make tough choices about the amount and quality of food they are able to provide their families. The West Chatham Food Pantry and Fuel-Up are able to make a huge impact on these fami-

lies (as of 2015, almost 32 percent of seniors in North Carolina live in or near poverty levels). A large percentage of these individuals face the threat of hunger also. Our program recognizes the critical role we play in providing nutrition to these families. Our volunteers are essential to these programs. None of our volunteers are paid and we are strictly volunteer based.

How does the program make a difference in the community?

The food programs offered by the West Chatham Food Pantry provide supplemental nourishment to individuals, families and children. According to the Central and Eastern North Carolina Food Bank, 600,000 individuals (in 7 counties) were unable to consistently access enough nutritious food to live a healthy, active lifestyle or went hungry because they had to skip meals. Hunger has grown into an epidemic. We are committed to feeding the hungry in Chatham County more than ever in an effort



Staff photo by David Bradley

Graphel Paige, his wife Ella and Siler City Commissioner Curtis Brown listen to Diane Smith, West Chatham Food Pantry’s executive director, talk about the organization’s new offices at Chatham Trades in Siler City.

to reduce hunger in Chatham County. Nearly a third of our seniors live in poverty, and a large percentage of these individuals face the threat of hunger.

Please share a story about a Chatham resident this program helped and the impact it made...

Imagine a single mother who works fulltime at minimum wage, has to provide food, rent, clothes, child care and medical care. At just above the federal poverty level, she makes too much to qualify for food assistance. This is when the West Chatham Food Pantry and

Fuel-Up Program make a huge impact on these families. By participating in these programs, this individual is able to provide additional nutritious food for her children leading to a healthier lifestyle which affects their academic performance and their health.

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS EDUCATOR OF THE WEEK

SHALON MATTHEWS | J.S. Waters School

Grades/subjects you teach: 4th and 5th Grades/Math and Science

Education: I graduated from Chatham Central High School, Sandhills Community College (associate degree), St. Andrews Presbyterian College (bachelor’s degree)

Brief work history: I have worked at J.S. Waters Elementary School since 2003. I began working as a teacher assistant while completing my Bachelor’s degree. This year will be my 17th year at J.S. Waters, my 14th year as a teacher.

Teaching honors/awards: I was named the 2019-2020 teacher of the year. In 2017, I was chosen as the NCCTM (N.C. Council of Teachers of Mathematics) Math Teacher of the year for Chatham County. I also served as Teacher of the Year for my school during the 2007-2008 school year.

Hobbies/interests outside teaching: Running, hiking, reading

What led you to a career as a teacher? I had many, many great teachers growing up. I had one high school math teacher, in particular, who changed my outlook on math. I had always had difficulty with math beginning in 3rd grade. I really had to work hard to make good grades. Then, I had an awesome math teacher in high school who changed my thoughts about math. She made math concepts click for me, and turned a once difficult subject into my favorite subject ever! I knew that if one teacher could change my life



Photo courtesy of Chatham County Schools

Shalon Matthews teaches at J.S. Waters School in Goldston.

like that, I wanted to do the same for others. That’s when I knew I wanted to be a teacher and make a positive change in the lives of young people.

Who were your favorite teachers as you went through school, and what did you learn from them? As a student, I attended both Bennett Elementary School and Chatham Central High School. I had so many wonderful teachers, I can’t name them all. From elementary to high school, I was surrounded by teachers who loved their job, were great mentors, very supportive, and who always encouraged me to do my best. I feel truly blessed to be a product of Chatham County Schools.

Has becoming a teacher been all you expected it would be? Yes and more! I expected that I would enjoy teaching, but teaching has been so much more rewarding than I could have ever expected. Everyday as a teacher is a gift. Everyday brings new challenges, accomplishments, and joy. There is never a dull moment in the teaching profession and I love it!

How has teaching changed since you were a student? I remember as a student there was a great deal of whole group instruction with the teacher in the front of the room and the students listening. Now, we do a lot of small group instruction. We differentiate for students as needed and teachers act as facilitators to guide students within the classroom. Also, there has been a huge change in technology since I was in school. I can remember visiting the computer lab once a week and now our students are one-to-one when it comes to laptops. What an amazing difference technology has made!

What “makes your day” as a teacher? I love it when I see a student’s face light up because they have finally mastered a tough concept/skill. I love to hear a student say, “I can do this, math is easy.” I love when I see students excited to work in math and/or science groups.

What’s working in schools today? I feel like teachers are really work-



Photo courtesy of Chatham County Schools

J.S. Waters’ Shalon Matthews said she expected that she would enjoy teaching, but added: ‘Teaching has been so much more rewarding than I could have ever expected. Every day as a teacher is a gift. Every day brings new challenges, accomplishments and joy.’

ing hard to make our students successful 21st century learners. My school is a place where you can see learning take place each and everyday. My whole school does a great job working together to support students in every aspect. We work as a team for the good of everyone involved.

What’s not working? I wish we would see a decrease in the amount of testing/assessing.

What’s your favorite memory of your first year as a teacher? Seeing the positive difference I was making in the lives of my students. What a wonderful experience to see them grow!

How would your “teacher” persona handle you as a student? I think we would get along well. As a student I was quiet, I liked to follow the rules, but enjoyed having fun too. As a teacher, I enjoy having fun with my students, but I also establish a strong system of rules

and respect.

Best piece of advice for other teachers? Love your job and give 110 percent. You will never regret it. Make connections with your students.

For students? Always work hard and do your best! Never give up! Believe in yourself.

For parents? Always reach out to your child’s teacher if you have questions and concerns and stay involved with your child, help them with homework, and support their academic goals.

What about your job would surprise your non-teaching friends the most? I think they would be surprised by how much time I spend at school after hours and how much schoolwork I take home each day, even on the weekends.

If you could somehow magically instill one truth into the heads of your students, what would it be? You can do anything you

set your mind to. Don’t ever give up on your dreams!

When you think about today’s kids, you: See our future

If one of your students was asked for a one-word description of you by a student who hadn’t had you in class, what would that one word be? Fun

How would you summarize your teaching philosophy? I believe that all students CAN learn. I believe in building relationships with my students that are based on fairness and trust.

What five things must every teacher know? 1. You need to love your job! 2. Always be prepared. 3. Every child can learn. Show every child you believe in them. 4. Treat each student the way you would have wanted to be treated as a student. 5. Give 110 percent. You won’t regret it!

What’s special about your classroom? It is a place where learning and fun take place everyday. It is a place where mistakes can be made. My classroom is a place where everyone can feel safe, accepted, and valued.

What’s special about your school? We are a small K-8 school. We know everyone by name. It’s like we are a big family...it’s great! You are not just a number, you are a person at our school.

The most unusual question you’ve ever gotten from a student? “Was TV in color when you were born?” And: “Do you live at school?”

Deadline nearing for luminary service

CN+R STAFF REPORT

The Christmas season is in full swing and with it comes a host of activities ranging from family gatherings to worship services celebrating the birth of Jesus. Seasonal sights and sounds will be on full display as part of many of them. Among the local sound and sight events is the 2nd annual “Magical Lights of Christmas

and Song,” a luminary service sponsored by Chatham Cares Community Pharmacy. The event is set for 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8 at Siler City First United Methodist Church, 1101 West Raleigh St. The deadline for getting a luminary or two for the service is Wed., Dec. 4. Luminaries may be purchased in memory or in honor of a family member or loved one for \$10 each and will be

placed along the driveway in a display of light. The program will include a wide range of Christmas music by area groups and choirs, including the Dowdy Boys, Danny Spivey, Holy Trinity United Holy Church, McKinley and Sophie Loflin, St. Julia’s English Choir, Autumn Davis, Sarah Southern and Samantha Zarate. Light refreshments will be served after the program. Luminaries can be purchased

at Chatham Cares Community Pharmacy, 127 East Raleigh St. (across from the Siler City post office) during business hours: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Wednesday. Order forms are also available from any board member or by contacting Lynn Glasser at 919-542-9411, Patricia Dowdly at 919-542-9300 or Becky Loflin at 919-548-6142, or by calling the pharmacy at 919-663-0177.

Chatham Cares serves the un- and under-insured residents of Chatham County by providing certain prescription drugs and equipment at little or no cost to those in need. The pharmacy operates on grants and donations to provide thousands of dollars worth of services and benefits to residents. Opportunities to make donations for those interested will be available at the upcoming service.

15 OF 17 COUNTY SCHOOLS IMPACTED

School district facing HVAC, lighting aging in most schools

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Chatham County Schools says 15 of its 17 schools are facing the expense of replacements for aging HVAC and lighting systems.

School officials discussed the matter with county government officials last month as part of a meeting about the 2021-2027 Capital Improvements Plan. The item was the subject of a relatively lengthy portion of the workshop.

"Many of our schools do not have any indoor quality air units," said Randy Drumheller, the district's director of maintenance and construction.

According to the CIP, only two of the county's 17 public schools — Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, opened in 2011, and Virginia Cross Elementary School, opened in 2007 — were built "using energy efficient construction and mechanical systems." The majority of the other schools' HVAC units "have outlived their projected life expectancy, are inefficient and need replacement," while "most of the lighting in these schools is provided by outdated/inefficient" fixtures.

"Taking care of these two issues at our schools will potentially result in substantial energy savings for the

district," the plan said, "and would create an opportunity to take advantage of more environmentally responsible technologies and systems."

The CIP's recommended solution is to "create a long-term (seven years or longer) project that will provide a to-be-determined amount of money to be used annually to upgrade HVAC and lighting systems to provide more energy efficient systems."

These types of projects — seeking to addressing a widespread need over a long period of time — are fairly common in CIPs, particularly within the school system which has many facilities. Next year, the district is planning to wrap up an eight-year long project to replace roofs at 14 schools and other buildings as well as a five-school, three-year effort to renovate locker rooms.

The HVAC and lighting plan has no determined cost and is not yet scheduled, but CCS Superintendent Derrick Jordan made particular mention of it, saying the district will "bring something at some point that makes sense."

"It is a massive undertaking," Jordan said. "We were concerned enough to know the conversations we needed to have."

The school district already has a slate of capital projects scheduled — particularly finishing and opening Chatham



Grove Elementary and Seaforth High School and building a new Central Services building. The total estimated cost of all eight of the system's approved and scheduled projects is nearly \$129 million.

Commissioner Jim Crawford said he hoped the county and the district can put together a plan to help "achieve

parity" across the county.

"It need to be addressed because there's resentments and it's not fair," he said. "We need to show everybody in Chatham that all kids matter."

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorner@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @ZachHornerCNR.

Playing songs of thanks



Staff photo by David Bradley

Gene Goldston and Lou Forrissi Jr. played music for the singers celebrating Thanksgiving at the Western Chatham Senior Center Thanksgiving Day program last Tuesday. The music, with songs such as 'Come, Ye Thankful People, Come,' were about returning thanks to God for gifts and grace given to his people.



Staff photo by David Bradley

The Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City was filled last Tuesday as Chatham's Council on Aging gave its annual Thanksgiving Day program, with music and messages about the holiday season.



Staff photo by David Bradley

The Council on Aging Choir sang songs of the Thanksgiving season Nov. 26 at the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Faye Tillman, Vickie Cheek and Barbara Woody protest for turkey rights in a skit performed for the Council on Aging's Thanksgiving program at the Western Senior Center Nov. 26.

Chatham COA conducting resident survey

From Chatham County Council on Aging

SILER CITY — The

Area Agency on Aging of the Triangle J Council of Governments is conducting a survey of residents

of the seven counties that it serves, which includes Chatham. Information from this survey will help shape the agency's Area Plan for Aging.

The survey can be completed online at <https://tinyurl.com/TriangleJAreaPlanSurvey20-24>

"We want to be sure the interests of Chatham residents are considered," said Dennis Streets, director of the Chatham County Council on Aging. "We will also likely get information back from the survey results that could help us with our local planning. Please complete the survey and

also encourage others to do so as well."

The Triangle J Area Agency will close the survey near the end of December.

As we start yet another year and a new decade — 2020 — a quote of Maggie Kuhn should certainly cause us to pause: "By the year of 2020 — the year of perfect vision — the old will outnumber the young."

Kuh, who founded the Gray Panthers movement after being forced to retire at the then-mandatory retirement age of 65, led the fight against ageism. She was noted for claiming that "old people and

women constitute America's biggest untapped and undervalued human energy source."

The most recent statistics from the state reveal that Chatham is well ahead of the aging population trend, and we better set our sights more clearly and urgently on what this may mean for our community.

The recent 2019 State of Chatham County Report noted that Chatham is the 4th fastest growing county in the state. Between 2018-2038, our total population is projected to grow by 48 percent.

While that's impressive, consider that our population aged 60 and older is projected to increase by 85 percent and those aged 85 and older by more than 200 percent.

By 2038, projections show nearly 45,200 per-

sons aged 60 and older (41 percent of Chatham's total population) as compared to about 17,300 aged 17 and younger (16 percent).

So what does this tell us? We need to at least think about the aging of Chatham in decision-making about policies, programs, initiatives and resources in our community. Our graying population has implications for all sectors and aspects of our community.

We need to follow the lead of Maggie Kuhn in being visionary and assertive in valuing and tapping the largely unrealized potential of our seniors.

One way to do this now is to join efforts underway in support of Chatham's 2018-2023 Aging Plan. To find out more about this Plan, see www.chatham-coa.org.

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Worth reading.

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CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LAND FOR SALE: 7.65 Acres - Located approximately, 5 miles from Siler City, near Stockyard. Would be great for pasture land, and/or Residence. Can be split into smaller tracts, as well. Call: 336-588-2497 for more information., N14,tfnc

PROPERTY, BETWEEN 3 TO 10 ACRES, on 1776 Snow Camp Road for sale. Contact Lawrence Smalls, if interested, at 919-255-0709, O24 - D19,9tp

HOUSE FOR SALE

BRICK RANCH HOME with attached carport; Excellent condition, new roof, new heat exchanger, White Oak hardwood floors, ceramic tile bathroom, masonry fireplace with gas logs. Great neighborhood, large lot with outbuilding. One mile from Siler City city limits. \$129,000, 919-548-1593. N28,D5,2tp

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2 BDRM, 1 BATH, Single Wide, No smoking, No pets, References required. 919-742-5187. Leave message. D5,1tc

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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: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD # 1-800-735-2962, Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, My2,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. \$460/mo, no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. J3,tfnc

YARD SALES

YARD SALE - Sat., Dec 7th, 7am to 2pm, 332 Seth Teague Rd, Christmas Decorations, X-Large clothes, Household Items, D5,1tp

FOR SALE

CLEARANCE SALE AT THE COVE! New Indoor heated venue! Christmas Items, antiques, collectibles, jewelry, coins, puzzles, glassware, dishes, house wares, clothes, home décor & much, much more! All items marked down! Everything must go! Friday Dec 6, 4pm-8pm, Dec 7, 7am-3pm. Address: 9270 Siler City Glendon Road, Bear Creek, NC 27207. Contact Diane @ 910-489-4798, N28,D5,2tp

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HELP WANTED

ATHLETIC SITE SUPERVISOR (PT) - General Statement of Duties: The individual in this position will be responsible for supervising youth sports leagues, special events and athletic rentals. They will be responsible for overall site supervision at practice and game locations. Requirements include but are not limited to the following: working knowledge of the game; experience working with the public; flexible schedule with the ability to work nights and weekends; ability to read, write, and measure. Please visit our website for a full job description. Salary: \$10.38/hour. - To Apply: This posting is open until filled. A completed application is required and can be found at www.silercity.org. An application may be mailed or delivered to Nancy Darden at City Hall, 311 N Second Avenue, PO Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 or submitted via email to ndarden@silercity.org. Pre-employment drug testing and background checks are required upon conditional job offer. EOE. The Town of Siler City is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Town of Siler City's applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, disability, or other legally protected status. The Town 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 arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. - This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Nancy Hannah at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or nhannah@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 Nancy Hannah al nhannah@silercity.org o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. D5,1tc

UTILITY MECHANIC III - The Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), a progressive water utility providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services to the Towns of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill seeks to fill a Utility Mechanic III position for the repair and maintenance of water, sewer and reclaimed water lines. -- Ideal candidates should be self-motivated team players with proven leadership abilities and excellent communication skills. Candidates must have an exceptional work ethic with the ability to assist the team to fulfill the mission and goals of OWASA while ensuring safe work practices are always followed. -- Position installs, repairs and maintains water, sewer and reclaimed water lines. Position supervises and directs crew members in the absence of the Crew Leader. This position uses various tools and equipment including dump trucks, loaders, tractors, backhoes, jackhammers, tapping machines, weed eaters, etc. Responsible for planning jobs; creating/closing work orders; transporting materials and equipment to job site; performing landscaping duties; repairing leaks; locating underground utilities; and repairing roadways. Other duties include performing inspections, communicating with customers and providing lead on-call duties for after hour work. -- Six-months to one year of advanced study or training at a community college or technical school with one to three years of relevant experience. Position requires a valid North Carolina Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and a Water Distribution Grade B and/or Collection System Grade II. -- Prior experience using City Works and a Geographic Information System (GIS) is highly preferred. Candidates must have the ability to work outdoors in all kinds of weather and respond to after-hour situations

as necessary. Position requires exerting 20 - 50 pounds constantly, 50 - 100 pounds frequently and walking/standing to a significant degree. Typical hours are Monday through Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM. -- OWASA provides excellent benefits to include membership in the NC Local Government Employees Retirement System, employer 457 plan contribution and retirement health savings account. Paid Health, Dental, Vision and Life insurances. Additional benefits include: Paid Holidays, Vacation, Sick and Personal Leave, Bereavement and Parental Leave, Educational Reimbursement, Bonus Pay for Additional Certifications and/or Education. -- OWASA is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to continuous improvement, sustainability, creativity, diversity and inclusion. -- Salary Range is \$44,962 - \$69,242. -- Apply online at www.owasa.org. -- Closing date is December 11, 2019 -- Certified Orange County Living Wage Employer, D5,1tc

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK on weekends? Aldern Academy (small boarding school for HS Girls in Siler City) is looking for a PART TIME COOK. Hours are currently 9am to 6pm Saturday and Sunday. If you are interested or need more information, please send resume or email questions to: cindy.koszullinski@sequelyouthservices.com , N28,D5,2tc

MORRISON BROTHERS, 1720 East 11th St, Siler City - Seeking Class A, Class B Drivers/Workers, 60 Hours weekly, Benefits, 401K, Vacation. Contact: Scott Andrews, 336-382-2976. N14,21,28,D5,4tp

HIRING ALL SHIFTS - CNAs, PCAs, Med Techs, Under new ownership. Competitive pay, insurance and vacation. Apply at Coventry House in Siler City. O17,tfnc

CNA - PITTSBORO CHRISTIAN VILLAGE is hiring CNAs, all shifts. Apply in person, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday, at 1825 East St in Pittsboro. O3, tfnc

CHRISTMAS IS COMING! Need extra money? CNAs needed immediately for private duty cases in Chatham County. Please call 919-545-2011. Au22,tfnc

MISC

COX DISTRIBUTORS, Rainbow water-filtered vacuums. Sales, service and supplies, 919-548-4314. Also available, Rada Cutlery, N7-D26,8tc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Call today to connect with a **SENIOR LIVING ADVISOR**
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A Place for Mom has helped over a million families find senior living solutions that meet their unique needs.
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or to order items featured. Use Promo Code CrownGift332 Code is case sensitive.
Order by Dec. 12, 2019 for Christmas delivery. Offer ends December 31, 2019 or while supplies last.

LUNG CANCER?
If you or a loved one are suffering from lung cancer and are over 60, you and your family may be entitled to a significant cash award.
CALL US NOW TO LEARN MORE. DON'T DELAY; THERE ARE DEADLINES FOR FILING CLAIMS.
CALL NOW; WE'RE HERE 24/7-
844-587-8554
No Risk. No Money out of Pocket.

19 E 551
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **EMMA DELL D. PERRY** of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 14, 2020 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. This the 14th day of November, 2019.
Co-Executors:
Herbert Thomas Perry
PO Box 374
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Kenneth Paige Perry
2314 Grassmere Ct
Sanford, NC 27331
N14,N21,N28,D5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 549
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **CORA T. TOOMER** of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 14, 2020 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. This the 14th day of November, 2019.
Clarissa T. Neal, Administrator
209 Brown Hill Rd
New Hill, NC 27562
N14,N21,N28,D5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 566
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **LUCILLE D. CURRIE** of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 21, 2020 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. This the 21th day of November, 2019.
Phil L. Scotton, Administrator
1198 Gees Grove Rd
Siler City, NC 27344
N21,N28,D5,D12,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **ROY VINCENT FAGERBERG**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 12th day of November, 2019, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 23rd day of February, 2020, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 21st day of November 2019.
Stephanie Fagerberg Anderson, Personal Representative
c/o Christina Goshaw Hinkle, Attorney for the Estate
McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson, & Hinkle, PLLC
3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400
Durham, NC 27707
N21,N28,D5,D12,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19-E-56
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, Rachel McDavid, having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **ROSE DENT MCDAVID**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of February, 2020, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 14th day of November, 2019.
Rachel McDavid, Limited Personal Representative
C/O Marie H. Hopper Attorney for the Estate
Hopper Cummings, PLLC
Post Office Box 1455
Pittsboro, NC 27312
N21,N28,D5,D12,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **JUDITH L. SMITH**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms

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.

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 21st day of February, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 21st day of November, 2019.
MICHELLE DEBORAH SMITH, EXECUTRIX
ESTATE OF JUDITH L. SMITH

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS
Now accepting applications for 1 and 2 BR apartments. Handicapped accessible/adaptable units available.
Rent based on income however; limited rental Assistance available. For more information, call 919-542-5410 or TDD 1-800-735-2962.
Equal Housing Opportunity
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS

newly renovated 2 bedroom 1 1/2 baths available. Range, refrigerator, dishwasher and ceiling fans are included in the rent. Water and sewer are also included. Rents start at \$600.00.
Reba Dixon, Site Manager.
400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
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Visit www.chathamnc.org and click on Jobs

HUGE ABSOLUTE ESTATE AUCTION
Saturday, December 7th - 9:00am,
Real Estate Sells at 12 Noon - Preview Friday Noon Till 6pm
5415 Hwy 705 Robbins NC
Estate of the Late Betty Cagle Lineberry
Brick Ranch Home on 1.7 Acres Just outside of Robbins, to be sold "ABSOLUTE" to the Highest Bidder Regardless of Price....
NC Pottery, S&W 38 Special, Antique Furniture, LG Flat Screen TV, China & Glass, Tools, Plus More..House is FULL!!!
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919-498-4077 or 919-742-3286 10%BP

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Apply in person
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N21,N28,D5,D12,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
19 E 532
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **DOROTHY O'DONNELL BAILEY** of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 28, 2020 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.
This the 28th day of November, 2019.
Co-Executors:
Patricia E. Bailey
277 Mint Springs Road
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Robert M. Bailey
722 Dylan Court
Hurdle Mills, NC 27541
N28,D5,D12,D19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
19 E 541
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Ancillary Executor of the Estate of **KRISTY L. RICHARDS** of Cha-

tham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 28, 2020 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.
This the 28th day of November, 2019.
Jennifer C. Shearer, Ancillary Executor
74 New Montgomery Street, #616
San Francisco, CA 94105
C/O Morrison Law, LLP
Anne W. Morrison
167 Church Street North
Concord, NC 28025
N28,D5,D12,D19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
19 E 570
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **R HECTOR LUPTON, JR aka RUFUS HECTOR LUPTON, JR.** of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 28, 2020 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.
This the 28th day of November, 2019.
Davis Roderick Lupton, Executor
3224 Corsham Drive
Apex, NC 27539
N28,D5,D12,D19,4tp

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Special Proceedings No. 19 SP 169
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
Date of Sale: December 18, 2019
Time of Sale: 10:00 a.m.
Place of Sale: Chatham County Courthouse
Record Owners: Amy C. Butcher
Address of Property: **106 Wood Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312**
Deed of Trust:
Book: 1773 Page: 184
Dated: November 26, 2014
Grantors: Amy C. Butcher
Original Beneficiary: State Employees' Credit Union
Description of Property: EXHIBIT A
BEING ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND DENOMINATED AS LOT #16, CONTAINING 4.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THAT PLAT ENTITLED "SURVEY FOR HICKORY HAVEN, PHASE II", BY WILLIAM O. YATES, REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR, DATED JUNE 24, 1997, AND RECORDED IN THE CHATHAM COUNTY REGISTRY AT PLAT SLIDE 97-283, TO WHICH PLAT REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE

FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION OF SAME. CONDITIONS OF SALE: Should the property be purchased by a third party, that person must pay the tax of Forty-five Cents (45¢) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)(1). This sale is made subject to all unpaid taxes and superior liens or encumbrances of record and assessments, if any, against the said property, and any recorded leases. This sale is also subject to any applicable county land transfer tax, and the successful third party bidder shall be required to make payment for any such county land transfer tax. A cash deposit of 5% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale. Any successful bidder shall be required to tender the full balance of the purchase price so bid in cash or certified check at the time the Substitute Trustee tenders to him a deed for the property or attempts to tender such deed, and should said successful bidder fail to pay the full balance purchase price so bid at that time, he shall remain liable on his bid as provided for in North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.30 (d) and (e). This sale will be held open ten (10) days for upset bids as required by law. Residential real property with less than 15 rental units, including single-family residential real property: an order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination. Dated: 11/20/19 Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P. Posted on 11/20/19 D5,D12,2tc

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Special Proceedings No. 19 SP 171
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
Date of Sale: December 18, 2019
Time of Sale: 10:00 a.m.
Place of Sale: Chatham County Courthouse

Description of Property: See Attached Description
Record Owners: Mark Aldridge
Address of Property: 6273 Silk Hope Liberty Road, Siler City, NC 27344
Deed of Trust:
Book : 1873 Page: 952
Dated: August 10, 2016
Grantors: Mark Aldridge and Amber Aldridge
Original Beneficiary: State Employees' Credit Union
Exhibit A
All that certain tract or parcel of land situated in Albright Township, Chatham County, North Carolina, which is bounded on the North by lands of M.P. Duncan, on the East by lands of Paul Johnson, on the South and West by lands of Euliss, more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at a rock pile in Johnson's line (the old Kemp corner), the southeast corner of the present M.P. Duncan land and running thence with Johnson's line about South 4 deg. 48' West 891 feet to a maple in a fence line (said maple being situate 264 feet westwardly from the Johnson-Euliss corner); thence with said fence westwardly 200 feet to an iron stake, a new corner with Euliss; thence a new line with Euliss northwardly in a straight line thence with Duncan's line South 85 deg. 12' East 176 feet to the point and place of BEGINNING. And being a portion of the land conveyed to J.C. Euliss by deed from Floyd H. Holt, et ux, recorded in Book L-F, at page 279, Chatham County Registry. PIN: 8765-00-11-1953 - Property Address: 6273 Silk Hope Liberty Rd. Siler City, NC 27344
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Should the property be purchased by a third party, that person must pay the tax of Forty-five Cents (45¢) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)(1). This sale is made subject to all unpaid taxes and superior liens or encumbrances of record and assessments, if any, against the said property, and any recorded leases. This sale is also subject to any applicable county land transfer tax, and the successful third party bidder shall be required to make payment for any such county land transfer tax. A cash deposit of 5% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale. Any successful bidder shall be required to tender the full balance of the purchase price so bid in cash or certified check at the time the Substitute Trustee tenders to him a deed for the property or attempts to tender such deed, and should said successful bidder fail to pay the full balance purchase price so bid at that time, he shall remain liable on his bid as provided for in North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.30 (d) and (e). This sale will be held open ten (10) days for upset bids as required by law. Residential real property with less than 15 rental units, including single-family residential real property: an order for possession of the property

may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination. Dated: 11/20/19 Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P. Posted on 11/20/19 D5,D12,2tc

PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED TOBACCO-FREE ORDINANCE
Effective March 1st, 2016, Chatham County issued an administrative policy prohibiting smoking and the use of tobacco products in any Chatham County government buildings and vehicles, as well as county-owned grounds, including County parks and recreation areas. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners is considering adopting this policy as an ordinance. The Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the proposed tobacco-free ordinance at 6 p.m. on December 16th, 2019 in the Historic Courthouse, 9 Hillsboro Street, Pittsboro. December 5, 2019 Lindsay K. Ray Clerk to the Board D5,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF ROBERT SOUTHERN
North Carolina
Chatham County
The undersigned having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **ROBERT SOUTHERN** of Chatham County, North Carolina (19 E 545) hereby notifies all persons having a claim against said Estate to present them on or before the 6th day of March 2020, 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 5th day of December, 2019.
Kathryn Southern O'Brien
Estate of Robert Southern
c/o Hatch, Little & Bunn, LLP
PO Box 527
Raleigh, NC 27602
D5,D12,D19,D26,4tc

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Give the gift of delicious oranges fresh from the grove! Four unique varieties. Twenty delicious oranges. LIMITED TIME OFFER. Only \$19.99 (\$5.99 s/h per box). Call Hale Groves 1-844-662-0963. Mention item #487 and code HMVH-N195 or visit www.halegroves.com/A12197

Send a box full of winter sunshine this holiday season! Hand-picked. Mixed fruit medley. Satisfaction guaranteed. SAVE 20%! Only \$19.99. Free Shipping. Call Pittman & Davis 1-855-661-9915 and mention item #MXFM and code PMVH-M181 or visit www.www.pitmandavis.com/M10118

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(Sorta) Free Bird

In case anybody ever wondered, The Kid is absolutely my child.



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

But the big thing was, and still is, our shared love of a good deal. The deeper the discount, the better we love it. The very first word the toddler kid ever learned to read was "Sale." We will regularly call each other and announce, "I won. I got a \$50 hairdryer for \$2.50...or a leather coat for \$20...or a \$23,000 dollar late-model used car for \$17,500."

The other day I won. I made a really delicious, unctuous, chicken, rice, and bean dish with Caribbean flavors. All for around 50 cents a serving — really.

When I was 9, my family moved to Puerto Rico. And there, I discovered a few things.

Living within a few hundred yards of the beach is pretty darn sweet. It's never a bad idea to be able to speak a second language. And Puerto Rican food is just about the best-tasting, best-smelling food on the planet.

A lot of folks think that all Latin food is spicy hot.

Much of it is, but not all. Puerto Rican and Cuban cuisine is zesty and flavorful rather than burn-y



Photo by Debbie Matthews

Sorta Puerto Rican Rice & Beans

and malicious.

It's full of garlic, citrus mainly in the form of bitter orange, and herbaceous, with culantro (not cilantro but related), thyme, oregano, and annatto. It's a balance of textures with an abundance of rice. Although I've had a few island cooking lessons, I'm not an expert, but I often create dishes that are a riff on Puerto Rican food.

Like the other day.

My local Carlie C's has a free item each weekend for loyal shoppers and my local Coop has a member's deal each month. From Carlie C's, I had a bag of Mahatma yellow

rice, and the Coop's giveaway was a can of plain navy beans.

I also had a bag of rotisserie chicken in the freezer and a can of coconut cream from Trader Joe's.

I went into the kitchen and got creative. It turned out so good, Petey had seconds and called dibs on any leftovers that remained after The Kid liberated a goodly portion.

Ok, so the dish wasn't actually free, but c'mon, Free Bird? For a super cheap chicken dish, how totally witty is that title?

Thanks for your time. (Contact Debbie at dm@bullcity.mom)

Sorta Free, Sorta Puerto Rican Rice & Beans

2 teaspoons olive oil
1 yellow onion chopped
2 envelopes Goya Sazon with cilantro and achiote (annatto)
3/4 teaspoon dry thyme
1- 5 oz bag Mahatma yellow rice
In a large, heavy pot with close-fitting lid, heat olive oil on medium. pinch of salt & pepper, and cook until translucent. Pour in the bag of rice, and stir until it coated and it begins to smell a little nutty. Add garlic, and when you can smell it, add beans, coconut cream, water, chicken, and olives. When the liquid comes to a boil, cover and lower heat to medium-low. Cook for 15-20 minutes until liquids cooked and rice is fully cooked. take off heat and leaving rice covered, let it rest for 15 minutes. Before serving, add juice from 1 lemon, check for seasoning, and reseason, if necessary. Serves 4-6.

5-6 garlic cloves, chopped
1-15 oz can navy beans, drained
1-13.5 oz can coconut cream (not cream of coconut or coconut milk)
1 1/4 cup water

2-3 cups bite-sized cooked chicken
1/2 cup green olives with pimento, sliced in half
1/2 lemon
Salt & pepper to taste

Add onion, sazón, thyme, a big pinch of salt & pepper, and cook until translucent. Pour in the bag of rice, and stir until it coated and it begins to smell a little nutty. Add garlic, and when you can smell it, add beans, coconut cream, water, chicken, and olives. When the liquid comes to a boil, cover and lower heat to medium-low. Cook for 15-20 minutes until liquids cooked and rice is fully cooked. take off heat and leaving rice covered, let it rest for 15 minutes. Before serving, add juice from 1 lemon, check for seasoning, and reseason, if necessary. Serves 4-6.

RCC’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter inducts new members, celebrates 20th anniversary

ASHEBORO — On Nov. 23, Beta Theta Rho, Randolph Community College’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, inducted 60 new members and celebrated its 20th Anniversary as a student organization at the College during its fall induction ceremony.

Nearly 200 family members, friends, faculty, administrators, and Board of Trustee members filled

the R. Alton Cox Learning Resources Center Auditorium to celebrate the academic achievements of both past and present students.

The ceremony was led by PTK advisor and RCC English/Communication Instructor W. Clark Adams, who greeted the guests and inductees: “This is a day of recognition, remembrance, and reunion.” He acknowledged the special

occasion of the chapter’s 20th anniversary and the success of the new inductees.

PTK President Tyler Bohlen led the new inductees in the society’s pledge, explaining the significance of the carnation as the symbol of PTK, and Williams announced the names of the inductees. The new members signed the membership roster, while Bohlen, and Secretary Dashanese

Carpio-Ventura handed the new members a carnation. Adams presented each new member with a certificate.

Established in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa is the only international honor society serving two-year institutions. It recognizes the academic achievement and integrity of students enrolled in curriculum programs.

Students who are invited to join PTK must

have completed 12 credit hours and must possess a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. Beta Theta Rho has maintained a Five Star status for 17 consecutive years. The Five Star status recognizes chapters that have completed every requirement set by PTK and for chapters that go above and beyond to make sure their projects and service to the College and community are the very best they can be.

Area students (identified by hometowns) who were inducted include the following:

Liberty: Erika Alejo Pacheco, Rhonda Simpson Hargis

Ramseur: Braden Isaac Greene, Camden Elisha Greene, Hannah Grace Proper, Jackson Kyle Richardson

Siler City: Giselle Montiel Aguilar

Staley: Sabrina Vanessa Rau

Siler City swears in officials



Siler City’s newly elected board members were sworn in on Monday night by District Court Judge Joe Buckner. Siler City Mayor John Grimes asked that his grandchildren hold the Bible as he took his oath of office.



Commissioner Larry Cheek (District 2), was re-elected without opposition. Cheek was also re-appointed by the Siler City Board of Commissioners to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem.



Curtis Brown was sworn in as the newly elected Siler City District 3 Commissioner.



Commissioner Bill Haiges (District 4) was also sworn in after winning re-election without opposition.



Commissioner Chip Price (at-large) was sworn in on Monday after being re-elected without opposition.

CCCC honors Dr. Marchant with building naming honor

From Central Carolina Community College

SANFORD — The Central Carolina Community College Board of Trustees has named the Science Building on the CCCC Lee Main Campus as Marchant Hall in honor of Dr. T. Eston “Bud” Marchant, who retired as CCCC President on April 1.

Julian Philpott, Chairman of the CCCC Board of Trustees, said to Marchant during the presentation on Wednesday at the CCCC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon: “It has been said by others that the most important thing in good leadership is truly caring. The best leaders in any profession care about the people they lead, and the people who are being led know when the caring is genuine and when it’s faked or is not there at all. Everyone connected with CCCC knows that you genuinely cared for them, the College, and the communities served by CCCC.

“It has also been said that one’s life journey is about the people who touch you, and that your career when it’s done won’t be judged by the money you made, but by the lives you touched. As an educator and college administrator, you have not only touched lives personally, but you hired other outstanding people who helped to truly transform the lives of CCCC students and positively impact the communities in Chatham, Harnett and Lee Counties.”



Dr. T. Eston ‘Bud’ Marchant is pictured in front of the building that now bears his name, Marchant Hall, on the Central Carolina Community College Lee Main Campus in Sanford.

Philpott, in making the announcement of the building, told Dr. Marchant: “In grateful recognition of your outstanding leadership and your contributions to the success of CCCC, its administration, faculty, staff and students, the Board of Trustees of CCCC voted unanimously at its October 2019 meeting to name the Science Building on the Lee County Main Campus ‘Marchant Hall.’ This is an honor you did not seek, but it is one that is certainly deserved.”

“This is totally unexpected,” Marchant said. “This college means so much to me and the people here are so outstanding in what they do. I deeply, deeply appreciate it and thank you from the bottom of my heart. This will always be a very special place to me.”

Central Carolina Community College accomplishments under

Dr. Marchant’s leadership were significant. Under his guidance, the college:

- initiated Central Carolina Works, the state’s first effort to embed full-time college career advisors in each service area high school to facilitate dual enrollment.
- initiated an innovative high school industrial apprenticeship program in welding and machine tool, in partnership with service area high schools and local industry partners.
- initiated the Central Carolina Promise program, which offers free tuition to qualifying high school graduates in Chatham, Harnett, and Lee counties.
- opened various new facilities in the CCCC three-county service area — including Health Science Buildings in Lee and Harnett counties, with a Health Science Building currently under



Dr. T. Eston ‘Bud’ Marchant (third from right) is pictured with Central Carolina Community College Trustees (left to right) Douglas H. Wilkinson Jr., James French, Jan Hayes, L.W. ‘Bobby’ Powell, Julian Philpott and Bill Tatum, in front of Marchant Hall on the CCCC Lee Main Campus in Sanford.

construction in Chatham County.

- received the highest possible marks from its SACSCOC decennial accreditation On-Site visit. The SACSCOC Board of Trustees reaffirmed the accreditation of CCCC.
- was awarded a \$9.2 million First in the World grant by the U.S. Department of Education. The four-year grant is the largest in the history of the college.
- initiated new workforce programs in various areas.
- initiated a Phi Theta Kappa honor society chapter.
- saw continued growth in enrollment during his tenure and the increase in nationally recognized programs, such as CCCC’s Veterinary Medical Technology program in Lee County, the Laser

and Photonics program in Harnett County, and the Sustainable Agriculture Program in Chatham County.

- began various articulation agreements with four-year colleges and universities.
- saw continued growth through its Foundation and grants programs.
- became the fifth school and first community college in the Campbell University ROTC Battalion.
- established six new TRiO programs at the college.
- was named in 2010 as one of the Top 50 community colleges in the nation by Washington Monthly magazine.
- became the first North Carolina community college to be a signatory to the Association for the Advancement of Sustain-

ability in Higher Education’s Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS).

- became the first community college in the nation to establish a Confucius Classroom.
- launched the 4CNC-TV station in conjunction with county governments to serve the area and provide hands-on experience to broadcasting students.
- opened a Firefighter Academy at CCCC’s Emergency Services Training Center.

During his career, Dr. Marchant has received a number of honors, including the 2019 Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce Dedicated Service Award, 2013 Sanford Herald Citizen of the Year, 2008 Citizen of the Year in Clinton, S.C. (named by the Clinton Chronicle), South Carolina Technical Education Association 2005 Administrator of the Year; Phi Theta Kappa 2003 Distinguished College Administrator of The Carolinas Region; Union County, N.C., Chamber of Commerce 2003 Volunteer of the Year; and the Charleston, S.C., Convention and Visitors Bureau 1998 Tourism Development Award. In addition, Dr. Marchant is one of seven retiring college presidents and chancellors who were honored by the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society with the Michael Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award.

To learn more about Central Carolina Community College and its programs, visit www.cccc.edu.