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INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Chatham Life magazine!

Chatham News + Record

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'68 Mustang more than a mere car — it's family

53 years later, nearly to the minute, owner brings automobile back to Welford Harris' Ford dealership

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
CN+R Contributing Editor

SILER CITY — In the late summer of 1967, a maroon-colored Mustang — one of 413,000 brand-new Mustangs the Ford Motor Company produced for the 1968 model year — arrived by train in Siler City, destined for the sales lot at Welford Harris' automobile dealership.

At the time, the dealership was in downtown Siler City, nestled behind the U.S. Post

Office. Two years later, Harris would move his business to its present location on U.S. Hwy. 64, but it was on that now long-gone downtown sales lot where the striking new car would sit — a window sticker displaying an asking price of \$3,100 — for a few weeks in the autumn of 1967 before it was sold and driven off the lot.

Most vehicles are purchased, driven, perhaps re-sold and driven some more and then, likely, eventually scrapped, with

the particulars lost to time. But no this 1968 Mustang. The car's destiny, it turned out, would be a bit different than that of most — fated, instead, to become a beloved and cherished member of a local family.

"It's just a legend in our family," said Andrea Auman, whose husband, Jonathan, is the car's current owner and caretaker. "It's got so much history and I

See **MUSTANG**, page A6



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Jonathan Auman (right), the owner of this 1968 Mustang sold 50 years ago at Welford Harris Ford, poses with his grandmother, Allene Coltrane (left) and Welford Harris and his wife Pat. Coltrane's late husband, Roy, sold the car to Auman prior to his death.

WREN CORNER PROPERTIES | SILER CITY

New project brings apartments, brewery and space for restaurant to downtown



A rendering of the brewery, at the intersection of West Chatham Street and North Birch Avenue, that will be a part of Wren Corner Properties.

Farrar's vision is to give buildings 'enduring value,' make area a desired destination

BY BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The vision for the multi-million-dollar project Wren Farrar is spearheading in downtown Siler City is more than just about the renovation of three historic, but crumbling, buildings.

It's also about a catalyst for making the downtown he loves — and that his great-grandfather, L.L. Wren, cared so much about — a destination place.

Over the next two years, Farrar — through the Wren Family Estate, a fourth-generation family-owned real estate holding and development company — will turn the properties on North Chatham Avenue and West Raleigh Street into an 18-unit apartment complex, a brewery/tap room and a space perfectly suited for a restaurant tenant.

Construction is just now starting. By the time the work is done around the fall of 2022, the ancillary benefits of the project — known as Wren Corner Properties — will include streetscape improvements around downtown and additional foot traffic for retailers, many of whom have found sustainability a challenge.

Farrar hopes it'll give downtown Siler City the vibrancy it needs and produce what he describes as "enduring value" for another generation or two of Siler City residents.

Beautification, preservation and thriving business are the goals, of course, but speaking with Farrar, you'll hear him focus on another aspect: the experience.

"That's exactly what we're trying to create here — an



Courtesy of MHAworks



Courtesy of MHAworks

An artist's rendering of how the property on North Chatham Avenue will be redeveloped.

experience," he said. "Not just for people to come here for dinner and a beer. We're trying to set this atmosphere, this experience for the patron ... and to really also tell the narrative and to infuse it with the story of Siler City, and its beginnings and its development, and kind of thread that narrative through our different venues."

As well as, he said, getting people looking toward western Chatham when they think about living, working and playing.

The downtown area of Pittsboro and its surrounds have been successful in creating a vibe that draws visitors, with lots of coffee shops, bars, an upscale wine shop and even a performance theater. Chatham Park bills itself as a "live, work, play" community. There's no reason, Farrar said,

See **PROJECT**, page A7

BONUS COVERAGE

- **EARLY VOTING STARTS:** details, updates, page A3.
- **ELECTIONS:** Profiles of candidates for Chatham County Board of Commissioners, pages A12-A13.
- **EDUCATION:** Communities In Schools creates a 'study corner' for students needing internet access, quiet space; story on page B1.
- **LAW ENFORCEMENT:** Chatham's municipalities are finding it difficult to fill vacant law enforcement positions; story on page B1.

'THERE IS MUCH THAT YOU CAN LEARN'

CCPHD releases report on health disparities

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

In Chatham County, infant mortality rates are higher among both Black and Hispanic residents than white residents — 18.7% and 15.1%, compared with 7.9%.

A larger percentage of Hispanic/Latinx high school students in Chatham have felt sad or hopeless nearly every day for two weeks — a primary symptom of depression — compared with white students. And a lower percentage of non-white and Hispanic/Latinx Medicare fee-for-service enrollees in the county had an annual flu vaccination compared to white Medicare enrollees.

These are just a few of the findings from the Chatham County Public Health Department's recently released report, "Spotlight on Health Disparities in Chatham County." The report is part of the

See **REPORT**, page A3

'WHERE DO I CLICK?'

Many Hispanic families working to overcome challenges with remote learning

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Evelin Karina Barrera, 35, remembers the first three months of remote learning as one giant stress headache.

She has three children attending Virginia Cross Elementary. Her oldest, Joseph, is a 5th grader, and her two twins, Aldo and Gabriela, are both in 3rd grade. When she's not working part-time in a shop, she's been supervising her three kids' education — and that's a bit difficult when she only speaks Spanish.

"First, I have to translate things (in my children's school-

work) to be able to understand it and then explain to them in Spanish and then let them put it in English," she said. "It has been a little hard for me, but that's the only way I can help them."

But the language barrier isn't the only challenge for Hispanic parents like Karina Barrera in Siler City; many have also struggled to overcome stress, little technological know-how and finding the right balance between their work and their children's education.

At first, Karina Barrera had

her children start out with paper packets.

"I really don't know anything about technology," she said, adding, "For me, (paper packets) were the best option, since it was better to do schoolwork and all that they had to do on paper."

But that brought her more work and frustration than she'd expected. She had to sit down with her children, especially her twins, to translate everything in the packets into Spanish so that she could

See **OVERCOME**, page A6



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

Jessica Hernández Guerrero, 29, brings her daughter to work with her every day in Siler City, where she works as an accountant for Warrior Steel Erection Corporation. Her daughter Hailey, a 2nd grader at Green Ridge Elementary in Biscoe, said she liked online school 'because you can turn off the camera and go to sleep.'

IN THE KNOW

Northwood volleyball, XC ramp up first week of practices. Sports, **PAGE B2** | Pittsboro commissioners considering PFAS contamination plan. **PAGE B6** | Online petition calls for BOE to bring all students back to school. **PAGE B7** | BOE will meet next month, discuss Plan B. **PAGE B8**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Events are subject to change based on closures due to coronavirus. Verify with organizers prior to events.

CANCELLATIONS

• **Chatham County Council on Aging:** both centers are closed at this time until further notice. If you need to pick up supplies, call the Siler City or Pittsboro location or check our website at chathamcoa.org.
• **Chatham County Historical Museum:** For the safety of visitors and volunteers, the Chatham County Historical Museum is closed until further notice. See our website: <https://chathamhistory.org>.
• **Chatham Community Library:** Closed to the public at this time.

ON THE AGENDA

• **Chatham County Board of Commissioners,** Monday, Oct. 19, with meetings at 2 and 6 p.m. at the Historic Chatham County Courthouse, Pittsboro.
• **Siler City Board of Commissioners,** 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 19, at Siler City Town Hall.
• **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners,** 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 16, Pittsboro Town Hall.
• **Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling** will have mulch sales during the month of October: at the Main Facility, at 28 County Services Rd., Pittsboro. Saturday sales are from 7:30 a.m. to noon on October 17, 24 and 31. Wednesday sales are from 7 a.m. to noon on October 14, 21 and 28. Solid Waste & Recycling staff will load the mulch, and residents must haul it. Mulch is \$5 per scoop.(about one cubic yard). Staff will load large trailers and dump trucks only with a large scoop for \$10 per scoop. Note: Saturday sales are cash or check only. Sales will continue as long as supplies last. All loads of mulch MUST be secured. Learn more about securing your load. Tarps are available for purchase at the Main Facility and during mulch sales. The tarps are \$3 each and are 6x8 feet.
• **The League of Women Voters of Orange, Durham and Chatham counties** (LWVODC) reminds everyone of the availability of VOTE411.org, their online 2020 Election Voter Guide. The League's nonpartisan election resource offers voters a "one-stop shop" for all things election related. Visit VOTE411.org, enter your address and see: Your customized ballot; Candidate profiles and responses to questions in the candidate's words; Where and when to vote; Voter registration status, and more.
• **COUNTING for the #2020 CENSUS** will continue through Oct. 31. Census takers are visiting every household that has not already responded to the 2020 Census. If a census-taker comes to your home, please cooperate. Chatham County needs your response. If you haven't already, you can respond online at 2020census.gov, by phone, or by mail.
• **Central Carolina Community College:** Whether you are looking for flexible course choices to meet

your personal schedule or starting a new program of study, CCCC's 8-week term allows you to find courses that fit your academic and career goals. The next set of 8-week classes begin Oct. 15. To register for courses, contact your advisor or the admissions office at 919-718-7300 (Lee Main Campus), 919-545-8025 (Chatham Main Campus), and 910-814-8827 or 910-814-8867 (Harnett Main Campus). See www.cccc.edu/12and8 for a list of classes.
• **Chatham Community Library** is also offering free classes on Digital Genealogy, Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel in October. All classes will be presented virtually. Register online to receive a meeting link. A description of each class, including topics covered and prerequisites for attending, can be found at www.chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses. Going Digital with Genealogy: Now in progress, Wednesdays, 3 p.m.; Microsoft Excel Basics, Part 1: Oct. 21, Wednesday, 3 p.m.; Microsoft Excel Basics, Part 2: Oct. 28, Wednesday, 3 p.m. For more information, call 919-545-8086 or email reference@chathamlibraries.org. A full list of upcoming programs can be found on the library's events calendar.

THURSDAY

• **The Pittsboro Farmers Market** is open with seasonable items year-round from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays. It is located at 287 East St., Pittsboro.
• **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** provides a healthy, appetizing meal at no cost to those who come to us hungry at noon on Thursdays. We provide a place of hospitality and fellowship for everyone. All are welcome, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religious preference, handicap, or income.

FRIDAY

• **HEAL 2020 (October 16-17)** is an upcoming **Pittsboro Youth Theater** drive-in musical with a variety of modern hit songs from popular artists and Broadway theater. You can purchase tickets at www.pittsboroyouththeater.com. In addition to Pittsboro Youth Theater, the following special guests will perform: Haw River Christian Academy Theater Department will perform a short play, "The Prideful Princess" (PreShow) on both nights. The Trigg Academy will perform an Irish Dance routine during intermission, and Chatham Dance Connection will perform with PYT in sections of "Heal 2020."

SATURDAY

• **NEW HOPE VALLEY RAILWAY** is Back on Track. The nonprofit railway reopens with limited capacity Halloween train rides in Bonsal. The North Carolina Railway Museum, which operates New Hope Valley Railway (NHVR) has reopened to the public and resumed train rides with its popular Track or Treat: Halloween Express trains. Located at 3900 Bonsal Road in New Hill, it is nicknamed the Triangle's Train. NHVR's family-friendly Halloween trains are planned for weekends in October. Saturdays Oct. 17, 24 and

31. Trains will depart at 2:45, 4:00, 5:15, 6:30 and 7:45 p.m. and tickets will only be sold online prior to ride days and not at the railroad on the day-of. Tickets cost \$14 for all ages.
• **YOUTH JUMP ROPE CLASSES:** Class 2: Meets at Northwest District Park on Wednesdays 6 p.m. to 6:55 p.m., until Oct. 21. This class is all about fun and fitness, and is suitable for youth who are both beginning and intermediate jumpers. Participants will learn and perfect single rope, Double Dutch, and long rope skills. Jumpers will develop strength, agility and endurance throughout the class. For details on how to register, visit the parks and recreation website: chathamnc.org/parks-recreation or call the office at 919-545-8555.
• The next virtual **WAKE UP WEDNESDAY** networking meeting is Oct. 21. Please join us! Below is the link to join in. You may start logging on at 8am to take care of any technical issues you may encounter. Please make sure your camera/audio works. The structured meeting will begin at 8:30am. This months speakers are Jeff Spear, Senior Loan Consultant and Kristi Farrell representing Burlington Animal Services. Join Zoom Meeting, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82606470013>, Meeting ID: 826 0647 0013, One tap mobile 19292056099,82606470013# US (New York).
• **Chatham Arts & Recreation: Youth Art Class** will meet Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m., through Oct. 22. This is a six-week exploration of various art and craft skills. Participants will experiment with projects such as watercolor painting, dot painting, paper crafts (quilling and/or origami) and 3D art. For details on how to register, visit the parks and recreation website: chathamnc.org/parks-recreation or call 919-545-8555.
• **Chatham Arts & Recreation: The Trunk or Treat Boo-Thru** will have candy drive-throughs and a pumpkin carving contest this year. Event 1: A "Monster Hunt" will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. in Southwest District Park on Thursday, Oct. 29, and Event 2: from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30, in the Northwest District Park.
• **SILER CITY FRIDAY NIGHTS FLICKS** series concludes Oct. 23. Make plans to join Siler City Parks and Recreation for the final Friday Night Flick of the 2020 season series. "The Addams Family," a 2019 animated film, will premier on the big screen at dusk at Bray Park. Grab your blankets, chairs and enjoy the final free family-friendly movie under the stars.
• **FireClay Cellar/Winery** Craft Show and Wine Tasting: preview Friday, Oct. 23; Event scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 24 from 12 to 6 p.m. (Rain date: Sunday). Out of the Studio - "Into the Vines" - Join us as we celebrate the fall season, with a family friendly, socially responsible local happening. Wear the mask, y'all! No pets please!

ALSO HAPPENING

• **Second Bloom of Chatham:** Come see us 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 10 Sanford Rd., Pittsboro (on the Courthouse Circle).

Credit cards are accepted. Profits go to support services for survivors of domestic or sexual violence and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.
• With COVID-19 sweeping the country, artists' livelihoods are being challenged like never before. The Chatham Arts Council has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called **CAARE: Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort**. For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.
• JMarts hosted a **JMACoronaConcert** via Twitter featuring performances submitted by JM students and faculty. Concerts can be viewed on its Twitter account @JMarts and by using the hashtags #JMACoronaConcert performances and #JMACoronaConcert program.
• **Adult Volunteers Needed** at Chatham Hospital in Siler City, a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital located in Siler City and part of the UNC Health Care System. All prospective

volunteers must complete an on-line application, a criminal background check, an orientation and have documentation of required immunizations. To learn more go to: www.chathamhospital.org/ch/about-us/volunteer.
• **Volunteers Needed:** Nonprofit agencies in Chatham seek teen volunteers to help with many projects. Teens can help at food pantries, in gardens, fundraising projects, office work, and care for animals. Chatham Connecting website lists many volunteer opportunities for youth. See where you are needed to help in the community: www.chathamconnecting.org.
• **Foster and/or adoptive information:** Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 to learn more.
• **Alcoholics Anonymous** — North Carolina District 33, call the Help Line at 866-640-0180 for the meeting schedule for this area.
• **Motorcycle Association** — The Motorcycle Association for Chatham, Western Wake, Lee,

Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com.
• **Narcotics Anonymous** — For drug problems in the family, Narcotics Anonymous helps. Call 1-800-721-8225 for listing of local meetings.
• **Al-Anon Meeting** — Pittsboro Serenity Seekers Al-Anon Family Group meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Chatham Community Church, in the lower level of Chatham Mill, Pittsboro.
• **Scout News**
• Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstroop93.org for more information.
• Pack 924 of Siler City First U.M.C. meets on from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays for boys, grades 1 through 5. Come join the Cub Scouts.
• Pack 900 in Bear Creek meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Meroney's U.M.C., following the school calendar. See <http://pack900.com> for more information.

TEMPLE TEEN ENSEMBLE

121 CHATHAM ST. SANFORD, NC 27330

DRIVE-IN DINNER & DONATE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020 6:30 PM

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

TEMPLESHOWS.COM 919.774.4155

Chatham Chamber of Commerce

Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, October 26

Governors Club

11000 Governors Drive, Chapel Hill

GOLF

SCRAMBLE

Check-in: 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Start: Tee Times to be announced

Register By: October 20, 2020

https://www.ccucc.net/Chatham_Chamber_Golf_Tournament_Governors_Club

Golf Fees: \$ 425 Foursome / \$ 110 Individual - Chamber Member Rate

\$ 445 Foursome / \$ 115 Individual - Non-Chamber Member Rate*

Team & Contest Prizes

Breakfast Biscuits & Coffee

Boxed lunches

*Not a Chamber member? Join the chamber and receive a 20% discount off your first year's Membership dues and get your Golf Foursome or Individual fees at the member rate. Contact the Chamber office for more information.

Attire: Proper golf attire. No denim allowed.

More information: info@ccucc.net 919-742-3333

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AT A GLANCE | EARLY VOTING

Early voting starts Thursday: Here’s what you need to know

News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — To date, more than 12,000 Chatham County residents have been mailed absentee ballots. With early voting beginning Thursday, Oct. 15, it’s a reminder that election day is less than three weeks away.

Here’s the latest from Pandora Paschal, the director of Chatham’s Board of Elections, plus the low-down on early voting.

- How are things going in your office?**
- We are very, very, very busy with people returning their ballots and calling to check on requests and to see if their ballot has been mailed.
- What do you want to tell people about absentee ballots?**
- Let people know they can use the links below to request the ballot and track their ballot. If voters have already sent in an absentee ballot request form and received their ballot ignore the requests they are receiving in the mail from other sources. These are not coming from the Board of Elections office. They are valid request applications and if they have not completed an application they can use these to request the ballot.
- What are things going in your office?**
- We are very, very, very busy with people returning their ballots and calling to check on requests and to see if their ballot has been mailed.

We are accepting mail-in ballots at the office Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are requiring voters to wear a mask, and adhere to proper social distancing. Only four people are allowed in our lobby at one time.

Voters or their near relatives returning the ballot are required to sign a log for each ballot returned. We ask people to please be patient as we go through this process. We stand by our mission to run a fair and impartial election, and to ensure every vote cast is counted.

The links:

Where to find these tools: ncsbe.gov/voting/vote-mail.

Request an absentee ballot on the Absentee Ballot Portal: voteby-mail.ncsbe.gov/app/home.

Track Ballot on ballottrax: northcarolina.ballottrax.net/voter.

THE SKINNY ON EARLY VOTING

When can Chatham County residents participate in early voting?

One-stop early voting begins Oct. 15 and lasts through Oct. 31.

Where can Chatham County residents vote early?

- Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center, 1192 U.S.

Hwy. 64 West Business, Pittsboro

- CCCC Health Science Center: 75 Ballentrae Court, Pittsboro
- Paul Braxton Gym: 115 S. Third Ave., Siler City
- Goldston Town Hall: 40 Coral Ave., Goldston
- Governors Village: 40150 Morning, Chapel Hill
- New Hope Baptist Church: 581 New Hope Church Rd., Apex

What are the hours for Chatham’s early voting sites?

All Chatham County early voting sites are open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the following days (weekdays): Oct. 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30. On Saturdays (Oct. 17, 24 and 31), sites are open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. On Sundays (Oct. 18 and 25) sites are open from noon to 3 p.m.

What is the deadline to register to vote in Chatham County

Registration for voting closed Oct. 9. If you missed the registration deadline, voters can still register at all early voting sites on the day they vote. However, there will be no voter registration on Election Day, Nov. 3.

For those who still want one, how do voters request an absentee ballot?

A request to vote by absentee ballot may be made by completing the North Carolina Absentee Ballot Request Form. The form can be returned by email at elections@chathamnc.org; by mail at P.O. Box 111 Pittsboro, NC 27312; or by fax at (919) 542-6430. The Chatham County Board of Elections must receive the completed and signed absentee request form by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

Do voters need a photo ID to vote in Chatham County?

No. Chatham County voters do not need a photo ID to cast their ballot in the 2020 general election.

What is the Chatham County Board of Elections doing to keep people safe while voting during the COVID-19 pandemic?

The Chatham County Board of Elections is following the guidelines and procedures established by the State Board of Elections in conjunction with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to keep election officials and voters safe while voting during the upcoming election. These precautions include:

- Masks available for voters who do not bring their own.

- Single-use pens for voters to mark their ballots.
 - Single-use cotton swabs for voters using touchscreen ADA voting machines.
 - Enforced social distancing for all election officials and voters, including markings or barriers to prevent voters in line from standing too closely together.
 - Hand sanitizer for voters and election officials.
 - Masks, face shields and gloves for election officials.
 - Protective barriers between poll workers and voters at check-in and ballot tables.
 - Special sanitation kits at each precinct to ensure clean tables, voting booths and voting machines throughout the voting process.
 - Professional sanitizing of each voting location before and after use.
 - Additional workers at each voting location to assist with sanitizing, line control, and curbside voting.
 - Voting booths will be sanitized after every voter at all stations.
- For more information about the 2020 general election, early voting and Election Day, visit the Chatham County Board of Elections website at chathamnc.org/elections or call (919) 545-8500.

REPORT

Continued from page A1

department’s work to pursue health equity in the community.

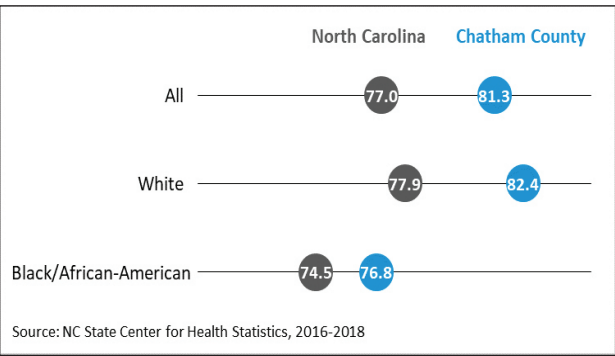
“The CCPHD’s vision is: ‘A fair and inclusive Chatham County where all residents achieve their best physical, mental and emotional health and feel a sense of belonging,’” the report, available on the county’s website, said. “To achieve this aim, we seek to better understand the health disparities that exist in our community and the inequities in which they are rooted.”

The report defines health disparities as preventable differences in health outcomes between groups in our society, which “occur across many dimensions, including race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, location, gender, disability status, and sexual orientation.”

Health disparities, the report said, are the consequence of “structural inequities that push communities into the margins and create the external factors that redirect, reduce, and remove opportunities to achieve optimal health.

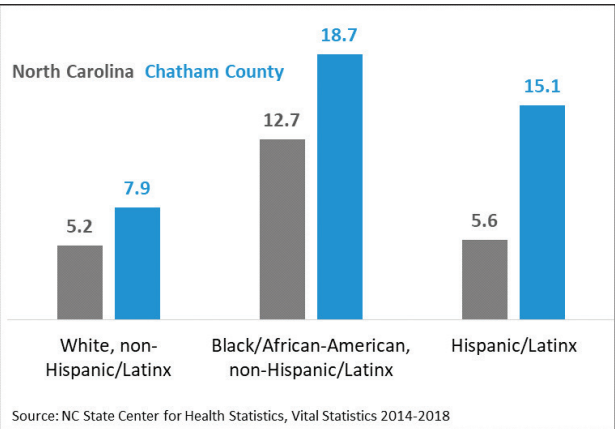
“They are not the result of holding a certain identity,” according to the report. “Identifying as Black/African American, Hispanic/Latinx, LGBTQIA, a person with disabilities, a woman is not the risk factor. The risk factor is how systems and biases are constructed against diverse identities that lead to negative health outcomes. Our role as a local public health department is to understand these disparities and their causes and use that understanding to devise multi-level interventions to improve the health and well-being of all Chatham residents.”

The department said it hopes to develop a more comprehensive data-driven understanding of health in future years, emphasizing that their findings are not a



Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health Department

Life expectancy is lower among the Black/African-American population than the white population in both N.C. and Chatham County, according to the department’s report on health disparities in Chatham.



Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health Department

Infant mortality rates per 1,000 live births are higher among Black/African-American Non-Hispanic/Latinx residents and Hispanic/Latinx residents than white Non-Hispanics/Latinx residents.

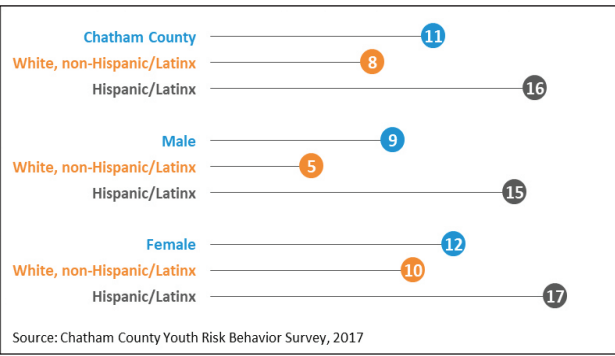
complete representation of inequities in Chatham, but rather a snapshot. The work in the report builds off of the department’s previous reports on health disparities in 2010, 2014 and 2018.

The report not only examines disparities in various health outcomes, including rates related to COVID-19, maternity wellness and mental health; it also looks at social determinants of health, which include safe and affordable housing, access to education and environments free of life-threatening toxins.

“When we look at overall numbers, Chatham does

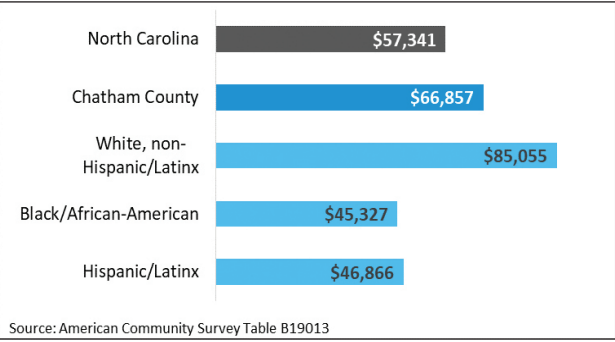
really well on a lot of metrics, especially compared to around the state,” said Maia Fulton-Black, a population health data scientist who worked on the report. “But I think when we see when we break that down that’s where we start to see differences in different groups around the county.”

“As a health department, it is our mission to promote health and help our entire community achieve their optimal health,” added Casey Hilliard, Interim Director, Health Promotion and Policy Division. “If we’re just looking at



Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health Department

A higher percentage of Hispanic/Latinx high school students in Chatham County have felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks — one of the primary symptoms of depression — compared to white, non-Hispanic/Latinx students, the report said.



Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health Department

The median household income for white non-Hispanic/Latinx residents in Chatham County is higher than for Black/African-American and Hispanic/Latinx residents.

overall numbers, then we aren’t actually doing our job. And so being able to break this data down and track it and understand it on that more detailed level, it allows us to then think about solutions and opportunities for us to improve the health for everyone in our community.”

Chatham County has experienced double-digit growth since 2010, the report said, but two-thirds of the nearly 75,000 people living in Chatham live in rural areas. The county is 82.2% white, 12.4% Black/African American, with 5.4% identified as “other,” including Asian and American Indian/Alaska Native. A little more than 12% of residents identify as Hispanic/Latinx.

Chatham’s median income is \$66,857, with an unemployment rate of 3.9% and poverty rate of 13.3% — meaning it performs well compared to other counties and the state as a whole, the state said. However, as mentioned by Fulton-Black, there are disparities within these numbers. According to the report, Black/African-American households are two times more likely and Hispanic/Latinx households are three times more likely to be living in poverty when compared to White non-Hispanic/Latinx households, and life expectancy for members of the Black/African-Americans population is nearly five years shorter than White residents.

“Disparities can also be seen visually across Chatham when looking at a map. For instance, poverty rates in the northeast corner of the county are three to four times lower, and the median income is nearly two times higher, than in the southwest corner,” the report said. “Siler City, located in the western part of the county, has a median income under \$35,000 and an unemployment rate of 9.8%. Taken together, these point to inequities across our community that coincide with well-documented outcomes across the state and country.”

Michelle Wright, equity and community engagement lead in Chatham, said it’s important to realize that seeing significant changes in these sorts of trends is “very long-term work.” Life expectancy, for example, is not the type of indicator that would shift within a year or two, she said.

That being said, the department is working hard to ensure that over time, change in trends is possible, Communications Specialist Zachary Horner said.

“We are committed as a department to doing everything we can, and to using the resources we have to move forward and to hopefully one day reach health equity,” he said. “Until we’re there we’ll keep working as hard as we can. And sometimes, we need to be reminded of the reality of ... these issues of these health disparities, and this report is a snapshot in time of where we are.”

On Aug. 24, the Chatham County Board of Health voted to declare racism as an ongoing public health crisis, pledging its commitment in working to mitigate associated health disparities. Since the board unanimously approved that statement, which was largely well received, some residents have pushed back, claiming the statement is pushing a political agenda or is not based in fact.

“What we are addressing is an objective reality,” Wright said regarding such claims, adding that the department can specifically point to where every piece of data in its report comes from. “We would encourage you to look at this and to acknowledge that the experiences, the life experience of someone who is in a marginalized population, is very different. When you have different levels of privilege, you experience different things.”

Fulton-Black added that behind the data are real people in Chatham — neighbors, families, friends. She said she hopes people come to the report with an open mind, recognizing that these numbers represent people who are having very real experiences.

“It’s OK to not know about it,” Wright said. “But it’s best to be open-minded to learn about it, and acknowledge that if you haven’t lived a certain experience, that there is much that you can learn.”



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VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | DAVID DELANEY

Vote! Then do your real civic duty

Election season energizes me. I inventory the issues that are most important to me and consider the candidates who will best express my values in their public work. My wife and I plan the best time to vote early so our kids can join us. I put signs in the yard. This year we even attended a presidential candidate’s campaign event. Election season is a hopeful time that connects our family and challenges us to think.

But expectations temper my enthusiasm. Elections reveal sharp divisions in local and national communities that may not exist in our homes, churches, or neighborhoods. By a large margin, Americans say the electoral college is undemocratic because a minority of the popular vote can elect the president and vice president. Voter suppression extinguishes citizen voices. Candidates are identified, packaged and “sold” like commodities. Voters are targeted, pitched and “bought” in advertising campaigns. It’s enough to bring widespread apathy and disengagement.

But voting is the first important step in improving any de-

mocracy. So carefully consider the values that drive your ballot choices. Be specific. Discuss those values with others instead of rehashing campaign soundbites. Challenge yourself to refine your thinking. Then vote your highest democratic values.

According to generations of research pioneered by Nobel Prize winner Daniel Kahneman, this kind of deliberate analysis improves decisions. As Kahneman describes in his popular book, “Thinking, Fast and Slow,” the brain’s fast-thinking system makes quick, intuitive judgments that drive our decisions and actions.

Our electoral system caters to the fast-thinking brain. One recent study shows that a candidate’s smile, chin strength, voice, skin tone and other meaningless physical traits account for 70% of candidate success. This is discouraging, to say the least.

The good news is that engaging the brain’s slow-thinking system enables better decisions. We save money on groceries by comparing prices and sizes. We are healthier when we compare nutrition facts. Saving for

future needs increases financial stability. Slow thinking can improve any decision-making process, including our personal voting choices.

Of course, lasting improvements come from changing systems. Businesses, schools, the military, police departments and government agencies are already making improvements. Decades of research help them increase innovation, reduce discrimination, promote equity and improve outcomes.

The defense department, for example, has revamped promotion processes for senior leaders. New procedures intentionally minimize fast-thinking biases. They enable the department to select commanders for characteristics like creativity, innovation and professional diversity, which the department highly values to enable 21st-century success.

Perhaps similar improvements are needed in the electoral system. Maybe you prefer to improve decision making in other legal or policy areas first. Your vote matters on these issues. But your civic, patriotic duty is just beginning.

I am highlighting what

psychologists describe as the difference between our expressed values (what we say) and our revealed values (what we do). Our votes express our personal preferences. Our constitutions and laws express our highest values, which define us as political communities. Our collective actions under these laws reveal society’s value preferences, which change over time for important reasons.

For example, the founding generation expressed and revealed a preference for chattel slavery and white, male-only voting. The abolition and suffrage movements, new political parties, the Civil War and countless other actions revealed very different 19th- and 20th-century values and democratic expectations.

Over time, elections and movements selected leaders whose constitutional amendments and new laws aligned with the nation’s revealed values. These leaders improved democracy itself, as the founding generation expected. Some Americans still express and reveal the old values and ways, but they are not a majority.

The alignment process is perpetual. Our generation’s efforts benefit from remarkable new knowledge in many research fields. Focusing our thinking, discussions and actions on shared democratic values helps us find commonality. Movements that promote engagement and equality extend democracy’s best ideals. Perhaps our generation can even improve democracy more rapidly and peacefully than others.

I remain excited about election season. I will vote and hope you will, too. No matter the outcome of national, state or local races, the important work of improving democracy will begin anew. Consider it the start of your real civic duty to guide those leaders well through values-based action.

David G. Delaney is a N.C. attorney, Army veteran and former acting associate general counsel of Homeland Security. He is on the faculty of the UNC-Chapel Hill Curriculum in Peace, War and Defense, and his scholarly work with psychologist Paul Slovic proposes ways to improve U.S. national security decision.

Hazel was no lady 66 years ago

October 15 this year is a Thursday. Sixty-six years ago, it was a Friday ... and what a Friday it was.

Maybe it’s human nature, a natural reaction to compare things. Fishermen like to catch the most fish; baseball players to hit the most home runs; your golfing buddy to have a better score than you. Pretty much anything that can be compared will be.

Does that go for hurricanes? Southeastern coastal states from Texas to Virginia have had their share through the years and many have been bad; some have been horrific. In 1900, a hurricane claimed more than 6,000 lives when it washed over the flat coastline city of Galveston, Texas, making it the biggest natural disaster in U.S. history. This year’s track record for storms has already run through the English alphabet and moved on into the Greek. And officially “hurricane season” doesn’t end until Nov. 30. The battered folks in Louisiana are ready for that day.

But in North Carolina history there is one hurricane that still evokes shudders — at least to folks of a certain age group — and it’s not Fran or Floyd, bad as they were.

It’s Hazel.

It used to be all of them had female names. The old joke was, “Why are there no hurricanes with male names?” And the answer was “Have you ever heard of a himicane?”

Often, folks who live through them don’t talk about them, sort of like combat veterans most of the time don’t relive those times.

For a big chunk of North Carolina, Oct. 15, 1954, brought Hurricane Hazel. It — or she — hit the shore near the border between the two Carolinas at around 6 in the morning with 150-plus mile per hour winds as the storm itself was zooming along at about 50 miles per hour.

That was the days before Doppler weather forecasts that ran 25 hours a day and TV weather folks stood out in howling winds to make sure we knew a storm had hit or was coming. Folks on the coast could tell a storm was on the way but they didn’t know what kind of storm — or how bad it would be.

When Hazel was all over, 19 Tar Heels had died, property damage ran into the hundreds of millions of dollars and the path of destruction went as far north as Pennsylvania, New York and Canada. Entire communities were battered and washed into the sea. There was no more Long Beach, today’s Oak Island.

Back home in Chatham County, school officials decided the safest place for youngsters was at their homes. There were no emergency alert systems; many parents were at work; school buses roamed the roads in the height of the storm, often having to take alternative routes because of the trees blocking roads. Some couldn’t make it through, returning to school buildings, which were probably the safest places to be.

On that Friday, the storm came through Raleigh in the afternoon. My father had left his insurance company office in Durham to pick me up at the Gov. Morehead School for the Blind, where I spent a year before eye doctors figured out they could correct my limited vision.

We were huddled in the parlor of a massive brick dorm; the sky was as black as a coal mine (and I’ve been in one) and the giant oak trees seemed to be bending double. And the wind ... weather stations reported gusts in the capital city at 90 miles per hour. It was a hairy trip back to Pittsboro.

Since that day, forecasting has improved greatly and warnings lead to preparedness. And since that day I’ve lived through a few more in my inland setting. Fran was an all-nighter that claimed trees, fences and vehicles.

It’s bad enough as an adult but there’s something especially frightening about being 6 years old and seeing your world turning upside down.

When you pay your bills this month, send a check to the Red Cross or Samaritan’s Purse or the Salvation Army or some other reputable relief agency for the victims of those natural disasters. There are still lots of 6-year-olds out there.



Arts accessibility comes at what cost to the artists?

A few weeks ago, my neighbor woke up to frantic knocking on her door.

I’m standing there with a pack of arrows in my hand.

“Can I borrow your houseplants for a few hours?” I ask her. “My play is supposed to take place in early Amazon times, so I need to hide the electrical outlets.”

This encounter isn’t as bizarre as it sounds, considering I’ve recorded a radio play in my closet and filmed another scene on my porch. Although I consider theater my longtime hobby, this was the first year that I performed from my house. The shift to virtual events allowed me to act with theaters across North Carolina, and I am so grateful for these new connections.

At the same time, I’ve watched staged readings from my favorite TV show casts, seen the “Hamilton” Disney premiere and envied Meryl Streep and Audra McDonald’s living rooms during their Stephen Sondheim tribute. I imagine how these all can pave the way for widespread access to top-tier perfor-

Attending the theater has often carried elitist connotations. That still remains true on Broadway, where the average ticket is upwards of \$100. However, this sentiment ignores the theaters, museums and galleries that bring affordable shows to local communities.

mances. I also wonder how many small theaters are facing permanent closures.

Attending the theater has often carried elitist connotations. That still remains true on Broadway, where the average ticket is upwards of \$100. However, this sentiment ignores the theaters, museums and galleries that bring affordable shows to local communities. The latter survive via local support, as well as through programs like the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Now, many local arts organizations are struggling to keep their doors open and the NEA faces the chopping block in next year’s federal budget.

I remember when my middle school created its first after-school theater program, only to watch the district slash it within the same year. I keep wondering if those kids still enjoy the arts or if we missed the window to engage them. This year, school systems may finally realize how crucial arts programs

are to children who don’t want to play sports.

I think about the kids and teens rehearsing their shows on Zoom, and the adult performers making a living off of staged readings. We as audiences have greater access to the arts, but at what cost to the artists?

Next weekend, I look forward to seeing the drive-in musical orchestrated by the Pittsboro Youth Theater and Center for the Arts. This is just one example of how theaters across the country are engaging audiences during a pandemic. I hope that you will support the local performing arts community so that our young actors and actresses can continue to thrive. And remember that for every Broadway show, there is a local one that needs your support.

Rachel Horowitz resides in Chatham County and works in Pittsboro. She is a graduate of UNC-Pittsboro’s Hussman School of Journalism and Media.

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

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

VIEWPOINTS

Ticket-splitting still shapes elections



JOHN HOOD
John Locke
Foundation

North Carolina, like most of the country, has become increasingly polarized in our political thinking and behavior. But what does that really mean? Well, we know it doesn't mean that all North Carolinians are so rigidly partisan they support only candidates of one major party or the other. Split-ticket voters do make up a smaller share of the electorate than they did generations ago. They're rarer. That doesn't make them extinct.

Consider the 2016 election cycle. Donald Trump won North Carolina with 49.8% of votes cast for president. At the same time, Democrat Roy Cooper won the governorship narrowly with 49% to Republican incumbent Pat McCrory's 48.8% — even as Democrat Josh Stein was elected

as attorney general with 50.3%, Republican Richard Burr as U.S. Senator with 51.1%, Republican Dan Forest as lieutenant governor with 51.8%, Democrat Elaine Marshall as secretary of state with 52.2% and Republican Steve Troxler as agriculture commissioner with 55.6%.

It's true that not every North Carolinian who voted actually marked a preference in all these races. Most did, though. There were Trump/Burr/Forest voters who picked Cooper over McCrory — enough to tip the race. There were Hillary Clinton supporters who also picked Troxler, padding his margin of victory.

In a more polarized atmosphere, Democratic and Republican campaigns do tend to focus more on turning out their base than trying to persuade undecideds, as the latter group is small and often disconnected from news consumption and the political process. However, North Carolina's electorate is both polarized and closely divided. Just a percentage point

or two of split-ticket voters can be the difference between winning and losing.

Moreover, while there is some debate about this among political scientists, I think the best-available evidence tells us that some of those split-ticket voters are also strategic voters.

That is, they aren't very ideological. After all, if they were, they'd probably be reliable Democrats or Republicans. Instead, these swayed voters are interested more in leadership qualities and judge political candidates in context. And they aren't crazy about either major party controlling all the levers of government.

U.S. Sen. Thom Tillis made a clear pitch for this small but potentially decisive group of North Carolinians in a recent Politico interview. While stressing that he continues to believe Trump can and should be reelected, he argued that even voters inclined to choose Joe Biden should consider voting for Tillis at the same time.

"The best check on a Biden

presidency is for Republicans to have a majority in the Senate," Tillis said. "And I do think 'checks and balances' does resonate with North Carolina voters."

Cal Cunningham, for his part, has tried to distinguish himself a bit from the rest of the Democratic ticket, emphasizing his background and keeping the focus on Tillis's record rather than trying to defend Biden's. (Now the rest of the Democratic ticket is trying desperately to distinguish themselves from Cunningham, for a different and obvious reason.)

There's a similar dynamic at play in the state treasurer race between Republican incumbent Dale Folwell and Democrat Ronnie Chatterji. Endorsed by the State Employees Association of North Carolina, Folwell is actively cultivating crossover voters who may favor Democrats in other races but appreciate his efforts to reduce costs in the pension system and health plan for teachers and state employees.

Polarization has pros and cons. You might see it as "truth

in advertising." With nearly all conservatives identified as Republicans and nearly all progressives as Democrats, it makes it easier for ideologically minded voters to cast their ballots intentionally, particularly in down-ballot races where voters know little about candidates other than their party affiliation.

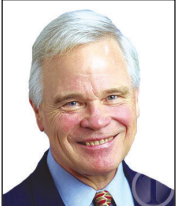
On the other hand, polarization can make it harder for legislative bodies to produce coherent policies that won't be vetoed by executives, be they presidents or governors. Neither Washington nor Raleigh has produced regular government budgets for years, as an example.

Whatever you think of it, however, polarization hasn't yet hunted split-ticket voters to extinction. They still matter — and candidates know it.

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

President Trump and Nicholas Sparks' latest book

What do President Donald Trump and the lead character of Nicholas Sparks' latest book have in common?



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Hint: Walter Reed Medical Center.

Both the president and Trevor Benson, the fictional main character in Sparks' "The Return," received critically important treatment at Walter Reed.

Trump got expert medical care for his coronavirus.

Benson, a Navy surgeon, had his body and mind blown apart in Afghanistan. Serious head injuries, loss of sight in one eye, loss of an ear, damage to his back, and for a surgeon, the career-ending loss of fingers. These injuries plus a heavy dose of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder made Benson a total wreck.

The doctors at Walter Reed and nearby Johns Hopkins put him back together again. Their great psychiatric care moved him to become a psychiatrist himself.

How then is Sparks going to use Benson as the lead in one of his heart-rending romances?

Maybe you remember Sparks' formula for his books that have sold more than 100 million copies. He creates two characters, a man and a woman, brings them together, then something separates them, and somehow they are brought back together, bringing tears to Sparks' readers.

First, Sparks gets Trevor to New Bern. Although Trevor grew up in Washington, D.C., he spent youthful summers with his grandfather who lived happily in his self-built modest house, taking his jerry-rigged boat out for trips on Brice's Creek and tending his hives of honeybees.

When his grandfather dies, Trevor comes back to check on his grandfather's property and decides to stay while he is waiting to begin a residency in psychiatry at Johns Hopkins.

When an attractive female sheriff's deputy named Natalie stops by to check on the grandfather's house, she finds Trevor, and Sparks' magic romance begins.

Trevor is smitten, but Natalie is reserved and inexplicably seems not to want to be seen publicly with him.

He takes her on a boat ride along Brice's Creek where he shows her baby alligators and a nest of bald eagles. Then he gives her an inside tour of his grandfather's honeybee operation, with a sensitive explanation of how the bees work together in different roles to build their hives and sustain their communities.

Natalie is hooked, Trevor is happy, and the story seems to be over even though we are only half through the book.

Sparks is not through with them. To follow his formula, something has to separate them. So, suddenly, Natalie tells Trevor she has to break away and that their romance is impossible.

When she explains why, he understands and sadly moves on. Then Sparks gives him another challenge to solve: Callie, a teenage girl who lives alone in a nearby trailer court had helped Trevor's grandfather with his bees.

Just before he died, the grandfather gave Trevor or muddled instructions to help Callie. Callie does not want help, but when it becomes a life and death matter, Trevor rushes in to help. Without reconstructing their romance, Natalie helps him solve Callie's mystery and save her life.

The story ends.

But Sparks has not followed his formula. He brought Natalie and Trevor together and then set them apart. But he has not reunited them. At the end of the book's last chapter, Trevor is in Baltimore to begin a psychiatric residence at Johns Hopkins. He reads a letter from Natalie. She thanks him for his love, but begs him never to contact her again. Sadly, Sparks does not bring his lovers back together this time.

Wait. The book has an epilogue. Maybe Sparks could complete his formula there, but you will have to read it to find out for sure.

Visit North Carolina, the state's tourism promotion office, should put Sparks on its payroll. His descriptions of the charms of downtown New Bern and the beauty of Brice's Creek made me want to close the book and rush to spend a few days there.

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.

Five years of change in six months

If you long for January, when things were "normal," you are not alone. We may not have liked everything then, but we at least knew how to navigate our lives. Since March everything has turned upside down. Nick Patton Walsh, a CNN analyst, recently said we've seen five years of change in six months.



TOM CAMPBELL
N.C. Spin

There are some, especially politicians, who want to tell us that normal is just around the corner. They say "just hang on for a few more months and things will return to the way they were." They are fooling themselves and trying to fool you. There is growing understanding we won't return to "before" for years, if ever.

The Kenan Institute held a virtual forum in mid-September that reflected on changes titled "Seven Forces Reshaping the Economy." We want to list them, adding comments of our own.

"By far the biggest impact of the pandemic has been where people go — to work, to play, to live," the report begins. Businesses can meet using Zoom (or other apps) and don't have to work from one location; neither is travel to meetings and conventions as essential. Many employees can work from home, forcing change in real estate markets, both as companies reduce rented office space and as workers choose where they want to live. No longer will folks hop a plane to Cabo, Snowshoe or Disney for leisure travel, instead choosing locations where they can reasonably drive. The travel and hospitality indus-

tries face major change.

Shopping habits have changed. Brick and mortar retailers have suffered and many are closing, as people shop online. Survivors will include a few mass-market chains and unique boutiques with specialized goods or personal services. Delivery services for food, groceries and merchandise are now a way of life. People are making fewer trips to the grocery but will likely end up spending more on food purchases. Many lower wage workers will be out of work.

COVID-19 demonstrated that supply chains must be to be nimble, more efficient, more resilient and closer to home. Companies will seek partnerships with regional warehousing and distribution facilities. Some will bring manufacturing in-house or at least within this country. Manufacturing will be highly automated and computerized and will not require as many workers.

Recent racial protests have prompted the business community to redouble diversity efforts, conduct more sensitivity training and to partner with minority owned businesses, not because they are forced to do so but because they recognize it is the right thing to do. They will re-emphasize participation with their communities and a renewed emphasis in doing business with local supplier networks.

The pandemic demonstrated the need for major school reform. This year's disrupted education proved that educators must incorporate new technologies, both online and in-class. Education outcomes must improve; successful innovators will be rewarded in this era of school choice. Government revenue shortfalls will reverberate down to local school systems, increasing the urgency for

education to improve quickly and for reliable and safe childcare parents need in order to earn livelihoods.

Our healthcare systems are under extreme pressure. Many rural hospitals are barely surviving, too many communities have a shortage of doctors, and too many citizens have no government or private health insurance. We see the results of these problems in the rates of those infected and dying from COVID-19. The need for expanded telemedicine is urgent. New funding models are needed that place emphasis on wellness instead of just treating sickness. Our healthcare providers spend too much time processing paper and not enough treating patients. New job opportunities in biopharmaceutical, R&D and teleservices will create job opportunities.

For the economy to rebound capital providers need new risk assessments for long-term investments. Workforce retraining is urgently needed to offset those losing jobs and businesses striving to meet the new demands. Our unemployment rate has dropped but won't likely return to January levels for many months as the economy adjusts.

Changes are sometimes hard to accept and may be viewed negatively. But as *New York Times* writer Peter Baker said: "When tectonic plates of history move, move with them." Some changes can bring good. The question is how can we be agents for positive change?

Note: You can read the Kenan Institute report at: cutt.ly/kenanreport.

Tom Campbell, a former assistant N.C. State Treasurer, is creator/host of NC SPIN, a weekly statewide television discussion of N.C. issues that airs on UNC-TV's main channel.

LETTERS

Vote for Chatham County Republican candidates

TO THE EDITOR:

Robert Thomas is running for the U.S. House of Representatives, District 4. A strong supporter of the Second Amendment, he is for building the wall in opposing illegal immigration into the United States.

Incumbent Ted Budd is running for re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives, District 13. A strong proponent of the Second Amendment, Budd owns a gun range in Rural Hall.

Tom Glendinning is running for the N.C. State Senate, District 23. Attentive to safety and security, he is a strong advocate for property rights. Glendinning opposes discrimination against seniors.

George Gilson Jr. is running for the N.C. State House, District 54. A strong supporter of the Second Amendment, he believes in small government and personal accountability. Gilson opposes excessive tax and runaway spending. Opposed to open borders, he favors a voter ID law.

Jay Stobbs is running for the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, District 1. Opposed to raising property and sales taxes in Chatham County, and against removal of the Chatham County Confederate statue, Stobbs is committed to safeguarding farmlands in the western part of Chatham County from land-use zoning.

Jimmy Pharr is a candidate for the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, District 2. Pharr is against raising property and sales taxes, removal of the Confederate statue and zoning of farmlands in the western part of Chatham County.

Andy Wilkie is an incumbent candidate for the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, District 5. He created the Project Help non-profit for serving the homeless people in Sanford. Commissioner Wilkie is on the side of holding down taxes, respecting

status quo of the Confederate statue and protecting farmlands in the western part of Chatham County.

Ryan Armstrong is running for the Chatham County Board of Education, District 1. In favor of competent preparedness and effective communications, Armstrong wants to be a voice for teachers, students and parents. In advocating a two-tier revolving teaching schedule, he supports live-streaming classes.

Dennis Lewis is running for the Chatham County Board of Education, District 2. Promising to be a voice for parents on the board, he favors hybrid teaching that includes options for in-class and online teaching. Lewis advocates attention to STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) and trade skills. Along with ensuring bandwidth access in rural areas, he would introduce JROTC (Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps) in schools.

Rolin Mainuddin
Chapel Hill

A prescription from doctors for healthy voting

TO THE EDITOR:

You might be surprised to see a doctor writing a prescription for healthy voting, but you shouldn't be. The COVID-19 pandemic has made voting itself a health issue in 2020. Just as doctors are expected to give advice on how to prevent injuries and illness by wearing seat belts and eating healthy, we have a duty to advise you on how to stay safe while exercising your right to vote. We've already seen that crowded in-person voting in the Wisconsin primaries was tied to an increase in COVID-19 cases. Doctors are concerned and want to do what we can to prevent this from happening here in North Carolina.

So what do we prescribe? Make a plan to vote from the safety of your

own home. N.C. allows anyone to request a no-excuse absentee ballot. Voting by mail is safe and secure, but be sure to follow the directions exactly, pay attention to deadlines and return your ballot early. If you do vote in person, you can stay safe with these practices: wear a mask, stay distanced, use hand hygiene and vote early to avoid crowds.

Request a mail-in absentee ballot, even if you think you'll want to vote in person. COVID-19 hot spots can flare up anywhere at any time. Recall UNC-Chapel Hill attempting to open the campus for classes this fall only to shut down two weeks in, as more than a thousand cases of COVID-19 exploded. Don't make the mistake of thinking that you are not at risk, even if you are young and healthy.

Remember Chad Dorrill, a 21-year-old sophomore at Appalachian State University who died after contracting the virus. Even if you survive, you could have serious heart or lung issues, or become one of the "long haulers" who suffer for months with neurological issues, fatigue and worse.

We don't yet know how long the damage will last.

Voting from home protects you and your loved ones who could contract the virus from you. By decreasing crowding at the polls, you also protect those who have to vote in person, poll workers, and your entire community.

Visit ncsbe.gov/voting for detailed election instructions.

Norma Safransky & Minta Phillips

Safransky graduated from Duke University with a degree in Zoology, completed her medical degree at UNC-Chapel Hill and is currently a practicing psychiatrist living and working in Chapel Hill. Phillips graduated from Yale with a fine arts degree and completed medical school at Harvard University. She had a 30-year career as a radiologist in Greensboro and is now retired in Julian.

MUSTANG

Continued from page 1A

think that’s really interesting. It’s almost like the car is a person.”

“This car has been very important to me,” acknowledged Jonathan, who acquired it from his grandparents, Roy and Allene Coltrane of Siler City, who had owned it for the previous 39 years. Roy, a World War II veteran, died in 2018. Allene just celebrated her 94th birthday.

“What’s most special about this car for me is its legacy,” Jonathan said.

A lifetime of memories

When Jonathan obtained his driver’s license at 16, for instance, his grandfather made a point of allowing the newly licensed driver to take the car for a spin.

He drove his date to the senior prom in that car.

He and his grandfather enjoyed countless hours working on the Mustang, keeping it in top running condition. And when his grandfather died, Jonathan drove it to the funeral in his grandfather’s honor.

The four-seater holds a lifetime of memories.

“It’s very sentimental,” said Jonathan’s mother, Valerie Dorsett. “He just had a real special connection with his grandpa. They worked on that car a lot and spent a lot of time together with it, just talking about Mustangs.”

“That car was one of the major things we shared,” Jonathan agreed.

For most of the 39 years the Coltranes owned the Mustang, Jonathan recalled, it served as his grandmother’s primary vehicle. Allene drove it back and forth to her job at Shoe Show, relying on the sports car for transportation until she bought another car to replace it in 1989.

The Coltranes, however, weren’t the Mustang’s original owners. They bought it — paying \$850 for the used car in September of 1974 — from their friend and neighbor, Charles Robert Crotts Sr., who bought it on Oct. 7, 1967.

“It hasn’t left Siler City since,” Jonathan said.

Still in excellent condition with all of its original parts — and appearing no worse for wear than it must have looked in 1967 aboard that cargo train bound for Siler City — the Mustang has always been well cared for, never wrecked, always carefully serviced.

“That’s what you’re supposed to do with any car,” Allene said. “I took good care of it.”



This Mustang was one of 413,000 1968 models made in 1967 by Ford Motor Company.



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

A display of the documentation for the car, which will be in the showroom of Welford Harris through mid-November.

For special occasions

And in the process of driving it and caring for it, the family made a lot of happy memories.

“I remember when my grandmother was still driving it,” Jonathan said. “She’d come pick me and my sister up and I’d ride in the back seat with the little window down. She’d sing songs to us while she drove: ‘Over the Rainbow,’ or ‘You Are My Sunshine.’ She’d take us to Rose’s and buy us little toy cars.”

Like his grandparents did before him, Jonathan treats the vehicle with great care and respect, driving it mostly only on special occasions. He’ll bring it out for the Siler City Christmas and Veterans Day parades, for example, or maybe take it to a classic car show.

“Once in a blue moon,” he said, “I’ll start it up and drive it to the store. But that’s very rare.”

He did, however, take it for a spin last week, which was also sort of a special occasion.

Last Wednesday — exactly 53 years, nearly to the minute, after Crotts originally bought the Mustang — Auman drove it back to the Welford Harris dealership. Auman said it seemed

like a proper way to honor his family’s beloved ride.

Joining him last week were his grandmother, mother, wife and son, representing four generations of his family who had over the years been touched by the single car.

The original receipt

Jonathan, who knows just about everything about the car’s history, brought with him all of the automobile’s original paperwork, which he keeps safe in a framed glass display. Among those documents, which are as carefully preserved as the car itself, were a certificate of origin from the Ford Motor Company and the original sales receipt, which had been signed 53 years earlier by Pat Harris, Welford’s wife.

Welford and Harris, now both retired, were also on hand last Wednesday to see once again the special car they sold more than five decades ago.

Welford said seeing the vehicle was a treat.

“It’s pretty rare to see something like this,” the veteran car salesman said, a broad smile across his face. “To see a car so well cared for. There are few and far between that will care for them like that.”



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Allene Coltrane, the wife of the Mustang’s former owner, Roy, signs the register at Welford Harris Ford. Coltrane’s grandson, Jonathan Auman, now owns the car.

And Harris, 84, also enjoying the nostalgia, said she got a kick out of seeing the sales receipt she’d signed when she was 32.

“I was shocked when I saw it,” she said. “But I recognized my handwriting immediately.”

The car’s odometer reads 43,000 miles. Since there’s no space on the odometer for a sixth digit, Jonathan suspects the more accurate mileage is 143,000. Regardless, he knows exactly who will put future mileage on the family car.

Though his son, Bryce, is many years from driving age, the Mustang will someday belong to him, Jonathan said.

And continuing the family/Ford tradition, Jonathan has another legacy project in the works. He recently tracked down his grandfather’s 1979 Ford pick-up truck, which had been traded in and sold in 2000.

“I found it,” he said, “so I’m going to re-do his truck — that’ll be a project for me and Bryce — and keep that in the family, too.”

OVERCOME

Continued from page A1

explain to them what they needed to know and do — and even that was a bit complicated since her twins speak little Spanish and write even less.

So, after her children completed about a packet and a half, she had them switch to online learning: Her 5th grader used the family’s personal computer while her twins learned on two provided by the school district.

“I didn’t know if this (situation) was going to change and it was more practical for them because obviously they were going to learn more on the computer. There are more strategic forms for them to learn,” she said, adding, “They weren’t learning anything (on paper), and it was more frustrating for me because I had to be there watching them do it.”

The language barrier and technology illiteracy are two of biggest challenges facing Hispanic families in Siler City, said Jazmin Mendoza Sosa, a Communities in Schools (CIS) student support specialist at Virginia Cross Elementary School.

Mendoza Sosa serves nearly 50 Virginia Cross students and their families, including Karina Barrera’s, and typically completes around 10 “porch visits” a day, helping students with classes, troubleshooting technological problems and occasionally tutoring those who need help.

Before COVID-19, she said some Hispanic families she serves didn’t own personal computers or have Wi-Fi, since neither were essential as they are now to their children’s education. That’s why the shift to remote learning has overwhelmed many of her families, she said.

“I have spent like an hour on FaceTime where

I have parents (on) the camera be like, ‘OK, where do I click?’ and I have to be like, ‘Click here on your left or your right,’ or even spell out what word they need to find on the screen,” Mendoza Sosa said. “Just accessing a password or an email can take up to an hour, which usually on normal standards would take less than two minutes.”

Inexperience with computers leads to other challenges. Though many parents created email accounts to access social media, she said many don’t use it as their primary means of communication.

“It is hard when you have teachers saying, ‘I’m emailing you information about virtual learning,’ when parents are not really acclimated to using that email,” she said. “So that causes problems because if there’s no phone call, then they’re like pretty much, ‘I don’t know what’s happening.’”

The language barrier doesn’t help either.

“Computers are only in English. Instructions are only in English,” Mendoza Sosa said. “So even if they were to be able to put (in) a password, they are not able to really tell like what it is. I have heard parents say, ‘I’m doing Google Translate to translate instructions in the computer so I can help my kid.’”

‘My chair’s always spinning’

Beyond technological problems, Mendoza Sosa said she’s seen many Hispanic parents struggling to keep up with their children’s class schedules and keep them engaged. Others are struggling to answer schoolwork questions that teachers would normally address.

Some parents can’t read or write in English or Spanish, Mendoza Sosa added, yet despite that, many still do what

they can to support their children. During a home visit a few months ago, Mendoza Sosa remembered sitting at a table tutoring two students using a whiteboard while their mother sat in front of them, watching them work and erasing the whiteboard every so often.

“And I know erasing the whiteboard might not seem (like) a lot to people,” she said. “But that’s a lot for a mother who doesn’t know how to read and write ... to stay there and say, ‘I can’t help my kids, but I’m not gonna just let Ms. Jazmin sit with my kids. I’m gonna be there and see what she’s doing to mimic some of the stuff.’”

For Siler City mother Jessica Bacho, one of remote learning’s biggest challenges is keeping track of her children’s schedules and making sure they’re logged in and engaged. She takes care of five children, including a 2-year-old infant, three Virginia Cross elementary students and a 12-year-old at Chatham Middle.

“I have a girl with ADHD, and it’s hard for her to stay logged on, and she doesn’t like it,” she said. “Sometimes, she doesn’t want to log on. And then they all have nearly the same schedules and I have to be supervising one kid after the other, after the other and see that they’re paying attention.”

Though she said she doesn’t know much about using computers and speaks little English, she helps her children as best as she can.

“I can’t speak it well, but yes, I can understand it,” she said. “So that helps me to be able to help my children and when I have doubts, I ask my oldest daughter.”

Jessica Hernández Guerrero, 29, faces similar challenges in a different setting: She brings her daughter,

Hailey, with her every day to Warrior Steel Erection Corporation in Siler City, where she works as an accountant.

Even though she lives an hour away, working from home was never a great option for her since a large part of her job involves administrative work. She and her family live in Biscoe, where Hailey attends Green Ridge Elementary School as a 2nd grader.

Supervising Hailey’s learning has proven difficult for Hernández Guerrero, despite sitting a few feet away. She has to balance Hailey’s work with her own — and sometimes the scale ends up shifting one way or the other.

“Whenever she has homework, I just go and help her a little bit (and) just make sure that she’s doing her work, then come back to my job and just be like from one side to the other,” she said. “My chair’s always spinning.”

So oftentimes is Hailey’s.

“I have to fight with her, argue with her, because she doesn’t really pay attention,” Hernández Guerrero said. “So I have to be like, ‘Hey, Hailey, listen to your teacher. Hey, Hailey, take notes,’ because she doesn’t feel like she’s in school. She’s just sitting there watching her and playing around.”

That makes it harder for Hernández Guerrero to ensure Hailey turns in her assignments on time — especially when she’s busy at her own job.

“It gets me mad because I’m like, ‘This is not how you’re supposed to be doing it. You’re not learning anything,’” she said. “It’s not her fault, but I mean it’s just not what we wanted.”

‘It will never compare’

Hernández Guerrero wishes Hailey could go

back to in-person learning — and yet, at the same time she doesn’t.

“I don’t feel like she’s really learning,” she said. “I mean I teach her like the best way that I can. But I feel like it’s not the same.”

She’s worried that younger kids might not listen to their teachers about following health guidelines. But it’s also a bit more complicated than that: If Montgomery County’s school board decides to allow students Hailey’s age to return, she said she’d have to find some way to enroll Hailey in Siler City Elementary, which she also attended when she still lived in Siler City.

Before the pandemic, she used to work somewhere else and got off around 3:30 p.m., and someone else would watch Hailey until she could pick her up. But now she gets off at 5 p.m. and works an hour away. Her husband works and can’t pick her up either. That’s why she was relieved to hear that the Montgomery school board voted to continue remote learning.

“It is giving me more (of a) chance to figure out how to do it next year,” she said. “I was worried if they were going to accept Hailey in Chatham County Schools when she is living in another city. Hopefully I can figure something out next year.”

For Karina Barrera, the hardest part of remote learning was adapting to all of the changes, and now she said that’s mostly passed.

“It was a process, but thank God we’ve now gotten more familiar with all this because it has already made it easier,” she said, adding, “Before it was difficult for them (to do the work). Now they’ve gotten into practice and they’re doing it fast.”

But she and Bacho agree that remote educa-

tion hasn’t helped their children learn — and that’s why they said they approved of the school board’s recent decision to allow some students to return to some form of in-person learning.

“(Remote learning) will never compare to anything directly in person,” Karina Barrera said. “I think that (they’ve learned) about 50% from my way of seeing things because maybe they learned but very slowly I think because it is not the same.”

“The teachers can teach them more (in school) and in more detail than a parent who sometimes might not understand it,” Bacho added.

But both said they would have preferred to see the older students return first.

“I feel like they are falling further behind in learning,” Bacho said. “My daughter in kindergarten is having no problems with her learning and is more dedicated to her homework and classes than the older children. One as a parent can help young children more than an older child as their work is more difficult.”

But whatever happens, Bacho said she’d keep trying to motivate her children to study and achieve a higher quality of life that education offers.

“In our countries (in Latin America) with this pandemic, children can’t do homework because their schools don’t give them a computer and they don’t give them materials because it’s not as easy as it is here in the United States,” she said. “So (my children) need to value what they have because (the schools) provide them with many things that can’t be done in other countries of the world.”

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at victoria@chathamnr.com.

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

Online petition calls for BOE to bring all students back

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Following the Chatham County Schools Board of Education's Sept. 23 decision to remain in Plan C through the end of the semester, many parents, students and residents across the district were dismayed by the decision.

One CCS parent, Ashley Webster, did something about it — she created an online petition.

Created through the change.org platform shortly after the board's decision to continue remote learning, the petition is titled, "Get our children back in the school building," and set with a goal of 1,500 signatures.

"Collectively Creating Success"? For who?" Webster wrote in the petition description, referencing CCS' tagline in its logo. "Chatham County Board of Education is failing our children miserably. Our children are struggling on a daily basis with getting the education our tax dollars are paying for them to be in a school building and learning. It is time for we parents to take a stand and be the voice for our children to get them back in school."

Since the petition's creation, it's garnered attention on social media and collected more than 1,300 signatures. In that time, the BOE also pivoted, deciding on Sept. 29 to approve in-person instruction under Plan B for Extended Content Standard E.C. students, PreK students and K-2 students and suggesting that even high school students could return to in-person learning before the Jan. 15 date decided the week before. At that meeting, the board also voted to allow for the resumption of extracurricular activities.

Together, those decisions were viewed by many proponents of in-person learning — including Webster — as a "partial success."

Posting on the petition site Sept. 30, the morning after the board's meeting, Webster said she'd emailed the petition signatures and comments to all the board members as well as CCS Superintendent Derrick Jordan, and that she'd received a reply from board chairperson Gary Leonard (the only board member to dissent on the Sept. 23 decision to remain in Plan C). While she said the decision to allow some students to return to the school buildings under Plan B was a start, she urged people to continue sharing the petition "to get all the children back in to school."

"I spoke with several teachers and students that attended the meeting last night as well and they desperately want to get back in the classroom," she wrote. "Students I spoke with said the work load is too much with interrupted instruction making it very difficult to learn anything. Some of the teachers

are instructing to black screens with no communication with the children. How stressful and depressing is this?"

Several signers left comments stressing the importance of students being back in school.

"I'm signing because I can't learn through a computer screen," one signer, Cassie McKeithan wrote. "I NEED a TEACHER. I've never made a B in my life and now I'm failing classes."

"My child is suffering because of this," Stacey McVey, another signer, added. "Our children need to be with others their age. Working 2 jobs and trying to do virtual learning has taken its toll on my health. We need them back in school."

Still, for as many folks in Chatham who want students back in school under Plan A or Plan B, others feel the district's Sept. 29 decision was too hasty and potentially dangerous. Last week, the News + Record reported that reactions to the decision varied from parents devastated by the decision because their students weren't in the groups selected to return under Plan B on Oct. 19, to parents disappointed with the board's transparency and commitment to safety. Several supporters of CCS remaining under a remote learning plan cited concerns for teachers, who unlike students, are not able to opt for virtual work if they do not feel comfortable returning to in-person teaching. Teachers are only

allowed to request the accommodation of working from home due to medical concerns authorized by a doctor.

"Remote school is imperfect," CCS parent Corbie Hill wrote in a News + Record letter to the editor last week. "We all know that. What's getting lost in the drive to reopen, however, is infection risk to staff, students, and the entire community — not to mention the logistical headaches of hybrid remote/in-person learning. The grass is not greener."

At the BOE's regular session meeting on Oct. 12, the board heard updates on COVID-19, ultimately deciding to create a timeline for other groups of students returning to school under Plan B at their next regular meeting, scheduled for Nov. 9. The board indicated that Nov. 30 would be the earliest date it would consider allowing any additional student groups to return to in-person learning.

As of the News + Record's press time Tuesday, the online petition did not have any updates regarding the board's latest updates.

"We are hearing from our community," CCS Public Relations Coordinator John McCann said of the petition. "We're hearing all sides, and we're listening."

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

PROJECT

Continued from page A1

Siler City can't do a little of the same.

He's done the apartment thing before, experiencing success with Chatham Lofts, the six-unit one-bedroom apartment building and commercial storefronts just down the street at 229-233 N. Chatham Ave. in downtown Siler City. For the other two projects, he's looking for collaboration.

Meanwhile, for inspiration, he had to look no further than his own family. Farrar's great-grandfather and namesake opened Siler City Mills in 1910. The business succeeded wildly, and after its sale, a real estate holding and investment company was formed, currently known as Wren Family Estate. For more than 50 years, family members have, through the estate, contributed charitably and civically in and around Siler City — all with an eye toward Siler City's long-term prosperity.

Wren Corner Properties will be an extension of that, Farrar believes. Future visitors and patrons enjoying meals at outdoor sidewalk seating or a seasonally-inspired brew on a rooftop bar might be motivated to do more than just live a few steps away at one of the project's apartments; Farrar sees the potential of those customers deciding to work from, or move businesses to, Siler City.

The brewery

Farrar views a brewery/tap room, to be located at 120 W. Raleigh St., as the centerpiece of the entire project. Walkable downtown areas where friends can socialize with food and a drink — possible in Siler City after voters approved on- and off-premises sales of both malt beverages and unfortified wine this past November, albeit by slim margins — are becoming more commonplace in smaller towns. Investment in those types of amenities have paid off handsomely in many places as new businesses spring up around the increased traffic that follows.

Farrar has been pondering the idea of a brewery for some time now, but it's closer than ever to being a reality. He's deep into discussions right now with the owner of an existing brewery owner in eastern N.C. in hopes of creating a partnership for what he's envisioning for the 120 W. Raleigh St. building — a brewery with a production facility that would supply beer for a tap room on the same site.

"What we're hoping is that the brewery/tap room at 120 W. Raleigh will sort of be the anchor of the whole project," he said. "That's what we're really try to push. We want to have a rooftop bar up there on the second story and lots of outdoor seating."

The restaurant

The brewery will serve light foods — it won't have an industrial kitchen — but Farrar is hoping to collaborate with a restaurateur for that piece of the puzzle in a main-floor shell building at 109 N. Chatham, the site below four of the apartments.

He and Wren Family Properties are seeking "just the right partner" for that. He's tossing around some concepts about the restaurant — a favorite idea now is a deli serving an array of farm-fresh, locally sourced foods, plus barbecue.

Farrar is quick to quote the statistics about restaurants — seven out of 10 fail in the first three years — and downtown Siler City already has a long list of now-closed eateries, including Oasis Fresh Market and Deli, which shut down last week. But in his eyes you read a glass half-full, ready-for-a-refill optimism.

"We're hopeful that having a good restaurant downtown, and a good bar downtown, will help promote more volume and more foot traffic, and that people will get exactly what we're trying to create here," he said.

The apartments

As for the apartments, Farrar is drawing from experience gained from the Chatham Lofts project.

The new apartments will be constructed from the three N. Chatham Avenue properties — two on the second floor at 105 N. Chatham Ave. (with commercial property on the bottom floor), four at 109 N. Chatham Ave. (with the proposed restaurant on the first floor) and four at 121 N. Chatham Ave. — along with eight apartments in the building at 114-116 W. Raleigh St. Of those 18 units, 16 of them will be one-bedroom and two of them two-bedroom.

MHAworks, the architectural and interior design firm working with Farrar on the project, said the "industrial chic design" apartments will be spacious (more than 1,000 square feet each), with large bathrooms and storage and high ceilings. Rents will start at between \$1,000 and \$1,200 monthly.

CT Wilson, a family-owned company known for its proficiency in historic redevelopment, has been engaged as general contractor. CT Wilson was the general contractor for the Sax-apahaw River Mill, the Golden Belt Complex in Durham, Revolution Mills in Greensboro and the Rocky Mount Brewmill.

"That's experience that we aim to capitalize on and expand for our Wren Corner Properties redevelopment project," Farrar said.

'A new constituency'

Rich Szary, who owns Twin Birch and Teasel on N. Chatham Avenue in downtown Siler City

with his wife Sue, said he expects the combined projects will "provide a new constituency that is likely to support our revitalization efforts and bring additional ideas and energy to them because the improvements needed are — literally — in their back (or front) yard."

Having people live in downtown will provide an incentive for entrepreneurs to take some chances on new businesses, something which excites him.

"They will want the promise of local dining, gathering places near their homes, and services and retail opportunities," Szary said. "There is not a natural and sufficient constituency for these opportunities currently. The residents will undoubtedly spend a significant time on the downtown streets and will either expect improvements in a relatively short time frame or decide to move elsewhere where they can find more amenities and necessities more easily. I hope these expectations spur the town and existing and potential downtown businesses to invest time and resources into implementing a new vision for downtown."

Szary, who's the chairperson of Siler City's Downtown Advisory Committee — of which Farrar is a member —

said efforts by some downtown business owners to present an attractive and welcoming appearance "are hampered by a number of empty, abandoned-looking, and derelict buildings."

The Wren Corner project's improvements, he said, will be an upgrade "for all of downtown" and will encourage and reinforce the efforts of businesses to keep their properties and facades attractive and welcoming — which will, in turn, only strengthen efforts to bring new businesses to town.

Angelynn Fox, who owns Siler City Pharmacy, said she looked forward to finding ways to support Farrar's vision.

"As a business owner I am thankful that he has chosen to renovate downtown space in Siler City, and I'm excited to see his vision come to life," she said. "I sincerely hoping his love of our downtown is contagious."

"We need people to come to know Siler City as a place where they plan to come — a destination — because they know the attractiveness and amenities it provides, not just to happen upon it because they were curious — or lost (discovery)," Szary said. "Downtown needs repeat visitors and customers,

not just the occasional wanderer. Having these residential units downtown, with both residents and their guests, can help provide a reliable and engaged presence of visitors returning to visit favorite spots or find out what's new since they last visited."

Continuing a legacy

Wren Industries is funding the Wren Corner project, which will then be managed by the Wren Family estate.

Back in 1901, L.L. Wren was a founding member of The Chatham Bank, which operated in Siler City until it merged with First Union National Bank of North Carolina in 1961. In the 1940s and '50s, during the family's mill's heyday, L.L.'s son William Marcel Wren began purchasing properties in downtown Siler City.

In 1963, he established Wren Foundation Inc., which his daughter Margaret de St. Aubin operates today. Wren Farrar is Margaret de St. Aubin's son, and after receiving his B.A. in Historic Preservation and Community Planning from the College of Charleston, he worked in development and planning in South Carolina. He returned to Siler City in 2011 and began crafting a comprehensive redevelopment plan focused on rehabilitating properties and promoting the revitalization of downtown's commercial district.

So does Farrar think his grandfather would approve of this latest project?

"Absolutely," he said. "He would be happy that the family is trying to continue and expand on his legacy, which is really founded in a love and appreciation for the hard-working community that he was a huge part of."

Farrar said without question, he gets great satisfaction from the thought of people living in and occupying buildings that "were pretty much storage, warehouses that were dilapidated with holes in the floor."

"We were at a crossroad," he said. "We had to either sell them, tear them down, or make the decision to invest some money and get things rolling ..."

"We have a cool little main street. It's very special and I've always loved it, and deep down, when I was gone, I always wanted to come back here and stay. And I just love the fact that these buildings are getting a second lease on life, and they're going to be well taken care of for the next 50 years for the next generation or two."

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We listen to you and we hear you — from all of Chatham County!
Our team, Stobbs, Pharr, & Wilkie, must be elected to win issues on your behalf!

We believe our experience with a conservative, not liberal, world view and truth, not political correctness, combined with fiscal responsibility and a deeply profound respect for individual freedoms, for all citizens, is a clear, positive choice for Chatham County voters. We start here:

- Reduce property and sales tax rates
- Reduce spending and per capita debt
- Restore Veteran’s Memorial consistent with NC law
- Repeal County-wide zoning, restore property rights
- Increase wastewater monitoring
- Support better rural broadband capability, working with Raleigh legislature and Governor
- Listen to all citizens, govern for everyone

WE NEED ALL THREE GOP COMMISSIONERS TO BE ELECTED FOR THESE CHANGES.
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OBITUARIES

MILDRED KROPFF JOHNSON



Mildred Kropff Johnson, 84, passed away peacefully Wednesday morning, October 7, 2020, at The Laurels of Chatham in Pittsboro, N.C.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Richard “Edd” Johnson. Mildred retired from UNC Healthcare after 20 years of service. When possible, she was an active member of Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her son, Richard Scott Johnson; and daughter, Renee Johnson Williams; her two grandsons, Julius Alexander Williams and Harley Edward Johnson; her great friend, Kathy Krombach, who helped care for Mildred with love and support; and many Gilmore and Hall cousins.

A funeral service for Mrs. Johnson was held 2 p.m. Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Pleasant Hill UMC with the Rev. Ray Gooch officiating. The service was broadcast on FM 87.9.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts are suggested to the Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, c/o Linda Peace, 7280 NC Hwy 902, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or St. Jude’s Children Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

BARBARA JEAN BREEDLOVE



Miss Barbara Jean Breedlove, 71, passed away early Friday morning, October 9, 2020 at her home in Pittsboro, N.C.

She was born in Chatham County, N.C., December 8, 1948, daughter to the late John Coy Breedlove and Earline Moretz Reeves.

Barbara is survived by her brothers, Johnny (Beth) Breedlove and Jimmy (Patricia) Breedlove; her sisters, Kathy (Edward) Duffy and Angela (Tony) Deal; her two aunts, Faye Reeves and Frances Reeves; and her nephews and nieces, David, Tammy, Michael, Chris and Christin.

Barbara was an active member of the Piedmont Health Senior Care (PACE). She loved everyone she met and had a childlike innocence that made you love her. She loved animals, especially her stuffed animals. Barbara touched many lives and will be greatly missed.

A graveside committal service will be held for Barbara, at 11 a.m., Thursday, October 15, 2020 at Chatham United Methodist Church with Pastor Danny Berrier presiding. Please be respectful to all in attendance by wearing a mask and practicing social distancing.

A special acknowledgement of gratitude is extended to the staff of the Piedmont Health Senior Care Center for all of the love, devotion and care they brought into Barbara’s life.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Chatham UMC Cemetery Fund, 1826 Chatham Church Road, Moncure, N.C. 27559 or PACE, 163 Chatham Business Drive, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312.

THELMA GARRETT O’DANIEL

October 1, 1945 – October 11, 2020 (75)

Thelma Garrett O’Daniel passed away at SECU Jim and Betsy Bryan Hospice House on Sunday, October 11, 2020.

Thelma was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest and Lillian Cothran Garrett, her brothers, Thomas Garrett, Eugene Garrett, Ernest Garrett, Thaddeus Garrett, Jim Garrett and sisters, Jeanette McLaurin and Mildred Page.

She was the wife of Steven O’Daniel of Chapel Hill; mother of Brandon (Julianne) O’Daniel of Chapel Hill, and Brent (Beverly) O’Daniel of Cary. She was grandmother to Tolson, Finn, Phoebe, Katie, Glenn and Caroline O’Daniel; sister to Theodore Garrett of Pittsboro, Glynda Roberts of North Myrtle Beach, SC; and aunt to numerous nieces and nephews.

She loved her husband, children, grandchildren, extended family, and friends, as they gave her joy and happiness every day.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, October 17, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Orange Chapel United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill, with Pastor Cory Oliver presiding. The family is recommending face masks be worn at the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Orange Chapel United Methodist Church General Fund, 1634 Orange Chapel Clover Garden Church Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

WILLIAM ‘BILL’ HALL

William “Bill” Hall, 66, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday, October 10, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Pastor Charlie Hickman officiating.

He was born in Lee County on September 1, 1954, to the late Prentice and Muriel Marie Campbell Hall. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Susan Hall. Bill worked as an industrial welder for many years.

Bill is survived by his sons, Stacey Hall of Sanford and Rocky Hall of Pinehurst; brother, Steven Hall of Broadway; and two grandchildren.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday, October 10, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Pastor Charlie Hickman officiating.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

REYNALDO OSORIO GOMEZ

Reynaldo Osorio Gomez, 52 of Siler City, passed away on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at his residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro.

JOHN PAUL (DEE) LYNN

Mr. John Paul (Dee) Lynn, 89, of Pittsboro, passed away Tuesday, October 7, 2020, at his home.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at Knotts Funeral Home, with burial following at Mitchell Chapel AME Zion Church.

BETTY JEAN (HATCHER) LIPFORD

Betty Jean Lipford, 67, of High Point, passed away Sunday, October 11, 2020, at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford.

KAYE GILLILAND FERGUSON



Kaye Gilliland Ferguson, 64, of Greensboro, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at her home.

Mrs. Ferguson was born November 26, 1955, the daughter of Thomas “Bill” Jackson and Rebecca Burnette Brown Gilliland.

She loved to travel, especially to Walt Disney World, and her annual vacations with her family. Kaye was an avid fan of the Atlanta Braves. She attended Oakley Baptist and Hickory Mountain Baptist churches. Kaye retired as a social worker with Guilford County DSS. She was preceded in death by her parents, brother, Jackie Gilliland, and sister; Joanne Gilliland White Brown.

She is survived by her husband, Michael Riley Ferguson; daughter, Heidi Kidd Faucette and husband Travis of Whitsett; son, Nicholas Kidd and wife Suzanna of Burlington; stepson, Jeffrey Robert Ferguson of Siler City; sister, Sherrie Gilliland of Sanford; brother, James “Randy” Randall Gilliland of Siler City; grandchildren, Gracyn, Jaclyn and Parker Faucette and Lawson Kidd.

The family would like to give a special thank you to her caregiver, Levonda Farrar, and all the staff of AuthoraCare Hospice in Burlington.

The family received friends Wednesday, October 14, 2020 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City, NC. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at Chatham Memorial Park, 13260 Hwy. 64 West, Siler City with Rev. Jim Wall officiating and Chaplain Gail Smith.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made for PPA Research to the Medical Foundation of NC, The Woody Durham Fund, 123 West Franklin St. #510, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Ferguson family.

Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

MICHAEL ‘MIKE’ EDWARD POE



Michael “Mike” Edward Poe, age 69, of Apex, died peacefully at his home on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

Mike was born on July 21, 1951, to the late Dewey C. Poe and Cecilia Inez Markham Poe. He was also preceded in death by his brother, Ricky D. Poe.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Katie Lawrence Poe; daughter, Annette Cook and husband David; one brother, Jerry C. Poe and wife Judy; three sisters, Cynthia Stillman and husband John, Sandra Poe, Gail McIntosh and husband Alan; three grandchildren, Ashlynn, Amelia, and Hunter; and three nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held Thursday, October 15, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Ebenezer United Methodist Church Cemetery with Rev. Bob Wachs presiding. Please be respectful to all in attendance by wearing a mask and practicing social distancing.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in Mike’s memory to Ebenezer United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund in care of Sue Watson, 3718 Pea Ridge Road, New Hill, N.C. 27562.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

JULIA ANN (MCAULEY) WASHINGTON

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Julia Ann McAuley Washington at 12 p.m., October 12, 2020, at Cameron Grove A.M.E. Zion Church in Broadway. Burial followed at Love Grove AME Zion Church in Sanford.

BETTY THOMAS SMITH ALVARADO

Betty Thomas Smith Alvarado, 83, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at her home.

A graveside service was held Saturday, October 10, 2020, at 4 p.m. at Flat Springs Baptist Church Cemetery with Pastor John Hinson officiating.

She was a legend in the Deep River Community. She was born in Lee County on February 19, 1937, to the late Sidney Walter and Bessie Beal Thomas. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Max Smith Sr.; daughters, Pam Smith and Terry-Lynn Smith; son, Timothy Smith; and brother, Robert Thomas. Betty worked for many years as a real estate broker.

She is survived by husband, Eugene Alvarado of the home; children, Max Smith, Jr. of Sanford, Sandra Berndt of Sanford, Johnny Smith and Barry Smith, both of Sanford; 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

NICK ALAN BURRIS

Nick Alan Burris, 60, of Cameron, passed away on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at Central Carolina Hospital.

The funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 10, 2020, at Johnsonville Church of God with Rev. Derek Howard, Rev. Dennis Pitts and Brother Ray Moore officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

He was born in Albemarle, on June 22, 1960, to James Jacob Burris and Laura Harvel Burris. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, Terry and Roger Burris. He was a self-employed mechanic who also served on the N.C. Highway Patrol and Harnett County Sheriff’s Department vehicle towing rotation list.

Nick is survived by his wife, Linda Sue Burris; son, Nicholas Burris and daughter, Robin Burris, both of Cameron; brother, Walter Burris of Lugoff, S.C.; sisters, Opal Cooper of Lugoff, S.C., Margaret Garner of Fairfield, S.C.; and five grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

ROBERT C. MCKEAVENEY, III

Robert C. McKeaveney, III, 48, of Chapel Hill passed away Sunday, October 4, 2020.

Arrangements by Cremation Society of the Carolinas in Raleigh, www.CremationSocietyNC.com.

JOSEPH ‘JOE’ TAHMOUSH

Joseph “Joe” Tahmoush, 79, of Cary, passed away Saturday, October 10, 2020.

Arrangements by: Cremation Society of the Carolinas. www.CremationSocietyNC.com.

DALE DOUGLAS STINCHCOMB SR.

Dale Douglas Stinchcomb Sr., 60, passed away on Saturday, October 10, 2020.

A public visitation will be held Thursday, October 15, 2020, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

Dale was born on New Year’s Eve 1959 in Baltimore to Charles Grover Stinchcomb Jr. and Selma Louise Wade. In addition to his parents, Dale was preceded in death by a brother, Wade Allen Stinchcomb Sr. Dale retired to Sanford, after 30 years as an auto mechanic for the public school system in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

Dale is survived by his wife, Alicia Campbell Stinchcomb; a daughter, Christina of Alsip, Illinois; sons, Dale Stinchcomb Jr. of Boston, Dennis Stinchcomb of Washington, D.C.; and three grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

PAULINE CULBERSON O’DELL

Pauline Culberson O’Dell, 83, of West End died Saturday, October 10, 2020.

A graveside service is planned for Thursday, October 15, 2020, at the Seven Lakes Cemetery at 3 p.m. The family requests that you please wear a mask.

She was born December 16, 1936, to the late Delacy and Grace Culberson of Siler City. She worked for Carolina Telephone (Century Link) for more than 40 years. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of West End. She was preceded in death by her husband Bill O’Dell and two daughters, Pamela Barrett and Rita Calhoun.

Survivors include two daughters, Sylvia Worsham of Weaverville, and Judy Chriscoe of West End; brothers, Jerry and Tommy Culberson; sisters, Naomi Beale and Jane Eubanks; seven grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers you may make a donation to the First Baptist Church of West End or The Alzheimer’s Association in Pauline O’Dell’s name.

On line condolences may be made to www.bolesfuneralhome.com.

Services entrusted to Boles Funeral Home of Seven Lakes.

RONNIE MARTIN

Ronnie Martin, 62, of Lillington, passed away in his home on Saturday, October 10, 2020.

A graveside service was held at Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church Cemetery on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 11 a.m. with Rev. Doug Houston presiding. The family will receive friends at the family home.

Ronnie was born on February 28, 1958, in Roxboro, to William Henry Martin Sr. and Lois Davis Martin. Always a farmer, Ronnie and family were known as the “Strawberry Folks.” He also worked at several other jobs through the years. Ronnie was a member of Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church where he served as an elder. He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Marie Pruitt and brothers, Ray Martin and William Henry “Punk” Martin, Jr.

Ronnie is survived by his wife, Mary Morris Martin; daughters, Geneva Martin Bonilla of Siler City and Jessica Martin Duncan of Shawboro; brothers, Cecil Martin of Bailey, and Dennis Martin of Sanford; sisters, Shirley Duncan of Timberlake, Pam Harrington of Sanford.

In lieu of flowers, donations or memorial contributions may be made to Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1302, Broadway, NC 27505 or Currituck County High School FFA Chapter, 4203 Caratoke Highway, Barco, NC 27917.

Arrangements by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com.

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Worth reading.

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READ IT ONLINE

Chatham County Council on Aging
WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT!

Q: In what year did the Council on Aging begin offering In-Home Aide services to Chatham’s seniors?

Find the answer in this issue for your chance to win a \$25 Visa Gift Card!

FISH DAY!
It’s Time To Stock Your Pond!
DELIVERY WILL BE:

Saturday, October 24
•Carthage 1:15-2:00 @ Carthage Farm Supply
•Sanford 3:00-3:45 @ Carolina Town & Country

Wednesday, October 28
•Graham 11:30-12:15 @ Graham Feed
•Chapel Hill 3:15-4:00 @ Piedmont Feed

Thursday, October 29
•Pittsboro 8:00-8:45 @ Pittsboro Feed
•Siler City 9:15-10:00 @ Southern States
•Asheboro 10:45-11:30 @ Southern States

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READ IT
ONLINE

Prayer VIGIL

Tuesday, October 27th, 2020
at 11:00 AM

Front Lawn of Chatham County
Sheriff's Office
295 West St., Pittsboro, NC

Join us in prayer, to honor men and
women of LAW enforcement of Chatham
County, Pittsboro, Siler City and
SBI Capital District

Siler City Fire Department's
ANNUAL BBQ PLATES
11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
\$8.00/Plate
(with drink)
OCTOBER 21ST
TAKE OUT AT: The Fire Dept.

HOLLAND CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Orlando R. Dowdy and Mrs. Marie Dowdy drive-thru Appreciation Service will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24, at Holland Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, 360 Burgess Road, Apex.

For more information, please call the church office at 919-362-7831.

PLAINFIELD FRIENDS CHURCH

Plainfield Friends Church will be holding its fall revival beginning Sunday, Oct. 18. The morning service will begin at 10 a.m. and the evening service at 6 p.m. The Monday and Tuesday services will begin at 7 p.m. The speaker for these services will be Pastor Ernest Brown from Union Hill Friends

CHURCH NEWS

Church in Mt. Airy. There will also be special music.

The church will be open for those who feel comfortable coming inside and the services will be broadcast on 90.9 FM for those that would like to stay in their car in the parking lot and listen on the radio.

The church is located at 1956 Plainfield Church Road, Siler City, between Silk Hope and Crutchfield Cross Road. Everyone is welcome.

OAKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

Lou Clark Park Fund Raiser will be held from 3-5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 18, with a cornhole tournament and bingo (donation to enter). There will be a hot dog supper at 5 p.m. (for a donation). All proceeds go toward Lou Clark Park improvements. The park is down the drive

directly across from Oakley Baptist Church, 2300 Siler City-Glendon Road, 919-742-2095. oakleybaptist.org, oakleybaptistchurch@gmail.com. COVID protocol for meal and games in place.

LOVES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Backyard services will continue at Loves Creek Baptist Church, beginning at 10 a.m. Sunday, October 18. Join us if you can!

LIBERTY CHAPEL CHURCH

Liberty Chapel Church in Moncure will hold "Food Truck Sunday, Grab and Go" on from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 18, in the Church Parking Lot, 1855 Old U.S. 1, with several trucks on site. Free parking. Mask and social distancing required.

NEWS BRIEFS

in bridge and infrastructure inspections.

October: Statistically deadliest month on NC roadways

The department is stressing safety awareness this month because October is statistically the deadliest month on North Carolina roadways.

Law enforcement agencies across the state will increase patrols this weekend, looking for impaired drivers and speeders and checking for seat belt usage as part of this month's Operation Crash Reduction campaign. The weekend leading up to Columbus Day weekend trails only Independence Day for the number of fatal crashes, so please remember to always buckle up, slow down, avoid distractions and never drive impaired. Also, for many communities, the first full week in October is when we come together for Walk to School Day. While many students aren't learning in the classroom this semester, it's important to remember that when the time comes everyone should take

responsibility for making sure the walk to school is a safe one. In 2018, 17% of children 14 and younger killed in traffic crashes nationwide were pedestrians. For tips on how we can reduce pedestrian injuries and deaths, visit watchformeNC.org.

For more information about NCDOT Now, contact the NCDOT Communications Office at (919) 707-2660. Additional news stories from throughout the week can be found on NCDOT.gov.

Applications now available for innovative young farmer award

STATESVILLE — The Farm Credit Associations of NC are excited to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2020 Innovative Young Farmer of the Year Award given by the Tobacco Farm Life Museum and sponsored by the Farm Credit Associations of North Carolina.

Eligible nominees must be between the ages of 18 and 40 as of Jan. 1, 2021. Nominees are to either be in school for agriculture/agribusiness or have worked in the agricul-

ture industry for less than ten years. The application process, open until Dec. 4, enables nominees to discuss means by which they are positively impacting their operation, as well as the greater agricultural community in North Carolina.

The Innovative Young Farmer of the Year Award is presented annually at the Breakfast with the Commissioner held in conjunction with the 2021 Southern Farm Show at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. Please visit the Tobacco Farm Life Museum website at tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org/innovative-young-farmer-of-the-year to apply for this award. Applications must be submitted electronically through the link above.

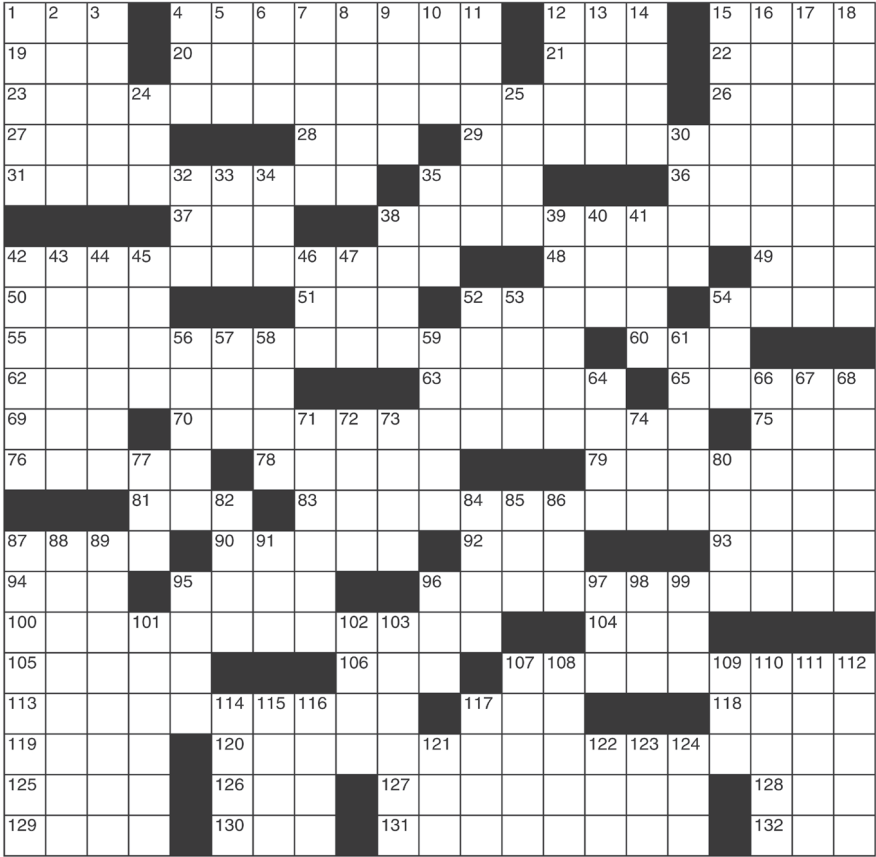
"Agriculture is the number one industry in North Carolina," said Vance Dalton, CEO of Carolina Farm Credit. "It is imperative to reward young farmers who have a commitment to continuing the great legacy of farmers and rural communities throughout the state. The Farm Credit Associations of NC are proud to support innovative-minded farmers in North Carolina."

—CN+R staff reports

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

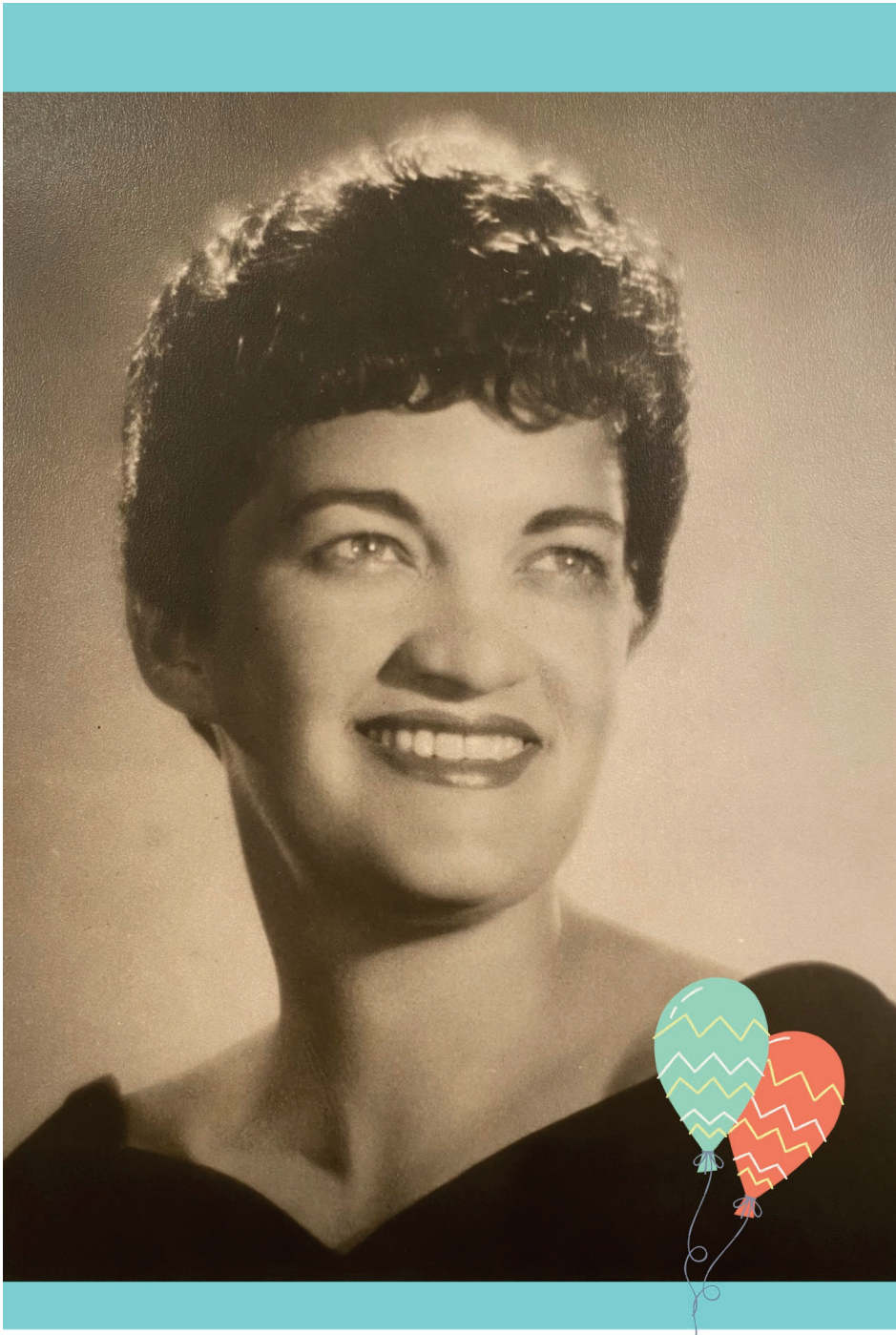
FILL IT UP!

- ACROSS
1 Cinch — (Hefty brand)
4 Achy feeling
12 Recede
15 Sporty car roof feature
19 "Just — expected!"
20 "Babes in Toyland," e.g.
21 What "U" may mean
22 — Ridge (1972 Kentucky Derby winner)
23 Birds for Yuletide dinners
26 Some Pac-12 players
27 Some antique autos
28 Fr. woman with a halo
29 Cuddly crib toys
31 Letter holders
35 Irritate
36 Post office scale unit
37 It flows in la Loire
38 Vegetable pizza toppings
42 Polling place containers
48 Feels ill
49 Weep audibly
50 Zeno of — (Greek philosopher)
51 Vie for the affection of
52 Lies next to
54 Guessing game for kids
55 Garnishes for martinis
60 Broody rock genre
62 Nonbeliever in God
63 Record half with the hit, usually
65 Forces out
69 Larry and Curly's pal
70 Parts of respiratory systems
75 "Fake-Out" co-star
76 Zac of "The Lorax"
78 "—: Battle Angel" (2019 action film)
79 Grilled corned beef sandwiches
81 "Yes" vote
83 Things hanging from rims
87 Put into a snug spot
90 Base before home
92 Oahu gift
93 As straight as — (totally honest)
94 Year, in Portuguese
95 Speller's clarifying words
96 Sewing kit accessories
100 Chicks awaiting meals have them
104 '16 Olympics host city
105 "— a Letter to My Love"
106 "Milk" director
107 Bellhops' burdens
113 Hard or soft
117 Exhaust
118 Socko review
119 "Sure, sure!"
120 Fact about 12 long answers in this puzzle
125 100%, in Germany
126 Winery cask
127 People prettifying
128 Unit of work
129 Shopkeeper
Oleson on "Little House on the Prairie"
130 Hi-tech organizer
131 Currently
132 Cereal grass
DOWN
1 "— bleu!"
2 Pale-faced
3 Russian ballet
4 "Help us!"
5 Elect (to)
6 Sleep phase
7 Expunge
8 Tree homes
9 Suffix with towel
10 Apt name for a chef?
11 "No Exit" playwright
12 Looked at
13 Hopalong Cassidy portrayer
William
14 On the go
15 Make level
16 Female giant of myth
17 Cultivate to excess
18 Ticks away
24 British verb suffix
25 "Akeelah and the Bee" star
Palmer
30 Conks on the head
32 August sign
33 Cereal grass
34 Brit's bar
35 U.S. tax org.
38 An earth sci.
39 Carsick feeling
40 Deep hole
41 Besides that
42 Turned into
43 Numerous
44 Rakish guy
45 Body of water
46 Night hooter
47 Losing row in tic-tac-toe
52 Zipcar owner
53 Hotel stock
54 Debt slip
56 Thin-toned
57 White — sheet
58 "— girl!"
59 "Wicked Game" singer
Chris
61 City in Iraq
64 City in India
66 Big name in tight trunks
67 "The Adventures of —" (2011 Spielberg film)
68 Lips off to
71 White rat, say
72 Tale tweaker
73 War vet's affliction, for short
74 Jellied fish
77 Sturdy tree
80 — B'rith
82 Website for craft vendors
84 Yalies
85 What "X" may mean
86 Pen choice
87 Papeete native
88 Of no avail
89 Color-sensitive retina part
91 That chap
95 Song and dance
96 Measures of acidity
97 Geller of psychic acts
98 Grab a chair
99 Ad —
101 \$1,000 bills, informally
102 Unpretty
103 From Florence, e.g.
107 Israeli native
108 Overturn
109 Pooch's bark
110 Less perilous
111 Each and —
112 Bog plant
114 URL starter
115 Israel's Barak
116 Singer Home
117 White sheet?
121 Fuss
122 Body of water
123 Give it a go
124 Navy inits.



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

UTOPIAS LOCALLES BLAST
SALERNO ALABAMA LASTS
SPEAK OF THE DEAD ELM CREEK
REOS TORTEL RUPERT
ASPER MASSIVE ONES
DOWNTHEROAD HEELTOTOE
ABATED ELTON GAIN
ROSSI PSAT ATTAIN ADD
LEN NEE FETCHANDCARRY
ASTITEA EROS ANISE
STANDONCEREMONY
HAVOC MWAH RAWARES
SHAKETHINGSUP RESERA
TAN LAOTSE PRAY ANAIS
ELMS LETON STORKS
SITASPELL COMEWATMAY
AGES ESIA SON MIENS
UNTIED ATO AID OHNO
COREY OBEDIENCE SCHOOL
ERASE CLEANED STOOPED
RESTS TENSELY TEXTILE



HAPPY 85TH
BIRTHDAY,
SHIRLEY HORNER!

with much love from your family!

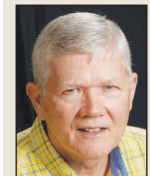
BOC ELECTION

Candidate Jay Stobbs prioritizes transparency, incentivizing business

Editor's note: In Chatham, the five-member board of county commissioners acts as the main policy-making body for the county's government. This year, three of the board's five seats will be contested on the 2020 general election ballot. The News + Record wrote one profile for each of the six candidates regarding their campaigns.

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Jay Stobbs has been an airborne ranger, taught advanced physics at West Point and served as an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Now, he's seeking one of the Chatham County Board of Commissioner's five seats, facing incumbent Karen Howard



Stobb

in the Dist. 1 race. Running as a Republican, Stobbs was an engineer and financial adviser who has managed large-scale projects as an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In a News + Record September questionnaire, he said he is seeking office as commissioner to help the county incentivize business opportunities and economic growth to create more jobs. In that same answer, he also added that the county needed to recognize the role of veterans, specifically calling for the county to "honor this past by restoring the Veterans Memorial." "As a 30-year veteran U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officer and Professional Engineer, I have experience and expertise in managing large-scale projects including the need to work with a variety of stakeholders and customers," he wrote. "As a financial adviser with an MBA, I have the business acumen to understand detailed plans, budgeting, and reports. As a taxpayer and responsible citizen, I have the ability to make fiscally responsible decisions to ensure a bright future for our youth." In 2018, Stobbs ran for election to the N.C. House of Represen-

tatives to represent Dist. 54, but lost to the current representative, Democrat Robert Reives. Stobbs did not respond to multiple requests for an interview from the News + Record for this profile, but wrote earlier in his questionnaire that the most significant challenges for the county in the coming year are "to provide the requisite leadership, management, and encouragement" to position the county as a smart place for the opening of new businesses and growth of existing ones. His objectives as a commissioner would be to reduce county spending and create a tax structure that would meet the county's needs and incentivize business growth. If not elected, Stobbs wrote that he would continue his volunteer work with military veterans groups. Related to COVID-19, Stobbs said Chatham has done a great job following state guidelines, but expressed doubt in North Carolina's response due to what he characterized as "conflicting reports," suggesting reported case numbers "may be highly inaccurate." Stobbs is running as a team with this year's other Republican candidates, Commissioner Andy Wilkie and Jimmy Pharr, with the slogan, "Vote 3 for change." A flyer for the candidates, paid for by the Chatham County Republican Party, indicates the following priorities: restoring the Veterans Memorial (the Confederate monument removed by the BOC in Pittsboro in 2019), repealing county-wide zoning, reducing property taxes and spending and replacing the Democratic candidates up for re-election, Mike Dasher and Karen Howard. In his questionnaire response, Stobbs also emphasized a need for transparency in county government. "I will be transparent and make decisions and recommendations on what is best for the county," he said. "I will strive to continue to use the West Point mantra and choose the harder right rather than the easier wrong."

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

'I AM SHE'

BOC Chairperson Howard hopes to continue serving Chatham through re-election

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Karen Howard is many things: mom, former attorney and children's advocate. Since 2014, she's also been one of Chatham County's commissioners, stepping into the chairperson role in January of this year — mere months before the coronavirus pandemic would shift life in Chatham, and around the globe, dramatically.



Howard

Needless to say, it's been a busy last eight months for Howard, who is seeking re-election this year as a Democrat in Dist. 1, facing Republican Jay Stobbs. In addition to serving as the BOC liaison for 10 county boards and committees, including the Board of Education, the Chatham County Partnership for Children and the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, as the BOC chairperson, Howard has also served as the public face regarding many county COVID-19 decisions. "We have been consistent about our messaging, and I think that is probably the most important tool for the public — being able to rely on the consistency and efficacy of the information they're getting from those in positions of leadership," she told the News + Record. From the beginning of the pandemic's impact in North Carolina, Howard has consistently stressed the safety of the county's staff and citizens at board meetings and in the county at large. As the government loosens restrictions, she told the News + Record, there will be more of a need

for individual vigilance to ensure community safety. "I think it's critical for local governments to be thinking, not 'How do you not die?' in a pandemic, but 'How do we continue to live? How do we thrive?'" she added. "The limitations aren't an excuse to not do well — we still have to do well, we still have to meet the needs of the community." A retired attorney and former member of the Chatham County Board of Education, Howard is also the mom of six children. In August this year, she was elected to the North Carolina Association of Black County Officials. Following the murder of George Floyd by police officers in Minneapolis, Howard has consistently challenged the board to continue thinking critically about how it can contribute positively on issues of equity and justice within the county. "I am running for County Commissioner because I believe that strong local government is critical to the health and well-being of our community and that the best decisions are made closest to the people we serve," Howard said in response to a News + Record September questionnaire. "Over the past six years, I have demonstrated that I am equal to the task of representing our diverse community and its unique challenges and opportunities." If re-elected, Howard said two measurable goals for another term would be to work toward county-wide access to affordable, reliable broadband service and increased options for safe, affordable housing for Chatham residents across the income spectrum. On Facebook, many largely Republican groups

have criticized the Democratic commissioners, including Howard, for wasteful spending. Some posters have questioned Howard's legitimacy to run as a commissioner, suggesting she does not live in Chatham. Though she has a Chapel Hill address, Howard lives in Northeast Chatham with her three youngest sons — many residential homes and businesses in that part of Chatham also have Chapel Hill addresses. "I will say that there is, in my mind, a stark difference between the candidates — the Democratic candidates that are running for election, re-election and the Republican candidates," Howard said regarding the claims on social media. "If their view of local government is that it is meant to hoard our tax money and sit on it and use it for some purpose that does not touch the people, that does not benefit and uplift our community, then I think that government would be very misguided, that government would be callous, and that government that would be irresponsible," Howard said. "And that is not the kind of government that Chatham County wants or needs." As the election approaches — early voting begins this Thursday — Howard encouraged residents to vote all the way down the ballot, and to vote for people committed to doing the best they can to serve the community. And she believes she is that person. "Chatham deserves a strong voice and a committed representative," she said. "I am she."

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

Preston Development Company has teamed up with Coldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walston New Homes & Land for on-site sales of Chatham Park residences.

One of the Triangle's most respected real estate marketing experts, Coldwell Banker Howard Perry and Walston New Homes & Land, recently announced their partnership with Preston Development Company to handle sales for the long-awaited Chatham Park.

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– Bubba Rawl, Partner in Preston Development Company

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Some of the first homes for sale are located in the Vineyards, the first residential community in Chatham Park. This area will offer approximately 550 single-family detached homes and townhomes for sale. Among the first offerings will be 28 custom single-family home sites with prices starting in the mid \$600s, along with 30 cottages (850-1,250 square feet) starting from mid \$200s. This enclave comprises the heart of Chatham Park, noted for its walkability to Downtown Pittsboro and attractive lifestyle assets.

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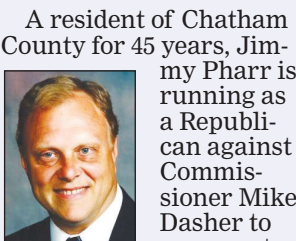
Learn more at ChathamPark.com



BOC ELECTION

Republican Jimmy Pharr: Faith and family important, too

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff



Pharr

County's Board of Commissioners.

He's worked as a college Bible Professor — teaching the Old and New Testaments — and his main goals if elected would be to “respect citizens’ personal liberty and property rights” through “common-sense” zoning and taxes, and creating jobs with a competitive tax structure and reasonable regulations.

“The makeup of this county (including the fact that 65% are rural), is not reflected in the makeup of elected leaders. Four of 5 commissioners are Progressive Democrats. The local NC Senate and House seats are Democrats. Our nonpartisan School Board, Town Council, and Pittsboro mayor have no registered Republicans,” he wrote in his September questionnaire response. “This is a whopping imbalance — an unbridled monopoly really. This is not healthy.”

In his questionnaire response, Pharr criticized Democratic responses to COVID-19, suggesting their reaction to the coronavirus has not been influenced by medicine.

“Probably one of the main things, for me and for many, many others, is the whole thing with school not being open. And, of course, I would love for them to reopen tomorrow,” he told the News + Record in an interview regarding his thoughts on how the pandemic has been handled in Chatham. He added that his 14-year-old granddaughter recently made the cheerleading team at Northwood High School, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, he is disappointed he won't get to watch her.

“The problem is, as a county commissioner, I don't know that there's too terribly much I can do, because that's a board of education, and we handle their money, but we don't really so much tell them what to do,” Pharr said. “Part of me feels like my hands as a commissioner might be partially tied on how to deal with virus stuff. Because it's either in the hands of the governor or Board of Education. And the businesses, well that's in the hands of the governor too.”

He is running as a team with the other Republican commissioner candidates, Jay Stobbs and Commissioner Andy Wilkie. As a team, they prioritize restoring the Veterans Memorial (the Confederate monument removed by the BOC in Pittsboro in 2019), repealing county-wide zoning and reducing property taxes and government spending. Pharr agrees with these priorities, those he emphasized he'd like the Veterans Memorial to be addressed through “law and order.”

Not on the group's flyer but equally important to Pharr are his principles on faith, family, schools, jobs and success — priorities he outlines in an advertisement he's planning in an upcoming edition of the News + Record.

“I am governed by biblical and conservative principles, whose priorities are the God who created me, the wife He gave me, the children He loaned me, and a desire to serve them all and all others in my path,” he wrote in that statement, which emphasized the ability for people to overcome adversity, and shared the story of his own son Trey, who faced challenges growing up due to having Cerebral Palsy.

“I've worn a lot of hats. You know, I've worn a lot of different job kinds of professional hats. I've worn the hat of a parent, the hat of a grandparent, I have a husband hat, you know, all that,” Pharr said. “This is one hat that I never thought I'd be wearing — and were it up to me, I'd probably still be sitting in front of my Bible class or in private counseling sessions for some of my students than doing this whole thing.”

Though Pharr hopes to win, he said he “won't lose a minute's sleep” if he doesn't, because his life's biggest priorities — faith and family — will still be there. He is most worried for the possibility of only one Republican candidate winning, as he feels one Republican cannot accomplish any of the team's campaign goals against four Democratic commissioners.

“Truthfully, what I don't want is to wake up the next morning and find out I've been the only one to win,” he said. “I don't want to be a one versus four. The only thing I hope and I would say if I had the opportunity, if we would all lose, is I would remind the people who win to not forget that 48% who didn't vote for you. That's a lot of people.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

‘SHOW UP, BE HEARD’

BOC member Dasher prepares for re-election, county growth

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

Democrat Mike Dasher is seeking re-election as a Chatham County Commissioner after representing District 2 since 2016.



Dasher

boards and committees, including the Triangle Area Rural Planning Organization, Board of Social Services and Board of Elections.

A 14-year resident of Chatham, Dasher is a managing member of Orange Communities LLC, a property development and construction company. If re-elected, he hopes to work toward the board's adoption of a unified development ordinance and ensuring broadband access in the county.

“I'm running for re-election because I want to continue the important work we're doing to move Chatham County forward,” he said in his September questionnaire response to the News + Record. “I'm proud of the progress we've made over the last 3.5 years, but there is still work to do.”

He added: “I want to continue working on the things we all value — good, safe schools and access to college and job training, quality affordable housing, clean water, opportunities for employment, and a responsive and effective county govern-

ment.”

Dasher, who faces challenger Jimmy Pharr for the Dist. 2 seat, has been impressed by the county's handling of the pandemic, he said, particularly the staff's ability to “adjust and adapt and maintain the excellent level of service that our residents expect.” He said that though he thinks the state has responded well overall, “we've all been hampered by the failure of our federal government to take this seriously from the start.”

“You know, I wish that more had changed since August, related to the pandemic,” he told the News + Record in an interview last week. “But we are at least working on plans to reopen lobbies and public spaces to the public. I'm hoping we'll see that here in the next couple of weeks. It's difficult, but I don't know that we as a county could have handled it any better any differently — I certainly think you have to put public safety first and foremost.”

During this election cycle, Dasher, along with Chairperson Karen Howard, has faced criticism from the Republican commissioner candidates for wasteful spending — a claim echoed on some conservative Facebook pages. One such page, “Vote out Mike Dasher and Karen Howard in Chatham County NC,” which has just over 200 followers, promotes these ideas. Along with criticizing his personal business ventures as causing a conflict of interest to his commissioner role, this page and others also critique his vote to remove the Confederate monument from Pittsboro while

he was the board's chairperson in 2019.

“All I can do is kind of make clear what my positions are and where I think Chatham County needs to be moving towards and let folks decide whether or not that's the direction they want to see the county move in,” Dasher said in response.

A focus of his campaign from the beginning has been “moving Chatham forward,” he said, through growth that residents support and is financially responsible.

“I don't think that government is always the most efficient user of tax funds, but I do think in Chatham County that we do an excellent job,” he said regarding claims that the BOC is promoting wasteful spending. “I guess my challenge is always, to show me what in the budget, what the county is spending money on that we shouldn't be, and that's always kind of where the conversation stops.

In his questionnaire, he acknowledged what he called a “justifiable skepticism” toward public service, and said he still thinks serving as a commissioner is worth it.

“I encourage people to get involved whenever, wherever, and in whatever capacity they're able to,” he wrote. “Democracy is a participatory sport. Run for office. Show up, be heard. Not because you always win, but because that's the only way you ever will.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

BOC ELECTION

BOC member Andy Wilkie vies for full four-year term

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

In Dist. 5, Republican incumbent Andy Wilkie



Wilkie

will face Franklin Gomez Flores — the first contested commissioner race in Dist. 5 in two elections.

Wilkie, who has served on the board since being appointed to fill a vacancy in May 2019, is seeking a full four-year term. He is a Chatham County native, served six years as a paratrooper in the Army Reserves and operated a business and non-profit in Sanford.

Since being appointed to the board in 2019, he's served on seven local or regional boards and committees, including the Adult Care and Nursing Home Committee,

the Agriculture Advisory Committee and the Research Triangle Regional Partnership. If re-elected, Wilkie's main priorities would be to reduce debt, as well as property taxes, by adding to the county's industrial tax base with new development.

“I am the only conservative on the board,” he wrote in a September questionnaire response to the News + Record. “My district and the western half of the county is rural and conservative. We have fewer school children, require fewer county services and pay property taxes that go to support the ever-expanding population in the northern and eastern sides of the county. With the setup we now have in electing commissioners, the only hope we have to control taxes is to keep trying to elect a majority of 3 conservatives to the board and get control of spending

and taxing.”

Wilkie did not respond to multiple requests for an interview from the News + Record for this profile.

Only a few months after being appointed as commissioner, Wilkie held the singular dissenting vote on the board in regards to the removal of the Confederate monument from the historic Chatham County Courthouse in downtown Pittsboro. At the time of the board's vote that August, Wilkie said he voted “no” as an attempt to represent his District 5 constituents, which includes most of the land south of Siler City and west of Goldston.

He is running as a team with this year's other Republican candidates, Jay Stobbs and Jimmy Pharr, with the slogan, “Vote 3 for change.” A flyer for the candidates, paid for by the Chatham County Republican Party,

indicates the following priorities: restoring the Veterans Memorial (the Confederate monument removed by the BOC in Pittsboro in 2019), repealing county-wide zoning, reducing property taxes and spending and replacing the Democratic candidates up for re-election, Mike Dasher and Karen Howard.

In his questionnaire response, Wilkie said the question he wanted to be asked was: “What do you like most about living in Chatham County?” To that, he answered: “The people.”

“After talking and listening to them you come to the understanding that we all have so much more in common than we have in differences,” he said. “Let's talk (less) and listen more.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

‘NOT HERE TO FILL A SLOT’

BOC Candidate Franklin Gomez Flores wants to represent Siler City, Latin American community

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff



Gomez Flores

since anyone from Siler City was elected to the commissioners board.

A registered Democrat who is seeking office as an unaffiliated candidate, Gomez Flores serves on the Chatham County Planning Board and said he decided to seek office after realizing Dist. 5 would be going into its third unopposed election.

He petitioned to appear on the ballot for commissioner until March 3, collecting 3,500 signatures — well over the 2,148-signature requirement.

His family immigrated from Guatemala to Chatham County when he was 5 years old; he's lived in Chatham since then and graduated from Chatham County Schools. He hopes to represent Latin Americans in Siler City and work toward providing a high-quality public education, employment opportunities that pay a living wage and affordable housing to communities in need.

“Our community members need a quality public education, local employment opportunities, housing that is not cost-burden and a proponent for responsible growth,” he wrote in a questionnaire response to the News + Record.

“I bring those values to the table.”

Though he thinks Chatham leaders have generally responded well to the COVID-19 pandemic, he said he wishes there was a better method of providing information across communities, particularly to non-English speaking communities. In an email interview with the News + Record, Gomez Flores said his perspective on the county's handling of the pandemic has not changed.

“I would like to see an active case count,” he said. “I believe that would allow us to be better informed of the current situation in Chatham County. We must follow the instructions from our health professionals and continue to take our own personal precautions.”

On Facebook, some large-ly Republican groups have

criticized the Democratic commissioner candidates, including Gomez Flores, for wasteful spending proposals. Some posters have even taken to calling him “Mike Dasher's ‘yes man,’” with little to no evidence for such a characterization. Though he is technically running unregistered, new signs by the Chatham County Democratic Party have included Gomez Flores as well as Commissioners Karen Howard and Dasher.

“I am aware it's not all conservatives who believe or say that. It is a select few who have chosen to get involved politically in that manner,” Gomez Flores said of the “yes man” comments. “But, no. I am not his yes man, I make my own decisions. I was already petitioning when I met Commissioner Dasher. My website, franklinforcommissioner.

com, was live before our joint efforts.”

If elected, Gomez Flores' main goals would be to prevent overcrowded and underfunded schools and keep water quality within its range. As a first-generation immigrant, first-generation college student and self-described “aspiring first-generation elected official,” he hopes to “provide a voice for the unheard” if elected as a commissioner in Chatham.

“I have a genuine desire to serve my community. I am not here to ‘fill a slot,’” Gomez Flores said. “I realized that if I do not like the way things are run, then I must seek a seat at the table where one has the power and influence to make the change.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.



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Police departments face staffing issues, uncertain futures

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

Across Chatham County, understaffed police departments face waning candidate pools as public discontentment with the police discourages potential interest in law enforcement careers.

In Siler City, Chief Mike Wagner has several vacant positions including an officer, sergeant and detective. Between the nationwide anti-police fervor, the relatively low pay in law enforcement and the job's high risk, he is not surprised that few applications come across his desk.

"Would you do this job for \$38,000 when you can get shot?" he said. "I don't think so."

Police work has always come with a measure of danger, but in recent months — especially since the wrongful death of George Floyd by a police officer in May — police have come under fire, both figurative and, sometimes, literal.

"We're at a point where people need a reason," Wagner said, "and it must be the police's fault because we're expected to fix everything. So, it's a unique dynamic. And I think no one person is to blame. I think that we all have a shared responsibility in our current trends."

So far, Wagner's officers have not experienced much kickback as part of the movement for police reform. Across the county in Pittsboro, however, Town Manager Chris Kennedy worries about potential violence every night.

"There have been a lot of unfortunate incidents with the police, and some of them at the fault of the police," Kennedy said. "Pittsboro has been fortunate that we haven't had to deal with that, but it's every single day that you have to worry about it... I don't go to sleep wondering if we're going to mess up someone's zoning on a letter tomorrow, you know? But I very much think about, 'are we going to end up having to use force tonight with a police officer?' And it might be justified. But either way, even if it is justified, it's a highly polarizing event. It's highly politicized. And it's just hard to have really good officers who want to keep doing that."

Like Siler City, Pittsboro has an understaffed police department. It

has been without a chief since March when Chief Percy Crutchfield retired. It may still be some time before the position is filled, but Kennedy — who is responsible for selecting the next chief — thinks the long vacancy has more to do with shifting responsibilities in the town than with recent protests against the police. Kennedy only took over as town manager in July, and, he says, it would have been atypical for the interim manager to fill a position as important as police chief.

"I think our vacancy at the chief position is not a result of the nationwide unrest that we're seeing with regards to 'defund the police' and all these other

See **UNCERTAIN**, page B4

Pittsboro artist Jeff Christian captures the wild world

Artist's work is featured on the cover of N.C. Wildlife's 2021 calendar

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
CN+R Contributing Editor



Christian

With those gentle implements, the 53-year-old Pittsboro artist has been capturing images of wildlife nearly all his life. He aims to recreate on canvas images of the natural world around him, what he calls "the perfect scene at the perfect time."

He's been a professional wildlife artist, illustrator and graphic designer for 30 years.

His artwork — mostly created utilizing oil and watercolor paints and employing a style he calls "painterly realism" — is "the genuine expression," he said, of the artist's "awe of God's creation."

A recent painting — entitled "Crappie," it's a portrait of the freshwater pan fish — is not only featured as the September image in the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission's 2021 calendar, it also adorns its cover, a first for the longtime artist.

Christian found the beauty of the calendar cover portrait in its subject's details.

"A lot of people think of crappie as just a pan fish," he said. "But I was fascinated by the little details, the glittering color. You just think of crappie as being black and white;



Staff photo by Randall Rigsbee

The cover of the 2021 N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission calendar, featuring Jeff Christian's painting.

but there's a lot of color and nuance. That's what I want to capture."

Christian was born and raised in Sanford and has lived with his family — wife Tracie and their children Julia and Luke, who are students at Woods Charter School, and Alex, a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill — at their home north of Pittsboro for the last couple of decades. Their two-story home is nestled in a quiet neighborhood near woods and farmland off of Old Graham Road.

A downstairs room serves as Christian's art studio. He spends a lot of his time there, working on

the commissions and various other projects that keep him busy. He's currently working on several commissioned paintings and creating the illustrations for a children's book called "The Two Knights."

For his wildlife art, of course, he finds his inspiration outdoors. That's where he has always instinctively turned for most of his subject matter.

"I think it was kind of like, 'What would I want to see on my walls?' When I look at a painting, I want to look into another world. And where

See **WILD**, page B4

'HELP ME. WEAR A MASK.'

Carolina Meadows residents team up for a coronavirus ad campaign

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — Dessa, a college freshman, wants to get back on campus. Blake, a guitarist, hasn't booked a gig in months. Sal, a restaurant owner, needs to re-open his pizza joint. And Sarah, an older woman, is seriously missing her friends in the church choir, where she's sung for 50 years.

They're ordinary people in an ordinary commercial with an ordinary message: "Help me. Wear a mask."

Those vignettes are part of the local "Help Me" advertising campaign, which hopes to depoliticize the concept of wearing a mask to help curb the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

And two Chatham County residents are right in the middle of it.

Charlie Lehmann and Don Stedman, the volunteer co-directors of the project, both live in the Chapel Hill retirement community Carolina Meadows, right inside the county lines. And as the campaign enters its final stages — they've finished filming and should have the final clips ready by November — Stedman said the Help Me leadership group and sponsors are "pumped" about its possible impact.

"I think it has the genuine potential now to save thousands of lives across the country," Lehmann said.

Lehmann, 80, is a UNC alumnus and 50-year veteran of the high-profile New York advertising world who returned Chapel Hill and moved into Carolina Meadows eight years ago. In March or April, Lehmann was watching a COVID-19 news conference when the reality of the virus set in for him.

Doctors were doing everything they could, he thought, but it would also be months before their work — especially in the form of a safe and accessible vaccine — could seriously curb the coronavirus. Until then, it was on the public at large to follow safety precautions, most notably wearing a mask.

"All we can do is protect ourselves," Lehmann said. "So that was the genesis of it."

His idea didn't get much traction with the companies he checked in with, so Lehmann decided to pursue it independently.

See **CAMPAIGN**, page B4

A PROGRAM OF PRIDE

EVH youth group empowers and supports Siler City's Latinx youth

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Jordan-Matthews graduate David Gonzalez Hernandez received a "full ride" to attend UNC Greensboro — an achievement he said he owed in large part to Orgullo Latinx Pride, the Hispanic Liaison's youth program.

This program — offered freely year-round to Siler City's Latinx high school students — connected him and other members in their junior and senior years with college counselors who read over their essays and helped them apply for scholarships.

"I think that was a really big help for me, because without them, I probably would have not got a full ride," Gonzalez Hernandez said. "It was like multiple scholarships that I got to compose that full ride."

For many students like Gonzalez Hernandez, Orgullo Latinx Pride (OLP) provides multiple pillars of pivotal sup-

port: academic support, cultural education, mentorship, and even "a second little home," according to Selina Lopez, who manages OLP as the Hispanic Liaison's youth program coordinator.

"Our focus is really students who don't necessarily get the opportunity to participate as much as they would like in the community or at school, who need academic support, who need emotional support, or can benefit from a community where they can grow with their peers," she said.

The program seeks to empower youth, she added, by forging them into leaders, building their confidence in their cultural identities and encouraging them to pursue higher education.

"It's a space for them to really just open up and learn and grow together as a familia," Lopez said. "(It's a space to) just bring in all of their different experiences and, as I like to say, sazones (flavors), so that they can all learn from

See **YOUTH**, page B5

'STUDY CORNER' AT PEPPERCORN

CIS's dedicated location for studying addresses remote learning challenges

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — When the pandemic led to the closing of in-person schooling last March, students and families faced deficits and challenges to their learning: lack of reliable internet access, support with school and a quiet space to work.

Since then, Communities In Schools of Chatham County, a nonprofit that works to empower students to stay and do well in school, has worked to help students adjust to remote learning. In August, they discovered one way to help — through the creation of a "study corner" at Courtyard Coffee at Peppercorn in downtown Siler City.

"CIS is very much about supporting families and students in the educational process, as well as social and emotional support," said Wes Lail, a CIS success coach with general youth services. "Normally, the vast major-

See **REMOTE**, page B5



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

'CIS is very much about supporting families and students in the educational process, as well as social and emotional support,' said CIS success coach Wes Lail, pictured here. 'Normally, the vast majority of that is done in the schools. This has been part of an adaptation to the new reality.'

‘I REALLY MISSED THEM’

Northwood volleyball, XC ramp up first week of preseason skill sessions

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — With Phase 2 comes greater flexibility.

For the Northwood volleyball team, it meant players could dig, set and hit with one another without sanitizing the ball every single time it switched hands inside the Chargers’ gymnasium.

For the Northwood cross country team, it meant groups of runners could split off into socially distanced pods based on previous race times and tackle their assigned mileage at their own pace.

For both teams, it meant a substantial uptick in attendance. With 25 total people now allowed in indoor facilities, varsity coach Krista McGivern and JV coach Olivia Metcalf saw around 18 volleyball players Friday. And with 50 people now allowed outdoors, head coach Cameron Isenhour had no issues accommodating the 20 to 25 cross country runners who showed up on campus three days last week.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Northwood cross country coach Cameron Isenhour (far right) led socially distanced warmups for about 20 runners.

That was just a glimpse of a scene that played out across Chatham last week, as the county’s three public high schools — Northwood, Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central — resumed preseason “skill sessions” for volleyball and cross country after a

nearly three-month dead period for athletics. “I know everybody’s been missing that team atmosphere and social interaction,” Northwood senior runner Malachi Levy said.

CCS workouts officially kicked off last Wednesday, a week after the Board of

Education unanimously approved a resumption plan from by district athletic director Chris Blice. And when they took to their respective courts and trails, the Chargers, Jets and Bears all benefited from new NCHSAA guidelines.

When CCS held two weeks of voluntary workouts from July 6 through 17, it operated under the association’s strict Phase 1 guidelines to curb the potential spread of coronavirus. They included: no contact, six feet of social distancing, no shared equipment and no locker or weight room usage.

That limited most sports to pure conditioning. When the News + Record visited Bear Creek for a Chatham Central football workout in July, nobody touched a ball for the entirety of the 90-minute meeting. Players took turns flipping a massive tractor tire down a practice field, but an assistant coach armed with a spray bottle and a rag disinfected it between every single use.

Last week, though, things were different. Under Phase 2 guidelines, which went into effect Aug. 3, teams can

now share equipment and work out in small “pods” of five to 10 athletes. Individual districts may also choose to open up their locker rooms, athletic training rooms and weight rooms with supervision and proper social distancing and sanitation.

“The kids are really glad to see each other, even though they’re separated in pods and six feet away in distance,” Isenhour said. “And it’s good for me to see them, too. I really missed them.”

Junior runner Caroline Murrell added: “A big part of cross country for me is the team bonding, the team relationship, being able to run with my friends and being able to encourage each other. I really missed that part. For the past few months, I’ve mostly been running by myself. It just wasn’t the same.”

The Northwood volleyball team is going with two groups of 18 players each: one on Mondays, one on Fridays. Last week, the team’s first skill session sounded like any other workout, with a steady thump of volleyball balls bouncing against the hardwood and players

serving and rallying on two parallel courts.

“Each workout piggy backs off another,” McGivern said. “You start doing a little bit of ball control, then add hitting, then add blocking. Everything comes in steps and phases.”

There were of course, some oddities: JV coach Metcalf sitting cross-legged and disinfecting dozens of volleyballs before and after the workout, co-athletic director Cameron Vernon helping check temperatures at the door and an ill-timed fire alarm forcing the Chargers out of the gym on their first day back. (They took it in stride and continued conditioning

See **SKILL**, page B3



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

JV volleyball coach Olivia Metcalf checked players’ temperatures during pre-workout screening at Northwood.

‘I THINK IT WAS A GOOD CALL’

District AD Blice details new CCS skill session plan

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

From an outsider’s perspective, Chatham County Schools moved pretty rapidly last month as it decided to resume high school athletics after a nearly three-month “dead” period.

On Sept. 23, the county’s board of education

floated the idea of bringing back preseason “skill session” workouts. On Sept. 29, the BOE unanimously approved a plan outlining how that would happen. On Oct. 7, the volleyball and cross country teams at Northwood, Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central officially began their return to campus for workouts un-

der the NCHSAA’s Phase 2 guidelines. From start to finish, the process lasted exactly two weeks. But the wheels had been turning long before that.

“We had front-end loaded it, just in case,” district athletic director Chris

See **BLICE**, page B3



Submitted photo

Chatham County Schools district athletic director Chris Blice

SPORTS BRIEFS

Jackson impresses in golf tournament

Siler City’s Jonathan Jackson finished in the top tier of a statewide tournament this weekend.

Competing with partner Matthew Crenshaw of Burlington, Jackson finished in a six-way tie for 13th place at the 25th North Carolina Four-Ball Championship. The pair combined to shoot a 10-under-par 133 over three days on two Greensboro courses. Their final cash prize was \$305.

Jackson, who golfed collegiately at UNC, is a frequent competitor in local amateur tournaments, including the Four-Ball Championship, which is open to any male amateur golfer who’s a legal resident of North Carolina and at least 13 years old. The winning duo this weekend shot a 17-under-par 126.

Charger Cards for sale

Interested in supporting Northwood athletics? The school’s

booster organization is still selling \$20 Charger Cards, which provide discounts at 13 local businesses through Oct. 1, 2021.

To purchase a card, visit the Northwood High School Boosters, Friends & Alumni Association’s website at nhsbfaa.org. Purchases are tax-deductible, and participating business include: Elizabeth’s Pizza, Marco’s Pizza, The Root Cellar, Doug’s Auto & Tire, Compadres Tequila Lounge and chain restaurants.

Final Chatham Chargers game this week

The Chatham Chargers, a local baseball team playing in the Old North State Futures Invitational event, wrap up their roughly month-long season with three games this week.

The Chargers played Southern on Tuesday at 5 p.m., and they will play a double-header Thursday: against Southern at 5 p.m. and the Patri-

ots at 7 p.m. All games are at the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department has opened up youth basketball registration on its website.

Register for youth basketball in Siler City

After a brief delay to review new state guidelines for youth sports, the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department has opened up youth basketball registration on its website.

This fall, the department’s offering leagues for boys and girls ages 5 through 14. The registration fee for all leagues is \$25, and the deadline is Nov. 6 (or until full). Younger teams will play at Paul Braxton Gym, and older teams will play at Ernest Ramsey Gym, with all games starting in early December.

For more information, visit bit.ly/silerbb or contact the department at (919) 742-2699.

— CN+R staff reports



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Phone: 919-542-7203 | facebook.com/chathamsoar

Hours: MTWF 11a-5p • TH 11a-7p • SA 10a-2p



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



Household Hazardous Waste Events 2020

Saturday, October 17

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

28 County Services Road
(6 miles west of Pittsboro, off Hwy 64)



Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as

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

For a complete list of items visit www.chathamnc.org/hhw

Future HHW events will be held the third Saturday of each month, through November.

No trash or empty containers.
No business waste.
No decal required.
Must show NC Drivers License.

Questions? Call (919) 542-5516

BLICE

Continued from page B3

Blice said.

In other words: when the BOE first mentioned a potential re-sumption, nobody in the CCS athletics brain trust — Blice, plus the principals and athletic directors at each high school — was caught too off guard.

For starters, they had their original plan from the summer, when CCS held two weeks of workouts under NCHSAA Phase 1 guidelines from July 6 through 17. Blice had polled surrounding districts for their athletics plans, and CCS administration had visited three districts, too, in its ongoing evaluation of when and if it could bring students back safely under Plan B hybrid learning.

“Of course, athletics were part of what we asked about,” Blice said of those visits.

Blice also met with the ADs — Jason Amy and Cameron Vernon at Northwood, Josh Harris at J-M and Bob Pegram at Chatham Central — for a series of forward-thinking meetings. They’d previously decided to put athletics in an indefinite dead period for as long as CCS students remained in Plan C.

“We based it on the whole idea of ‘OK, here we are at the end of the nine weeks, but what if it gets extended?’” Blice said. “Because it wasn’t absolute that we were coming back.”

All of that preparation proved crucial in late September. The BOE voted 4-1 to keep CCS in Plan C (at-home remote learning) through the end of the semester on Jan. 15, 2021. But it also remained open to approving certain exceptions to the rule — with athletics as a top candidate.

From there, all Blice needed was a quick check-in with leadership at Northwood, J-M and Chatham Central. The group “pretty quickly got to where we ended up,” he said, with an updated plan to resume.

Here’s the rest of the News + Record’s exclusive interview with Blice, who also works as the CCS chief operations officer, from last Friday. (The interview has been edited for length and clarity.)

In August, you said resuming workouts while students remained in at-home learning was “a little contradictory.” Personally, what’s changed for you from now to then?

Well, I try not to let my personal feelings guide my role. But at some level, I certainly don’t do this blindly. The discussion we had (in late September) was unanimous in that they, as principals and ADs, felt that we were ready to take this

step and that we needed to change from our initial thing, which was we’re not going to do anything until kids come back. That it was time to take this step.

I expressed my thoughts on it, and after that I reverted back into my facilitator role. I would say this: if I thought the group was pressing for something dangerous or unethical or along those lines, that wouldn’t be the case — but they would never do that, and I don’t believe that’s what they were doing here. They were making a very heartfelt, very solidly based recommendation.

Did you hear from any parents, coaches or athletes as you made the decision?

Yes, there were a few. They were overwhelmingly in support of us starting back up. One or two folks were not. I read everything. I tried to digest it and be sure I understood what the pros and cons were.

CCS started workouts under the NCHSAA’s Phase 1 guidelines. Now, you can work out under Phase 2 guidelines. What changes are you anticipating?

Some of the spaces that were closed, minus emergency use, are now open with supervision (such as locker rooms and weight rooms). At least in my mind, the steps have gone from basically “This is a group of individuals” to “These are groups of small groups, and they’re able to work together, do things within those small groups.” They’re still preserving social distancing, disinfecting, cleaning and all those things, but it’s less of a focus on the individual and more now a small group type of organization.

CCS middle school athletics won’t resume until January, correct?

Yes, we created a revised schedule. We sat down with the middle school ADs, polled the principals and settled on playing basketball under what we call a “one and done” format. Instead of us playing you at home, and then you coming here, there’s one game between us. It cut the season in half. Then, we’ll do the (basketball) tournament and kick off the spring sports that we cut drastically short last year when we shut down in March. So hopefully, we’ll give them a whole season. We felt that was the most important thing we could do. And, of course, cheerleading will be a part of basketball (in January).

Were you surprised that the BOE passed your athletics plan unanimously, 5-0, with no controversy?

That’s a great question (laughs).

Yes, I was. I had prepared — and you always do this going into those meetings — for everything you think might be coming. I honestly had expected the possibility. I can’t say that’s not the first time that’s happened. It’s not all that unusual (for an item to pass so easily), but I won’t say I was disappointed in any way.

What is the district’s response to someone who thinks workouts shouldn’t resume, since the majority of CCS students are still under Plan C?

In our meetings, I cautioned there would be pushback, and they, as ADs and principals, would need to be prepared to answer that question... So we put our heads together and talked about the benefits, what we’re trying to accomplish and why. There’s several different levels to it: physical activity and the value of team sports which is immeasurable. Plus, we’re working in (a good) direction. This actually gives us an opportunity at the high school level to take an interim step and try this out a little bit.

And no, we’re not sitting in classrooms, but we are doing organized, structured activities at our schools. There’s always good reason to do these kind of things. As is customary, folks will agree with you and folks won’t. It was just a matter of us being in agreement, knowing what we want to do and why.

What’s your personal excitement for workouts returning, with actual competitions in the near future?

I think it’s good on a lot of levels. I love the NFL. I’m a NASCAR fan and love college football. I do very much enjoy athletics: pro sports, college sports, high school sports. They’ve been such a big part of my life for so many years. So I just think it’s great. It’ll be really good for our kids. I think we’re going into this with our eyes open — quite honestly, it would have been a lot easier to sit back and say, ‘No, we’re going to do anything until the kids come back.’ It would have been much simpler to do that.

But the ADs and the principals were ready to take the plunge. I think it’s a good thing for us to do for our kids. You can still certainly make the case: should we do this if we don’t bring them back for school? I think you can land on either side of that. But ultimately, at the end of the day, we made the decision to do it — and I think it was a good call.

Reporter Chapel Fowler can be reached at cfowler@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @chapelcfowler.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Northwood junior Ainsley Fauth was one of around 20 players at Friday’s volleyball workout.

SKILL

Continued from page B2

work in the visitor’s parking lot.)

The same went for cross country, where pods of runners had to keep pace with one another without running explicitly side by side, and Isenhour had to cut a final cool-down drill short, instructing athletes to finish up at home so he wouldn’t exceed the 90-minute skill session time limit.

Communal water sources were a relic of the past for both teams, with athletes’ individual Hydro Flasks and CamelBaks replacing the usual 10-gallon orange Gatorade-brand coolers and stacks of paper cups you’d see at any game or practice. Players wore masks when they weren’t engaged in physical activity, coaches wore masks at all times and everyone answered a lengthy list of pre-workout COVID-19

screening questions.

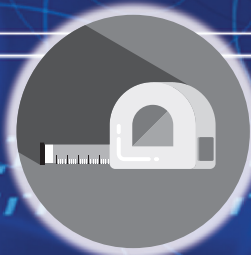
None of that, though, put a damper on what ended up an exciting week in Pittsboro, Siler City and Bear Creek alike. Volleyball and cross country teams can officially practice Nov. 4 and officially compete Nov. 16 in the first sanctioned regular-season events since the NCHSAA paused athletics in March.

Those looming dates were plenty enough to keep teams like Northwood cross country motivated — as Murrell put it last Friday, the Chargers are no longer “running just to run.” Levy agreed.

“(Now) we’re actually, definitely training for something,” he said. “I know on the guys’ side, we have some big goals and expectations for this year. It’s really nice to know those races are still going to be happening.”

Reporter Chapel Fowler can be reached at cfowler@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @chapelcfowler.

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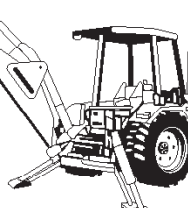


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CAMPAIGN

Continued from page B1

“But how do you turn an idea into a reality?” he said. “I needed somebody to help us raise money, and I needed to partner with a creative resource in this area.” For the former, he turned to Stedman, his Carolina Meadows friend of almost a decade. And for the latter, he turned to Lauren Rivers, the CEO of the award-winning Rivers Agency in downtown Chapel Hill, who’s worked with Carolina Meadows before and provided creative services on a pro bono basis. “We’ve got a little talent bank here, and we’re having fun,” Stedman said.

As a former UNC System employee and UNC School of Education dean, Stedman has a strong contact base across the state. And as someone who often feels “restless in retirement” at Carolina Meadows, where he’s lived for 15 years, he was happy to throw his weight at a project. Stedman secured \$5,000 (the max donation) from Carolina Meadows Inc. and the New Voices Foundation of North Carolina, an advocacy group for children with disabilities he co-founded. As of October 13, he’s raised



Submitted photo by Bryan Regan Photography

Each 30-second commercial will feature two or three vignettes with the same final message. Retirement communities across the state have been among the top donors to the project. Stedman and Lehmann, the co-directors of the project, think it can have a tangible impact quickly.

\$42,000 of the project’s \$74,500 goal. Other sponsors include retirement communities in Durham, Newton and Charlotte and the Autism Society of North Carolina.

“The people who are ponying up good sponsorships, they’re organizations whose jobs are to protect vulnerable populations,” Stedman said.

That’s a comforting trend to him — especially since he’s had some unexpected headwinds, too. They won’t name names,

but Stedman and Lehmann both said they were disappointed with some local companies who declined to participate, saying the mask issue was too controversial.

“To which I responded: ‘How can you be against people getting their lives back?’” Lehmann said.

But they acknowledge that’s part of the issue. Masks have become cannon fodder in a “political shootout,” Stedman said, at the state and national level.

It’s a key inflection point in North Carolina’s gubernatorial race, for example, where Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper issued a mask mandate in late June and his Republican challenger, Dan Forest, is pledging to lift it if elected. The Help Me group is hoping its simple message cuts through that.

“It appeals to people in a very different way, to have real people come on camera,” Lehmann said. “What we all want at this point is to be able to get back to

‘It has the genuine potential now to save thousands of lives.’

CHARLIE LEHMANN, *volunteer co-director*

our lives in some way.” Lehmann wrote the majority of the vignettes. Each 30-second commercial will feature two or three of them, paired with a simple close-up shot of the actor. Mitchell Lewis, a well-known UNC-TV production manager for the “North Carolina Now” show, provides the closing voiceover of every commercial: “We can do this. Wear a mask.”

The group hopes to roll out its finalized campaign on TV and social media in November — after the election, since it’ll be hard to get airtime or traction amid a flurry of political ads from both sides. It’s “no million-dollar thing,” Stedman conceded, but he’s still proud of the grassroots effort so far.

“I hope this thing goes and grows,” he said. “I think it can do a lot of good.”

Reporter Chapel Fowler can be reached at cfowler@chathamncr.com or on Twitter at @chapel-fowler.

WILD

Continued from page B1

would I want to be if I’m not at home? I would want to be on the Chowan River, for instance, like in the painting over there,” Christian said, nodding towards a framed painting of a riverbank hanging on a wall of his studio.

“That’s one of my favorite places,” he said, “and not a lot of people necessarily get to go there, so it’s just always seemed natural to me to paint those places. I was never that interested in painting a downtown scene.”

A lifelong outdoor sportsman, he’s “done every kind of fishing there is,” he said. “I love fly-fishing. The intricate stuff. I tie flies. I’ve built fly rods. But I also have noodle rigs I catch catfish with. Everything in between. A passion of mine lately is kayak fishing.”

He is also, he said, “fascinated with the science of boats and the tradition of it, too. North Carolina has such a rich history with boat-building.” Christian also makes

his own wooden frames from mahogany, walnut, oak and weathered barnwood. “I do a lot of woodworking and that kind of thing,” he said. “I like to be crafty.”

He began nurturing his creative talent at a young age.

“When I was supposed to be paying attention in class, I’d be drawing pictures,” he joked. “In some way or another, all I’ve ever done is art work.” Christian majored in art while at UNC-Chapel Hill in the mid-1980s and for three years, he was the editorial cartoonist for the campus newspaper, The Daily Tar Heel.

As a teenager, he said, “my dad got me painting herons and egrets and stuff like that on barnwood for his friends who had beach houses. Right out of school, I worked at a screen-printing shop in Chapel Hill, and after work I’d come home and paint, do watercolors. I started doing fish portraits and selling them at an art gallery in Buxton on the Outer Banks. I could make money doing that, so it kind of grew from there.”

Over the years, Christian’s artwork has been

seen by a wide audience, appearing on the covers of magazines and catalogs, on T-shirts and for clients including Penn Reels, Ducks Unlimited and “Wildlife in North Carolina” magazine. A member of the North Carolina Wildlife Artist Society, he’s exhibited his paintings all over North Carolina as well as along the East Coast in marinas and tackle shops.

“I always have several commissions and projects going,” he said. “I’ve been around a long time and been doing a lot of art work for a lot of people.”

While Christian’s art has been featured in previous N.C. Wildlife calendars, his normally busy work schedule prevented him from submitting to the annual publication in recent years. This year however, the timing was right, and the coronavirus pandemic played a part.

“When the shutdown happened, I said ‘OK ... I’m just going to take the month of April and paint.’ I had four or five paintings going and I had two I completed, and I got good images of them and sent them in. ‘Crappie’ was one of them.”

To create the painting

that would become the calendar’s cover, Christian worked from several photographs.

“I have lots of pictures and I’ll go on the internet and find stuff,” he said. “What this will end up being is an amalgamation of different photographs. I’ll use one to get the geometry of it just right. Another will have better lighting.”

Lighting is key, he said, noting the difference between a fish just pulled from the water when “it’s electric with color,” in contrast with the same fish after being stored in a cooler and “the light in the eye is gone. I have to piece together all the information to do the painting. And then I put my own spin on it, make the background different, place the fly right there.”

A month or so after submitting his completed painting, Christian received an e-mail notifying him that “Crappie” would not only be included in the 2021 calendar, it would

also grace its cover.

“I was tickled,” he said. “You get good exposure and some contacts. It’s exciting, especially to make it on the cover. You know, my confidence has its ups and downs, so to get that acknowledgment is good.”

The calendar is available for purchase at numerous locations statewide. Locally, the calendar — along with Christian’s original paintings, limited edition

prints, illustrated playing cards and more — is available for purchase at Deep River Mercantile at 115 Hillsboro St. in Pittsboro, and J.R. Moore & Son at 865 Thrift Rd. in Goldston.

Christian’s paintings, prints, gifts, shirts, cards, hand-crafted gear and more are also available directly from the artist through his websites: www.jkchristian.com and www.kingfisherdesigns.net.

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October's winner will be drawn from eligible entries provided by 10/31/2020. The October winner will be announced in a November issue of the Chatham News + Record. One entry per household, per week. Employees of the COA and their dependents not eligible.

UNCERTAIN

Continued from page B1

initiatives,” he said.

But Kennedy agrees that a shifting social perception of police officers will make the task more difficult, and may have long-term ramifications.

“I would agree that it’s hard to recruit and retain good talent at the police level,” he said. “You’re starting to see police officers in other areas that say, ‘man, I can make more money working for my father-in-law’s landscaping company, and I know I’m not going to end up on WRAL tonight.’ And that’s hard to overcome.”

“What we’re seeing in the police realm is not officers going from Pittsboro to Apex, or Apex to Cary. What we’re seeing is people just getting out of the business altogether. They’re saying, ‘this isn’t worth it.’”

It is not just police officers who are looking for opportunities away from law enforcement, though. The problem extends also to would-be police officers — young people deciding on their career paths.

“In recent years, we have seen a statewide shift in both the number and caliber of applicants interested in Basic Law Enforcement Training,” said Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson. “There are still many capable, intelligent and compassionate individuals entering the field, but in fewer numbers than before.”

Central Carolina Community College, based in Pittsboro, boasts one of the most competitive Basic Law Enforcement Training programs in N.C. But enrollment numbers are plummeting, and recent protests are to blame.

“I believe that enrollment is down due to the current events in our nation,” said Neil Ambrose, director of CCCC’s BLET program. “As we all know, this is a challenging time in our state and in our nation. Those challenges certainly contribute in difficulty to recruit and retain law enforcement officers.”

The program has had 98 graduates since 2016, about two-thirds of total enrollees. Now, there are just 32 students between four different classes.

“The current classes have less than half of what they’ve been at in the past,” Wagner said. “And so, for chiefs like me, combating for a few individuals, it’s very difficult.”

For those who are still pursuing a career in law enforcement, CCCC has adjusted the program to prepare cadets for the unfolding rigors of life in police

work.

“We discuss current events and talk about ways to make things better as new officers, and ways to do things differently in various situations,” Ambrose said. “I believe our students are more in touch with current events and it actually makes them want to do their best for the outcome of making a difference. Our students are taught discipline, respect, honor, and devotion. When they graduate from our program, I feel they are proud to have received vigorous training to prepare them for what they may face in their communities.”

The program is still evolving to meet the demands of modern police work, but it has “already implemented Tactical Communications De-escalation Training,” Ambrose said. “Professional development for these new trainings was provided by a special allocation in June 2020 from the State Board of Community Colleges.”

Current police officers need much of the same modified training if they are to adapt to changing public opinion, Kennedy says.

“We can work with our officers and give them the things that they need to succeed,” he said, “the very best training that we can. We really want to make sure we’re innovating, that we’re staying current with all of our stuff and we’re not just saying, ‘Hey, it won’t happen to us, we’re too small.’ If we do that, then something will happen.”

Despite the prospect of better training and added incentives, however, it may be too late to keep some officers from moving on. Much of the police force has already given up.

“It’s tough, and it’s going to get harder,” Kennedy said. “We’re going to see a tipping point where you’ve got career police officers who have dedicated their working lives to this, they’re close to retirement, and they’re just going to walk away.”

Wagner is more optimistic. He acknowledges the gravity of the challenge before him, but he is confident that eventually his department will find a solution.

“We’re at a crossroads of ideas, of expectations,” he said, “and it’s going to take us some time to formulate the right equation for success.”

Kennedy is not sure what success will mean, but one thing is certain: police departments must change to survive. Like Wagner, Kennedy will keep working to encourage police officers and attract new ones — but it may not be enough.

“Twenty years from now, are there going to be people who still want to be police officers?” Kennedy said. “I don’t know.”

Chatham COA

Helpful Happenings

October 15th – 21st

Thursday, October 15th

- [Fire Prevention with the Fire Marshall](#) at 11:15 AM 📶

Friday, October 16th

- [COA Update Call with Director Dennis Streets and musical guests Don & Marian](#) at 10:15 AM 📞

Monday, October 19th

- [Tai Chi for Arthritis](#) at 9:00 AM 📶
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise](#) at 10:00 AM 📶
- [Bingo with Joe](#) at 11:15 AM 📶

Tuesday, October 20th

- [Body Conditioning Exercise with Jackie](#) at 9:00 AM 📶
- [1950s Music Bingo](#) at 11:15 AM 📶

Wednesday, October 21st

- [Tai Chi for Arthritis](#) at 9:00 AM 📶
- [Wood Turning with Alan](#) at 10:00 AM 📶
- [Short Stories with Chris](#) at 12:30 PM 📞

On Zoom

On Conference Line: 727-731-8717

For more information or to register for these programs, visit our website:

<https://chathamcouncilonaging.org/coa-virtual-activities/>

Join the Trivia Hunt!

Each week the Council on Aging will offer a Chatham-themed trivia question in the *Chatham News + Record*. Find the correct answer in the paper and enter to win a \$25 VISA gift card in the COA's monthly trivia hunt contest drawing. See page **A2** for this week's question.

The Chatham COA is Here for You!

For more information on our ongoing programs and services for Chatham's seniors and their families, visit our website at chathamcoa.org or call our centers, Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

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Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center

112 Village Lake Road
Siler City, NC 27344
919-742-3975

Communities In Schools in Chatham County has worked to help students adjust to remote learning. In August, they discovered one way to help — through the creation of a ‘study corner’ at Courtyard Coffee at Peppercorn in downtown Siler City.

Staff photo by Peyton Sickles



REMOTE

Continued from page B5

ity of that is done in the schools. I mean, it’s Communities In Schools, so school is a big part of what we do. This has been part of an adaptation to the new reality.”

The study corner — housed in the back meeting space at Peppercorn — includes a long table with chairs set up at it, a desktop computer, school supplies and a new printer. The corner also has Wi-Fi information for the space (password: smartapple513), which Lail says is all thanks to Peppercorn owner Joan Underwood. One day, when Lail was buying coffee before returning to his CIS office around the corner, he was mentioning his ideas for a study space when Underwood first mentioned the possibility of using the space.

Once the location was decided, it took about a week or so to get the corner set up, Lail said. And though the study corner is technically the table in the back of the room, he said Underwood has been great about welcoming students and families into the larger space where they can connect to the Wi-Fi and do work as well. Peppercorn is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

“The hardest thing really was getting the word out to students, and then getting them to use it,” Lail said. “I schedule

meetings with kids here. We have other organizations — other groups within our organizations — that also scheduled meetings here. So it’s been utilized both as a tutoring space, and also as a space for the program.”

Though CIS does formally schedule some use of the space, Lail said the study corner — including the computer, supplies and printer — is fully available to anyone who’d like to use it, whether they’re associated with CIS or not.

One such student, senior at Jordan-Matthews Kevin Manzanarez, used the study corner for the first few weeks of school, after finding the CIS table before the first day of classes.

“Just being stuck at home looking at a computer, it’s kind of different,” Manzanarez said. “And especially for me, because, you know, I feel like I learn better being in the classroom. But also I know the hazards of actually being in the classroom right now.”

Manzanarez is currently in the homestretch of working to submit early college applications — the first of which is to UNC, due Oct. 15. He said having a quiet space helps with being able to get long periods of work done.

“I kind of just wanted to be, you know, left alone, and to be more focused, and just have my own space,”

Within the first week of the study corner being open, Lail said he got “a lovely note” from a student thanking CIS for the space, “telling us that his house-

hold didn’t have enough space for him.” That student was Manzanarez.

“(It said) that the internet doesn’t always work and how important it was to him and he knew he could come here and knock a little bit of work out,” Lail said. “It was a very nice letter.”

Lail said CIS is grateful for all the community support they’ve received over the last few months to help students succeed — through mentoring, food distributions, donations and more.

“Realistically, like other nonprofits and things, we rely on the community and for doing this sort of stuff,” he said. “It’s been great that the community has supported us specifically — the Peppercorn has been wonderful at that. And that we all do a little bit better with some support.”

Still, he can’t help but think of all the other work left to be done.

As a society, Lail said, we’ve become reliant on schools to watch our children and provide meals and socialization, in addition to all the teaching that takes place. He’s looking at expanding study corners to other spaces, with hopes of getting enough volunteers to staff each location so students can receive tutoring support while they do work.

Does he feel the Peppercorn study corner is helping address deficits emphasized by the pandemic?

“In the way that a drop helps fill up the bucket? Sure,” Lail said. “I mean, it’s better than nothing. You know, so often educational support, it’s support. But like any house it’s a lot of different pillars that hold somebody up. This is one pillar, so I mean, I’d like to see more kids coming more often, but there’s difficulty scheduling and children can’t drive and parents work and all that sort of stuff. But it’s definitely helped.”

He added: “It’s just tough. You know, it’s tough for the kids in the family, and it’s just hard for people to find the time to do stuff for the kids.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

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YOUTH

Continued from page B5

each other and uplift each other.”

Created in late 2017, the group’s origins lie in a community survey. In the summer of 2016, the Hispanic Liaison (EVH) and UNC-Chapel Hill’s Latino Migration Project conducted a joint community assessment in Chatham County to identify Hispanic residents’ needs and hear feedback about EVH’s services.

The assessment found that a large part of the community wanted a youth leadership program, Lopez said, which prompted EVH to hire her in July of 2017. About four months later, OLP was born — a name Lopez said the first cohort of youth chose themselves.

“At first it was like, ‘Orgullo Latinx,’ but then someone was like, ‘Yeah, but we’re bilingual (and) bicultural,’” she said. “And so, they translated the ‘Orgullo’ (or ‘pride’) part to English and so made it ‘Orgullo Latinx Pride’ to encompass their bi-culturalism and who they are as Latinx youth growing up in North Carolina.”

This year, about 25 students form part of OLP. The group typically caps off around 30 students — Lopez said that’s her capacity — but that’s not set in stone. Last year, she had 32.

“But this year with COVID, it’s really hard to recruit, and we can’t go to the schools as we’re not a school-based program,” she said, adding, “I have interests in upperclassmen of youth, but I’m really holding off my five spaces for ninth graders, which is super hard right now, because they’re holed at home.”

Eligible high schoolers interested in joining OLP can call EVH’s office and ask to speak to Lopez, who would then arrange a meeting with interested students and their families. Students also have to fill out a Google Form, which Lopez said asks for demographic information, why students want to join OLP, and contact information, among other things. The form also assesses students’ self-esteem and support systems.

No essays necessary, Lopez assured.

“I think a lot of the times youth get a little overwhelmed when they hear ‘application’ because usually it’s associated with essays,” she said. “And I didn’t want that to be a barrier for some youth, especially, youth who aren’t necessarily seen as youth who are on the right track or youth who are already interested in joining these extracurricular clubs or organizations.”



Submitted photo

Orgullo Latinx Pride members participate in a de-stressing activity together in February of 2019.

‘If you can do this, you’re set for life’

Much of Lopez’s inspiration for OLP activities comes from her own experiences growing up in a small town in rural Warren County, where she said she faced many negative stereotypes or discrimination.

“For me, it was a challenge loving who I was,” she said, “and I don’t think I fully came to terms of being a proud Latina until I actually went to UNC and started taking courses on learning more about my history and my culture as crazy as that sounds.”

As the name implies, that’s part of the bundle of services OLP provides — discussion and education about their identities, cultural heritage and issues like mental health. But that’s not all.

Before COVID-19 forced all of the group’s activities online — even community service — the group would meet weekly after school for tutoring, homework help and career readiness talks.

“They would come in and they would focus on their homework, on their assignments, and we would have tutors that would just help them on those assignments,” Lopez said, adding that she routinely monitored their grades.

Meanwhile, juniors and seniors would receive career readiness advice and help with college applications — many of whom will be first-generation high school graduates and the first in their families to pursue higher education.

“A lot of times it’s just no one has ever spoken to them about college or university and this idea of it being possible,” Lopez said, adding, “A lot of their parents just didn’t have that opportunity. Like my parents, they either didn’t finish a lot of schooling in their home country or here, depending on what you ask. And so, the goal is to really help (the youth) get those resources.”

So far, it’s worked: Since the program’s start, 100% of OLP alumni have gone on to attend some form of higher education, Lopez said, whether that’s a four-year university or community college.

During other meetings, Lopez said they’d listen to guest speakers, such as former town manager Bryan Thompson, who introduced himself and talked to the group about local government. They’d also go on field trips, visiting universities and museums, or attend town commissioner meetings.

Last year, Lopez added, the youth even gave a presentation to city and county commissioners about OLP and what it meant to be Latinx in Chatham County.

“We had a couple of really, really shy kids doing it, and so, I really pushed them out of their comfort zone to do this,” she said. “I was like, ‘If you can do this, you’re set for life, like you are absolutely golden.’ And so, I think that was one of their proudest moments.”

‘It’s like being part of a family’

Siler City parent Celsa Hernández Jiménez has

noticed a big difference in her son, Carlos, who’s been a part of OLP for about three years. His grades are better, he feels more sure of himself and he’s learned a lot, she said.

“He’s been a kid who’s shy to talk or be with other people,” she said, adding that now, “He knows how to interact more ... I feel like I owe them (OLP) a lot in terms of taking away his shyness of talking 100%.”

Many OLP members and alumni describe a similar transformation: They’ve grown more confident in themselves and their cultural identities, learned about a history and culture many schools don’t typically teach, and now know how and why to raise their voices.

David Gonzalez Hernandez, now a freshman at UNC-G, joined OLP in December of his sophomore year, when the program was just getting started.

“I feel like I’m more confident and more outspoken to talk about topics that really are impacting me or people around me,” he said adding, “I feel like it was worth it because I got a lot out of the program.”

Berenice Diaz-Acosta, a Jordan-Matthews junior, joined in her freshman year. That decision, she said, changed her high school experience.

“It’s difficult for me to explain my experience as a Hispanic to my white friends because they won’t understand any reference at all,” she said, “but I feel more comfortable with my friends in OLP because we have a connection. We do understand each other, and that’s how OLP’s actually helped me.”

Jordan-Matthews junior Ashley Perez joined OLP in her first year after a friend told her about it. Since then, she said she’s learned a lot about college, government and Hispanic heritage.

“And I can bond a lot with my mom because of that because she wouldn’t really talk much about her past,” she said, “and now that I had these questions and now I’m more curious, I’m like, ‘Oh, my gosh, I want to learn more. I want to know you more.’”

All three members, past and present, called OLP a “family.”

“Being a part of OLP feels like being part of a family because I’m with people who I have a deep connection with,” Diaz-Acosta said, “and every time I go to their office, I feel like I’m wanted and needed.”

That’s something for which Perez is especially grateful. In her first year of high school, she and her family moved to Siler City from Orange County. She still remembers how lonely she felt after leaving behind all of her friends. In fact, she thought she was “going to be alone forever.”

That changed after she found OLP.

“It’s like being part of a family or being part of something which I was missing. It’s a lot of love,” Perez said, adding, “And once I felt that bond, I was like, ‘Well, I’m not alone anymore.’”

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at victoria@chathamnr.com.



Submitted photo

Orgullo Latinx Pride members participated in Siler City’s Litter Sweep to celebrate Earth Day back in 2019. Throughout two hours, they picked up nearly 10 bags’ worth of trash off of N. Chatham Ave.

Pittsboro BOC considers PFAS contamination, zoning and development requests

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro’s Board of Commissioners considered updated research on PFAS water contamination and its implications for the town before addressing a rezoning request and a stormwater agreement for Chatham Park during its meeting Monday at town hall.

Linda Birdbaum, Ph.D., a Duke University Scholar in Residence and Scientist Emeritus for two national science organizations, attended the meeting as a special guest. She is an expert on PFAS — Perfluoroalkyl substances, chemicals collectively known as potential carcinogens — and its health ramifications. In her presentation to the board, she discussed the pollutant’s implications for Pittsboro residents.

“The problem with PFAS is these are extremely environmentally persistent,” she said. “They don’t degrade environmentally ever and many of these can pass through waste water treatment plants. That’s part of the problem that we’re all dealing with related to the Haw (River).”

Pittsboro is the only town which draws its drinking water from the Haw, Birdbaum pointed out. But there are more conduits by which PFAS can enter the human body

than just water.

“Some of them get into our food chain,” Birdbaum said, “whether its fish swimming in the rivers that we then ingest, or because of the heavy use of PFAS in food packaging, in consumer products. It’s in our clothes, on our carpets, on our shoes, on our umbrellas — you name it.”

Why it matters

PFAS contamination comes with a staggering list of adverse health effects. The problem is worsening as new versions within the chemical family elude previously effective filtration systems, according to Birdbaum.

- “PFAS are multi-system toxicants,” she said. “They affect lots of different organs in our bodies: thyroid, immune, liver, pancreas, kidney, cancer, our reproductive organs, neuro-development. This is not the full list; there is evidence of other impacts as well.”
- Older versions of the chemical could “be removed by charcoal filtration ... But when you move to the new ones, the short chain ones, they are very poorly removed by charcoal filtration.”
- Only more expensive and complicated solutions like reverse osmosis have been shown to be effective in minimizing recent PFAS contamination from drinking water.

The bottom line

Pittsboro is subject to higher PFAS exposure than most American towns and the problem may prove disastrous for its residents when a coronavirus vaccine is developed.

“Let’s just say, people in Pittsboro ... their average (PFAS) levels are considerably higher than the American population as a whole,” Birdbaum said. “There have been a number of studies done that have shown the ability of PFAS to suppress the ability of the body to respond to a vaccination. So, in the time of COVID, I find that kind of concerning.”

The board of commissioners has recognized the gravity of the water contamination problem in Pittsboro. In late 2019, it appointed a Water Quality Task Force to address the presence of unregulated chemicals in the town’s water supply. In a May 11 meeting, the group reported that it was “in the process of compiling suggested in-home reverse osmosis treatment systems.” Task Force Chairperson Katie Bryant announced in Monday’s meeting that her team had completed its research.

“I’m very proud of what we’ve done,” she said. “We worked extremely hard to deliver a report that’s full of data, suggestions and a way ahead for the town.”

The board was pleased with the announcement but postponed a full debriefing to afford the commissioners time to review the 13-page report. The report will be made available to the public on the town’s website.

Those interested in learning more about PFAS levels in Pittsboro may also attend a town hall meeting on October 24, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., which will examine the results of a recent Duke University study on Pittsboro and Haw River PFAS exposure.

Other action

The board approved rezoning of nearly 200 acres to accommodate a new housing development and accepted a stormwater agreement for Chatham Park.

- The rezoned property is 192.72 acres of land near Old Graham Rd., 10 minutes north of downtown. A developer, Rexford Landing, LLC, first requested the town rezone the land to permit construction of a new community at a public hearing on Jan. 27. The

commissioners deliberated twice more in February and August before deciding on Monday to approve the request pending modification to Rexford’s proposal. Among the board’s stipulations was an increased donation to the Town of Pittsboro Affordable Housing fund from \$595,000 to \$788,800.

- The board approved Chatham Park’s overall Master Stormwater Control Measures Operations & Maintenance Agreement, an important step in the project’s ongoing development.

Hispanic Liaison gains new hires

BY OLIVIA ROJAS
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The Hispanic Liaison got just what it wanted with Bryant Parroquin and Maria Gomez Flores — the organization’s two new hires.

Parroquin and Gomez Flores are both UNC-Chapel Hill alumni and grew up in Siler City.

“I’m super excited about having local youth that come back and work with us,” Executive Director Ilana Dubester said. “That’s been my dream since I saw them as children.”

Parroquin is the marketing communications manager — a new position that the Hispanic Liaison has never had.

“So I’m in charge of social media, keeping up with the social media, making sure information is brought out to the community and in a timely manner as well,” he said. “I’m also in charge of making sure we’re communicating with other organizations. If another organization reaches out to us and like, ‘Hey, can you disperse this information? Can you do this for us?’ I’ll be the point of contact for that.”

Parroquin said this position allows him to grow professionally and give back.

“What really caught my eye about the position was that it was communications and marketing, a field that I wanted to grow into,” he said. “Also, it gives me an opportunity to give back to my com-

munity in an organization that’s done so much for my community.”

Gomez Flores is the advocacy and civic engagement program manager — a position that combined her interests.

“For a while, I was working at a law firm as a paralegal, but I realized that the elections (were approaching), and the election is so critical, and I realized that I was just sitting at a computer scanning documents, and I thought that I needed to do more for the community,” she said. “I thought there was a good opportunity since it combined politics and the Latinx community, I just

thought it was a great mix for me to be in.”

Gomez Flores said her role is important for information accessibility for the Latinx community and it’s something she wants to increase beyond the election year.

“I think it’s very important for me to create accessibility to local government and access to that information,” she said. “We have a big immigrant community and Spanish-speaking population. So it is harder for them to access information. So it’s this kind of information that I do want to be able to create a program or manage the program in order to make sure the Latinx community, the Spanish community, has access to information.”

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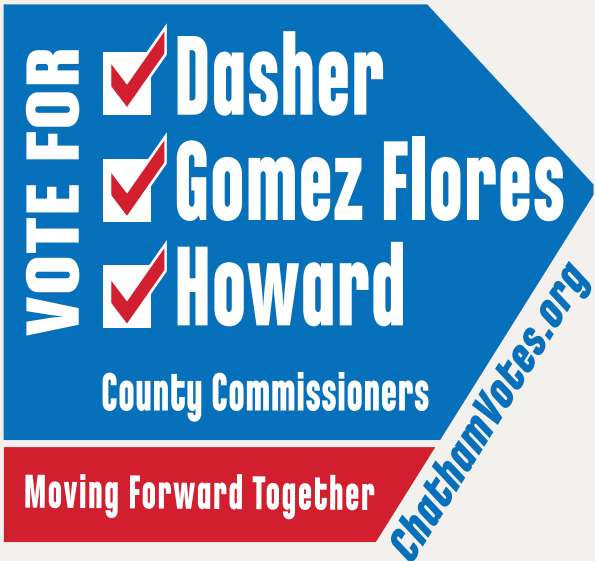
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COMMITTEE TO ELECT MIKE DASHER

CCCC graduate making a difference as public health educator

From Central Carolina Community College

PITTSBORO — It didn't take Central Carolina Community College graduate Dorothy Rawleigh long to establish herself as one of the state's top public health educators, though it was hardly a lifelong goal.

In fact, when she started to chart her career, it wasn't even on the map. But after just six years as Childcare Health Consultant for Chatham County Public Health Department, her reputation has spread well beyond the locals.

First came recognition from the GlaxoSmith-Kline Foundation as recipient of its 2018 Child Health Recognition Award, an honor presented annually to innovative organizations and individuals for improving the lives of children. What earned Rawleigh the accolade was her work to enhance nutrition and boost immunization rates in local child care centers.

According to the foundation's news release announcing her award, Rawleigh helped increase the proportion of child care facilities filing an annual immunization report from 62% to 100% and, more importantly, the number of centers with all children up to date on their vaccinations from 25% to 96%. Now, virtually all children in the centers are vaccinated — which is critical, since 95% is the magic number to prevent disease outbreaks.

"Dorothy is viewed as a model public health professional and an inspiration to all who work with her, and those who benefit the most are the children being cared for," the release said.

Then came appreciation from her own colleagues as the organization's 2020



Submitted photo

CCCC graduate Dorothy Rawleigh, Childcare Health Consultant for Chatham County Public Health Department.

Employee of the Year, an award presented by the Chatham County Board of Health for Rawleigh's "tireless efforts to keep Chatham's youngest residents healthy."

Interim Public Health Director Michael Zelek, who has worked with Rawleigh for six years and served as her supervisor for about half of that time, has described her as approachable, well trained and "incredibly dedicated" to a job that covers a lot of ground — everything from immunizations to healthy food access to physical activity to training designed to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

"You name it, she does it with child care facilities," Zelek said. "It's a big ask of one position, but Dorothy not only does what's asked of her, she constant-

ly works with childcare facilities to ensure Chatham's youngest residents grow and develop in healthy environments."

Journey to public health

All of the accolades must be pretty heady stuff for someone who transitioned fairly recently from environmental work into public health.

Ready for something beyond the classroom after her high school graduation, Rawleigh, a Julian native, hit the road. She worked food service and as a nanny, cleaned office buildings, taught outdoor skills as a school counselor in Black Mountain and did some farm work. She even spent five seasons as a wilderness ranger in the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, 140

sprawling miles along the Cascades' western slope between Seattle, Washington, and Vancouver, British Columbia, where she would hike into the wilderness for 10 days at a time to develop trails framed by glacier-covered peaks.

It all makes for an intriguing and eclectic resume, but none of it exactly screamed "public health."

When Rawleigh decided it was time for school again, she made the trip back home and began looking for somewhere to combine her interests. The Sustainable Agriculture Program at Central Carolina Community College's campus in Pittsboro seemed like a good option, so that's where she began, later studying in the honors program at Durham Technical Community College before receiving her Associate in Science degree from CCCC eight years ago.

When Rawleigh was looking at educational options, community college was mainly a practical decision. It didn't cost too much, which meant she could graduate without loans. The smaller campus and class sizes also were attractive, especially for someone who spent so much of her time working deep in the wilderness. Now, she describes herself as a strong advocate for community college.

"I think a lot of young people feel pressure to attend larger and well known universities, but if they aren't focused on what they want to get out of the academic experience, it doesn't really matter," Rawleigh said. "You get back what you are willing to put into it."

The big question still remains: for someone who began community college by studying sustainable agriculture, how exactly did that whole public

health detour take place?

Turns out, it was a combination of opportunity and some life experiences she had on her journey. Rawleigh discovered a bachelor's degree program at UNC-Greensboro that offered a fast track to become a public health educator and prepare for the Certified Health Education Specialist exam, a credential that helped get her foot in the door for jobs that are especially competitive in this region. And then there were those personal experiences.

"I've had experiences when I didn't have access to health care, and that impact on my life made things really difficult," she says. "I could get a job with that degree and start doing fulfilling work. When people have access to healthy options and health care, that's empowering."

It takes a team

Ask her colleagues about Rawleigh and the praise flows freely, though you don't get far down that road with anyone — Rawleigh included — before hearing about "the team." Public health might not strike some outsiders as a team pursuit, but it is. Rawleigh constantly mentions the "health promotion and policy team" while describing how information she gathers in the field is shaped into policy and systemic changes to improve the health of people well beyond the groups she works with directly.

And then there are teams formed with other organizations across the community. One of her favorite projects is helping child care centers plant vegetable gardens. It's an initiative she conducts with the Chatham County Partnership for Children that is

funded by a Farm to Early Care and Education grant offered through the N.C. State Center for Environmental Farming Systems.

Creating the raised-bed gardens and caring for plants obviously helps children learn new skills and gives them a sense of accomplishment. But it does much more. It teaches children where their food comes from and how plants grow. It provides healthy food for child care centers. And it can even give staff members their own moment of discovery.

"They'll say, 'Dorothy, I didn't know the squash flower turned into the squash!'" Rawleigh says. "What an awesome experience for the teacher. Many times when you approach child care about a new program, if they're not interested in changing a practice, then it's not an appropriate program. But they are genuinely excited to do this."

Given so many interests, the obvious question is where Rawleigh may be headed next. When she was attending CCCC, her biology instructor and advisor, Dr. Amy Kennedy, saw her student's intense curiosity and thought she might end up studying environmental science, perhaps combining research and advocacy. It seems like that could be one possible direction.

Rawleigh wants to head back to the classroom one more time for a master's degree to get more technical skills in biology and maybe take some courses in environmental policy, applying some of her recent experience in public health.

But who knows?

"Sometimes, it seems like there are too many choices," she admits. "But I love my work at the health department. I'm not in a rush."



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CHATHAM CHAT | VICKI NEWELL, CHATHAM LITERACY

CLC adapts to new building, challenges of COVID-19

This week, we speak with Vicki Newell, executive director of the Chatham Literacy Council, about the organization's recent fundraising event and COVID-directed changes in operation. Newell has worked as the executive director for nine of her 10 years with Chatham Literacy. Before that, she worked in early childhood development with local and statewide Smart Start initiatives. All told, she has 32 years working in the nonprofit world, having started that journey as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Newell hails from the state of Utah and has lived in Chatham County since 2003 with her husband and three sons.

Among the myriad of other things COVID has upended was your annual fundraiser, which in the past has featured an author at an in-person event; those events were always big hits. For 2020, Chatham Literacy's "No Show" event and raffle just passed — how'd it go?

Actually, our "No Show Fall for Literacy Book Event" was incredible! Because of COVID-19 our volunteers and staff worked even harder to simply re-imagine this fundraiser, and it ended up attracting 85 participants, 8 sponsors and raised just over \$15,000! This money will help us to continue providing essential literacy services, during this challenging time, to adults who live or work in Chatham County.

We so appreciate the community response to this event, and that certainly includes Chatham Literacy sponsors. Right now their financial support is helping adults find better jobs and improve their work skills. So that's why we want to give a shout out to the event's eight sponsors:

- Platinum Sponsor: Mountaire
- Gold Sponsors: Galloway Ridge at Fearrington, Wren Foundation
- Silver Sponsors: Carolina Meadows Retirement Community, Restoration Systems
- Bronze Sponsors: Chatham Park, Edward Jones/Eric Williams, Reynolds & Associates Physical Therapy

The event was about funding (and fun), but let's talk about the funding part. As a nonprofit, how has Chatham Literacy been affected financially by the pandemic and how are things looking as we all work to emerge from this?

Funding is definitely tight right now. We have a couple of grantors who were not able to help us financially this year due to the effects of COVID-19. We anticipate that gifts from some of our donors will also be reduced, for the same reason.

Receiving a federal Paycheck Protection Program loan this spring has



Submitted photo
Student Coordinator Leslie Ocampo and Volunteer Coordinator Travis Patterson pose outside Chatham Literacy's new home in Siler City.

really helped. We remain strong as an organization even though we expect COVID-19 to continue impacting Chatham Literacy funding, as well as that of our adult learners, into next year. Financial insecurity is a reality for individuals with limited literacy skills and their situations are even more challenging during this pandemic.

That's why literacy is vitally important for our community. Literacy is a foundation for economic, education and health sustainability in a community. Literacy skills help enable people to learn about resources, including COVID-19's spread into their own community and workplace. Literacy skills also help local residents find jobs that pay a livable wage and locate the protection that legal assistance provides. Without literacy skills it is so much harder for people to find affordable housing. Being literate in English also allows parents to be much more involved in their children's school work.

Because we see the impact our programs have in the community, our staff and Board of Directors are more dedicated than ever in finding new and innovative funding opportunities in the coming months.

What has your work consisted of these last few months, and as we move through Gov. Cooper's phases, how is it changing?

In March we transitioned our tutoring services to distance learning. We are pleased that 39% of our adult learners and 28% of our volunteer tutors made this move with us. Many of these learners and their tutors are currently participating in remote instruction. Another option for learners is the use of a digital learning app that allows participants more flexibility in when they can study.

On Sept. 1, staff went back to the office on a staggered schedule, working a couple days in the office and a couple days from home. We will phase in face-to-face tutoring starting the week of Nov. 2 with several tutor teams

starting back. Of course we'll review how face-to-face service delivery is going as well as what the COVID-19 trends are in Chatham County. We will always follow recommendations from the Chatham County Health Department and Gov. Cooper to determine how we start program services for 2021.

Learning from a distance is currently our "new reality" and Chatham Literacy will continue to provide literacy services through remote instruction and the digital learning app in the months to come. As we re-introduce face-to-face instruction, this new blended model of instruction might allow us to better serve adult learners in outlying areas of Chatham County and allow adults to immediately start learning once they register with Chatham Literacy, avoiding the potential of a waiting list.

"Remote instruction" is something we all know something about. You're using it for tutoring — tell us about that.

The biggest part of remote instruction is maintaining a relationship and being there for our learners. In a time of so much uncertainty, it's comforting and encouraging to know something and someone is there for you. That's why Chatham Literacy tutors rock! They were able to immediately adapt to the impact COVID-19 had on their volunteer efforts.

Of the 27 tutors who are participating in remote instruction, the majority are doing so using Zoom as their teaching platform. We also have tutors using social media programs like Facebook Messenger, Google Duo, WhatsApp and Skype. When technology seems to interrupt more than help, tutoring teams have switched to using FaceTime on their smart phones. And even we have a handful of tutors who have gone "old-school," sending worksheets back and forth through the mail, reading and discussing a book back and forth over the phone with their students and even writing

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letters to each other.

For our learners who have internet, but no computer, we have provided them with a free refurbished laptop and technical support. Our goal is to hopefully lessen the digital divide while also helping adults learn English or basic literacy skills to prepare them for the citizenship test, a GED exam, or to enhance their job skills. In spite of the tremendous impacts of COVID-19 on our lives this past spring, Chatham Literacy helped four of our citizenship students become U.S. citizens. This last month, we helped four more apply for their citizenship interview!

For your adult learners, you've introduced using a digital learning application. How has that worked, and what all are you offering?

In the fall 2019, program staff attended a national adult literacy conference in which an award winning digital learning app was intro-

duced. At that time, my thought was that an app might work in some places, but not necessarily here in Chatham County. But once COVID-19 started impacting our program, we applied for a free trial to test drive this digital app.

And that experience has been great. It's like binge-learning. This digital app was created so it operates much like a game, which really engaged people from the start. Learners can access this app from a computer as well as from their phone which allows them to participate in literacy programming even if they do not have internet in their homes.

We have introduced two different apps, one is the Learning Upgrade and one is Voxy. Both of these allow for learners to self-pace their lessons and learn when it is convenient for them, whether for ten minutes or for an hour. The focus of the Learning Upgrade is English for Speakers

of Other Languages, basic literacy, math and digital literacy. For Voxy, the focus is on English, math, citizenship preparation, current events and identified areas of interest.

Learners can use these digital apps wherever they can use their phones, so it makes learning the "go-to" activity when faced with down time.

We are now getting more tutors engaged with the digital apps. Tutors can review their students' work behind the scenes, and then provide them with supplemental instruction around areas of need.

And finally...tell us about your new office...

During the very start of this pandemic we found out that we had to move our offices — within 20 days! Rather than panic, staff and volunteers fanned out and found a wonderful opportunity for us in Siler City right across the street from the old Chatham Hospital at 1002 West Third St.

Fortunately these offices are spacious and are centrally located to serve the 61% of our adult learners who live in Siler City and are within walking distance of two new affordable housing apartment buildings now under construction.

Our new building includes Chatham Literacy's staff offices, tutoring rooms, and conference room and lobby. Fortunately, we have much more room for student study and learning, as well as access the internet. Our office building also includes spaces for Chatham Habitat for Humanity, and we are delighted they will continue to share our location.

We all look forward to the day when we can have an open house and show off our new digs!

Can you help?

neighbor

neighbor

A community initiative supporting Chatham County

VecinoAVecino

Your community needs you! Do you have time and resources to financially help your neighbors during these unprecedented, Covid-19 times?

So far we have helped 65 families with paying bills, buying & delivering groceries, referring them to other resources available and more!!!

If you want to help but don't have time, you can donate. To donate, sign up to help, or if you need help visit: **abundancenc.org** or call Marcela at 919.448.4888

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CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - www.learn-aboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

OFFICE SPACE RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

RENTAL APARTMENTS

OPENING SOON!! Siler School Square Apts. - Multi family community w/1 & 2 bdrm apts. Amenities include: playground, fitness center, computer room, and much more! Affordable housing, must meet income requirements. Call 919-799-7557 today to be put on the call list. Credit and criminal background check required. Handicap accessible units subject to availability. Equal Housing Opportunity. Professionally managed by Partnership Property Management. 015,1tc

POWELL SPRINGS APTS Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for LWVODC: Advocates For Inclusive and Diverse Schools Reopening Task Force 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, A2,tfnc

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. \$486/mo., no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. A2,tfnc

FOR SALE

2000 FORD 2000 WORK TRUCK in good condition. 200,000 miles, \$1,500. - 2000 Pontiac Firebird, in good shape, \$1,500. Negotiable. Call 336-302-9385. 015,1tp

2003 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER for sale, mileage 239,157, leather interior. Needs transmission work and instrument cluster. Price \$2,000 firm, cash only. If interested, please call or text my business cell 336-521-6174. 015,22,2tp

BURIAL PLOTS FOR SALE - Four (4) burial plots, at discounted price, in beautiful location at Chatham Memorial Park. Please email tloman@ardurra.com for further information. S24,01,08,15,22,29,6tp

YARD SALES

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE - Friday, October 16, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 219 Chatham Square, Siler City (behind Lam Buffet). Cheap prices, 015,1tc

MASSIVE 3-DAY YARD SALE. Everything goes! October 16, 17 & 18, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 1399 Justice Trail, Snow Camp. Antiques, furniture, women's clothes and shoes, School and office supplies, Arts and Crafts, Household goods, Decorations, Jewelry, Musical Instrument, toys and more.

YARD SALE! 10-17-20, 7 a.m. to 12 noon. Children, ladies, mens, toys, household items - cleaning out the attic! 1808 N Chatham Avenue, Siler City. Something for everyone! See you there. 015,1tp

GARAGE SALE! Rain or shine!!! All items covered in garage - Antiques, collectibles, jewelry, coins, puzzles, propane heater, generator, housewares, clothes, home décor and much much more! PIRATE SHIP on display for children and lots of awesome toys and gifts for Pirates of all ages and Christmas gifts galore, Friday, Oct. 16, 4 - 8 p.m., Sat. Oct 17, 8 a.m. - 3pm., 9272 Siler City-Glendon Road, Bear Creek, 27207, 6/10 of a mile North of Harpers Crossroads. Look for signs. Contact Diane at 910-489-4798. 015,1tp

AUCTIONEERS

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickye Ellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, S3,tfnc

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498-4077, S3,tfnc

SERVICES

RETIRED MAN available for painting and small odd jobs. Cal 984-265-0647, leave message. 08,15,2tp

JHJ PAINTING & PRESSURE WASH - Interior/Exterior - Commercial/Residential, Staining Decks and Fences - Also home repairs. We specialize in all your home improvement needs! Call John Hayes, Jr., 919-548-0474, S3-N5,10tp

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

I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! J9,tfnc

CARPENTRY WORK - all types, repairs, renovation, installation, windows and doors. Call Robert Clark, 919-742-3194. My25,tfnc

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HELP WANTED

SOLICITO PERSONA PARA TRABAJAR en refugio de animales. Debe tener alguna experiencia aendiendo aito, limpiarlos y cuidarlos. Sueldo \$11P/hora. Para mayor informacion, 919-542-6815 siglinda@goathouse-refuge.org. 015,1tc

HOME CARE SEEKING, Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aide - Competitive Weekly Pay, CNA's start at \$10.00/hr & up for extra care cases - Total Liecre, Call 919-799-7275 for more info or to apply. 015,22,29,3tc

FT OUTREACH COORDINATOR needed for nonprofit agency. Must have 3 to 5 years

of experience. For a full job description, see: www.unit-edwayofchathamcounty.org. Salary range is \$31,000-\$35,000, DOE with Competitive Benefits Package. Send resume and letter of interest to: United Way of Chatham County, PO Box 1066, Pittsboro, NC, 27312. Position open until filled. 08,15,22,3tc

RANDOPH ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION is currently seeking a Geographic Information System (GIS) Technician for the Asheboro Office. Successful candidates will preferably have an ESRI Desktop Professional, Enterprise Certification, or GIS Certificate. Preferred experience in ArcMap, ArcCatalog, SQL, Python, and Tableau. To apply, go to https://www.randolphemc.com/careers. Open Until Filled. Equal Opportunity Employer, including disability/vets. S24,01,8,15,4tc

MOUNTAIRE FARMS OF SILER CITY is seeking an OCCUPATIONAL NURSE, Hours 4:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., to provide first aid and emergency care for occupational injuries and illness, performing required pre-employment physicals and drug screens and record-keeping and documentation of visits to health services. Seeking an LPN or RN with 2 years of practical experience preferably in a Manufacturing environment or Emergency Care. Knowledge of case management, workers' compensation and OSHA regulations preferred. Ability to work with limited supervision and high motivation., Ability to work well under pressure, meeting multiple and sometimes conflicting deadlines. Strong computer skills (MS Word, MS Excel and HRIS system), Bilingual English/Spanish preferred. - Job Type: Full-time. - Salary: \$18.00 to \$22.00/hour - https://mountairejobs.com, Au6,tfnc

LEGALS

CHATHAM COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA NOTICE OF SERVICE Robert Terrell III hereby notifies General Shale Brick Inc., all persons, firms and corporations

having claims against said estate; to notice by the adjustments of the court to determine the orders and judgment of claims preceding conditions. The mandated trial merits are fulfilled formulating issues as their prerogative writs. Robert Terrell III 126 West Presnell Street; Apt C Asheboro, North Carolina 27203 (910) 580-9261 Robertintel.o@gmail.com Self-Represented Jy2-D24,25tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of V. GLORIA MYERS, A/K/A GLORIA LUCCHESI MYERS, GLORIA L. MYERS, GLORIA MYERS, late 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 December 24, 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 to the undersigned. The 21st day of September, 2020 Rebeca Ann Wilkie, Administrator 3214 Roberts Chapel Rd Goldston, NC 27252 S24,01,08,015,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 438 NORTH CAROLINA Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JAMES RUSSELL LAWRENCE, deceased, 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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 465 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HARRY B. TOWE, deceased, 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 December 24, 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. The 21st day of September, 2020 Keith M. Lawrence, Executor 256 Lone Oak Lane Apex, N.C. 27502 S24,01,08,015,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 461 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of REBECCA CRISSMAN WILKIE, deceased, 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 December 24, 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. The 21st day of September, 2020 Rebeca Ann Wilkie, Administrator 3214 Roberts Chapel Rd Goldston, NC 27252 S24,01,08,015,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 438 NORTH CAROLINA Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JAMES RUSSELL LAWRENCE, deceased, 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

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.

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of HARRY B. TOWE, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the



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- Able to remove defective parts by disassembling equipment using hoists, cranes, hand and power tools.

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Your experience should include:

- 2-3 years' experience working as a Diesel or Garage Mechanic.
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- Must have valid driver's license, CDL preferred.

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EOE

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EOE/M/F/V

estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before December 24, 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.
The 21st day of September, 2020
Margaret Towe Kirtland, Executor
c/o Steve Lackey, Attorney
410 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
S24,01,08,015,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 423

NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executrix

of the Estate of **JAMES ROBERT HINKLEY**, deceased, 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 January 4, 2021 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 1st day of October, 2020.
Christine Marie Hinkley Bar-one, Executrix
c/o Hemphill Gelder, P.C.
PO Box 31205
Raleigh, NC 27622
O1,08,015,022,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY
HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **DENNIS ALBERT TALLY a/k/a DA TALLY**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of December, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.
This the 23rd day of September, 2020.
Kevin Lynn Tally, Executor of The Estate of
Dennis Albert Tally a/k/a DA Tally
Post Office Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312
(919) 542-5605
O1,08,015,22,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, Donald R. Moffett, Jr., having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **MARK STEVEN JACOBSON**, Deceased, late of Chapel Hill, Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having any claim against the Estate of said decedent to present such claims to the undersigned c/o Howard L. Williams, Esq., Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, L.L.P., P.O. Box 26000, Greensboro, NC 27420 on or before January 2, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor.
This, the 23rd day of September, 2020.
DONALD R. MOFFETT, JR.
Executor of the Estate of Mark Steven Jacobson, Deceased
Howard L. Williams, Attorney
Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, L.L.P.
PO Box 26000
Greensboro, NC 27420
O1,08,015,022,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM CUNTY
20 E 312
Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **ELLA MARSH WOMBLE**, deceased, 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 January 1, 2021 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.
The 24th day of September, 2020
Judy G. Headen, Admin CTA
1815 Glovers Ch Rd
Bennett, NC 27208
O1,08,015,022,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **LESSIE RITTER MANESS aka LESSIE MAE MANESS aka LESSIE M. MANESS**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of the decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of Ivey & Eggleston, Attorneys at Law, 111 Worth Street, Asheboro, North Carolina 27203, on or before January 4, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms or corporations indebted to said estate should make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 1st day of October, 2020.
Hazel Ritter Reich and Levis Charles Ritter
Co-Executors of the Estate of Lessie Ritter Maness aka Lessie Mae Maness aka Lessie M. Maness
S. SCOTT EGGLESTON, Attorney
IVEY & EGGLESTON, ATTORNEYS AT LAW
111 Worth Street
Asheboro, NC 27203
(336) 625-3043
O1,08,015,022,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY
ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **JAY CARSON LANGHURST**, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before January 4th, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This 1st day of October, 2020.
Margaret McGatha, Executor
Estate of Jay Carson Langhurst
c/o Roberson Law Firm
1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
O1,08,015,022,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
20 E 462

NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **PHIL E. SENTER**, deceased, 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 JANUARY 1, 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.
The 28th day of September, 2020.
Wilda E. Senter, Executrix
511 West 8th St.
Siler City, NC 27344
c/o The Law Office of Lewis R. Fadely
119 North Fir Avenue
Siler City, NC 27344
O1,08,015,022,4tp

SPECIAL PROCEEDING NO. 20
SP 70

NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Date of Sale: October 20, 2020
Time of Sale: 3:00 p.m.
Place of Sale: Chatham County Courthouse
Description of Property: Exhibit A - BEING ALL OF PARCEL "B", containing 11.093 acres, more or less, as shown on a Plat entitled "Survey for Ronald E. Cheek, Anthony L. Cheek and Brenda C. Allison," dated November 1, 2011, and prepared by Archie F. Norwood, Jr., RLS, and recorded in Plat Slide 2002-59, Chatham County Registry, to which plat reference is hereby made for a more accurate description.
Record Owners: Heirs of Sheila Helen O'Connell, aka Sheila Helen Sapp
Address of Property: **2319 NC Hwy 22 42, Bennett, NC 27208**
Deed of Trust:
Book: 1353 Page: 457
Dated: August 3, 2007
Grantors: Sheila Helen O'Connell
Original Beneficiary: Local Government Federal Credit Union
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 notice 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: 9/17/20
Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee
Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P.
Posted on 9/17/20
O8,015,2tc

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. WILLIS DOUGLAS ALSTON and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of WILLIS DOUGLAS ALSTON and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder and JERRY ALSTON and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of JERRY ALSTON and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al, **12-CVD-807**, the undersigned Commissioner will on the **21st day of October, 2020, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the courthouse door in Chatham County, North Carolina, Pittsboro, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon**, the following described real property, lying and being in Williams Township, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows:
BEGINNING at a stake in the southern line of Edwards Drive, the same being an unpaved roadway which leads in a southern direction from the Old Lystra Church Road, said stake being in the northeastern corner of Lot No. 2-B, according to map referred to hereinafter, and also being South 86 deg. 35 min. East 239 feet from a stake in the line of Seaton Oldham's Heirs, and running thence along the southern line of said Edwards Drive (as widened) South 86 deg. 35 min. East 100 feet to a stake, the northwestern corner of Lot No. 4-B; thence along the line of Lot No. 4-B South 4 deg. West 462 feet to a stake in Floy T. Oldham's northern line; thence along said Oldham's line North 86 deg. 35 min. West 100 feet to a stake in the southeastern corner of Lot No. 2-B; thence along the line of Lot No. 2-B, North 4 deg. East 462 feet to the point of beginning, and being all of Lot No. 3-B, with the exception of the northern forty (40) feet thereof which is now part of said Edwards Drive, according to map entitled "Property of Stepany Edwards and Wife" by F. M. Carlisle, Surveyor, dated September 1959.
Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record.
Parcel Identification Number: 0018666
The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter.
This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.
This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25.
This the 18th day of September, 2020.
Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner
P.O. Box 25
Trenton, NC 28585
O8,015,2tc

Special Proceedings No. 20
SP 18

NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Date of Sale: October 20, 2020
Time of Sale: 3:00 p.m.
Place of Sale: Chatham County Courthouse
Description of Property: EXHIBIT A - BEING all of Lot 305 in BRIAR CHAPEL SUBDIVISION, Phase 4, Section 3, as shown on the map recorded in Plat Slide 2007, Pages 519-525 (Page 520), Chatham County Registry, to which map reference is hereby made for a more particular description.
Record Owners: Heirs of Stephanie Goddard
Address of Property: 1152 Great Ridge Parkway

Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Deed of Trust: Book: 1939 Page: 50
Dated: August 4, 2017
Grantors: Stephanie Goddard, Unmarried
Original Beneficiary: Local Government Federal Credit Union
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 notice 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: 9/17/20
Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee
Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P.
Posted on 9/17/20
O8,015,2tc

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES of MARY A. HUNTER and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al, **17-CVD-296**, the undersigned Commissioner will on the **21st day of October, 2020, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the courthouse door in Chatham County, North Carolina, Pittsboro, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon**, the following described real property, lying and being in Williams Township, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows:
BEGINNING at a stake in the southern line of Edwards Drive, the same being an unpaved roadway which leads in a southern direction from the Old Lystra Church Road, said stake being in the northeastern corner of Lot No. 2-B, according to map referred to hereinafter, and also being South 86 deg. 35 min. East 239 feet from a stake in the line of Seaton Oldham's Heirs, and running thence along the southern line of said Edwards Drive (as widened) South 86 deg. 35 min. East 100 feet to a stake, the northwestern corner of Lot No. 4-B; thence along the line of Lot No. 4-B South 4 deg. West 462 feet to a stake in Floy T. Oldham's northern line; thence along said Oldham's line North 86 deg. 35 min. West 100 feet to a stake in the southeastern corner of Lot No. 2-B; thence along the line of Lot No. 2-B, North 4 deg. East 462 feet to the point of beginning, and being all of Lot No. 3-B, with the exception of the northern forty (40) feet thereof which is now part of said Edwards Drive, according to map entitled "Property of Stepany Edwards and Wife" by F. M. Carlisle, Surveyor, dated September 1959.
Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record.
Parcel Identification Number: 0018666
The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter.
This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.
This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25.
This the 18th day of September, 2020.
Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner
P.O. Box 25
Trenton, NC 28585
O8,015,2tc

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES of JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, which may include THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES of KATHY DIANE FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, JONATHAN ERIC

FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, ROBERT GRIFFIN FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al, **16-CVD-706**, the undersigned Commissioner will on the **21st day of October, 2020, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the courthouse door in Chatham County, North Carolina, Pittsboro, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon**, the following described real property, lying and being in **Bear Creek Township**, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows:
BEGINNING at an iron stake and a rock with pine pointers, Headen's line or corner, just a few feet East of the Carolina Power & Light Company's right of way, being the Northeast corner of Viola J. Foushee's property; thence with L.L. White's line South 88 degrees 19 minutes East 474.55 feet to an iron pipe in White's line; thence South 2 degrees 46 minutes West 367.63 feet to an iron stake, corner with Roy Foushee and William T. Foushee; thence North 86 degrees 59 minutes 30 seconds West 474.88 feet to Headen's line; thence with Headen's line North 2 degrees 51 minutes East 356.71 feet to the BEGINNING and containing 3.92 acres.
Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record.
Parcel Identification Number: 0004712
The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter.
This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.
This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25.
This the 18th day of September, 2020.
Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner
P.O. Box 25
Trenton, NC 28585
O8,015,2tc

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES of MARY A. HUNTER and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al, **17-CVD-296**, the undersigned Commissioner will on the **21st day of October, 2020, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the courthouse door in Chatham County, North Carolina, Pittsboro, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon**, the following described real property, lying and being in Williams Township, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows:
BEGINNING at a point designated as a control corner which is located North 63 degrees 24 minutes 49 seconds East 472.9 feet from the southwest corner of the Mabel and Grady Winston property and running thence as a new line of Henderson Barbee North 69 degrees 58 minutes 50 seconds East 168.54 feet to an iron thence South 27 degrees 21 minutes 10 seconds East 421.49 feet to an iron then North 81 degrees 55 minutes West 393.05 feet to an iron thence North 8 degrees 5 minutes East 264.02 feet to an iron pipe, POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING containing two acres according to a survey of "Property of Henderson Barbee" prepared by William O. Yates, RLS, July 8, 1981, reference to which is hereby made for a more particular description.
Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record.
Parcel Identification Number: 0019918
The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter.
This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.
This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25.
This the 18th day of September, 2020.
Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner
P.O. Box 25
Trenton, NC 28585
O8,015,2tc

NOTICE OF TAX FORECLOSURE SALE

Under and by virtue of an order of the District Court of Chatham County, North Carolina, made and entered in the action entitled COUNTY OF CHATHAM vs. GERALDINE HATLEY COUCH and spouse, if any, and all possible heirs and assignees of GERALDINE HATLEY COUCH and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder, et al, **17-CVD-441**,

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the undersigned Commissioner will on the 21st day of October, 2020, offer for sale and sell for cash, to the last and highest bidder at public auction at the courthouse door in Chatham County, North Carolina at 12:00 o'clock, noon, the following described real property, lying and being in Williams Township, State and County aforesaid, and more particularly described as follows: Being all of Tract 5B of the minor subdivision for Brenda Couch Thompson and Walter Couch as shown on the plat recorded in Plat Slide 2004-127, Chatham County Registry. Subject to restrictive covenants and easements of record. **Parcel Identification Number: 0081214**

The undersigned Commissioner makes no warranties in connection with this property and specifically disclaims any warranties as to title and habitability. This property is being sold as is, without opinion as to title or any other matter. This sale will be made subject to all outstanding city and county taxes and all local improvement assessments against the above described property not included in the judgment in the above-entitled cause. A cash deposit of 20 percent of the successful bid will be required. In addition, the successful bidder will be required, at the time the Deed is recorded to pay for recording fees and revenue stamps assessed by the Chatham County Register of Deeds.

This sale is subject to upset bid as set forth in N.C.G.S. Section 1-339.25.

This the 18th day of September, 2020.

Mark D. Bardill, Commissioner
P.O. Box 25
Trenton, NC 28585

08,015,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **CHERYL IRENE GOULD**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said de-

ceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 30th day of September, 2020.

Mark L. Gould, Administrator of The Estate of Cheryl Irene Gould
Post Office Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312
(919) 542-5605

08,015,022,029,4tc

TOWN OF SILER CITY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners will conduct a **public hearing on Oct. 19, 2020 at 7 pm in the City Hall Courtroom located at 311 N. 2nd Ave.**

Public hearing and Board discussion will be conducted on the following requests: Town of Siler City proposes text amendments to §171 Accessory Building Setback Requirements (detached unenclosed carport), §196 Entrance to Streets (traffic impact analysis), §282 Required Widths of Parking Area Aisles and Driveways (traffic impact analysis), §284 Vehicle Accommodation Area Surfaces (pervious gravel or grass surfaces), Appendix B (Specifications on Driveway Entrances), Appendix D (Vehicle Accommodation Area Surfaces), and Appendix L (Traffic Impact Analysis) of the UDO. The proposed items are available for review by contacting the Planning and Community Development Director at jmeadows@silercity.org or 919-742-2323. All persons interested in the outcome of the application are invited to attend the public hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced items. The Planning Board will meet on Oct. 12 @ 6:30 pm to consider a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. If you are interested in attending the meetings via Zoom, then contact jbridges@

silercity.org for the Planning Board meeting and jjohnson@silercity.org for the Board of Commissioner meeting.

The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such as arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact 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.

08,015,2tc

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public will take notice that pursuant to G.S. 160A-299 the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Goldston will on the 7th day of December, 2020, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the Town Hall consider a resolution to close the following streets or portions thereof as follows: All of Camden Road depicted upon the plat entitled "Survey for Lane Poultry of Carolina, Inc." recorded in Plat Book 30, Page 20 of the Chatham County Registry from its intersection with Colonial Avenue as depicted upon said plat and running thence southerly to its intersection with West Goldbar Avenue. All abutting property owners are hereby notified to appear at this meeting to present any

objections that they may have with respect to the closing of the street.

This 5th day of October 2020.

Annie King Gaines, Town Clerk
08,015,022,029,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 466 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **LINDA JONES BRADY**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby to notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 8, 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.

The 5th day of October, 2020.

Co-Executors,
Anita Brady
2658 Fall Creek Church Road
Bennett, NC 27208
Marta Brown Purvis
688 Putnam Church Rd.
Carthage, NC 28327

08,015,022,029,4tp

RESOLUTION OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Be it hereby resolved, that in accordance with section 163-234(2) of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the Chatham County Board of Elections will begin counting absentee ballots for the General Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. in Suite F of the Board of Elections office at 984 Thompson Street. The results of the absentee ballot count will not be announced before 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. Be it hereby resolved, that, in accordance with sections 163-234(2) and 163-234(11) of the General Statutes of North Carolina, there will also be a meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. for any eligible ballots received pursuant to General Statutes 163-231(b) and 163-258.12. The results of this absentee ballot count will be included with canvass. Any elector of the county may attend these meetings and ob-

serve the counts by live stream video at TaTalk.com/YouTube Address: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLOwi.zdAZt2sMnGC6CHOGQ Approved thl October 6,2020. Signatures attached: Laura Heise, Chair Charles Ramos, Secretary Robena Meek, Member Frnk Dunphy II, Member Mark Barroso, Member

015,022,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **WALTER FARRAR**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 6th day of October, 2020.

Walter M. Farrar, Administrator of The Estate of Walter Farrar
Post Office Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312
(919) 542-5605

015,022,029,N5,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **MARY HENRIETTA FARRAR**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 6th day of October, 2020.

Walter M. Farrar, Administrator of The Estate of Mary Henrietta Farrar

Post Office Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312
(919) 542-5605

015,022,029,N5,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHAHAM COUNTY 20 E 441

All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against **SHARON L. ROBINSON**, deceased, of Chatham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before January 15, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.

This the 12th day of October, 2020.

Diana Robinson Denton, Administrator CTA
c/o M. Cory Howes, Attorney Forrest Firm, P.C.
3700 Glenwood Ave, Ste 240
Raleigh, NC 27612

015,022,029,N4,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 478 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **JENNIFER ELAINE BARTLETT**, deceased, 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 January 15, 2021 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.

The 15th day of October, 2020.

Rebecca Lynn Rupp, Executrix
8839 Cameron Meadow Circle
Salida, CO 81201
Howard, McCoy & Bolton, L.L.P.
PO Box 10305
Raleigh, NC

015,022,029,N5,4tp

Reynolds joins the Chatham Trades Team

CN + R Staff report

Chatham Trades Executive Director Shawn Poe is pleased to announce Dina Reynolds as the Director of Development and Communications. "Chatham Trades is very fortunate to have been able to acquire someone with Dina's nonprofit experience and knowledge of the county," said Poe. Chatham Trades has been providing employment and training opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities for 40 years.

Reynolds has called Chatham County home for more than 25 years. A graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, she holds a B.A in Journalism and Marketing, as well as a Certificate in



Submitted photo

Dina Reynolds, the new director of development and communications for Chatham Trades.

Nonprofit Management from Duke's Continuing Education program. She has worked in nonprofit fundraising and administration for 23 years.

The first eight of her career were spent as

the Director of Development for the Chatham County Council on Aging and the last 15 as Executive Director of the United Way of Chatham County. Under her leadership, more than eight million dollars was raised and allocated to Chatham's human service nonprofits, benefiting residents with the most critical needs. In addition to her resource development success, Reynolds has served on many county advisory committees, is a past Education Foundation Board Member and a past President of the Siler City Rotary Club.

"I'm passionate about the welfare of this community and its residents, Reynolds said. "For more than 25 years I've held close to my heart the needs

of the most vulnerable members of our community. I'm excited to direct my energies and experience to this vital organization."

"While many leaders in Chatham County

know Reynolds very well, she's looking forward to extending that relationship to involve more residents and more industry with Chatham Trades," commented Poe. To learn

more about Chatham Trades, please visit ChathamTrades.org or contact Dina Reynolds by email at dreynolds@chathamtrades.org or by phone at (919) 548-4002.

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