*Genuinely local. Relentlessly informative. Required reading since 1878.*

**Spotlighting Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting**, PAGES A13, B3

# Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | **NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 2, 2020** | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | **$1**

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

**CHATHAM:** giving thanks in a most tumultuous year. **REFLECTIONS, B6-B7**

**'EAT FIRST AND THEN PARTY'**

## Latino families in Chatham share their Thanksgiving traditions

**BY VICTORIA JOHNSON**
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — For Janet Pulido and her extended family, Thanksgiving Day is normally one big party with food, dancing and — of course — drinking.

It usually starts around 8 p.m. In bigger family gatherings, Pulido's aunts, uncles and cousins are all there, though some arrive later than others. The percussive rhythms of cumbia music often play in the background — mainly cumbia, Pulido said, though sometimes they mix in bachata, merengue and salsa music.

"We eat first. The uncles are probably already drinking at that point," she said, laughing, "but we eat first and then party. When we eat, we don't typically sit all at one table and pass the food around and then eat. We serve whatever we are going to eat and then we sit somewhere and eat."

For many Latino immigrants and their families in Chatham, like Pulido's family, Thanksgiving is a time to be and feast with

See **TRADITIONS,** page A3

**'HE'S REALLY MISSED HIS SCHOOL'**

## Parents express mixed feelings about Plan B

**BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN**
News + Record Staff

Last Thursday, more than 1,800 students were able to return to Chatham County Schools under Plan B, following the Board of Education's Nov. 9 vote for students in 3rd-5th grade to return Nov. 19, with students in 6th-8th set to return Dec. 7.

These students joined the nearly 2,000 PreK, K-2 and Extended Content Standard E.C. students who returned Oct. 19. For now, high schoolers will remain in Plan C through Jan. 15 — in accordance with the board's Sept. 23 decision to extend Plan C past the original nine-week time frame to the end of the semester in January.

As the board predicted throughout its discussions over the last few months, Chatham parents feel very differently about Plan B.

"Last year it was just shambles," said Chris Houston, a CCS parent, of remote learning. "We were certainly concerned at the beginning of the term, but then everything started and the teacher was very organized and we had multiple Zoom calls every day. She had a good structure of what the children should be doing when they weren't on Zoom calls … we thought it was going well."

Houston has two children — a daughter in 1st grade at North Chatham Elemen-

See **PLAN B,** page A8

## New Siler City job opportunities are brewing at The Alliance

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Lisa Fedele is on a mission to infuse Siler City with new culture and economic stimulus — and it's all starting with her downtown coworking space.

The Louisiana native moved to Chatham County eight years ago after taking a job at Cisco Systems Inc. in Research Triangle Park as a global creative operations lead. But corporate management is just a recent bullet point on her expansive résumé. The self-described "serial entrepreneur" has been a business consultant, restaurant owner and interior designer. She even worked as a strategic planner for the 13 museums and historical properties in the Louisiana State Museum system. Her many pursuits share a common theme, though — art and education.

"Much of my career was focused on working with organizations that have an educational mission," Fedele said, "… fostering creativity and financial independence."

She lives in Silk Hope and is still with Cisco, managing a global team of employers and contractors, but two years ago, she bought the Farmers Alliance building in downtown and created The Alliance, a coworking space, in the latest iteration of her life's endeavor.

"I purchased the building because I couldn't bear to see such an important building vacant," Fedele said. "The Farmers Alliance has been the heart of downtown and it was important that it be maintained and honored."

The corner building at 134 S. Chatham Ave. has been a fixture of Siler City almost since the town's inception. The Farmers Alliance Cooperative Association opened its doors in 1888, one year after Siler City was founded, to "disseminate information regarding innovative agricultural practices," Fedele said, "a forerunner to the state's agricultural extension services." It's where farmers could buy staple items like seed and fertilizer in bulk at reduced pric-



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**Michael Feezor of the N.C. Arts Incubator and Lisa Fedele, owner of The Alliance, sit in the program-center half of the building where students can access high-speed internet and confer with teachers in-person.**



**Julia Marina, owner of Milestone Bag Co., is exactly the kind of entrepreneur Fedele hoped to incubate in her downtown coworking space.** Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

See **ALLIANCE,** page A12

**KANYE FOR PRESIDENT?**

## Chatham write-ins lighten election mood

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**
News + Record Staff

*Chatham's votes from the Nov. 3 election are now almost finalized; recounts in the Dist. 5 commissioners' race and the N.C. Supreme Court chief justice seat were completed Monday, and certification is all that's left. Given that, we asked our reporter Lars Dolder, who's helped with the newspaper's election coverage, to check out the 1,109 write-in votes cast by local residents. Here's his report.*

This year's election news, much of which I've covered for Chatham County in the past few months, has been dominated by accounts of voter protestation — voters crying election fraud, election tampering, election indiscretion.

But little attention has been given to a time-honored tradition of quiet voter protest: write-in voting.

I get why. Write-ins represent less than 1% of the total vote. But 1% of this country is still more than 3 million people, and lots of folks in Chatham, so this is their story.

And why shouldn't we recognize the stoic determination to overcome impossible odds just to get one's way? Isn't that the American dream? We give platforms to the Constitution and Green parties, and they earned a smaller proportion of votes than write-ins.

Besides, the romantic notion of ousting crotchety old politicians with a surprise write-in landslide isn't totally unprecedented. On rare occasion, organized write-in campaigns have seated candidates in even prominent roles.

For example, back in 1954, Strom Thurmond won his place in the U.S. Senate from a wave of write-in support, and he stayed there more than 40 years.

But Thurmond had previously been a governor. Constituents knew his record of public service.

Interesting, then, that most write-in candidates seem woefully unqualified for their prospective assignments.

Kanye West was the winner of Chatham's write-in contest for president, but it makes sense. The Wyoming preacher (and one-time musician? husband of a Kardashian?) was one of few in the country this year to make a genuine call for write-in support.

"Keep believing in Kanye 2020," he posted on his Twitter on Nov. 3 after casting what he said was "the first vote of my life."

See **WRITE-INS,** page A3

## 'Bringing the situation to light': Locals discuss police reform in Chatham

**BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN**
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Earlier this year, a routine traffic stop along Jack Bennett Road led Roy Barnes to speak out about the need for police reform in Chatham County.

That's because Barnes, who's lived in Pittsboro for 40 years, is a Black man, and his negative experiences with police in the past made the traffic stop feel like anything but routine. For starters, he had no idea why he was being pulled over and didn't feel safe doing so until he'd reached a gas station where he could interact with the officer in public. On the way to the gas station, he was so worried he called his wife and asked her to meet him there.

In the end, he discovered he was pulled over for driving left of the yellow line — something he says he's pretty sure didn't happen — and didn't receive a ticket for it. Following the incident, Barnes decided to reach out to Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson to voice his concerns.

"I just wanted to have a conversation about policing, and it's been deep in me ever since I've been a kid from Pittsburgh," Barnes said,

See **POLICE,** page A7




News + Record Staff photo

**'I would say policing is a problem everywhere,' said Roy Barnes of Pittsboro. 'As a Black man I want to stop being afraid my whole life.'**

## IN THE KNOW

Without the Mayflower Compact, there'd be no Thanksgiving. **PAGE A12**

Current, former Chargers unite for Northwood recruiting night. **PAGE B1**

Pittsboro church works to 'take a stand' against injustice of racism. **PAGE B4**

'The Croods: A New Age,' a sequel even a caveman would like. **PAGE B9**

6 89076 19216 3

### NOTE TO READERS

Beginning in December, the News + Record will be changing printers — moving from The Winston-Salem Journal's facility to that of the News & Observer in Raleigh. For subscribers, starting in December, this space on the front page will contain your name and address label. For single-copy buyers, this space will be blank. If you're not a subscriber, you can become a CN+R member at chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe.

# 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.
• **The Siler City Christmas Parade** has been canceled for this year.

## ON THE AGENDA

• **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. 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.

## THURSDAY

• **Thanksgiving Day** is celebrated today. It's a holiday for many agencies and businesses.
• **Chatham Literacy** is hosting its first "Holiday Door Decorating Event." If family can't visit this holiday season, open your doors anyway through Chatham Literacy, Decorate your door celebrating a holiday between Thanksgiving and New Year's and you may win a prize and bragging rights. $20/door, per entry, now through Dec. 21. Registration details at www.chathamliteracy.org or 919-214-1269.
• **The Chatham Historical Museum** will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, but will be open the day before and the day after. Regular hours are Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Masks required and groups will be distanced. Adult and kid friendly; with no admission fee. The current special exhibit is vintage toys. Don't miss it! Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The Museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the circle at Pittsboro. More info: https://chathamhistory.org
• 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, but it will not be held on Thanksgiving. 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.

## UPCOMING

• **Supper with Santa and Mrs. Claus** will be held on Friday, Dec. 4, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Paul Braxton Gymnasium, where the facility will be turned into a winter wonderland. This is a floating event and pre-registered tickets are required to enter as space is limited. Event tickets are available online at www.silercity.org or in City Hall, 311 North Second Ave., Siler City. Adult tickets are $10 and tickets for children age 12 and younger are $5. The deadline to register is Nov. 27 or until full. No tickets will be available on the day of the event. For more information, contact Daniel Spivey with the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at (919) 742-2699, email recreation@silercity.org, or visit us online at www.silercity.org.
• The **Central Carolina Community College Foundation** is sponsoring a special holiday season drive-thru event on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center parking lot. The event is geared toward small children and will include cookies and candy canes, elves, and a snowwoman — and, Santa Claus. Appropriate COVID-19 measures are in place and will be observed.
• 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, ffice 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.

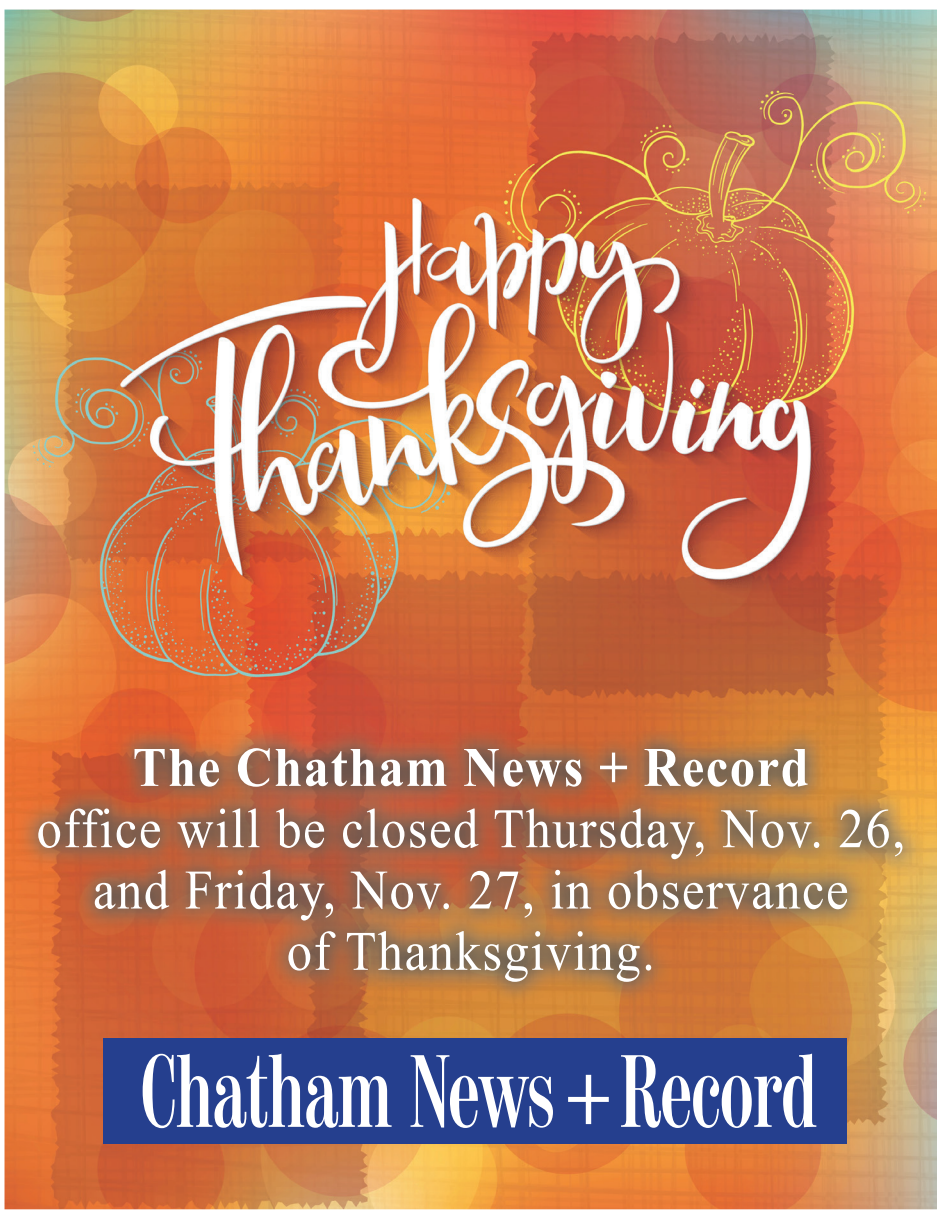
**Chatham County Council on Aging**

**WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT!**

*Q: Who was the first female sheriff of Chatham County?*

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

READ IT ONLINE




## CHATHAM COUNTY COVID-19 DASHBOARD

Infections as of Monday, Nov. 23

### IN CHATHAM

**Cases: 2,279**

**Deaths: 65**

Trendline: Chatham is "yellow," meaning significant, but not critical, spread. 6.3% of all tests have come back positive.

**Chatham County Schools:**
21 staff, 7 students.

**Overall hospital impact: LOW**

### NORTH CAROLINA

**Cases: 339,194**

**Deaths: 5,039**

Trendline: The rolling average is more than 3,500 cases, up from about 2,100 cases one month ago.

### UNITED STATES

**Cases: 12.3 million**

**Deaths: 256,755**

Cases up 54% over two weeks ago.

SOURCES: N.C. DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, CHATHAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT, CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS, COVID TRACKING PROJECT, NEWS + RECORD RESEARCH. BECAUSE OF DATA RELEASE TIMES, SOME AGENCY UPDATES MAY PROVIDE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT NUMBERS.

Chatham News + Record
www.chathamnewsrecord.com

**Chatham Media Group LLC**
303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, North Carolina, 27344
Copyright 2020 Chatham Media Group LLC

**CONTACT US**

**To subscribe, put your paper on hold, or report a missed issue:**
919-663-3232

**To place a classified or display ad:**
919-663-3232; Fax: 919-663-4042

**To submit news, or to correct a factual error:**
919-663-3251; Fax: 919-663-4042

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

*Inside County*
$45 for 1 year/52 issues
$25 for 6 months/26 issues

*Outside County*
$50 for 1 year/52 issues
$30 for 6 months/26 issues

Bill Horner III, *Editor/Publisher*
bhorner3@chathamnr.com 919-663-3250

**NEWSROOM**
Hannah McClellan, *Reporter*
hannah@chathamnr.com
Victoria Johnson, *Reporter*
victoria@chathamnr.com
Patsy Montesinos, *Reporter*
pmontes2@chathamnr.com
Lars Dolder, *Reporter*
dldolder@chathamnr.com
Chapel Fowler, *Sports Editor*
cfowler@chathamnr.com
Olivia Rojas, *News Intern*
olivia@chathamnr.com
Kim Hawks, *Staff Photographer*
khawksnest53@gmail.com
Peyton Sickles, *Staff Photographer*
peyton@sickles.org
Newsroom Inquiries, Press Releases and Website Questions
news@chathamnr.com

**ADVERTISING**
Jason Justice
jjustice@chathamnr.com
Dawn Parker,
*Advertising Specialist*
advertising@chathamnr.com
919-930-9668

**OFFICE**
Karen Pyrtle
karen@chathamnr.com
Doris Beck
doris@chathamnr.com
Florence Turner
billing@chathamnr.com

The Chatham News + Record (USPS #101-160) is published weekly, 52 weeks a year, by Chatham Media Group LLC, 303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, N.C. 27344. Subscription rates: 1 year — $45 in county, and $50 out of county; 6 months — $25 in county and $30 out of county. Periodicals postage paid at the U.S. Post Office in Siler City.

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

# WRITE-INS

Continued from page A1

Out of Chatham's 110 write-in votes for president, Kanye got nine. That's almost 10% — not bad. And it's three percentage points ahead of second place in the write-in race.

If you're reading this, Kanye, congratulations on your victory. You commanded a decisive lead and you should be proud. It's not like the competition was light.

Coming in at number two was none other than Mike Pence, vice president and strong contender for a 2024 run at the presidency. Little did he know that almost 6% of Chatham write-in voters would have him elected now.

In third place, things get interesting. Five would-be candidates each received 5% of the vote. Thank goodness they didn't tie for first place or the runoff would have been nasty. Bernie Sanders, Mitt Romney, Andrew Yang and Paul Ryan were strong candidates. But the fifth third-place vote-getter comes as something of a surprise: Florida powerlifter Brian Carroll. He recently squatted 1,306 lbs, the biggest of all time. That would make him a good president, right?

Some classic write-in favorites fell tragically flat in this year's election. "Hilliary Clinton" earned just one vote. Jesus got three; Keanu Reeves one. "God" did not appear, but Donald Duck did.

Many athletes appeared in the write-in rosters, but not for president. It seems voters associate superstar athleticism with academic prowess. Robert Griffin III, Chris Paul, Larry Bird and Anthony Davis all received votes for the Chatham County Board of Education, maybe in a last ditch voter bid to elect representatives who might reopen school athletic programs full throttle.

The biggest write-in turnout was for Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor. The incumbent, J. Lynn Mann, ran uncontested, and voters took the opportunity at the end of the ballot to have some fun.

One curmudgeonly voter wrote in for Ebenezer Scrooge. In contrast, another called for Jimmy Buffett. Napoleon Dynamite earned a vote and makes a compelling case for elected official. It's been 16 years since he ran Pedro's killer campaign — imagine his political acumen now.

Perhaps the strangest ballots cast in this year's election were those which didn't include any specific person. Acceptable standards for politicians have declined, but so far most agree a human must still fill the seat. "None," "blank," "N/A" and "anyone else" received a cumulative 55 votes. "Truth" got another. "Republican" and "Democrat" both received write-ins, begging the question why their writers didn't vote for the Republican or Democrat listed on the ballot.

Mr. T, Cthulhu, Bugs Bunny and Richard Nixon are honorable mentions, but my favorite write-in vote was an easy choice — "(illegible) Buritos." It's so utterly befuddling, so quizzically nonsensical, that I've pondered it's meaning for a week. Is it a reference I don't understand? A joke I haven't heard? Might (illegible) Buritos actually make for a qualified president? The questions go on and on. If the author of this masterpiece should happen to read my article, please reach out. You must be a fascinating person.

*Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.*

# TRADITIONS

Continued from page A1

family, and many incorporate their own "Latin twist" into Thanksgiving celebrations.

Pulido's parents immigrated from Veracruz, Mexico, to Siler City, and that's why she said they celebrate Thanksgiving "in a way" — their way.

"At their jobs they get the day off, so my family gets together and we eat," she said. "Latinos are generally not really good with feelings, like talking about feelings or expressing them(selves) in any way, so in my family, we don't go around the table and share what we are thankful for."

Her family's Thanksgiving meal might include a traditional Thanksgiving dish or two, but there's always quite a few Mexican dishes, including tamales, pozole (a corn soup), menudo (a spicy soup) and chiles rellenos, or stuffed peppers.

"Americans are used to turkey and sides like green beans, mashed potatoes and so on, but we aren't," she said. "We might have a turkey. We might not. It depends on who takes it."

Sometimes, she and her immediate family attend their extended family's Thanksgiving celebration, what she called "a party." Other times, she celebrates with her parents and siblings — a gathering she described as a smaller, more laidback affair, where they hang out and catch up with each other.

Likewise, Siler City resident Maria Gomez Flores and her extended family immigrated to Siler City from Guatemala. They celebrate Thanksgiving by throwing a big family get-together and "enjoying good Latin food."

"We like big family reunions and being together in general, so we just take advantage that many of us have the day off," she said. "We don't recognize the romanticized historical aspect of the holiday with the colonizers and native people enjoying a dinner, but we are mindful of the 'being thankful' part of the holiday and do so through religion, like praying for our food and thanking God we are able to meet together."

Usually, older mothers and aunts cook more traditional Guatemalan dishes — including tamales, pollo guisado (a chicken stew), chiles rellenos and ensalada rusa ("Russian" potato salad). They also incorporate a few traditional American dishes, like mashed potatoes and desserts, all dishes her cousins typically cook.

"There is always an aunt who attempts the turkey, but we don't really reach for that," Gomez Flores said. "The only time I remember our family actually enjoying the turkey was when my aunt made it by incorporating or substituting it into a recipe that was originally chicken."

Her family also enjoys Black Friday, too, she added.

"Families who are more assimilated are more likely to celebrate (Thanksgiving)," she said. "Based on social media, I see friends do more or less the same thing — coming together and enjoy food."

This year, COVID-19 will force her family to downsize their holiday plans and celebrate with their immediate family members.

"It's very isolating," she said. "It's also the time of year my cousins from out of state come back home, but this year it will be just my nuclear family together. We don't know when we will ever have a big family gathering."



**Kimberly Lara (left) celebrates Thanksgiving with her father's family in Boone in 2018.** Submitted photo

Siler City resident Kimberly Lara celebrated her first Thanksgiving when she was about 8 years old. Her parents immigrated to Siler City from Puerto Barrios, Guatemala, and traditionally hadn't marked the holiday — but that changed once her dad remarried.

"They showed us new traditions to holidays that I had never seen before," Lara said. "Thanksgiving was just another normal day on my mom's side of the family, but with my dad, we would eat for hours at the mountains (in Boone) with my entire family."

She remembers playing in the snow with her family while her grandma prepared "a huge festival of foods," including traditional dishes like turkey, stuffing and pumpkin pies.

They ate around lunchtime and had leftovers for dinner. Everyone held hands and prayed before diving into the food. Afterward, she said they'd always play outside or play Monopoly for hours, though her first Thanksgiving had a special surprise. Her birthday was only a few days apart.

"After we ate, my dad surprised me with a piñata he made himself that required you to pull at the strings hanging from it to release the candy," she said. "It ended up not working, so we broke it open. Although I can't remember most of that day because I was so young, I still feel nostalgic over it."

A few years ago, her mom noticed how excited Lara was about Thanksgiving, so she and her mom's family began to celebrate it as well. Usually, Lara's aunts would cook the family feast, including pasta salad and chicken, while her uncles would barbecue. They'd eat around dinner time, and no one was allowed to nibble on anything until all food was cooked. The night would end with hugs.

"The first time they celebrated Thanksgiving, they made chicken, ribs, and mashed potatoes," she said. "They asked me what they should buy for Thanksgiving, and I had no clue what to tell them, so I suggested a bottle of sparkling grape juice. So, every year we always have a couple bottles of sparkling grape juice."

Thanksgiving won't quite be the same this year — especially since she's now a vegetarian — but Lara said she's still determined to see her immediate family and, of course, "eat as much as (she) can."

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


LearnAboutLand.com

LAND EXPERTS SINCE 1990




Wealthy People Buy Lots of Land !!!

16 Golf Driving Range on Coleridge Road! JUST IMAGINE OWNING THIS 16 ACRES WITH PRIVATE GOLF DRIVING RANGE. This can be your weekend playground for your friends and family. Coming to the market in 2021. CONTACT Bob Atkinson for details.



** 5 OTHER PLAY FARMS BEING GROOMED NOW FOR 2021 MARKET. **

Atkinson Properties Group
bobatkinson321@gmail.com • C: 919-362-6999

# VIEWPOINTS

**A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE** | REV. EVAN HARRISON

## Saying 'thanks' in a turbulent year

How do we approach Thanksgiving in such a turbulent year? Must we plaster disingenuous smiles on our face or utter "thanks" from frowning lips?

As a Christian pastor, I know I "should" be thankful. But how can we actually feel thankful in trying times? In some religious or self-help circles we might ask: what spiritual practices can help us with Thanksgiving? As I write this, a picture enters my mind that draws an unsolicited chuckle: I imagine myself driving down the highway and seeing (double take) a smiling Steve Martin and John Candy passing me in a charred carcass of a car, singing loudly. Maybe we can gain spiritual practices and perspective from the movie "Planes, Trains and Automobiles," for which we can be, well, thankful.

I was seven when "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" came out, and we watched it quite a bit as a kid. I guess the scene with Steve Martin at the airport cussing 19 times in 60 seconds help it get rated R for language. Growing up, though, I associated the movie with the opposite of cursing: laughter. Every day we have the choice of laughing or cursing at our trials. OK, I admit that I sometimes curse at frustrating situations under my breath if the kids aren't around. But it's actually more cathartic to laugh at the situation. I would go as far to say that laughing at ourselves and our situation is actually a spiritual practice. I feel closer to God when I imagine



The Rev. Evan Harrison

God laughing with me at my situations, my over-seriousness and my internal logic.

Buddhists speak of the two arrows of life that can strike us. The first arrow is the pain of a situation itself. The second arrow is the pain of our reaction to the first arrow. We must all bear the first arrows, but we can learn to avoid the second ones. Laughter can even help protect our families from our "second arrows." As a father I'm much more aware of how my own frustration affects not just me, but my dear wife and young kids. Mentally or aloud, laughing is so much better than cursing for everyone involved.

Right between laughter and cursing is sarcasm. Throughout most of the movie, Steve Martin's character does not laugh at himself or his circumstances. He mainly offers Academy-Award-worthy sarcasm: "Thanks a lot." This is a good time to pause and acknowledge: sarcasm can be a good start if we are trying to gain a greater sense of humor. The next time something frustrating happens, try saying "Thanks," despite yourself, and see what happens. Eventually, it goes from dark sarcasm to a half-questioning "Thanks?" as if we suspect we might be on camera somewhere. Maybe we are! (Sound of popcorn crunching and God chuckling Amen.) Disclaimer: laughing isn't appropriate for every circumstance. Use it, like all tools, when it's actually helpful or needed in a given situation.

We can actually taking laughing at ourselves one step further: they say that one of the oldest jokes is someone falling (or slipping on a banana peel). The falls in "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" not only embody this foundation of comedy, but embody the mystery of grace and thanksgiving. One of the most climactic falls occurs early on when Steve Martin trips over a huge luggage chest. That fall might have cost him his Thanksgiving. It certainly cost him a race with Kevin Bacon, a cab in New York's rush-hour and a large chunk of his dignity. Only later do we realize that this chest belongs to John Candy's character. If he had not fallen over it, he may have never met the one who redefines, for Steve's character, what Thanksgiving is truly about. It's tempting to look at life and see things as either clearly good or clearly bad. Christian friar Richard Rohr names a most unintuitive truth about life in his book, "Falling Upward": there is grace in the fall in addition to the grace of getting up from the fall. The grace of falling and getting up are inseparable. We almost never want to acknowledge grace in the falling part, but people watching the movie are thankful Steve's character trips over the luggage, because it leads to a transformative adventure to discover what Thanksgiving really means.

If you can't bear to watch "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" again this year, don't! Instead, let's watch its message as it plays out in our own lives. Whether or not life matches our plans this thanksgiving, let's take time to smile at the camera and the loving affirmation of the one behind it.

*Rev. Evan Harrison lives in Pittsboro and is the pastor of Pittsboro Presbyterian Church.*

## Winning vote totals just part of serving



**BOB WACHS**
Movin' Around

In the interest of compete transparency and full disclosure — society's newest buzzwords — I'm a longtime resident of Chatham County, arriving when my family moved from neighboring Wake when I was 5 years old. In a sense, my parents were returning home, both having grown up in Bynum in the 1920s and '30s. So far, I've lived almost 90 per cent of my life within Chatham's confines.

I'm a product of our county school system, as are my brothers, parents, wife, in-laws and children. Today, some of my grandchildren are enrolled in that same system, making them at least the fourth generation of students to do so.

When I turned 21 long ago, I registered to vote as a Democrat, in part because in those days there were few Republicans and fewer contested races. In short, if you wanted to vote, it was necessary to be a Democrat because the primary was essentially the election. Some years later as both major parties grew, I changed that registration to unaffiliated because I wanted to vote for the candidate, not so much for the party. Since then, I have crossed party lines often and want to continue to have that opportunity. At the moment, I am registered as a Republican as a nod to an election request to allow me to satisfy paperwork to serve as a party precinct judge. As soon as I can get to the board of elections office, I will change that back to unaffiliated.

All that I say to say something else. It has been a few weeks since Nov. 3 and the election and its results are still a topic of interest. That includes not only the race for the White House but other contests, such as the vote for Georgia's two U.S. Senators and the almost dead heat for chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court where, as of this writing, only about 400 votes out of 5.3 million cast separate the two contenders. In short, those races point out how important it is to exercise our civic privilege.

At the same time, however, it can be interesting — win, lose or draw — to analyze and study results. And I found something personally interesting in the three contests for county commission. I'm not acquainted with the three residents who won their races. As far as I know, they are all pillars of their communities, churches and civic life and are benevolent and philanthropic citizens in their contacts with fellow citizens. I have no personal axe to grind.

But from years in the media observing and reporting on life around here and with a lifelong study and love of words, I do have some background and experience in vocabulary usage and messaging. And it was a couple of comments about two commissioner races that piqued my interest.

One was a statement by a winning incumbent candidate that a successful re-election campaign was vindication that "the general sentiment in Chatham County has been satisfaction and approval of the current board and the things that we're doing." A look at the county precinct map of election results showed voters in 11 of the 18 precincts did not share that sentiment. And a statement by another elected board member that said victory, in part, came about because he was a newcomer and his opponent had been here "for generations" and that "I'm younger and he's older" seemed to suggest that was sufficient reason for a win. The same county precinct map showed that in that contest, 13 of the 18 precincts favored the unsuccessful candidate and that the winner did not carry his home precinct.

All of that brings back memories of years ago when, as a reporter, I covered the county commissioners and for years heard hours of discussion about voting by district-only for commission seats versus voting county-wide. Both points of view had their supporters, as did a compromise suggestion of district and at-large voting where each district-only would vote for its candidate but the entire county would vote for the at-large seats.

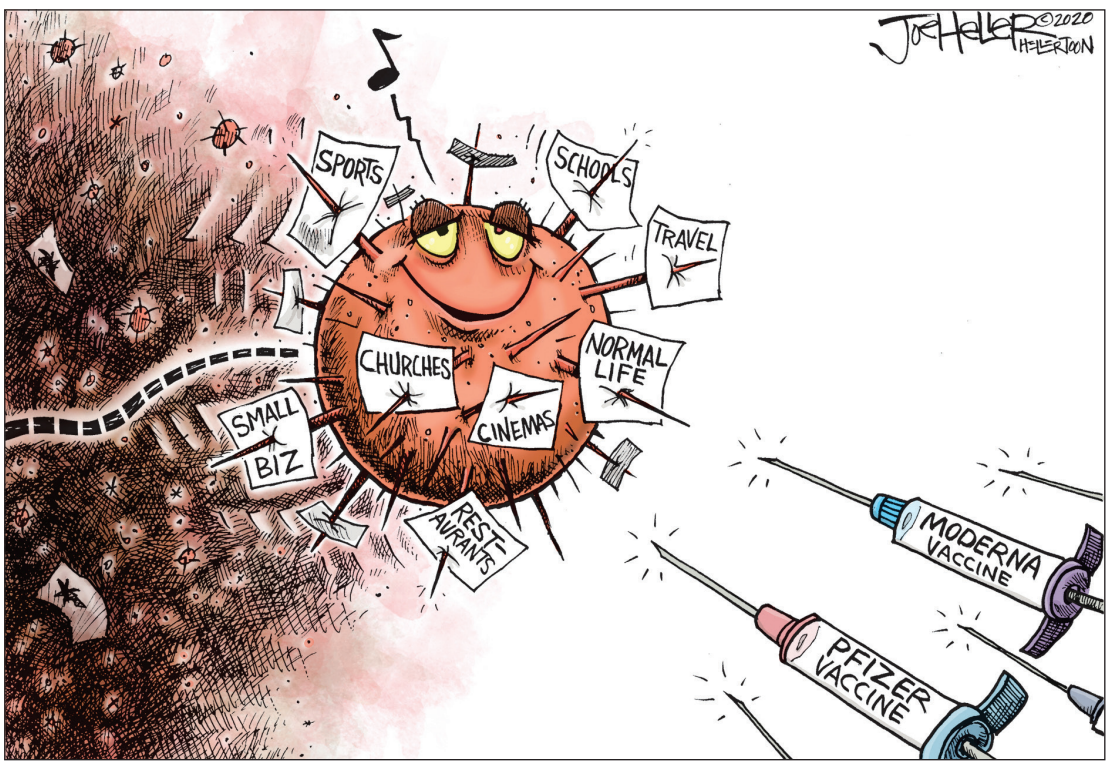
As I remember through the fog of a number of years, the district-only proposal was bypassed on the basis that all board members represent all of the county.

Maybe I'm more dense than I realize but the logic of that is comparable, to me, of the logic about Congress. Congress is supposed to exist for the good of the country as a whole — some would argue that's not happening — but because of where I live, I don't get to vote for the senators from Nebraska or the House members from Wisconsin or Mississippi. What, pray tell, is the difference?

In remembering the lessons of civics from long-ago high school days and political science in college, when everyone in authority is alike, it leaves many folks out — in this case, approximately 45% of the county population, a significant number in anyone's book. And the opportunities for substantive differing discussion and compromise often don't exist.

I know we don't have elections based on geographical areas and land mass but somehow something seems to be missing. I hope we can keep looking for whatever it is.

*Bob Wachs is a native of Chatham County and retired long-time managing editor of the Chatham News/Chatham Record, having written a weekly column for more than 30 years. During most of his time with the newspapers, he was also a bi-vocational pastor and today serves Bear Creek Baptist Church for the second time as pastor.*




## A giving of thanks



**ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN**
Hope Matters

The past year has wrought a global pandemic, a heated election, scores of wildfires and the worst hurricane season ever recorded — and the hits keep coming. The third wave of the coronavirus looms over winter. A much-needed economic stimulus remains in jeopardy. Intractable leaders dig in their heels.

Still, as in years past, we have set aside the fourth Thursday in November to give thanks.

Thanksgiving began in 1863. Not exactly a peaceful and prosperous year. To quote the president of the time, our nation was "in the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity." Yet, the same Abraham Lincoln issued the Thanksgiving proclamation, declaring a national holiday so that "gracious gifts ... should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American people."

I appreciate the call to gratitude as well as the appeal for unity. But gratitude is not another thing I "should" do. "Should" is a strict taskmaster, a joyless disciplinarian. We command our small children to say thank you, forgetting that a true giving of thanks is neither compelled nor coerced.

Gratitude comes unbidden like a sudden breeze, the family dog, a child's laughter.

When my younger brother turned 3, maybe 4 years old, our grandmother presented him with a gift bag. White tissue paper billowed from the top. The little boy grinned, "You gave me tissue paper to blow my nose! Thank you!" He was happy with the present he eventually unwrapped, but while the toy has been forgotten, our family has remembered his gratitude for the wrapping paper.

If the year 2020 were to present a gift, I would expect the bag to be empty and 2020 to cackle, "Gotcha again!"

But genuine gratitude is never empty of grace.

I sit by the window most mornings and watch for the first fingers of dawn. Gradually, the pine trees come into view as dark exclamation points against the fiery sky. Those rascal squirrels begin their usual mischief. Chickadees run their mad errands. A mourning dove coos and hoots like the tuning of a lonely woodwind instrument.

Soon enough, I will get to work on all the things I "should" do.

First, I give thanks for the trees, the birds, the squirrels. The slanting morning light through the rising steam of my coffee. Oatmeal bubbling on the stove. My wife and children upstairs, tucked under their warm covers.

Great leaders, like Lincoln, may tell us what we should do. But a child squeals at the tissue paper — the simple detail we might have ignored or tossed aside. And that would be our loss.

A giving of thanks is itself a gift.

*Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church and author of Gently Between the Words: Essays and Poems. He is currently working from home with his wife and three children.*

Chatham News + Record

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

Bill Horner III, *Publisher & Editor*
Hannah McClellan | Victoria Johnson | Lars Dolder, *Reporters*
Olivia Rojas, *News Intern*
Chapel Fowler, *Sports Editor*
Kim Hawks | Peyton Sickles, *Staff Photographers*

### What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

# VIEWPOINTS

**GUEST COLUMN** | ED BRONSON

## The medicine cabinet



**ED BRONSON**
Guest Columnist

I refinished a farmhouse medicine cabinet for my parents decades ago. It came from their barn museum of auction prizes. The inside backing looked like ragged slats pried off of a pallet and reused before bothering to smooth the rough sawn stubble down first. Concentrating on the exterior, I removed crud hiding its plain jane, pine charm.

Sandpaper erased a lot. Coarse grit paper scuffed away ugliness in the same manner that a bear rubs hibernation off with rough bark. Ogee wood trim was the trickiest part to get clean because dirty paint clung to every swoop. The medium grit anticipated the timing of a finer grit's finesse. The finer grit led to the "very fine" stage, and that's exactly what I was going for. Everyone in Mom's and Dad's family adored antique furnishings way more than brand new stuff. They talked about household pieces having character, in the same way that an old sailor's crevassed face conveyed resilience.



Photo courtesy of Ed Bronson

**The medicine cabinet.**

I discovered Orange Shellac during that project. Not knowing anyone that had used it before only made it a more intriguing wood finish option. Made from female Lac Beetle secretions collected in the Indies, it leaves a deeply hued, waxy sheen. The finished product almost glowed as it hung in their master bathroom. I realized much later that it wasn't ideal for a steamy shower area when dad complained the cabinet door was peeling. He applied clear polyurethane over it but nothing sticks well to wax.

My parents moved all over the country. I'd forgotten about the medicine cabinet until one of my siblings handed it back to me from their estate. My name was written on a masking tape label. Raised post-Depression, neither of my parents easily threw anything away. It reeked from an overwhelming Iodine bottle spill, a persistent reminder of an older antiseptic era. A kid's tears caused by an accidental cut melded right in with the tears from the inevitable first aid prescribed. Not meant to be barbaric, its chemical sting still hurt hurts. Intense vapors nauseated me in the car during the long drive home with it and then commandeered my garage.

The reemergence was a weird boomerang. Given away then given back, the unexpected inheritance reminded me of yet another relative's med cabinet. At the mirror above my mother-in-law's bathroom sink, I belatedly noticed, after she died, a taller mirror on the wall behind me. A surreal visual effect appeared with indirect glances. It was a very odd sensation to be staring into an endless cascade of my own stares; each image appearing a little bit smaller yet hypnotically multiplying itself beyond count. How many others had noticed that quiet insight?

The strong odor wafted around emotional wounds. Why did core beliefs about life clash so intensely between people? My self-assurance grew after marriage but unintentionally morphed into familial abandon when I chose different priorities than my parents. Political disagreements between us especially became a no man's land scattered with landmines apt to detonate without being directly stepped upon. Blue and Red notions (among other colors) became incendiary whether you tip-toed or sprinted around them. Clumsy comments and indignant swipes seemed beyond any dosage of medicine to heal. Instead of deliberately slow debates, argument competitions rapidly stalked us. We couldn't seem to help ourselves see beyond raw strife.

Amputation is a brutal response to perceived esteem injuries. Joseph Rael wrote, in "House of Shattering Light," "I think stress leads to struggle, struggle takes us to effort, and effort culminates with accomplishments that lead us forward." Every accomplishment of the U.S. at large literally depends on the accomplishments of the smallest of us.

*Ed Bronson became a wood shop teacher for exceptional middle school students at age 40. He wonders what became of them as well as thousands of high school students who graduated from a Career & Technical Education campus where he was principal until his retirement in 2015. He has a B.A. in Cultural Studies: Religion and a M.S. in Instructional Development.*

## Teaching us to think: Misinformation and reliable news sources



**RACHEL HOROWITZ**
Millennial Musings

I recently came across a 1995 case study called "Teaching Zack to Think," where a 14-year-old student finds a seemingly credible internet article that claims the Holocaust never existed.

Zack is convinced because: "The page is simple and clear. It's written in a calm, logical tone. The page is clearly intended for experts in its field." Zack eventually realizes that this is actually a personal web page, and the author has ties to the KKK and white power groups.

The study's author concludes: "to survive in the future economy, kids must learn how to research, publish and communicate working with the Internet and other information tools." So what happens when Zack and his fellow students — who would be more than 40 years old by now — join the hordes of people decrying media outlets for sharing "fake news"?

I believe that a huge portion of media distrust comes from our inability to evaluate a news source for its credibility. If you're reading this page, you should know that the "Viewpoints" section is going to be much more opinionated than a "Features" page.

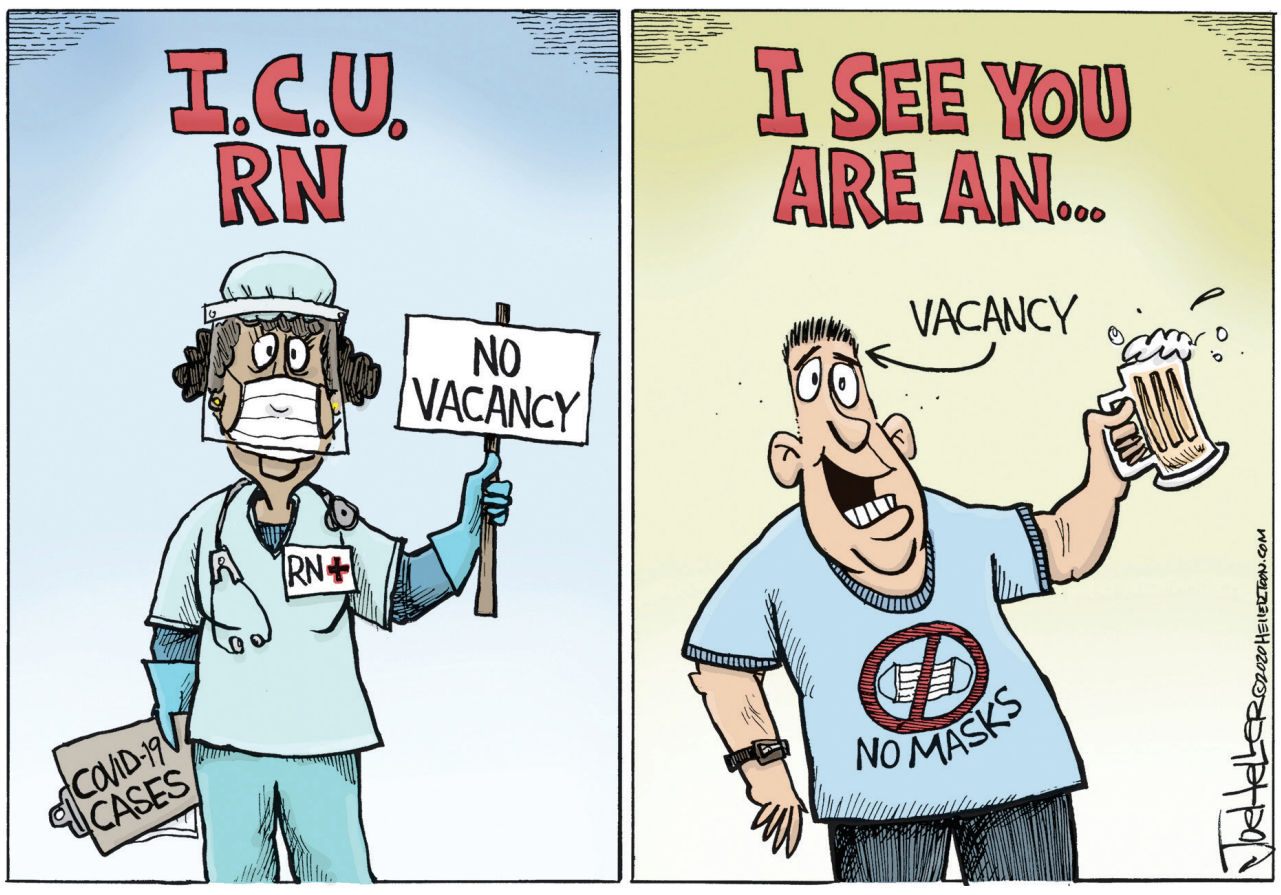
The problem arises when an opinion source masquerades as a news source. An internet search isn't laid out the same way as your local newspaper. When in doubt, I recommend viewing multiple articles on the same topic. This helps skirt our heuristic tendency toward reading articles that reinforce our own beliefs (also known as "confirmation bias").

Misinformation can propagate when a media outlet — whether amateur or professional — selectively shares information or omits necessary context. Think of sound-bite quotes on TV news channels. The notorious rise of QAnon and its conspiracy theory followers hinged on cryptic information shared from an anonymous source claiming they were a political insider. I often see people on my own Facebook feed sharing content from satirical sites like The Onion or The Babylon Bee, and it's not entirely their fault. Social media sites are quick to draw viewers into a rabbit hole of similar articles or videos.

The news is no longer largely managed by a handful of media conglomerates — now, anyone can create a website and share content that supports their personal views. They present themselves as news alternatives. This reminds me of the following quip: "If alternative medicine worked, it would just be called medicine." Similarly, if alternative news was true, it would just be called news.

So what can we do once we know how to analyze a source? Look into the author, evaluate the article's purpose and look at the website link itself. Then repeat this process for multiple articles on the same topic. We can teach ourselves to think, and we can analyze how our biases play into what we read and share. We can admit when we are wrong, and we can gently assist the Zacks of our community.

*Rachel Horowitz resides in Chatham County and works in Pittsboro. She is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill's Hussman School of Journalism and Media and can be reached at millennialmusings.nc@gmail.com.*




Chatham News + Record
www.chathamnewsrecord.com

Bill Horner III, *Publisher & Editor*
Hannah McClellan | Victoria Johnson | Lars Dolder, *Reporters*
Olivia Rojas, *News Intern*
Chapel Fowler, *Sports Editor*
Kim Hawks | Peyton Sickles, *Staff Photographers*

## LETTERS

### With COVID and Christmas, let's avoid China!

**TO THE EDITOR:**

The news media has often referred to the origin of the coronavirus as China.

Although it's been said the coronavirus germ can not survive on an inanimate object, I see no reason to chance it as long as we still have some items manufactured in the U.S. Those who will be purchasing Christmas presents in the coming weeks may want to avoid giving someone a gift that came from China. Not knowing the number of years Americans will be facing the threat of dying from COVID-19, it may be a good idea to avoid buying anything coming from China for at least the next four years.

**Carol Gene Good**
*Conover*

### Where the Trump Revolution failed

**TO THE EDITOR:**

The election is over. Driving out in the county I saw candidates' yard signs blowing down the road and into the ditch along with brown autumn leaves. In town the faces of the winners and losers lie flattened in the frosty grass, or leaning against the wind.

I read somewhere the cardboard placards dissolve in the winter rain, but the double-walled coroplast ones will last into 2022, so the detritus of this election cycle will be with us for a while, including that New York hustler and TV huckster who is the walking, talking proof of P.T. Barnum's old adage that there's a sucker born every minute.

Yes, he will be in the news still, because the firewall surrounding a sitting president cannot save him from the flurry of lawsuits which await him outside of the White House. He must know this, too, which makes him as dangerous as any cornered animal. Thus endeth the Trump Revolution.

The historian Kenneth Galbraith wrote that for revolution to succeed, three conditions are essential: first, there must be determined leadership by men and women who know exactly what they want, leadership from ruthless people who not only have everything to gain, but, perhaps more importantly, have everything to lose if they fail. The President has that in spades.

Second, revolutionaries must have unquestioning people who will follow orders. Underlings in a revolution should not be allowed to think for themselves or defend their own beliefs. Again, our soon-to-be ex-President's flunkies support every lie he Tweets.

Third, the opposition must be weak. Every revolution is the kicking in of a rotten door. This is where Trump failed; our constitution survived his attempts to subvert it. The America of 2020 is not France in 1789, or Russia in 1917 or China in 1949.

I have a Republican friend who is absolutely furious with Trump; he said to me: "All he had to do was read the teleprompter for four years, but he just couldn't do it. Now, after what he said about the coronavirus, people look at me like I'm dumb to vote for him. How hard can it be to just read from a script?!?" My friend should be forgiven. My friend never worked in television, but I have. I have even worked with Donald Trump.

In the fall of 2004 I was a stagehand in Studio 8H where Trump hosted NBC's Saturday Night Live. At that time he was producing and hosting "The Apprentice." His was a genuinely unimpressive performance; he has no gift for comedy. But he certainly was overwhelming personally. "You people did a hell of a job for me," he said to the assembled stage crew waiting to shift the scenery between takes. "I want you all on my team!" With that flourish, he walked away to the dressing rooms.

I knew his book, "The Art of the Deal," had been ghost-written by someone else, and I never had watched "The Apprentice," but at that moment, I felt like a million bucks. I almost would have voted for him. Almost.

**Dwayne Walls**
*Pittsboro*

### What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

# VIEWPOINTS

## Let's disagree more constructively



**JOHN HOOD**
John Locke Foundation

When the Associated Press and other news organizations asked North Carolina voters for their perspectives on the just-concluded 2020 elections, there was no shortage of disagreement.

No surprise there. After all, Donald Trump won the state by just 1.3 percentage points. Thom Tillis won reelection by 1.8 points. Most other statewide races were decided by narrow margins, too. The two major parties start with roughly comparable bases of about 46%. Variations in turnout and appeal to swing voters tip the balance, usually not by much.

So, you'd expect North Carolinians to disagree on many issues. And you'd be right. But get this: when AP asked how important it was for the next president to "bring the country together," an astounding 79% said it was "very important." Another 19% said it was "somewhat important."

In other words, almost every voter believes our political discourse needs to change. We want our leaders to bring people together, not tear us apart. But what does that really mean?

As with all poll results, it is important to recognize that the precise wording of a question has a lot to do with the answer — and that we often do not interpret the same words in the same manner.

In this case, what does it mean to "bring the country together?" Some believe the problem is political disagreement itself. They believe their views on education, taxes, health care, the economy and other issues are obviously correct. If their fellow citizens would finally "see the light," so to speak, and adopt these correct views, that would bring the country together.

Well, yes. And if I were from Krypton, I'd be faster than a speeding bullet. But Krypton isn't a real place (or, at least, that's the official story — and I'm sticking to it). Nor is it realistic to expect North Carolinians or Americans or any human population to reach overwhelming agreement about the proper size, scope and policies of government.

Democratic republics produce inherently contentious and messy politics. That's what the American republic looked like in its early days, too. While the Constitutional Convention of 1787 produced a remarkable governing document for the United States, for example, it was itself the product of contentious debate and hard-won compromises. Its complex structure was designed to accommodate conflicting views: central authority vs. devolved authority, executive power vs. legislative power, the rule of the majority vs. the rights of the minority.

And consider this: what most Americans think of today as the most-important part of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, was added to appease the opponents of the Constitution who might otherwise have derailed its ratification in multiple states (and actually did so in North Carolina, which wasn't in the constitutional union when George Washington was first elected president).

What I think most North Carolinians mean by "bringing the country together" — and what is the only meaning that yields a practical goal — is that we ought to stop reflexively and viciously questioning the motives, integrity, or intelligence of those with whom we disagree.

I think our president, lawmakers, governors, and other leaders should model this behavior for the rest of us. That's why I helped found the North Carolina Leadership Forum in 2015. Based at Duke University, NCLF fosters constructive engagement across political difference.

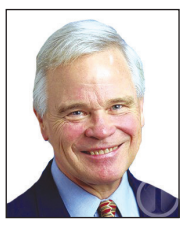
Each year, we bring together some three dozen leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors to delve deeply into a contentious issue over a series of candid conversations. Sometimes we find common ground. Even when we don't, participants come away with a clearer understanding of why others may, in good faith, disagree with them. From mutual respect comes better behavior. We truly argue, rather than just bicker.

Want some good news? Twenty-four NCLF alumni were elected or reelected this year to statewide, legislative or local offices. Others already serve in municipal office or exercise political influence in some other fashion.

In the coming months and years, they'll help bring us together — which is, it seems, what the vast majority of us desire.

*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.*

## Books for holiday giving — a checklist



**D.G. MARTIN**
One on One

If you are worried about holiday gifts or selections for your book club's reading, here are some good North Carolina connected books to consider.

Three beloved North Carolina authors have new books that would be perfect for fiction fans:

Allan Gurganus, author of "The Oldest Confederate Widow Tells All," gives us a crop of his best short fiction in "The Uncollected Stories of Allan Gurganus."

Jill McCorkle's "Hieroglyphics" is a poignant story of an older couple making peace with their past.

Lee Smith's "Blue Marlin" takes a trip to Key West with a teenage girl who helps heal her parents' broken marriage.

There are three possibilities for those interested in Bible times and issues:

Sue Monk Kidd's "The Book of Longings" imagines life for a wife of Jesus.

Jodi Magness's "Masada: From Jewish Revolt to Modern Myth" tells about the desert mountain fortress built by King Herod.

Bart Ehrman's "Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife" lays out the different views of religious leaders about what happens to us when we die.

There are several options for fans of North Carolina's complicated and varied history:

David Zucchino's "Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy" gives disturbing details of those events.

David Menconi's "Step It Up and Go: The Story of North Carolina Popular Music, from Blind Boy Fuller and Doc Watson to Nina Simone and Superchunk" outlines the state's rich history of music.

Daniel Pierce's "'Tar Heel Lightnin': How Secret Stills and Fast Cars Made North Carolina the Moonshine Capital of the World" takes readers through a long history of North Carolina's affairs with illegal liquor.

In "That's Rufus: A Memoir of Tar Heel Politics, Watergate, & Public Life," Rufus Edmisten, former candidate for governor, tells his story of politics and family.

In "From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the Twenty-First Century," William Darity and A. Kirsten Mullen, set out a persuasive case for reparations.

Ricky Moore's "Saltbox Seafood Joint Cookbook" gives directions for selecting and preparing seafood dishes like the ones that made his Durham restaurants so popular.

Former Charlotte Observer reporter Pam Kelly's book, "Money Rock: A Family's Story of Cocaine, Race, and Ambition in the New South," opens the door to a deeper understanding of the challenges in North Carolina's largest city.

Kathy Reich's "A Conspiracy of Bones," set in Charlotte, is a fictional look at the exploitation of children by political rumormongers.

In "The Antidote for Everything" by Charlotte doctor and author Kimmery Martin, a young woman urologist at a hospital clinic owned by a conservative religious group goes to bat for her colleague, a gay doctor who serves gay and trans patients.

Lewis Bowling's "Sam Ragan: North Carolina's Literary Godfather" captures the rich life of the newspaper editor who became the state's poet laureate.

North Carolina Bookwatch featured these programs in its current season that wraps up next month. They are posted on the program's website: video.unctv.org/show/nc-bookwatch/episodes.

The following books will be featured in December:

East Carolina University's Liza Wieland's latest novel, "Paris 7 A.M.," is perfect for a Francophile who loves American poetry and for anyone else who is intrigued by the times in Europe that accompanied the rise of Hitler.

For adventure lovers, Durham author Doug Bock Clark's "The Last Whalers: Three Years in the Far Pacific with a Courageous Tribe and a Vanishing Way of Life" follows an isolated Indonesian island community living the same way its ancestors did hundreds of years ago.

For anyone who loves to visit weird roadside attractions such as the Peachoid in Gaffney, S.C., South of the Border or Hills of Snow in Smithfield, the perfect gift is "Road Sides: An Illustrated Companion to Dining and Driving in the American South," written and illustrated by Emily Wallace.

If you have trouble deciding, call your local bookstore and it will be glad to give you more guidance.

*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.*

## Should we cancel Thanksgiving this year?



**TOM CAMPBELL**
N.C. Spin

I love the Thanksgiving service when the congregation sings "Come Ye Thankful People Come" and "We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing." Usually, the congregation presents canned goods and items for those in need.

This year will be different.

If we follow the advice given by medical experts, we will neither gather for the service nor for the traditional Thanksgiving feast. Our family's normal tradition includes 12 to 15 gathered to enjoy community, with a serving table groaning with turkey and dressing, collard greens, cranberry sauce, sweet potato casserole, other sides, and lots of delicious cakes and pies. COVID-19 advice says we should limit our celebration to those immediate family members who live under the same roof. At the speed COVID-19 is spreading, my wife and I decided to heed their advice, but none of us are pleased about it.

Every year I think back to the fable we heard in school about how the Pilgrims, happy to have survived that first year in America, gathered in grateful appreciation. Looking at current events on my television (and even in my own community) it is obvious that many aren't very grateful. But we should be.

This coronavirus is the worst epidemic we have experienced in our lifetimes. A quarter million Americans and almost 5,000 North Carolinians have died from it. We all know people who have had it, been put in ICU on ventilators or worse. Those of us who have escaped it — especially we who are considered "high risk" — need to be thankful.

Some either don't accept the seriousness of COVID-19 or don't care about others, as evidenced by the fact they refuse to take simple precautions that would prevent the rampant community spread. How hard is it to wear a face covering to protect not only yourself but those with whom you come in contact? I don't understand why people have so little concern for others.

Yes, I've heard the claims that these precautions violate their personal freedoms and they don't want to be told what to do. Yet these same people drive in the right-hand lane, stop at traffic lights and observe any number of regulations and rules imposed for the common good. But wearing a face covering? Really? It is time we collectively call bull hockey on these lame excuses.

Here's the point. We went through a period where we were effectively shut down and it was burdensome. Many North Carolinians didn't agree with the restrictions and don't think we have relaxed them enough, but when I look at what many other states are encountering — including some which are shutting down again — I am thankful for the approach our state took and for our conservative, if sometimes unpopular, approach. If we don't want that to happen again the very least we can do is wear a face covering, keep distance from others and wash our hands.

How big a sacrifice is that? I haven't eaten in a restaurant, attended a movie theatre or church service since March and have as much coronavirus fatigue as anyone. But I am convinced that to return to those days and restore our economy we must lick this virus.

We are hopeful, and yes thankful, that the two vaccines we hear so much about will be available soon. But it likely won't get to most of us until spring or summer next year. What happens in the meantime? We've come too far to return to March restrictions. The best way to avoid a return is to wear that mask.

There won't be much "over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house" this year, but we still have much for which to be thankful. And maybe next year we can all enjoy the Thanksgiving traditions we love.

*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.*




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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Penguin Place**
**Paul A Shockley**
114 Russet Run Suite 120
919-542-3020

**Siler City**
**Laura M Clapp**
301 E Raleigh St
919-663-1051

edwardjones.com Member SPIC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# POLICE

Continued from page A1

referencing the time his mother hit him across the mouth when he started to ask a police officer a question as a young boy. And even though policing is widely thought to be better in Chatham than in surrounding counties, Barnes believes changes can and should be made.

"I would say policing is a problem everywhere," he explained. "As a Black man, I want to stop being afraid my whole life."

In the end, Barnes did get to speak with Roberson — a conversation in which he said he finally felt heard. He talked with Roberson about his negative experience with the officer who stopped him, as well as his fear of police as a Black man.

During their conversation, Barnes shared that he'd like to see police officers held accountable "just like everyone else," not just fired or transferred. Ultimately, after weeks of waiting to speak with someone, he just wanted the sheriff to listen to his concerns.

"And that's what the sheriff did," Barnes said. "He took me from my attitude being 100 to my attitude being 10 just by letting me talk. I told him that he actually changed the narrative of how I feel, and he did. Whether it's next week, or 10 years from now if he's still sheriff, if a situation occurred, I think he will take steps toward rectifying that."

But Barnes doesn't think that Chatham having a good sheriff completely negates his and other people's negative experiences with police.

"I want my story to be told because I want people to be encouraged that if you feel like you've been mistreated by the police, most likely you have," he said. "And it's OK to say something about it. Because until we start bringing the situation to light, nobody's ever going to want to make a change or make a reform."

## 'I don't want people to be scared of us'

In Chatham, Roberson said he is constantly working toward better outcomes from law enforcement interactions.

Roberson grew up in a Black community in Chatham County and has emphasized diversity in his hiring practices since taking office. While he thinks there are always ways his department can improve, he thinks his officers are good at what they do.

Still, he acknowledged that people's past negative experiences with police officers — as well as media coverage depicting police actions "that are blatantly and obviously wrong" — can and do legitimately impact how people view law enforcement.

"If you listen to (Mr. Barnes') story, he'll talk about how it made him feel," Roberson said. "I think those are all valid concerns about how people feel, or when they're put in situations that may feel one way where someone else might feel a different way. What we did with Mr. Barnes, though, we invited him in to look at the video footage, and when we looked at the video footage it sort of told a different story."

Roberson said the video footage could not be released; Barnes stuck to his claim that he didn't think he was doing anything wrong when he was pulled.

One way that Roberson said the department strives for accountability and transparency of its officers is through body cameras — each employee has and wears one, though there is not yet one in every police car, he said, due to the prohibitive cost of installation. The department hosts racial equity training for its officers, has an anonymous complaint process that it prioritizes checking, he said, and reviews every use of force, even if there are no complaints associated with the incident.

One of the most important parts of reform and justice in Roberson's eyes is building relationships in the community before a crisis — something he does through community events and dinners throughout the year. While he believes the onus is on his department to take these first steps, he thinks the community needs to be actively involved in the process as well.

"I don't want the Sheriff's Office to be a bad place," Roberson said. "I don't want people to be scared of us. But it needs to be a community reform, too. Because the community can't expect the police to fix all your problems, and the police shouldn't be a separate thing than the community."

In July, the Racial Justice Task Force of the 18th Judicial District hosted a virtual community conversation about Chatham's criminal justice system. During that meeting, Roberson and N.C. Rep. Robert Reives II were among a group of speakers who spoke about racial justice from their perspectives.

"If you want to see how law enforcement should operate, look here," Reives said of Chatham and Roberson's office during his remarks.

Roberson spoke about diversity statistics within the department, noting the department was "way ahead" of many other places but still has a lot of work to do to fully represent the community. He specifically said the department was doing most poorly when it came to hiring and retaining Black men.

"We are certainly not perfect, but I will tell you that we aim to learn and we know yesterday's ways are not OK for today," Roberson said at the time.

Karen Howard, the chairperson of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and one of the scheduled speakers at July's event, said she had a strong commitment to using her role as a commissioner to listen to experts regarding ways to better support Chatham's communities of color.

"Everything that I do and say is going to be framed by the context that I'm also the mother of five Black sons," Howard said. "It can't be that my sons are safe because we have the sheriff that we have at this moment. It has to be that we have collectively changed policy, changed thinking, changed expectations."

## 'The pain is real and it hurts'

Many community activists in Chatham agree that more can and should be done to address policing in Chatham.

Monica Jarnagin, who works with the Chatham Takes Action — a local organizing group which spearheaded efforts to remove the Confederate monument in downtown Pittsboro — said she is not a reformist. In a perfect world, she said, "policing as we know it would not exist."

"We would move the wildly disproportionate law enforcement funding to mental health care, truly affordable housing, education, community and cultural centers, libraries, and we would make sure our neighbors have food, shelter, and support around substance abuse," she said, adding that police reform has been a "failing project" for decades.

Still, she said it's important to address that fact that people are still impacted by the current system, so paying attention to what happens in our courtrooms, creating bail funds and organizing to end qualified immunity for law enforcement officers is still important. In Chatham, Jarnagin said people can "demand accountability" for the county's degree of cooperation with ICE, as well as investigating conditions of the Chatham County jail.

"We know that racial bias in criminal justice and policing is a systemic issue," she said. "This isn't up for debate; it's fact. Systemic issues don't skip a county because the sheriff is a nice guy. Is it better here than in Alamance County? Sure. But comparing Chatham to surrounding counties is pointless if these inequities exist here, which they do."

While protesting against Confederate supporters, starting in 2019, Jarnagin said she became concerned with the way the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and Pittsboro Police Department treated sometimes-armed Confederate protesters as compared to how they treated counter-protestors, who she said were denied their gathering rights. She also raised concerns with Roberson encouraging 'bad cops' to leave his department, questioning where those officers go next. Roberson told the News + Record that he views public trust as being essential to the work his department does, and will therefore fire anyone who lies to him.

"Allowing a known violent, racist or unprincipled officer to serve in the next county over is not noble and is not in the best interest of our neighbors," Jarnagin said. "This is not so much an indictment on Sheriff Roberson as a person — it's an indictment on a poisonous system, and thinking our county is immune to that poison requires us to ignore facts."

For Barnes, his experience earlier in the year reminded him that as a Black man, his experiences with racism will always impact his perspective and his sense of safety. And while he said he doesn't agree with getting rid of law enforcement, he knows something needs to change.

"With all that's going on, this has made my fears and apprehensions bigger, because I feel like everything that happens to Black men hurts me," he said. "I think that's what society doesn't realize, is that the pain is real and it hurts."

He quietly added: "I think this is kind of where I am untrusting, and I know I need to try and let some of that go. But it's hard to do it right now in the state that our world and America is in right now."

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

SUBSCRIBE
www.chathamnewsrecord.com

BRINGING HEMP TO THE SOUTH
*Local, Loyal, Dependable*
OAK CITY HEMP
192 Lorax Ln, Pittsboro, NC 27312
oakcityhemp.com

$100 Delta 8 Bundle=Tincture, 10pack Gummies, and Vape Cartridge
Bogo on Outdoor Flower ozs
$20 Off 900mg & 1800mg CBD Tincture
*OPEN NOW 12pm-6pm*
*Monday - Tuesday CLOSED • Wednesday-Sunday 12-6pm*

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Holiday in the Park: a Holly Jolly drive-thru

The Chatham County community is invited to get into the holiday spirit with the Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department's second annual Holiday in the Park event, schedule for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11, at Northeast District Park.

Modified due to COVID-19, this year's event will take place as a holly jolly drive-thru, where participants will be asked to stay in their cars while in attendance.

During Holiday in the Park, families can collect an ornament kit to decorate at home, reindeer food and candy canes, while supplies last. Participants are encouraged to write a letter to Santa Claus ahead of time. Children will be able to hand their letters to Santa himself and wave at him through their car window.

"We are excited to continue to provide recreational activities and special events to allow Chatham County families the opportunity to enjoy fun times while also maintaining safety during the pandemic," said Chatham County Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett.

For more information, visit the Holiday in the Park Facebook event at facebook.com/CCParksandRecNC/events, or contact Mallory Peterson at (919) 548-0301 or at mallorypeterson.ccpr@gmail.com.

### West Chatham Food Pantry seeks volunteers

The West Chatham Food Pantry is in dire need of volunteers. If you're interested in volunteering or know someone that might be interested, please come by the pantry at 2535 Old U.S. Hwy. 421 North in Siler City, or contact Diane Smith at (919) 742-3111 or by email at wcfoodpantry@gmail.com.

*— CN + R staff reports*




**'He's really missed his school,' Chatham parent Avis Bell said of her 1st grade son. 'Whenever they started PreK through 2nd (grade) to go back these two days, I thought this would really be good for the family as a whole.'** Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

## PLAN B

Continued from page A1

tary School and a 3rd-grade son who recently switched schools after not coping well with online school. For Houston's daughter, virtual learning was going well, particularly compared to the end of last semester when teachers were adjusting to remote learning on the fly. While Houston said his daughter really enjoys the two days a week she is back at school under Plan B, he worries her overall education is suffering because of the three days a week she is virtual.

"All of a sudden, the structure is gone," he said. "They're still getting assigned work, but realistically, without Zoom calls, without the additional things the teacher was doing, my daughter can get the work done, if she's focused, in an hour probably. You've got to think, surely, if they were in school, they would be doing a lot more work — so, that's quite frustrating."

On social media, many parents in Chatham County have raised concerns with the hybrid schedule being more difficult for working parents. Acknowledging that reality, Houston said his family was lucky that he and his wife are able to work from home in order to be with his daughter when she's not at school and to help her with her schoolwork.

"So we are not as impacted as I'm sure a lot of other people are by this," he said.

Chatham resident and parent Avis Bell, who works at Horton Middle School, said her family has had to work together to make the time away from school work. Her son is in 1st grade at Perry Harrison Elementary School and her middle daughter is a junior at Northwood High School. Her oldest daughter, who works part time and takes classes at Central Carolina Community College, has been helping her brother with school while their parents are at work.

Though it hasn't been easy, Bell thinks her son is more independent now because of having to log into Zoom. He's also more excited about school, she said, now that he's back in the classroom. And even though his schedule is a little less consistent under Plan B, she thinks it's worth it for him to be back in a physical classroom, even for just part of the week.

"He's really missed his school," Bell said. "Whenever they started PreK through 2nd (grade) to go back these two days, I thought this would really be good for the family as a whole because it would give her a break and he would get out of the house, and he'd be around his peers."

Bell started her job at Horton Middle School in August, so she's excited to finally get a sense of what her job will look like with students actually in the building. For her daughter at Northwood, still learning under Plan C — the completely remote option — has been a challenge.

"It's sort of like the morale is coming down in general, but she's getting through it," Bell said. "I'm really glad (the board) decided to let them have sports because it gets them around their friends and they get some relief from being cooped up in the house all the time. Hopefully, in January, they may do something where they can be in school a little bit, too."

Last month, Chatham parent Holly Rohaly told the News + Record she was really worried for her daughter's educational experience under Plan C, stating that her 8-year-old who typically loved learning now dreaded school. At the time, her daughter, who is in 3rd grade was not yet going to school under Plan B.

"I feel like there's so much uncertainty, there's no good answer," Rohaly said at the time. "We're in a no-win situation trying to pick the best of the worst, as far as a solution. But we were so disappointed with the decision of pushing the kids out until January. I mean … that was devastating for us."

Other parents felt blindsided by the board's decision to send additional students back to school. Some expressed concern for teachers and staff, who don't have the same flexibility as students and families do when it comes to choosing whether or not to come back to school.

Since the first day of school on Aug. 17, there have been 21 positive cases of COVID-19 among CCS staff and seven among students — with five new staff cases last week and one new student case. It's unclear how many cases have occurred since the district partially reopened Oct. 19 and how many of the cases, if any, represent community spread in a school, rather than just positive cases among school community members.

"Remote school is imperfect," Corbie Hill, a Chatham parent, wrote in a letter to the editor to the News + Record last month. "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."

Still, even for parents like Houston, who want to err on the side of caution and also have concerns about a hybrid schedule, it's clear that being physically at school is important for children.

"She definitely loves being back at school," he said of his daughter. "I mean, the interaction with her peers and being able to do that, and I think having just the concentration of being with a teacher who's assigning them things or keeping them mentally stimulated — children like to learn at the end of the day."

He does wonder why his daughter can't go to school the full week when he says her in-person class only has a handful of people in it. If the other in-person group of students is the same size, Houston said that leads him to believe half the class is remaining virtual or has left the school. "The kind of question," then, he said, is "Why can those 10 children not all go four days a week?"

Both Houston and Bell emphasized that the board is in a difficult position with no perfect answer. For Bell, trying to remain positive is the only way she knows to help her family get through all the challenges of this year, particularly remote learning.

"If we don't encourage them, if we as parents just complain about it the whole time, they're going to be complaining about it," she said. "So I bring more of a positive outlook — like I know this is how it is, but we can get through it."

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







# Siler City analysis depicts fragile economy

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Siler City has a problem: the town has about 7,300 workers but only 5,000 jobs. And it gets worse. While the community is projected to grow by another 2,000 people over the next five years, the job market is not on pace to expand at a commensurate rate.

Fortunately, a team of experts from the N.C. Main Street & Rural Planning Center — a subset of the N.C. Dept. of Commerce — has launched a community economic recovery and resilience initiative in connection with an 11-person steering committee of town leaders including Siler City Commissioner Lewis Fadely, EDC Project Manager Sam Rauf and CAM site owner Tim Booras. Their goal is to evaluate Siler City's economic trends and develop a five-year plan of corrective action.

The group was assembled months ago to address the town's issues, but the COVID-19 pandemic set back its efforts. Last Friday, Ann Bass and Bruce Naegelen, MS&RP economic development planners, met with the steering committee for a virtual update to share their first set of major findings.

"Siler City, probably better than a lot of other communities, has known the boom and bust cycle," Bass said. "You've had disasters. They haven't necessarily been natural disasters or other pandemics, but when a chicken plant has closed or something, you've experienced what has happened within the community."

The problem is a lack of economic diversity. Compared to the state, and even the county at large, Siler City represents a narrow spectrum of opportunity.

"(Town planner) Jack (Meadows) mentioned at a previous meeting that the county had been heralded by state economists for being very diverse and probably one of the more stable," Bass said.

But Siler City doesn't stack up. While 62% of Chatham County residents work white collar jobs, only 40% of Siler City does. And, while just 37% of N.C. has a high school diploma or less education, 57% of Siler City fits that category.

Despite those figures, a startling analysis revealed the severity of Siler City's employment problem: the town's jobs still require less education than the population has.

"We have about a third of our workers in Siler City that are underemployed," Bass said. "We could be asking them to do more."

Bass pointed out that data was not presented to disparage any type of employment. But the fact remains that typical Siler City jobs pay less than what workers can find elsewhere.

"With some of the disparities between the county and the town," she said, "come disparities in average hourly earnings."

Well represented industries in Siler City, including construction and food preparation services, range in average earnings from $9.97 to $17.99 per hour. Industries that are largely absent from Siler City pay $17.22 to $38.36 per hour.

Translated to annual income, the average Siler City household makes $55,089 compared to $110,056 county-wide and $78,915 across the state. Siler City also trails the county and state in housing value and home ownership.

To compound the town's problem, much of its residents' money is spent outside of Siler City. It's a concept known as retail leakage — the more severe an area's retail leakage, the less diverse and self-contained its local economy.

"One of our former colleagues is now working for an economic development agency on the coast," Bass said, "and he has actually adopted closing the leakage gap as one of his primary economic development goals."

That's how big the difference can be for a local economy.

Between such industries as building, food and beverage stores, clothing stores, sporting goods and food services, Siler City leaks $118 million annually, a staggering figure.

The problem is likely twofold, Bass said. The town does not have all the products and services its residents need, and its cost of living is higher than average.

"Our earnings are below average, our poverty rates are, sadly, above average," Bass said, "and the cost of living is above average. It's not by much, but that really kind of surprised me because I thought Siler City was a more affordable place to live … So, it means we need more money."

Similarly, home ownership in Siler City is 10% below the state average and homes are valued at $60,000 less than average.

While the data depicts a troubling snapshot of Siler City's economic health, it does not represent a complete perspective, nor the town's prospects. New development is escalating under Town Planner Jack Meadows' ambitious supervision and several new businesses are in the process of locating to Siler City.

Siler City is also the first community undergoing this rigorous state-sponsored investigation, and MS&RP are still in the early stages of data-collection.

"I hate to use the term guinea pig," Naegelen said, describing Siler City's role in the new program, "but test project."

He and Bass expressed some dissatisfaction with the numbers they'd gathered and warned against drawing hard conclusions.

"This is just a draft," Naegelen said. "A first go-around. And that's why we're presenting it, so that we can get comment of, 'Well that doesn't make any sense,' or, 'Why is that this way?'"

Some steering committee members were anxious to see how the analysis could be used to improve Siler City and its economy, but Naegelen emphasized that it's too early for talk of action.

"That's the $10 million question, really," he said, "and that's what we're hoping to help with eventually."

The committee will meet again on Jan. 7 to review and discuss a second version of the draft report before moving on to economic positioning strategies and implementation plan input in subsequent meetings. If all goes according to schedule, the group will present a proposal to the board of commissioners in March with its plans to address the town's economic challenges.

*Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.*

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Few updates on county's 'cyber incident'

PITTSBORO — Chatham County officials said Monday they had no new updates about the status of the "cyber incident" which knocked out the county government's computer, email and phone systems on Oct. 28.

"No additional information is available at this time as the incident is still under investigation," said Kara Dudley, the county's public information officer.

Dudley previously told the News + Record that Chatham County has cyber insurance, and that state and federal authorities are leading the incident investigation.

"Most Chatham County office phones are operating again; however, the voicemail system is still being repaired and expected to be restored in the coming days," Dudley reported.

Chatham County will soon be moving to a .gov email domain for county employee email addresses.

### TSWDB seeks applications for T3 training

The Triangle South Workforce Development Board (TSWDB) is accepting applications for its T3 (Training Today's Teams) Grant for Incumbent Workers.

The TSWDB provides funding through its T3 Grant for Incumbent Workers to allow businesses with five or more employees operating in the Triangle South local area (Chatham, Harnett, Lee and Sampson counties) to "skill up" their existing workforce to meet the challenges of changes to production processes or market demands. The maximum amount is $5,000 per grant, and $10,000 per program a year, with a lifetime funding limit of $50,000.

The "skill-ups" that are addressed in a grant application can be a result of changing market conditions, a worker(s) changing responsibilities/requirements in her/his job, or for enhancement to production or services as part of the applicant organizations operations. The TSWDB T3 Grant for Incumbent Workers will result in workers with increased knowledge, certifications, and/or value to the company.

Eligibility is limited to North Carolina for-profit and not-for-profit businesses, with five or more employees, that have been in operation in North Carolina for a minimum of one year prior to the semi-annual submission deadline date, are current on all federal and state tax obligations, and are financially viable are eligible to apply. Triangle South T3 Incumbent Worker Training Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications are available upon request from the Triangle South Workforce Development Board office. The application is a part of the T3 Grant for Incumbent Workers policy. Applications should be submitted directly to a TSWDB business services team member. TSWDB may request additional information or establish supplemental provisions and requirements for the training applications.

T3 Grants are awarded on a competitive, as-needed basis and are dependent upon the availability of funding. T3 Grant Applications will be accepted through Dec. 16. Applicants should expect to be notified on their application status in January.

For more information on this program, or to request an application, people can contact a member of the Triangle South Business Outreach team: Norman Collins can be reached at 919-704-6655, or by email at ncollins@cccc.edu; Jessica Ingram can be reached at (919) 895-0302 or by email at jtingram@cccc.edu.

The Triangle South Workforce Development Board is responsible for planning, policy guidance, and oversight of the workforce investment system in Chatham, Harnett, Lee and Sampson counties. Its goal is to combine area employment, training, and supportive services and programs into a consumer-based, market-driven system that meets the needs of job seekers and employers.

For more information on the Triangle South Workforce Development Board, visit triangle-southworkforce.com.

*— CN + R staff reports*





PITTSBORO, NC

Envision yourself in a rooftop lounge spending an evening with friends. Or on your private balcony gazing at the sunset. Condo owners enjoy this and more at Tessera at MOSAIC. Become a member of this community—crafted with impeccable design and urban livability.

- 1 – 3-bedroom condos with private balconies
- Priced $260s - $600s
- 715 sq. ft. to 1675 sq. ft. options
- Seven functional floorplans
- Private rooftop clubroom
- Richly amenitized

**Get to know Tessera at MOSAIC. It's where you want to live. Now Selling.**

**Contact Kerrie Bornkessel | 919.926.5505 | Mosaic@FMBnewhomes.com**

MOSAIC

tesseraatmosaic.com
*Sales by Fonville Morisey Barefoot*

mosaicatchathampark.com
*An ECO Group Development*

@mosaicatchatham
@tesseraatmosaic

# OBITUARIES

## PEGGY JEAN MURRAY CHEEK



Peggy Jean Murray Cheek, 87, of Greensboro, formerly of Siler City, passed away on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

Mrs. Cheek was born February 25, 1933, the daughter of Joseph Taft Murray and Addie Irene Smith Murray.

Peggy was a member of West End United Methodist Church. Outside of taking care of her home, she was an Aide at Cross Road Retirement Community. She loved reading, going on trips to the beach and swinging on the porch. She made the best potato salad. Peggy had a great love for her family and they loved being around her as she was a card and was always making people laugh, she had "no filter". She cherished taking care of her family and watching her grandchildren. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her brother, James "Noose" Murray and son-in-law, Ricky Ledbetter.

She is survived by her daughters, Kathy McGowan and husband David of Asheboro, Mary Beth Ledbetter of Vass, Darlene Cheek and Jean Brown, both of Greensboro; and son, Joey Cheek and wife Sheila of Crestview, Florida; grandchildren, Laura and Brian Cheek, Heather Tilley and husband Daniel, Adrianne Phillips and husband John, Marandi, Elizabeth and Sarah Ledbetter, Lindsay Rossi and husband Brad; and great grandchildren, Preston, Devin, Addie and Beckett.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of The Piedmont Inc., 1803 Westchester Dr., High Point, N.C. 27262.

Mrs. Cheek laid in repose on Thursday, November 19, 2020, from 12 to 5 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City. A private graveside service was held on Friday, November 20, 2020, at Oakwood Cemetery, N. Chatham Ave., Siler City with Rev. Jim Whittaker officiating.

Smith & Buckner is assisting the Cheek family.

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

## BRENDA LOVETT BOONE



Brenda Lovett Boone, age 74, of Topsail Beach, N.C. passed away Saturday, November 21, 2020.

She was born on August 29, 1946, in Norfolk, Virginia, to the late Irvin E. Lovett and Edna McCleod Lovett.

Brenda was a nurse at Sentara Albemarle Medical Center in Elizabeth City, N.C. She was a selfless person who was a giver and kind to all. Brenda, known for her southern cooking, loved to feed people, and all were welcome at her table. She loved her grandkids, who she referred to as her "four treasures." Brenda was the family's matriarch and will be missed by family, friends and all that knew her.

Brenda is survived by her daughters, Julie Boone Cummins and husband, John, and Elizabeth Boone Guri and husband, Neal; brother, Harold Lovett and wife, Meredith; sister, Debi Lovett; sister-in-law, Winnie Boone; grandchildren, Elly Cummins, Charles Guri and Stella Guri; and many other family and friends.

Brenda was preceded in death by the love of her life and husband of 50 years, Jerry Alan Boone, who passed away August of 2017; and her eldest grandson, Gabriel Boone Cummins, who passed away July of 2017. We know she is now with them and she will shine down her love on all of us.

Charitable contributions in Brenda's honor may be made to the American Cancer Society at cancer.org.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.quinnmcgowen.com.

## SARAH ALICE GARDNER WILLIAMSON

Mrs. Sarah Alice Gardner Williamson, 96, of Pittsboro, passed away Sunday, November 15, 2020, at The Oaks at Whitaker Glen Mayview Nursing Facility in Raleigh.

A memorial service will be held post-Covid.

A native of Bennett, she was born in 1924, and daughter of the late Fleta Scott and Benjamin Gardner. Alice was a graduate of Bennett School, and a member of Tabernacle United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Roland Williamson,

Survivors include her daughter, Emily Smith of Pittsboro; one granddaughter; and a brother, Cecil Gardner of Ramseur.

In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill or transitionslifecare.org of Raleigh.

## CHARLES BALDWIN, JR.

Mr. Charles Baldwin, Jr., 88, of Pittsboro passeed away ofn Thursday, November 19, 2020, at his home.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

## RICHARD CARSON DUNLAP III

Richard Carson Dunlap III, 37, passed away on Friday, November 13, 2020 in Southern Pines.

Services entrusted to Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

## DONALD GILBERT HARRIS

Donald Gilbert Harris, 77, of Siler City, passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at Carolina Pines of Greensboro.

Services entrusted to Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

## CARL 'JOEL' TYSON

Carl "Joel" Tyson, 64, of Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away Friday, November 13, 2020.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

## BURNICE EUGENE GRAY, SR.

Burnice Eugene Gray Sr., 73, of Pittsboro passed away on Saturday, November 21, 2020, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

The family will not be receiving family or friends at the home due to COVID precautions. Thanks for understanding.

## SHARON RIVES THOMAS

Sharon Rives Thomas, 65, of Sanford, died Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at Sanford Health and Rehabilitation.

No services are planned.

She was born in Chapel Hill on October 27, 1955, to the late Josephine Rives Smith. In addition to her mother, Sharon was preceded in death by her husband, Herbert B. Thomas.

Sharon is survived by a son, Brian Rives of Sanford.

## DAVID KENNETH LOVINGS



David Kenneth Lovings, 77, of Siler City passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at his home.

Mr. Lovings was born August 6, 1943, the son of Edward Reid and Nellie Frances Ozment Lovings.

David was an Army veteran serving in the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Magnolia Street Baptist Church in Greensboro, N.C. He had a big heart and loved his family. Even though he suffered many years with health issues from Agent Orange, he was proud of his military career and it hurt him to see anyone disrespect the American flag he fought for. He loved spending his free time fishing on the coast. In addition to his parents, David is preceded in death by his brother, Larry Wayne Lovings Sr.

He is survived by his sister, Julia Lovings Dowdy of Siler City; and brothers, Mark Steven Lovings and wife Jane of Oak Ridge, Ronald Edward Lovings of Beaufort; sister-in-law, Doris Gunn Lovings of Greensboro; nephews, Larry Wayne Lovings, Jr. and wife Stephanie, Jeffrey Lovings and wife Sherrill, Eugene Dowdy and wife Amy, Michael Dowdy and wife Jennifer, Teddy Lovings and wife Kahla; and a niece, Carli Lovings Haskovec and husband Nate.

Mr. Lovings Laid in Repose on Saturday, November 21, 2020, from 12 to 5 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Ave., Siler City, N.C. A graveside service was held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 22, 2020, at Westminster Gardens, 3601 Whitehurst Rd., Greensboro with Rev. Jim Whittaker officiating.

Memorials may be made to Disabled American Veterans, Dept. of N.C., P.O. Drawer 28146, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

Smith & Buckner is assisting the Lovings family.

Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneralhome.com.

## ELMER EUGENE 'BILL' THORPE



Elmer Eugene "Bill" Thorpe passed away Friday, November 20, 2020.

Born October 3, 1932, Bill Thorpe was born in Winston Salem, N.C. and moved to Siler City in 1982. He owned several businesses in Chatham County from 1972 until he retired in 2015. Bill Thorpe was a veteran of the Korean War and was honorably discharged.

Bill Thorpe is survived by three sons and three grandsons.

His generous heart will be missed by all he enriched. Bill lead a life of infinite curiosity.

The phrase of "living life to fullest" seemed to fit his personality. He died in peace, going quietly.

## MELANIE CROSS-WARD

Melanie Cross-Ward, 34, of Pittsboro passed away on Monday, November 16, 2020, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 21, 2020, at Staunton Memorial CME Church. Burial followed in the Pittsboro Community Cemetery.

## MARY ANN (MURPHY) WILLIAMS

Mary Ann (Murphy) Williams, 83, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, November 12, 2020, at Central Harnett Hospital.

Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 23, 2020, at Minter Cemtery.

Mrs. Williams was the daughter of the late Gracie Lee Thomas and Tom Murphy, and she was born in Cheraw, S.C.

## RAQUAN SHYMELL ETERNAL HOOKER

Raquan Shymell Eternal Hooker, 24, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, November 23, 2020, at Star of Hope.

## DARRELL MITCHELL

Darrell Mitchell, 53, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Services were held at 12 noon on Friday, November 20, 2020, at Knotts Funeral Home.

## RUSSELL EARL EVANS

Russell Earl Evans, 83, of Lillington, passed away on Friday, November 20, 2020, at the Parkview Retirement Center.

No services will be held at this time.

Russ was born in Webster, Pennsylvania, on July 21, 1937, the son of George and Bertha Evans. After graduating High School in Western Pennsylvania, Russ served in the Navy as a part of the Seabee division from 1955-1958. He spent the remainder of his life as a residential and commercial contractor.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1302, Broadway, N.C. 27505.

Online condolences can be made at www.smithfuneralhomebroadway.com.

## WADE HERMAN PHILLIPS

Wade Herman "Boop" Phillips, 92, passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2020, at the SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan Hospice Home in Pittsboro.

The graveside service was held on Saturday, November 21, 2020, at 12 p.m. at Fall Creek Baptist Church with Rev. George Townsend and Pastor Edwin Moore presiding.

Herman was born in Chatham County on September 26, 1928, to Mattie P. and Ernest C. Phillips. He served in the U.S. Navy and later worked as a USDA poultry inspector for over 30 years. After retirement, he worked at Brookwood Farms. Herman was the choir director and taught the Adult Sunday School at Fall Creek Baptist Church, where he was a member.

In addition to his parents, Herman was preceded in death by his son, Gerry Phillips; three grandchildren; sisters, Stella Sullivan Campbell, Lessie Russell, Lillian Nall; and brother, Roland Phillips.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Lois Phillips of the home; daughter, Cheryl Phillips Baldwin of Goldston; two granddaughters, and six great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the the Crystal L. Phillips Scholarship Fund, c/o Chatham Central High School, 14950 Hwy 902, Bear Creek, N.C. 27207 or UNC Hospice of Pittsboro, P.O. Box 1077, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312.

Condolences may be offered online at www.joycebradychapel.com.

## MARSHALL ANTHONY KINNEY, SR.

Marshall Anthony Kinney Sr., 55, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, November 15, 2020, at Duke University Medical Center in Durham.

A graveside service was held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, November 21, 2020, at Lee Memory Garden.

## JANICE EVELYN WHITAKER WHITE GOODWIN

Janice Evelyn Whitaker White Goodwin, 79, of Carthage, died Thursday, November 19, 2020, at Peak Resources.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, November 21, 2020 at Barbecue Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Rev. David Sherrod officiating.

Mrs. Goodwin was born in Lee County on February 12, 1941, to the late Arthur and Jewel Clark Whitaker. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by husbands, Clifford White and Dan Goodwin; brothers, Jimmy Whitaker, Herman Whitaker, Jerry Whitaker; and sisters, Faye McLeod and Rebecca Whitaker.

Janice is survived by a son, James Lee White of High Point; daughters, Donna Cox of Sanford, Lora Street of Sanford, Elaine Ferree of Carthage; sister, Brenda Hall of Cameron; and five grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

## ROBERT LANDON FREEMAN

Robert Landon Freeman, 82, of White Oak, N.C., died Saturday, November 21, 2020, at Cape Fear Valley, Bladen Healthcare in Elizabethtown.

A graveside service was held on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Olivia Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Rev. Bob Johnson officiating.

Mr. Freemen was born in Lee County on April 30, 1938, to the late Raymond and Lena Freeman. He worked as an auto mechanic.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Freeman; children, Robert Kenneth Freeman of Dillion, SC and Tammy Renee Freeman Averette of White Lake.

In lieu of flowers, consider donations to a charity of one's choice.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

## DOUGLAS J. ELLIS

Douglas J. Ellis, 61, of Cameron, died Thursday, November 19, 2020, at his home.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

He was born in Durham County on November 2, 1959, to the late Mallie Joseph Ellis Jr. and Shirley Vaughn Ellis. In addition to his father he was preceded in death by his grandmother, Louis Carden Ellis, and grandfather MJ Ellis Sr. He was the owner and operator of Ellis Towing.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Ellis of the home; step-children, Jenny Jenkins of Cameron, Dale Herndon of Richmond, Virginia, Bobby Herndon of Diamondhead, Mississippi; six grandchildren; and a brother, MJ "Joey" Ellis III of Cameron.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home, 600 W. Main St., Sanford, N.C. 27332.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

## JANICE EVELYN WHITAKER WHITE GOODWIN

Janice Evelyn Whitaker White Goodwin, 79, of Carthage, died Thursday, November 19, 2020, at Peak Resources.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, November 21, 2020 at Barbecue Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Rev. David Sherrod officiating.

Mrs. Goodwin was born in Lee County on February 12, 1941, to the late Arthur and Jewel Clark Whitaker. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by husbands, Clifford White and Dan Goodwin; brothers, Jimmy Whitaker, Herman Whitaker, Jerry Whitaker; and sisters, Faye McLeod and Rebecca Whitaker.

Janice is survived by a son, James Lee White of High Point; daughters, Donna Cox of Sanford, Lora Street of Sanford, Elaine Ferree of Carthage; sister, Brenda Hall of Cameron; and five grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### DOT suspending most construction over Thanksgiving

RALEIGH — The following are highlights from this week at the N.C. Department of Transportation.

Thanksgiving Travel: the DOT is suspending most construction activity along its major highways to keep lanes open for those traveling for Thanksgiving.

The work along interstates, as well as U.S. and key N.C. routes is expected to shut down through the evening of Nov. 30. There are some exceptions where construction conditions make it unsafe to open all lanes. This includes some locations where lanes are under construction or where a bridge is being replaced. Work that does not impact travel lanes can continue for some projects.

Before you hit the road, go to driveNC.gov for the most up-to-date traffic information.

Thanksgiving Click It or Ticket Campaign: The annual Thanksgiving Click It or Ticket campaign will be in place this week.

Law enforcement will be stepping up enforcement of speeding, drunk driving and, of course, seat belt laws in all 100 counties. Violators of North Carolina's seat belt law are fined $179; if a passenger under 15 is not properly restrained there's a $263 fine.

Great Trails State Plan: the DOT needs your help during the final stages of the Great Trails State Plan. The initiative will use existing plans and recommendations to identify a network of shared-use paths and trails connecting every county in North Carolina.

The department recently collected more than 11,000 responses to a public survey about the types and locations of trails they would like to see. Now, we need your review and input of the draft network plan. You have until Dec. 4 to provide your input.

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.

*— CN + R staff reports*



## PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

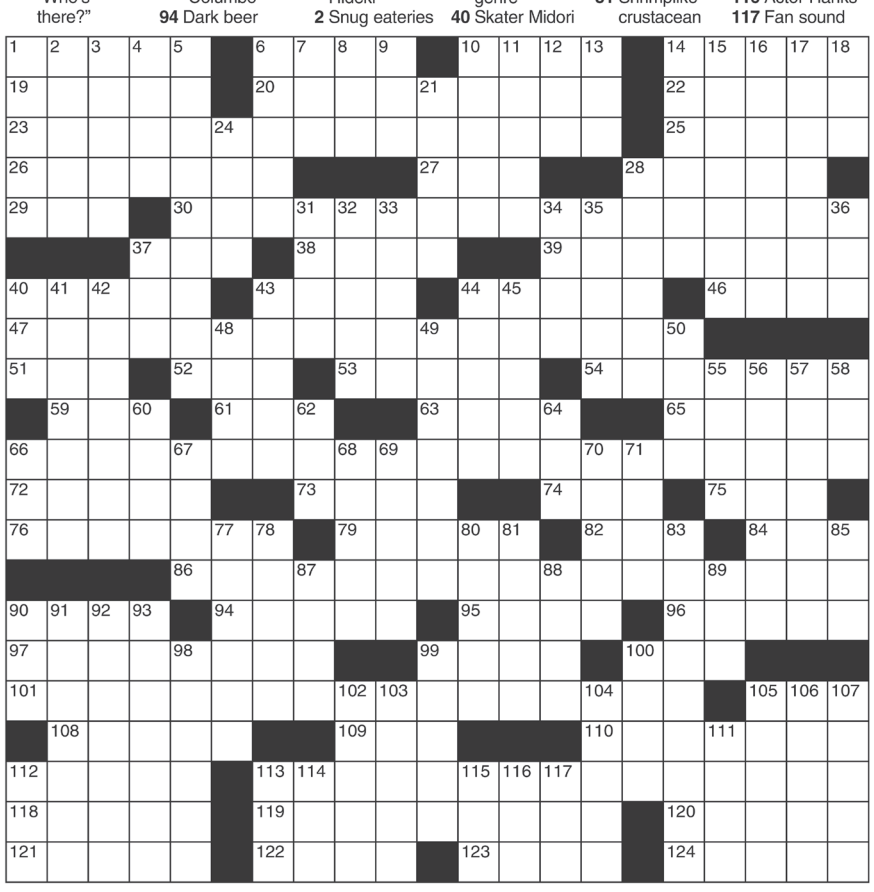
A STUDY IN SCARLETT

**ACROSS**

1 Acquire a wintry glaze
6 Ending for Rock
10 Dollars and cents
14 Woodard with four Emmys
19 Many a Jamaican believer, informally
20 Canine pain
22 "Yes, —!" ("Definitely!")
23 1936 film sequel with William Powell and Myrna Loy
25 Utter words
26 — Boys (hit rap trio)
27 "Lenore" poet
28 Suffered
29 Abbr. on a naval vessel
30 A wide physical variety
37 Stretch (out)
38 Oscar winner Jared
39 Seattle baseball team
40 Possible reply to "Who's there?"
43 Debater's platform
44 Model Klum
46 While lead-in
47 1997 James Bond film
51 — trial basis
52 Mess up morally
53 Locale of Ali's "Rumble in the Jungle"
54 Immune response trigger
59 Mess up
61 Canine coat
63 Scarf site
65 "Yay, me!"
66 Question about a weak effort
72 Woman on the throne
73 Designer Cassini
74 Father
75 LA-to-IN dir.
76 Apply via an aerosol
79 Rockabilly singer Chris
82 "Send help!"
84 Epoch
86 Influential Brian Eno album of 1975
90 Peter of "Columbo"
94 Dark beer
95 Rock guitarist Lofgren
96 No-brainer class
97 Cut across
99 "Le Roi d'Ys" composer Édouard —
100 Sun. church oration
101 Fifteen minutes of fame
105 Triceps' place
108 Quick snacks
109 Intense anger
110 Electrical resistance measures
112 Shrink back
113 Novel and film whose last line is formed by six key words in this puzzle
118 "— Is Born"
119 Came to an end
120 Finnish architect Alvar —
121 Comes to an end
122 Je ne — quoi
123 Bullets, e.g.
124 Hair lock

**DOWN**

1 Ex-Yankee Hideki —
2 Snug eateries
3 "Cómo —?"
4 Rugged trucks, briefly
5 Ones sharing in meals, e.g.
6 Jazz singer Waters
7 "Little piggy"
8 Young child
9 Verb suffix in the Bible
10 Olympic craft
11 Top points
12 "— Na Na"
13 She cackles
14 Home of St. Francis
15 Contour of one's kisser
16 Coldest refrigerator part
17 Bookworms
18 "Oh no, mice!"
21 River giant, informally
24 Floor square
28 Actor Brody
31 Deli side dish
32 Ketchup brand
33 Befuddled
34 Surrounded by
35 Gymnast Comaneci
36 JFK jet, once
37 Angsty music genre
40 Skater Midori
41 Gets rid of some flab
42 More brainy
43 Dunkable treat
44 "— mud in your eye!"
45 Put up
48 Rock fissure
49 Pickling liquid
50 Clic — (Bic brand)
55 Persia, now
56 Artillery unit members
57 Aged
58 Prefix with classical
60 Actress Perlman
62 Pi follower
64 Early English dramatist Thomas
66 Mental figs.
67 Novelist Seton
68 Peace Nobelist Root
69 Surrounded (by)
70 Springs in deserts
71 Japanese wheat noodle
77 Beginnings
78 Tally mark
80 Strain at — (fuss over trivialities)
81 Shrimplike crustacean
83 Sugary delicacy, old-style
85 Org. for periodontists
87 Carry along
88 Race in "The Time Machine"
89 Rowing tool
90 Bouquet-bringing co.
91 Middle East studier
92 Let have it
93 Ski mask, e.g.
98 Villains' looks
99 Lerner's partner in musicals
100 "Quiet down"
102 Moses' mount
103 Hunts quarry
104 Reached
105 Moving spryly
106 Fees for flats
107 Old PC platform
111 Wage — of words
112 Used to exist
113 Motorist's navig. aid
114 Ending for Rock
115 Boise is its cap.
116 Actor Hanks
117 Fan sound



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | E | L | L | S | E | E | ■ | C | O | M | M | A | N | D | ■ | A | L | A | S | S |
| A | V | I | A | T | O | R | ■ | A | N | A | E | M | I | A | ■ | V | A | N | C | E |
| K | E | E | P | I | N | G | T | H | E | F | A | I | T | H | ■ | A | U | D | R | E |
| E | L | S | O | L | ■ | ■ | S | N | A | I | L | S | ■ | ■ | I | N | G | R | A | M |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | F | L | A | I | L | ■ | L | A | S | T | B | E | S | T | H | O | P | E |
| I | M | O | ■ | A | N | N | O | Y | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | O | N | A | I | R | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| D | O | N | A | T | E | D | T | O | C | H | A | R | I | T | Y | ■ | I | T | C | H |
| A | D | L | A | I | ■ | ■ | ■ | G | O | O | D | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | M | O | R | A | Y |
| ■ | ■ | I | N | T | E | S | T | I | N | A | L | F | O | R | T | I | T | U | D | E |
| S | A | N | D | ■ | A | P | U | ■ | ■ | D | I | E | H | A | R | D | ■ | S | E | N |
| A | G | E | E | ■ | T | A | T | U | M | ■ | B | R | Y | C | E | ■ | A | T | T | A |
| N | R | A | ■ | C | A | S | E | L | A | W | ■ | ■ | O | K | A | ■ | L | E | S | S |
| D | E | P | A | R | T | M | E | N | T | O | F | J | U | S | T | I | C | E | ■ | ■ |
| R | E | P | R | O | ■ | ■ | ■ | A | E | R | I | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | N | O | I | S | Y |
| A | S | S | T | ■ | S | O | N | S | O | F | T | E | M | P | E | R | A | N | C | E |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | C | A | U | S | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | P | E | E | V | E | ■ | G | I | S |
| D | E | A | R | P | R | U | D | E | N | C | E | ■ | L | E | A | S | H | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| U | M | P | I | R | E | ■ | ■ | P | E | R | A | B | O | ■ | ■ | E | A | G | L | E |
| M | O | L | T | O | ■ | T | H | E | S | E | V | E | N | V | I | R | T | U | E | S |
| B | R | A | I | N | ■ | A | B | E | T | T | E | D | ■ | I | N | V | E | N | T | S |
| S | Y | N | C | S | ■ | P | O | S | S | E | S | S | ■ | N | E | E | D | S | T | O |

# Chatham Literacy's Decorated Door Contest involves more than lights and wreaths

Along with cooking a turkey this week, many of us are also breaking out the holiday decorations and buying a tree.

So why stop there?

Get the children even more involved this year and create a very special decorated door with any theme of your choice. Snap a photo and enter your doorway creation in Chatham Literacy's Holiday Decorated Door Contest, and potentially win a prize and bragging rights for your effort!

Perhaps your children envision a Magical Candy Cane door of their dreams or a Winter Wonderland with cotton ball snow. This is the year to start this new family tradition and create a photo-worthy celebration of the season for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or even New Year's Eve.

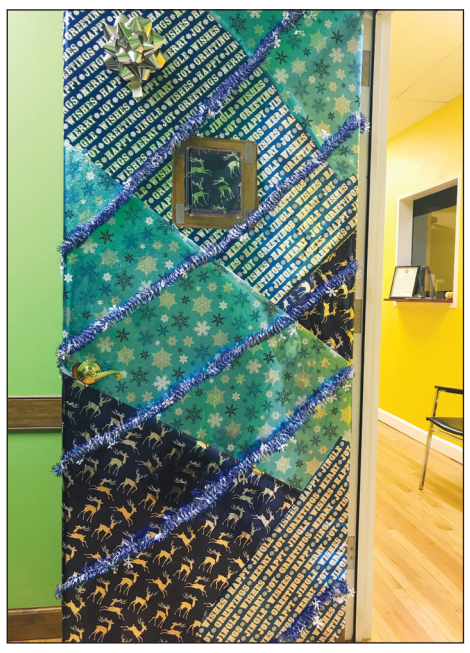
"Doors have been opening and closing this year with all the 2020 things," saod Tami Schwerin, the executive director of AbundanceNC. "We decorate ours in love and peace."

With each $20 registration between now and Dec. 18, create any doorway of your choice throughout this holiday season including front doors, apartment doors, office doors or even a barn door. The point is to have fun, and all proceeds benefit Chatham Literacy.

In next week's edition of the News + Record — a sponsor of this contest — we'll share some ideas on how decorating your door can provide a different way to visit with your family.

Hurry to register at www.chathamliteracy.org or call (919) 742-0578.











Submitted photo

**Submissions to Chatham Literacy's holiday door contest will be accepted through Dec. 18.**

## NEWS BRIEFS




Courtesy of Chatham Community Library

### Library offers winter reading program

PITTSBORO — Winter is just around the corner, and Chatham Community Library is thrilled to offer its virtual Winter Reading Program "Ten to Try" from Dec. 1 through Jan. 15.

Ten to Try is a challenge to encourage community members to read a book in each of 10 categories, keep track of their reading, and share their favorite discoveries with the library and fellow readers. Participants will be entered in a prize drawing when they have read a book in at least five of the 10 listed categories.

Additionally, there is a challenge for children ages 2-8, and one for tweens and teens ages 9+. Both challenges can be found at the library's Beanstack site. Readers who have used Beanstack before may log in to find the right challenge for them. Those who are new to Beanstack may create an account and get started. Readers can log their activities in the appropriate challenge, and the library staff keep track of the rest.

Readers can broaden their horizons and earn a chance to win a $50 gift card to McIntyre's Books, courtesy of the Friends of the Chatham Community Library.

For more information, contact Youth Services Librarian Katy Henderson at katyh@gmail.com.

*— CN + R staff reports*

READ IT ONLINE

SHOP LOCAL with us for Small Business Saturday



Enter a drawing for a $20 gift certificate with any purchase between now and the end of November.

**Current Hours :** Tues - Fri 10 to 4:30 and Sat 10 to 2

**RALEIGH STREET GALLERY**

Located in downtown Siler City at 120 W Raleigh St

**(919) 663-6278 • www.facebook.com/raleighstreetgallery**

*Worth knowing.*
Worth reading.

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

***ONE YEAR FOR ONLY***

**$45 in county / $50 outside county**

**call (919) 663-3232 *or* go to chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe/**

A LESSON FROM HISTORY

# Without the Mayflower Compact, there'd be no Thanksgiving

BY W. ROBERT PEARSON
Special to the News + Record

This week we celebrate the most quintessential of American holidays: Thanksgiving. We created it to proclaim the bounty and blessings of life to be shared with family, friends and even strangers after hard work accomplished and challenges met. Thanksgiving was not given to us; it was earned and hard won.


Pearson

It became reality after our Pilgrim forefathers faced and overcame the gravest of crises — the stark truth of life or death choices. When that community committed to facing that terror together, to share a common fate despite their deep divisions, they created a framework that saved themselves. That model suffused our national culture and ultimately became the foundation of our American experiment to test whether democracy — rule by ourselves alone — can survive and flourish. Today we are back at that moment, to see whether we are going to come together or come apart.

The Pilgrims in November 1620, exactly 400 years ago, landed on an unknown rocky hostile shore that was not their intended destination. They were supposed to be 250 miles south at the mouth of the Hudson River in the large and accommodating bay that one day would be New York City (deemed to be "Virginia" at the time). Winter was upon them, their provisions were low, and they could not sail back to Europe. They had no authority from their leaders in the Netherlands to be where they were or settle where they landed. Confusion reigned. Tempers mounted.

"Mutinous speeches" were heard for families to do whatever they wished according to reports of the time. They were about to come apart, and their divisions in such a forbidding setting likely would have doomed them.

Instead, they found agreement, not on lofty principles, but on practical commitments. In their compact they decided to "covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic" to "frame such just and equal laws ... as shall be thought most ... convenient for the general good" and promised "all due submission and obedience." Their vow to self government reached back to the Magna Carta and foreshadowed our Constitution.

Without the Mayflower Compact, there might have been no Thanksgiving. Their unity carried them through the terrible winter of 1620-21 when half the settlers perished. These Americans came together despite their divisions. By focusing on the benefit for all instead of the personal conviction of each, they surmounted their challenges. And they would have their Thanksgiving the following year.

Is that not also the message of Thanksgiving for us in this new time of challenge — whether we ordinary people can rise above our individual differences and govern ourselves for the better good of all? John Lewis said that if we were to build and reconcile and love and heal, we would have to see ourselves as "one family, one house, the American family."

Thanksgiving is the perfect day to ponder that truth.

*W. Robert Pearson, who lives in Fearrington Village with his wife, Maggie, was an innovative diplomat, leader and crisis manager at the top levels of the U.S. government. He was U.S. ambassador to Turkey and completed a 30-year career in 2006 with the Department of State as Director General of the Foreign Service. He is a frequent writer and speaker on diplomacy, foreign policy, Turkey, NGOs and development, and served under six presidents (four Republican and two Democratic) and 11 secretaries of state.*

# ALLIANCE

Continued from page A1

es. The Farmers Alliance operated continuously for 130 years, eventually transforming into a general store, before Fedele purchased the more than 4,000 square-foot space.

"When I was working on the building, I had so many people stop in and tell me stories about their childhood, buying peppermint stick candy with their grandfather, getting their first pair of boots at the Farmers Alliance, buying seeds to grow crops," she said. "I knew that in owning this building, I had a responsibility to the past and an obligation to the future of Siler City. I kept the name, The Alliance, as an homage to the building's past and the idea that an alliance is about joining together for mutual benefit or to achieve some common purpose."

While the building's primary function is different now, Fedele has worked hard to maintain its uniting effect.

"The Alliance was designed to be a hub, a safe space for everyone in our community to connect and collaborate," she said. "Our mission is to foster creativity, critical thinking and innovation as a pathway for rural residents to advance their education, careers and ultimately build self-sustaining lives."

The Siler City of Fedele's vision would deviate a bit from its history. Big industry has always been the town's backbone. But that's a model prone to failure, she said.

"It's been good that big industry has been here," Fedele said, "but when they leave, a lot of people are disenfranchised."

For many Siler City residents, the sting of Fedele's assessment is fresh. At the height of the Great Recession, the town's largest employers — Pilgrim's Pride and Townsend, both poultry factories — closed their facilities. Nearly 1,400 lost their jobs.

Things started looking up for Siler City's economy when Mountaire Farms opened at the former Townsend facility in 2019 and reintroduced poultry to the downtrodden market. But for Fedele, it wasn't enough. Not everyone wants to work in poultry, or farming, or other traditional rural occupations, and Siler City doesn't offer much variety.

"You should be able to live in this community," Fedele said, "and your kids not have to leave to find the gainful employment they want."

Her solution is to introduce more job opportunities from a variety of sectors. Fedele wants The Alliance to serve as a petri dish from which budding entrepreneurs can sprout before planting roots and maturing elsewhere in town.

"I believe there is so much knowledge in Chatham County hidden behind the trees," she said. "We are working to bring these people together to share what they know with our community ... There is no excuse for rural brain-drain. We can teach skills that will allow people to live and work in Chatham, to spark entrepreneurship and create cottage industries that utilize the power of creative thinking."

There is nothing wrong with big industry jobs, Fedele emphasizes. She thinks, for example, that Siler City's heavy industrial CAM (the Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing) site will bring welcome opportunities for many underemployed workers in the area. But such employment shouldn't be a town's only option.

"This is not looking down on factory jobs," she said, "but opportunity should be more than just what's right in front of you."

Fedele's plan for transmogrification is hefty. To see it through, she has enlisted a number of Chatham organizations to partner with her as she nurtures a new swath of Siler City occupations. Her partners include Futures for Kids, Wildes Art Forum & Creativity Sparks, Chatham School of Science and Engineering & the Chatham Center for Innovation, Communities In Schools Chatham County, and the North Carolina Arts Incubator.

"There's a symbiotic relationship between the Arts Incubator and The Alliance," said Michael Feezor, the NCAI's interim director.

Much like The Alliance, though more specific to artists, NCAI works to support developing businesses until they are fiscally capable of expanding elsewhere. Fedele serves on NCAI's board as its education director. In their brief partnership, the two organizations have already worked together to secure $50,000 in grant money for local entrepreneurs and to launch a STEAM program for children, although their efforts were temporarily stifled when the pandemic struck.

"Our mission is to provide space that's affordable so that people can try things," Feezor said. "... We have had great experience incubating (artists) over 18 years and now we can leverage all that to reshape the town."

Like Fedele, Feezor believes Siler City is the perfect site for cultural expansion and economic growth.

"A huge opportunity we have economically is two major highways that run through town, a train station that could become a major stop, presumably, and the airport," he said. "There's no reason new industries can't locate here."

### 'I want to live here forever'

Fedele has a two-fold approach to achieving her goal: nurture creative entrepreneurship in Chatham youth, and provide young businesses a space in which to grow with minimal overhead. To each endeavor, she has devoted one half of her building.

"The building is divided in two," Fedele said, "traditional coworking on one side and our programs on the other."

On the right, as you enter the building, sprawling tables fill the open space, lined with cherry-red industrial stools. It's where Fedele and her partners help "the next generation of creative entrepreneurs, innovators and artists by providing access to industry resources, events, mentorship, technology and knowledge sharing opportunities," she said.

Especially since the pandemic began and in-person schooling stopped, The Alliance has helped Chatham groups like CISCC to keep students engaged and on track, providing a space in which educators can host in-person office hours and where students have access to strong internet connections.

"Lisa is good people, man," said Tych Cowdin, CISCC executive director. "She is ready to make some things happen for typically underserved youth in the community."

So far, CISCC has used the space to conduct parenting classes and to host open office hours and tutoring sessions for students who need in-person support. The open layout permits the organization to operate without violating social distancing recommendations.

"So, it's just been a really great partnership, and I think this is just the beginning," Cowdin said. "She has a wealth of networking resources for different program ideas ... and I think students and families that are underserved would be great beneficiaries to the ideas and the programs that Lisa has in mind."

Through a set of French doors, the program-center half of The Alliance gives way to a shared workspace where new businesses can incubate while avoiding the expense of a dedicated site. Unlike many coworking spaces designed for laptop-toting remote workers, though, The Alliance supports businesses like Julia Marina's Milestone Bag Company.

"I live here more than my own home," Marina said with a laugh.

Marina is a craftswoman. Nine years ago, in the throes of grief following her father's death, she took up leather-work as a distraction from her pain.

"Little did I know that I would come to love working with leather in a way I've never loved anything," she explains on her website, milestonebagco.com. "Almost a decade later and it is still my absolute favorite form of creativity."

Since then, Marina's product range has expanded to include wallets, belts and a line of 100% linen bespoke women's wear. And, of course, every clothing purchase comes with a free handmade face mask.

As she works, her 3 year old, Theo, plays in The Alliance's lounge area donning his favorite Batman costume. As a single parent, Marina is grateful to have found an accommodating environment.

"It's been great," she said. "Theo loves it here. He begs to come here on days when we're not."

Marina didn't know much about Siler City when she moved into town a couple of years ago. "I fell in love with a guy," she said by way of curt explanation. But the history and culture she found are what made her stay.

"I love community; I love small towns," she said. "I love that it's small enough to not get lost."

She and Theo live in a tiny house now — a treehouse, in fact — just outside of town. But as her business grows and profits increase, she hopes to buy a local farmhouse to renovate and customize.

"I want to live here forever," she said.

Milestone Bag Co. is prototypical of the company style Fedele wants to nurture. In a few years, Marina will likely achieve nationwide sales as per current projections. Her business will have grown large enough to hire apprentices and fill a larger space somewhere else in town, and Siler City would have added a new employment opportunity within a niche market.

"That's what this is all about," Fedele said. "This is not an approach with a larger agenda. It's to build a community we can all live in. There's plenty of space for all kinds of people."

*Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.*


Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

**All of Julia Marina's products are handmade in Siler City's The Alliance co-working space.**



**CHATHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** | ANNUAL MEETING

# Chamber's annual meeting emphasizes entrepreneurship

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**
News + Record Staff

The Chatham Chamber of Commerce held its annual meeting last Wednesday to commemorate a tumultuous year for businesses across the county and around the world.

The program was prerecorded and broadcast virtually on YouTube TV.

Despite unprecedented circumstances, the Chamber has expanded and thrived under pandemic restrictions. It opened a second office this fall in downtown Pittsboro, renting space from Perch Coworking, and many of its programs are in greater demand than ever before.

"As you can see," said Indira Everett, the Chamber board chairperson, "this Chamber has continued to remain busy and involved. Even in these challenging economic times, we gained new members, and have been able to hold our own. We know together we will come out stronger in the days ahead."

In keeping with the Chamber's mission to foster economic vitality in Chatham County, the annual meeting's theme was "entrepreneurship and navigating through crises." Three panelists and a keynote speaker shared encouragement and advice for creating new business opportunities despite lamentable circumstances.




Submitted photo

**Pictured (from left) are the panelists at the Chatham Chamber's annual meeting: Joshua Esnard, Antonio McBroom, Ashleigh Glover and moderator Jennifer Gordiano.**

## The speech

"(In this pandemic) we've all had disruption, and we've all reacted to that," said Jeff Nischwitz, a motivational speaker and the founder of the Nischwitz Group, a training, consulting and coaching company. "We've done what we've needed to do as a result of that external disruption."

The coronavirus has changed the way businesses operate. It has changed the commercial landscape and our day-to-day lives, he said.

"If any of you have not changed something in your business or life in the last eight or nine months," Nischwitz said, "I'd like to hear how you managed to avoid it."

But change by itself is not progress, and adaptation is not always innovation.

"Innovation has three important traits," Nischwitz said. "One is, innovation is purposeful. Secondly, innovation is intentional. And third, innovation requires a commitment."

Remove any of the three, and your entrepreneurial plans will fail, according to Nischwitz.

"Adaptation only becomes innovation if you choose — intentionally, purposefully, with commitment — to carry that forward," he said, "and it becomes part of your culture and your way of thinking and leading and doing business."

Three panelists on Wednesday's meeting program — an inventor, a franchise owner and a mental health specialist — each embodied the principle of Nischwitz's mantra. From unusual circumstances, they devised solutions to their problems, and successful businesses were born of their efforts.

## The inventor

"I consider myself an inventor and a talent search specialist," said Joshua Esnard, a Chatham County transplant and one of the day's panelists.

Esnard was born in St. Lucia to young parents with little money.

"My story went, my dad was cutting my hair as a little kid and I got sick of all his buzzcuts," Esnard said. "So, I picked up the trimmer and started to cut my own hair as a 13-year-old."

His ambitious plans went poorly, though.

"I ended up looking like a cheetah with bald spots all over," Esnard said. "So, I decided to make my own invention as a kid to help me cut my own hair and ended up getting these perfect edge-ups and line-ups by making this template tool."

Many years passed before Esnard realized that others might stand to benefit from his childhood invention.

"I didn't really think I had anything ..." he said. "But maybe six or seven years ago I decided to patent my tool which created a company called the Cut Buddy."

Three months later, a video of the Cut Buddy went viral, and Esnard's simple product was propelled to fame. His early success landed him on Shark Tank where Esnard struck a deal with Daymond John. Now the Cut Buddy is widely available in stores across the country.

## The franchise owner

Antonio McBroom had a different vision of entrepreneurship. To him, real estate was always the surest route to financial independence.

"It was instilled in me young to really change the trajectory of generational wealth," McBroom said, "and real estate is one of the key things that you do in America. I had uncles that really instilled in me, 'there's one thing they're not making more of, and that's dirt. So, once you get some money, get some land.'"

McBroom grew up in Goldston, where his family didn't have much money or land. After graduating from Chatham Central as valedictorian of his class, he left for UNC-Chapel Hill. But family responsibilities soon behooved him to find a job.

"My grandma raised me," McBroom said. "She was getting older, and really needed me to contribute at home."

Ben & Jerry's on Franklin St., near UNC's campus, was hiring and McBroom couldn't resist.

"When I was applying, they said if you get hired, not only do you get paid, make some tips, but you'll get a free milkshake every shift that you work," he said. "So, I signed up immediately."

McBroom fell in love with the company and its principles of community engagement and philanthropy. By the time he was ready to graduate, he'd resolved to buy the franchise location.

"I ended up becoming the youngest owner-operator in the company's history when I was a graduating senior at UNC."

Now he owns eight Ben & Jerry's locations across the southeastern United States.

## The mental health specialist

Like McBroom, Ashleigh Glover grew up in Chatham County. But the course of her life started long before her birth.

"My story starts about three years before I was born," Glover said. "My mother lost her twin brother in a car accident. Subsequent to that, she lost five family members in a house fire. A year later, she was at her grandfather's funeral and her dad had a heart attack and died."

That was in 1988. In 1989, Glover's mother met her father, and circumstances worsened.

"She had me, and her life began to spiral downhill," Glover said. "She left me and my father when I was 3 years old. She started drinking heavily — alcohol was her substance of choice."

Nine years later, she died from sorosis of the liver.

"My mother never had any healthcare," Glover said. "She never had any mental health; she never had any therapy; she never went to counseling."

When Glover was 13, her father remarried.

"My step-mother beat me," she said, "and CPS (child protective services) missed it."

At 16, Glover dropped out of high school. But she always intended to complete her education when circumstances allowed. Eventually she earned a GED and gained entrance to Central Carolina Community College.

Now, Glover has a Master's degree in clinical health counseling from Campbell University and she operates Chatham Counseling and Wellness "to provide counseling services to the people of Chatham County."

## Different paths, but a shared passion

Entrepreneurship is an ambiguous pursuit. As Chamber President Cindy Poindexter put it, an entrepreneur's journey comes with "many twists, turns and, yes, stumbles."

But all successful businesspeople have a dogged refusal to concede failure and a passion to fight through challenges. Those qualities are what connect Esnard, McBroom and Glover despite dissimilar backgrounds and career decisions.

"I find that entrepreneurial magic happens at the intersection of passion and what you're actually pretty good at and what you can command some value for," McBroom said.

The business venture that meets those criteria will vary between individuals.

"Find what's out there for you," Glover said.

Now may be the perfect time for it, the panelists agreed, when many have lost their jobs and are stuck at home.

"Navigating through the pandemic has shifted a lot of mindsets on entrepreneurship," Esnard said. "... How I would navigate through the pandemic would be to put away the thought of just working for somebody and just being part of that normal, everyday wheel doing the same thing. Now we have to start thinking about addressing our problems."

Finding solutions to one's problems and monetizing them can seem overwhelming, Esnard conceded. But he has a solution: write everything down.

"Literally document all your problems and your complaints," he said.

Then take steps to address them.

"In the spirit of what Josh was saying," McBroom said, "when this pandemic started, I really embraced the wisdom of Winston Churchill. He said, in times of crisis, 'bad companies fail, good companies survive but great companies improve.'"

In principle, the admonition applies even to budding entrepreneurial pursuits.

"It's just about perseverance, you know," Esnard said. "Keep trying. Solve your problems, and come up with a solution."

*Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.*




OUR AWARD-WINNING COTTAGES ARE GOING FAST!

The Vineyards neighborhood has been buzzing with activity lately, and the Cottages are right in the thick of it. They've been a hot commodity since winning Gold and Silver honors at the Parade of Homes, and only a few are still available. Their floor plans are designed to maximize your space and cut down on clutter, creating a practical and beautiful modern home. If you're interested, contact us before the sun sets on your cozy cottage!

COLDWELL BANKER
HOWARD PERRY AND WALSTON
NEW HOMES & LAND

To schedule a tour or see about available cottages, visit ChathamPark.com.

Information Center Hours:
Monday – Saturday: 10am–5pm
Sunday: 1pm–5pm

CHATHAM PARK
VINEYARDS
AT CHATHAM PARK



CHATHAM HOSPITAL
UNC HEALTH CARE

# Maternity Care Close to Home

Chatham Hospital Maternity Care Center is a new maternity care center providing compassionate and expert care.

### Expert Staff

Our team of physicians and midwives means you get expert care from expert practitioners.

### Customized Comfort

We're here to create a personalized birth experience that is right for you and your baby, with modern rooms and amenities.

### Personalized Care

We provide labor support every step of the way with the focus of keeping you and your baby comfortable.

## All of this is just around the corner.

You can learn more at **chathamhospital.org/baby**

Chatham News + Record

SPORTS NEWS & CLASSIFIEDS

NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 2, 2020 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

# Current and former Charger athletes unite for Northwood recruiting night

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff



Harrington



Sheets

PITTSBORO — The question was simple: Can you describe a day in the life of a student-athlete? The answer, as roughly 40 Northwood high schoolers learned last Thursday, was a lot more complex.

Purdue's Tessa Sheets walked them through her Monday-Wednesday-Friday routine of freshman year, from 6 a.m. lifts and 7:30 a.m. chemistry labs to afternoon stretches, practices and ice baths.

Appalachian State's Brendan Harrington rattled off all the obligations of a normal Tuesday: workouts, rushed breakfasts, two hours of team and position group meetings and tiny 10-minute pockets of down time.

And when the former Northwood athletes had finished their requested spiels, Jason Amy, the school's co-athletic director and a friend of Sheets and Harrington both, could only shake his head and laugh.

"See?" he said. "It's very demanding. You're eating, sleeping and breathing what you love — and you better love it, because there's no hiding from it."

That sequence was just a snippet of Northwood's College Recruiting Simplified event, an hour-long webinar the school held over Zoom last week for interested student-athletes, parents and coaches.

Recruiting literacy has always been an emphasis at Northwood, a 3A school which sends off 10 and 15 student-athletes to college programs annually. But this event was of extra importance, Amy said, since the coronavirus pandemic has drastically altered how recruiters and recruitees now function.



Photo courtesy of Purdue Athletics

**Purdue pole vaulter and Northwood alum Tessa Sheets was one of two former Chargers, along with App State linebacker Brendan Harrington, who spoke to current Northwood student-athletes last Thursday via Zoom.**

So he brought in the big guns — Sheets, a senior pole vaulter for Purdue's track and field team, and Harrington, a sophomore outside linebacker for App State's football team — to give current Chargers some words of wisdom. Later in the evening, the group also got an extensive presentation from Lindsay Milo, a representative for the nationwide recruiting service Next College Student Athlete.

Calling in from their respective campuses in West Lafayette, Indiana, and Boone, Sheets, 21, and Harrington, 19, detailed their Division 1 recruiting processes, daily schedules, biggest college adjustments and more.

It wasn't as intense as "Beyond Scared Straight" reality check, but the former Chargers made one thing clear: to reap the full benefits of college athletics, you have to put in the work. And lots of it.

"In college, it only gets harder," Harrington said. "School bumps up. Off the field bumps up. You're not with mom and dad anymore. You can't say, 'Coach, my alarm didn't go off.' It's your life now. You can't play around with it."

Sheets, a 2017 Northwood alum, said the adjustment is a learning curve. She pointed to her sophomore year — "probably the worst year of my life" — as an example. During those two semesters, Sheets fell into two bad habits: eating poorly and not sleeping enough. As a result, she struggled in meets.

It took a summer of recuperation and a few meetings with team psychologists and nutritionists to turn things around for Sheets (who, for the record, feels great now). What did the experience teach her?

See **CHARGER,** page B2

# Chatham youth basketball will start in January with significant changes

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff




PITTSBORO — Youth basketball returns to Chatham County in January, but there's a twist.

In keeping with its generally cautious strategies to curb the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, the Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department is modifying the program significantly from its traditional format, which centers around regular-season games.

Instead, the 2021 program will focus on "individual skill development, small-group skill development and limited scrimmages," according to a county news release last Thursday. Co-ed participants — ages 6 through 18 — will be grouped into "age-based, self-contained pods" at five regional locations.

If this language sounds familiar, it's because the North Carolina High School Athletic Association has struck virtually the same tone. Men's and women's basketball teams at member high schools are scheduled to start their regular seasons with official practices on Dec. 7 and official games on Jan. 4.

Currently, though, teams are limited to offseason "skill sessions," where players must wear masks while working out individually or in small pods. They can share equipment — namely, basketballs — in those small pods but cannot make contact with teammates. Teams also can't scrimmage in the offseason.

Chatham County's youth basketball program, which will begin Saturday, Jan. 23, isn't that restrictive. There's no mask mandate, of course, and the department plans to offer limited scrimmages.

But there are plenty of similarities to the NCHSAA — which makes sense, since both groups are ultimately government entities that take their cues from the state Department of Health and Human Services. (Current DHHS guidance doesn't recommend playing basketball, a "red" sport in that participants can't maintain social distancing while they play it.)

"While the coronavirus is still present in the community, we have been very thoughtful about keeping safety our top priority, involving the Public Health Department and county leadership with each step of our planning," Tracy Burnett, Chatham County's parks and recreation director, said in the release. "During these challenging and uncertain times, we continue to search for ways to keep our residents active while providing the safest programs and activities as possible."

The season will run from Jan. 23 through late February, and participants will attend 10 practices at their respective regional locations and within their age group. Available locations to choose from include Horton Middle School and Chatham Grove Ele-

See **BASKETBALL,** page B2




Staff file photo

**The Woods Charter School gym, pictured in October.**

# Woods Charter pauses cross country activities after COVID-19 issues

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — Woods Charter cross country has suspended all practices and competitions after coronavirus complications within its team, the school's athletic director said last Thursday.

In a text to the News + Record, Woods Charter AD Dena Floyd confirmed the Wolves haven't competed this week because of COVID-19 precautions, but she declined to give further information, citing privacy reasons. Woods Charter was scheduled to open its season at a meet last Wednesday at Chatham Charter.

Gary Oakley, Chatham Charter's head cross country coach, said in email last week that Woods Charter cited one positive coronavirus case within the team as its reason for cancellation.

According to the state Department of Health and Human Services' COVID-19 website, Woods Charter hasn't reported a cluster of cases as last Friday afternoon (the most recent update). For school settings, the DHHS defines a cluster as a minimum of five positive coronavirus cases confirmed by test results.

Chatham Charter was scheduled to host a three-team conference meet including Woods Charter last Wednesday afternoon. They ended up running one-on-one against Research Triangle High School.

Northwood was scheduled to host another three-team meet featuring Woods Charter Monday afternoon, but the Wolves didn't participate in that meet either.

According to its most recent schedule posted online, Woods Charter won't open its season until Wednesday, Dec. 2, when it visits Chatham Charter for a dual meet. The Wolves' volleyball team wasn't affected by the suspension last week and played two road matches.

NCHSAA cross country and volleyball teams across the state started regular-season competition Monday under the NCHSAA's modified 2020-21 athletics calendar.

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

CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

# This week's schedule and last week's results

BY CHAPEL FOWLER
News + Record Staff

Chatham County's five NCHSAA high schools completed their first week of volleyball and cross country events last week. Here's a rundown of this week's schedule and last week's results.

**THIS WEEK**

### Monday, Nov. 23

Cross country: Jordan-Matthews at Northwood, 3:30 p.m.

Volleyball: Chatham Central at Uwharrie Charter, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Northwood at Chapel Hill, 6 p.m. (JV 5 p.m.)

### Tuesday, Nov. 24

Cross country: Chatham Central at North Stanly, 4:30 p.m.

Volleyball: South Stanly at Chatham Central, 5 p.m.

Volleyball: Orange at Northwood, 6 p.m. (JV 5 p.m.)

Volleyball: Chatham Charter at Research Triangle, time TBA

**LAST WEEK**

### Tuesday, Nov. 17

Cross country: Chatham Central's Kailey Green placed second with a 26:06 5K to lead the Bears in a road tri-meet against Uwharrie Charter and North Moore. On the men's side, Seth Gilliland (fifth place, 21:00) and Parker Crowley (sixth place, 21:03) were Chatham Central's top finishers. Caroline Austin (third place, 27:00) and Samantha Scott (fourth place, 27:20) were the women's other top finishers. Uwharrie Charter won both overall meets.

Volleyball: Cedar Ridge swept Northwood 3-0 (25-22, 25-14, 25-23) at home in the season opener for both teams.

Volleyball: Research Triangle ripped off three sets in a row to get past Woods Charter, 3-1, in both teams' season opener. The Wolves won the first set, 25-18, but dropped the final three by scores of 25-15, 26-24 and 25-10. Junior outside hitter Emi Hutter-DeMarco led Woods Charter with 13 kills, while junior outside hitter and team captain Jana Thompson paced the team with eight serving aces and a 96.2 serving percentage. Junior setter Ada Green had 18 assists for the Wolves.

### Wednesday, Nov. 18

Cross country: Research Triangle swept Chatham Charter in a dual meet in Siler City. Research Triangle's Liam Johnston (17:37) and Victoria Swepson (20:18) earned first place in the men's and women's races, respectively. (Woods Charter didn't participate because of COVID-19 precautions.)

Cross country: Northwood's men took five of the top six spots and first place in a home meet against East Chapel Hill and Orange, while the Charger women logged a second-place finish on an afternoon that functioned as an early senior night and season opener for the school. In the men's race, senior Malachi Levy paced a field of 25 with a first-place time of 17:04.78 in the 5K race, and junior Colin Henry placed third (17:12.52). In the women's race, junior Caroline Murrell (third place, 19:39.47) and senior Tessa Yell (fourth place, 20:53.20) were the Chargers' top finishers.

Volleyball: Chatham Central opened its season with a 3-0 road loss to Southern Lee (25-18, 25-10, 25-21). Junior Lindsey Johnson had three kills, and senior Tanner Little had three serving aces.

### Thursday, Nov. 19

Cross country: Chatham Central's men's logged a first-place finish in a home meet against Albemarle and South Davidson while Kailey Green scored a first-place finish on the women's side. For the men, Parker Crowley (third place, 19:49) and Seth Gilliland (fourth place, 20:01) were the top finishers; the men also recorded six of the meet's final top-10 times. Behind Green (25:22) on the women's side, Chatham Central's Caroline Austin finished second and Samantha Scott finished third.

Volleyball: Opening its season at home, Chatham Charter swept Research Triangle 3-0 in a match that was closer than it looked. The Knights won 25-22, 25-20 and 26-24. Top performers included: Alison Perez (15 assists), Molly Wilson (16 assists), Emerson Clark (nine kills, eight digs, eight serve points, four aces) and Morgan Lineberry (12 digs, seven serve points).

Volleyball: Chatham Central got back on track in its home opener, sweeping North Moore 3-0 (25-17, 25-17, 25-15) in a non-conference match. Senior Grace Jones and junior Taylor Poe had 10 kills each, while senior Savannah Stillwell had seven solo blocks for the Bears (1-1).

Volleyball: Jordan-Matthews opened its season with a 3-0 road loss to Eastern Randolph. The Jets dropped the first set 25-13 but played the final two much tighter — losing 25-22 and 26-24, respectively.

Volleyball: Northwood didn't have any trouble in its home opener/senior night. The Chargers breezed past conference rival Southern Durham in a 3-0 sweep (25-3, 25-5, 25-7) to move to 1-1 on the year.

Volleyball: Woods Charter put up a fight against conference rival Cornerstone Charter — tying the Cardinals at one set apiece on the road — before dropping the next two sets and losing 3-1. The Wolves are now 0-2, with both losses coming on the road.

### Friday, Nov. 20

Volleyball: Chatham Charter won a tight first set 26-24 on the road but dropped the next three — 25-15, 28-26, 25-10 — in a loss to conference foe Cornerstone Charter of Greensboro. The Knights ended the week at 1-1. Top performers included: Molly Wilson (24 assists), Emerson Clark (12 kills, 10 digs, 10 serve points) and Breanna Spinks (eight kills, 10 digs).

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

## BASKETBALL

Continued from page B1

mentary School in Pittsboro, J.S. Waters School in Goldston, North Chatham Elementary School in Chapel Hill and Silk Hope School in Siler City.

Registration for the program opened Nov. 19 and will continue through Dec. 21; it costs $40 for Chatham County residents and $50 for non-residents. Participants can register online at chathamnc.org/parks-recreation but must mail or submit their payment to the department in person.

And, as the county website noted: "This program (will remain) subject to change due to NCHSAA, NCDHHS or Chatham County guidelines."

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

## CHARGER

Continued from page B1

"This sounds so cliché," she said, laughing, "but so many problems can be solved with getting good sleep and eating right … that's the best advice I can give."

Harrington, a December 2018 Northwood alum who enrolled early at App State, said it's always important for student-athletes to take downtime. But you have to "hold your love for the game," too, he said, and find ways to separate yourself from the countless players vying for the same spots you are.

"Putting in the extra work, it really starts in high school," Harrington said. "I was going to find ways to make myself better. You have to put time aside." (Those practices have served him well at App State, where he's flourishing as a first-time starter at linebacker.)

After about 30 minutes of Sheets and Harrington, Amy turned it over to Milo. She's a director of regional recruiting for NCSA, a website that works directly with over 40,000 college coaches across dozens of sports to fill their rosters with prospective student-athletes.

Among the topics Milo touched on in a PowerPoint: the coronavirus-altered recruiting timeline, the importance of unweighted GPAs and core course requirements, social media strategy and a breakdown of how Division I, Division II, Division III, NAIA schools and junior colleges provide athletic and/or academic scholarships.

"A lot of parents don't know there's money at the Division II level," said Milo, who played basketball and volleyball at Clemson. "You have to keep your options open."

As the webinar wrapped up, Milo took questions and gave instructions on creating an effective NCSA account, which every Northwood student-athlete got for free as a perk for their attendance.

And Amy took the time to again praise his two featured guests. Their perspectives, he said, were an invaluable learning experience for Northwood's current high school athletes — who, if they remain committed, may blossom into the next Sheets or Harrington themselves.

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




Low Cost Spay / Neuter - Only $20
Qualified applicants may purchase vouchers to use at participating pet clinics. Submit applications to:
Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center
725 Renaissance Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Phone: 919-542-7203 facebook.com/chathamsoar
Hours: MTWF 11a-5p • TH 11a-7p • SA 10a-2p
For a printable application, visit:
www.chathamsheriff.com

KILDEE FARM
Collards
(919) 742-5102
936 Kildee Church Rd.
(off Hwy 64 between Ramseur and Siler City, Watch for Signs)




Stillpoint Acupuncture
and Chinese Herbal Medicine
Thank you Chatham County for 14 wonderful years!
Acupuncture and Customized Herbal Formulas for:
Acute and Chronic Pain
Headaches
Digestive Issues
Immunity / Allergies
Fertility
ADHD / Anxiety / Depression
Insomnia
Fatigue
Stress Management
919-663-1137
www.stillpointacupuncture.com
229 E. Raleigh St., Siler City, NC 27344

CENTRAL PIEDMONT URGENT CARE
101 Walmart Supercenter • Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-3911
1011 High Point Street • Randleman, NC 27317
336-498-0226
www.centralpiedmonturgentcare.com

Worth knowing.
Worth reading.
SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
ONE YEAR FOR ONLY
$45 in county $50 outside county
call (919) 663-3232
or go to
chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe/

VecinoAVecino neighbor to neighbor
Mutual Aid for the Piedmont
This Community ROCKS!
Abundance NC is matching folks in need during this Covid-19 period with volunteers and locals that have time and resources. Here is a recap of what **YOU** have accomplished since the pandemic started:

To DONATE:
ABUNDANCE North Carolina
For help or to help:
- Approximately 100 able + generous community members have bought & delivered groceries and paid utility bills directly for about 100 families in need, sometimes repeatedly. ~$20,000
- Abundance NC has raised $16,000 and paid $11,000 worth of utility bills.
- You have avoided evictions several times by pooling in money to cover unpaid rent due to lack of work or reduced hours due to the pandemic.
- You have avoided disconnection of utilities and helped people get their utilities reinstated for about half a dozen families.
- We have connected approximately 50 families with other community resources available.
- We have been able to cover Abundance NC staff time to run this Neighbor2Neighbor program! !!
Thank YOU!
Much LOVE and BLESSINGS from the families YOU help! This is community resilience! !!

# Chatham Chamber of Commerce annual award recipients

**BY D. LARS DOLDER**
News + Record Staff

Every year, the Chatham Chamber of Commerce recognizes a selection of Chatham businesses and professionals who have made outstanding contributions to the community and excelled in their respective fields. Few years have been as challenging for business as 2020, as exemplified by the virtual ceremony held during the Chamber's annual meeting last Wednesday. But several community members have distinguished themselves nonetheless.



**McCullough**

Here are this year's Chatham Chamber of Commerce annual awards recipients.



Submitted photo

**Pictured (from left) are Chamber President Cindy Poindexter and those recognized at the organization's annual meeting: Kevin O'Dell, Erica Sanders, Indira Everett, Jazmin Mendoza Sosa, James Jernigan, Lyle Donaldson, Tony Cash, Eric Williams and Mark Reif.**

### Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory, Small Business of the Year

Lyle Donaldson first discovered his passion for funeral service arrangement after seeing its value first hand.

"After experiencing the loss of his grandmother, he found himself working a summer job for two years at Hall-Wynne funeral home," said award presenter James Jernigan of SunTrust now Truist. "… His desire to help families in their greatest time of need led him to pursue a career as a funeral home director."

After graduating from a funeral service licensee program, Donaldson purchased Pittsboro's Hall-Wynne in 2015 when he was 26, making him a seventh-generation business owner in Chatham County.

The business has grown 40% in the five years under Donaldson's leadership and has recently added an on-site crematory, the first and only in Chatham County.

"We have been very fortunate," Donaldson said. "Our business has grown drastically … Thank you to my parents and all of my staff. I couldn't do it without them."

### Mark Reif, Distinguished Person of the Year

Mark Reif, the human resources communications manager for Mountaire Farms, "is the driving force behind many of the community outreaches of Mountaire in Siler City and the local area," said award presenter Tony Cash of Fidelity Bank.

Reif has managed the company's contributions to such programs as the Chatham County Sheriff's Office's Shop with a Deputy, Chatham Literacy, Holiday Meals for Community Members, Benefits for Family Members Due to Serious Illnesses and Scholarships for Youth.

"Mark Reif is a compassionate, intelligent and professional business leader," Cash said.

Besides the work he does for Mountaire, Reif has distinguished himself in the community as president of the Siler City Rotary club and as a member of the Chatham County Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed especially being here in Chatham County," Reif said, "It is an absolutely wonderful community, wonderful place to be. People are extremely friendly and its very easy to conduct your business."

### Eric Williams, Young Professional of the Year

Immediately after receiving his own award, Reif presented the next to Eric Williams, 27, of Edward Jones.

"(He) is a true leader," Reif said. "He looks out for his clients and looks for avenues that will help them maximize their income. And I've been told that if you want to verify that, just ask any of his clients."

Williams, a Pittsboro native, recently opened his own branch of Edward Jones Investments in his hometown after completing Edward Jones' financial adviser career development program in St. Louis. The office opened in 2018, and one year later received accredited asset management designations.

"He's trustworthy, professional, reliable, transparent and he has excellent communication skills," Reif said. "… He is a role model for other young professionals."

In his free time — of which he has little, Reif pointed out — Williams volunteers for Chatham Literacy, and works as president of Pittsboro's Rotary club.

Williams thanked the chamber for recognizing him, his parents for molding him, and added, "very importantly, I want to thank my clients. It's been a tough year, I think, for everyone. It's been an interesting year for the markets — lot of job changes, a lot of life changes, and we've had some difficult conversations this year. I just really appreciate you putting trust in a young professional."

### Jazmin Mendoza Sosa, Duke Energy Citizenship and Service Award

The Citizenship and Service Award is bestowed upon "someone who has made a noteworthy contribution to the community above and beyond the norm," said Indira Everett, a Duke Energy representative and the Chamber board chairperson. "It is a tribute to an individual who makes a difference in their community by using their time, talents and compassion, to positively impact the lives of others."

Communities In Schools Chatham County Student Support Specialist Jazmin Mendoza Sosa embodied those qualifications in 2020, working to keep underprivileged students on track for success amid unprecedented circumstances.

"(She is) the epitome of service and commitment in her workplace and in the community," Everett said. "People are amazed at her compassion, commitment, honesty, energy and the love she gives all her students and others."

Besides her individualized support for students, Mendoza Sosa advocates for underrepresented demographics in the school system, "eliminating barriers for diverse populations and utilizing culturally relevant resources while ensuring equity is embedded in all areas of the district's culture," Everett said.

Earlier in 2020, Mendoza Sosa earned the Chatham County outstanding volunteer award for similar work with Chatham County 4-H.

"This is a team effort," Mendoza Sosa said. "I wouldn't be here without the support of the families I work with, the time and support they give. (I'm thankful) also for my family being patient. I think working all the time or volunteering often means sacrificing some family time, so I want to thank them."

### Kevin O'Dell, Chamber Ambassador of the Year Award

Chatham Chamber of Commerce ambassadors promote member commitment and retention by working to promote strong relationships and encouraging meaningful and beneficial participation in Chamber events and programs.

Kevin O'Dell joined the program in June 2019 and quickly distinguished himself. The native New Yorker moved to N.C. in 1989 to work with the DOT. Now, he works as a senior project manager for Summit Design and Engineering Services and has embraced the North Carolina way.

"In time," Chamber President Cindy Poindexter said, "he finally became a North Carolinian and learned to comfortably say, 'y'all.'"

Most of O'Dell's brief term as an ambassador has involved navigating the coronavirus pandemic. But he has contributed to the Chamber's ongoing success nonetheless.

"Thank you, Kevin, for your commitment in the communities we serve, enabling our employees and clients to succeed together," Poindexter said. "And in behalf of the chamber, we thank you for being part of the ambassador team, for always putting your best foot forward, for representing the Chamber well, and for helping us serve our chamber member businesses."

### Beth McCullough, Board Leadership Award

This was the first year the Chamber gave out an award to recognize a Chamber board member who performed above and beyond.

The decision was easy to make, said Everett, the board's chairperson. When anyone on the board needed help, Beth McCullough, board member and director of secondary programs and communications at Chatham Charter, was eager and ready to step up.

"Her leadership is simply invaluable," Everett said, citing the award which reads: "Leadership — one person can make all the difference."

*Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @dldolder.*


BUSINESSES & SERVICES DIRECTORY

CROSSROADS BACKHOE SERVICE
• Install and Repair Septic Systems
• Pump Existing Septic Tanks
• All Sorts of Backhoe Work
• Specializing in Bush Hogging
• Ponds, Ditches & Driveways
Call Monty Justice @ (919) 545-4107

See Us For:
Commercial Refrigeration
Heating & Air Conditioning
Sales & Service
LANGLEY
Refrigeration Company
Ph: 742-2777

FOR THIS SPOT CALL (919) 663-3232

ASHEBORO TIE YARDS, INC
Beautiful Yards Start Here!
Mushroom Compost • Shredded Hardwood Mulch
Pine Mini Nuggets • Brick Chips • Sand • Top Soil
Black, Brown & Red Mulch • White Pea Gravel • Railroad Ties
205 Hanner Town Rd. Bear Creek
(2 miles South of Bonlee on Old 421)
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM - 4 PM, Fri. 7 AM - 12 PM
(919) 837-2822 • We Deliver!

D & G PLUMBING
Plumbing Problems?
Commercial and Residential Installation and Service
Located in Siler City
Locally Owned and Operated by Greg and Donna Kennedy
Licensed and Insured
Office: 919-742-4587 Cell: 919-427-2374

Caviness Farms
GRADING AND HAULING
Siler City, NC • 919-548-3064
CHRIS CAVINESS
GRAVEL • TOPSOIL • POND • MULCH • FILL DIRT
DRIVEWAY • LAND CLEARING • SITE DEVELOPMENT

TREE MASTERS
•Brush Chipping
•Tree Climbing •Stump Removal
•Free Estimates
Tommy Dunigan
(919) 775-7408
Cell: (919) 548-3542

PASCHAL LAW OFFICE
Wade Paschal, Attorney
119 North Fir Avenue, Siler City, NC
Ph: 919-742-6006
Email: wadepaschal@gmail.com
TRAFFIC TICKETS • DIVORCE • CHILD CUSTODY • WILL • PROBATE
DURABLE POWERS OF ATTORNEY • LIVING WILLS
HEALTH CARE POWER OF ATTORNEY • SPECIALIZING IN
RESIDENTIAL LOAN CLOSINGS AND REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

THIS SPOT CAN BE YOURS!
Call Advertising @ 919-663-3232

Bob Atkinson, GRI, CRS, E-PRO
Homes-Land-Investments
C: 919-362-6999
LearnAboutLand.com
Atkinson Properties Group
bobatkinson321@gmail.com

Find the help you need in the Services Directory of Chatham News + Record
Advertise Your Business in the Service Directory
for ONLY $20 PER WEEK!

**CHATHAM CHAT** | THE LOCAL CHURCH'S ANTI-RACISM TASK FORCE

# Pittsboro church works to 'take a stand' against injustice of racism



**Barnett**



**Levy**

The Local Church, based in Pittsboro, has created an Anti-Racism Task Force to both address it and work to dismantle it proactively. This week, we speak with pastor Rev. Brent Levy and Katie Barnett, who serves as the facilitator for the task force.

Levy describes himself as passionate about finding the sacred in the ordinary and making space for others to experience the presence and power of God. He lives in Pittsboro with his wife, Natalie, and his daughters, Emma and Eliza. You can connect with him at brent@thelocalchurchpbo.org and learn more about The Local Church at thelocalchurchpbo.org.

Barnett has called TLC home since 2018. She lives in Carrboro with her partner, Lee, and cute dog, Juno. Katie is a coffee connoisseur and is passionate about celebrating the details of life.

**'We hope that this work will leak into the community through a people empowered to love where they are in words and actions, becoming more aware of implicit biases, educating others, and loving our neighbors well through acts of service.'**

**Your church, The Local Church, has created an Anti-Racism Task Force in order to "take an active stand against racism." Can you talk about how the task force came to be?**

The mantra and mission of The Local Church is "love where you are," and that is the driving force behind the creation of the Anti-Racism Task Force.

Through spring and summer 2020, like many other communities in the America, we were struck by the atrocious murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Amhaud Arbery and too many others. As a predominantly white church community, we felt it was right to take a stand against these injustices — not only because it is what our "love where you are" mission requires, but it is also what our baptismal vows call us to and what the Gospel demands of us as followers of Jesus. We believe that our commitment to anti-racism should be reflected in the culture of the community through our practices, ministries and organization as we continue to learn about the sin of racism. Through collective confession, education, prayer and action, the Anti-Racism Task Force aims to both dismantle racism and become proactively anti-racist in our faith community, in Chatham County and beyond.

**Why does the church describe racism as a sin?**

We describe racism as a sin because it is. We are not trying to be flippant; rather, we are working to name it with honesty and penitence. (This response likely needs much more than a paragraph. To that end, we are available for coffee and conversation!)

For some, this understanding may require a shifting of perspective or a redefining of what we mean when we say "sin." To understand sin as something that is only personal or only involving one's individual morality is a myopic understanding. It fails to take into account the sin of complex systems and structures that undergird so much of our life and that we are caught in — knowingly or otherwise. This includes the sin of racism woven into the social, economic, criminal justice and religious fabrics of the United States.

At its core, sin is disconnection. It's a violation of relationship between creature and creature or creature and Creator. Racism, in the ways that it is a failure to see another as made in God's image and a failure to see the gift inherent in another human being, is sin in that it results in disconnection and harm. And when systems and structures are in place that limit another's ability to live fully and freely into who God has created them to be, then that, too, is sin. As followers of Jesus, we're instructed to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). When there are systems in place that prevent this love from happening, leading to disconnect and a violation of relationship, it can only be described as sin. We give thanks that the Church is slowly starting to acknowledge our own complicity, repent, and work toward racial justice, equity and belonging for all of God's beloved.

**Chatham County's Public Health Department has declared what it calls "structural racism" to be a health crisis in Chatham. Yet on places like Facebook and the Chatham Chatlist, there are those who rail against that declaration, saying it just doesn't exist. What's your response to those who say that racism either doesn't exist or is a hand overplayed?**

The Local Church wrote a letter in full support of Chatham County Public Health Department's declaration of racism as a public health crisis. Structural racism does exist, and we're thankful that our community health department took this step to name it, invite awareness, and begin to work toward justice. We cannot accept something that isn't first named.

While some may cling to color-blindness or denials of racism, often because they have never been singled out for their skin color, we believe it's vital to be color-honoring. To be color-honoring is to appreciate the beauty, diversity and particularity of God and all of creation! So our response would be an invitation to listen to the experiences of Black people, Indigenous people and people of color who can share how structural racism has impacted them personally.

It is difficult to deny someone's experience. It's hard to say that someone's story "doesn't exist" or is "overplayed." When we listen with generosity, curiosity and love, the intangible can become tangible, and a construct can become embodied. The Local Church commits to being a community that will listen and learn and not deny the experiences of our friends and neighbors in our community. We will be an ally and an advocate.

**You've stated that the aims of the task force are to 1) dismantle racism, and 2) become proactively anti-racist in our church and in Chatham County and beyond. How do you envision that happening?**

This is a work in progress, so we certainly don't have all the answers! But we do know that the Anti-Racism Task Force will work to this end through prayer, confession, repentance, education and action. This will happen both within the Anti-Racism Task Force and the broader faith community, and we hope that this work will leak into the community through a people empowered to love where they are in words and actions, becoming more aware of implicit biases, educating others and loving our neighbors well through acts of service.

**Can you outline the steps you've taken already?**

The first step was to create an Anti-Racism Task Force. We have also sent letters to the Chatham County Health Department in support of their declaration of structural racism as an ongoing public health crisis and to the Chatham Community Library's Youth Services Department for their ongoing support of equity and anti-racism education. In addition, we have entered into a partnership with friends at Union Grove AMEZ Church in Bear Creek.

Together, our communities will explore friendship, reconciliation and anti-racism. Our first public event was a live streamed gathering called "Sacred Broken Ground: A Conversation on Race, Friendship, and Other Hard Things" with Rev. Charles Matthews and Rev. Brent Levy. You can view a replay of this event on Facebook.

Our Local Book Club is also participating in this work with every third book selected focusing on anti-racism. We also post anti-racist educational and inspirational content on our Instagram feed with a feature called #WithWednesdays. There, we feature local Black-owned businesses, anti-racism quotations, tangible action steps and pertinent passages of scripture. (You can follow us at @localchurchpbo.)

We are also cultivating anti-racism resources for families including children's books, podcasts for parents, articles, blogs and other materials — with hope of also hosting a movie night post-pandemic. We seek to invite local artists, scholars and organizers to help facilitate discussions about racial justice with our congregation, and we have been working to incorporate more diversity into our worship life, too.

**There are other groups in Chatham County actively working toward similar goals. Do you have plans for collaboration, or is this effort focused solely within your own church?**

We absolutely plan to collaborate! We believe we are better together, and there is so much we can learn from other organizations in the community. In fact, even before the Anti-Racism Task Force was created, we were already collaborating with community partners. We hosted friends from RAFI (Rural Advancement Foundation International) and The Chatham Social Justice Exchange for a conversation on racial justice, and CORE (Chatham Organizing for Racial Equity) was gracious enough to help us facilitate our book club on Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's "Stamped From the Beginning." We are so thankful for these organizations in Chatham County, and we excitedly anticipate learning more from them (and others!) as we move forward.

**What's next?**

In addition to what we already have up and running, the Anti-Racism Task Force is currently working on a series of check-ins with the various ministry areas of The Local Church. These check-ins are designed to view our church through a racial equity lens and better understand where we are now as we look to the future and continue in our anti-racism efforts. We will use our findings as a jumping off point for continued education, local partnerships, and further movement toward racial justice. Black lives matter to God, and they matter to The Local Church. By God's grace and with God's help, will be a voice for racial justice in Chatham County.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Gladys McAuley is newest CCCC Trustee

SANFORD — Gladys Rodriguez McAuley is the newest member of the Central Carolina Community College Board of Trustees. She was appointed to the board by N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper.

McAuley holds an associate degree in accounting from Central Carolina Community College and a bachelor's degree in management from Meredith College, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude.

She retired in 2012 from IBM in Research Triangle Park.

McAuley is married to Larry E. McAuley. They have one child, Chris McAuley.

### Holiday in the Park: a Holly Jolly drive-thru

The Chatham County community is invited to get into the holiday spirit with the Chatham County Parks and Recreation Department's second annual Holiday in the Park event, schedule for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11, at Northeast District Park.

Modified due to COVID-19, this year's event will take place as a holly jolly drive-thru, where participants will be asked to stay in their cars while in attendance.

During Holiday in the Park, families can collect an ornament kit to decorate at home, reindeer food and candy canes, while supplies last. Participants are encouraged to write a letter to Santa Claus ahead of time. Children will be able to hand their letters to Santa himself and wave at him through their car window.

"We are excited to continue to provide recreational activities and special events to allow Chatham County families the opportunity to enjoy fun times while also maintaining safety during the pandemic," said Chatham County Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett.

For more information, visit the Holiday in the Park Facebook event at facebook.com/CCParksandRecNC/events, or contact Mallory Peterson at (919) 548-0301 or at mallorypeterson.ccpr@gmail.com.

### Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 sign-up ends Dec. 11

Agricultural producers may apply for CFAP 2 through the Chatham County Farm Service Agency Office through Dec. 11.This program provides producers compensation for ongoing market disruptions and with the associated marketing costs during the COVID-19 pandemic. CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of commodities: Price Trigger Commodities, Flat-rate Crops and Sales Commodities. Price trigger commodities are major commodities that meet a minimum 5-percent price decline over a specified period of time. Eligible price trigger crops include barley, corn, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, upland cotton, and all classes of wheat. Payments will be based on 2020 planted acres of the crop. Eligible price trigger livestock are beef cattle, pigs, and lambs. Payment is based on maximum owned inventory of eligible livestock, excluding breeding stock, on a date selected by the producer, between April 16 and Aug. 3.

A complete list of eligible commodities, payment rates and calculations can be found on farmers.gov/cfap. If you have any questions or would like to apply for the CFAP 2 program, please call the county office at 919-542-2244, ext. 2. USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone or email only at this time.

*— CN + R staff reports*

**Eureka!** *You found the answer!*

A: Mary Myrtle Siler Thompson. She was sworn in on October 4, 1920.

To enter the COA's monthly drawing for a $25 Visa Gift Card, call the COA at 919-542-4512, extension 223 and follow the prompts on the voicemail.
November's winner will be drawn from eligible entries provided by 11/30/2020. The November winner will be announced in a December issue of the Chatham News + Record. One entry per household, per week. Employees of the COA and their dependents not eligible.

## Chatham COA Upcoming Events

*November 26th – December 2nd*

**Thursday, November 26th - Happy Thanksgiving!**
- COA offices closed for the holiday.

**Friday, November 27th**
- Weekly Call with Director Dennis Streets at 10:15 AM

**Monday, November 30th**
- Tai Chi for Arthritis at 8:45 AM
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise at 10:00 AM
- Bingo with Joe at 11:15 AM

**Tuesday, December 1st**
- Body Conditioning Exercise with Jackie at 9:00 AM

**Wednesday, December 2nd**
- Tai Chi for Arthritis at 8:45 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 & Win!*

Each week the COA will offer a 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. Look in **Section A** for this week's question.

### *Free Help with Your Medicare Open Enrollment Questions!*

Give the Council on Aging a call to set up your appointment for free and unbiased information and assistance. Just ask for the SHIIP program!

### *The Chatham COA is Here for You!*

For more information on our ongoing programs & services visit our website at chathamcoa.org or call our centers, Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

***Eastern Chatham Senior Center***
*365 NC-87 N*
*Pittsboro, NC 27312*
*919-542-4512*

***Western Chatham Senior Center***
*112 Village Lake Road*
*Siler City, NC 27344*
*919-742-3975*

# The Gift of Speech: Raising money to help an autistic boy speak

**BY HANNAH TOWEY**
UNC Media Hub

SILER CITY — When Gudelia Santana Ubaldo asks her son to speak, he grabs her hand and gently touches his forehead to hers.

"Dime Sammy, usa tus palabras," she says, telling Sammy to use his words. He silently leans over the beige leather chair positioned by the window, sun shining across his mother's face.

He pulls back, shakes his hands and walks toward the end of their mobile home as his mouth begins to form singular vowels: "ah, eh, oo."

Gudelia knows he wants something, but is not sure what— he probably just misses her company.

Sammy has been diagnosed with global developmental delay, autism and mixed language disorders that prevent him from speaking. He has yet to acquire certain cognitive and social skills standard for his age. But at 8 years old, doctors consider him a walking miracle.

Gudelia was born with an abnormally small and narrow uterus. After 10 years of attempting to conceive with no luck, she almost gave up on having children.

"For me, as a woman it was something very frustrating, not having children," Gudelia said, her eyes slowly filling with tears as she tracks Sammy's movements."I didn't feel fulfilled as a woman."

Raising a family was one of the main reasons Gudelia and her husband, Rodrigo, emigrated from Mexico to Siler City years ago. They both found work at a local sock factory and began planning their American dream: a house filled with kids, and within each child, hope for a better future.



Photos courtesy of Patsy Montesinos and Gudelia Santana Ubaldo

**Gudelia and Sammy at home.**

Instead, Gudelia found herself unable to get pregnant, and when she finally did, suffered a painful miscarriage.

Emmanuel, the name of the child she lost, is written in black cursive across the pages of a handmade booklet. She gently turns the pages adorned in his memory, white printer paper stapled together at its spine.

Years after losing Emmanuel, Gudelia became pregnant with Sammy. Doctors warned her that it was unlikely the child would survive, and if he did, he would never be able to walk or speak.

"I told the doctors that I was going to have him no matter what," Gudelia said. "I didn't care about the disability. I wanted my son, I wanted children so badly."

Born at just 25 weeks, Sammy weighed 1 pound, 12 ounces, his body fitting neatly in the palm of her hands. The doctors promised they would do everything in their power to save him, but told Gudelia to prepare for the worst — a state of being she was accustomed to.

For the next three months, Sammy remained in an incubator, each day as uncertain as the next.

"Those three months were some of the hardest and most exhausting months to get through," Gudelia said. "But, it was all worth it. He became our world. From the moment he opened his eyes, to his first smile to even his first steps. He made us feel complete."

With one week left before his 9th birthday, Sammy has undergone dozens of therapies and treatments in hopes of improving his ability to communicate. After years of speech therapy, Sammy can just barely pronounce one word: mama.

"As a mother, I think about the future when I won't be here on this earth anymore," Gudelia said. "I want him to speak so that he can become independent and stand on his own two feet."

With the weight of her son's future on her shoulders, Gudelia sat down to watch an episode of "The Doctors" on Univision, an American Spanish-language television network.

The mother on the screen appeared to share every struggle she felt she was facing alone. Miriam Gimal told the talk-show hosts how her daughter was born severely autistic and couldn't speak. She had tried all the traditional therapies with little to no improvement— and then, in one final act of hope, her daughter received a MeRT brain treatment.



Photos courtesy of Patsy Montesinos and Gudelia Santana Ubaldo

**Sammy receives a quantitative EEG administered by David Day at NEUCOA medical clinic in Virginia Beach.**

MeRT, an emerging technology owned by Wave Neuroscience, attempts to reprogram abnormal electrical signals in the brain. The basic premise of the treatment is that our brain is made up of neurons: cells that use electrical currents to communicate with one another in order to execute the most basic of functions, from tying our shoes to speech.

While most pills and medicines focus on the chemical aspects of brain activity, MeRT attempts to coordinate disrupted brain waves found in patients with depression, anxiety, PTSD and autism. In the case of Gimal, the treatment led her daughter to speak for the first time.

"Recently we had a young girl, she was nonverbal, 6 years old, had been in speech therapy for four years and then she literally could not stop talking," said David Day, owner of NEUCOA, a brain treatment center located in Virginia Beach that uses MeRT technology.

"The hairs were standing up on our arms," he said. "Both parents' jaws dropped when they heard her talk. They knew that she was in there. But something was slowing that process."

One month of MeRT treatment costs around $8,000, a bill unthinkably high for Sammy's family. Gudelia can no longer work the afternoon shift at the sock factory, as she takes care of Sammy full-time. Due to COVID-19, Rodrigo was left unemployed for three months, only able to return to work once the factory reopened.

To help families facing financial difficulties, NEUCOA offers two-week treatment blocks, allowing payment two weeks at a time as opposed to a lump sum. Patients can then decide if they are happy with the results after two weeks and choose whether to continue.

Even then, it's not guaranteed that the treatment would help Sammy speak. According to research done by The Brain Treatment Center, 66 percent of patients with communication difficulties experienced speech improvement.

"If they have the results and they're happy with it, then we encourage them," Day said. "But I'm not forcing their hand. I want this to be a cooperative understanding of if we see progress, if the child's benefiting from it, and if families can afford it."

In hopes of raising money for the treatment, Sammy's family created a GoFundMe page with a goal of $20,000. So far, they have raised a little more than $1,000, mostly made up of small donations from the local community. The title of the GoFundMe is "El Regalo del Habla," or "The Gift of Speech."

Despite the fact that results are uncertain, Gudelia said she has faith that if Sammy defeated the odds of survival, he can, by those same odds, speak.

"That's the wish and the dream I have for my son, that he speaks," Gudelia said. "It would be like a gift, if my son gets that therapy, it would be like a Christmas present at the end of the year."

Thank You
To all of our front line workers
We are currently working regular office hours from our office location. We have precautions in place to keep our customers and our team safe.
State Farm®

Ask for a Quote For Good to support Chatham YMCA. For every quote we receive in November, we will donate $5.00 to the Chatham YMCA.
Connolly Walker, Agent
919-265-0702 • connollywalkerinsurance.com
11470 US 15 501 N, Suite 105, Chapel Hill, NC

GIVING THANKS IN TUMULTUOUS TIMES

# Why Chatham County residents are thankful

*2020 has been a very difficult year, all around. As you reflect on Thanksgiving in light of this pandemic-dominated world, what are you thankful for — or newly thankful for — right now?*

I'm thankful to God for the gift of my family and friends and the gift of history to put this year in perspective of all the years that have passed. History tells us this is not the first pandemic, not the first contested election, not the first with weather damage. I am thankful to put this year in our collective rear-view mirror!

CINDY SCHMIDT, *Chatham Historical Museum*

2020 has been a difficult and challenging year for all of us, and for some, the losses have been profound and life-altering. I do not want to diminish that reality for those who have lost loved ones, housing or employment. But, as we are contemplating our blessings in this season, I am especially grateful for the time that I have had with my young adult children and teens who, in the ordinary course of things, would be in far flung places starting new lives, enjoying college experiences and indulging in the affairs of young men that do not normally include their parents. Instead, I have been able to reconnect with these delightful youngsters who have been able to work and study online and enjoy the camaraderie that comes with having a big family when we thought that those years were behind us. Bathrooms are dirtier, grocery bills higher and squabbles occasionally erupt, but this unexpected gift of time is deeply appreciated and what I hope to remember best when I think of 2020.

KAREN HOWARD, *Chatham County Board of Commissioners*

Very grateful for my health and the good fortune of those close to me not having succumbed to COVID-19. Not everyone can say that.

JOHN MCCANN, *Chatham County Schools*

I'm thankful for our community, for the people that are helping people in need. It is amazing how much people volunteer to help those that don't have food, rent, electricity, water. If we think about how much we have every day, it compels us to give to those that are struggling right now for NO FAULT of their own. Simply a systemic problem of inequality. I am of course grateful always to my friends and family. And this beautiful planet that we get to live on (as opposed to Mars or the MOON!)

TAMI SCHWERIN, *Abundance NC*

During a trying time for the nation, I am grateful for many things I know that others do not have. I am thankful that my husband and I are still employed, that I am able to work from home so I can help my kids with schoolwork, that we have food on the table and a roof over our heads. All of that said the true silver lining has come with a slowed schedule, more family dinners and being able to spend so much time with my kids and my husband.

JAIME DETZI, *Chatham Education Foundation*

I am thankful for my health and being able to show love and kindness to my family and friends and the community at large.

I am thankful for family, friends, good food and good health. I am thankful for all those individuals who take time out of their busy schedules to help others in need, as well as to contribute to my well-being. I have priceless memories, more good than bad, and I thank God for them all.

MARY NETTLES, *Chatham County Community NAACP*

I am thankful for employment because it allows me to serve others, often disadvantaged through my time, talents and treasure.

INDIRA EVERETT, *Duke Energy*

Well, in the first place, I am thankful to God for everything that he has done for me. Even though it was one of the hardest years losing my brother-in-law and knowing how millions of people passed away due to Covid-19, and natural disasters in my country (Guatemala). I am thankful because God never left me alone. He still has me here healthy and my family is here healthy as well. I am thankful because God is always sending people to help and support me in many ways. Even though it was a hard year, God never stopped opening doors for me. I got the opportunity to get a job at the public school. God opened the door for me to be part of the Chatham County 250th Celebration. I know he will continue blessing me more and more.

I'm grateful for the goodness and the self-giving that I witness in our community.

FR. JULIO A. MARTINEZ, *St. Julia Catholic Church, Siler City*

LENDY CARIAS, *Telamon Head Start*

This Thanksgiving I am thankful first and foremost for my family. My two daughters and my wife of 29 years are everything to me and have always been supportive. Secondly, I am thankful for the amazing opportunity to serve the people of Chatham County with a team of professional, caring staff like no other I have worked with in my career. Our elected board cares deeply for the wellbeing of the public while at the same time wants the best for county staff. This supportive work environment enables staff to be creative and adaptable while maintaining a positive outlook through times of adversity like those we have recently experienced.

DAN LAMONTAGNE, *Chatham County Manager*

Managing life in the midst of a global pandemic has certainly proven to be been difficult and at times overwhelming. Caring for two elementary aged children while working a full-time job has not been easy. Although we've all experienced challenges there is still so much to be thankful for. I am thankful for the time spent together with my family, thankful to be serving Chatham County youth at the Boys & Girls Club, and also for the small things in life that many of us have taken for granted: hikes with my kids, our pets, hearing the birds sing in the morning during my virtual morning meetings on the patio, and of course...Netflix and Disney Plus!

ELIZABETH COLEBROOK, *Central Carolina Boys & Girls Clubs*

At Cambridge Hills and Twin Rivers we're thankful for the faith and trust that our resident families have placed in us to love and care for their family members. We're thankful for our staff who are so selfless in their efforts and for our residents who share their lives with us. We're thankful for our many community friends and partners for all that they do, as well.

MIKE WALTERS, *Cambridge Hills*

At Cambridge Hills and Twin Rivers we're thankful for the faith and trust that our resident families have placed in us to love and care for their family members. We're thankful for our staff who are so selfless in their efforts and for our residents who share their lives with us. We're thankful for our many community friends and partners for all that they do, as well.

MIKE WALTERS, *Cambridge Hills*

Today I am thankful to be able to provide and nurture a peaceful nature habitat for birds, worms, snakes, plants, insects, turtles and frogs. And it's a respite for me during quarantine.

SUZA WHITE, *Pittsboro gardener*

I am so thankful for our many Chatham County Schools' employees and how hard they have all worked to help our students during this difficult time. I am also thankful for the many people that have taken the time to reach out to me to offer their support and to let me know they are thinking of me. I am also so very thankful for my family. I hope you enjoy your Thanksgiving as well.

GARY LEONARD, *Chatham County Board of Education*

Some of the extracurricular activities I'm involved in have been canceled or postponed due to COVID-19. This has afforded me additional personal time in my life that I truly missed. I now use that time to simply relax, read a book, or spend time with my family. I'm thankful for this unexpected blessing amid this difficult time.

DANIEL SIMMONS, *Central Carolina Boys & Girls Clubs*

What a blessing to be alive in 2020! Knowing that I can worship and honor my Lord Jesus Christ that has so unselfishly washed my sins away through His Grace in the greatest country on earth is more than anyone could ask for. Knowing that it's the little things that I have been blessed with that makes the big things even more amazing! Like my wonderful family headed up by the most amazing wife of our four daughters. Three loving son-in-laws that care so deeply for my "little girls." Then there's the blessing of six, count 'em, 6 grandchildren that light up my life each and every day. Blessings of a place called home, a career that provided me a livelihood for our family, and a sense of knowing that I make a difference in so many lives day in and day out. God has blessed me beyond my wildest dreams. Thanksgiving is a time to put all of this in perspective, but on the other hand, everyday gives us the opportunity to show our thanks! May this 2020 Thanksgiving with all it's challenges, be one year that we look back on as a true blessing in making us more faithful, resilient, stronger, caring, and understanding. God Bless!

DAVID M. HAMM, *Chatham County Board of Education*

There is so much to lament this year, but I'm reminded again and again that the Bible doesn't say to give thanks for all circumstances but to give thanks in all circumstances. To that end, I am especially thankful for the spirit of collaboration, partnership, and innovation that has emerged among businesses, individuals, and non-profits to help those in need and love our neighbors well in such trying times. I must also say that I am thankful for the resiliency of children, especially my kids Emma and Eliza, who continue to engage and embrace the world with curiosity, determination, and heart — encouraging me to follow their lead.

I am thankful for God's daily new mercies; the love of family and friends; and the support of constituents and colleagues.

VALERIE FOUSHEE, *N.C. Senate*

THE REV. D. BRENT LEVY, *The Local Church*

I'm thankful for my wonderful family and the fact they have stayed healthy thus far through the pandemic. I'm thankful for great friends who I have always been able to lean on for strength and support throughout my life. I'm thankful for all the front-line employees, including health care workers, first responders, and utility workers for keeping us healthy and safe through this past year. I'm thankful for private business employees who have kept our restaurants, grocery, and retail stores open during this past year. Despite all the trials and tribulations, they had to endure they were there to make sure we were able to get the products we needed to survive. I'm thankful for the support and donations the community has given to the police department during this time. Everything the community does for us is greatly appreciated and never taken for granted. Finally, I'm also thankful for our community because even during the worst of times they are always willing to go the extra mile to help their neighbors in need.

I'm very thankful to be alive and healthy. My children and grandchildren are healthy also and to be able to provide support to the families in need. Gracias, gracias, gracias!

MARIA SOTO, *staff, Communities In Schools of Chatham County*

JOELLE BRUMMIT-YALE, *board member, Communities In Schools of Chatham County*

I am thankful for Nancy Van Camp: that we are isolated together back here on the farm, successfully downsized even if by fire (not recommended). I am thankful for Zoom, email, telephone, internet, FaceTime, and these amazing connections with loving family and friends, especially Old Farts. I am thankful we have avoided meeting SARS-CoV-2. I am thankful to have known those who died last year, high school Ray and Charlie, Cousin Andrew, and here Ben, Alice, Margaret, Carl, Dee, and too many more. I am thankful for new friends all over the electronic world, for football on TV, but minus the fake crowd noise static.

DR. JOHN DYKERS, *retired physician*

Ginger and I are most thankful for our strong, engaged community. Our fellow citizens and neighbors have continued to show respect towards each other, and that is gratifying to see during these difficult times. TV does not show enough stories of the good things happening locally around you. Finally, we hope everyone will keep their sense of humor and remember what one wise person said, "Laughter is the shortest distance between two people," and we add "as long as they keep on their masks and stay six feet away!"

PAUL BAUER, *board member, Communities In Schools of Chatham County*

I'm thankful for my community and the collective awakenings that have happened this year. Thankful for my ability to find silver linings in chaos and my body for her strength. I'm thankful for the gifts from nature: chestnuts falling, sweet potatoes, and N.C. apples. I'm thankful for my work pod of coworkers at Abundance NC and Fair Game Beverage Co., my friends, and family.

ALLY DEJONG, *Abundance NC*

In a year that for so many has been filled with anxiety, strife and uncertainty, as Thanksgiving comes upon us, I reflect on the idea that things we find insignificant when we have them readily available become significant when we lose them. Even so, as bad as things may seem, there is always someone less fortunate than us. This year highlighted those disparities and prompts us to count our blessings like never before. To that end, I am thankful for the blessings of family and friends, and thankful for new blessings of my new community in Pittsboro, their trust in me as their Town Manager, their warm welcome and the support they have exhibited towards me and my family.

As I reflect on Thanksgiving, in light of the pandemic, I am thankful for businesses, family, friends, health and paper products.

CINDY POINDEXTER, *Chatham Chamber of Commerce board member, Communities In Schools of Chatham County*

SHORTY JOHNSON, *Pittsboro Police Chief*

As Chief of Police my greatest concern is the safety of my officers and civilian staff. During the pandemic they have been placed in additional harms ways. The day-to-day interactions in unknown environments is an added risk beyond officer safety and public service calls. I am grateful for their selfless service during this pandemic and the unwavering support we receive from our community and town leadership.

MIKE WAGNER, *Siler City Police Chief*

I'm extremely grateful for everyone who helped pull off one of the most challenging elections this county and country has ever faced. Chatham is lucky to have a dedicated and professional staff, citizens who worked tirelessly as poll workers, and voters who remained civil despite our disagreements.

MIKE BAROSSO, *Chatham County Board of Elections*

The pandemic has made me especially thankful for the farmers we have in Chatham County. We've been farmers' market customers for a while, but with supply chain issues, our desire to stay closer to home, and shop in spaces that felt safe, we increased the amount of food we purchase from local farms. It's been amazing to watch our farmers step up to produce and distribute even more fresh, delicious food to our community. They are hard working, resilient, creative, and generous people. I'm incredibly grateful for them.

JOELLE BRUMMIT-YALE, *board member, Communities In Schools of Chatham County*

I'm extremely grateful for everyone who helped pull off one of the most challenging elections this county and country has ever faced. Chatham is lucky to have a dedicated and professional staff, citizens who worked tirelessly as poll workers, and voters who remained civil despite our disagreements.

MIKE BAROSSO, *Chatham County Board of Elections*

I am thankful for compassion, patience, and an awesome extended family, including my Chatham County Schools students, colleagues, and community. Take care, and have a great Thanksgiving!

DR. DERRICK JORDAN, *Chatham County Schools Superintendent*

I am thankful for Maggie and I are constantly have to tell the people we help that it's not me — it's the community they live in. I am just a third party. Thank you, Piedmont neighbors, you rock!

MARCELA SLADE, *Abundance NC*

Maggie and I are thankful for the courage and skill of our doctors, nurses and other health care workers who have been on the front lines saving lives. Their willingness to risk their own health has inspired many others to do all that is possible to safeguard the lives of our neighbors. We are grateful for the professionalism of our first responders, county and city officials who work tirelessly for this county and its future. We also admire the generosity of the people in Chatham County to provide meals to those in need because of the pandemic. We give thanks for the proud spirit of Americans everywhere who stepped forward to share our common burden and strengthen the common good.

BOB PEARSON, *retired diplomat*

I am thankful to be living in these interesting times. Despite the many challenges that have been thrown our way in 2020, I am inspired by the young souls of our community. Their advocacy for what they believe in, and their resilience and perseverance in the face of adversity, gives me hope that they have what it takes to make positive and lasting change that will have a significant impact on future generations. I am so thankful for these young spirits pushing our community to find our best selves - a community that encourages ALL OF US to pursue our highest potential through unity and compassion for one another.

TYCH COWDIN, *Communities In Schools Chatham County Executive Director*

During the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the things I'm thankful for is the public's new appreciation for the outdoors and connecting with nature, and the realization that we need more outdoor places for people to visit. I hope this new appreciation for the outdoors will result in a renewed commitment to investing in open space conservation. Getting outside in nature is a good way to lower stress levels and improve mental health.

GRETCHEN SMITH, *Friends of Lower Haw River State Natural Area*

I applaud the healthcare workers; from the technicians to the doctors to the specialists. They are on the front line of the nation's battle and mine, for I have chronic health issues. I salute my co-workers and colleagues, but as stagehands, we have no industry, much less work. My family is a blessing. My wife is a joy. These are the people who make up my life; them and my neighbors, and I am especially thankful to discover for myself the common decency and generous hearts of my previously anonymous neighbors this year. 2020 brought out the best in them.

DWAYNE WALLS, *Pittsboro resident*

As always, I am so thankful for my savior, Jesus Christ and for my wonderful family - husband, children, grandchildren and mom. The joy they all bring to me every day can never be overstated. In addition and especially in these challenging times we are experiencing, I am incredibly thankful for my CCCC family--every day they continue to amaze me with their generosity and commitment to our students--what a great example of the good in our communities!

DR. LISA CHAPMAN, *Central Carolina Community College President*

We have not lived in Chatham County that long, but I am thankful for new friends and neighbors in our neighborhood who have made this pandemic year bearable — their friendship has been a blessing!

JANIE BUTLER

I'm thankful for a good-hearted husband, a loving, healthy family. I am grateful to be a part of Abundance NC and the Neighbor2Neighbor / VecinoAVecino program in which I am blessed on a daily basis. The community support with this program has been overwhelming and I

I am so thankful for our wonderful town who is family to me, my boys, and having so much beautiful nature so close. The Bynum Bridge has become a place of comfort and serenity during these unsettled times.

BETH BARRICKMAN-DAVIS, *Bynum resident*




Wilson Brothers

**Happy Thanksgiving from Wilson Brothers Trucking**

Since 1940, our family has been transporting and delivering with excellence.
We are very appreciative for our employees and customers, and we wish everyone in Chatham County a joyful day to count your many blessings!

**Wilson Brothers is grateful for all our business and humbled by the trust our employees and customers have placed in us.**

*Be thankful unto Him, and bless His name.*
*For the Lord is good and His love endures forever. - Psalm 100:4-5*

**Bear Creek, N.C. | wilsonbrotherstrucking.com | 919.837.2131**

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Cougar Express holiday drive-thru event set for Dec. 3

SANFORD —The Central Carolina Community College Foundation is sponsoring a special holiday season drive-thru event from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3, at the Dennis A. Wicker Civic & Conference Center parking lot.

The "Cougar Express" drive-thru event that is geared toward small children will include cookies and candy canes, elves, a snowwoman and Santa Claus.

Appropriate COVID-19 measures are in place and will be observed.

"The CCCC Foundation is pleased to offer the Cougar Express drive-thru," said Dr. Emily C. Hare, the CCCC Foundation's executive director. "Please come out and join us for this special occasion."

For more information, contact Dr. Hare at (919) 718-7230 or at ehare@cccc.edu.

### Free services offered at Piedmont Community Health Services

Piedmont Health Services is offering free assistance for people who no longer have health insurance through the Affordable Care Act Health Insurance, which closes in early December, as well as assisting people in deciding what Medicare options which closes in early December.

For information, contact Debra Markley at (919) 619-2159, or go to www.piedmonthealth.org.

*— CN + R staff reports*

*Worth knowing.*
Worth reading.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

ONE YEAR FOR ONLY
$45 in county $50 outside county

call (919) 663-3232
*or* go to
chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe/

At Cambridge Hills & Twin Rivers
*Your Family* Is *Our Family*

CAMBRIDGE HILLS ASSISTED LIVING
140 Brookstone Lane • Pittsboro
919.545.9573

TWIN RIVERS
25 S. Rectory Street • Pittsboro
919-545-0149



www.silver-thread.com

Silver Thread
SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

RECLAMATION
fresh • vintage

SHOP Local.

on Small Business Saturday





Like us on Facebook

Shop local on Small Business Saturday.
**We will be offering 15% off all jewelry, and sales on select merchandise throughout the store.**
We appreciate your business and look forward to seeing you on Saturday!

**Shop us online: www.reclamationvintage.com**

136 Fayetteville St, Pittsboro, turn right after John's Pizza on 15-501 S.
Open Tuesday through Saturday 11-5
(Open Sundays, by appointment, for private shopping)
(919) 200-2176

# ‘The Croods: A New Age,’ a sequel so sanguine even a caveman would like it



**NEIL MORRIS**
Film Critic

**The Croods: A New Age**

**GRADE:** B-minus

**DIRECTOR:** Joel Crawford

**STARRING THE VOICES OF RYAN REYNOLDS, EMMA STONE, NICOLAS CAGE, CATHERINE KEENER, CLARK DUKE, CLORIS LEACHMAN, PETER DINKLAGE, LESLIE MANN AND KELLY MARIE TRAN**

**MPAA RATING:** PG

**RUNNING TIME:** 1 hr. 35 min.



Photo courtesy of DreamWorks Animation

**Ryan Reynolds, Emma Stone, Nicolas Cage, Catherine Keener, Clark Duke, Cloris Leachman, Peter Dinklage, Leslie Mann and Kelly Marie Tran star in ‘The Croods: A New Age.’**

While not a cinematic touchstone, “The Croods” was an above-average animated offering — even nominated for an Oscar, no less — that somehow took eight years to finally arrive on the silver screen. So, too, is its sequel, “The Croods: A New Age,” coming seven-plus years after the original entry — with a forgettable 3-year Netflix series in between — and a pre-production odyssey that saw the project canceled in late 2016, then renewed 10 months later. It is an oddly uneven journey for an otherwise entertaining, if run-of-the-mill movie whose current significance is less the on-screen product and more being one of the few new films opening in theaters during this worldwide pandemic. If you are starved for theater fare, you could do a lot worse than plucking down 10 bucks for this prehistoric piffle.

The strength of “Croods: A New Age” rests again on its voice actors, a surprising who’s who of A-to-B-list talent sporting acumen at the animated medium (and none of whom participated in the Netflix series). The family Croods are still searching for the mystical utopia of “Tomorrow,” the ancestral home of teenage caveboy Guy (Ryan Reynolds), who promises his adopted family a safe haven from the wilds of the world. Meanwhile, Guy and Eep Crood (Emma Stone) are growing closer, which unnerves Crood patriarch Grug (Nicolas Cage), who shirks at the prospect of losing his oldest daughter and breaking up the tight-knit Crood clan.

The Croods suddenly happen upon Tomorrow, a fortified oasis inhabited only by the Bettermans, a trio comprising hippy-dippy dad Phil (Peter Dinklage) — the most obvious embodiment of the titular “New Age” — uptight wife Hope (Leslie Mann) and sheltered daughter Dawn (Kelly Marie Tran, Rose from “Star Wars”), who was also Guy’s childhood mate. Phil and Hope invite the Croods to share their paradise, even as they look down on their less-evolved visitors, in order to nudge Guy and Dawn together before hopefully sending the Croods away again. Before long, the Croods are taking showers, wearing shoes and sleeping in separate rooms. Son Thunk (Clark Duke) becomes obsessed with watching the world from the confines of his tree house through a picture window, a witty play on our modern television culture.

The Bettermans have but one rule: no one is permitted to eat even one of the bounty of bananas growing in Tomorrow. The Croods eventually learn the reason behind this Eden allegory the hard way. The result is a loud, numbing final act that involves the men being kidnapped by marauding punch monkeys (yes, they’re monkeys that communicate by punching), then being rescued by the womenfolk when they form an action squad named the Thunder Sisters, a cheeky play on the Vuvalini from “Mad Max: Fury Road.”

The character arcs are predictable. Snobby, smart-alecky Phil needs to be brought down a peg or two. Hope needs to let her hair down, literally and figuratively. And the cloistered Dawn needs to see the world outside Tomorrow’s walls, a task the rambunctious Eep is eager to undertake.

“The Croods: A New Age” is not traditional holiday fare, and if it garners film award accolades it will be largely due to the paucity of this year’s competition. Still, a late-2020 story about a family’s sojourn out of the dark wilderness and into a bright new day feels as on-the-nose as the Bettermans’s surname. As for the plot twist that the grass isn’t always greener on the other side, well, we’ll have to wait until 2021 to figure that one out.

*Worth knowing.*
Worth reading.
SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
ONE YEAR FOR ONLY
$45 in county / $50 outside county
call (919) 663-3232 *or* go to chathamnewsrecord.com/subscribe/

READ IT ONLINE

WINTER BLUES
*got you down?*

chatham
COUNSELING & WELLNESS
123 E. RALEIGH ST. SILER CITY,NC 27344
ASHLEIGH GLOVER, MA, LCMHC-A
919.742.0259

VISIT
CHATHAMCOUNSELING.ORG

5 *Tips to Help*

Stay connected with family and friends through social media and video conferencing technology.

Stay Active. Try stretching, walking or lifting weights everyday.

Work on goals and projects. Pull out that to-do list. Big or small, once it’s done, cross it off the list.

Get plenty of sunlight, by brightening your home. Make a point to open blinds and curtains everyday.

Invest in a planner and begin scheduling your time. Stick to your daily routine.

**Schedule your free 15 minute consultation today**

# When needed most, local arts organizations receive grassroots arts grants

From the Chatham Arts Council

PITTSBORO — In a year where every nonprofit's budget has been stretched, the Chatham Arts Council, in partnership with the North Carolina Arts Council, is excited to lend a helping hand by awarding annual Grassroots Arts Grants to nine deserving organizations.

This year's grants are even more impactful, helping organizations carry the arts into every corner of Chatham county — even amidst a pandemic.

Nine organizations will be awarded a portion of the more than $11,000 in total funding available, which will help with operational support and the hiring of local artists to implement arts programming. This year's award grant recipients are: Abundance NC, Chatham Artists Guild, Chatham County Partnership for Children, Jordan-Matthews Arts Foundation, Main Street Pittsboro, N.C. Arts in Action, N.C. Arts Incubator, Shakori Hills Community Arts Center and StreetSigns. Since 2000, Chatham Arts Council (CAC) has awarded nearly $200,000 to a diverse group of nonprofits.

"This has been a tough year, and arts nonprofits have felt dramatic financial impact," said Cheryl Chamblee, the executive director of the CAC. "One thing is sure — their creativity has not been impacted! We are thrilled to be able to award these grants to such deserving organizations, and we look forward to seeing their projects come to fruition--and their operations continue so that we don't lose their vital presence in Chatham."

The CAC serves as the Designated County Partner to the North Carolina Arts Council in awarding the funds to local organizations.

Grants range from $500 to $2,500, and are typically used for program expenses (i.e., artists' fees, space rental or operating expenses for arts organizations). The review panel held a particular interest in applications that focused on children, diversity, need and well thought-out, sound projects that can be completed — even during a pandemic. This year's successful applicants included a bilingual children's literacy festival, musical events and workshops, a theater performance and more.

"Each year, we are so impressed by the great creativity that Chatham's nonprofits show in planning their programs, and in this year of COVID, they've pushed their creativity to even greater lengths," said Gilda McDaniel, the chairperson of the Grassroots Arts Grants Panel and a CAC board member. "Groups are learning how to reach kids through the arts in ways they never would have thought necessary a year ago, and everyone is learning wonderful new ways to engage."

Grassroots Arts Grants are made possible by individual contributions to the Chatham Arts Council's general operating fund and through the generous assistance of the Grassroots Arts Program of the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information, visit chathamartscouncil.org.

Chatham News + Record Subscribe Now • 919.663.3232

Kid Scoop® .com
THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
Find Kid Scoop on Facebook
© 2020 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 36, No. 51

## Meet the WAMPANOAG

In the 1600s, the Wampanoag Nation had about seventy thousand people living in 67 villages. This map shows some of them. The large print shows the Wampanoag name of a village. The small print gives the modern name.

When the Pilgrims arrived at what is now Plymouth, Massachusetts, they met native peoples who had lived in the area for thousands of years. Their name, Wampanoag, means "People of the First Light." This name was chosen because they lived on the east coast and they received the light of dawn before anyone to the west.



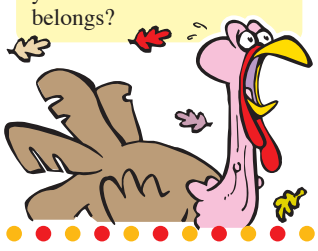

Based on map developed by Nanepashemet for the Plimoth Plantation Wampanoag Program. Recreated with permission of Plimoth Plantation, Inc.

**MAP CHALLENGE**
Can you find the region shown on the map at right on a U.S. map?

**Standards Link:** History: Students understand the reasons that Americans celebrate certain holidays.

## When did Thanksgiving begin?

This trouble-making turkey has taken some words out of these paragraphs. Can you find where each word belongs?



Celebrations of thanksgiving in North America did not _____ with the Pilgrims at _____ in 1621. Gratefulness was (and is) a very important part of _____ life.

The Wampanoag have held _____ to give thanks since _____ times. And not just for a good _____. The Wampanoag give thanks for the birth of a child and other good fortune. In fact, giving thanks was the _____ reason for Wampanoag celebrations.

ANCIENT PLYMOUTH HARVEST CELEBRATIONS WAMPANOAG PRIMARY BEGIN

## Corn Confusion

*In November of 1620, exploring colonists found corn buried in the ground. They called corn "Indian wheat." Here are two viewpoints on this same event:*

The arrival of colonists from Europe was seen differently by different groups of people. The Wampanoag were cautious and unsure about these new people. The colonists were relieved to be done with their long voyage, but afraid of what might lie ahead.

**The Wampanoag Viewpoint**
"What kind of people would steal what isn't theirs? The corn was a family's seed for planting next spring, as well as food to carry them through until harvest."

**The Colonial Viewpoint**
"While exploring, we discovered many places where Indian wheat was buried. We digged it up and took away as much as we could carry. We saw none of the Indians, but we will pay the owners if we can find them."

© 2003 Plimoth Plantation, Inc.

**Standards Link:** History: Students understand the history of how communities in North America varied long ago.

## Extra! Extra! Find It!

Give each person at your Thanksgiving feast a page of the newspaper. See who can find each of the following in his or her paper:

- An odd number
- The word "thanks"
- Something to be thankful for
- A delicious food
- A Thanksgiving event
- A good place to visit

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

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

### WAMPANOAG RIDDLE

I am the shape of all things given by The Creator.
I have no end and no beginning.
I am the shape of life itself.

What am I?

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16 | 9 | 6 | 15 | 9 | 13 | 17 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 21 - 5 = A | 11 + 6 = E | 21 - 8 = L |
| 18 - 9 = C | 14 - 8 = I | 24 - 9 = R |

**Standards Link:** Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

## Double Double Word Search

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

WAMPANOAG
VOYAGE
HARVEST
COAST
PILGRIMS
CREATOR
PLYMOUTH
NATIVE
PLENTY
CORN
DAWN
FORTUNE
SEED
LIFE

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | N | E | R | U | T | A | N | P | E |
| H | A | S | F | O | R | T | U | N | E |
| T | T | M | O | E | T | N | P | L | S |
| U | I | I | P | G | W | A | O | E | T |
| O | V | R | H | A | R | V | E | S | T |
| M | E | G | D | Y | N | D | A | R | F |
| Y | F | L | L | O | C | O | R | N | C |
| L | I | I | I | V | C | G | A | H | T |
| P | L | P | L | E | N | T | Y | G | S |

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

## TRY THIS AT HOME!

### Think About It!

Today's *Kid Scoop* provides two different points of view about the coming of the Pilgrims to North America.

Use the newspaper to understand different points of view.

Select one article from today's newspaper and identify two people or groups of people affected by the news in the article.

Write one or more sentences telling each person or group's point of view about the news.

Main topic of article: _____

_____

_____

Person or group #1: _____

_____

_____

Point of view: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Person or group #2: _____

_____

_____

Point of view: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

**Standards Link:** Writing Applications: Use strategies (e.g., point of view) to write for a variety of purposes.

## What a Character!™

### Friendship is ...




… telling a friend you're thankful they're your friend!

## Write On!

### Thanksgiving

*I am thankful for …*
Complete this sentence.

the YMCA
Chatham YMCA
• CHATHAM YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
• YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
• YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL
287 East Street, Suite 412, Pittsboro, NC 27312
More Info: 919-545-9622

Chatham News + Record
Subscribe Today
919-663-3232

PLACE YOUR AD HERE FOR $5 PER WEEK. CALL 919-663-3232
Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each
PLUS: Your ad is posted on chathamnewsrecord.com for FREE!

# CLASSIFIEDS

## REAL ESTATE

**LEARN ABOUT LAND** - Chatham Land Experts - www.learnaboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

## OFFICE SPACE RENT

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT**, Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

## RENTAL APARTMENTS

**POWELL SPRINGS APTS** Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for 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

**FOUR BURIAL PLOTS for sale,** discounted price, beautiful location in Chatham Memorial Park, Siler City. Please email tloman@ardurra.com for more information. N19,26,D3,10,17,24,31,7tp

## 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, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, S3,tfnc

**AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS** at JHA. One Call... We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.JerryHarrisAuction.com, 919-498-4077, S3,tfnc

## SERVICES

**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

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

## HELP WANTED

**JOB ADVERTISEMENT -** The Town of Pittsboro Police Department has an opening for Police Officer I. The Town of Pittsboro is in Chatham County which is in the heart of North Carolina. Pittsboro, along with Chatham County, is one of the fastest growing areas in the state. Our town will continue to grow due to the growth of Chatham Park, an expansive work-live-play community which will occupy over 8,000 acres to the east of our town and west of the Haw River.

The position of Police Officer I performs general law enforcement duties to include, but not limited to: traffic enforcement and investigation; criminal enforcement and investigation; protecting life and property; responding to calls for service and complaints; writing detailed and accurate reports; testifying in court, and performing other job-related tasks as required. - The hiring salary range is $43,323-$47,655 depending on qualifications and experience. Applicants must possess a high school diploma or the equivalent, must be 21 years of age, must possess or be able to obtain a North Carolina driver's license, and must hold a North Carolina Law Enforcement Certification upon hire. - This posting is open until filled. A completed Town of Pittsboro employment application and a North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standard Commission F-3(LE)-Personal History form are required to be submitted for hiring consideration. An employment application can be found at https://pittsboronc.gov under Employment Opportunities. The F-3(LE)-Personal History form can be found at https://ncdoj.gov/law-enforcement-training/criminal-justice/forms-and-publications/#91-114-wpfd-law-enforcement-p2. Documents may be mailed or delivered to Chief of Police at Town Hall, 635 East Street, PO Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or submitted via email to sjohnson@pittsboronc.gov. Pre-employment drug testing, DMV check, and background checks are required upon job offer. EOE. N26,D3,2tc

**SENIOR PLANNER (Parks) -** The Town of Pittsboro Community Development Department is seeking a Senior Planner, a position that crafts the department's long-range planning and policy documents and provides policy analysis and advise to department leadership. This includes responsibility to engage the public, work closely with staff from other departments and agencies, as well as elected and appointed officials, on topics across the varied fields of park development, open space preservation, natural resource protection, recreation, and community. Further, this position participates actively in high-profile town wide planning initiatives that will shape the growth and development of Pittsboro. Pittsboro is noted for its diversity, community involvement, intellectual excitement, artistic pursuits, and natural beauty.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: • Responsible for all phases of developing and updating the department's primary planning and policy documents, including the Parks & Recreation System Plan, the Pedestrian & Bicycle Plan, and others.

• Serves as technical advisor and analyst to senior management on long-range planning, strategic planning and policy development. • Actively participate in town wide long-range planning initiatives, contributing professional expertise on parks, natural resources, recreation and community services. • Act as a resource for elected and appointed officials.

• Regularly present to and generally support the work of Board of Commissioners, advisory committees, including the Parks & & Recreation Advisory Board. • Administer and maintain agreements and contracts with public agencies and private organizations. • Facilitate large or small groups dealing with complex issues, balancing competing viewpoints and desired outcomes. • Develop and conduct complex public engagement processes on highly visible projects. • Write or assist others in writing budget documents, successful grant submittals or other fundraising efforts. - KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: • Expert depth of knowledge about planning processes and program development in the fields of parks, recreation, natural resources, and habitat preservation. • Knowledge of the principles, legal requirements, regulations, and laws applicable to parks, natural resources, recreation, park property acquisition and development. • Ability to prepare and administer plans based on analysis of data, public engagement, existing policy and other influencing factors. • Exhibit strong leadership skills with ability to build consensus with diverse groups. • Ability to communicate effectively with individuals and groups regarding complex or controversial public policy issues or regulations.• Demonstrated strength in writing. • Ability to identify, write and oversee grant submittals or other funding efforts and comply with federal, state and/or local agency statute and regulation. • Ability to develop and maintain trust-based working relationships with employees of other departments, representatives of other organizations and grant agencies, property owners, neighboring jurisdictions, Town officials, and the public. • Ability to think conceptually; observe and evaluate trends; analyze data; draw logical conclusions and make sound decisions.

QUALIFICATIONS: EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS: • Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university in land-use planning, urban planning, landscape architecture, geography, real estate, public administration, environmental studies, or a closely related field. • A minimum of five years of experience that provides the applicant with a comprehensive knowledge of planning principles, practices, and techniques as they relate to functional areas such as parks, open space and recreation, the environment, or other related areas. • Or any demonstrated combination of education and experience. • Valid North Carolina driver's license. • Completion of a background check. - PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands and work environment described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable the individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. • Work involves walking; talking; hearing; using hands to handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls; and reaching with hands and arms. • Vision abilities required by this job include close vision and the ability to adjust focus. • The employee may be required to push, pull, lift, and/or carry objects up to 40 pounds. • Work may periodically require the employee to climb, balance, bend, stoop, kneel, crouch, and/or crawl. N26,D3,2tc

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - The town of Siler City seeks volunteers for boards and committees. Planning Board/Board of Adjustment - The Siler City Planning Board/ Board of Adjustments has one (1) vacancy for an alternate member that is a resident of the City Limits. The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Town Planner, makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on conditional use permit, rezoning, conditional use rezoning, and text amendment applications. The Planning Board may also perform comprehensive surveys and studies of existing conditions and probable future developments and prepares such plans for physical and economic growth. The Planning Board promotes the public health, safety, convenience or the general welfare as well as efficiency and economy in the development of the Town. The Planning Board also serves as the Board of Adjustment to review variances, consider appeals from the zoning administrator or building inspector, and to issue special use and special exception permits. - Parks and Recreation Advisory Committe - The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has a vacancy for two (2) members with no residential requirements. The committee makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for the establishment of a system of supervised recreation for the town. The committee meets on the first Monday of every other month at 6 pm. - With the exception of the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment, all positions are advisory in nature and are unpaid. - Persons interested should submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson, Town of Siler City, Post Office Box 769, Siler City, NC, 311 N Second Avenue, or jjohnson@silercity.org. - The letter of interest should include: home address, phone number, email address, educational background, current employment, civic involvement, why you wish to serve, and any other information you feel pertinent. N26,1tc

POSITION, Public Health Nurse I,II, or III; Location, Moore County Government – Health Departent; Salary, $61,267.

To apply or for more information please visit: https://www.moorecountync.gov/human-resources/careers - For questions, please contact Moore County Human Resources, (910) 947-6362. N26,D3,2tc

**HOMECARE SEEKING -** Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive Weekly Pay, CNAs start at $10.00/hr and up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call 919-799-7275 or visit 106 Village Lake Rd, Ste. A, Siler City for more info or to apply. N5,12,19,26,4tc

**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

### 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
Career Opportunities Available
Visit www.chathamnc.org and click on Jobs

HIRING CNA's
3RD SHIFT
CALL: 919-542-3151
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm for appointment to complete application and interview
Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

AUCTION
SATURDAY, Dec. 5th, @ 9:00 AM
Personal Property and Real Estate of the late Porter & Virginia Johnson and others, real estate to be sold at 12 noon.
1401 East Raleigh St., Siler City, NC
PARTIAL LISTING
Antiques, Mowers, Pottery, Glass Wear, Hand Tools, Furniture etc.
RICKY ELLINGTON - AUCTIONEER - NCAL #7706
(919) 548-3684 • RickyEllingtonAuctions@yahoo.com
Janet Hill NCRL #72493 NCAFL #10123 (336) 382-4279

Join the News + Record's Team
HELP WANTED
Part-time A/R - Billing Clerk
The Chatham News + Record is seeking a part-time accounts receivables clerk to handle billing, affidavits and payment processing. Monday-Thursday; daytime office hours will vary. Two years of A/R and billing experience preferred.
Please email letter of introduction, resume and references to Karen Pyrtle at karen@chathamnr.com.
Chatham News + Record
EOE

ON-LINE ESTATE AUCTION
Estate of the Late Daniel E. Salgado, Jr.
110 Dreamscapes, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Cars & Trucks (Unless otherwise noted most vehicles are sold salvage/parts only), Tools, Shop Equipment, Trailers, Furniture, Household, Plus More.
Bidding Begins Thursday, November 24th at 6:00pm
ALL BIDDING WILL TAKE PLACE ON-LINE
www.JerryHarrisAuction.Hibid.com
Bidding Ends Wednesday, December 9th at 6:00pm
Bidding Begins on Tuesday, November 24th at 6:00pm Go to: www.JerryHarrisAuction.Hibid.com
Preview Dates are:
Tuesday, November 24th from 12 noon - 4:00pm
Saturday, December 5th from 9:00am - 12 noon
Wednesday, December 9th from 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Bidding Ends on Wednesday December 9th at 6:00pm Go to: www.JerryHarrisAuction.Hibid.com
TERMS OF AUCTION: Please go to www.JerryHarrisAuction.Hibid.com to see Terms of Auction.
Pick-up on Thursday & Friday, December 10 & 11 from 10:00am- 4:00pm
13% BUYER'S PREMIUM
Like us on Facebook
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS
SCOTT HARRIS • AUCTIONEER • BROKER
Firm #8086 • NCAL #8420 • NCBL #159569
1325 North Second Avenue • Siler City, NC 27344
Office (919) 742-3286 • Mobile (919) 498-4077 • Fax (919) 742-5305
Check our Web Site!!! www.JerryHarrisAuction.Hibid.com Many More Auctions to Come
Jerry Harris Auctioneer/Broker NCAL #4757 (919) 545-4637

# 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**
**20 E 545**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **CARLYLE CASWELL LEWTER,** 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 February 5, 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 5th day of November, 2020.
Brenda Dail, Executrix
c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC
PO Box 31205
Raleigh, NC 27622
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tp

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20E384**
All persons having claims against **RUTH ELLEN MILLER LUCIER** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 5th day of November, 2020.
Stanley Miller, Administrator CTA
c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC
PO Box 31205
Raleigh, NC 27622
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20 E 539**
All persons having claims against **MILDRED K. JOHNSON** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 5th day of November, 2020.
Lisa Renee Williams, Executrix
26 Landrum Creek Dr
Siler City, NC 27344
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-522**
All persons having claims against **ELWARD ARNOLD HORTON** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 4th day of August, 2020, are notified to present them to Jeffrey Wayne Horton, Executor of the Estate of Elward Arnold Horton in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before February 11, 2021. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Elward Arnold Horton. Those indebted to Elward Arnold Horton are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.
Dean P. Broz
Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A.
1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203
Exchange West at Meadowmont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
The undersigned, Jeanne Wilson Vaughn, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JIMMIE RAY WILSON,** deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 12th day of November, 2020.
Jeanne Wilson Vaughn, Administrator
238 Walter Wilson Road
Bear Creek, NC 27207
W. Ben Atwater, Jr., Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-2850
batwater@pinehurst.net
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **HELEN EDWARDS WILSON,** deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 12th day of November, 2020.
Jeanne Wilson Vaughn, Administrator
238 Walter Wilson Road
Bear Creek, NC 27207
W. Ben Atwater, Jr., Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
919-663-2850
batwater@pinehurst.net
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20 E 556**
All persons having claims against **SHERWOOD E. JOHNSON,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 12th day of February, 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 November, 2020.
Helon Joy Wellons, Executrix
400 Johnson Farm Rd
New Hill, NC 27562
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20 E 452**
All persons having claims against **ROBERT LEE GRAY,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 12th day of February, 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 November, 2020.
Jackson C. Gray, Administrator
214 Stone St.
Siler City, NC 27344
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
All persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of **WOODARD W. HEATH,** deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to present the same to the personal representatives listed below on or before February 12, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All debtors of the said estate are asked to make immediate payment.
This 12th day of November, 2020.
Co-Executors:
Louise Heath Cockrell,
Thomas W. Heath, III,
Woodard Heath Wilder
WHITE & ALLEN, P.A.
106 S. MCLEWEAN ST.
KINSTON, NC 28501
N12,N19,N26,D3,4t

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20E548**
All persons having claims against **MARGIE COUNCIL LANEY,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 12th day of February, 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 November, 2020.
Mark Laney, Executor
9120 White Eagle Court
Raleigh, NC 27617
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **DOROTHY O'CONNELL,** Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 12th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment.
This 12th day of November, 2020.
MARK O'CONNELL, EXECUTOR
ESTATE OF DOROTHY O'CONNELL
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N12,N19,N26,D3,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**06E311**
All persons having claims against **CLATTIE JANE FAISON,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Mildred Brooks, Administrator
746 Stockyard Road
Staley, NC 27355
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-592**
All persons having claims against **DELORES G. REGISTER,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Clara R. Robbins, Executrix
c/o Bagwell Holt Smith P.A.
111 Cloister Ct., STE 200
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20E589**
The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **ROBERT L. GUNN,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at her address, P.O. Box 880, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.
This 13th day of November, 2020.
Rebekah McBane Gunn
P. O. Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
C/O GUNN & MESSICK, LLP
P. O. Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

---

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
On November 16, 2020 the Chatham County Board of Commissioners adopted a Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules to be used for the Chatham County 2021 Property Tax Reappraisal.
Anyone choosing to challenge the validity of these schedules, standards and rules by appealing to the North Carolina Property Tax Commission, must do so in writing by December 16, 2020. The mailing address is NC Property Tax Commission, PO Box 871, Raleigh, NC 27602. For more information, please contact the Chatham County Tax Department at 919-542-8211.
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tc

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-558**
All persons having claims against **MICHAEL EDWARD POE,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Katie Lawrence Poe, Executrix
360 Bob Horton Rd
Apex, NC 27523
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-492**
All persons having claims against **ARNOLD M. YOUNG,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Elizabeth A. Wylie, Executrix
10 N Madison St
Walla Walla, Wa. 99362
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

---

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-568**
All persons having claims against **VIRGINIA STUART CLOER,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make


PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS
**Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA**
Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at $630 and up.
400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMGT.com
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES



Chatham News + Record
would like to acknowledge & thank our *online* advertisers.
*Visit (our site) to connect with them!*
Pinehurst Medical Clinic — PINEHURSTMEDICAL.COM (910)295-5511
McMasters Realty
Elizabeth's Pizza
Temple Theatre — Carolina's Center For the Performing Arts — 919.774.4155 templeshows.com
Belk Building Supply
Breakout Martial Arts and Fitness
Starrlight Mead — discover honey wine
yoga garden PBO
Compadres Mexican Restaurant & Cantina
Carolina Commercial Contractors — Trusted Partnerships. Determined Quality.
Central Piedmont Urgent Care
Fire Clay Cellars — Vineyard · Winery
Pittsboro Toys
RealLiving Carolina Lifestyles Realty
House of Hops Beer Shop
Central Carolina Community College
501 Pharmacy — Est. 2016
New Horizons west
Benjamin Moore Chatham Paint Center — Your New Neighborhood Paint Store — (919) 930-6633 1605 East 11th St., Suite 100, Siler City, NC 27344
The Creative Goat
Circle City Insurance
Sanctuary Apartment Homes at Powell Place
www.chathamnewsrecord.com


# Statewide Classified

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

ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 855-667-9944

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

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

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for [350+ ] procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. [Don't wait!] Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! Call 1-844-496-8601 for details. www.dental50plus.com/ncpress 6118-0219

Owner Operators CDL Class A. 1 year driving experience. Dedicated round trips paid weekly per mile + FSC, regular home time. Call 1-800-832-7036 ex 1626

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

Guaranteed Life Insurance! (Ages 50 to 80). No medical exam. Affordable premiums never increase. Benefits never decrease. Policy will only be cancelled for non-payment. 833-380-1218

High-Speed Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at $39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-866-925-1505

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! Call 833-990-0354. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

HEARING AIDS!! Buy one/get one FREE! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 919-348-4840

COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS ON SITE provides FREE diagnosis REMOTELY 24/7 SERVICE DURING COVID19. No home visit necessary. $40 OFF with coupon 86407! Restrictions apply. 844-401-1673

Stay in your home longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to $1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-855-393-3307 or visit www.walkintubquote.com/nc

DISH Network $59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY $19.95/month. Call Today for $100 Gift Card! Best Value & Technology. FREE Installation. Call 1-877-920-7405 (some restrictions apply)

OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 888-912-3728

Applying for Social Security Disability or Appealing a Denied Claim? Call Bill Gordon & Assoc., Social Security Disability Attorneys, 1-888-989-4947! FREE Consultations. Local Attorneys Nationwide [Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broward Co. FL (TX/NM Bar.)]

Donate your car, truck or van. Help veterans find jobs or start a business. Call Patriotic Hearts Foundation. Fast, FREE pick-up. Max tax-deduction. Operators are standing by! Call 1-866-955-1516

BATHROOM RENOVATIONS. EASY, ONE DAY updates! We specialize in safe bathing. Grab bars, no slip flooring & seated showers. Call for a free in-home consultation: 877-898-3840

Life Alert. 24/7. One press of a button sends help FAST! Medical, Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach a phone! FREE Brochure. CALL 844-902-2362

INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-844-348-2206 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author`s Guide 1-888-575-3018 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/press

A-1 DONATE YOUR CAR, RUNNING OR NOT!! FAST FREE PICKUP. Maximum tax deduction. Support United Breast Cancer Fdn programs. Your car donation could save a life. 888-641-9690

AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand. Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-855-548-9839

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

immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Burton Wayne Stuart, Jr., Executor
81617 Alexander
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-527**
All persons having claims against **HARVEY EDWARD KENNEDY,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Connie Grayce Kennedy Shuping, Executrix
117 Bowden Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Kendall H Page, Attorney
210 N Columbia Street Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-521**
All persons having claims against **DOROTHY MAE CHILDRESS KENNEDY,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Connie Grayce Kennedy Shuping, Executrix
117 Bowden Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Kendall H Page, Attorney
210 N Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**
**COUNTY OF CHATHAM**
**IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE**
**DISTRICT COURT DIVISION**
**FILE NO.: 19JT79**
**IN RE: "A.N."**
DOB: 11/23/16
**NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PROCESS OF PUBLICATION**
TO: Biological father/Father of the above female child born November 23, 2016 at Southeastern Regional Medical Center in Lumberton, NC, Robeson County to Tina Smith.
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition has been filed to terminate your parental rights to the above-referenced minor child. You have forty days from November 19, 2020, the first date of publication of this Notice to respond to said Petition by filing a written answer to the petition with the Chatham Clerk of Court. Your parental rights to the juvenile will be terminated upon failure to answer the petition within the time prescribed.
Any attorney appointed previously in an abuse, neglect or dependency proceeding and still representing you shall continue to represent you. If you are indigent and not already represented by an attorney, you are entitled to a court-appointed attorney.
STEPHENSON & FLEMING, L.L.P.
BY: /s/ ANGENETTE STEPHENSON,
Attorney for Petitioner, CHATHAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
109 Conner Dr. Suite 208
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
Telephone: (919) 869-7795
N19,N26,D3,3tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
Having qualified as Co-Executors for the Estate of **PEGGIE LEE BELL** a/k/a Peggie Lee Redding Bell, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, Koreen Bell Thomasson and Charles Arthur Bell, the undersigned do hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Liipfert Law Group, PLLC, 380 Knollwood Street, Suite 210, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103, on or before February 17, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Koreen Bell Thomasson, Co-Executor
Charles Arthur Bell, Co-Executor
Estate of Peggie Lee Bell 20-E-595
Liipfert Law Group, PLLC
380 Knollwood Street, Suite 210
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27103
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-599**
All persons having claims against **JEFFREY SCOTT BLACKMON,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Sherry Jourden Blackmon, Administrator
174 Mountain Laurel
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-538**
All persons having claims against **ROBERT W. DILKS AKA ROBERT WARREN DILKS,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 19th day of November, 2020.
Edward Albert Freshwater, Executor
9 Southhampton Place
Durham, NC 27705
N19,N26,D3,D10,4tp

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**FILE NO: 20CVM256**
CHRISTOPHER JAMES ROUNDTREE, PLAINTIFF
3618 Hamlets Chapel Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312
VS
UNKNOWN OWNER
2017 MAC TRAILER, Abandoned 01/05/2020
5MADN402411W035184JAN 5HT 2020
**NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**
RE: COMPLAINT TO ENFORCE POSSESSORY LIEN ON MOTOR VEHICLE
N26,D3,D10,3tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**
**NORTH CAROLINA**
**CHATHAM COUNTY**
**20-E-561**
All persons having claims against **KATHLEEN N. LEMONS,** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 26th day of November, 2020.
Jeri Lemons Powell, Executrix
534 Haw Branch Rd
Sanford, NC 27330
N26,D3,D10,D17,4tp

DIRECTV | SUNDAY TICKET

DON'T JUST KINDA TV. DIRECTV.




Get the 2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET season included at no extra cost.

Req's you to select offer.

*$19.95 ACTIVATION, EARLY TERMINATION FEE OF $20/MO. FOR EACH MONTH REMAINING ON AGMT., EQUIPMENT NON-RETURN & ADD'L FEES APPLY. Price incl. CHOICE All Included Pkg., monthly service and equip. fees for 1 HD DVR & is aft er $5/mo. autopay & paperless bill and $10/mo. bundle discounts for up to 12 mos each. Pay $74.99/mo. + taxes until discount starts w/in 3 bills. New approved residential customers only (equipment lease req'd). Credit card req'd (except MA & PA). Restr's apply.

Don't settle for cable. Call now!
Iv Support Holdings LLC
855-653-2438

AT&T Preferred Dealer

2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET OFFER: Subject to change. Package consists of all live out-of-market NFL games (based on customer's service address) broadcast on FOX and CBS. However, games broadcast by your local FOX or CBS affi liate. will not be available in NFL SUNDAY TICKET. Games available via remote viewing based on device location. Other conditions apply. 2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET regular full-season retail price is $293.94. 2020 NFL SUNDAY TICKET MAX regular full-season retail price is $395.94. Customers activating CHOICE Package or above or MÁS ULTRA Package or above will be eligible to receive the 2020 season of NFL SUNDAY TICKET MAX at no additional cost. NFL SUNDAY TICKET subscription will not automatically renew. Only one game may be accessed remotely at any given time. Compatible device/operating system required for online/mobile access. Additional data charges may apply. Visit directv.com/nfl for a list of compatible devices/system requirements For full Mix Channel and interactive functionality, HD equipment model H/HR 21 or later is required. NFL, the NFL Shield design and the NFL SUNDAY TICKET name and logo are registered trademarks of the NFL and its affi liates. NFL team names and uniform designs are registered trademarks of the teams indicated. ©2020 AT&T Intellectual Property. All Rights Reserved. AT&T, Globe logo, DIRECTV, and all other DIRECTV marks contained herein are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affi liated companies. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

# Chatham disposal, shredding event



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

**Officers with the Chatham County Sheriff's Office received discarded medicines from Chatham County residents last Saturday. The county's Solid Waste & Recycling division hosted the free document shredding event for Chatham County residents, who could also bring old medicines. It was held at the Solid Waste & Recycling Main Facility on County Services Road in Pittsboro.**



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

**Officers with the Chatham County Sheriff's Office received discarded medicines from Chatham County residents last Saturday. The county's Solid Waste & Recycling division hosted the free document shredding event for Chatham County residents, who could also bring old medicines. It was held at the Solid Waste & Recycling Main Facility on County Services Road in Pittsboro.**

Ranked #1 houzz CHAPEL HILL buildBOLDnc.com

BOLD CONSTRUCTION



Your **home** has never been more **important**.

We'll help you find it.

BOLD REAL ESTATE
www.boldre.com

Dental Insurance

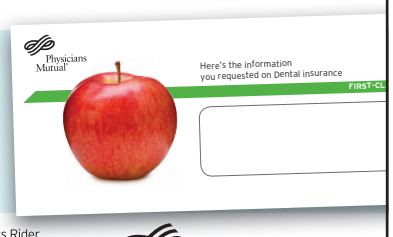
**Get the dental care you deserve with dental insurance** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. **It can help cover the services you're most likely to use –**

Cleanings | X-rays | Fillings | Crowns | Dentures

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

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

Call now to get this FREE Information Kit!
dental50plus.com/chatham




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

Physicians Mutual®
Insurance for all of us.®

Hallmark

GOLD CROWN




*866 Spring Lane*
*in the Spring Lane Galleria*
*kathrynshallmark.com • 919-774-8912*

*Open Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.,*
*Saturday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.,*
*Sunday 1-7 p.m.*




## CUSTOMER INFO FORM

Name_____

Address_____

_____

Email_____

Phone Number_____

Complete form to receive special offers and promotions.

**Submit completed form to receive 20% discount off one regularly priced item ***

**(* Some exclusions apply)**

