

Chatham News + Record

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Photo by John McCann/Chatham County Schools

Kim Fox, a school nutrition assistant at Virginia Cross Elementary School, hands out chocolate milk Tuesday as part of breakfast service to families during school closures due to COVID-19.

CCS enacts nutrition, learning plan; COVID-19 closes schools

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

As State Superintendent of Public Instruction Mark Johnson said in a letter to parents, teachers and caregivers, "We know this will not be easy for anyone."

After Gov. Roy Cooper's executive order closed all public schools in North Carolina for two weeks — joining many of his governor colleagues across the United States — the state's school systems, including Chatham County Schools, have had to make adjustments in a quick amount of time.

The announcement came Saturday, and by Monday, CCS had begun to put things in place.

Jennifer Özkurt, the district's school nutrition director, told parents and caregivers in a voicemail Monday afternoon that free meals for those 18 and younger and paid meals for adults would begin the next day.

"Although the school system is closed at this time, we are committed to feeding the community and our children," she said.

So on Tuesday, the cafeterias at Pittsboro Elementary, Virginia Cross Elementary

and Siler City Elementary schools began serving breakfast from 8-11 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Virginia Cross Elementary (91.79 percent) and Siler City Elementary (85.67 percent) have the highest and third-highest populations of students receiving free and reduced lunch from the school system. And as of Wednesday, every school but three — Margaret B. Pollard and Horton Middle schools and Perry Harrison Elementary School — was serving both meals.

Adults could buy breakfast for \$2 and lunch for \$4. Additionally, breakfast and lunch could be obtained simultaneously from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Özkurt added that the district was in the process of setting up mobile food distribution sites and would be announcing that soon through its website and Facebook (@ChathamCountySchoolsNC) and Twitter (@ChathamCoSch) accounts.

"We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity," she said, "and it is always our pleasure to serve you."

On the teaching side, the district has already set up an

See **SCHOOLS**, page A14

Perch Coworking to locate space in downtown Pittsboro

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Construction was still being done last week on the new Perch Coworking location on Hillsboro Street in downtown Pittsboro as Betsy Elbogen showed off the facility.

It's not yet done, but the offices slated for opening this spring look like your average coworking location — a wide-open space for desks and cafe-style seating, a few offices for long-term members and conference rooms in the back for reserving by the hour.

Elbogen is the owner and manager of Perch, which currently has a coworking location in Carrboro. But before we get too far into what's going to happen in Pittsboro, what is coworking? The idea

behind it, Elbogen said, is simple.

"It's the community," she said. "It's being around people that are not necessarily your co-workers. I like to say sometimes it's the office without the office politics."

Coworking spaces have their own unique features, but most work like this: individuals who work for themselves or companies will sign up for a monthly or yearly membership that gives them access to the offices 24-7. Different levels give you different perks.

At the base level, you will have access to internet, coffee and other amenities like soundproof photo booths and reservable conference rooms. Go one step further, and you can get a desk that is all yours.

See **COWORKING**, page A3

MURDER-SUICIDE IN MONCURE

Sheriff's office says man kills 6 family members, self in 'unimaginable' tragedy

Teenage son tells 911 operator he heard shots, hid in closet

BY ZACHARY HORNER
AND CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

MONCURE — Larry Ray, the man the Chatham County Sheriff's Office suspects killed six members of his family Sunday — before fatally turning his gun on himself — had previously been charged with assault in connection with complaints by other family members.

The murder-suicide occurred at three separate residences on Moncure-Flatwoods Road in Moncure on Sunday, the Chatham County Sheriff's Office

reported Monday morning. Seven victims — Ray's wife, Jeanie Ray, 67, his mother-in-law Helen Mason, 93, Ellis Mansfield, 73, Lisa Mansfield, 54, John Paul Sanderford, 41, and Nicole Sanderford, 39 — were all related, according to a statement from the Sheriff's Office.

Investigators say evidence at the scene points to Ray, who turned the gun on himself after shooting the other six.

According to state criminal records, Ray was charged in 1993 and in 2003 with assault. Each of those charges stemmed from complaints from family members and were eventually

dismissed.

"Our hearts go out to the families and friends of the victims of this terrible tragedy," Sheriff Mike Roberson said in a release. "To lose any family member is devastating, but to lose several at once to unexpected violence is unimaginable. There are no words to describe the sense of loss we feel as a community in the wake of this terrible event."

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office told the News + Record that the Sanderfords were parents of two teenage children. WRAL reported that relatives said Ray first shot his wife, then the three adults at Mason's house, then the Sanderfords in their home. Accord-

See **TRAGEDY**, page A8

Chatham's retailers adjusting to high demand, space restrictions due to COVID-19



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham County Commissioner Diana Hales was one of many shoppers looking for toiletries March 13 at the Food Lion in Siler City. The shelves were bare, but the store's manager says Food Lion is re-supplied three times a week.

BY CN+R STAFF

Long lines and empty toilet paper shelves have become a part of regular Chatham County living in the last two weeks.

Take the Piggly Wiggly in Siler City, for example. Normally, you'd figure a shipment of supplies wouldn't warrant a Facebook post with all caps and exclamation marks. But as been demonstrated time and time again, these aren't "normal" times.

The March 16 post stated: "ATTENTION CUSTOMERS: We have just received a truck and we wanted to let you know we now have restocked shelves!!! Including bananas, fresh chicken, ground beef, eggs, milk, potatoes, toilet paper and paper towels, etc...."

By the time that post was "liked" or "loved" more than 70 times and shared more than 200 times as of Tuesday.

Sam Wilborn, the manager of the Food Lion store off U.S. Hwy. 64 in Siler City, said many of his regular customers were calling to inquire about product availability.

"A lot of them know our truck schedules, and they're calling to verify what we have," he said.

Trucks from Food Lion's distribution center in Dunn typically arrive in Siler City on

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays — usually late at night. But high demand for certain items means two things: the supply from the distribution center might be depleted, and what does arrive and is stocked on his shelves "doesn't last very long."

What's in demand? "Everything in the store," he said. "Water, canned goods, meats, paper products..."

Manufacturers are working to get products in short supply back in stock, but with high demand continuing, it's anyone's guess when things will "get back to normal."

And did he have toilet paper in stock on Monday? No, Wil-

born said.

Assistant managers at Siler City's Walmart referred inquiries to the company's corporate media office. An inquiry made Monday about supply, demand and re-stocking plans wasn't immediately responded to.

A post on the company's website said it promised to "work to keep our stores stocked and prices fair."

"As one would expect, paper products, cleaning supplies and other items are in high demand as customers prepare for the possible impact of COVID-19," the post, published on March 10, stated. "We are

See **BUSINESSES**, page A14

2 NEW COVID-19 CASES ANNOUNCED, STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED

As the News + Record was going to press, the Chatham County Public Health Department announced two new positive tests of COVID-19 on in Chatham County, and the county government declared a state of emergency. For more information on these developments and the latest on COVID-19 in Chatham, visit chathamnewsrecord.com. We're also sharing updates on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ChathamNR, and on Twitter at @ChathamNR. To submit news and story ideas, send messages to news@chathamnr.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ON THE AGENDA

• The **Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 23, at the Pittsboro Town Hall, 635 East St., Pittsboro.

WEDNESDAY

• **FYI!** There will be **site blasting at Eagles Car Wash**, 165 East Street, Pittsboro, from March 18 - 25.

THURSDAY

• The **Ribbon Cutting for Connolly Walker State Farm set for March 19** has been canceled at this time. A new date will be announced later.

• The **Carolina Mountain Dulcimer Players** meet at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday, March 19, of each month at the Seymore Center on Homestead Road in Chapel Hill. Beginners, experts, and all stringed instruments are welcome. For more information and/or directions, contact Shirley Ray at ShirleyRay@aol.com or 919-929-5359

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

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

MONDAY

• **Monday Morning Quilters** invites you to join our group who share the love of quilting and other needle arts. We spend the time working on our own projects, sharing ideas, fellowship, and snacks with one another. We would like to welcome you to our group. We have people from all over - you don't have to be a member of our church. We meet on Monday mornings from 9 to noon at Piney Grove UMC Church, 2343 Piney Grove Church Rd., Siler City.

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

UPCOMING

• Join the gathering for the **Bluegrass Jam Circle at Bynum Front Porch Pickin'** and make music every 2nd and 4th Saturday (March 28) throughout the year, at 950 Bynum Rd. The circle forms around 10 a.m. until 12ish. Singers, new pickers, (spoons, washboards) and audience members are all welcome! This is an open circle type jam for all skill levels and ages. If you pick, bring your instrument (Acoustic instruments only). If you sing, bring your voice. Come to enjoy great music at the historic Bynum General Store. As always, the Circle Jam is free and open to the public!

• **Siler City Lions Club** will host a **Blood Mobile** from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 18 at the First United Methodist Church in Siler City.

• The **3rd Annual Becoming One Awards Ceremony and Banquet** will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, July 11, at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro. For more information about being a part of the Celebration and Banquet or to be a sponsor, contact Sandra Reddick, Administrative Assistant at 919-663-3183 or email reddick-sandra1945@gmail.com.

ALSO HAPPENING

• The **Chatham Historical Museum** is open from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. It is adult and kid friendly with no admission fee. Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The Museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the circle. For more info, see: <https://chathamhistory.org>.

• The **Second Bloom of Chatham Thrift Shop** will be closed for shopping and donations in March. We hope to re-open in April. We are in Pittsboro, on

the Courthouse Circle, beside the Roadhouse. All proceeds support survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.

• **SECU tax preparers** are on hand in all locations across the state to answer questions and complete and electronically file 2019 federal and state income tax returns for members who are eligible to participate in our Low-Cost Tax Preparation Program now through tax season. Qualifying members can have both federal and state tax returns prepared and filed for a flat fee of only \$75.00.

• **Chatham Habitat for Humanity** is seeking groups - corporate, school, neighborhood, etc. - to volunteer on their Siler City build sites. For more information, visit chathamhabitat.org/volunteer, or email rachelh@chathamhabitat.org

• **Adult Volunteers Needed** at Chatham Hospital in Siler City, a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital located in Siler City and part of the UNC Health Care System. All prospective volunteers must complete an on-line application, a criminal background check, an orientation and have documentation of required immunizations. To learn more go to: www.chathamhospital.org/ch/about-us/volunteer.

• **Volunteers Needed** - Nonprofit agencies in Chatham seek teen volunteers to help with many projects. Teens can help at food pantries, in gardens, fundraising projects, office work, and care for animals. Chatham Connecting website lists many volunteer opportunities for youth. See where you are needed to help in the community: www.chathamconnecting.org.

• **Meals on Wheels drivers** are needed in Chatham County. Regular and substitute drivers are needed. We are looking for individuals or teams to deliver meals as a regular driver for our routes. Meals are delivered between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon. Routes take about an hour. Substitutes will likely deliver 1 to 2 times per month. Contact Allison Andrews with Chatham Council on Aging, phone: 919-542-4512, ext. 226. [andrews@chathamcoun-](mailto:andrews@chathamcoun-tiloning.org)

tiloning.org. **Foster and/or adoptive information** - Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent. Call 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 Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstrop93.org for more information.

• Pack 924 of Siler City First U.M.C. meets on Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for boys, grades 1 through 5. Come join the Cub Scouts.

• Pack 900 in Bear Creek meets Tuesday nights at 7 p.m. at Meroney's U.M.C., following the school calendar. See <http://pack900.com> for more information.



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When you're ordered to work from home during a pandemic

Chatham's Maureen Ahmad utilizes dedicated home work space

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

On Sunday, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said that Americans should be prepared to "hunker down significantly more than we as a country are doing" in response to the spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19.

As reports of COVID-19 infections grow in North Carolina, some companies are instituting protocols to allow workers that can to work from home.

Chatham County resident Maureen Ahmad is one of them. Ahmad works for Lenovo, a global technology company with a headquarters in Research Triangle Park, and owns and operates Chatham Cider Works in Pittsboro with her husband, Chatham County Commissioner Jim Crawford. Last week, Lenovo sent out word to its North Carolina employees recommending anyone who was able to work from home or felt more comfortable working from home should do so, according to Ahmad. The

company, which also has offices in China and Italy, offers a timely perspective on dealing with working while quarantined as they have already been doing so since the outbreak was first identified in China. "Our team is global and we already flex our hours because of the difference in international time zones," Ahmad said. "Everyone has everything they need because it's accessible remotely."

Dedicated work space

Having a space in the

home for work can help both in maintaining productivity, but also allow for a proper work-life balance. Ahmad already had a dedicated work space at home. While she notes the change to working from home has not been as significant a change for her, things are different now since the couple's daughter is also now working from home.

"We now have multiple dedicated work spaces at home so we can each have our space," Ahmad said. "Having a dedicated space in the house for work really helps."

Dedicating a work space in the home can be challenging when being a parent of a younger child who is now at home because of school closures. While some children may be old enough to entertain themselves during the day, younger children require more supervision. Schedules for children will help maintain a sense of normalcy and may require flexing work hours so that one parent is working while another maintains childcare responsibilities. Parents of young children who are working from home should discuss those challenges with their management and ultimately everyone needs to be flexible.

Connectivity

One of the important things for working from home, according to Ahmad, is finding ways to stay connected to fellow work teams. This includes dedicated messaging apps such as WeChat or WhatsApp Messenger. This is not just to keep up with workflow, Ahmad said. This is also to check in with your co-workers who may be having a more difficult time with the isolation of quarantine.

"Our teams in China and then in Italy," Ahmad said. "We've all transitioned with them. Staying in contact, keeping other spirits up is important. It can get depressing, lonely and boring. We use messaging apps as a way to ping each other and let them know you're there."

Employers can help by making sure their employees have equipment and the tools to work remotely. This includes laptops, access to the company's servers and methods for communication beyond just email.



Submitted photo

Chatham County resident Maureen Ahmad is now working from home. Because her employer, Lenovo, is a global operation with offices in China and Italy, she's in a unique position to offer suggestions for those who are working from home now.

Workers who are working from home should also take time to connect to their employers on a regular basis to make sure that you are being productive as well as being responsive to any changes that may need to occur due to remote work.

Work-life balance

When working at home, Ahmad notes the life-work balance should be maintained.

"[When working at home] the days are flexible so you may work earlier or may work later," Ahmad said. "It's more fluid when you work from home. Work and life become more blended."

"Make sure you have something that is an end of day thing, whether it's a walk outside or coming down to cook dinner," Ahmad said. "It's good to have something that says I'm transitioning from work to home."

Other suggestions for preserving balance is to not use the dedicated work space when not working. As remote work requires a lot of connectivity, disconnecting from the internet to do other non-technology based activities may help. This could be working in the yard, going for a walk, reading books, and doing puzzles or crafts.

Protecting those who can't work from home

Not everyone can work from home. Ahmad said, and there are ways to help support those workers as well.

"For anyone who can work from home, they

should," she said. "Workplaces can enable those workers with the tools to do so, whether it means connecting via online meetings or centralized data storage. Those things are really important because that's how businesses are going to be able to keep working."

For those who must go to work, Ahmad suggested that by reducing the numbers in the office of those who can work from home, it reduces the number of people with whom they come into contact.

"Businesses can also do more regular cleanings and perform deeper cleans of the workspace," Ahmad said.

She also suggests that businesses practice protocols based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and local health departments. This means encouraging social distancing and moving meetings online.

During this time, Ahmad also said it was important for the community to remember those who have to work and do what each of us can do to help protect them. This means practicing good hygiene to not spread the virus to others as well as protecting ourselves. She also wants community members to make sure to check with those who may not have access to all the things they need during this time.

"It's important that we show support to them," Ahmad said.

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



PITTSBORO ROTARY is collecting nonperishable food focusing on Chatham County youth hunger while school is out. Suggested items include mac n cheese, small packs of nuts, ramen, fruit cups, granola bars, raisins, and other shelf stable products.

DROP OFF SITES

Chatham Homes Realty: Drop in the parking lot- we will have a tub out- address is 490 West Street Pittsboro. Drop off times are 9-4 PM through this Friday March 20



First Bank: 18 Chatham Corners, 919-545-0156

Pittsboro Roadhouse: 39 West Street, 919-542-2432

Angelina's Kitchen: 23 Rectory Street, 919-545-5505

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COVID - 19 UPDATE

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Submitted photo

This architectural rendering of the future Perch Coworking space in downtown Pittsboro shows the layout of the facility. The desks shown in the open area will have privacy panels not shown in the rendering.

COWORKING:

Continued from page A1

Add another step, and you can get a private office.

It sounds like a regular office, right? But because the spaces operate by memberships and are not all taken up by a single company, you might be working alongside an architect or a software engineer while you write a report for your sales job.

It's a relatively new concept, but a growing one. According to DeskMag, an online magazine about coworking, there were around 8,900 spaces and 545,000 members of coworking locations worldwide at the end of 2015. By the end of 2020, there are projected to be 26,300 spaces and 2.68 million members.

"The market for coworking spaces has undergone remarkable growth in the last couple of years and continues to flourish to this day," DeskMag said in its 2019 Global Coworking Survey.

Elbogen said coworking spaces like hers are great for people who often work alone — "it gets lonely working by yourself," she remarked — and the Pittsboro location will be no different than a typical location. Members will be able to secure a desk for themselves in the open floor, or grab a seat at a table

along the wall. Conference rooms in the back will be open for meetings or training sessions, and soundproof phone booths are available for that important business call.

But it's the personal touch that Elbogen said is the most important.

"We will celebrate your birthday and we will remember your name," she said. "Somebody will say good morning to you when you come in."

An official open date for the location has not yet been set, but when it is, Elbogen said the best way to see if coworking is for you is to try it. Interested individuals can schedule a complimentary half-day at the entry level.

"It's always a good idea to check out a co-working space, see if the feel is good for you," she said. "There's different kinds of co-working space, and I always like to say we're the boutique co-working space."

For updates on the progress of the Pittsboro location and to learn more about Perch, you can visit perch-coworking.com. Currently, the company offers three levels of membership: a private office suite for \$500/month, personal desks for \$250/month and cafe-style seating for \$175/month.

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

VIEWPOINTS

There's no playbook for this, but there is a play

For months now, I've been casting a look ahead to April and May and July, months where we have — or, we might say, had — much-anticipated travel plans.



BILL HORNER III
From The
Publisher's Desk

Two out-of-state trips were scheduled in April (a short one mostly for work, a longer one mostly for pleasure), a major wedding anniversary jaunt during May (my wife Lee Ann and I celebrate our 30th in June, but we have a trip to Eastern Europe

on the books a month before) and then a westward road trip with our best friends for July, taking us to, among other places, Colorado's Rocky Mountains, one of our favorite stops.

You likely have — or, you might say, had — travel plans for the spring or summer, too. A few Sundays ago, back when COVID-19 was called a novel coronavirus and it seemed something that might cause some disruption here, I began to think: April just might be a bust, but by May we'll be golden. Then a week ago Sunday, as I planned my week and looked ahead, I thought: hmmm... it's not looking good for our overseas trip, but surely we'll find our way to the Rockies in the summer.

This past Sunday? Trying to figure out a way to make it to Monday.

With things changing so rapidly as the world reacts and responds to the virus' spread, it's difficult to keep up with the tide of information, new news and shifting realities. So it's hard to imagine what will be on my mind as early as this coming Sunday, when once again I'll cast a look ahead and...

Well, who knows. The fact is there's no playbook for a crisis like this. Life seems to have been canceled, but living isn't, so it's incumbent upon us to find solid footing where we can, be as nimble as possible, and be of good cheer in the midst of it all. And also to think hard about

what to do next. I've quoted writer and teacher Seth Godin in this column before because I love his insights and wisdom. He posed an interesting question in a blog post this week that I think we should all consider.

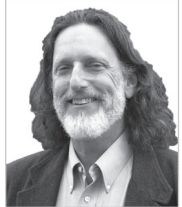
React? Respond? Or initiate? "That's pretty much all that's on offer," he said. So what to do? Reacting, he writes, "gives us visceral satisfaction and emotional release, and it almost always leads to bad outcomes."

We've seen that the last couple of months, no doubt. Responding, Godin says, "is smarter. It requires each of us to think hard about the action and emotion we seek to create after something is put on our

desk." And the third choice? Godin writes: "Initiating is ever easier and leveraged than ever before, which, surprisingly, also makes it more difficult to move up on our agenda. In normal times, it's easy to get into a rhythm of simply responding. Someone else setting the agenda. When things are uncertain, it's easy to react." But times of deep uncertainty, like where we are today, are, he says, "the single best time to initiate. We're in for a slog, but there will be an end to it." There will be an end to it. But for now, he says: "Make things better by making better things." Let's all put that on our calendars.

Sheltering in place

On the face of it, self-quarantining — or extreme social distancing — doesn't seem the worst thing.



RANDALL RIGSBEE
Randall Reflects

Especially for a homebody like me who also enjoys solitary pursuits like reading, writing and making things out of wood. I did a bit of all those things over the past weekend, as coronavirus spread across the world and forced most of us into self-isolation for self-preservation and to help reduce the virus' spread. As I was wrapping up my woodworking project Sunday afternoon, executing a concluding motion with a jigsaw, I decided that an activity that could lead — worst case scenario — to the loss of a finger might not be the smartest activity I could choose to undertake as the world understandably hunkers down, so I put the wood-working project and the tools away and undertook a far less risky pastime: we finally began watching the third season of "Victoria," the historical period drama we'd recorded off PBS more than a year ago.

But whether woodworking or watching a drama about the crown during Queen Victoria's reign, hunkering down is only so diverting, and for only so long. In the back — or, more accurately, the front — of my mind throughout all recent activity, COVID-19 looms large.

It reminds me of the old joke, which 155 years later still feels "too soon," and for which I hope you'll forgive me for repeating: "Other than that, Mrs. Lincoln, how did you enjoy the play?"

Other than coronavirus, things are going OK. I've heard the words "coronavirus" and "unprecedented" uttered in unison so much in the past week, out of curiosity (and maybe a bit of fidgety energy from being self-quarantined) I Googled the two-word phrase and, given the genuinely unprecedented nature of this pandemic (at least in our lifetime), a lot of hits popped up.

This is, according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and a man whom we've all come to recognize by now, an unprecedented situation. And the unprecedented nature of this pandemic makes everything about everything feel eerily off.

It's not unprecedented for us to shelter in place. We've done it here in central North Carolina through, by my precise count, umpteen snow storms and hurricanes. In the early fall of 1996, this region was hit very hard by Hurricane Fran, for one example. I remember folks lining up at the Petro Mart in Pittsboro to buy bags of ice, which was in short supply at the moment. It felt then — with the power out everywhere — like gritty, sweaty survival during those extended days of Fran recovery, I recall.

And I remember past snowfalls that kept us grounded and without electricity for days at a time. But those times were nothing like this.

Although we haven't lost (yet, and I'm not saying we will, but...) the conveniences of electricity or water, as we sometimes do during natural disasters, the coronavirus has a distinctly more Stephen King feel to it than any previous shelter-in-place scenarios we're all familiar with.

There are reassurances. Dr. Fauci, for instance, has maintained a calm and calming demeanor so far during this crisis, which he has said we should expect to last "several weeks to a few months, for sure." I hear that and it means to my ears that an end to this crisis will occur, even if we don't know exactly when.

Stephen King himself attempted to reassure his fan base that the end is not nigh, tweeting that the coronavirus is "not anywhere near as serious" as the end-of-the-world scenario (flu-based, in fact) the author of horror novels depicted in his post-apocalyptic magnum opus "The Stand."

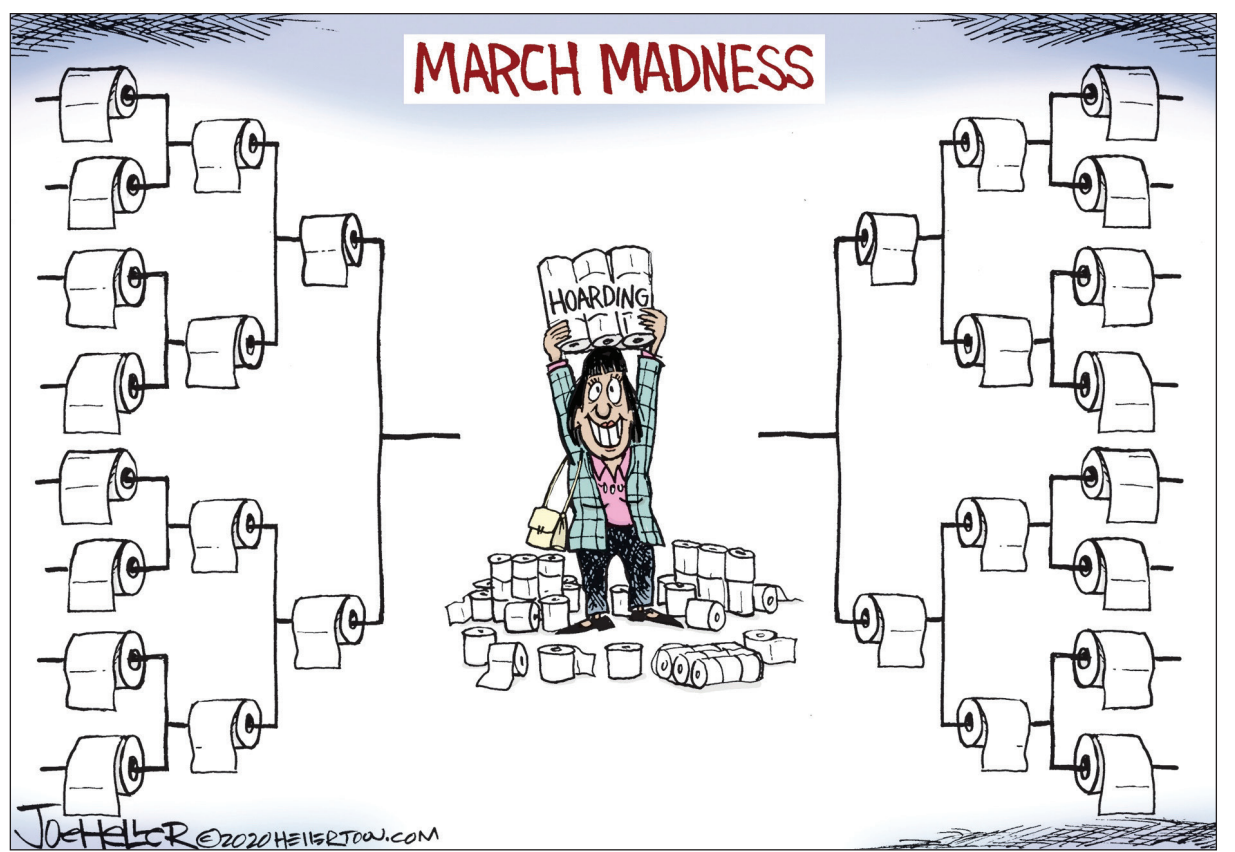
"It's eminently survivable," King tweeted of the coronavirus. "Keep calm and take all reasonable precautions."

From a public health standpoint, I think King's words are right on the money.

But that doesn't do much to temper wider fears or concerns about oddities such as stock market circuit breakers that keep going off, or monkeys running wild in the streets of Thailand as tourist traffic halts their normal food chain. That's the sort of stuff that ought to be straight out of frightening fiction but is actually part of the current coronavirus reality.

One weekend into self-quarantine, I believe, hardly gives us even a taste of what's to come. We don't really know now what is to come, or for how long it's coming, or whether toilet paper will eventually reign as the most valuable currency of all.

In the meantime, we'll all continue to set new precedent — hand-washing, social-distancing, self-quarantining — as this unprecedented scenario evolves.



In life, as well as cards, secret to surviving is knowing what to throw away and knowing what to keep

As a young lad, I remember being impressed with how much "stuff" my dear now-departed mother saved. In her world, if something made it to the throw-away pile, it really was trash.



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

Her reasoning, which she shared with me often, was: "If you'd grown up in the Depression, you'd save things, too."

On top of saving the stuff, if she ever needed it, she could go to it right away.

She and I have a few characteristics in common...and some we don't.

Today, for instance, I save lots of "stuff." But I've seldom needed any of it and if I ever did, I couldn't find it. And, obviously, I didn't grow up in 1929 and later, although some financial experts tell us the economy of today is in for a wild ride that could at least see the tail lights of the Great Depression.

World market uncertainties, fueled by the coronavirus news, are combining with the actual health concerns to introduce to America a "new normal," at least for the time being.

And as I plan to do my part by avoiding crowds and washing my hands, something else Mama also taught me, I find I have a bit more time on those hands than normal. By virtue of not being a health care professional or first responder, it's not a necessity that I venture out daily. Obviously, many folks do have to and we all should tip our hats in gratitude to those men and women.

The leaders in the fight against

COVID-19 also say it's a good idea for me to take care since I fall into a certain age group. I'm glad we aren't being evaluated on our looks or else I might really be in trouble.

Anyway, out of all this, I have found a silver lining. And it's not just perhaps sleeping a bit later or having a third cup of coffee mid-morning. Rather, it's the opportunity to go through some of my "stuff" and maybe move it out.

That includes stacks of newspapers and magazines I'm going to read through "someday." It includes a pile of books; I'm about halfway through most of them; why I started some of them is a mystery. And just to prove I'm not a complete technical hazard, I'm going through some emails that have piled up on line, some pushing 10 to 12 years old.

Funny thing about those emails. They're not concerned with state or national or even local proceedings. Most of them are personal notes, well-wishes from old friends, including some who are now with me only in memory. They're forwards on political commentary, pictures of my grands when they weren't as old as they are now and some really personal thoughts. Some fall into more than one of those categories.

Especially important to me are a number from an old high school buddy I've mentioned

before — one Luther B. Pender, "Luke," as he came to be called, or even "Lukie" in our really younger days. As the years sped by for us Pittsboro High School Class of 1966 folks, I eventually became Luke's pastor. We sang in the choir together, ate too much at church functions and talked about old times and old friends and our May birthdays.

On January 2, 2017, I conducted his funeral.

Recently, as I've been going through thousands of emails, I've run across notes from him that go back several years before that day. He sent me well-wishes after I'd had my umpteenth orthopedic surgery. Sent jokes, inspirational readings, Bible verses and thoughts. And I know that he did that with many other folks, as well, this business of sending forwards with the click of a key. But for me, the point is, he sent them to me.

Now, in today's new normal, I hope and pray for several things — a swift and certain end to the virus, a sense of Heavenly peace and calm among folks, a rapid decline in greed and hoarding beyond what's necessary and good use of the extra days made available to many folks.

And I also hope and pray for the good sense of what to throw away and what to keep — like those emails — as I ponder my "stuff."

And wash your hands...

Chatham News + Record

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VIEWPOINTS

Virus response fits government's role

I am a conservative who seeks to expand freedom and limit government. In most circumstances, there is an inverse relationship between the two. When government grows in size and scope, it must either collect more taxes or issue more regulations. Both restrict the freedom of individuals to make their own choices about how to use their own resources to advance their own goals.

To be a limited-state conservative is not to be an anarchist, however. Civilization requires government. It performs certain tasks that private institutions, based on mutual consent and explicit contracts, cannot adequately perform. One of them is to coordinate public response to communicable disease.

The outbreak of coronavirus

disease (COVID-19) in China, and its subsequent spread around the globe, have produced serious consequences — medical, social, and economic. Thousands have already died, including dozens in the United States. Many more are seeking testing and treatment, putting tremendous strain on hospitals and clinics.

More broadly, a combination of prudence and panic has produced a wave of postponements, cancellations, and pullbacks, threatening bottom lines in such industries as travel, hospitality, education, and business services. Stocks have taken a nosedive. Growth in real output may well follow, at least in the short run.

Responding to such events is a core function of government in a free society. Property rights and voluntary exchange are insufficient barriers to bacteria and viruses. That's why states and localities must concern themselves with sanitation, information campaigns, testing, and other public-health interventions, including mea-

sures such as quarantines in extreme cases. I think the federal government should play at most a research and coordination role here, although I know that goes against the grain of our increasingly nationalized political discourse.

When it comes to the social and economic costs, there may also be legitimate governmental responses. Still, in my view, they should be cautious and not overly prescriptive. Government planners at every level — national, state, and local — may have an abundance of good intentions. But they have an inevitable shortage of good information. And acting precipitously on it can create actual shortages of critically needed supplies and equipment.

For example, when Gov. Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency in North Carolina, some immediately demanded that the state enforce "price gouging" laws on the sale of hand sanitizers, masks, and cleaning sprays. That's a foolish and dangerous idea. The likeliest outcomes will be bigger

and more-persistent shortages, because suppliers will send their products to places where they will earn a higher return on their investment.

With regard to fiscal policy, the good news for North Carolinians is that if the economic dislocations and financial instability provoked by the COVID-19 outbreak result in recession, our state government is better prepared to weather the storm than in the past. With nearly \$1.2 billion in its rainy-day fund, more than \$600 million in Medicaid reserves, and about \$2.5 billion in the state General Fund's unreserved credit balance, a recessionary hit to revenue collections and recessionary boost to spending obligations won't squeeze North Carolina as hard as they will other states.

In other words, when other states raise taxes to balance their budgets, North Carolina will be able to constrain or reduce its tax burden. When other states eliminate public-employee jobs or cut their pay to balance state budgets,

North Carolina will be able to preserve core services without such dramatic disruptions.

At the national level, the Trump administration and some members of Congress are talking about industry bailouts, job subsidies, and other "stimulus" policies. Such interventions are fraught with the usual perils. I'd prefer policymakers focus on the task at hand. Do public-health agencies have the funds and personnel they need to do their jobs? Is the public receiving timely, accurate, and useful information? Are our politicians exhibiting real leadership or trying to score political points?

For those who believe government should be both limited in scope and effective within that scope, these are the questions to which they deserve immediate and satisfactory answers.

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

Can Sanders, after all, be a winner in the fall?

Bernie Sanders is going to win the upcoming election for the Democrats.



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Does that sound like crazy talk?

In light of Sanders' recent crushing defeats on the primary campaign trail, maybe it does sound crazy. Add to that the heavy blanket of pandemic-related restrictions hovering over the political landscape and preventing the rallies that Sanders might have used to resurrect his faltering campaign. That pandemic blanket

snuffs out whatever slim chances he had to win the nomination.

Would it be even crazier to say that Sanders will win the election for Democrats by mobilizing young people to vote Democratic?

If you are one of those Democrats who celebrated Biden's recent rout of Sanders, you will probably rush to tell me that the legions of youthful Sanders supporters just did not show up to vote for him in the recent primaries.

You might cite the figures given by Jamelle Bouie in a column last week in *The New York Times*. He wrote, "Young voters want Bernie Sanders to be the Democratic nominee for president. But they don't seem to want to turn out for him, or at least not in the numbers he needs to win."

In Michigan, for instance, although the youngest (18- to 29-year-old) voters gave most of their support to Sanders, they made up only 16 percent of the total voters. They were overwhelmed by the oldest voters, who were 20 percent of the electorate and gave most of their votes to Joe Biden."

Voters in the 30- to 44-year-old group supported Sanders, 52 percent to 42 percent. "But they were swamped, in turn, by the next oldest group (age 45 to 64) who backed Biden 62 percent to 26 percent."

In Missouri Bouie reports, "14 percent of voters were under 30 versus 31 percent over 65. Sanders won the youngest voters with 70 percent of their vote. But that was no match for Biden's 81 percent victory among retirement-age Democrats."

Bouie noted that while overall turnout in the recent primaries increased, youth voting was down. In North Carolina it was down by nine percent.

Bouie argues that this disappointing voting participation by youths undermined Sanders' theory of "electability and change, which depends on mobilizing huge numbers of people — young people in particular — to execute a 'political revolution.'"

While many Democrats celebrated the triumph of Biden's older voters over Sanders' younger ones, they have to face the fact that it will be hard for Biden to win without strong participation and support from young people.

Bouie understands that increasing young voter participation is a long-term project involving liberalizing voting laws and developing improved civics education in the schools. But notwithstanding the disappointing youth participation in this year's primaries, there is an important role for Sanders to help Democrats in the fall and in the future.

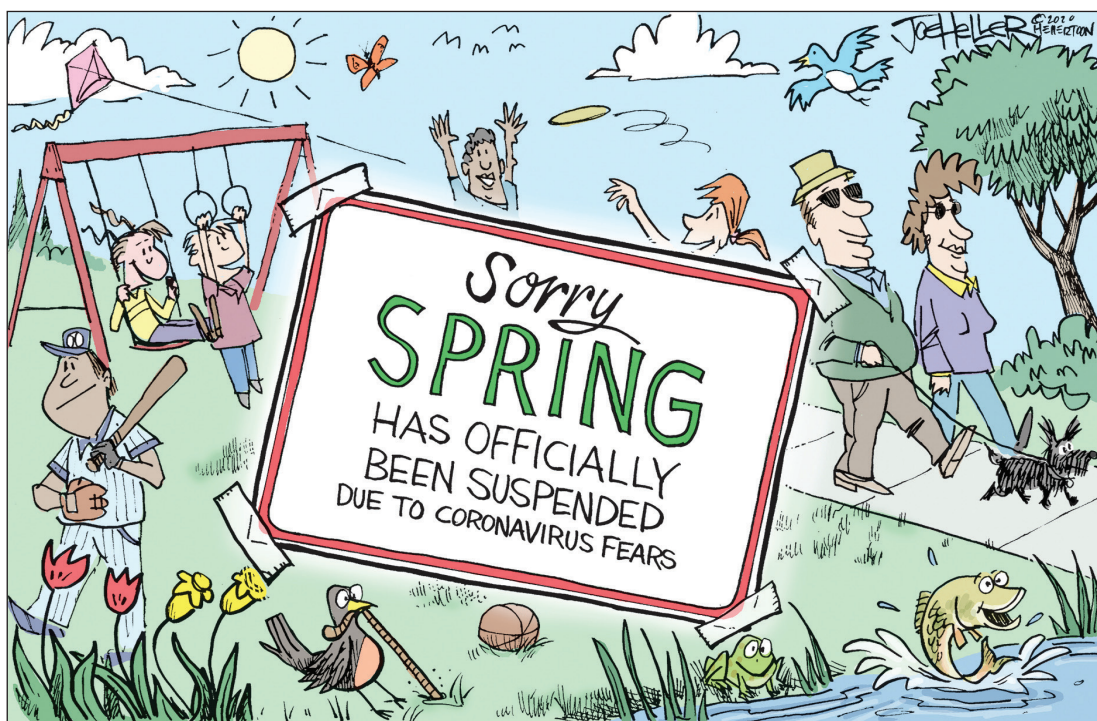
Bouie writes, "There are things a campaign like Sanders' can do to improve youth turnout and bring those supporters to the polls. In addition to stoking interest, a campaign like Sanders can educate young voters about the process — not just by telling them to register, but also by walking them through the process itself and doing the work a civics curriculum should have already done."

For all his recent successes, Biden has not shown he can inspire the youthful voters he will need to win in the fall. While Sanders did not get enough help from his young supporters to win, he did a whole lot better with that group than Biden.

In the fall, Biden needs a lot of help. He needs the young Sanders voters and more. He needs Sanders to help

If Sanders does help and if he inspires and mobilizes young people to support Biden in a winning effort in the fall, it will not be crazy to say that he won the election for the Democrats.

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.



How does the future impact the stock market?

The world has been shocked by the coronavirus outbreak. One part of the economy clearly impacted has been the stock market. The stock market is now in — what experts

term — a "bear market," meaning losses from the last high now exceed 20 percent. However, some predict that once the virus is controlled, the market could rebound just as quickly.

The stock market's reaction to the coronavirus presents an opportunity to address how and why the stock market changes. I don't mean offering tips on buying and selling stocks to make money. Instead, my goal in this column is to explain what influences the stock market, thereby allowing you to understand — but not necessarily predict — its ups and downs.

At the core of any stock's value is the "earnings per share" of the company issuing the stock. Earnings per share is simply the company's total profits divided by the number of shares of stock issued by the company. The higher the earnings per share, the more profitable is owning the stock. Hence, as earnings per share rise, the stock's value should rise. In contrast, if earnings per share fall, the stock's value should fall.

So — you might say — if I just buy stocks whose earnings per share has been rising, then I'll make money. Unfortunately, that's not necessarily the case. Past

performance of a company is already incorporated — some say "baked in" — to current stock values. Buyers of stocks look to the future for information about how a stock and the stock's company will perform. In other words, the stock market is future-oriented.

Understanding this looking-ahead view of stock investors lets us see why the market responded so negatively to the coronavirus. First, the virus appeared out of nowhere. I don't know of anyone who predicted it. If there was someone, their prediction wasn't publicized. The coronavirus wasn't on investors' radar screens.

Second, viruses are scary things. Each is different and requires its own vaccine. Vaccines take months to develop. In the meantime, the virus can spread, induce illnesses and deaths and cause economies in widely infected countries to almost shut down.

Yet contagious viruses periodically pop up, and those in the past haven't seemed to affect investors and the stock market so dramatically. So, what is different today?

In a word, the answer is "globalization." Today, we are a more interconnected world in terms of both trade and travel. China — where the coronavirus was first detected — is considered the world's manufacturing superpower. Over 28 percent of global manufactured output comes from China, almost twice as in the second-place country, the U.S. This means there's tremendous worldwide contact with China. Also, Chinese tourists now exceed tourists from any other country in worldwide travel.

Therefore, the essential

reason why the stock market took a plunge after the outbreak of the coronavirus is that the virus put a big question mark over the future earnings per share of many companies. Clearly, U.S. companies that trade with China or other countries with major virus outbreaks can be impacted. Shortages of products from China have already occurred, so U.S. companies using or selling Chinese-made products have been affected.

U.S. and North Carolina farmers were expecting increased sales to China as a result of the Phase 1 U.S.-China trade deal signed in December. There's a good chance those sales will be postponed. Travel and tourist companies will also take financial hits.

But even companies with no direct ties to international trade can be hurt by the stock market pullback. Investors who have lost money in the stock market now have less wealth. Studies show declines in wealth can translate into declines in spending on many products and services, even those not tied to China or other countries with numerous coronavirus infections.

My point is the stock market is forward-looking, always trying to find clues about what the economic future holds. The coronavirus has put a big cloud over that future. Yet it's that same forward-looking that could generate a big stock market rebound.

How so, you ask? Prior to the coronavirus outbreak, most forecasters were optimistic about the economy. Production was rising, jobs were being added and wages and incomes were improv-

ing. There were no apparent imbalances in the economy that could trigger a recession.

This means that if the news on the coronavirus goes from bad to good, then the pessimism on Wall Street could quickly turn to optimism. "Good" news about the virus could be many things — such as a reduction in new cases and deaths, the impending development of a vaccine or an evaluation that the symptoms of the virus are not as bad as originally thought.

Such good news would begin to remove the gloom hovering over the economic future and make it clearer for investors to see a positive path. It certainly wouldn't erase the losses already incurred from the virus, and it may not eliminate all the losses to come.

But just for investors to see the future as "less bad" than it could have been would lead to optimism and overall gains, rather than continued losses, in the stock market.

Investing in the stock market can be both rewarding and challenging. A big reason is because stock values today depend on guesses about the future economy, and everything that affects the economy. This is why some people stay out of the market, while others stay in regardless of its ups and downs. You decide which approach is best for you!

Walden is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at North Carolina State University who teaches and writes on personal finance, economic outlook, and public policy.

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VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN

Words of wisdom in a time of coronavirus

The Bible does mention a pandemic capable of spreading across the globe...but it is not an infectious disease. It is language: How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire (James 3:5).

Words are destructive. A vicious no can deflate a dream. And yet James also points out that speech can guide us to safety like a small rudder can turn a massive ship into harbor (James 3:4). An enthusiastic yes can fill one's sails and launch a life in a new direction.

Therefore, we must mark our words carefully in a time of coronavirus.

Theologian Roger Owens recently claimed that people of faith should avoid the two extremes of "catastrophic" and "magical" speech, meaning to talk as if we have no hope, or as if nothing is wrong. As we speak into the middle of these extremes, we need language that is clear, concise, and informative about the exact symptoms of the coronavirus, about the highly infectious nature of this disease, and about the grave danger facing our country and our world. Our words need to be hard facts...

And we need tender truths. We need metaphors, not only

statistics. We need poetry — language that, as Bob Dylan sang, "was written in my soul from me to you." Perhaps most of all we need a little humor. As a friend said, have a Corona... with an extra lime!

Last Friday was the last day students would attend Chatham County Schools for weeks, if not months. After school, my wife and I succumbed to our children's pleas and dished out Fruit Loops cereal for them. High on sugar, our three youngsters were rocketing across the ceiling of our home when I told my dearly beloved that I needed some peace and quiet so that I

could work on my sermon... Now that was the wrong thing to say!

This is an anxious time. We should not make light of a serious situation, but we must not lose the ability to laugh at ourselves. A light-hearted moment not only provides relief, it lets our defenses down that so that we might hear what we most need to hear.

Talking about kids and public schools, I am reminded of the families that depend on the meals served in the school cafeterias. I say to you, gentle reader, that we should provide for these children through programs such

as the CORA Food Pantry. You and I can go online and make a donation. Helping these students in a time of need reminds me of something written in James 2:14: What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works?

In a time of coronavirus, may all people of good faith speak the truth with humor, and then put our words into loving action.

Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the poet pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church and the author of the book "Gently Between the Words."

Will coronavirus be as bad as the 1918 flu epidemic in North Carolina?

My dad was 4 years old when his mom died from the Spanish Flu. She was one of a reported 13,000 North Carolinians who died as a result of the H1N1 virus that started in 1918. My father remembered it as a sad and scary time.



TOM CAMPBELL
N.C. Spin

Many are wondering whether the current COVID-19 or coronavirus, as it is known, could be as bad. Everywhere you go people are talking about coronavirus and the question most want answered is how much of the media hype is legitimate and how much is alarmist over-reaction? In an interview this week with N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy Cohen, she responded that the coverage was legitimate, we should take this seriously and take precautions. Governor Cooper was justified in calling for a state of emergency so as to remove barriers so residents could get needed help.

At the time of our interview North Carolina had seven known cases, however that number is misleading, since testing hasn't been available until just recently. Based on experience from

other states, the infection number will grow exponentially and quickly. Statistics show one coronavirus victim infects two others. Burlington based LabCorp has developed a test and is making it available to doctors, but there are reagents required to complete the tests in labs and this process is just ramping up. Blue Cross reports those insured with them will be tested free. Unlike the more common strains of influenza there is no vaccine available for coronavirus, although Dr. Ralph Baric and a team of 30 at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health are feverishly (bad pun) trying to develop one.

We are just beginning to see the impact. At least two private schools have suspended classes because a parent or someone close to the school has been diagnosed. Duke University was the first major N.C. college to act, extending spring break for a week and announcing that in-class instruction will be suspended indefinitely, urging students to return to their homes. Teachers at all levels are gearing up to deliver instruction, tests and communications online. Students also need instruction on how to function in this environment. Education becomes problematic for students who don't have laptops, tablets or access to high speed internet.

Many businesses are instructing employees who can work from home to do so. In times of crisis faith-based institutions are needed more than ever and churches are trying to determine best practices for worship in this environment. Sports teams faced playing without spectators, as do concerts and other performances, before many were canceled. The hospitality industry is already feeling the effects, with airlines cancelling flights and hotels having cancelled reservations. One precaution being given is to avoid big gatherings, especially for those most susceptible to both coronavirus and flu, people over 60 and those with pre-existing respiratory and other conditions. Our lives are likely to be disrupted, at least temporarily.

While a different disease, flu is still a threat. Since flu season began last October the total number of deaths reported in our state is 127, with 11 occurring the last week in February. Secretary Cohen and other medical professionals say it's not too late to get a flu shot.

State Health Director Dr. Betsy Tilson advises there are things we can do to protect ourselves. Handshakes and close contact should be avoided. Other precautions are common sense, like washing hands vigorously with soap and water for 20 seconds, avoiding touching

your eyes, nose and mouth with unclean hands, avoiding contact with people who are ill, covering your mouth or nose with a tissue to cough or sneeze, and cleaning and disinfecting surfaces that are frequently touched. You should also develop a plan for what you will do if you must miss work or other responsibilities due to illness.

The truth is that nobody can predict how fast this virus will spread and how much it will impact our lives. We don't need to panic and neither do we need to over-hype the situation, but it is wise to take the reasonable and commonsense precautions health officials are advising. Patience and flexibility will be the new by-words.

We have better sanitary conditions, more knowledge and advanced medicines than when the 1918 epidemic hit, but they aren't beneficial if we don't use every tool to prevent this from becoming another scary time.

P.S. — You may view the interview with DHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen at www.ncspin.com.

Tom Campbell is former assistant North Carolina State Treasurer and is creator/host of N.C. SPIN, a weekly statewide television discussion of N.C. issues that airs on UNC-TV.

LETTERS

Truth, the only counter to indoctrination

TO THE EDITOR:

Failure of Americans to increase their knowledge and seek out truth by challenging what they've been taught creates a citizenry easily manipulated and led. In short, they've been indoctrinated, sometimes intentionally, but usually the result of a well-meaning educational system. In every country in our world, that country's history as offered in their text books will invariably show their actions, militarily or otherwise, over the years to be honorable. It's natural for those vested in that county to have a certain pride in it. But if that pride is based upon false premises, it's self-serving and often leads to going too far in sustaining that pride.

One example of going too far is the removing of General Nathan Bedford Forrest and wife, Mary Anne from the Forrest Park in Memphis, Tennessee. This couple was moved from the city's Elmwood Cemetery to Forrest Park in 1904 to honor Forrest. To prevent the unceremoniously exhuming of their remains, the descendants of Forrest and Mary Anne, with the aid of the SCV, (Sons of Confederate Veterans), will take charge of the reburial. They will finally, we

trust, rest in peace on SCV Headquarters property in Columbia, Tennessee, on May 23rd. This will be their third interment and many will be paying their respects; good Lord willing and the creeks don't rise, I'll be among them.

In October of 1877, Bedford Forrest passed away, and at his funeral were over 10,000 mourners, of these, an estimated 3,000 were black citizens. Probably one of these black mourners was Napoleon Nelson, 1846-1934, who Forrest recruited as a slave to serve in his 7th TN Calvary. Given his freedom by Forrest, he rode and fought in many battles alongside Forrest. When Pvt. Nelson passed away in 1934, the Confederate flag draped his casket. His grandson, Nelson W. Winbush, is today the proud owner of that flag. This grandson was asked: why would a black southerner fight for the Confederacy? He replied, "For the same damn reason a white southerner did."

Before throwing, or allowing to be thrown, your ancestors under the bus give them a balanced, fair and unbiased hearing. This requires research on your part and hopefully you'll forego any justification of them and seek out all pertinent facts. Your results will be an honest evaluation and lead you to your own conclusions.

Alan Petty
Gastonia



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Local farmers markets do their part to flatten the curve on coronavirus

BY DEBBIE ROOS
N.C. Cooperative Extension

Last week was a blur amid all the news about coronavirus and its impacts on our communities, both locally and nationally. Every day brought new information and new policies. I spent the week canceling large farmer workshops (it's not easy to cancel an event that was 100 percent planned and ready to go) and communicating with folks in the region. By the end of the week, Gov. Roy Cooper had closed schools throughout the state for at least two weeks and prohibited mass gatherings and the president had declared a national emergency. No one knows what lies ahead as this level of disruption is unprecedented and we are in uncharted territory.

I work with farmers and the local food system. My anxiety is high as I worry about how this disruption will affect farmers and local businesses like restaurants who purchase from farmers but are losing so much business over an extended period of time. Everyone has to eat, so how do we ensure access to local food and also keep everyone safe?

In North Carolina some farmers' markets have been shut down by the towns or institutions that host them, but fortunately so far this seems to be only a small percentage of markets. I consider farmers' markets to be essential to our food system and hope they stay open. All the markets I know of are working so hard to adapt to this fast changing environment and implement new



Photo by Debbie Roos/N.C. Cooperative Extension

Many vendors like Brit Pfann of Celebrity Dairy were wearing disposable gloves and sanitizing surfaces frequently. Brit had a sheet of plastic over his tablecloth to facilitate cleaning at the Carrboro Farmers Market.

guidelines and policies to keep vendors and customers safe and "flatten the curve" on coronavirus.

Last Saturday I visited the Carrboro Farmers' Market to shop, visit with vendors, and see what the market is doing differently to balance access to local food with health and safety. I was so impressed at what I saw (see the list of new practices below) and I have to say it was wonderful to be there after such a stressful week. The only negative part was not being able to hug all my farmer friends!

I talked with Carrboro Farmers' Market supporter and Infectious Disease Specialist Dr. Peter Gilligan while I was at the market. He is a retired Professor of Pathology and the former

Director of the Microbiology Lab at UNC-Chapel Hill. According to Dr. Gilligan, "I actually think the farmers' market is a safer place to shop — because it has sunlight and fresh air — but we have to have social distancing and that's something people aren't used to. So I've been going around and suggesting to people when they are waiting in line in particular that it's important to maintain social distancing: if you put your arm out and you can touch someone then you are too close."

Below is a list of strategies that the Carrboro Farmers' Market has implemented to help "flatten the curve" and do their part to slow the spread of the coronavirus. I know that other local farmers'

markets have also adopted many of these same practices.

- The market sent an email to customers before the Saturday market informing them of the new guidelines and asking folks who were sick to stay home.

- The market invited Dr. Peter Gilligan, an Infectious Disease Specialist, to meet with the vendors, offer guidance, and answer questions before the market opened on Saturday.

- Customers were encouraged to practice "social distancing" — maintaining a space of about six feet from each other — and were informed of this policy as they entered the market; signage and volunteers spread throughout the market reminded customers of the practice.
- The space between

vendors was increased to reduce crowding.

- Upon the advice of Dr. Gilligan, vendors rounded their prices to the nearest dollar so they could stop accepting coins — he said that at least in the laboratory the virus has survived on coins.

- Customers were asked not to handle any items on the vendors' tables but to just point at what they wanted and let vendors bag their purchases; vendors were provided signage by the market informing customers of this policy.

- The policy about not allowing purchases until opening bell was relaxed to prevent the long lines that form at vendors' booths before the market opens; instead, the early arrivals were allowed to make purchases.

- Vendors did not offer samples of their products, in order to reduce opportunities for contamination.

- Vendors were encouraged not to use tablecloths, in order to make it easier to sanitize surfaces; some vendors laid a sheet of plastic over the top of their tablecloth which they could wipe down with sanitizer.

- Many vendors chose to wear disposable gloves, mainly as a reminder to not touch their face.

- Some vendors designated one person to handle money and another to handle product.

- The market had volunteers who would stop by the vendor booths to relieve them so they could leave and wash their hands.

- Hand sanitizer was ubiquitous throughout the market, at vendor tables and also in other locations.

- The market brought in a hand washing station that they normally use for

events. Customers also have access to bathrooms in two locations at the market.

- The market provided signs to vendors explaining the policy about customers NOT touching product.

After I visited the Carrboro Farmers' Market, I went to three different chain grocery stores. I have to say I was a bit surprised that the Carrboro Farmers' Market was the ONLY one of these four retail establishments where I saw any proactive, protective measures being taken and communicated to customers. In all three grocery stores I visited it was business as usual with no new policies, or at least no new policies that were visible or communicated to the customers. I definitely felt better about shopping at the farmers' market where I knew folks were doing their best to practice social distancing and good hygiene practices than I did at the grocery stores where customers seemed mainly concerned with stockpiling and grabbing stuff before it disappeared from the shelves again.

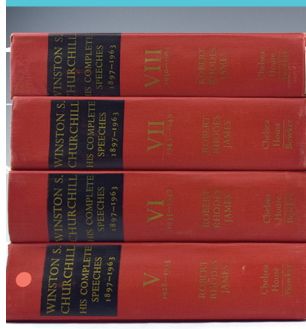
Who knows what lies ahead in the coming weeks. I do hope everyone takes coronavirus seriously and does their part to help flatten the curve, in ways that make sense to you and your loved ones. These are challenging times and we need to stay safe and support each other.

If you would like to share your ideas for what your farmers' market is doing please email me.

Debbie Roos is the Agricultural Extension Agent, Chatham County Center. She can be reached at 919.542.8244 or by email at debbie_roos@ncsu.edu.

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Photos courtesy of the Chatham Sheriff's Office

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Snickers, a beautiful 1-year-old feline with the heart of a survivor! Snickers arrived at the Animal Resource Center (ARC) in early February in grim condition, suffering from a severe upper respiratory infection and struggling to overcome unfavorable odds. However, thanks to the loving attention and dedicated medical care she received from ARC staff, Snickers has made a full recovery and is now searching for her fur-ever home! Snickers is exceptionally sociable and interactive. She loves to play and would make an ideal companion for a senior adult looking for friendship or a family with children or dogs she can befriend. Snickers is an inside-only cat and would do best in a home environment where she can lounge around and cozy up to her human counterparts! For more information on how to meet or adopt Snickers during our ongoing \$20 Cat Adoption Special, swing by our office at 725 Renaissance Dr. in Pittsboro or call 919-542-2911 to speak with an Animal Resource Officer.



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12 days of COVID-19 in Chatham County, and counting...

BY ZACHARY HORNER

News + Record Staff

It's become nearly impossible to exist in America without hearing about the spread of COVID-19, the novel coronavirus. And it's hit close to home in Chatham County as well.

Here's a timeline of the significant events over a 12-day period from when the first case in Chatham was announced to this past Sunday.

Friday, March 6

The N.C. State Laboratory of Public Health confirmed a second N.C. resident — a man who lives in Chatham County — tested positive for the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19.

According to a news release from the Chatham County government, the man traveled in late February to an area in Italy that is now the site of a COVID-19 outbreak. While there, he experienced two days of "mild, flu-like symptoms." Eventually, the man's fever "resolved" and symptoms improved, and he flew back to the U.S. the next day.

Soon afterward, North Carolina health officials were notified by the Georgia Department of Health that the man was a contact to a case in that state, meaning that he had been in proximity to someone in Georgia that contracted COVID-19. Chatham County Public Health Department personnel conducted a home visit and collected specimens. A test revealed a presumptive positive.

The health department has not revealed any further information on the man's conditions, citing privacy concerns.

Monday, March 9

At Monday's Chatham County Board of Education meeting, the board voted to suspend all schools-sponsored travel outside of North Carolina

for the remainder of the school year. The five new cases in Wake County were announced during the school board's deliberations.

"When I think about our responsibility to the whole student body, I'm inclined to say that we don't have out-of-state travel," said board vice chair Jane Allen Wilson. "We haven't dealt with this in our lifetime that we've had a pandemic with such potential to spread with such mild symptoms."

County Public Health Director Layton Long told the school board that the departments have been in constant contact and will keep things updated.

"A lot of things are unknown but we try to reach reasonable conclusions as reasonable people should do," Long said. "The critical component of all of this is that school systems are utilizing, and I urge the public to use, consistent factual information and get their information from reliable sources."

Thursday, March 12

Gov. Roy Cooper encouraged the cancellation or postponement of all events with 100 people or more in attendance due to potential spread of COVID-19, a move that was followed by a tidal wave of changes, most of them taking place on Friday. But on Thursday, the North Carolina High School Athletic Association announced it would postpone the rest of the boys and girls state basketball championships "indefinitely" and suspend all other athletic events — including practices and games — starting at 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 13 until Monday, April 6.

Additionally, Chatham County Schools cancelled all field trips and after-school activities, including sports, and will prohibit access by visitors and volunteers to schools "except those deemed by

the school principals as essential."

During an emergency meeting of the Chatham County Board of Education Thursday evening, CCS Superintendent Derrick Jordan said guidance from state government and health department officials helped the district make that decision.

"The guidance was basically around restricting non-essential travel, eliminating or reducing social interactions in the way of athletic events, concerts, etc.," Jordan said. "It is currently still the recommendation from the state that schools not close preemptively. Staff will continue to meet with the appropriate local officials as we have been doing."

Friday, March 13

The governor's announcement set off a flurry of cancellations and postponements, most of which were announced Friday, including the 3rd Annual Spring Ag Fest, sponsored by the Chatham County Cooperative Extension, which was scheduled for Saturday, March 28.

Additionally on Friday, Central Carolina Community College announced it was extending its spring break by a week in response to "the seriousness of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) global pandemic." A press release from CCCC said the extension has been made to "help mitigate the spread of Coronavirus while also allowing CCCC faculty the necessary time to transition some coursework to an online format."

Saturday, March 14

Cooper ordered the closure of all public schools in North Carolina for the next two weeks and banned gatherings of 100 or more by executive order. That made the decision for the county public school system, which had been debating further response in the days after

its Thursday decision.

Sunday, March 15

In a news release Sunday morning, Chatham County Manager Dan LaMontagne encouraged residents with children to make sure they're not left with people who may be at higher risk to be exposed to COVID-19.

"We understand the decision to close schools will present challenges for many Chatham County families," LaMontagne said. "At the same time, we know that the new coronavirus is of particular concern for people age 65 and older as well as those with medical conditions like

heart and lung disease, diabetes and weakened immune systems. To the extent possible, we urge residents to avoid leaving children with individuals who are high risk in order to limit potential exposure to the virus.

Additionally, Long stressed the importance of "social distancing" — staying six feet apart from others and avoiding crowded spaces.

"We continue to ask residents to take important steps to stay healthy: Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, cover your cough with your elbow, and stay home if you are sick except to seek medical care," he said in the news release.

Tuesday, March 17

More cancellations and closures hit the news wire Tuesday morning, including a notification from the state government that all restaurants and bars were to cease dine-in service for the foreseeable future. Take-out and delivery options were still allowed. Additionally, Chatham County Schools began serving breakfast and lunch free for those 18 and under and paid for adults at three elementary schools in the county.

Reporter Zachary Horner can be reached at zhorn@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@ZachHorn-CNR](https://twitter.com/ZachHorn-CNR).

With a heavy heart, the Connolly Walker State Farm Ribbon Cutting & Open House Celebration scheduled for THURSDAY, MARCH 19 has been CANCELED due to concerns regarding coronavirus.

My top priority is the health and well-being of my team, my loved ones, my friends, and my personal and business communities. We are still open for business, answering calls and greeting folks at the office with a "No Handshake" policy. I'm so very thankful for all the love and support I have already felt from our community, and we do look forward to hosting you all for a ribbon cutting celebration in the future!

**For every auto quote we receive in March, we will donate \$5.00 to the CORA Food Pantry in Pittsboro, NC for State Farm's Quotes for Good.*

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Continued from page A1

ing to a report on WRAL.com, relatives said the Sanderfords' 16-year-old son called 911. A second child, a 13-year-old son, was away from home at the time.

In the audio portion of a 911 call obtained by the News + Record, a young male caller tells the operator he ran and hid in his bedroom closet after hearing gunshots at his home. He subsequently left his bedroom and described the scene to the operator, saying that his father appeared to be dead. The operator stayed on the line with the caller until law enforcement officials arrived at the scene. (Although 911 calls are public records, it is the News + Record's practice not to quote minors who are recorded in such calls directly.)

Sheriff's deputies closed the portion of Moncure-Flatwoods Road overnight into Monday morning in order for Members of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and North Carolina SBI to investigate the incident. The road was re-opened on Tuesday.

No motive was given. Neighbors of some of the victims, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, told the News + Record there had been "spats" among the family members in the past, and that Ray's behavior had, at times, raised concerns among members of the community.

Deputies initially responded to a shots-fired call after 5:30 p.m. Sunday. The Chatham Sheriff's Office reported later the incident was not considered random and there was "no ongoing threat to the community at large." Investigators on scene determined the shooting extended to more than one residence and worked through the night to process the scene and "piece together more details," according to statement



Staff photo by Casey Mann

This home in Moncure, located at 842 Moncure-Flatwoods Road, is one of the locations of the alleged murder-suicide that claimed seven lives, including that of the gunman, on Sunday. This home is owned by John and Nicole Sanderford, two of the victims.



Staff photo by Casey Mann

This home, at 834 Moncure-Flatwoods Road, is one of two adjacent properties owned by Helen Mason, one of the victims of Sunday's murder-suicide in Moncure. The incident took the lives of seven people, including the alleged gunman who reportedly committed suicide.

from the Sheriff's Office.

The North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation is working with the Sheriff's Office on the investigation. The Sheriff's Office added in the release that "those familiar with the area where the shooting occurred describe it as a quiet, close-knit community where violence is out of the norm, making the news even more disturbing."

Roberson added that the department wanted residents to know that "they are not alone" in the aftermath of the shootings.

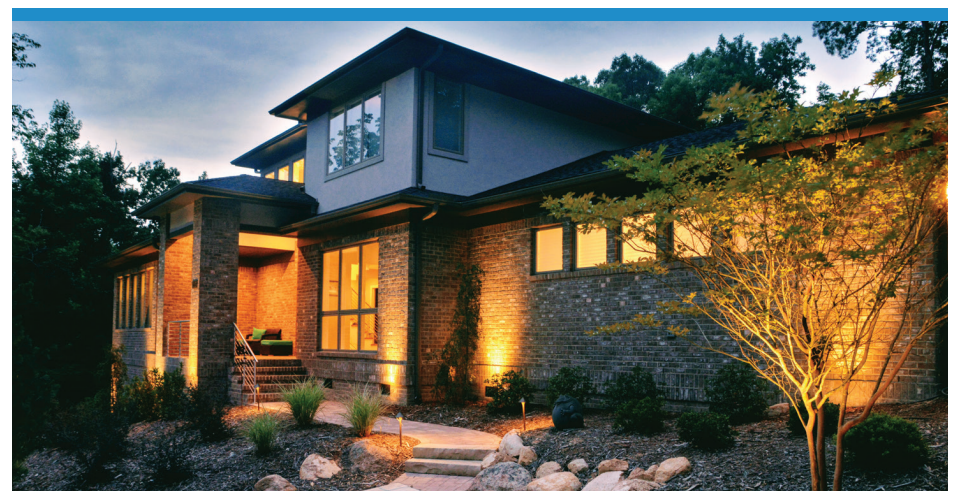
"In Chatham County, when one of us hurts, we all hurt, and we pull together," he said. "We can't undo what has happened, but we

can surround this family and each other with love and support as we decide where to go from here."

The Sheriff's Office said Monday afternoon that donations can be made at any Wells Fargo bank nationwide to "Flatwood Boys Stay Strong," a care fund to help provide for the two surviving Sanderford sons who lost their parents in the shooting.

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office is urging survivors affected by the tragedy to "seek emotional support, including reaching out to the N.C. Victim Assistance Network, Triangle Survivors of Suicide, or the Sheriff's Office Victim Services Unit."

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A CN+R SPECIAL REPORT | THE TIER SYSTEM

Will change come?

Most agree that reforming the N.C Tier system is necessary. But how?

BY ADRIANNE CLEVEN AND BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

Editor's note: Last week, in the first of this two-part series, the News + Record discussed how N.C.'s Tier system — designed to level the playing field for the state's 100 counties by enhancing access to grant and loan funding — short-changes poorer municipalities located in wealthier counties. Chatham's Tier 3 status means less access to funding opportunities, even for economically disadvantaged communities like Siler City. For years, officials in Chatham and other counties have made changing the Tier system a high legislative priority — without success. This week, we outline alternatives and possible changes to the legislatively-mandated Tier system and why, so far, change has been slow to come.

SILER CITY — In 2015, the Program Evaluation Division of the N.C. General Assembly — a non-partisan policy group — released a report declaratively entitled, “North Carolina Should Discontinue the Economic Development Tier System and Reexamine Strategies to Assist Communities with Chronic Economic Distress.”

The report contained a clear message: N.C.'s Tier system must change. It echoed what some local economic development directors, municipal and county-level officials and some legislators had been saying for years — that our state's system of steering grants and tax credits away from counties considered “less distressed” because of criteria such as median household income and property value wasn't working the way it was intended.

The results: it unfairly penalized counties like Chatham, which, although ranked among the top of North Carolina's 100 counties in economic strength, was in dire need of help for funds for infrastructure for its distressed western portion.

But if the shortfalls of the Tier system are well-documented at the state level, why has reform seemed almost negligible during the five years that have passed since the Program Evaluation Division report? Why do communities in desperate need of infrastructure funding still encounter Tier-related roadblocks before they even begin grant applications?

Rep. Robert Reives II, a Goldston resident who represents Chatham County in the state legislature, said most government and community stakeholders understand that the Tier system must be improved. Recognizing the problem and making tangible changes to the system, however, was a “whole different ball game,” he said, and state-level legislative teams view the situation differently — depending on which district they serve.

“Of course the counties that are benefiting from it don't want to be in a position where they're set ... to lose

‘It's unfortunate how it ends up affecting Chatham County because Chatham's really a tale of two counties... You've got the eastern portion of the county that has really experienced a major boom and a lot of economic growth and development, and then you've got the western side, which has not benefited from that. And in fact, if you took the western side and made it its own county, it would be the 99th poorest county in the state.’

REP. ROBERT REIVES II, state lawmaker who represents Chatham County

that benefit,” Reives said. “And counties that are not benefiting from it, obviously, want to have a better opportunity. And then you've got the counties that are kind of in the middle — that the Tier system just doesn't affect: for instance, a metropolitan county like Wake or something like that. And so it's just really hard to get everybody on the same page.”

Siler City: A case study within Chatham

Siler City's needs serve as a case study for how the county distress ranking system (which N.C.'s Tier system essentially is) affects economically distressed communities situated in counties otherwise considered economically advantaged or “wealthy.”

Nancy Hannah, Siler City's municipal grants administrator, spends a great deal of time searching for what she calls “free money” — grant funding that could help improve infrastructure changes in Siler City and make the area more appealing to business owners seeking to put down roots. Hannah says that Chatham's Tier 3 designation often disqualifies the county for many state-level funding sources.

“And [grant listings] also at the very beginning will generally say who can apply,” Hannah said. “Because you don't want to spend time reading further and considering applying if you don't qualify for it right off the bat.”

When she searches online for grant availability, she often sees a message that reads: “For counties ranked as either Tier 1 or Tier 2.”

That puts Tier 3 Chatham, and Siler City with it, out in the cold.

Two particular funding sources would typically be available to help with the kinds of improvements that Siler City needs are the N.C. Commerce Utility Account and the N.C. Ready Sites Program. The catch? They are only available to Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties, cutting Chatham and Siler City out of the application process from the very beginning a denying much-needed economic assistance.

The N.C. Commerce Utility account, designed as an investment in industry and job creation, helps fund resources including “water, sewer, gas, telecommunications, high-speed broadband, transportation infrastructure or electrical utility lines” to enhance industry. And the N.C. Ready Sites Program is designed to “fund improvement of public infrastructure that serves publicly owned or publicly controlled industrial sites.” Essentially, it seeks to prepare industrial sites with water and sewer capabilities

so that new business operations can jump into action as quickly as possible. Similar to the Commerce Utility Account, the Ready Sites program is designed to draw industry and fresh job opportunities to areas in need.

If Siler City officials were permitted to apply to these programs, Hannah says she is confident that Chatham would have a fighting chance at obtaining the grant funding for a simple reason: economically, Siler City looks like most of N.C.'s “distressed” Tier 1 counties. Industry closures and job losses in the last few decades have adversely impacted the town's economy; in order to attract investment from new business and industry, the town needs investment in infrastructure and other types of enhancements and improvements. But the Tier system, originally designed to level the playing field for poorer communities, short-changes Siler City.

And Hannah says that on the federal level, finding grant funding offers its own difficulties.

“Unfortunately, the federal funds are more limited in the amount...they're usually limited to \$2 or \$3 million,” Hannah said. “For both infrastructure and economic development there are \$2- and \$3-million limits. And so when we've currently got a \$21-million project, it makes sourcing funds challenging.”

That \$21-million project revolves around expansion and improvements to Siler City's water treatment plant. Siler City's poultry processing plant, Mountaire Farms, as well as the up-and-coming Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site (CAM), mean that the capacity of the water treatment plant will need to advance from “four million gallons per day to six.”

What's wrong with this picture?

Criticism directed toward the Tier system typically falls into one of two categories. First, some leaders claim the economic factors used to determine distress levels paint an inaccurate picture.

“A lot of the methods now do not measure the degree of distress,” says David Lambert, Moore County's solid waste manager. “They measure the effects of distress. And there's a difference.”

Still others take issue with the system's county-level distribution of aid. They suggest that the system should somehow account for low-income municipalities located in counties the Tier system labels “less distressed.”

Currently, the legislative language defining the Tier system makes no such provision. The pitfalls inherent in a county-level examination

of distress are particularly evident in counties like Chatham, where pockets of wealth and poverty coexist. As Assistant County Manager Bryan Thompson says, the system is “not a very authentic representation of the entire community.”

“It's unfortunate how it ends up affecting Chatham County because Chatham's really a tale of two counties ...,” said Reives. “You've got the eastern portion of the county that has really experienced a major boom and a lot of economic growth and development, and then you've got the western side, which has not benefited from that. And in fact, if you took the western side and made it its own county, it would be the 99th poorest county in the state.”

Moving forward: proposed steps

Other specific solutions have been proposed. The Triangle J Council of Governments is a system of regional government that seeks to enhance “joint planning” efforts across Moore, Lee, Chatham, Orange, Durham, Wake and Johnston counties. According to “Hidden Distress,” a whitepaper released by the TJCOG in 2018, “a county-level analysis hides municipalities that are experiencing economic distress within more prosperous counties.”

The report released four specific recommendations for Tier reform:

- TJCOG's “immediate” reform solution to Tier proposed was to “create exemptions” for pockets of economic distress within high-Tier counties. (This “easy button” solution has been championed by CAM Megastore owner Tim Booras of Chatham County; as noted in part one of this series, Moore county officials and the North Carolina Economic Development Association proposed H.B. 258 in 2019, a bill with a similar goal creating an exemption to Tier-related funding for Tier 3 counties applying to the state Utility Industrial Fund. The bill failed in the Senate.)

- Next, TJCOG recommended a completely new set of “economic indicators” that would determine distressed areas. They include: Median household income, Percentage of residents aged 25 or over with at least some college, Poverty rate and Average earnings from work. (If enacted, these indicators would replace the current set of criteria the N.C. Dept. of Commerce currently uses, which include unemployment rate, median household income, population growth and assessed property value per capita.)

- The report also suggests using a combination of the

U.S. Census data and the American Community Survey (ACS) to reevaluate Tier designations every five years instead of on a yearly basis. After all, the TJCOG reports, drastic Tier fluctuations over the course of a year are rare, and data collected from the ACS could fill in during the five-year block where new census data would be unavailable.

- Finally, TJCOG called upon state legislators to “release multiple indices of economic distress,” citing the use of the Tier system for many state-level aid programs. The more information provided to funding programs, TJCOG rationalizes, the better.

Though community stakeholders see the value in the TJCOG recommendations and Thompson said the report outlines “thoughtful avenues that this exploration can take,” the guidelines have not come to fruition in the N.C. general assembly. There have been attempts — dozens of bills, for instance, which address the Tier system — but none have passed.

Would census tract data work better?

As the TJCOG report outlined, a promising alternative to county-level economic analysis is the use of census tract data. Census data is already being used to denote “Opportunity Zones,” part of a federal program created by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017.

The Opportunity Zones program uses census data to encourage investment in lower-income and poverty-stricken communities. Out of Chatham's 13 census tracts, three have been designated “Opportunity Zones” and five have been designated as “Low-Income Census Tracts” according to the federal government's consideration of poverty rates and median family income. Investors in “Opportunity Zone” communities will be rewarded with “tax benefits...for upwards of 10 years...”

Because N.C.'s tier system still operates at a broader county level, it creates what TJCOG describes as a “clash” between federal and state-level funding strategy.

‘Micro-targeting’ economic need using technology

Since the inception of the Tier system in 1996, technological advances have changed the way geographers and local government officials can interpret data and pinpoint economic need. “Hidden Distress,” the whitepaper from TJCOG, says “the use of sub-county data has been avoided due to large margins of error.” But new drill-down data technology and tools like Geographic Information System (GIS) can be used to more accurately mark pockets of distress in otherwise “well-off” areas. Still, the Tier system relies solely on county-level demarcations.

Rep. Reives imagines that the legislators who originally created the county-level Tier designations were “well-intentioned.” There's untapped potential, though, in the data tools that are available now.

“But I think that especially now that we're such a different era, we've just got so many different opportunities, thanks to technology, in order to separate districts,” he said. “...But we've just got a lot of ways that we can really separate these areas out and do a little more micro-targeting. So I'd love for us to take advantage of that.”

Chatham County officials have discussed how simply using different data sets could create powerful change within the Tier system.

“A lot of our conversation has been focusing on sub-county data that exists, that is reliable enough to draw reasonable conclusions of economic distress,” says Thompson, who experienced firsthand how the Tier system impacted Siler City during his time as town manager there. “And census block data is one of those data sets that we believe would be appropriate to use.”

Is change unheard of? Certainly not.

The promising news? Though the path toward Tier system overhaul seems slow now, the system has not remained completely unchanged. In 2019, the Labor and Economic Analysis Division at the North Carolina Department of Commerce announced that the law had

changed to eliminate the “adjustment factors” in the Tier system.

For more than a decade, county Tier rankings were determined using a combination of the four aforementioned “development factors” — unemployment rate, median household income, population growth and assessed property value per capita — and “adjustment factors.” Those adjustment factors were designed to account for certain counties with relatively lower populations and poverty rates that exceeded 19 percent, and the elimination of those factors was impactful. The use of adjustment factors in 2018 meant that almost a third of all N.C. counties received a different designation than would have been assigned if only development factors were used.

During the same legislative session in which “adjustment factors” were removed from the tier designation criteria, several bills were introduced with the objective of changing the tier system. The proposed changes — outlined specifically in bills like Senate Bill 563, Senate Bill 618 and House Bill 795 — ranged from distinguishing “county government distress factors” and “resident distress factors” to viewing county-level economic data as compared to state-level data in order to create an “index.” Each of those bills also proposed an elimination of “adjustment factors,” a change that came to fruition during the 2017-2018 legislative session.

But the TJCOG reported that each of the suggested changes to the system still “maintains the analysis of data at the county level.”

What's the hold-up?

Since assuming public office in 2014, Reives has noticed vast differences in economic status from county to county. He is also discouraged by political gridlock that makes economic discussions more difficult.

“What you've really got to hope for, frankly, is something to tamp down the polarization,” he said. “Acknowledgment of some of the economic problems that we have in this state and then people really sitting down, from both sides of the aisle, putting their heads together and trying to figure out how to solve it. Because you have people who tell you that, economically, everybody's doing great. We shouldn't do anything differently. And then you've got people saying the sky is falling; there is no economic development and we're not doing well. So you've got to get somewhere in the middle of that.”

Thompson said that, at the county level, Chatham officials understand the complexity that would accompany changes to the Tier system.

“We're very careful to recognize that this is not an easy issue to work through, especially from a legislative standpoint on the state level,” he said. “Because while in our case, it doesn't work perfectly at all, in other cases it might...being mindful that any decision that's made could have unintended consequences if you're not careful, and while it might solve a Chatham County issue, it may then create an issue for another county.”

State programs like the Main Street Solutions Fund, the Job Development Investment Grant Program, the Animal Shelter Support Fund and even the N.C. Science Museums Grant Program each use the Tier system to distribute funding. A great deal of funding is at stake, and like most questions of economic development, the stakes to Tier system reform are high.

Tier system reform could lead to more job opportunities and more robust communities for Chatham folks who happen to live outside of wealthier northern areas of the county. Now, the power to reform the system lies in the hands of state legislators.

Until then, Siler City's municipal officials — and others in pockets of economic distress within Tier 3 counties — will continue to do what they've had to do: to apply to a smaller pool of grants and keep making tough choices in an effort to make the area look how the state of North Carolina sees it: most economically advantaged.

With all the uncertainties in today's news, owning a small business that relies on social interaction and contact is so difficult. The choice to stay open and active is such a difficult one. This week we will practice social distancing. This is hard, it's a leap of faith that I have SO MUCH FEAR about. I love the Gathered community and my customers. It is my customers that have created such a happy place at the store for me. It is my hope that you feel the same and can find a way to help this small business in such a crazy time. I have decided that I will offer you shopping and retail enjoyment right from the comfort of your home. This week we will be flooding your feeds, both Instagram and FaceBook with pictures of all the beautiful product that is available in the store. All of these items will be available for purchase over the phone. And can be held in the store until you feel comfortable getting out and about again! If you are in Pittsboro, you can choose to do curb side pick up, we can also do local delivery! Social responsibility and the well being of my customers remain a priority. Your support of this small business is greatly appreciated.

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OBITUARIES

BARRY LEWIS PHILLIPS



Barry Lewis Phillips, 68, of Chapel Hill, NC passed away on March 15, 2020 surrounded by his family.

Barry was survived by his wife Sara; his daughter Kara (Ricky) Poe; his sons, Alan Phillips (Juliana) and Billy Emory (Elizabeth); two grandchildren, Sophia Phillips and James Emory; and his brother, David Phillips (Joanna).

Barry loved the outdoors, especially spending time at the beach with his family, backpacking in the North Carolina mountains and hiking local trails. He loved watching Carolina basketball and Western movies on TV.

Born in Siler City, to Ruth and Lewis Phillips, Barry graduated from Jordan-Matthews High School and attended Campbell University, earning a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology. After earning a Master's Degree in Social Work, Barry was a Clinical Social Worker for the state of North Carolina for 30 years. He retired as the Director of Social Work at John Umstead Hospital and continued to work in various social work positions until 2018. Barry always tried to help others when he could. Barry was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather. He always provided for and made time for his family.

Cremation is being handled by Omega Funeral and Cremation Service in Burlington.

There will be a private celebration of life for family and close friends at the beach at a later date, to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, in condolence, the family is requesting donations to Club Nova, 103-D West Main Street, Carrboro NC 27510.

HAROLD DENNIS MCCOY



Harold Dennis McCoy, age 88, of Chapel Hill, died Monday, March 9, 2020 at UNC Hospitals.

Harold was born in Chatham County, on June 9, 1931 to the late Dennis McCoy and Ila McCoy. He was also preceded in death by two brothers; James McCoy, Vernon McCoy; and one sister, Kathryn Glosson.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Nancy Williams McCoy of Chapel Hill; two daughters; Sharon McCoy Womble and husband Ray of Chapel Hill, Teresa McCoy Crumley of Asheboro; son; Ty McCoy of Chapel Hill; one sister, Phyllis Campbell; eight grandchildren, Steve Womble and wife Jennifer, Jeffrey Womble, Justin Womble and wife Lisa, Brandi Crumley-Runyan and husband Alex, Jamie Crumley and husband Bernie Harper, Jennifer Fletcher and husband Rob, Jonathan McCoy, Holden Strong; six great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held Friday, March 13, 2020 at 1 p.m. at Lystra Baptist Church with Rev. Tim Williford presiding. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Immediately following the committal service, the family received friends in the church fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in Harold's memory to The Baptist Children's Home of North Carolina, P.O. Box 338, Thomasville, NC 27361.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com. Donaldson Funeral Home & Cremation is honored to serve the McCoy family.

ents, two wives, Artent Cameron Smith and Maggie McNeill Hailey-Smith; five sisters, six brothers; sons, Edward Lee Smith, James Edward Smith; and daughter, Deborah Sutar-ia.

He leaves survivors, Lola Smith of Derby, CT, Westley Anderson of Myrtle Beach, David Smith of Atlanta, Stephen Smith of Bridgeport, CT and Philip Smith of Bridgeport, CT; twelve grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren; sister, Evelyn Weathers; and brother, Lonell Smith.

CLARA 'DORIS' ELIZABETH-ANN FRENCH

Clara "Doris" Elizabeth-Ann French, 80, of Sanford passed on Friday, March 6, 2020 at her home.

A funeral service was held at 2 p.m. March 12, 2020 at Ward Memorial Church.

The daughter of James Watson Judd and Lula Elizabeth Covington Judd, she was a graduate of Lee County Training School, and a member of Ward Memorial Church, where she was a member of the Jubilee Choir and played the piano.

Surviving is a daughter, Nikole French.

CHARLIE WILLIAM WOOD

Charlie William Wood, 46, of Robbins, died Saturday, March 14, 2020 at FirstHealth Hospice & Palliative Care in Pinehurst.

The funeral service will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at the Joyce-Brady Chapel in Bennett with Pastor Eric Combs presiding. Burial followed at Cross Hill Cemetery in Carthage.

Charlie was born in Lee County, in 1973, son of the late Charles Wesley Wood and Geraldine Elliot Wood. He worked for Riley Paving serving as a pilot truck driver.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Carol Jean Wood of the home; children, Amber Cagle of Carthage, Richard Matthew Pope of Robbins, Brandon Wood of Robbins and Travis Baker of Sanford; brothers, Jimmy Wood of Whispering Pines, David Wood of Cameron; sisters, Vivian Evans of Tramway and Angel Wood of Cameron; and seven grandchildren.

In addition to flowers, donations may be made to a charity of one's choice.

Condolences may be offered online at: www.joycebrady-chapel.com.

ERNESTINE BREWER MAGNUM

Ernestine Brewer Magnum, 84, of Rutherford, NJ passed at her residence.

The daughter of Robert and Patsy Brewer, she was born in Pittsboro on August 7, 1935.

LILLIE DAVIS

Lillie Davis, 87, of Cameron, passed on Tuesday, March 10 at Central Carolina Hospital.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at the First Baptist Church in Cameron. Interment followed in Lee Memory Garden.

ANDREW BUFFORD LAIRD JR.

Andrew Bufford Laird Jr., 89, Asheboro, died Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

Services entrusted to Mid-state Cremation & Funeral Service in Asheboro.

ROBERT LEE COTTEN, JR.

Robert Lee Cotten Jr., 54, of Cary passed on Monday, March 16, 2020 at his home.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

RUBY GERALDINE JOHNSON FOX

Ruby Geraldine Johnson Fox, 93, of Sanford passed on Saturday, March 14, 2020 at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

DORIS L. MCLEOD

Doris L. McLeod, 90, passed on Friday, March 13, 2020 at Central Carolin Hospital in Sanford.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

WILLIAM DENNIS DOWDY

William Dennis Dowdy, 81, of Goldston, passed on Saturday, March 14, 2020.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

DONALD R. SCHOENE

Donald R. Schoene, 88, of Pittsboro passed on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

Arrangements by: Cremation Society of the Carolinas.

LANELLE DEES PROCHNOW

Lanelle Dees Prochnow, 89, passed on March 12, 2020

Arrangements by: Cremation Society of the Carolinas.

See OBITUARIES, page A11

JASON B. ELLIS



Jason B. Ellis, 44, passed away March 10, 2020, at his home.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 13, 2020 at Needhams Grove Baptist Church, with the Reverend Arnold Comer officiating. Burial followed in Hickory Mountain Baptist Church Cemetery, Siler City.

Jason was a beloved husband, father, paw-paw, son, brother, uncle and friend. He began driving a truck in his 20's and loved it. He was currently driving for Wilson Brothers Trucking. Jason loved his family very much. He

was proud of all his children and their accomplishments. Jason was especially excited about his granddaughter, Aimee. Sherry was the love of his life for 12 years and his wife for 4 1/2 years. He was a friend to many and was always ready to lend a hand. Time spent with his friends, sharing a meal and good conversation, was very important. Jason loved his dogs and enjoyed the outdoors, hunting and fishing. Jason was a son of the late Linwood Ellis and was preceded in death by son Aaron Ellis and brother, Linwood Ellis, Jr.

Jason is survived by his wife Sherry; children: Jeremy Elkins, Samantha Cagle (Shawn Brown), Christopher Eng, Avery Ellis, Aidan Ellis, Madison Ellis; granddaughter, Aimee; mother: Carolyn Ellis; sister; Debra Brooks (Phil); brothers: Mike Ellis (Frances), Donnie Ellis (Nancy), Timmy Ellis (Christy), Johnnie Ellis (Sissy), Justin Ellis (Joe); many nieces, nephews and friends.

The family received friends from 7 to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 12, 2020 at Kennedy Funeral Home and at other times at the home.

Memorials may be made to: Wounded Warrior Project, P O Box 758516, Topeka, Kansas 66675.

Kennedy Funeral Home is assisting the Ellis Family. Condolences may be made to: pinesfunerals.com.

SHIRLEY BEAVER FRITZ



Shirley Beaver Fritz, 83, of Princeton, KY, formerly of Bear Creek, passed away on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at Princeton Nursing and Rehabilitation.

She was a member of Southside Baptist Church in Princeton where she taught the High School Seniors Sunday School Class and was a member of the choir.

She was a former member of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, KY.

Shirley was an All-State Basketball player in North Carolina and later a college cheerleader for Bethel College. She was named "Teacher of the Year" at Millbrook Elementary School in Hopkinsville, KY. She was a member of Caldwell County Retired Teachers, Friends of the Library, an HR Ministries Coach and a Sunshine Tuesday Leader. She was a supporter of Read Across America and King's Kitchen. She sat on the Caldwell Medical Board for 14 years. She was a loving mother and devoted wife.

Shirley is survived by her husband Bob Fritz of Princeton; one daughter, Robyn Cole Fritz of Henderson, KY; one son, James Robert Fritz of Los Angeles; one sister, Alicia Beaver Kidd and husband Jimmy of Bear Creek; one brother, Jay Carr Beaver and wife Judy of Pittsboro; brother-in-law, John Glosson of Pittsboro; sister-in-law, Helen Stone Beaver of Bear Creek; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Coley Carr Beaver and Ruby Iola Henson Beaver; sister Ann Beaver Glosson, and brother, Charles Deane Beaver.

NANNIE MAE STANLEY JONES WRIGHT



Nannie Mae Stanley Jones Wright, 84, formerly of Siler City, died Monday, March 16, 2020 at UNC Hospice, Pittsboro.

The body will lie in state at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 from 12 to 5 p.m.

A private graveside service will be held with Rev. Kevin Byers and Rev. Ken Simpson officiating.

Nannie Mae was born in Chatham County on May 2, 1935, the daughter of James Daniel and Nannie (Gilliland) Stanley. Nannie was a homemaker who enjoyed helping others. She had been a private duty nurse, a member of Snow Camp Baptist Church where she assisted in Vacation Bible School.

Nannie was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Wyvern Jones; her parents; brothers, Wade, Tommy and Jessie Stanley and a sister, Myrtle Gilliland.

She is survived by three daughters, Crystal Self (Chris) of Apex, Cindy Kivett (Tim) of Snow Camp and Phyllis Elbert (Rodney) of Palm Bay, FL.; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made online at go.unc.edu/unchospice or checks may be made to Medical Foundation of NC, 123 West Franklin Street, Suite 510, Chapel Hill, NC 27516.

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

and Joyce Maxine.

She is survived by four children, Ronald L. "Bo" Gaddis of the home; Pam Jean Gaddis of Bennett, Linda Staley of Erect and Robert Gaddis of Bear Creek; brothers Bobby, Roland, Roger; sister, Suzanne Hales; eleven grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be offered online at www.joycebrady-chapel.com.

JUNIOR KELLAM

Junior Kellam, 88, of Olivia, died Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at the FirstHealth Hospice House in Moore County.

The funeral was held at 1 p.m. in the Chapel at Bridges Cameron Funeral Home on Saturday, March 14, 2020 with Pastor Curtis Norris officiating. Burial followed in Buffalo Cemetery.

He was born in Harnett County on June 7, 1931 to the late Will McKinley Kellam and Minnie Carter Kellam. In addition to his parents, Junior was preceded in death by his wife, Orene Goins Kellam; brothers, John Kellam, Jim Kellam, Luther Kellam; sisters, Ethel Fore and Myrtle Hickman. Junior worked in home construction for many years. He served his Country in the US Army.

He is survived by a son, Mark Kellam of Olivia; daughters, Dottie Gaines of Bear Creek, Shelia Burke of Olivia; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and one sister, Margie Hickman.

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

EDWARD WESTLEY SMITH

Edward Westley Smith, 94, passed on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at Accordus Health in Aberdeen.

Services were held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 14, 2020 at St. John Pentecostal Holiness Church in Cameron. Burial followed at Lee Memory Garden in Sanford.

He was the son of the late Rufus and Isabelle Smith, born July 25, 1925 in Harnett County and attended Johnsonville High School. He worked for Civil Service at Pope Air Force Base in Fort Bragg. Later he worked raising and grooming horses, then as a sanitary worker for the Town of Southern Pines before retirement. A member of St. John Pentecostal Holiness Ministries, he was a deacon and served in many capacities. He was a member of the Masonic Advanced Lodge #217 in Lillington. He was predeceased by his par-

ANNA MAE DAVIS PACE



Anna Mae Davis Pace, 97, of Sam Lowe Road, Siler City died Monday, March 9, 2020 at Cross Road Retirement Community.

Mrs. Pace was born March 19, 1922 to the late Lemuel and Mary (Dotson) Davis. Anna Mae Pace was a lifetime member of First Wesleyan Church. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother. She loved to garden and was an amazing cook who loved to feed anyone who came to visit. You could always go to her

house and fine a homemade treat of some sort.

Mrs. Pace was preceded in death by her husband, Alga Pace of 69 years, her parents, two brothers, L.D. Davis, Robert Davis; and two sisters, Helen Thomas and Virginia Moser.

She is survived by her daughter, Sylvia Lowe and husband James; son, Larry Pace and wife Joyce; sister, Marietta Hilton and husband Howard; brother, Jimmy Davis and wife Emily; eight grandchildren, Gay Coble (Mike), Greg Lowe (Angie), Alan Pace (Cathy), Darrell Pace (Wendy), Penny Lowe, Keith Pace (Jennifer), Pam Hargrove (Turner, Jr), Josh Robinson (Christa); eighteen great-grandchildren, and nine great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the First Wesleyan Church, 608 N. 3rd Ave., Siler City on Friday, March 13, 2020 at 2 p.m. with Pastor Dennis Boone and Pastor Donald Southern officiating. Visitation with the family was prior to the service from 1 to 2 p.m. Burial was in Chatham Memorial Park, Siler City.

Memorials may be made to Crossroads Retirement Center at 1302 Old Cox Road, Asheboro, NC 27206.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

BOBBY TENACO MAURICE BROWN

Bobby Tenaco Maurice Brown, 39, of Sanford, passed on Thursday, March 5, 2020.

Funeral services were held at 3 p.m. Friday, March 13, 2020 at Works for Christ Christian Center.

Mr. Brown, son of Bobby Brown, Jr. and Barbara McDonald, was born in Sanford, on May 20, 1980. He attended Lee Senior High School, was a long-time employee of Burger King, currently employed at Frontier Spinning Mills. He was a member of the Worship Center in Southern Pines.

He is survived by his wife, Daja Nicole Brown of Cameron; his children and step-child, Kei'shawn Kristanna of Vass, Ty'Aijah of Cameron, Caulaysia Malaysia of Lillington; siblings, Brittany Brooks, Rayshonda McAuley, Ebony

McAuley, Darica McAuley of Sanford, Tisha Brown of Fayetteville, Angela Brown of Raleigh; step-siblings, Lemika McNeill of Raleigh, Craig McNeill, Brittany Blue, Sha'vayshia, and Cameron Wagner of Lillington.

JOANNE CARLTON GADDIS

Mrs. Joanne Carlton Gaddis, 69, of Bear Creek, died Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at her home.

The family will hold a memorial service celebrating her life at a later date.

Joanne was born in Chatham County, in 1951, daughter of the late Raymond and Lessie Bright Carlton. She worked as a dairy farmer and was of the Baptist faith. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, James Lewis Gaddis; daughter, Patricia Lanier; brothers, Edisel, Raymond, Kenny, Lonnie and Harold; sisters, Joyce Lucille, Mary Jane

OBITUARIES:

Continued from page A10

MYRA TAYLOR DUNN



Myra Taylor Dunn lived 86 years. Her last breath was on the same farm she was born on in Bear Creek, NC. She was preceded in death by her husband of 66 years, Vance B. Dunn. She leaves her daughter, Denise Dunn (Don Davis); son, Drew Dunn (Diane); several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She loved her family very much.

Most recently owner of Calico Quilt Antiques, she was also a great business woman owning a dress store, working at Western Temporary Services where she found hundreds

of people full and temporary jobs, she served as President of the Westchester Chamber of Commerce (Los Angeles). Myra also was a real estate agent in Redondo Beach, Ca. She loved tutoring children in reading at J.S. Waters School.

A special thanks to Community Hospice for the love and care they gave her, and for giving her comfort and peace during the last year of her life.

We will hold a celebration of life in the near future. Please direct any memorial to Goldston United Methodist Church or to the Goldston Friends the Library. Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the family. Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

ROBERT DIVERS PRICE

Robert Divers Price, age 88, of 404 South Second Avenue, Siler City died Monday, March 9, 2020.

He was born in Pulaski, Virginia on March 19, 1931 to the late Thomas King Price, Senior and Cora Bryant Price. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Thomas King Price, Jr., Thomas A. Price and Barbara Price Hart. Mr. Price served our country in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict. He attended Oak Ridge Military Academy and Randolph Community College. His accomplished career as a county building inspector reflected his tireless work ethic and commitment to lifelong learning. During his career he achieved a Level 3 License in inspections, which is the highest level for inspections including electrical, plumbing, mechanical, building, and fire. He formally retired from the Johnston County Inspections Department in 2002 but continued to contract with the county on special projects until his death. His passion for tinkering on electronics and motors filled his free time. He particularly enjoyed riding motorcycles, and he was content to spend time with others who shared similar interests.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Paschal Price of Siler City; his sons, Thomas King Price, III (Chip), Richard Price, both of Siler City; daughters, Mary Lutz (Michael) of Sanford, Camille House (Jeff) of Pittsboro, Debra Prather of New Bern; sisters, Nancy Price Dunn and Lucinda Price Pinnock, both of Siler City; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The family would like to express their thanks to Mr. Price's neighbors, special friends, and coworkers in Wake and Johnston Counties, including Michael Stratton who Mr. Price considered to be like a brother. Special thanks to Dr. Hoffman and the caregivers at Chatham Hospital and UNC Hospital for their compassionate support as Mr. Price transitioned through his illness.

The family received friends at Fellowship Baptist Church, 120 Fellowship Church Road, Siler City, NC 27344 on Friday, March 13, 2020 from 1 to 2 p.m. and at other times at the home of son, Chip, 301 South Dogwood Avenue, Siler City. The funeral followed at 2 p.m. in the church sanctuary with Rev. Jason Golden and Rev. Suzanne Colandro officiating. The service was concluded by the graveside at the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Gideons, Chatham County Camp, PO Box 895, Siler City, NC 27344. Smith & Buckner Funeral Home assisted the family. Online condolences may be made at: www.pughfuneral-home.com.

Chatham's leaders: State government needs to step up and fund

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Along with wanting the state government to allow localities more freedom to make decisions, the government leaders in Chatham County have made it clear they need more funds to do what the state is already asking them to do.

A discussion last month during the annual Legislative Breakfast with county legislators state Sen. Valerie Foushee (D-Durham) and Rep. Robert Reives II (D-Chatham) centered in part on how counties are bearing a burden that is either too strong for their coffers or more than what they have been asked to bear in the past. The deficits, they said, showed up in multiple areas that could be combined into three concerns: public school construction, transportation and services for the aging population.

These were all part of requests from local officials to state legislators to seek changes at the state government level.

Public School Construction

By law, counties and school districts are responsible for funding any school construction needs — something Chatham County officials said they are well aware of.

"The counties are faced with many new schools and funding with that, especially on the local level, is difficult," County Manager Dan LaMontagne said. "We would like some assistance from the state to fund some of this."

The proposal on the table is the Public School Buildings

Bond Act, which, if passed, would put a \$1.9 billion bond on a statewide ballot for voter approval.

Estimates say that Chatham County would receive up to \$9.3 million for construction projects as a result of a successful referendum approval, something county leaders could use immediately. The county is nearing completion on the Chatham Grove Elementary School in northeast Chatham, a project slated to cost more than \$27 million, and has begun construction on Seaforth High School near Jordan Lake, a school projected to cost more than \$62 million. These construction burdens are handled by borrowing and debt payments.

School spending has already been a burden that taxpayers have had to bear — the county increased its property tax rate by 4.19 cents last year to help cover operating expenses for Chatham Grove and teacher supplements.

Seniors & Student Transportation

Both Chatham County Schools and the Chatham County Council on Aging expressed concerns at the legislative breakfast over how transportation funds were allocated from the state.

COA Executive Director Dennis Streets said that state Department of Transportation funding to his organization was cut in half in the current fiscal year and is expected to remain at that level in the coming year. The county government made up the difference, Streets said, something he was thankful for because seniors use COA-provided transportation or Chatham

Transit to get to the county's senior centers and medical appointments.

"Some of those goes out of the county," he said. "We would have been dead in the water if the county had not stepped in to replace that cut."

On its own list of legislative priorities, the school system indicated it desired more flexibility when it came to funds for transportation.

Senior Services Funds

Chatham's population of seniors is growing and will continue to grow in the coming years. Projections say Chatham's senior population will see an 83 percent increase and 85-and-older population grow by 208 percent from now until 2038.

With that in mind, Streets said, he's hoping the state will return to funding what his organization is doing at prior levels. But even if funds come back to where they were, it wouldn't be enough.

"The cost of services continue to go up," he said. "We're looking at an aging population without the ability to adequately pay for in-home aides. It doesn't mean you're going to be able to serve more, just provide quality service to the ones you're already serving."

Commissioner Karen Howard said the work of the COA is "a critical part of our people infrastructure."

"We can't isolate it," she said. "It's a county issue, it's a Pittsboro issue, it's a Siler City issue, it's wherever people are aging in Chatham issue."

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

Study tests water filters for PFAS-filtration efficiency

PFAS a common unregulated chemical in Chatham rivers

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

A study released last month discovered that not all home water filtration systems are effective for removing unregulated chemicals from drinking water, and systems without the proper maintenance can make the situation worse.

The study, conducted by scientists at Duke University and North Carolina State University, discovered that not only the type of filtration system, but the location and maintenance of the system, determined whether the systems were effective in removing unregulated chemicals such as PFAS, or perfluoroalkyl substances, from water. Samples for the study were collected from residents in the Cape Fear River Basin including Pittsboro, whose drinking water collected from the Haw River has been identified as containing significant amounts of PFAS.

"Assessing the Effectiveness of Point-of-Use Residential Drinking Water Filters for Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)" — the long name for the report — is one of the first to assess the efficacy of residential water treatment systems in the removal of these types of unregulated chemicals.

"We tested 76 point-of-use filters and 13 point-of-entry or whole-house systems and found their effectiveness varied widely," said Heather Stapleton, the Dan and Bunny Gabel Associate Professor of Environmental Health at Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment.

Stapleton noted that the most effective systems were those that were reverse osmosis and two-stage filter systems that were installed under a kitchen sink. Carbon filters for pitchers, faucets and refrigerators were "inconsistent and unpredictable" with whole-house systems being "widely variable and in some cases actually increased PFAS levels in the water."

"The under-sink reverse osmosis filter is the most efficient system for removing both the PFAS contaminants prevalent in central N.C. and the PFEAs, including GenX, found in Wilmington," said Detlef Knappe, the S. James Ellen Distinguished Professor of Civil,



Construction and Environmental Engineering at N.C. State. "Unfortunately, they also cost much more than other point-of-use filters. This raises concerns about environmental justice, since PFAS pollution affects more households that struggle financially than those that do not struggle."

Knappe noted that the best way to reduce the amount of these chemicals is to work to reduce them "from the source."

The Town of Pittsboro, prior to this study, has been working with consultants from CDM Smith to determine what type of treatment system at its water treatment, if any, would help to reduce the amount of contaminants. There is currently a pilot test of several different types of systems under way at the town's plant. The cost of these systems range from \$10 to \$20 million depending on the combination of systems that works best for removing the chemicals from the water drawn from the Haw River, with system maintenance costs still unknown.

The Pittsboro Board of Commissioners has also begun discussing if there is a way to provide a credit or grant system for its residents to access under-sink filters, but those discussions are in the preliminary stages.

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



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Taking the plunge for Special Olympics

Pollard Middle School science teacher Jim Hall (left) and Student Resource Officer Kyle Smith emerge from the water during the Polar Plunge on Saturday, February 29.

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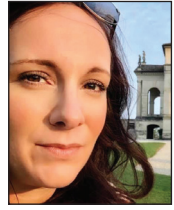


Italian resident speaks to spread of COVID-19, living under lockdown

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

Editor's Note: Michelle Bir is an American photojournalist currently living in Italy. She has worked for multiple newspapers in North Carolina, including The Sanford Herald, where she worked with News + Record reporter Zachary Horner.

there and what America might be missing or not understanding about the situation.



Bir

When did you first hear about COVID-19 in Italy, and what was your first reaction?

Early February, I think.

I don't think I had much of a reaction, I think I sort of expected it to be everywhere and it was just a matter of time, just like SARS and H1N1 and other epidemics turned pandemics. I thought it was probably everywhere by now, people just weren't being tested for it. The symptoms mirror influenza and allergies, it is spring so in a healthy adults, I would think the symptoms would be less obvious and many wouldn't seek medical attention.

How much are you able to do during the lockdown?

As of right now, we are able to travel to work, to the doctor and to the grocery stores.

Anything related to public gatherings — annual festivals (which communities rely on), sporting events, religious gatherings — are all canceled or postponed. You must keep a meter distance from other people and stores are limiting how many people can be in the building at a time. We are advised to not be out of our homes for exercise, unless we are walking our dogs.

How has the lockdown affected your family, including your children?

We are on the third week of virtual homeschooling, and it's had its bumps but is now smooth sailing.

We are not living in fear, we are not in panic. Some places are harder hit than others — we now have 2 cases in our village of about 3,000. We understand that the government must do what is best for its citizens and we are sure they are doing everything in their power to try to contain the virus, but I don't think it can be contained. We will reach the peak soon and as the temperatures start

to rise we hope it will take care of itself.

We worry for the livelihood of our friends and family here that depend on tourism, and those not able to work right now. They might have some serious economic hardship in the future due to the lockdown and travel restrictions.

What's something you've seen America(ns) miss or not understand about COVID-19 and how it's affected Italy?

I think Americans have a tendency to react strongly out of fear. Time after time, health officials have told people that if you're healthy, face masks are not going to protect you, and by buying them you are keeping them from sick people who need them. I think the masks give people a false sense of security. And if you can find out why in the world Americans are buying up all the toilet paper, I'd very much like to know.

I think people should try to remain calm and level-headed. Get off of social media, read what you need to only from le-

git sites and take a deep breath. Fear and panic are not going to solve anything and it's no way to live.

Did you ever think you'd have to live under a situation like this? How are you personally handling this?

I don't think I have put a lot of thought to it, but I don't think it is out of the realm of imagination. There has been SARS, H1N1, Zika, Ebola, Measles, Yellow Fever — all sorts of things, but those were all things far away, and while I had concern for those who were impacted by them, I never worried about myself or my family. I guess I didn't expect to be in the middle of one.

Personally, I am hard to rattle, so at no time have I experienced any kind of fear or panic. I think I am more fearful of other people's reactions than the virus itself. People behave strangely when they are scared. My heart goes out to those who have lost loved ones or are scared for their loved ones, but we are not fearful. It's just not how we live.

Cancellations, closures in Chatham related to COVID-19

Chatham County has seen numerous closures and changes to events because of the potential spread of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. This list, which is not exhaustive, was updated as of Tuesday; please check the News + Record's website (chathamnewsrecord.com) and Facebook page (facebook.com/ChathamNR) for the latest updates:

Closings

- All restaurants and bars are closed to dine-in service, but takeout and delivery services are still allowed.
- All North Carolina

State Parks, including the Jordan Lake State Recreation Area campgrounds and Visitor Center. Trails and restrooms will remain open, as will the Robeson Creek canoe access and boat ramp.

- All Chatham County Public Library branches "until further notice." No fines accrued, holds suspended.
- Eastern and Western Senior Centers, run by Chatham County Council on Aging
- Chatham YMCA, until at least March 25
- Chatham County Schools, until at least March 27
- Chatham Charter

School in Siler City, until at least March 30

- North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro, until further notice
- Carolina Tiger Rescue, all tours

Cancellations

- Chatham County Parks & Recreation volleyball, jump rope (current classes) and A Day at the Camp programs "until further notice"
- Siler City Airport Authority, Downtown Advisory Committee, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and Economic Development Strategic Plan Steering Committee meetings

until further notice.

- SATs at Northwood and Jordan-Matthews High schools, originally scheduled for March 14
- 3rd Annual Chatham County Ag Fest, originally scheduled for Saturday, March 28
- CORA Miles for Meals 5K and Fun Walk, originally scheduled for March 29
- Friends of the Library Book Sale at Chatham Community Library, originally scheduled for April 2-4.
- Siler City Parks and Recreation Department events until April 6
- Chatham Communities In Schools fundraiser,

All restaurants and bars are closed to dine-in service, but takeout and delivery services are still allowed.

- Chatham Literacy Council's spring fundraiser, scheduled for April 29
- 18th Annual Spring Shakori Hills GrassRoots Festival of Music & Dance, originally scheduled for May 7-10

Postponements

- N.C. Beer Fest at Fearrington, originally scheduled for March 29, now scheduled for July 26
- 2020 Chatham County

Republican Party Convention, originally scheduled for March 14, date TBD

- Chatham County Parks & Recreation track and field, t-ball, youth and adult softball, adult basketball, fitness and art classes and jump rope (advanced class) "until further notice"

Still Open (with Restrictions)

- CORA Food Pantry, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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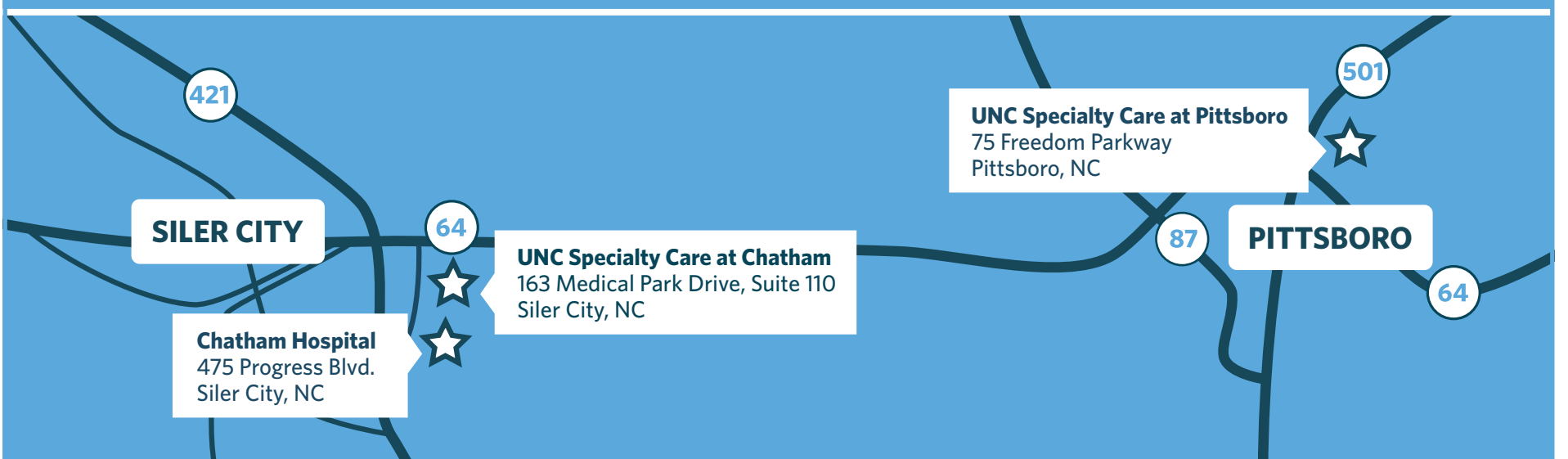
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When a pandemic threatens your big Big Apple trip

JMArts' annual 'New York Arts Adventure' sidelined by COVID-19

BY CHIP PATE
News + Record Staff

What can you do when a public health crisis threatens travel plans? Cancel, maybe. Reschedule, of course. Which sounds pretty simple, unless you're dealing with an educational trip you designed from the ground up. One that took 11 months to plan, \$15,000 to execute and all kinds of fundraising to make viable. Oh, and you have to make a decision fast.

Then, all of a sudden, it's not so simple.

That's exactly where we were a few weeks ago, as the spread of COVID-19 started to engulf the United States and early projections ominously hinted at a peak sometime in early April — pretty much the exact dates of the New York Arts Adventure.

The annual trip organized by JMArts, the Jordan-Matthews Arts Foundation, was described on its website as, "Eight upperclass artists fly to New York City for five days over spring break to experience the pinnacle of their arts and learn directly from world-class professionals working in the city. The experience also provides new cultural and artistic perspectives that will shape their lives and work."

But for students living in a small, rural town it's even more. It can be a life-changing experience.

During those five days, they sit down for long lunches to discuss the arts with producers, Tony- and Grammy-award winning and nominated artists, and a prominent national theater critic who holds a Pulitzer Prize and often chairs the Pulitzer jury for drama. They experience Broadway shows, immersive theater and jazz overlooking Central Park. They encounter some of the world's best-known masterpieces, in

person at the Museum of Modern Art, and some of the city's top street art on a tour — before learning graffiti technique themselves.

Many have never boarded an airplane. Some rarely travel outside the state. Very few have ever seen New York City.

In other words, it's not just some random trip.

As students began to worry about whether they'd be able to go at all, one of them put a message on our group text feed, something to the effect of, "I'd rather go and get coronavirus than not go to New York, if I'm honest." Was that hyperbole? I don't know. But I've organized two of these trips before. And given what I know about the extraordinary experience waiting for the students, I was pretty much thinking the exact same thing.

So, canceling was only a last resort. But rescheduling something with this many moving parts is far more difficult than it sounds. The entire trip had to be deconstructed. Every single element had to be renegotiated: hotel reservations, flights, ground transportation, performances, restaurant reservations, tours. Even schedules of the world-class professionals who were setting aside time to meet with our student artists.

When could a rescheduled trip even happen? If some traveler can't make the new date, could someone else step in so late, because the entire venture holds together only if enough people can share costs?

Can it be rescheduled at all — and at what cost? When you buy performance tickets, the sale is final and nontransferable, but might some vendors consider bending that policy, at least a little, given our situation? One said no outright, which meant we lost \$900 for that one event, alone, but reconsidered and came back later



Photo submitted

A group of students from Jordan-Matthews' art program stand in front of the Washington Square Arch in New York's Greenwich Village during a recent trip to the Big Apple. The group's planned trip to NYC this year was rescheduled due to COVID-19.

offering to reschedule us for June. Oh, and for the record, we did have trip insurance, but very few policies cover this particular circumstance.

Then, as the public health crisis grew worse, Broadway canceled performances and smaller theaters followed suit, which was a sad development, but a break for us, because full refunds would be processed automatically, saving us money and time. We could go ahead and book new dates — which was good, but not easy as chaos spread through the travel and entertainment industries. Websites were malfunctioning. Customer service ground to a halt. One airline shut down its email entirely, offered no chat option and warned callers that

their wait on hold would be more than four hours. It was a mess and probably still is.

Though we had to make a quick decision about whether we could make this work, we did. After three long days of nonstop work, some generous artists in New York wanting to spend time with our students and a contributor agreeing to cover any additional cost for the trip, so students wouldn't have to pay more, we announced new dates. There are still a few loose ends to tie up. But when everything finally landed, the trip looked strikingly like it did before, just on different dates.

That's not what we expected and from the outside, it probably looks like a fairly easy and

quick change. Move the dates from April to June. Make a few calls. Done. But that could not be more wrong.

The good news is that the trip is back on and students can look forward to a life-changing adventure in one of the most exciting cities on earth.

The bad news is we're not completely in the clear. The virus is still spreading.

Chip Pate of Pittsboro works as the News + Record's special projects editor. He and his wife, Rose Pate, the media coordinator at Jordan-Matthews High School, are heavily involved JMArts, the Jordan-Matthews High School Arts Foundation. It was created in 2011 to enhance arts education at Jordan-Matthews.

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Chatham churches adjust to COVID-19, with many canceling services

BY ZACHARY HORNER
News + Record Staff

When N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper encouraged the cancellation of all gatherings of 100 people or more due to the spread of COVID-19, the novel coronavirus, a community that had to respond was churches.

And in Chatham, those responses have been quite mixed. Even the county's United Methodist churches weren't in unison. But Cooper's Saturday afternoon proclamation that all gatherings of more than 100 people were to be prohibited changed some things.

On one hand, Pitts-

boro's The Local Church, Hickory Mountain UMC and Pittsboro UMC canceled all face-to-face gatherings, including Sunday worship, for two weeks. It was the same guidance issued by Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, the leader of the North Carolina Conference of the UMC.

Sara Beth Pannell, pastor of Pittsboro UMC, said Thursday in a Facebook post that the recommendation of "social distancing" — keeping a distance from others to avoid the spread of disease — was a good basis to suspend services.

"So much has rapidly changed this week across our country and within our own state in regards

to the COVID-19 pandemic," she wrote. "As we navigate these days together, we continue to hold one another in prayer and seek ways to faithfully live as the Body of Christ. Our church leadership and I are working on providing ways for our church family to stay connected during this unprecedented time."

On the other hand, Pastor Lucas Nelson of Goldston UMC said Thursday the church was taking precautions and encouraging those who "are not feeling well in any way" to not come, but services would proceed as normal.

Additionally, Community Baptist Church

in Siler City planned to hold all services, with a statement on the church's Facebook page saying it wanted to "balance ministry along with any recommendations from government officials." Attendees were encouraged to not shake hands or hug, but to still come to church.

But those decisions were overturned by the Governor's executive order.

"As the local church, we want to always, first and foremost, honor the Lord Jesus and obey Scripture," a Community Baptist Church post said on Saturday, citing a command by "Scripture to honor those that have

rule over us" and a desire to do "what is best for the congregation as a whole" when it came to health.

Goldston UMC also reversed course, instead live-streaming its service on Facebook Sunday morning. Nelson said during his Sunday morning sermon that some church staff were in attendance, but others watched online. Pastor Mark Agan of Community Baptist Church gave his sermon on Facebook Live as well and encouraged watchers to "like" and share the video and comment that they were viewing the message.

The Local Church in Pittsboro livestreamed its Sunday service on

Facebook Live as well and set up other events in the coming weeks in an effort to keep its community in touch, from a "virtual watch party" of the movie "Frozen 2" and two "Virtual Happy Hour" events where congregants were invited to join a large video chat.

As mass gatherings continue to be limited due to social distancing, churches will likely continue to respond in varied and creative ways to continue to serve their purpose.

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

UNC Health, FirstHealth enact enhanced precautions

BY RANDALL RIGSBEE
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — UNC Health Care, with facilities in Pittsboro and an affiliate hospital in Siler City, has announced enhanced precautions at all of its facilities statewide as concerns grow regarding the spread of coronavirus/COVID-19.

UNC Health announced it is enacting "stricter restrictions for visitors, vendors, volunteers and students at its facilities across the state, including outpatient facilities and clinics."

The hospital system is asking any "visitor, vendor, volunteer or student with fever, cough, cold or flu-like symptoms" should not enter any UNC Health facility. Personal masks will not be provided, according to a press release outlining coronavirus precautions.

"These visitor restrictions may be tightened further as the COVID-19 situation evolves."

Effective immediately, the following measure are in place at UNC Health facilities:

- one designated visitor per patient for the duration of his/her stay/appointment will be permitted in the majority of patient areas at UNC Health facilities across the state
- pediatric areas will allow two designated guardians per patient.

In accordance with state guidelines, psychiatry areas will prohibit all visitation with the exception of child psych/adolescent areas, on a case-by-case basis.

- additional exceptions will be granted for end-of-life situations at the discretion of the care team. All visitors to UNC Health facilities may be subject to health screening at any time. No visitors under the age of 18 will be allowed to visit for the foreseeable future.
- only vendors and contractors who are essential to patient care and business operations will be allowed onsite on an as-needed

basis. Vendors and contractors who do not directly support patient care and critical business operations should work remotely and will not be allowed in UNC Health facilities until further notice. Vendors and contractors may be subject to health screening at any time prior to entry or while onsite at any UNC Health facility.

- volunteers "are extremely important to the function of UNC Health hospitals and clinics," the press release states, "but it is equally important to protect the health of those volunteers and the people with whom they come in contact. Volunteers who do not directly support patient care activities or essential business operations should not report to UNC Health facilities until further notice. These volunteers should follow the same requirements as UNC Health employees. Volunteers age 65 and older, and those with underlying health conditions are discouraged from partic-

ipating in their volunteer roles at this time."

Students

UNC Health is an academic health system that values the mission of educating a health workforce for North Carolina and beyond.

Additional restrictions are in place for UNC students.

"As we face the challenge of COVID-19, the education mission is clearly secondary to the primary mission of caring for the patients and populations we serve, the press release states.

Students are allowed under the enhanced guidelines in the clinical setting, with the some expectations.

"As the COVID-19 situation evolves, we felt it was important to tighten access to our hospitals and clinics," said UNC Health CEO Dr. Wesley Burks. "Our top priority is to ensure the safety and welfare of patients, their

families, and our incredible staff. While restricted access to our facilities will cause some inconvenience, we know it is in the best interest of our entire state."

In addition to the restrictions outlined above, community events, activities, and meetings hosted at all UNC Health campuses also are canceled until further notice.

FirstHealth

FirstHealth of the Carolinas is also asking for the community's cooperation in helping limit the spread of coronavirus and seasonal flu, likewise enacting stricter precautions.

"To protect patients, visitors and staff, FirstHealth asks the community to adhere to the following precautions when visiting FirstHealth's four hospitals:

- Please visit immediate family only
- Please do not allow children under 12 to visit the hospital

- Do not visit anyone in the hospital if you have come in contact with someone who is known to have COVID-19 or if you are experiencing symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills or fatigue
- Remember to wash your hands and cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing to prevent the spread of infections."

The restrictions apply at all FirstHealth hospitals: Moore Regional, Montgomery Memorial, MRH-Richmond and MRH-Hoke. Patients are asked to adhere to the restrictions when visiting any area of the hospital including rehabilitation and outpatient clinics.

"FirstHealth is working closely with state and local health departments to monitor the rapidly evolving outbreak of COVID-19," a release states. "As the situation changes, additional restrictions could be put into place."

Limited coronavirus tests, cost uncertainty hamper N.C. effort

BY KATE MARTIN
Carolina Public Press

Private labs and universities are testing North Carolinians for the new coronavirus, according to Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mandy Cohen.

Whether anyone tested will have to pay out of pocket for the test is unclear.

Cohen said Friday she did not know the scope of the testing effort by those companies and institutions, but if a test comes back positive, they are required to report it to DHHS.

Cohen urged doctors to "use their clinical judgment" when deciding whom to test. State

guidance of who ought to be tested include:

- People who have a fever or cough with shortness of breath and who have had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the past 14 days.
- People with a fever, cough and shortness of breath and who have tested negative for the flu.

Criteria set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had been stricter earlier last week.

This does not mean that anyone who wants a test will be able to get one. Health officials are urging those who want a test to call their doctor or the hospital before showing up.

"Make sure you call ahead so folks can take the proper precautions," Cohen said.

"We have largely been in a posture of containment. ... It is still more common to test positive for the flu than COVID-19."

One limiter on the number of tests that can be performed, Cohen said, is a shortage of laboratory supplies. On Thursday, she reported the state had enough supplies for 700 tests.

"Reagents continue to be an issue," Cohen said. "We still have a supply chain issue. We are working very closely with the FDA (Food and

Drug Administration) and the CDC to see if there's another mechanism we can use that would circumvent the supply chain issue."

Copays for tests?

Last Thursday, state Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey asked insurance companies to waive copays for people who are tested for COVID-19.

"In order to protect the public, insurers ... are requested to identify and remove barriers to testing and treatment for COVID-19," Causey's bulletin says.

However, the state isn't requiring insurers to waive the copays, said the insurance commissioner's

spokeswoman, Marla Sink.

"We have no authority to make (insurance companies) waive fees," Sink said late Friday.

About a week ago, Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina told the insurance commissioner's office that it planned to waive copays for the COVID-19 diagnostic test. After the notice was sent out, Sink said another company had responded, but she did not provide the company's name.

On Sunday morning, DHHS reported 32 people in the state tested positive or were presumed positive for COVID-19. For updated numbers, check the Carolina Public Press

daily updates on coronavirus in North Carolina.

Though none have yet died in the Tar Heel State, dozens across the country have, mostly in the Seattle area.

COVID-19 can cause severe illness and death, especially for people ages 65 and older. Those older than 80 or who have immune disorders, diabetes, or some lung or heart conditions are most at risk.

For additional medical information and links to resources from organizations across the state, see the Carolina Public Press Resource Guide to Coronavirus in North Carolina, which is being updated frequently.

BUSINESSES:

Continued from page A1

working to replenish those items quickly, including diverting products to areas of the country where they are needed most and routing deliveries directly to stores. We have also authorized our store managers to manage their inventory, including the discretion to limit sales quantities on items that are in unusually high demand."

Additionally, all Walmart locations will be open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. "until further notice" as part of "ensur(ing) associates can clean and stock products." The Siler City Walmart had been open 24 hours a day.

Calls to area Walgreens stores on Monday revealed that grocery stores weren't the only places scrambling to fill inventories. The pharmacies in both Pittsboro and Siler City were out of toilet paper and other paper products. The stores typically receive their shipments of paper products on Saturdays, but an associate in Siler City's Walgreens noted that they were anticipating an emergency delivery, but were unsure of a date.

The uncertainty is something Piggly Wiggly is also dealing with. Within an hour of that Facebook post, all the available toilet paper was gone. The store receives a truck every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, according to Casey Thompson, produce manager, but those trucks

have been coming in late due to demand and what will actually be on the next truck is unknown. Currently, the only products available are ones "on the floor." The store is not offering "rain checks," but currently has no plans to limit purchases at this time.

Outside Chatham County, shoppers posted photos of bare shelves. A photo taken at a nearby Costco store showed a dry-erase board with a list of out-of-stock items at the time, which included: soft soap, toilet paper, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer, bleach, Kleenex and paper towels.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Hand sanitizers such as Purell were out-of-stock at the Food Lion on U.S. 64 in Siler City.

Reporters Casey Mann and Zachary Horner and Publisher/Editor Bill Horner III all contributed to this story.

SCHOOLS:

Continued from page A1

"at-home learning" site for students, teachers and families to access instructional material during the two-week period at home. While still under construction, the site — sites.google.com/chatham.k12.nc.us/ccs-ahl/home — promises to be a central hub for all information related to Chatham County Schools while campuses are closed to classes.

"Chatham County

School System believes that every student deserves access to rigorous, relevant and engaging learning opportunities," the website states. "While we cannot replace the value of the teacher-to-student interaction in the classroom, we are working to provide supplemental resources and activities that will help students remain engaged in learning while schools are closed."

Keith Medlin, the district's chief information & technology officer, said the district has devices for all K-12 students to take home

to access the materials. All 7th through 12th grade students are part of CCS' 1-to-1 Student Device Program, which means they already have devices, and Medlin said the district is working to get a program in place for students in kindergarten through 6th grade.

He added that printed resources will be available for K-8 students — "developed in coordination with district curriculum leaders to align to state standards and provide two to three weeks of content depending on the student and the pace they progress" — and

teachers will be prepared to assist students in this different form of learning.

"Instructional staff, including teachers, will be working with their students in a variety of ways, and we are in the process of establishing those expectations, as well," Medlin said. "Chatham County Schools has been developing teacher capacity of digital learning alongside our 1-to-1 Student Device Program, and while this is a significant change in how we do business, we are prepared with highly qualified and

capable teachers who will meet this new challenge."

The status of the district's spring break, currently scheduled for April 6-10, would be decided later, according to CCS Public Relations Coordinator John McCann, and returning to class is a state decision.

Johnson, the top education official in the state, said he supported Cooper's decision to close schools and that "the safety and well-being of students is a top priority for NC public schools."

"No one is happy that we find ourselves in this

situation, but we will persevere," he said. "As a nation, we have overcome worse by working together. When we face seemingly insurmountable challenges at their worst, we put other issues aside and respond with our best."

For the latest on how Chatham County Schools is responding to COVID-19, visit chatham.k12.nc.us/coronavirus.

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

Johnson's perfect game powers Northwood over Cedar Ridge in baseball action

BY DON BEANE
 News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Northwood's Tyler Johnson hurled a five-inning perfect game last Tuesday evening in Pittsboro to power the home-standing Chargers to a 15-0 rout of Cedar Ridge in 3A Big Eight Conference action.



Johnson

Johnson went all five innings and faced the minimum 15 batters and struck out seven to get the win. The senior hurler threw just 60 pitches in getting the victory, including 42 for strikes.

Offensively, the Chargers pounded out nine hits in improving to 3-0 in league play and to 3-0 overall. Deuce Powell paced the locals at the plate with a 2-for-2 effort that saw the senior also walk twice, score a pair of runs, drive in four, and slam a

double.

Northwood scored a pair of runs in the bottom of the first behind consecutive one-out walks to Powell, Dylan Hitt and Beau Weathers, and a sacrifice fly by Landon Johnson.

In the second, the Chargers added two more runs to go up 4-0 when Luke Popp walked, Zach Barnes singled, Tyler Johnson walked, and Powell slammed a two-run double to the right field wall.

From there the onslaught

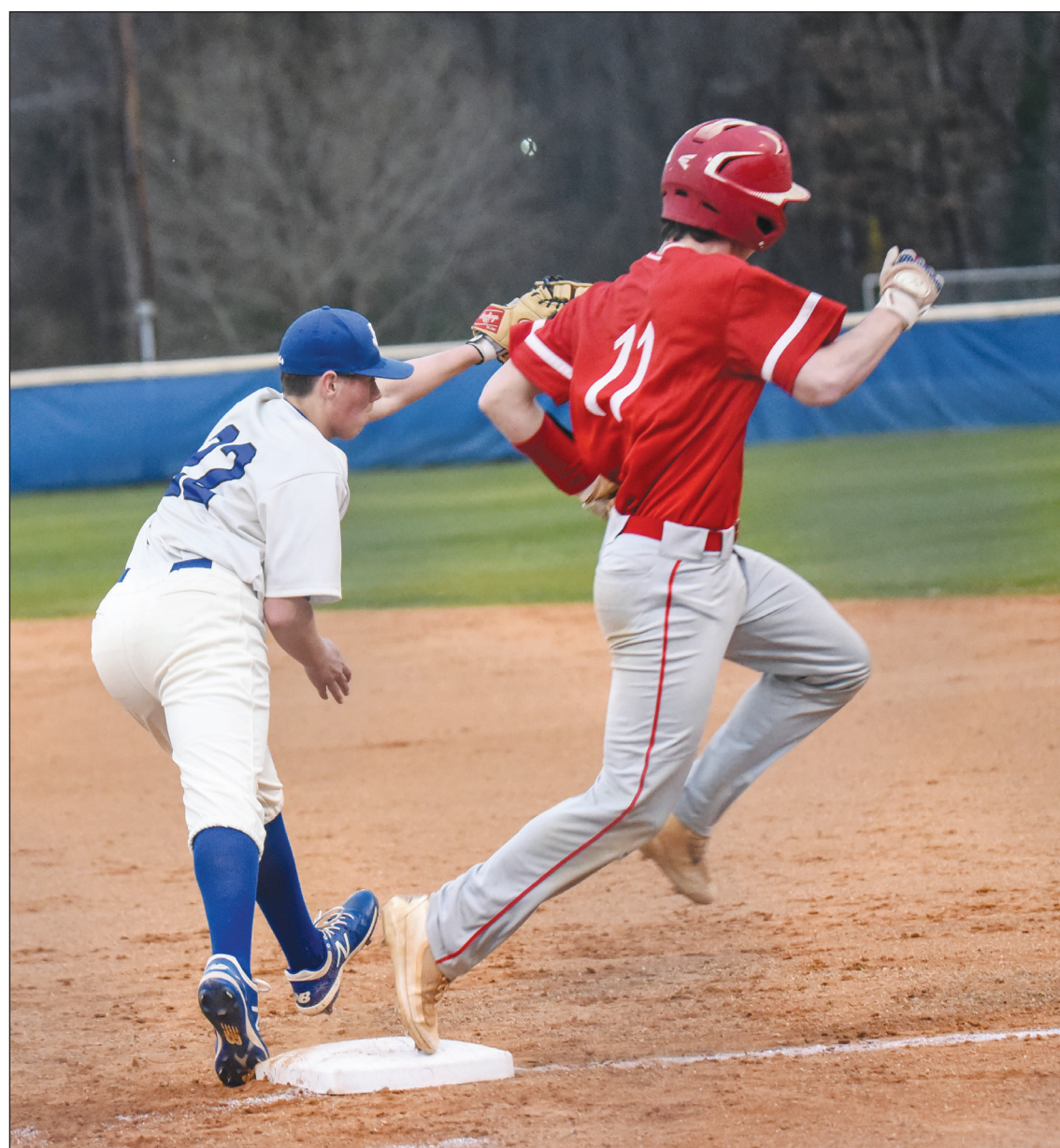
continued as Northwood tacked on four more runs in the third behind singles by Quinn Powell and Deuce Powell as well as an two-run double to right by Tyler Johnson to up the score to 8-0, before adding a seven spot in the fourth to cap the 15-0 victory. Landon Johnson had a pair of singles in the fourth for the Chargers in the uprising while Glenn Lassiter had a double and Barnes a single.

Landon Johnson closed the evening 2-for-3 with a run,

two RBI and two stolen bases for Northwood while Tyler Johnson was 1-for-2 with two runs, a double, a pair of walks and three RBI, Barnes 2-for-2, was hit by a pitch, and score three runs, Lassiter 1-for-2 with two runs and RBI and was hit by a pitch, Quinn Powell 1-for-4 with a run, an RBI and a stolen base, Popp 0-for-1 with a run and two walks, and Hitt went 0-for-3 with two runs, two RBI, a walk and two stolen bases.

JORDAN-MATTHEWS 2 | CHATHAM CENTRAL 0

Murchison outduels Moore as Jets slip by Bears 2-0 in Siler City



Submitted photo

Jordan-Matthews' Carson Whitehead stretches to tag the bag just as hustling Colin Lagenor of Chatham Central speeds down the first base line on Thursday night in Siler City. Lagenor was called out on the bang bang play as the Whitehead and the Jets went on to claim a well played 2-0 triumph over the Bears.

BY DUCK DUCKSON
 News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Jordan-Matthews' Samuel Murchison and Chatham Central's Michael Moore locked horns in a classic pitching duel through four scoreless innings before Carson Rickman's two-out, two-run double in the bottom of the fifth provided the game's only runs to propel the Jets to a 2-0 triumph over their arch rival Thursday night on Jimmy Warford Field in front of an overflow crowd.

The non-conference victory lifted J-M to 4-1 for the year,

while the Bears slipped to 1-3 overall.

Murchison hurled five-plus innings to earn the win, allowing just one hit — Parker Crowley's leadoff single to center in the top of the fourth — while walking three and fanning 11. Southpaw Camden Fuquay finished up on the mound for Jordan-Matthews, tossing two hitless innings while issuing one free pass and whiffing four to pick up a save.

Moore went the distance on the hill for Chatham Central and absorbed the loss after allowing six hits and a pair of earned runs in addition to walking three and striking out

seven. The right-hander threw a total of 97 pitches, including 64 (66 percent) for strikes.

The Jets began their game-winning rally in the home fifth when Fuquay led off the frame with an infield hit to deep short and moved to second with one away on Chris Morgan's soft liner to left that fell in for a single.

One out later Rickman pounced on a first-pitch offering from Moore and drove it to the left field fence to plate both Fuquay and Morgan to wrap up the night's scoring.

"Our pitching was simply outstanding tonight," said J-M



Submitted photo

Jordan-Matthews' Camden Fuquay cheers on a teammate after ripping a single on Thursday night in Siler City in the Jets' 2-0 victory over county-rival Chatham Central.

coach John Will Headen. "Sam overpowered batters all night long, while Camden was dead-on in relief."

"Chatham Central is a lot better team than what their record shows, and Michael Moore threw a great game for them as he managed to leave guys in scoring position in every inning. It all came down to Carson Rickman's timely hit with guys on base that let us go home with a victory tonight."

"Let me add how proud I am of the seniors on this year's team, and I want to recognize how they have worked so hard to turn this program around

over the past three seasons."

Bears' coach Brett Walden explained the outcome was a result of Jordan-Matthews executing when it mattered.

"I thought Michael Moore pitched well enough to get a win this evening, but we didn't give him any support at the plate," said Walden. "One hit and 15 strikeouts won't get the job done, as we stranded six guys in scoring position."

"J-M got the clutch hit with two outs when they needed it while both their pitchers were extremely effective. Murchison and Fuquay are as good as anyone we'll see all year."

IN SILER CITY ON FRIDAY NIGHT

Chatham Charter sweeps Eno in twinbill

BY DON BEANE
 News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — It was all Chatham Charter from start to finish Friday night in Siler City as the Knights destroyed Eno River 19-0 and 14-1 in 1A Central Tar Heel Conference baseball doubleheader action.

Chatham Charter improved to 2-1 in league play and to 2-0 overall with the twinbill wins while Eno River dropped to 0-4 in the CTH and to 0-4 overall.

"We took care of business and came in focused and ready to

play which wasn't really a given considering the uncertainty of the immediate future with all that's going on," said Knights coach Bill Slaughter. "It was good to get these wins under our belt, especially conference wins, heading into what appears will be a lengthy layoff."

In the opener, Chatham Charter plated eight runs in the first, six in the second and five in the third to end the contest at 19-0.

Connor Murphy was 2-for-3 with four runs, three RBIs, a double, a walk and a stolen base

while Thomas Johnson was 2-for-3 with two runs, three RBI and a double, Landon Hussey 2-for-3 with a run and three RBI and Gavin Crumpler 2-for-3 with three runs, an RBI and a double.

Also for the Knights Jacob Brannon was 1-for-2 with a run and an RBI, Amir Mapp 1-for-1 with two runs, Ryan White 1-for-2 with two runs and a double, Trevor Golden 1-for-2 with a run, a walk and an RBI, and Noah Carter 1-for-3 with a run, a triple, two RBI and a stolen base.

Connor Murphy hurled a three-inning no-hitter allowing

just one walk and striking out seven.

Game two was no different as Chatham Charter plated five runs in the first, eight in the second and one in the fourth to up 14-0 before the Bobcats scored its lone run of the night in the top of the fifth.

Brannon was 3-for-3 in the win while Murphy was 2-for-2 with three runs, two RBI and three stolen bases, Golden 2-for-4 with two RBI, a double and a triple, Hussey 2-for-2 with two runs, an RBI, a triple and a walk, and Carter Phillips 2-for-2 with two

walks and a stolen base.

Also for the Knights at the plate, Colton Nixon was 1-for-1 with two runs, two RBI, a walk and a stolen base, Noah Carter 1-for-2 with a run and hit by a pitch, Mapp a run and a stolen base, and Jackson Brown a run. White also stole a pair of bases for Chatham Charter in the win which stole 10-of-10 attempts.

Golden went the distance on the mound to get the win as the junior southpaw allowed two hits, a run and no walks and fanned 13 in five innings of work.

In my world the NCAA Tournament will still proceed

One of my earliest recollections of sports as a child was David Thompson and N.C. State defeating UCLA in Greensboro in the semi-finals of the 1974 NCAA Tournament on the way to winning the national title a few nights later.

To say the NCAA Tournament and March Madness has been a part of my life, and basically every Chatham County resident's life, one way or another, would be an understatement.

Now for the first time ever, we are facing a Thursday-through-Sunday this week with no action. Zero. The balls have been racked, the lights turned off, the tickets voided. You name it, all has been canceled.

It's left me and others just feeling — for no other terms — weird, strange, almost in an alternate universe.

Never in my lifetime have I experienced this strangeness, sort of an emptiness that the lack of sports have left me due to the coronavirus. I understand the precautions, though I'm not fully sold on just what is going on and the severity of the situation, and only time will answer all my questions. But I do know it's been a week like I've never experienced in my life.

I've had a conversation with a few WWII guys over the weekend, and they

related to me that this doesn't compare overall to those times, but it does have the same feeling that the world is just off kilter.

And it's hard to shake that feeling. Locally, high school sports have been halted, eight state champions in both girls and boys basketball were not crowned last weekend, and now spring sports are on hold to at least April 7.

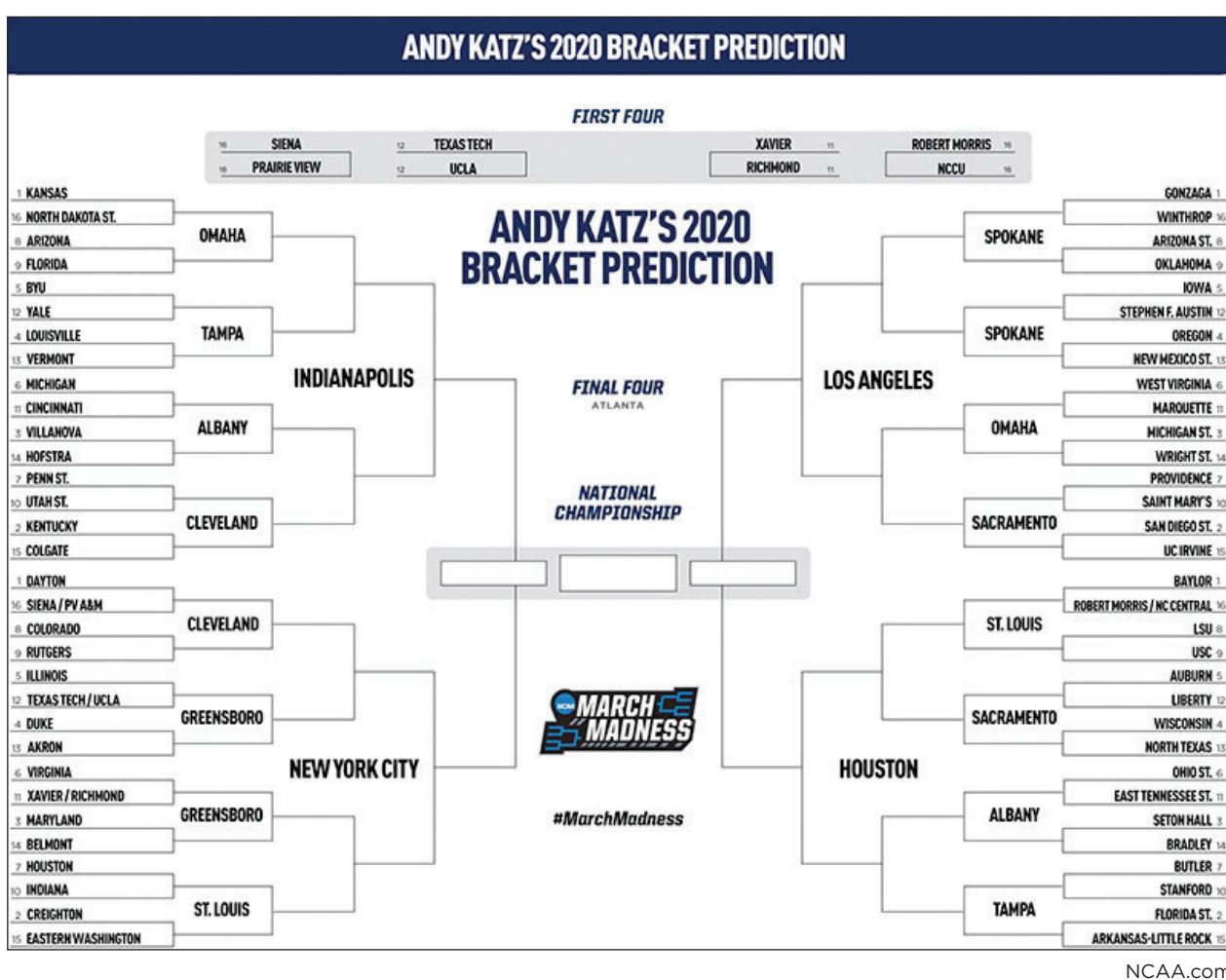
But even with that, had March Madness proceeded I think most of us would have still felt some sense of normalcy.

Well, at the suggestion of a few coaches and friends, the NCAA Tournament will be played out over the next few weeks, at least in our sports section.

I've listed famed bracketologist Andy Katz's final tournament projections before things came to a thud of a halt last week. And we will wade through the tournament round by round...

Of local note, Florida State leads the ACC into the tournament with a No. 2 seed and will face No. 15 seed Arkansas Little-Rock in Tampa with the winner taking on No. 7 Butler and No. 10 Stanford. Baylor is the top seed in the South Regional. The Bears will take on the winner of the play-in game in St. Louis between the North Carolina Central Eagles and Robert Morris.

Also in the ACC, Duke



Andy Katz's NCAA 2020 Bracket

gets under way in the East Regional in Greensboro with a clash with No. 13 Akron. A win by the No. 4 seeded Blue Devils means a second round matchup with the survivor of No. 12 Illinois and the play-in

winner of UCLA and Texas Tech.

Defending National Champion Virginia is also in Greensboro and will battle the play-in winner of Xavier and Richmond. A win by the No. 6 seeded Wahoos

means a second round tilt with the winner of No. 3 Maryland and No. 14 Belmont. Dayton is the No. 1 seed in the East.

Louisville is in the Midwest Regional and the No. 4 seeded Cardinals open with No. 13 Vermont

in Tampa. A win would send Louisville into the second round against No. 5 BYU and No. 12 Yale. Kansas is the top seed in the Midwest.

Gonzaga is the top-seed in the West. Let the games begin.

Crowley RBI lifts Central past 3A Lee County in eight

BY DUCK DUCKSON
News + Record Staff

BEAR CREEK — Parker Crowley's sacrifice fly with one away in the bottom of the eighth brought in Riley Lagenor with the deciding run as Chatham Central staged a late-game rally — without the benefit of a hit — to register a 6-5 extra-inning victory over Lee County last Wednesday night in non-conference diamond action on Ronald Scott Field.

The triumph gave the Bears their first win in three outings this season, while the Yellow Jackets fell to 2-2 overall.

With the teams knotted at 5-all entering the home eighth, Riley Lagenor coaxed a one-out, full-count walk before racing to third when Collin Lagenor reached on an infield throwing error.

After Michael Moore was issued an intentional free pass to load the bases, Crowley lofted a 1-2 offering from losing pitcher Carson Hailey to left field, where Lee County outfielder Nolan Brown made the catch as Lagenor tagged up at third and dashed home ahead of the throw to the plate to account for the winning score.

Moore, Chatham Central's third pitcher of the evening, threw two-thirds of an inning and struck out one to receive credit for the win.

Bears starter Riley Lagenor went five and one-third innings on the mound, giving up four hits and five runs (one earned) while walking two and fanning three. Chatham Central reliever Micah Gurley tossed two scoreless frames, yielding one hit besides issuing four free passes and whiffing three.

Hailey, who relieved Yellow Jackets' starter Ryan Jones in the second, took the loss after hurling six innings, surrendering one hit and an unearned run in addition to walking five (one intentional) and striking out five. Jones lasted just one and one-third innings and was shelled for nine hits along with five earned runs besides walking one and whiffing one.

Crowley led the Bears' 10-hit offensive assault

with three hits and tallied once while driving in a pair of runs. Brady Cunnup contributed two hits, scored once and drove in a run, while Holden Johnson, Moore, Jackson Gray and both Lagenors all recorded one hit each.

Jones and Eli Garrison notched two hits apiece to pace Lee County's five-hit attack.

"After striking out 28 times in our first two games we worked on hitting backside in practice yesterday, and it paid off tonight along with our ability to get bunts down," said Chatham Central coach Brett Walden. "A couple of early mistakes cost us runs but these guys didn't quit battling. Riley was fantastic on the mound, as I was looking to get around 45 pitches from him this evening but instead he gave me 77 before starting to tire. We used all 12 players tonight and found a way to beat a good Lee County team."

Yellow Jackets' coach Jevon Wade commented the early-season non-conference game gave him an opportunity to use a lot of players to see what they had to offer.

"Our starting pitcher hadn't thrown at all this season and Hailey had only pitched one inning last year but did an outstanding job in relief," he said. "I thought at times we were too aggressive at the plate and tried to pull the ball too much instead of driving it up the middle, and we can't wait until the later innings to get something going offensively."

The Bears jumped out to a 3-0 advantage in the bottom of the first as Riley Lagenor poked a leadoff single to left and was sacrificed to second by Collin Lagenor.

One out later Crowley's base hit to center drove in Riley Lagenor before Chatham Central loaded the bases on Cunnup's single to right and Gray' infield hit prior to Johnson delivering the first two runners with a single up the gap in left-center.

Lee County answered with two unearned runs in the top of the second when Jones and Garrison opened

the frame with back-to-back base hits to center before Brown sacrificed both runners up a base prior to the pair coming in to score on a two-out infield throwing error.

But the Bears responded with two runs in their portion of the second to increase their lead to 5-2. Hunter Strickland drew a leadoff free pass before advancing to third on a pair of wild pitches. After Collin Lagenor reached on an infield hit as Strickland had to hold up at third, Moore punched an opposite-field single to right to score Strickland, and following Crowley's base hit to right that filled the sacks, Cunnup's opposite-field single to left plated Collin Lagenor.

The Yellow Jackets picked up a solo run in the visitors' fourth as Jones and Garrison slapped back-to-back leadoff singles prior to moving up a base on a passed ball. One out later Cameron Cabe grounded out third-to-first, and when Garrison became trapped in a rundown between second and third, Jones alertly sped home before Garrison was eventually tagged out.

Lee County managed to pull even in the top of the sixth as leadoff batter Will Patterson reached on an infield miscue and went to second when Jones drew a one-out walk.

After Gurley replaced Riley Lagenor on the hill, both runners advanced a base on a wild pitch prior to consecutive free passes issued to Garrison and Brown that forced in Patterson while keeping the bases loaded, and one out later Clay Beal's base hit to left drove in Jones with the tying run.

IN CAMERON

Walk off run propels Vikings over Lady Jets

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

CAMERON — Union Pines scored a run in the bottom of the seventh here Thursday night to edge visiting Jordan-Matthews 7-6 in non-conference softball action.

The Lady Jets dropped to 1-3 on the season with the loss while the Vikings improved to 3-2.

After scoring a run in the top of the first inning, J-M was forced to play from behind the entire contest as the home-standing Union Pines club tallied five runs in the home half of the opening frame.

The Lady Jets battled back, scoring single runs in the second, third, fourth and fifth innings to close the deficit to 6-5. Jordan-Matthews plated a run to tie the game in the top of the seventh, but the lack of a big hit to extend a big inning proved costly as Union Pines took the win in the bottom of the inning.

Ashlyn Ray had a big day at the plate for Jordan-Matthews as the senior went 3-for-4 with a run, an RBI, and a triple.

Adding a 1-for-3 effort with an RBI-double was Macy Beavers while Maci Everwine was 1-for-2 with two runs and a walk, Brenly Rivers 1-for-3, Avery Headen 1-for-4 with a run, Hannah Redding 0-for-1 with a walk and a run, and Joanna Nino scored a run.

Union Pines was led by

Kaitlyn Richardson, who went 3-for-3 with two runs, a pair of doubles and a walk while Kaley Evans was 2-for-3 with two runs, two RBI, two doubles and a walk, and Marti Maloof 2-for-3 with a double.

Maddie Wagner chipped in a 1-for-4 day with an RBI, a double and a run scored for the Vikings while Skylar Stewart was 1-for-3, and Taylor Parker and Marissa Fuller each 1-for-4 with a run.

Suffering a tough loss on the mound for the Jets

was Beavers, a freshman who allowed just two runs and a walk while fanning nine and yielding eight hits in relief.

Evans notched the win for the Vikings after hurling seven innings and allowing six hits, six runs (four earned), two walks and striking out 10.

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Huskies race past Lady Chargers in lacrosse action

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — 4A Heritage High dealt Northwood a 12-8 defeat in girls lacrosse action on Monday, March 9 in Pittsboro.

Northwood fell to 1-2 with the loss while Heritage improved to 2-0.

Sophia Cremeans had two goals to pace a balanced Lady Char-

gers scoring attack while fellow freshman Audrey Holleran added a goal and an assist in the loss.

Also chipping in a goal apiece for Northwood in the contest were Kendall Laberge, Jenna Konowitz, Valerie Scull, Grace Costa and Gwen Hoeg.

Madi Horrell had 24 saves in goal in 50 minutes for the Chargers.

Cornerstone handcuffs Chatham Charter in key 4-1 league tilt

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

GREENSBORO — Max Green hurled five innings of three-hit baseball to spark Cornerstone Academy to a 4-1 victory in 1A Central Tar Heel Conference action last Tuesday afternoon in Greensboro.

The Cardinals improved to 3-0 in league play with the win and to 3-0 overall while the Knights dropped to 0-1 in the CTH and to 1-1 overall.

Green allowed just one run in the top of the sixth after Connor Murphy doubled for Chatham Charter and later scored on an RBI-single from Trevor Golden. The Knights would score no more as Green closed with no walks and seven strikeouts, and freshman Tucker Smith

notched the save by going the final two innings and allowing one hit, no runs and fanning two.

Noah Carter was the hard luck loser as the senior went four innings and yielded four hits, two runs, no walks and whiffed six. Golden hurled the final two innings and allowed three hits, two runs, no walks and struck out four.

Carter also had a double in a 1-for-3 effort at the plate while Murphy closed 2-for-3, and Golden 1-for-3.

Justin Thomas was 2-for-3 to lead the Cardinals at the plate. The freshman had a pair of RBI-doubles while Green was also 2-for-3 with two runs, an RBI and two stolen bases, Garett Jones 1-for-1 and was hit by a pitch while stealing a base, Smith 1-for-3, and Carter Blum 1-for-3 with two stolen bases.

Jets double up Red Raiders in diamond play

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Jordan-Matthews baseball moved to 2-0 in 2A PAC 7 play and to 3-1 overall last Tuesday in Siler City with a doubleheader sweep of High Point Andrews.

The Jets won game one by a 14-1 count with Seth Moore working 3 2/3 innings and allowing two hits, one run (none earned), no walks and striking out nine. Carson Rickman hurled the final out of the victory.

Jordan-Matthews scored three runs in the first, two more in the second before adding nine in the third to close out the win.

Chris Morgan was

2-for-4 at the plate with three runs, a stolen base, two RBI and a homerun over the left field wall in the second to pace J-M at the plate while Carson Whitehead was 2-for-4 with two runs, an RBI, and two stolen base.

Also having nice days at the plate for the Jets in the win were Huston Causey who was 1-for-3 with a triple, two runs scored and a stolen base while Camden Fuquay was 1-for-2 with four stolen bases, two walks and a walk, Samuel Murchison 1-for-1 with two runs, an RBI, two walks and two stolen bases, Moore 1-for-3 with a stolen base, and Cody Sphon 1-for-2 with a run

and a stolen base.

Jordan-Matthews closed with 14 stolen bases as Sterlandij Metayer added two more for the Jets.

Game two saw Jordan-Matthews cruise 14-3 in the nightcap of the twinbill.

After spotting Andrews two runs in the first, the Jets answered with eight runs in the bottom of the frame before tacking on three in each of the second and third innings to cruise to the 14-3 win.

Causey was 2-for-2 with two runs scored, a walk and two stolen bases while Metayer was 2-for-2 with an RBI, a double and a stolen base.

Also for Jordan-Mat-

thews at the plate it was Morgan going 1-for-3 with two runs, and three RBI, Fuquay 1-for-3 with a run, a walk and two RBI, Murchison 1-for-4 with three runs, an RBI, a triple and a stolen base, Jaquez Thompson a walk, a sacrifice, a run, and an RBI, Rickman 1-for-2 with a run, a double and an RBI, and Tyler Gibson 1-for-1.

Rickman picked up the win on the mound for the Jets after working four innings and surrendering two hits, two runs (one earned), two walks and whiffing four.

Luke Martinelli hurled one inning and allowed one hit, one run, two walks and fanned a pair.

Northwood boys lax crushes Union Pines

BY DON BEANE
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Northwood boys lacrosse team crushed visiting Union Pines 15-0 on Monday, March 9 in Pittsboro in non-league play.

Northwood captured its second win in a row to improve to 2-2 on the season while Union Pines fell to 0-2.

Jake Mann had a superb game for the green and gold Chargers as the junior torched the Vikings defense for four goals while also dishing out a pair of assists to set up teammates for scores.

Decota Egnaczak had a goal and two assists in the win for Northwood while Will Smith, Terry Moore and Ben Rogers added a goal and an assist each. Henry Sapienza, Alex Xiao and Taylor Laberge chipped in a goal apiece while Sam Kellam had an assist.

In the field, Will Johnson had seven takeaways and four ground balls while Kellam chipped in five takeaways and



Staff photo by David Bradley

Northwoods Varsity Lacrosse team member Ben Rogers delivers a pass to a teammate over the sticks of Panther Creek in last Tuesday's game in Pittsboro. With their victory, 12-7, the Chargers season record advanced to 3-2.

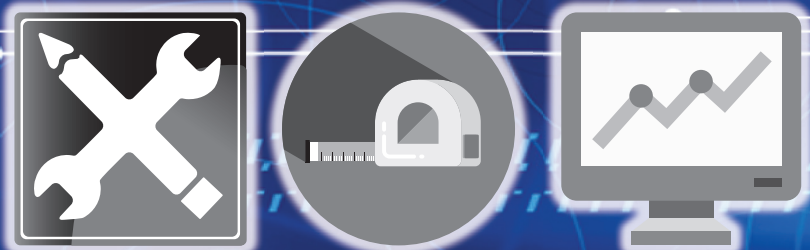
four ground balls, and Egnaczak two ground balls and a pair of takeaways. Pierre Cook and Sapienza chipped in two

ground balls and two takeaways for the Chargers while Sapienza won 3-of-5 faceoffs, Austin Wilkins 1-of-3, and Xiao

3-of-6.

In goal, Hunter Klingel took the win going 36 minutes and making seven saves.

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Last chance for spring sports



Staff photo by David Bradley

Jordan-Matthews' Jennifer Vallejo (9) kicks for the goal in their game March 9 against Asheboro in Siler City. The Jets kept the offense in action, but could only score one goal in the first half of play. The Jets went down 5-1 in the non-conference game.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Charter's Martin Melgar returns a serve in his match last Tuesday against Clover Garden School in Siler City. Melgar won two sets and the match, 6-2, and 7-3 in a tiebreaker. Chatham Charter won the match, 9-0.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Northwood's Terry Moore (6) comes down the left sideline past Panther Creek's Andrew Jung in the second quarter of play while looking to pass to his teammates.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Asheboro defenders block the efforts of Jordan-Matthews' Maggie Thornton (8) as she works for a turnover. The offense for the Jets never really took off for their March 9 game in Siler City, as the Blue Comets took victory, 5-1.



Chatham Charter's Collin Semrad delivers a powerful return to his opponent in last Tuesday's game in Siler City. Semrad, named MVP for the match, won his first set, 7-5, and the second set, 6-2. The Knights held opponent Clover Garden School scoreless in the match.

Staff photo by David Bradley

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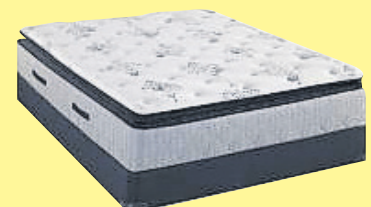
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Minister commences a new chapter

Simpson, a Jordan-Matthews grad, retires after 47-year career

BY DAVID BRADLEY
News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — Sunlight streamed through the aged stained-glass windows on a recent Sunday as University Baptist Church members, and their pastor Dr. Mitch Simpson, prepared for the final service under his leadership.

It was a bittersweet occasion, with tears, laughter and many stories shared about Simpson's 47-year ministry.

The spirit of the community and sense of togetherness was evident among the pews of the church as members of the congregation blended with friends from all five churches where Dr. Simpson has preached and his years in the pulpit came together under the roof of the nearly 100-year-old building on South Columbia Street downtown.

Despite his 47 years as a minister, the last 30 of them at the church in Chapel Hill, Simpson didn't always plan to be in the pulpit.

"I suppose I sort of backed into it," Simpson said. "By the time I was in 8th grade I had decided I would not be available. Look, you couldn't pay me enough to be in ministry. I had no intention of being in ministry."

Yet, ministry was in his family. His dad was a pastor, and the family moved to Siler City in 1958. He pastored two churches at the same time, and then a woman in the church, Blanche Brooks, donated a church for missions. With several members of their congregation, they came together to create a new church.

As a young boy growing into adulthood, Simpson spent his formative years in Siler City.

"Siler City comes about as close to being a hometown as I ever had. We moved around as pastor's families do," Simpson said. "But, from the third grade on, Siler City was my home, and I love that. I love my memories of it." Simpson graduated from Jordan-Matthews High School in 1968, when they were known as the Blue Phantoms.

"I think about some of the wonderful peo-

ple, and some of those churches in Siler City who touched my life, just with kindness," he said. "I don't remember any one Sunday school lesson that any of those good country people taught me, but I remember that they loved me and they cared about me and they cooked good food and gave it to us."

While in the area, Simpson met retired actress Francis Bavier, also known as Aunt Bee, from "The Andy Griffith Show."

"I got to meet her, I sat and talked, and visited her, and invited her to go to Brookdale Baptist Church with my mom," he said.

The pair stayed in contact over the years through letters as Simpson studied in California and England.

"I treasure a photograph that I have of the two of us together," he said of a picture taken of him and the late actress, who spent her retirement years as a Siler City resident.

Despite his early reluctance, eventually Simpson realized that he couldn't run away from the Lord, or His calling.

His favorite poem, "The Hound of Heaven" by Francis Thompson, gives an idea of Simpson's struggle with God before finally deciding to follow His guidance. He realized that he couldn't run away from God. The poem is about a man who runs from doing the things God wants him to do.

"I fled him, down the nights and down the days... I hid from Him, and under running laughter," the poem reads.

"It describes God's love like a great loving beast, no matter how much we run," Simpson said. "God's love is a pursuing love. It pursues us, it won't let us go. The point is I ended up going to divinity school."

Completing studies at Cambridge University, and a Doctorate in Humanities at Florida State, prepared him for his role as a minister of the Gospel.

Now, after 47 years, Simpson is looking back on a career in both Flor-



Staff photo by David Bradley

Dr. Mitch Simpson carries a box of treasures through the halls of the church on his way to the pulpit on an early March Sunday in Chapel Hill. The collected sayings from Socrates, statuettes and notebooks were shared at the pulpit as part of his final message.

ida and North Carolina that helped those with the many needs that a pastor sees every day.

The pews of University Baptist Church were full of members and stories of the church on March 1, his final Sunday.

"I'm here to celebrate. I loved him. When we came to the church, we felt immediately welcome, and part of the family," Deanna Dale said. "This is a well-deserved retirement. I wish him the best in whatever chapter is next."

Zoilene Reissner, part of the church's handbell choir, had arranged the song "Travelers on a Journey" as a special tribute to be played on his final day as pastor.

"I've been a member for six years," Reissner said. "There's so much love in every heart, and great crowds of people. They're so full of love or they wouldn't be here. Mitch has a heart for all people. He loves the way God loves."

Melissa and Tim Pendry shared their thoughts about Dr. Simpson and his kindness toward their son.

"Our oldest son [Brandon] was a youth minister, and he was mentored by Mitch to go into ministry," said Melissa. "We became connected to the church because of our son. We love him and Betty [Simpson's wife]. They mean the world to us. He's a great deliverer of the message."

"He is as he seems," Tim said about him. "That's the highest compliment I can give a

to flee, apparently. They would have been imprisoned or worse had they stayed."

Simpson explained his philosophy of the love of God.

"What I've tried to do, I just think that we are very fortunate, as I have been, if we can love people, and one at time, try to show people that there is nothing we can do that can separate us from the love of God," he said. "They don't have to earn it, don't have to recite a silly little creed, or recite four steps of spiritual laws or any of those things. Those are silly things made up by human beings."

Simpson also has strong feelings about what is happening in churches in this era.

"A lot of churches I know, people are more familiar with the constitution and bylaws of the church and 'Roberts Rules of Order,' than they are with the New Testament. We have created a religious business called church. We have worship services that concentrate on making us feel good. Show me a large gathering of what passes for worship nowadays and I'll show you something that's barely more than entertainment. I'm reminded of the lyrics of a country song by Don Williams, 'I don't believe that heaven waits for only those who congregate.' This points to the fact that the religiosity, the false sort of piety of a lot of congregations, is bogus."

Hence, Simpson's poor view of the church of today is all about what is missing in the church.

"I would have to say that much of what passes for Christianity in the church is and has always been almost totally unrelated to the actual person of Jesus of Nazareth," he said. "Jesus and his ragtag disciples and his absolute love of all people of all inclinations, all genders, fluid identities, was and would continue to be unwelcome in most congregations."

The efforts of Simpson's ministry, therefore, have been to be all-inclusive and welcoming to those in need. In his last service as pastor, and the retirement celebration following lunch, Simpson was moved to tears several times by the support, kind words, and memories shared from his ministries at five churches. His 30-year experience with University Baptist Church was the main focus of the day. Part of the celebration at the church was an award from North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper, "The Order of the Long-Leaf Pine."

"His personal motto, 'Speak the truth to power,' helps others to speak out," State Representative Verla Insko said when giving the award to Simpson.

"They had to leave because of religious and political persecution. Many took a circuitous route to get here, through Malaysia and otherwise, and they are my heroes, most of whom were already persons of faith," Simpson said. "When the government declared that that faith, Christianity, was not welcome they had

"He's gifted, and loves learning. He was inspired by the state motto."

The state motto, *Esse quam videri*, is a Latin phrase that means, "To be, rather than to seem." The idea is to truly be something, in this case, a minister of the Gospel, rather than just an image.

Simpson said that he wants the award in his basket.

"It was wonderful that people came, people from the past 30 years," he said. "Students here, people who have been helped, street people, and people that just across the whole planet to be of the cultural landscape. They came not as a tribute to this pastor, but as a witness to the risen Spirit of Jesus. [He is] all compassionate, all embracing, and all forgiving that they experience that somehow, and that touched my heart, that just touched my heart. That's really... what I've been about my whole pastorate."

Looking into the future for the membership of his church, Simpson first looked back into the past.

"It's more a sense that the trajectory of this congregation over the past 30 years has really moved so beautifully, toward a new voice from the family of Christian fellowship," he said.

"The voice says that it's sense of mission, its openness to all people of all colors, all persuasions, all backgrounds, and wide ranging theologies.

"We have made great progress in becoming what the church should look like, and where a strong sense of spirit was allowing us to be more and more creative in our ministries and outreach and so, no one needs to stay in a place simply because they can. It's not easy for our congregation for me to step away, we love them as much as we ever have, and they us," Simpson said. "I also know it's a good time for good creative leadership, for a man or a woman, who will come into this situation as I did in 1990 and bring a new perspective. I would never have guessed in 1990 that I would serve here for 30 years."

Simpson had thoughts for those that feel that God is calling them to the ministry.

"Anybody who's considering a call to ministry, be sure that it's God calling you and not your grandmother. It's not sweet. It's terrifying, it's wonderful. It's just the highest calling there is but it is not sweet," he said. "If God wants you in a particular vocational ministry, He will let you know. But don't be deciding that in the 8th grade, because you think it's power or authority. The only authority a minister has is to die on the cross. Especially at times of heartache, darkness and fear, and by being there at times like that the pastor earns the privilege to stand before them, at the appointed time. Every pastor and person is deeply flawed, and amazingly God's grace can work through us and reach out to another deeply flawed person.

In his time as a minister, there have been moments of sorrow, and times of joy.

"[For me] seeing people step out of fear and darkness and a sense of unworthiness and realize, some for the first time, that God loves them no matter what," Simpson said. "God does not make mistakes. That they are worth loving, and whatever mistakes they have made, God's pursuing love keeps coming after them, through other people, especially those that seem the least likely."

Simpson boiled down his message in a simple, straightforward way.

"It does not matter, to what God calls you," he said, "we are all called to take up the cross as a symbol of God's sacrificing love and follow. There's only one message and that is, God loves you. Jesus is Lord, just follow Him."

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POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Shelton Bethea of Durham was charged March 9 with failure to comply on a charge of assault on a female. Bethea was held under a \$500 bond with a March 25 court date in Durham.

Crystal Trotter of Siler City was charged March 9 with failure to appear on charges related to expired registration card/tag. Trotter was held under a \$300 bond with a March 25 court date in Hillsborough.

Kenya Alston of Pittsboro was charged March 11 with failure to appear on charges of interfering with emergency communication. Alston was held under a \$500 bond with an April 1 court date in Pittsboro.

Maurice Raynor of Pittsboro

was charged March 12 with operating five or more video gaming machines, operating a video gaming machine, gambling and electronic sweepstakes. Raynor was issued a written promise with a March 18 court date in Pittsboro.

Stephen Edmondson of Staley was charged March 12 with driving while impaired. Edmondson was issued a written promise with an April 15 court date in Pittsboro.

Timothy Person of Pittsboro was charged March 12 with violation of a domestic violence protective order, intimidating a witness and obstruction of justice. Person was held under a 48-hour domestic violence hold with a March 30 court date in Pittsboro.

John Ryals of Chapel Hill was

charged March 12 with driving while impaired and possession of an open container. Ryals was issued a written promise with a May 6 court date in Pittsboro.

John Hunsucker of Greensboro was charged March 12 with conspiracy to obtain property by false pretense. He was held under a \$5,000 bond with a March 26 court date in Greensboro.

SILER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Luiz Lopez of Siler City was cited March 10 for failure to stop at a duly-erected stop sign on Cottage Grove Avenue in Siler City.

Zachary Cole, 23, of Boone, was charged March 15 with felony possession of marijuana, felony maintaining a vehicle/dwell-

ing/place for a controlled substance, possession of marijuana paraphernalia and window tint violation. He was held under a \$1,500 bond with a March 30 court date in Pittsboro.

Stephanie Underhill, 25, of Lillington, was charged March 16 with misdemeanor larceny and possession of marijuana paraphernalia. She was held under a \$500 bond with an April 28 court date in Siler City.

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

Jose Gonzalez Varela of Winston Salem was cited March 9 for failure to reduce speed and no operator's license on U.S. Highway 15 in Pittsboro.

Wendy Penke of Pittsboro was cited March 10 for failure to

reduce speed on U.S. Highway 15 in Pittsboro.

Jordyn Dennis of Fayetteville was cited March 10 for failure to maintain lane control on U.S. Highway 421 in Goldston.

Edward Vereen of Greensboro was cited March 10 for failure to yield on U.S. Highway 421 in Siler City.

Javae'd Johnson of Roseboro was cited March 10 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. Highway 421 in Siler City.

Seth Rowe of Pittsboro was cited March 11 for failure to reduce speed on U.S. Highway 15 in Pittsboro.

Arthur Bowden of Liberty was cited March 12 for careless and reckless driving on U.S. Highway 64 in Pittsboro.

Siler City institutes state of emergency

Makes changes for safety due to COVID-19

BY CASEY MANN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Siler City Mayor John Grimes has signed a state of emergency for the town in response to the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. The declaration allows for "flexibility," accord-

ing to Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Cheek, who presided over the Siler City Board of Commissioners meeting on Monday. Grimes, who has suffered pneumonia in the past, was not present to protect his health as he is considered "high risk."

"[The state of emergency] will allow quick decisions by Roy Lynch, [the town's manager]," Cheek said. "He can react to circumstances as they happen and help

to maintain safety for everyone."

The board approved stopping all water cut-offs for customers and the reconnection of about 30 customers who are currently disconnected. The board will revisit this policy during its May board meeting.

The board is also reducing its number of regular board meetings to only one a month. At the same time, the board asked that staff begin investigating options

for tele-conferencing its meetings. The hope would be that meetings would be able to be conducted remotely with the public still having access to join the conferences, according to Cheek.

The board also authorized the staff to consider changing town hall hours if the need should arise.

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

Kitchen comfort and joy

Gentle Reader, these are trying times.



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

For reliable information and updates, I strongly urge you to visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>. I also strongly urge you to double-check any information you get from other sources; scammers and trolls abound. Even people of goodwill are unknowingly sharing material that is useless at best, and harmful at worst.

But it's looking as if many of us will be spending a lot more time at home than we likely have in a long time. And I am happy to offer up a few tips to avoid the horror of cabin fever.

Bring the family together for some fun. Play a board game: Sorry, Clue and Monopoly are loved by everybody. Fun movies like Thin Man movies, National Lampoon Vacation



Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

'Almost' chicken chowder

films, and Simon Pegg productions are always enjoyable.

But time spent with loved ones in the kitchen has multiple benefits. For you this week I have my favorite biscuit recipe and a thick, creamy chicken soup full of veggies and the perfect comfort food for those worrisome days ahead.

Thanks for your time. Contact me at dm@bullcity.mom.



Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Triumph biscuits

Triumph Biscuits

2 cups all-purpose flour + more for kneading and rolling	1 teaspoon salt	7 tablespoons butter, grated and frozen
2 teaspoons baking powder	1/4 teaspoon baking soda	1 cup cold buttermilk
Whisk flour, baking powder, salt, sugar, and baking soda together into bowl. Cut frozen, grated butter into flour mixture until it resembles coarse meal. Refrigerate for 90 minutes.	Big pinch of sugar	

When ready to bake preheat oven to 425°. Pour buttermilk into butter and flour mixture. Mix in buttermilk just until there's no liquid in the bowl. It will still need to come together more, but you'll do this on the counter with very gentle kneading.

Turn onto a floured surface, and mix by hand until it becomes a rough-ish dough, using only as much flour you need. Shape into rectangle. Fold the rectangle in thirds. Flatten back down and refold. Do this 3 or 4 more times.

Roll dough on a floured surface to about 1/4 inch thick. Cut out 12 biscuits using a 2 1/4-inch biscuit cutter. Transfer biscuits to parchment-lined cookie sheet. Bake for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown, rotating pan 180 degrees midway through.

Almost Chicken Chowder

8 tablespoons butter divided	2 bay leaves	5 cups chicken stock
1/2 cup flour	1 teaspoon dry thyme	1 1/2 cups skim milk
3 carrots, peeled and cut into same size pieces	1 teaspoon salt	1 cup heavy cream
4 stalks celery, leaves and all, chopped	1/2 teaspoon pepper	Make roux:
1 small onion, chopped	zest of 2 lemons, divided	Melt 6 tablespoons butter in small skillet. Whisk in flour and cook over low until it's light blonde in color. This is your roux.
3/4 cup dried mushrooms, reconstituted and chopped	juice of 2 lemons	
	1 cup rice or grain mix	
	1 1/2 cups frozen shoepeg corn	
	1 cup white wine	

Soup

In a large heavy pot, melt 2 tablespoons butter. Place in pot: Carrots, celery, onion, mushrooms, thyme, bay leaves, half the lemon zest, salt, and pepper. Cook until there is some color on veg, and carrots are starting to soften.

Stir in rice and/or grains and let cook until they start to brown around the edges. Deglaze the pot with wine. Cook until it's all cooked in. Pour in stock and skim milk. Bring to boil. Add corn.

When it comes to a boil, whisk in roux until it's cream soup thickness.

Turn down to low. Pour in lemon juice. When the juice is thoroughly mixed in, stir in cream. Gently add chicken.

Check for seasoning, and keep warm until service. Makes about 8-10 servings.



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 Questions? Call (919) 542-5516

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 28 County Services Road, Pittsboro
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 \$10 per scoop for large trailers and dump trucks (~3 cubic yards)
 We load. You haul. Don't forget a tarp! All loads of mulch must be secure.
 Sales continue every Saturday, except for April 11, while supplies last.
 (Estimated to continue through the middle of May.)
 For more information: (919) 542-5516
www.chathamnc.org/recycle

CHATHAM CHAT | DR. JEFFREY STRICKLER, CHATHAM HOSPITAL

Maternity Care Center latest step in 'improving the health of the local community'

Siler City's Chatham Hospital's new five-bed Maternity Care Center is the newest addition to the facility by UNC Hospitals. This week, we speak with Chatham Hospital President Dr. Jeffrey Strickler. Strickler joined UNC Hospitals in 2003, and in addition to that role, he serves as vice president for Hillsborough Hospital and as the regional administrator for UNC Health Care's operations in Chatham and Rockingham. Previously, he was the Clinical Nurse Director responsible for Emergency Services at UNC Medical Center. Dr. Strickler's clinical background is as a Registered Nurse and Paramedic with extensive experience in Emergency, Trauma and Transport Nursing.

In addition, he functions as adjunct faculty at UNC's Gilling's School of Global Public Health where he developed a course on Hospital Operations and also an allied faculty member with the Tillman College of Business at the University of Mount Olive. Besides his bachelor's degree in nursing, Dr. Strickler also has a masters in Management and a Doctorate in Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Let's start with COVID-19. How has Chatham Hospital responded to the pandemic?

From a response standpoint, I can tell you that Chatham Hospital is in constant communication with local, state, and UNC Health representatives. We have a fully developed response plan so that we can screen and initially manage any COVID-19 patients as well as addressing continuity of our



Staff photo by David Bradley

Dr. Jeff Strickler talks with Director of Imaging Scott Ratcliff in the imaging suite at Chatham Hospital in Siler City. Ratcliff says that 80% of X-rays taken at the hospital are done in this room.

operations. As for policy changes, we have already instituted various screening questions and will begin to restrict visitation at Chatham Hospital. Our changes may be forthcoming as we enter into this public health emergency.

You've been with UNC Hospitals since 2003. Can you talk about your path to Chatham Hospital and outline your responsibilities there and within the larger umbrella of the UNC Hospitals organization?

My clinical background is as an Emergency Department registered nurse and paramedic. Much of my career was working for trauma centers in Tennessee, Kansas City, and now North Carolina. Five years ago, I was given responsibility to open and develop our Hillsborough Hospital campus. That campus's alignment with Chatham Hospital

led to my involvement with this great community hospital.

As the president, I am ultimately responsible for all daily operations that occurs at Chatham Hospital but delegate much of that work to our exceptional team of health care leaders. Working with input from our hospital board and executive team, I spend much of my personal time developing the strategic plan for services at this hospital as well as how we align and interact with the larger UNC Health system.

What are your priorities for Chatham Hospital and for the way it serves Chatham County?

The mission of Chatham Hospital is to serve our local residents and provide an access point for needed health care services. Our vision is to be the preferred provider so we particularly focus

on providing high quality care and an exceptional patient experience. A key focus of UNC Health is to provide as much care as possible at the local level. To this end, we have been promoting our emergency, diagnostic, and rehab services while growing our capabilities in General Surgery and specialty surgeries such as Orthopedics, ENT, Gyn, and Ophthalmology.

Hospitals are more than care centers for those who are being treated for illnesses and injuries. What services does the hospital offer that people in Chatham County may not be aware of?

This question relates to a particular passion of mine. I believe that the local hospital should be a key leader in improving the health of the local community. We do so through a number of education and outreach efforts. For example, our chief nurse has played a leadership role in developing the county health assessment and plan. We have also taken leading roles related to combating the opioid crisis and addressing food insecurity. Other efforts relate to the care and experience of our older patients so we have invested in developing a geriatric Emergency Department



Staff photo by David Bradley

Dr. Jeff Strickler is president of Siler City's Chatham Hospital.

program and training staff so Chatham Hospital can be recognized as a Dementia Friendly Hospital.

The new five-bed Maternity Care Center represents a \$2.5 million investment by UNC Hospitals. Why is the maternity center so important to the hospital's operation?

The lack of access to maternity care is a principle reason for the United States' poor global ranking related to both maternal and infant mortality and morbidity. Around the country, there has been a disturbing trend of hospitals closing maternity programs because of the lack of providers and the unreimbursed expense from such programs. UNC Health is working with our partners, Piedmont Health Services and the Chatham County Health Department, hoping to reverse this trend by developing a cost effective

model for the majority of deliveries that can be duplicated across the state and nation by developing a training pipeline that keeps care providers in the rural community.

Can you talk about the hospital's role with the Chatham Health Alliance, and the focus there to improve access to health care here?

As I mentioned, our Chief Nurse was very involved in this assessment and developing the plan which has focuses on improving access and addressing obesity and poverty. Many of our hospital leaders are now serving on various sub-committees which are currently developing action plans to address these areas.

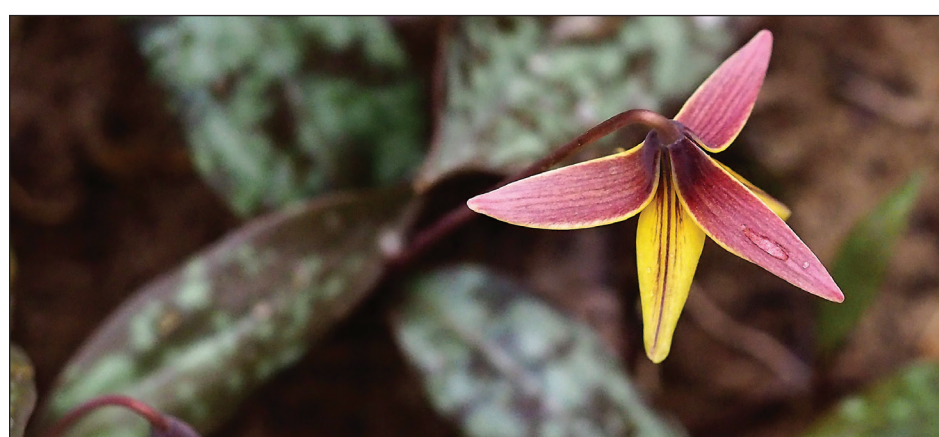
What's the best way to find out more about Chatham Hospital?

Via the intranet, our website is www.chatham-hospital.org or the UNC Health website at www.unchealthcare.org.

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Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Bowing to the breeze

This *Erythronium americanum*, also known as a yellow trout lily, sat peacefully alongside the Haw River this past weekend.

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Political edginess of ‘The Hunt’ half as clever as it thinks it is, and even less enjoyable

“The Hunt” is social satire made for (and maybe even by) folks who get their news via shared Facebook posts. It’s a mono-

NEIL MORRIS
Film Critic

chromatic stab at political edginess, with dialogue written like memes and character stereotypes as broad as a 1940s Disney cartoon. It’s smug in its critique of our political divide and reductive in its bothsiding.

The shame is it didn’t have to be this way. Based very loosely on the 1924 novel “The Most Dangerous Game,” 12 strangers are drugged, dragged and gagged to a remote estate, where they awake, are given firearms and then suddenly blown up by landmines and gunned down by hidden snipers.

As the dwindling survivors begin to converse, their common denominator is that they’re varying right-wing extremists. There’s a fringe podcaster, a big-game hunter, a homophobe, a veteran, a Charlottesville marcher and others. They quickly discern that they’re the prey at an Internet-rumored hunting

ground called Manorgate, where liberal elites hunt conservative “deplorables” for sport.

The funny thing is they’re correct. Headed by a mysterious minder named Athena (Hilary Swank), the hunters are limousine liberals hunkered down in a deer blind. They castigate their white privilege and get giddy when Ava DuVernay likes their tweet.

Their bloodlust is both political and personal, however. Without giving too much away, the film posits how, in our online reality, off-color jokes are wielded as cancel-culture weapons and conspiracy theories can become self-fulfilling prophecies.

Originally scheduled to open in October 2019, its release was delayed after early, largely-uninformed reports about its plot triggered a backlash in conservative circles, including the POTUS. The irony is that the film is fairly anti-liberal, with a heroine who served in the military and hails from Mississippi. It’s a misapprehension that seems to prove the film’s point.

However, the actual plot is still a 30-minute premise that’s dragged out to nearly two hours by director Craig Zobel — whose “Compliance” was a searing, haunting bit of social commentary — and



Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures

Betty Gilpin stars as the heroine in “The Hunt.”

writer Damon Lindelof — who co-created “Lost,” another promising premise that gradually went nowhere and overstayed its welcome.

“The Hunt” could have gone in several different directions, perhaps revealing how political extremists are useful pawns in a larger chessboard run by the wealthy ruling class. It could have aimed for something truly provocative, like a straight-faced attempt to justify all the onscreen awfulness that would

have forced viewers to confront their own prejudices.

The lone bright spot is Betty Gilpin as the MS-born Crystal, who brings a lot of sober wit and brashness to this inane setting. She’s also one-half of a closing fistfight that’s both wonderfully staged and goes on so long that you realize the film ran out of things to say. A sharper film would have fleshed out Crystal’s obvious role as the middle majority, folks ready to be rid of the crazies who

THE HUNT

GRADE: C

DIRECTOR: Craig Zobel

STARRING: Betty Gilpin, Hilary Swank, Emma Roberts and Ethan Suplee

MCAA RATING: R

RUNNING TIME: 1 hr. 15 min.

have co-opted our culture. Instead, we’re left with B-slasher movie effects, eye-rolling on-the-nose references, and a vacuous viewpoint. “The Hunt” is not half as clever as it thinks it is, and it’s even less enjoyable.

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS EDUCATOR OF THE WEEK

James Hall | Margaret B. Pollard Middle School

Grades/subjects you teach: 8th-grade math and science; boys’ and girls’ soccer coach

E-mail address: jhall@chatham.k12.nc.us

Date, place of birth: May 15, 1970, in Huntingdon, Tennessee

Education: Northern Durham High School (graduated 1988), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, bachelor’s degree in education (graduated 2006)

Brief work history: 2006-2010 — Perry W. Harrison Elementary School, 2010-Present — Margaret B. Pollard Middle School

Honors/awards: 2019-20 Margaret B. Pollard Middle School Teacher of the Year

Hobbies/interests outside of educating: soccer, reading, movies, hiking, handyman stuff

Family: wife, Kirsten; son, James, 21; daughter, Regan, 16

What led you to a career in education?: My grandmother taught 4th grade for 40 years and was a huge influence on my life.

Who were your favorite teachers as you went through school, and what did you learn from them?: World history teacher Dr. John Martin consistently challenged his students to make them defend ideas and opinions. Physics teacher Dr. Richard

Superfine made science fun and engaging.

Has becoming an educator been all you expected it would be?: Yes, it is always exciting. There is never a dull day.

How has education changed since you were a student?: “Back in my day” instruction was mostly teacher-led, with lectures and note taking. Today it is much more student-centered and engaging.

What “makes your day” as an educator?: When you see the “light bulb” go off when a student “gets” a concept.

What’s working in schools today?: Student-centered instruction

What’s not working?: “Lawnmower parents” who go beyond simply advocating for their children, and do not allow them to struggle and overcome adversity.

What’s your favorite memory of your first year in education?: The relationships formed with those students (some of which have children of their own now).

How would your “educator” persona handle you as a student?: Honestly, I flew “under the radar” as a student. I think I would have sought to build more of a rapport with my younger self as a student.

Best piece of advice for other educators?: No matter how challenging your day is or how a student is behaving, remember that you are the adult in the situation, and act accordingly. We are human and can get emotional like anyone else, but try not to let a child, who often has issues you don’t know about, affect your state of mind.

For students?: Realize that teachers are there to help you, and take advantage of that opportunity.

For parents?: Allow your children to struggle, and even sometimes fail, so that they learn to overcome adversity.

What about your job would most surprise your friends who are not educators?: There is a myth that we leave at 3:30 p.m. every day and get summers off. We come in early, stay late, work at home and spend part of our summer in professional development, as well as many of us working second jobs.

If you could somehow magically instill one truth into the heads of your students, what would it be?: You get out of school what you put into it, and you can never get these years back.

When you think about today’s kids, you: Laugh.

If one of your students



Photo courtesy of Chatham County Schools

James Hall teaches math and science at Pollard Middle School.

was asked for a one-word description of you by a student who hadn’t had you as an educator, what would that one word be?: Probably “funny”

Favorite movie about school or education: “Lean on Me”

How would you summarize your philosophy as an educator?: Put the student at the center of everything you do.

What five things must every educator know?: 1. Always put the student’s needs first; 2. Every

student has a story. You may not know it.; 3. It’s OK to not know the answer to every question. Students will trust you because you are honest with them, not because you know everything.; 4. Take care of yourself. You’re no good to anyone if you’re sick and exhausted.; 5. Be consistent with classroom management.

What’s special about your education space at your school?: I make my classroom a safe place for

every student, free from bullying and judgment. Every student is respected, and every question is answered, even if the answer is, “I don’t know.”

What’s special about your school?: We have wonderful support from the administration, the community and our peers.

Most unusual question you’ve ever gotten from a student?: “If a gorilla and a duck met on a bridge and had a baby, would it be a gorilla-duck?”

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Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



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Kid Scoop Together Kid Quiz

After reading this page, answer the questions below. Have an adult check your answers. Discuss any that you got wrong.

1. What is this page about?

2. Who is it about?

3. Which Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives women the right to vote?

4. How many years have American women had right to vote?

5. Where and when did the first women's rights meeting take place?

6. What does suffrage mean?

March is Women's History Month Meeting for Women's Rights

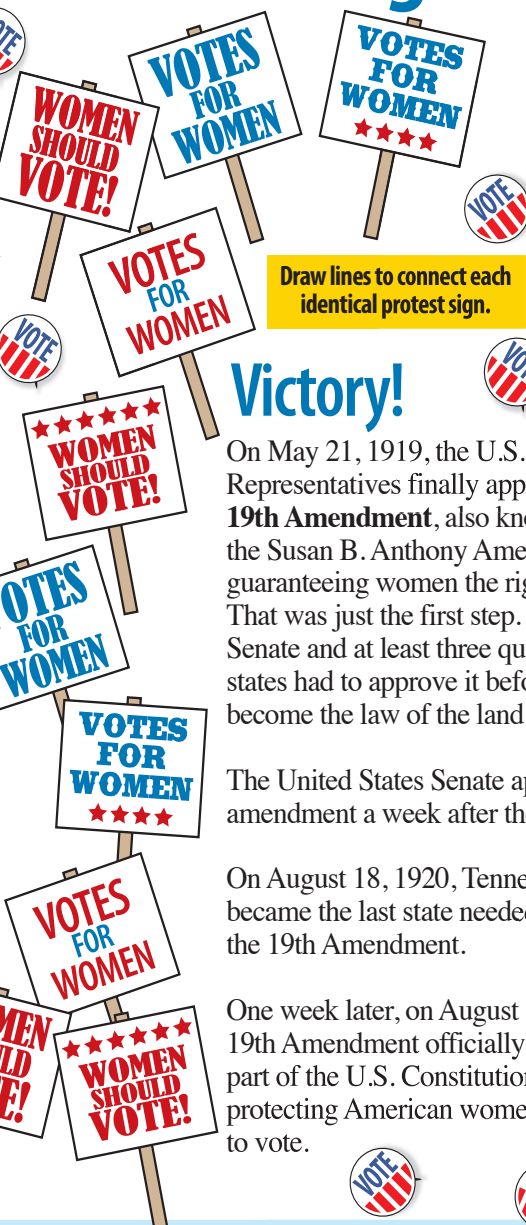
In 1848, a group of people met in Seneca Falls, N.Y. to talk about the problems women faced because they didn't have the same rights as men. At that time, women could not own property, they could not vote and very few could go to school.

The word **suffrage** means the right to vote in elections. A **suffragist** is a person who fights for suffrage.

This meeting was the first women's rights convention in the United States. At that

meeting, men and women signed a document called the "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions." By signing, these people agreed to the goals of what was becoming the woman's movement.

For more than 70 years, women and men marched, wrote letters and articles, protested and picketed to get an Amendment to the Constitution which would give women the right to vote. These people were known as **suffragists**.



Draw lines to connect each identical protest sign.

Victory!

On May 21, 1919, the U.S. House of Representatives finally approved the **19th Amendment**, also known as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. That was just the first step. The U.S. Senate and at least three quarters of the states had to approve it before it would become the law of the land.

The United States Senate approved the amendment a week after the House.

On August 18, 1920, Tennessee became the last state needed to ratify the 19th Amendment.

One week later, on August 26, the 19th Amendment officially became part of the U.S. Constitution, forever protecting American women's right to vote.



Photo: Everett Historical / Shutterstock

Today, more than 68 million women vote in elections because of the courageous suffragists who never gave up the fight for equality.

How many VOTE buttons can you find on this page?

Arrested for Voting?

On Election Day, Nov. 5, 1872, Susan B. Anthony walked into her polling place and voted.

Two weeks later, a U.S. marshal knocked on her door.

"I have a warrant for your arrest," he told Susan. "You are charged with voting without the lawful right to vote."

In 1872, by U.S. law, a person had to be 21 years or older to vote. Susan was born in 1820. Was she old enough to vote?



Susan met two other requirements for the right to vote. She was a U.S. citizen and she had never been convicted of a felony crime. Why was she arrested for voting?

Why was Susan B. Anthony arrested for voting? Use the code to find out!

CODE

- = A
- ▼ = H
- ▲ = M
- ◻ = R
- ◻ = C
- = K
- ▲ = N
- ◻ = S
- ★ = E
- ◆ = L
- ▲ = O
- ↷ = W

Would Susan B. Anthony have been arrested for the same reason in 1921? YES NO

Extra! Extra! Women in Leadership

Today, women can vote and hold elected office. For several weeks, look through the newspaper for pictures of women who are leaders in the government. Make a scrapbook with the photos. Label each one with the woman's name, her job title and if she was elected to the job.

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

Kid Scoop Puzzler

In 1920, exactly 100 years after Susan was born, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed, giving women the right to vote.

While Susan did not live to see women get the right to vote, in 1979 she became the first woman to appear on U.S. money.



Look closely to find the coin that is different.

Standards Link: Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Double Double Word Search

PROTESTED
PROPERTY
PICKETED
RATIFIED
SUFFRAGE
SENECA
RIGHTS
WOMEN
YEARS
SUSAN
THINK
VOTE
GIVE
TALK
OWN

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



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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Cause and Effect

Draw a line down the center of a piece of paper. Label the left side CAUSE. Label the right side EFFECT. Read a newspaper article and find the **cause** (an event that makes something happen) and the **effect** (what the cause made happen).

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Know the difference between cause and effect.

Where do polar bears vote?

ANSWER: At the North poll.

Write On!

Woman I Admire

Describe a woman you admire and your reasons for choosing this woman.



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

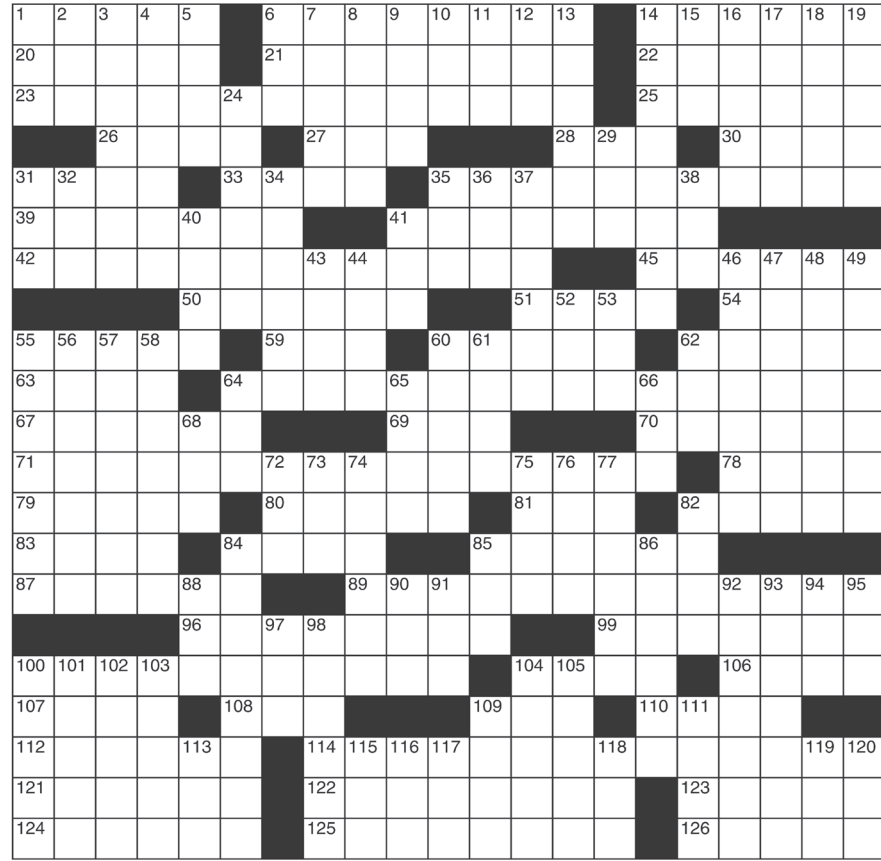
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PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo **CONFORMITY**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Competitor
 - 6 Least hilly
 - 10 Spring birds
 - 20 Adult insect stage
 - 21 Irish moss or nori
 - 22 Insect's egg capsule
 - 23 Steady job, say
 - 25 Money, slangily
 - 26 Egg on
 - 27 See
 - 110-Across
 - 28 One — kind
 - 30 Israeli politician
 - 31 Waikiki locale
 - 33 Catholic liturgy
 - 35 Steak/lobster combo dish
 - 39 Leave behind
 - 41 Aquarium shop supply
 - 42 Endowing organization
 - 45 Didn't allow to pass, as a bill
 - 50 Swimmer
 - 51 — the night before ...
 - 54 Novelist — Stanley Gardner
 - 55 Pass, as a bill
 - 59 "Lady Love" singer
 - 60 Really hate
 - 62 Jeans brand
 - 63 Recline lazily
 - 64 Regulating system
 - 67 Main nun
 - 69 Nest egg abbr.
 - 70 Estevez of "Tex"
 - 71 Attractive
 - 78 Tesla's Musk
 - 79 Volley starter
 - 80 Flora and fauna
 - 81 GPS display
 - 82 Vogue thing
 - 83 Uruguay's
 - 84 Good buds
 - 85 Campout
 - 87 Suffer from hunger
 - 89 Like an attention-grabbing actor
 - 96 Unrefined petroleum
 - 99 Eppie who's known as Ann Landers
 - 100 Home-state candidate
 - 104 Skillful feat
 - 106 Clodhopper
 - 107 Pitcher
 - 108 Grassy tract
 - 109 Deceive
 - 110 With
 - 27-Across, makeshift sheds
 - 112 Theater area
 - 114 What the starts of seven answers in this puzzle might do?
 - 121 California beach city
 - 122 Online composer
 - 123 Sharpens
 - 124 Appraise
 - 125 Sign on a dead-end street
 - 126 Start
- DOWN**
- 1 Grafton's "— for Ricochet"
 - 2 "If u ask me ..."
 - 3 Singer Sarah
 - 4 Bad way for a ship to run
 - 5 "Livin' La Vida —"
 - 6 Swing to and —
 - 7 Some jabs in the ring
 - 8 "Ciao!" in Chihuahua
 - 9 Gets bronze
 - 10 Special attention, for short
 - 11 Conceit
 - 12 Singer Cooke
 - 13 Start a golf hole
 - 14 Longtime Russian dynasty members
 - 15 Large gametes
 - 16 "Carmen" composer
 - Georges
 - 17 D-Max pickup truck maker
 - 18 Appellation bestower
 - 19 Neck warmer
 - 24 Halley of Halley's comet
 - 29 — Schwarz (toy store)
 - 31 Clodhopper
 - 32 — Dhabi
 - 34 San — (Texas city near Abilene)
 - 35 Ungodliness
 - 36 The Trojans of the NCAA
 - 37 Musical beat
 - 38 1950s prez
 - 40 Losing effort?
 - 41 Add-on charge
 - 43 Cal's twin in "East of Eden"
 - 44 Fill to excess
 - 46 More itty-bitty
 - 47 Redenbacher of popcorn
 - 48 Omission of a syllable
 - 49 Archbishop
 - Tutu
 - 52 Affliction
 - 53 Projectile path
 - 55 Slips by
 - 56 Most majestic
 - 57 Calgary locale
 - 58 Meat cutter
 - 60 Large artery
 - 61 Ho-hum
 - 62 Hasty escape
 - 64 2000-15 CBS drama
 - 65 Prison melee
 - 66 Laugh half
 - 68 ND-to-LA dir.
 - 72 Rockets' gp.
 - 73 Actor Gerard
 - 74 Chucks out
 - 75 Art Deco artist
 - 76 Summers, in Somme
 - 77 Dr. Seuss' title turtle
 - 82 Warty hopper
 - 84 Very risky
 - 85 Hit sketch show since '75
 - 86 Tattooing tool
 - 88 Outmoded TV adjunct
 - 90 Aviary sound
 - 91 A, in Berlin
 - 92 Classic Chrysler
 - 93 Heat-attached patches
 - 94 Prefix with natal
 - 95 Mutt's threat
 - 97 Adaptable truck, in brief
 - 98 Stun with sound
 - 100 Pro — (perfunctory)
 - 101 Opera songs
 - 102 Osso buco meats
 - 103 "Kukla, Fran and —"
 - 104 Carpentry peg
 - 105 — nous
 - 109 Stallion-to-be
 - 111 Iterate
 - 113 Samantha Bee's station
 - 115 Southern
 - 116 Thai tongue
 - 117 Lucy of TV's "Elementary"
 - 118 1940s prez
 - 119 Really little
 - 120 July hrs.



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

CHURCH NEWS

Events listed are subject to change in consideration of closures due to the coronavirus. Reach out to the individual Churches prior to events to verify.

UNITY POWERHOUSE CHURCH

There will be a Citywide Revival sponsored by Dr. Judy Hines, formerly of Siler City, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18 through Friday, March 20.

The Unity Powerhouse Church will celebrate its church anniversary beginning at 11 a.m. on Sunday, March 22, beginning in the morning worship service. At 3 p.m., the speaker will be Rev. Ken Heaven of Mt Calvary Baptist Church who will be joined by his church congregation.

All are welcome to come and fellowship.

HOLLAND CHAPEL AME ZION CHURCH

Young Adult Sunday, (Y.A.C.M.), will be observed in the 10 a.m, morn-

ing worship service on March 22. The guest speaker will be Rev. Cynthia Jacko-Wise of Baptist Grove Church in Raleigh.

The "Everybody's birthday celebration" has been moved to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 18 in the church fellowship hall.

The church is located at 360 Burgess Rd., Apex.

GETHSEMANE HOLY CHURCH

The Gethsemane Usher Board will celebrate their anniversary at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 22. Brother Timothy Watson will be the speaker, and music will be provided by the Young Voices of Gethsemane.

The church is located at 243 Vernie Phillips Rd., Bear Creek.

ROCKY RIVER FRIENDS MEETING

Revival services have been canceled for March 27 to 29. They will be rescheduled at a later date.

A millennial's perspective on business trends

I recently attended the Chatham Economic



ZACHARY HORNER
Corner Store

Development Corporation's "Opportunity Chatham" event in Pittsboro, which meant that I got to hear about the latest in opportunity, Chatham and economic development.

Guess it lived up to its name. I figured I'd write a Corner Store entry about it, but wasn't sure what angle it was going to take.

Ted Abernathy's talk, however, which focused on trends that are affecting economic development, gave me the angle.

Abernathy, the managing partner of economic development consulting firm Economic Leadership, focused his address on trends that seem certain to affect both the world and Chatham and how companies and businesses can respond. He mentioned millennials a few times, and since I'm a millennial, born in 1992, I figured I could give some insight into what he talked about.

Perhaps it could be helpful to you business owners out there to hear directly from a millennial about what we're really like, what popular culture gets right and gets wrong. So here are some thoughts:

The world is moving faster indeed.

This was one of Abernathy's first points, that the increased speed of the world has changed how business and economic development works. He spoke about it in the context of "speed to market." For you non-business people out there, that basically means the time it takes for a product to be designed to when it hits shelves, physical or digital.

We millennials like things quickly — high-speed internet, fast food drive-thrus and songs downloaded to our phones anywhere in the world are things we've become accustomed to in

our lifetimes. We're probably a bit spoiled in that way, but speed definitely affects what decisions we make when it comes to spending money and engaging in business.

Technology has improved.

Like I just mentioned, technology has improved to where you can buy a song from the iTunes Music store on your phone and be listening to it in your Air Pods within seconds. That technology makes the world faster, and we millennials like it. Another specific example self-checkouts at grocery stores and other businesses. I've even seen them in CVS locations.

We now expect every business to have at least a website and a Facebook page, if not also an Instagram and/or Twitter account. Oftentimes, those platforms are our introduction to products or companies, and if you don't have one of those, you might miss out on our business.

Disruption is real.

Abernathy spoke about the power of market disruption — companies like Spotify, Airbnb and GrubHub changing the way we go about spending money and living our lives. I've been a Spotify Premium subscriber for years and only download songs from iTunes when I want to support a specific artist. I've stayed at an Airbnb instead of getting a hotel room because Airbnbs are often cheaper and feel more like home.

There are some areas where disruption is going to be tough. At this point, Amazon looks unbeatable. Facebook still has incredible power over our social media lives, and platforms that followed quickly like Instagram and Snapchat continue to be a constant presence on our phones. If you want to disrupt the market — locally or worldwide — with something new, it better be attractive enough to take us away from what we've committed to, because we're incredibly loyal and we swear by our favorites.

We care about how you conduct your business almost as much as what your

business is.

With a few exceptions, millennials are conscious of how a company and its leaders behave themselves when we go shopping. Just look at Chick-fil-A and how big a reputation hit it took in 2012 when the company's COO said America is "inviting God's judgment" upon it by being OK with gay marriage.

Whether or not it affected Chick-fil-A's bottom line overall is a different story — I know people who spent more there after the controversy, so it was probably a wash — but that's probably the prime example in my lifetime of how factors outside of the product itself can affect a company's image. A lot of us millennials don't mess around when it comes to that. This extends to actors and musicians and athletes as well — just Google "cancel culture."

We're loyal, but don't expect constant consistency.

Every generation's probably had some of this, but we have products and businesses we swear by, and we get there different ways. I've bought Old Spice soap for years, partly because of the "Man Your Man Can Smell Like" commercials. For some reason, most millennials love avocado and won't give it up for anything.

But we're also quite fickle. Facebook is still important in some ways, but when our parents and grandparents joined, it wasn't "our thing" anymore and we jumped ship. We were the generation that grew up wanting Beanie Babies, but when's the last time you saw one?

Some things have lasted: the creators of Pokemon still sell cards and their immensely popular video games. And sometimes the desire for something lasts, even if the platform changes: Vine died and has been replaced, more or less, with TikTok.

We're a weird bunch, but we're the present and the future, and I'd argue that understanding us is crucial to the survival of businesses everywhere. So keep listening.

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

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First United Methodist Church
1101 West Raleigh Street

You can sign up online at redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code Siler City Lions.

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Chatham News - Record

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

Second nine weeks K-8 school honor roll students

BENNETT SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS
3rd Grade - Katie Crissman, Abigail Everwine, Sadie Luther, Haidyn Sanders, Hailey Sligh, Madalyn Teague, Kaylee Thompson

4th Grade - Brayleigh Evangelista, Jackson Hughes, Lelue Kidd, Colby King, Caleb Oldham, Blake Ritter, Mackenzie Robertson, Cayden Wilkes

5th Grade - Reid Caviness, William Dersam, Houston Harrelson, Lizzy Murray, Addison Overman, Chloe Stanifer, Alicia Vigil Pantaleon

6th Grade - Dallas Harrelson, Christian Wilkes, Samantha Wilson

7th Grade - Landry Allen, Shelley Brooks, Courtney Caviness, Abbey Copelan, Karaleigh Dodson, Bristol Ferguson, Zane Overman, Gabriella Phillips, Taylor Ritter, Mattie Underwood, Benjamin Wilson

8th Grade - Shilah Bell, Mattie Caviness, Jacob Gilliland, Joaquin Gordon, Kelsey Hussey, Logan Maness, Katherine Oldham, Kent Owens, Hallie Webster

A/B HONOR ROLLS

3rd Grade - Benjamin Athey, Camden Brady, Cayden Brady, Gabriella Griffith

4th Grade - Jameson Douglass, Jorge Lopez, Ryder Oates

5th Grade - Chloe Brewer, Phillip Dean, Nicole Dersam, Belle Douglass, Bowman Harris, Evelyn Lopez-Paz, Emma Maness, Nicole Maness, Alyssa Overacre

6th Grade - Curren Bell, Westley Brower, Kendal Jordan, Yarecki Pascual, Carlos Zapata-Cruz

7th Grade - Emily Armstrong, Ethan Armstrong, William Beers, Coleene Cox, Clay Hill, Ryan Iott, Pacey Kernstine, Carter King, Matthew Murchison

8th Grade - Rachel Albright, Lauren Caviness, Madison Jones,

Maisy Moody, Sofia Ortiz, Hermosa Preciado Lopez, Raymond Zapata Cruz

BONLEE SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS
3rd Grade - Olivia Ray Cook, Isabel Nikole Long, Lily Ann Moore, Walter Thomas Patin, Tysen Cole J. Schmidt, August Lee Smith, Benjamin Dale Stepp, Madison Taylor Wingter

4th Grade - Haylee Teresa Lynne Billups, Kassydy Kylie Browning Walker, Emmalee Elaina Cheek, Justin Javier Escobar-Marquez, Brody Cole Ewing, Macee Jeanette Johnson, Summer Destiny Jordan, Mary Anna Lee Jourdan, Lauren Grace Payne, Orackle Jazmyn Perez, Devin Michael Rathbun, Zva Rachel Rodriguez, Alyssa Katherine Ryan, Natalia Faith Vitaro, Gavin Lee Williams

5th Grade - Grant Robert Andrews, Leticia Baruch Ocana, Eva Christine Patin, Ashleigh Kaye Payne, Brett Lee Phillips, Mattie Lauren Smith

6th Grade - Konrad Val-or Farthing

7th Grade - David Baruch Ocana, Claire Ruth Fuquay, Stephanie Marisol Garcia Perez, Brady McLean Phillips, Amelia Camille Rodriguez, Mary Carol Shields

8th Grade - Amerah Mahmoud Attia, Sawyer Elizabeth Beavers, Alyssa Ellen Berube, Leslie Carrillo Rangel, Braxton Charles Coates, Andrew Lee Everwine, Jacob Aaron Hurley, Scikaiyah Marie Jones, Anthony Graham Lopossay, Mia Magana, Cassie Rose McKeithan, Nathan Ritter, Alexander Preston Wilkie

A/B HONOR ROLLS

3rd Grade - Yakelin Amador Gomez, Joshua Ray Burke, Alejandra Carrillo, Jasmine Alissa Davis, Braylon Earl De-graffenreidt, Edna Gordinex Santana, Kathryn

Faith Huggins, Andrew David Johnson, Jessica Caitlyn Key, Makayla Marie Martin, Makenzie Faye Martin, William Michael Martin, Emilie Xiomara Nava-Erazo, Christopher Palacios Nunez, Lillie Mae Poe, Jamari Zaire Spinks, Natalie Rose Taylor

4th Grade - Anna Lucia Baruch Ocana, Annabelle Lynn Bierman, Zolie-Mae Faith Caviness, Andrei Jason Costiuc, Blake Lane Dixon, Bryan Daniel Garcia Perez, Antonio Emmanuel Gonzalez, Alicia Jaimes Hernandez, Lucas Joseph McNeill, Arcadio Yurem Monter Perez, Cali Dawn Pearce, Carli Brynn Smith, Kamrynne Elizabeth Smith, Logan Alexander Stone, Bella Joan Thomas, Bree Davis Thomas

5th Grade - Madison Leigh Butler, Vanesa De La Sancha Arroyo, Logan Emmanuel Ellis, Kileigh Paige Martin

6th Grade - Jose Luis Alva Ibarra, Brayden Marcus Brewer, Jacob Avery Davis, Keyle De La Sancha Arroyo, Timothy Isaac Hurley, Aidan Thomas Kirk, Sallie Faith Oldham, Payten Diane Suits, Gavin Richard Vanderford

7th Grade - Trinity Akili Brooks, Amani Nacole Carter, Tianna Krisden Clay, Haylee Espinoza-Mundo, David Morales Hernandez, Angie Paola Nava-Erazo, Gracie Enid Nava-Erazo, Nora Grace Taylor

8th Grade - Caroline Grace Austin, Rachel Dawn Batten, Lilly May Davis, Johann Gonzalez Velazquez, Aidan Scott Holton, Makaylah Alise McIver, Hunter McKenzie Owens, Dillon Tyler Ray, Shane Robert Russell, Brittany Faye Woody

CHATHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS

6th Grade - Nicolas Agundiz, Keiry Archila,

Makayla Headen, Aidan Hernandez, Vianey Jimenez, Vickie Lian Cristian Lopez, Kayle Maxfield, Emily Rodriguez, Pablo Sanchez, Benny Tomas, Fabiola Vasquez, Heidi Vicente

7th Grade - Stephanie Aleman, Yazmin De la Sancha, Parker Everhart, Britney Guzman, Yazmin Lopez, Sophia Murchison

8th Grade - Lizzie Bare, Jillian Bogart, Jason De Paz, Christian Garcia, Alex Globuschutz, Fatima Lavariega, Miranda Lopez, Darely Martinez, Nayeli Martinez, Vanessa Martinez, Ian McMillian, Estefani Merida, Ziomara Ramirez, Sherlyn Ramos, Karsyn Vann

A/B Honor Roll

6th Grade - Irene Aguilar, Lea Benitez, Dalia Botello, Zariya Brantley, Erick Calito, Davis Clark, Stacy Duran, Cassidy Graves, Ashton Johnson, Aleigh Locklear, Taylor Mcleod, Alfredo Muñoz, Evelin Noval, Aurick Osorio, Victor Padilla, Dulce Pascual, Dulce Pineda, Jonathan Vasquez, Leslie Velasco, Tyner Williams, Alexis Wilmoth, Dulce Zarco

7th Grade - Samuel Achaibar, King Aguiluz, Nyria Alston, Christian Canela, Jocelyn Cano, Adasofia Davis, Jacqueline De La Sancha, Callie Fogleman, Debora Francisco, Kimberly Fuñez, Jose Gabriel, Anastasia Glasgow, Kamori Green-LittleJohn, Elijah Hughes, Sophia Korpela, Carolyn Lucero, Natalie Morales Zagada, Brillet Olvera, Jeyson Ramirez, Alessandra Rodriguez, Xiomara Rosales, Minanyeli Soto, Zurisaddai Tomas-Cabanas, Christanne Watson-Williams, Cameron Webber

8th Grade - Heidi Aguirre, Ellie Benitez, Judith Berrios, Lia Carter, Julio Ciriaco, Jose Corona, Kia Cutler, Aidee Davalos, Kevin Dominguez, Zaira Espinoza, Jy' mir Fuller, Yahir Gonzalez, Cameron Gooch, Janeyra Guerrero, Anthony Guox, Dulce Hernandez, Emanuel Herrera, Jody Herrera, Samantha John, Carime Lozano, Zarela Marino, Hanniah Martinez, Azaria Mason-Pender,

Jose Mendez Martinez, Briseydi Nava, Angeles Peters, Drake Purvis, Avi Quevedo, Brandon Rodriguez, Clara Rojas, Victoria Romero, Jair Ruiz, Anthony Santiago, Reagon Smith, Iris Sibrian, Lizbeth Tellez, Andrey Ureña, Kenia Uribe-Araiza, Makayla Vargas, Lindsey Vasquez, Vanessa Vasquez

HORTON MIDDLE SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS

5th Grade - Samuel Bachelor, Christian Benitez, Evan Bland, Ava Bonham, Emma Cason, Aiden Cisneros, Shayla Cork, Augustus Dillon, Layla Eubanks-Alston, Rowan Fisher, Jackson Freeman, Acharry Goldston, Laura Hackney, Nathan Hartline, Owen Hearn, Peyton Howard, Joshua Johnson, Brayden Meulendyke, Dominic Novello, Charlotte Oakley, Campbell Parks, Ashley Perry, Isaac Pica, Kayla Richard, Alexi Satterwhite, Asher Savage, Savanna Stubbs, Chloe Waldstein, Evelyn Warf, Adelyn Wolter, Annagrace Zarembo

6th Grade - Riley Addison, Sulima Arias, Cattia Blake, Allison Bryant, Nathalia Collazos, Madison Creech, Briana Graham, Imani Henderson, Sophia Herbst, Kody Holder, Justin Kay, Miquel Kirkman, Ethan Klier, Grant Knoll, Kendal Lee, Shae Leighton, Zia Lucero, Ishaan Patel, Dylan Perry, Ben Porter, Ashlynn Poston, Amber-Rena Ross, Tessa Schouten, Owen Zsuppan

7th Grade - Melissa Bolainez Benitez, Hayes Burleson, Sarah Carson, Sara-Liana Delgado, Max Effrein, Noah Emery, Johanna Flores, Matthew Haley, Elizabeth Hall, Gavin Maley, Sarah Anne Murrell, Roger Rosada Mijanos

8th Grade - Imani Bascoe, Jacqueline Basilio, Anna Bolejack, Jaylynn Bostic, Michaela Bowling, Ryan Brinker, Marissa Clouse, Allison Elmore, Andeea Gaytan Rangel, Cavity Granger, Katelyn Harvey, Javier Henderson, Charley Howard, Kyla Hoylman, Andrew Johnson, Madison Kay, Emma Korey, Parker

Littlefair, Louis Nielsen, Vivienne O'Bryan, Haley O'Neil, Otto Pablo-Baldwin, Adam Paul, Brianna Pica, Katelyn Scheffler, Rokia Sissoko, Celeste Smith, Georgia Squires, Clara Tarlton, Kale Wilcox

A/B HONOR ROLLS

5th Grade - Colton Adams, Andrea Angeles Morales, Nick Armstrong, Farrell Blackburn, Braxton Brooks, Finn Cobler, Kenley Cole, Samuel Cunningham, Mia Davis, Alissa Dillard, Tara DuPont, Hayden Ellis, April Emerson, Edward Grimaldo Vazquez, Eva Haley, Noah Jones, Jakob Keipp, Lillyann Kinney, Iney Mitchell, Jasmine Monroe, Shaun Moreno, Alaina Pinson, Jonathan Rosales Contreras, Brooklyn Sperry, Sole Squires, Charlie Stevens, Brianna Terrell, Dana Terry, Parker Watt, Kelly Wilson, Ashley Womack

6th Grade - Zachary Best, Gavin Daleo, Yareni Delgadillo, Delgado, Easton Evans, Tristen Evans, Joseph Flynn, Olivia Fowler, Shaylah Glover, Jordan Holder, Grant Jacques, Ada Jones, Caden Louder, Jacey Martinez, Quintin Melandsborough, Lillian Pilkington, Ezra Roebuck, Mariah Rudolph, Taylor Thompson, Darci Villani, Hattie Welch

7th Grade - Isaiiah Blair, Ava Boggess, Jacob Boyer, Sadie Burns, Brylee Cothren, Carter Crisp-Sears, John Flynn, Omar Gallegos, Trey Hudson, Emma Langley, Carter Lynch, Skylynn May, Zachary Melville, Rosalinda Ortiz, Jackson Paugh, Josie Quick, Kinsey Roper, Kenley Scott, Jaylen Scurlock, Dakota Smith, Jada Sparrow, Sebastian Villa-Reyes, Abbie Wright, Elizabeth Wellons

8th Grade - Asia Allen, Nataly Chabely Alvarado, Safia Alvarado-Marin, Isabella Brown, Alison Burger, Carleigh Burger, Jon Carlos Calderon, Justin Coker, Noelle Conklin, Elaine Daniels, Ashton Elliott, Guadalupe Espinosa Dominguez, Blake Ferrington, Gus Fisher, Will Fritzsche, Ossiah Gannon, Caroline Garner, Marshall Goller, Charley Gooch, Destiny Grant, Lochlan Haddix, Fernando Herrera-Garcia, Michelle Kirkman, Peter Kundig, Allen Lainfiesta Orellana, William Lara Fonseca, Jake Leighton, Natalia Ortiz, Sariah Rice, Samuel Rogers, Breanna Schwankl, Lindsay Smith, Thomas Springle, Jordan Taylor, Logan Thomas, Steven Thu, Bradden Ukochowvera, Sarah Warford, Rylee Welch, Carson Wright, Amanda Zrubek

See **HONORS**, page B14

Paint Your Own Studio



Current Hours : Tues - Fri 10 to 5 and Sat 10 to 3

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New Hours

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7 DAYS A WEEK

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TOUCHSTONE ENERGY SPORTS CAMP

Central Electric awards two Touchstone Energy Sports Camp Scholarships annually to local students in Chatham, Harnett, Lee, Moore, or Randolph counties. A young man will be selected to attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a young woman will be selected to attend the Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at N.C. State University in Raleigh.

To be eligible to apply, the student must be in the sixth, seventh or eighth grade during the upcoming school year, have permission from a parent or guardian to attend the overnight camp and must provide their own transportation if selected to attend.

The deadline for all applications is March 31.

Visit CEMCPower.com to apply, or to find out more information on the scholarships.



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Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each

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CLASSIFIEDS

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.

REAL ESTATE

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

LAND FOR SALE

LAND FOR SALE IN BEAR CREEK - Contains 2.7 acres and includes a Septic System. Located at 75 E.T. Hanner Road, Bear Creek, NC. Call 919-837-5346. M5,12,19,26,4tp

HOUSE FOR SALE

BRICK RANCH HOME with attached carport; Excellent condition, new roof, new heat exchanger, White Oak hardwood floors, ceramic tile bathroom, masonry fireplace with gas logs. Great neighborhood, large lot with outbuilding. One mile from Siler City city limits. \$129,000; 919-548-1593. M19,26,2tc

OFFICE SPACE RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT. Approximately 2000 sq ft reception office, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

RENTAL APARTMENTS

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. J2,tfnc

POWELL SPRINGS APTS - Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD # 1-800-735-2962, Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, J2,tfnc

FOR RENT

RENTAL - COMMERCIAL, Office Bldg/Church, 900+ sq ft, 6 rooms including kitchen, Handicap ramp and parking. \$650/mo, Siler City, 919-663-3137, M12,tfnc

YARD SALES

MOVING SALE - March 20, Lots of everything, washer & dryer, 2 roll-top desks, bedroom suite, cats/kittens, 113 College Street, Siler City. For directions, call 919-663-2145

BOATS / RVs

FOR SALE: 1988 DOLPHIN 3400 Motor Home, 34,000 mi., \$3,000 OBO, 919-663-1577, M5,12,19,3tp

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, rickyeillingtonauctions@yahoo.com, J2,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, J2,tfnc

SERVICES

HENDRICK SERVICE, Lawn Care, mowing, small back hoe. Will dig up bushes, do storm drain pipes, drive way pipe, cut trees, clean up leaves. 919-548-4609, J10,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

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. J3,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

CREW LEADER - The Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), is a progressive water utility providing water, wastewater and reclaimed water services to the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro and to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. OWASA seeks safety minded individual(s) to supervise the repair and maintenance of the water distribution, sewer collection and reclaimed water main lines. - The Crew Leader is responsible for scheduling, planning and monitoring daily work activities of their assigned crews. These activities include installing water services; repairing water meters; repairing sewer lines; overseeing the grease and cross connection program; operating heavy equipment; completing work orders; using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to locate valves, hydrants, meters, manholes, water and sewer lines in the field; planning and overseeing the maintenance of fire hydrants; performing inspections on water and sewer taps; maintaining easements; video inspection of sewer mains; cleaning sewer mains and investigating customer issues. - Candidates should be self-motivated with the ability and desire to lead others through coaching, team building, setting clear work standards and reviewing progress. Assists the team to fulfill the mission and goals of the organization. Candidates should have excellent written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills. - Position requires six-months to one year of advanced study or training at a community college or technical school with three to five years of relevant experience. Valid North Carolina driver's license required. Candidate must be able to obtain/maintain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Must have the ability to become certified in Water Distribution Grade A and/or Collection System Grade III. Position requires experience using Microsoft Office products. Use of City Works, GIS, and a Computerized Maintenance Management System preferred. Position frequently exerts 50-100 pounds and occasionally exerting over 100 pounds. Candidates must have the ability to work outdoors in all weather conditions and respond to after-hour situations as necessary. - OWASA is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to continuous improvement, sustainability, creativity, diversity and inclusion. - Certified Orange County Living Wage Employer. Salary range \$51,005 - \$78,535 - To complete an application visit www.owasa.org. Closing date is March 30, 2020. M19,1tc

APPRENTICE LINEMAN POSITIONS (Asheboro and Robbins Locations) - Randolph Electric Membership Corporation is currently seeking Apprentice Lineman for the Asheboro and Robbins Office. Successful candidate will preferably have their CDLs and have taken courses on electricity or related areas. To apply go to <https://www.randolphemc.com/careers>. Apply by Wednesday, March 25, 2020. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or veteran status. M12,19,2tc

ARBOR ENTERPRISES - Landscape driver/crew member needed for Pittsboro Company. Arbor Enterprises is hiring experienced landscape workers. North Carolina Drivers License required - Truck and trailer experience - Drug and tobacco free! Benefits. Salary \$15 - \$16 per hour to start, more w/experience and/or horticulture based degree! Call today - Start tomorrow! Perry@Arborenterprises.com, 919-795-9313. M19,1tx

HOMECARE SEEKING, Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive Weekly Pay, CNA's start at \$10.00/hr. & up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call (919) 704-8962 for more info or to apply. F20,27,M5,12,19,26,6tc

CNA - PITTSBORO CHRISTIAN VILLAGE is hiring CNAs. Apply in person, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday, at 1825 East St in Pittsboro. F13,tfnc

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

MISC

VEGETABLE PLANTS READY at Vestal's of 969 Poe Road, Siler City. Call 919-200-3755. M19,26,2tc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **NORMA YORK STOCK** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of May, 2020, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 27th day of February, 2020. Cynthia Claire Stock Waszak Geary, Executrix 124 Cardinal Ridge Road Chapel Hill NC 27516 Eric W. Hinson, Attorney at Law 1709 Legion Rd, Suite 229 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517 F27,M5,M12,M19,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 77 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DELORA ANN MOORE**, 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 May 27, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 27th day of February, 2020. Heather Williamson Whitworth, Administrator 210 River Drive Southport, NC 28461 F27,M5,M12,M19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 404 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED AS Executor of the Estate of **FRANCES ROSALIE MORRIS**, 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 May 27, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 27th day of February, 2020. Leigh Haviland Morris, Executor 1372 Farrington Post Pittsboro, NC 27312 F27,M5,M12,M19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 631 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **THOMAS J. NATLEY AKA THOMAS JOHN NATALEWICZ**, 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 May 27, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 27th day of February, 2020. LAURA MACMILLAN 4932 Steeplechase Lane Hollywood, SC 29449 F27,M5,M12,M19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **WALTER C. LAMBERT**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the Estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of May, 2020, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment. This the 27th day of February, 2020. c/o David A. Burns, Attorney for David M.H. Lambert, Executor of the Estate of Walter C. Lambert 4101 Lake Boone Trail, Ste. 300 Raleigh, NC 27607 F27,M5,M12,M19,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 18 E 365 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **MARY R. LAWRENCE**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before May 27, 2020 or this notice

will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 27th day of February, 2020. Eric Lawrence Administrator 356 E Cornwallis St Pittsboro, NC 27312 F27,M5,M12,M19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 94 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **LUKE GENE LEWIS**, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all creditors that they should present their claims to Naomi B. Lewis, Administrator, c/o Kratt Dedmond & Associates, PLLC, 5623 Duralleigh Road, Suite 111, Raleigh, NC 27612 on or before June 10, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 5th day of March, 2020. Naomi B. Lewis, Administrator Estate of Luke Gene Lewis c/o Kratt Dedmond & Associates, PLLC 5623 Duralleigh Road, Suite 111 Raleigh, NC 27612 M5,M12,M19,M26, 4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against **RICHARD FENTON SMITH** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 15th day of January, 2020, are notified to present them to Alexander Fenton Martson, Executor of the Estate of Richard Fenton Smith in c/o David R. Frankstone, 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 June 11, 2020. 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 Richard Fenton Smith. Those indebted to Richard Fenton Smith are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. David R. Frankstone Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 M5,M12,M19,M26,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 109 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of **BERNIE RAY BARNES** 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 June 5, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 28th day of February, 2020. Carol Ann Wynne, Limited Personal Representative 30060 Benbury Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M5,M12,M19,M26,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 632 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **PAUL GOLDSTON BRIGHT** 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 June 5, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 5th day of March, 2020. Randall Glenn Bright, Executor 1125 River Forks Rd. Sanford, NC 27330 M5,M12,M19,M26,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 112 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Co-Limited Personal Representatives of the Estate of **KATIE LEIGH SANDERS** 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 June 5, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make

immediate payment. This the 5th day of March, 2020. Co-Limited Personal Representatives: 1. Clyde Gilbert Sanders PO Box 4 Siler City, NC 27344 2. Frederick D. Sanders PO Box 1184 Pittsboro, NC 27312 3. Jerry L. Sanders 3949 US 64 W Pittsboro, NC 27312 M5,M12,M19,M26,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 115 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **JOSEPH ALBERT GILBERT** 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 June 5, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 5th day of March, 2020. Joshua Bailey Gilbert, Administrator 3735 Bonlee-Bennett Rd Bear Creek, NC 27207 M5,M12,M19,M26,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against **MARGARET RAMSEY PENNYBACKER** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 9th day of January, 2020, are notified to present them to William George Sunda, Executor of the Estate of Margaret Ramsey Pennybacker in c/o David R. Frankstone, 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 June 18, 2020. 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 Margaret Ramsey Pennybacker. Those indebted to Margaret Ramsey Pennybacker are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. David R. Frankstone Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 M12,M19,M26, A2,4tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE OF NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION CHATHAM COUNTY 20SP8 In the matter of the Foreclosure of a Deed of Trust executed by Donna Jean Davis and Ricky Hunter Davis dated January 22, 2004 and recorded in Book 01081 at page 1086 in the Cha-

tham County Public Registry, North Carolina. **NOTICE OF SALE** Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in the above-referenced deed of trust and because of default in the payment of the secured indebtedness and failure to perform the stipulation and agreements therein contained and, pursuant to demand of the owner and holder of the secured debt, the undersigned substitute trustee will expose for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the usual place of sale at the county courthouse of said county at 2:00PM on March 24, 2020 the following described real estate and any other improvements which may be situated thereon, in Chatham County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described in that certain Deed of Trust executed Donna Jean Davis and Ricky Hunter Davis, dated January 22, 2004 to secure the original principal amount of \$86,275.00, and recorded in Book 01081 at Page 1086 of the Chatham County Public Registry. The terms of the said Deed of Trust may be modified by other instruments appearing in the public record. Additional identifying information regarding the collateral property is below and is believed to be accurate, but no representation or warranty is intended. Address of property: 1084 Foust Rd, Siler City, NC 27344 Tax Parcel ID: 0079578 Present Record Owners: Ricky Hunter Davis and Donna Jean Davis And Being more commonly known as: 1084 Foust Rd, Siler City, NC 27344 The record owner(s) of the property, as reflected on the records of the Register of Deeds, is/are Ricky Hunter



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HIRING CNA's

Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS
Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.
400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMG.com
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

Davis and Donna Jean Davis. The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS, WHERE IS." Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale. Any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. This sale is made

subject to all prior liens and encumbrances, and unpaid taxes and assessments including but not limited to any transfer tax associated with the foreclosure. A deposit of five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is required and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale. This sale will be held open ten days for upset bids as required by law. Following the expiration of the statutory upset period, all remaining amounts are IMMEDIATELY DUE AND OWING. Failure to remit funds in a timely manner will result in a Declaration of Default and any deposit will be frozen pending the outcome of any re-sale. If the sale is set aside for any

reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Trustee or the attorney of any of the foregoing. SPECIAL NOTICE FOR LEASE-HOLD TENANTS: If you are a tenant residing in the property, be advised that an Order for Possession of the property may be issued in favor of the purchaser. Also, if your lease began or was renewed on or after October 1, 2007, be advised that you may terminate the rental agreement upon written notice to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time notice of termination is provided. You may be liable for rent due under the agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination. The date of this Notice is March 3, 2020. Grady I. Ingle or Elizabeth B. Ellis Substitute Trustee 10130 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 400 Charlotte, NC 28216 (704) 333-8107 20-108883 M12,M19,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **NANCY HARRIS RIEFENHAUSER**, deceased, of Cary, NC, are notified to present the same to the undersigned on or before June 13, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. Debtors of decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 12th day of March, 2020. Jane Bossert, Executrix, c/o Sprunger Law PLLC PO Box 91597 Raleigh, NC 27675 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 2020 E 68 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Limited Personal Representatives of the Estate of **BETTY WALL BREWINGTON**, deceased, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at 85B Rocky Knolls, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27516, on or before the 12th day of June, 2020, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 3rd day of March, 2020. Ricky Lee Austin David G. Austin 85B Rocky Knolls Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516 Co-Limited Personal Representatives Gunn & Messick, LLP Post Office Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator of the Estate of **KENNETH LYLE WOOD**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before June 18, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 12th day of March, 2020. RONALD P. COLLINS, Administrator of **KENNETH LYLE WOOD, ESTATE** 117 West Raleigh Street Siler City, North Carolina 27344 919) 663-2533 M12,M17,M26,A2,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 70 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **NAOMI BERMAN** 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 June 12, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 12th day of March, 2020. Jessica Booker, Executrix 803 Spring Dell Lane Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 372 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **JACQUELINE GILLAN PHILLIPS AKA JACQUELINE LEE PHILLIPS**, 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 June 12, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 12th day of March, 2020. Robert Hill, Executor 173 Cardinal Court Pittsboro, NC 27312 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 108 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **JOANNE M. SNEED**, 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 June 12, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 12th day of March, 2020. Julie Sneed Moore, Administrator CTA 404 Colony Woods Dr Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M12,M19,M26,A2,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 560 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DANIEL ENRIQUE SALGADO, JR.**, 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 June 19, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 19th day of March, 2020. DANIEL ENRIQUE SALGADO SR. Administrator 1 Carolina Meadows; Apt 307 Chapel Hill, NC 27517 M19,M26,A2,A9,4tp

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION BEFORE THE CLERK 20 SP 34 JAMES HARVEY BOWDEN, BY AND THROUGH HIS ADMINISTRATOR CTA RONALD P. COLLINS Petitioner vs THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT RUBY SILER GEORGE; THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT ERNESTINE SILER; THE HEIRS BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT SAMMIE WHITE; THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT WILLIS DARK THE HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF JUNIUS BOWDEN; THE HEIRS BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT WILLA MAE BOWDEN STRICKLAND, AND HEIRS, BORN OR UNBORN OF THE DECEDENT ELSIE MORROW, NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION Respondents TO: The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Ruby Siler George The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Ernestine Siler The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Sammie White The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Willis Dark The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Junius Bowden The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Willa Mae Bowden Strickland The Heirs, Born or Unborn of the Decedent Elsie Morrow TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action. The nature of relief being sought is as follows: To determine the heirs of James Harvey Bowden in order to make distributions and close the estate. You are required to make a defense to such pleading no later than the 28th day of April, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the parties seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. This the 10th day of March, 2020. MOODY, WILLIAMS & ROPER, LLP BY: C. TODD ROPER, ESQUIRE ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONERS Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 Telephone: (919) 542-5605 Facsimile: (919) 542-5609 State Bar No. I7206 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 16-CVD-706 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND DEVEISEES OF JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE, et al Defendants NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES OF JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, which may include THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES of KATHY DIANE FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, and any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

NOTICE OF SALE Pursuant to NC Statute 44A, Apex Self Storage shall conduct a public sale of storage spaces 116, 130, 134. Located at 43 Jordan Lake Commons Drive, Apex, NC 27523, Chatham County. Sale shall be conducted at 10:00 AM on the 28th day of March, 2020. All successful bidders shall take possession and remove contents of the space immediately. For information on submitting a bid, call 919-303-2929. Apex Self Storage reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw any item from the sale. M19,M26,2tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 17-CVD-294 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. INGRID COLLETTE CAMPBELL AS TRUSTEE, et al Defendants. **NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION** TO: INGRID COLLETTE CAMPBELL, as Trustee and not Personally Under the provisions of

a Trust Agreement dated the 12th day of May 1998, Known as Trust Number 3401 Hwy. 87 North Land Trust A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 11-CVD-1048 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. SIMON AGUILA et al Defendants NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: SIMON AGUILA and spouse, if any, and any HEIRS, ASSIGNS or DEVEISEES OF SIMON AGUILA and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 16-CVD-706 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND DEVEISEES OF JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE, et al Defendants NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION TO: The HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES OF JOHN ROBERT FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, which may include THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES of KATHY DIANE FOUSHEE and spouse, if any, and any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 17-CVD-296 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY COUNTY OF CHATHAM Plaintiff, vs. THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND DEVEISEES OF MARY A. HUNTER, et al Defendants. **NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION** TO: THE HEIRS, ASSIGNS and DEVEISEES OF MARY A. HUNTER and spouse, if any, or any other person or entity claiming thereunder A pleading seeking relief

against you has been filed in the above-entitled action and notice of service of process by publication began on March 19, 2020. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Foreclosure on tax parcel(s) more completely described in the Complaint, to collect delinquent ad valorem taxes (assessments). Plaintiff seeks to extinguish any and all claim or interest that you may have in said property. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than forty (40) days after the date of the first publication of notice stated above, exclusive of such date, being forty (40) days after March 19, 2020, or by April 28, 2020, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service of process by publication will apply to the Court for relief sought. This the 12th day of March, 2020. MARK D. BARDILL Attorney for Plaintiff NC Bar #12852 310 W. Jones St. P. O. Box 25 Trenton, North Carolina 28585 (252) 448-4541 M19,M26,A2,3tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF SHIRLEY G. HARTMAN NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **SHIRLEY G. HARTMAN**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit them to Gregory Herman-Giddens, as Executor of the decedent's estate on or before June 19, 2020, c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Attorney at Law, 8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 400, Naples, FL 34108, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor. This the 11th day of March, 2020. Gregory Herman-Giddens, Executor c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens, Atty. Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. 8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 400 Naples, FL 34018 M19,M27.A2,A9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of CARROLL WILLIS WRENN a/k/a C. WILLIS WRENN, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of June, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 10th day of March, 2020. Neil A. Wrenn, Executor of The Estate of Carrol Willis Wrenn a/k/a C. Willis Wrenn Post Office Box 665 Siler City, North Carolina 27344 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 665 SILER CITY, NORTH CAROLINA 27344 (919) 742-5614 M19,M26,A2,A9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 19 E 518 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **LISELOTTE EDELTRUD SMITH**, 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 June 19, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 12th day of March, 2020. Walter Butler, Executor 3004 Silk Hope-Gum Springs Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 M19,M26,A2,A94tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **FRANK PRESS**, 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 19th day of June, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 19th day of March, 2020. PAULA PRESS & FREDRIC PRESS, CO-EXECUTORS ESTATE OF FRANK PRESS Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 M19,M26,A2,A9,4tc

BLASTING NOTICE Coastal Quality Construction Interiors, Inc. will be site blasting between the dates Thursday, March 19th through Friday, March 27th. Project Location: Eagles Car Wash 165 East Street, Pittsboro, NC. For safety reasons, we request, that the public avoid this area as much as possible during this time frame. M19,1tc

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FTCC. Fayetteville Technical Community College is now accepting applications for the following positions: Associate Vice President for Curriculum Programs. For detailed information and to apply, please visit our employment portal at: <https://faytechcc.peopleadmin.com/> Human Resources Office Phone: (910) 678-7342. Internet: <http://www.faytechcc.edu>. An Equal Opportunity Employer

FTCC. Fayetteville Technical Community College is now accepting applications for the following positions: Department Chair for College and Career Readiness/AHS

Senior Secretary - Corporate and Industry Training. Part-Time Student Athletics Technician Department Chair - Medical Laboratory Technology. Department Chair for Mammography and Radiography Instructor. Funeral Service Instructor For detailed information and to apply, please visit our employment portal at: <https://faytechcc.peopleadmin.com/> Human Resources Office Phone: (910) 678-7342 Internet: <http://www.faytechcc.edu> An Equal Opportunity Employer

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HONORS:

Continued from page B11

J.S. WATERS SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS
3rd Grade - Wyatt Clewis, Jocelyn Humphrey, Keri Ann Marsh, Remi Maynor, Katey Bell Smith, Lucas Warf

4th Grade - Addison Goldston, Alexis Holt, Cheyenne McLeod, Anellise Sabbagh, Justin Wright

5th Grade - Bryson Alston, Sayvion Burnette, Maddie Kaczmarczyk, Morgan Peele, Caitlyn Smith, Maeson Smith, Addie Williams

6th Grade - James Bain, Skylar Breedlove, Colton Cox, Abigail Cunnup, Evan Cvitkovich, Peyton Douglas, Vance Edwards, Peyton Mashburn, Adrian Rives, Brandon Rives, Simon Sabbagh, Sydney Sellers, Kymami Wagner-Jatta

7th Grade - Reid Albright, Savannah Farace, Luke Gaines, Reagan Goldston, Caleigh Warf, Tanner Winstead

8th Grade - Carolyn Belk, Luke Burkhead, William Carter, Skylar Donner, Shelby Holder, Riley Maynor

A/B HONOR ROLLS

3rd Grade - Me'cai Barrett, Cameron Blankenship, Bree'ana Brewington, Dori Christopher, Zoey Cook, Serenity Cotton, Jayston Gilliland, Nathan McDuffie, Saylor Mitchell, Mollie Oldham, Blaine Reynolds, Carolyn Smith, Tyler Smith, Emery Williams, Xzavion Williams

4th Grade - Brooks Albright, Turner Albright, Payton Brown, Bryan Cheek, Troy Cheek, Kacie Cyr, Reed Douglas, Jacob Edwards, Isabella McDuffie, Jazmyn Perez, Emily Torres Espinoza, Joel Torres Villatoro

5th Grade - Isaa Abdullah, Aubrey Bollinger, Cassidy Bollinger, Zaria Fuller, Cason Hayes, Jaslyn Martin, Yoselin Reyes Francisco

6th Grade - Abigail Beck, Kimara Brim, Joseph Carter, Brooklyn Collins, Michael Cyr, Jagger Emerson, Tera Farace, Karen Juan San Juan, Kaelyn Mallard, Tyler Measamer, Joey Reed, Aashyia Smith, Josiah Staley, Siniyah Utley, Jeremiah Young

7th Grade - Cameron Burkett, Carter Caviness, Makenna Donner, Isaac

Dowdy, Owen Dowdy, James Fulford, Hannah Gullely-Moore, Kaylon Gunter, Yaanda Headen, Joshua Juan San Juan, Alyssa King, Aspen Phillips, Arlene Rios Francisco, Stephen Silhan

8th Grade - Omar Brower, Bobby Carter, Andrea Chavez Soriano, Martin Chavez Lagunas, Chris Cheek, Wesley Clewis, Aden Edwards, Seth Gilliland, Nate Hancock, Ashlynn Humphrey, Nicholas Maness, Tyler Rives, Emma Townsend

MARGARET B. POLLARD MIDDLE SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS

6th Grade - Henry Alaimo, Isaiah Alexander, Karmen Alston, Chloe Ames, Caroline Arnold, Jack Baliff, Anna Bartlett, Caidence Bazemore, Michael Beck, Alexandra Boutin, Jade Brown, Aria Brownnyke, Sydney Burleigh, Amelia Cherry, Penelope Cibulski, Nicole Clamann, William Clark, Elle Cohen, Sydney Colen, Mabel Collins, Gabrielle Coppola, Mariella Culton, Grace Davis, Carter Dell, Michelle DiBona, Colin Dorney, Isabella Ekel, Anna Enlow, Sydney Eubanks, James Flanagan, Sarah Giguere, Isaac Gilligan, Savannah Gilson, Laken Goldenberg-Sheets, Yari Gonzalez-Arias, Sydney Gray, Joseph Greto, Sophie Hayes, Jack Hirschman, Pascale Hlavac, Holden Jarstfer, Natalie Jerkovich, Annika Johansson, Shane Kelley, Chloe Klinker, Andrew Kosturi, Addison Lauren, Tegwin Liggett, Avery Mangum, Tyler Mathews, Claire McGuire, Ryan McNaught, Evan Minor, Emery Misita, Eva Morrison, Theo Nicholas, Cali O'Neill, Claire Oglesbee, Madelyn Pallen, Samuel Parker, Jackson Petrusa, Tuong-Vy Phan, Brooklyn Phillips, Karleigh Purcell, Jaedyn Rader, Brenda Randell, Brayden Ritchea, Renee Rizvi, Gabriel Rogers, Carson Roundtree, Christopher Roundtree, Carson Smith, Robyn Smith, Brenne Sovereign, Braedon Spacek, Emma Stong, Gabriel Suarez, Sanjay Subramani, Aidan Swaine, Alanna Terwilliger, Grace Titler, Madelyn Trunnell, Camille Vick, Waylon Vose, Matthew Wanderski, James Weaver, Colin Wilds, Regan

Willauer, Sophia Willauer, Adrian Willett, Gwyneth Williams, Ty Willoughby, Landon Wooten, Kenton Young, Mackenzie Zelfhof, Abigail Zwahlen

7th Grade - Elizabeth Ackler, Avery Adams, Kendall Anderson, Daniel Andros, Brooks Bae, Caroline Bowman, Johnson Brekke, Joshua Brown, Elizabeth Calhoun, Griffin Ching, Claire Coady, Marina Cofresi, William Cuicchi, Natalia Davis, Cora Dodge, Cade Elmore, Abigail Emrich, Walter Entreklin, Caitlin Erman, Esme Ewy, Cameron Exley, Lance Fernandez, Jett Gabreski, Meredith Gaillard, Alexandre Gallegos Ramirez, Addison Gensler, Ty Gilson, Rylan Girard, Travis Greene, Evan Hepburn, Alexander Hinchman, Alexis Huneycutt, Broden Jones, Mia Kellam, Emma Kirk, Ava Kupka, Ryan Linkhorn, Hazel Mangum, Cassidy Martin, Luke Mattocks, Claire McClintock, Susanna McGuire, Zuzanna Mikolajec, Molly Milsom, Jonah Minges, Taylor Moore, Claire Morgan, Eliza Pardue, Nicholas Perez, Clementina Perry, Jacob Phillips, Fletcher Platt, Michael Pomykala, Jackson Powell, Blake Price, Chloe Price, Leah Riggsbee, Jenna Robinette, Conner Roland, Fiona Scardina-Keele, Gianna Schiavone, Miriam Schulte, Bailey Shadoan, Giovanni Sierra Rojas, Juliet Vanolinda, Jackson Vaughn, Violet Walter, Jacob Weidman, Judith White, Andi Wicker, Rylee Witham, Connor Yalch, Amir Young, Amari Young, Sophia Zamora-Katona, Kaitlyn Zanga

8th Grade - Skylar Adams, Hannah Ajayi, Amber Asher, Christopher Atkins, Nathaniel Avodo, Chiara Battista, Meredith Bean, Madison Beck, Ethan Budlong, Robert Burleigh, Cole Dail, Kate Dydyynski, Benjamin Everest, Megan Fady, Drew Farina, Kaylee Fisher, Carson Fortunes, Frances Gaillard, Anna Gilliam, Amelia Gilligan, Jaxon Goldenberg-Sheets, Sienna Gray, Colin Greco, Mary Hatch, Alessia Iacono, Griffin Jackson, Nicholas Jerkovich, Anna Kappelman, Abby Kava, Julia Krasovich, Jana Lerch, William Little, Eliza Moore, Olivia Nash, Dane O'Neill, Sunday Oo, Callan

Perchinsky, Caroline Porter, Mia Richard, Sara Richardson, Shepherd Rockriver, Willem Sandvik, Sophia Serrano, Clara Silkstone, Maya Sipper, Jarin Stevenson, Alexis Stumpf, Elise Taylor, Asia Thigpen, Ruth Titler, Morgan Turner, Sara Turner, Katelyn Walker, Benjamin Weathers, George Weber, Marcella Willett, Naomi Yokoi-Rankin.

A/B HONOR ROLLS

6th Grade - Emely Banda Molina, Natalie Barnette, Casey Brekke, Alivia Broden, Mya Brower, Victor Bullock, Brandon Burger, Everett Burgert, Claire Cantrell, Ben Christian, Harrison Compton, Grayson Cox, Addison Culbertson, John Daguerre, Nico DeAngelo, America Diaz Rodriguez, Megan Dydyynski, Deanna Evans, Allie Fair, Carlos Gamez Jimenez, Aden George, Ana Gonzalez Banegas, Nicholas Gregory, Natalie Grimaldo-Estrada, Owen Ha, Mary Harris, Robert Harrison, Sara Hartman, Braeden Hazard, Alexandra Helmer, Makae Hilbert, Jacob Hoopes, Olivia Hubbard, Austin Ingram, Owen Jones, Samuel Leonard, Willem Lippers, Christopher MacMillan, Travis Mann, Madison Mann, Fabian Martinez Ornelas, Mary Mendes, Gabriela Nazario, Evan Norris, Ken Oliverio-Sanchez, Luisa Omos, Joseph Palmer, Dylan Patino Guzman, Noah Patterson, Omar Perez Lopez, Sarah Perry, Julia Perry, Jackson Pollack, Liam Priddle, Matthew Quintero Salgado, Mason Ricks, Alyia Roberts, Damian Santiago-Gutierrez, Beckett Silkstone, Christian Siniard, Alexandra Smith, Hailey Stoll, Jackson Talman, Emery Tinervin, Abril Tolentino-Alvarado, Robert Tripp, Ainsley Tuttle, Olivia Waggoner, Ava Walsh, Warren Washington, Kahlese Wharton, Keegan White, Ryan Yoder

7th Grade - Jose Aguiluz Basilio, Asher Aldridge, Valentine Amorim Neto, Layne Armstrong, Arnette Benitez, Ella Blau, Jonathan Booth, Julian Bozzolo, Tabitha Bynum, Isabella Chang, Sophia Crouch, Avery Fauth, Christopher Feliciano Gomez, William Flowers, Charlie Ann George, Avarie Guppton, Tyler Hill, Michael Holleran,

Gilad Holt, Ethan House, Thaddeus Hudec, Margaret Johns, Lilianna Jones, Jayce Konowitz, Lukas Kovar, Brian Krebs, Benjamin Lajoie, Noah Laupert, MaKenzy Lehw, Seamus Leigh, Addison Leviner, Braxton Little, Noah Jack Matthews, Ashlynn Matthews, James McNabb, Darren Moore, Valeria Mora Montiel, Sebastian Morgan, Orion Moulton, Carter Nelson, Wyatt Parker, Jainik Patel, Harlee Pease, Samantha Perez, Cruz Rangel-Dominiguez, Samantha Riggsbee, Lucas Rivadeneira, Emily Robertson, William Scholle, Gunnar Smith, Nathan Smith, Jackson Stoner, Courtney Talbert, Gabrielle Terrell, Finley Vickers, Gabrielle White, Daniel White, Vanessa Wilson, Skyla Wilson.

8th Grade - Rui Aguiar, Iliia Arnold, Evelyn Atkins, Jack Bachelor, Sophia Baliff, Julia Bartlett, Aidan Bearman, Ella Boeckke, Seth Bradley, Lauren Brownnyke, Kelly Buckoski, Jadah Carroll, LaDeja Charles, Ellie Cook, Evan Crouch, Justin Daiker, Misha Danrich, Evan Dean, Olivia Dennis, Roger Eubanks, Giselle Fallas, Elizabeth Goyea, Macy Griffin, Jackson Gustafson, Daniel Hall, Quinn Hennessey, Olivia Hodgkin, MaKenzie Holland, Taylor Johnson, Ruth Juarez-Villatoro, Lauren Keeley, Milo Kelley, Kaleigh Ketron, Emily Lutz, Lucinda Martine, Harris Mendlovitz, Aleksandra Messura, Tanner Morgan, Lily Norman, Sophia Northington, Spencer Ordenez, Ava Orzolick, Andrew Pankow, Andrew Parker, Laila Pollack, Dulce Ramirez Romero, Chloe Rayno, Olivia Robinson, Isabella Rogers, Jayla Ruff, Liam Spatz, Makai Stephens, Madeline Stong, Katelyn Tijerina, Isis Towne, Alyssa Ugurlu, Olivia Van Duinen, Ezekiel Verinder, Samantha Villanueva-Garcia, Elizabeth Walker, Shayna Whitney, Tate Wilson, Zachary Wilson, Brandon Witham, Fiona Xiao, Luiz Ziemke, Kathryn Zucker

4th Grade - Jackson Butcher, Justin Fernandez, Cayden Goodwin, Cooper Julian, Ada Kadwell

5th Grade - Ellie Buczynski, Angie Perez, Ashley Perez, Monae Taylor, Yarezi Acosta-Zamora

6th Grade - Eva Abernathy, Citaly Garcia-Perez, Katie Leonard, Avelyn McLean, Savannah McLean, Lora Morgan, Charlie Murphy, Angel Olvera Rubio, Lauryn Parker, Charlie Patten, Alexa Rueda Ibanez

7th Grade - Mark Crabtree, Jose Cruz Martinez, Ellie Johnson, Tayedon Mansour

8th Grade - Ethan Becker, Connor Durso, Owen Durso, Lacy Jarman, Kate Murphy, Levi Perkins, Dylan Rueda Ibanez, and Jessica Watkins

A/B HONOR ROLLS
3rd Grade - Elise Abernathy, William Bancroft, Ben Galbraith, Eve Godfrey, Nora Hopper, Nancy Gonzalez, Zahra Jones, Jack Roberson, Declan Thomas, Caleb Williams

4th Grade - Jazly Antunez, Alex Gonzalez Silva, Michaela Gunnett, Alyssa Harris, Kaylynn Long, Latrell Murray, Cody Oneal, Ally Parrish, Luke Perkins, Genedy Ramirez, Shayna Sawyer, Brian Soto-Garcia, Javion Trappy, Libby Trujillo, Oliver Vang

5th Grade - Princess Amedakah, Leila Bancroft, Andrew Barbour, Lucas Ferri, Dustin Foushee, Brianna Gaster, Gunnar Goodwin, Samiah Harrington, Kaleb Herring, Mason Hopper, Elliana Mansour, Jacob Partin, Camille Rozzell, Clarissa Silva-Jimenez

6th Grade - Daniel Cardozo Ortiz, Joshua Jeffries, Jeslyn Lewis, Jeremiah Martin, Dawson McGee, Mia Moore, Grace Murphy, Kelsey Myers, Cole Stickney, Jasmine White, Frances Yoak

7th Grade - Michael Amatucci, Juana Bautista Jimenez, Jessica Cummings, Chase Foushee, Ellie Gordon, Ian Henry, Jahil Hill, Skylar Howell, Jordyn Jeffries, Kevin Jones, Brooklyn Lee, Caden Smith, Anson Spinks

8th Grade - Angel Vargas, Kael Bjorndahl, Tyshawn Davenport, Ariel Garcia, Kooper Jones, Claire McLean, Katelyn Parker, Jessika Ray, Sheyenne Roden, Charlie Thomas

MONCURE SCHOOL

A HONOR ROLLS

3rd Grade - Carson Boggs, Daphnie Byelick, Henry Patten, Maddie Shoup, Sadie Smith, Leah Smith

JUST RELEASED: FIRST RESIDENTIAL HOMES IN CHATHAM PARK

Chatham Park, in partnership with Fresh Paint by Garman Homes, announced that public pre-sales for their first residential homes will begin on Thursday, March 19, 2020. Widely anticipated in the marketplace, purchase appointments will be available via invitation only, on a first come, first serve basis.

“The ultimate goal of Chatham Park is to create, what our future residents will consider to be, the perfect community...”

The homes, aptly named The Cottages, will range from 828-1,397 sq. ft., with single story and two story plans, and be priced from the low \$200's. With names like “Hot Chocolate,” “Apple Pie” and “Chicken Noodle Soup,” the home plans offer unique, simple, nostalgic comfort to homebuyers.

“We’re building to deliver an experience-rich, simplistic lifestyle,” says Rebecca McAdoo, Division President of Fresh Paint by Garman Homes.

The size and style of these homes are a direct response to a larger consumer trend showing that more people are desiring smaller homes in order to enjoy greater peripheral benefits, such as walkability and a greater sense of community. All of the Cottages will be walking distance from historic downtown Pittsboro and across The street from a new 10 acre town park, being built by Chatham Park, and Thales Academy school.

“The Triangle marketplace has never seen a home product like this. We are proud to be working with Preston Development Company on the Chatham Park project and believe that this up and coming community is the perfect place to showcase our new offering,” adds McAdoo.



“The ultimate goal of Chatham Park is to create, what our future residents will consider to be, the perfect community and the perfect place for them to call home. That means doing things differently than they’ve ever been done before,” says Vanessa Jenkins, Executive Vice President of Preston Development Company, who is developing Chatham Park. “The Cottages will be the first of many unique neighborhoods here that will cater to niche lifestyle groups, such as minimalist living and artist studios, in order to create a community energized by an expansive diversity of perspectives and talents.”

To receive an invitation for a purchase appointment, interested parties will need to add their name to The

Fresh Paint by Garman mailing list at <https://www.freshpaintbygarman.com/communities/pittsboro/chatham-park>.

The Cottages will be move-in ready by October, 2020 and available for viewing at the Triangle Parade of Homes next fall.

To learn more, contact Fresh Paint by Garman Homes at 800.560.1160, SayHello@GarmanHomes.biz or visit their website [freshpaintbygarman.com](https://www.freshpaintbygarman.com).



Visit us at [ChathamPark.com](https://www.ChathamPark.com)