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Phil Senter, J-M's longtime football coach, dies after fall, PAGE B1

Chatham News + Record

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'THIS WAS VERY DIFFERENT'

First day of school: Teachers adjust to remote learning

Technology runs smoothly, teachers enjoy seeing students

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN learning programs.

News + Record Staff

On Monday, schools across the country started the school year — many doing so remotely. In North Carolina, only a few hours into the first day, the crashing of online student information system NCEdCloud temporarily left families and students across the state unable to access their school's online

At Chatham County Schools which will continue under the remote learning Plan C for at least nine weeks in response to COVID-19 — the first day went smoothly. That's partial-ly because CCS is not using NCEdCloud, which manages PowerSchool and Canvas education tools, to distribute remote learning materials.

"We're actually good to go,"

CCS Public Relations Coordinator John McCann said Monday. 'Our learning management systems are routed internally."

The only impact of the statewide outage of the tool for CCS, McCann said, was that attendance had to be tracked manually by counselors and social workers instead of through the system.

The CCS Board of Education unanimously extended Plan C at the district's public schools from four to nine weeks at its Aug. 10 meeting. Prior to the board extending the remote-learning period, Superintendent Derrick Jordan said

the county was much better prepared to provide remote instruction this semester than they were in March.

'Folks should expect it to be absolutely better than what it was," Jordan said at that meeting, adding that additional structure to remote learning this semester, such as attendance and grading policies, were a big part of that. "It won't be perfect. There will still be hiccups. But I see that folks will be better positioned to navigate given the lessons that we were able

See SCHOOL, page A3

MORE SCHOOL-RELATED STORIES, PAGE A3

FOOD: What you need to know about Plan C meal services

SEAFORTH HIGH SCHOOL: Not everyone's pleased with Scenario 3 for new school's attendance zone

'IT'S NOT REALLY THE SAME' Twin Birch navigates new world without in-person events

BY VICTOR HENSLEY News + Record Correspondent

SILER CITY — The coronavirus pandemic has been anything but kind to the arts.

From large-scale music festivals to small-town theater productions, events across the country have been canceled, leaving many artists with a void in their 2020 calendars.

For Sue and Richard Szary, co-owners of Twin Birch & Teasel and Twin





Elections Board split on Sunday early voting; state to consider on Aug. 31

> **BY CASEY MANN** News + Record Staff

The N.C. Board of Elections will consider — and eventually rule — on early voting plans for Chatham and 18 other counties during a specially called meeting Aug. 31. The announcement comes after Chatham's Board of Elections split along party lines on the question of whether to include Sunday

Birch Products, Siler City based businesses specializing in the production of handcrafted fiber art tools, it isn't much different.

Fiber art is created using textiles such as natural and synthetic fibers, yarn or fabric.

In a typical year, the Szarys attend between 10 and 12 fiber art shows, where they bring and sell their products to different communities, traveling as far north as Michigan and as far south as Georgia. Each of the shows they had scheduled for this year have been canceled.

Twin Birch owners Sue and Rich Szary stand outside their downtown Siler City store, which also houses studios for customers. "This year we decided

to buy a lovely camper for when we do all of these shows, so we could have our camper and we could kind of have the whole ex-

perience instead of staying at hotels," Sue Szary said. "Well, now we've got this lovely camper sitting on our property in anticipation of when the show

season starts again." Sue has control over the company's marketing, shipping, packaging and

See NAVIGATES, page A12

Staff photo by Bill Horner III

voting in its 2020 early voting plan. At a July 21 meeting, the five-member local body met to discuss early voting, polling sites and election day plans. Sunday voting was a topic because prior to the meeting, the board received emergency orders sent to each of the state's 100 counties from the N.C. Board of **Elections Executive Director Karen Brinson** Bell stating that any early voting plan should have at least 10 hours of voting during the weekends of early voting, as well as encouraging early voting on Sundays throughout the early voting period.

The local elections board also heard about 40 comments from Chatham County residents during the meeting advocating for expanded early voting to include Sunday hours.

According to the draft minutes, Chatham

See VOTING, page A7

CHATHAM CHAT | ALYSSA BYRD, CHATHAM EDC

Departing EDC president reflects on last decade, Chatham's future

Alyssa Byrd, the president of the Chatham Economic Development Corporation, will be leaving the posi-



tion Aug. 28 to lead the economic development efforts for the town of Fuquay-Varina in Wake County. This week, on the eve of her departure, we spoke with Byrd about her nearly 10 years working for the EDC, the state

Bvrd

of Chatham County now, her new position and how she views Chatham's future.

You've been with the EDC for about 10 years now, and it's been a real transition for you - coming in as a communications specialist and then being interim president and now president. How difficult is it for you to leave the EDC, given that you've dedicated the last 10 years of your life to it?

I have been so lucky to have great mentors within the EDC working under

Diane Reid, and then Kyle Touchstone. They are excellent economic development professionals, and even within the greater region this is a very supportive industry. So, across municipal lines, I've worked with some exceptional professionals. I've been very fortunate in that sense. And leaving the organization is very difficult because of the many strong and meaningful relationships I've developed within Chatham County.

So not having that day to day interaction with some of the best people that I know is the hardest part of leaving, but I do feel fortunate that I'm staying in this region and I know that Chatham County's growth and the region's growth will impact what I do going forward.

How will the new job in Fuquay-Varina be different from what you're doing now?

See BYRD, page A11

Briar Chapel sewer company struggles continue

BY CASEY MANN News + Record Staff

The troubles for Old North State Water Company in Briar Chapel — and Envirolink, the company which manages its operations — continue.

Old North and Envirolink have been plagued with problems of sewer spills in the Briar Chapel community. The town of Pittsboro severed its contract with the company for the operation of the **Reclamation Plant under construction** in Pittsboro on Aug. 10. At the same time, a the developer of Williams Corner, planned for the area, has temporarily put his project on hold. In addition, the companies' attempts to connect the Briar Chapel system to the aging system at Fearrington Village has again been delayed.

Some history

Since 2016, Briar Chapel's sewer lines have spilled more than 47,000 gallons of raw sewage with nearly 39,000 gallons estimated to have reached surface water, according to the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality. This year alone, more than 15,000 gallons of sewage has made its way to surface water from the community's sewer lines.



File photo

This is a photo of an untreated sewage spill that occured on Sept. 7 in Briar Chapel. An estimated 47,000 gallons of untreated sewage have spilled in the community since 2016.

The system is owned by Old North State Water Company and maintained by Envirolink. The relationship between the two

See STURGGLES, page A12

IN THE **KNOW**

Olivia Rojas: What it's really like at UNC-Chapel resume water/sewer shut-Hill right now. PAGE A9

Town of Siler City to offs in September. PAGE A10 design. PAGE B1

brand marries performance,

Carolina Waters: locally-born 'We are still here.' Siler city's Hispanic businesses staying afloat. PAGE B7



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ON THE AGENDA

 ${\boldsymbol{\cdot}} \operatorname{The} {\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Pittsboro}}} \operatorname{\mathsf{Board}} {\boldsymbol{\mathsf{of}}}$ Commissioners will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, August 21 from the Pittsboro Town Hall. This is a virtual meeting. For more information, contact Pittsboro Interim Town Clerk Cassandra Bullock at cbullock@pittsboronc.gov.

CANCELLATIONS

 Chatham County Council on Aging: both centers are closed at this time until further notice. If you need to pickup supplies, call the Siler City or Pittsboro location or check our website: chathamcoa.org.

 Chatham County Historical Museum: For the safety of visitors and volunteers, the Chatham County Historical Museum is closed until further notice. See our website: https://chathamhistory.org.

 Chatham Community Library: Closed to the public at this time.

WEDNESDAY

• Wake Up Wednesday will host its virtual networking meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 19 with this month's speakers Kim

Bennett with WordJack Media and Heather Johnson, owner of Chatham **Business Services.** Zoom meeting ID: 826 0647 0013 Please start logging on at 8 a.m. to take care of any technical issues you may encounter.

THURSDAY

${\boldsymbol{\cdot}} \operatorname{The} {\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Pittsboro}}} {\boldsymbol{\mathsf{Farmers}}}$ Market is open with seasonable items year-round from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays. They are located at 287 East St., Pittsboro.

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

SATURDAY

 ELECTION 2020 - VOTER **REGISTRATION DRIVES:** Bi-Partisan, Open to All! Will be hosted from 1 to 3 p.m. on Aug. 22, Sept. 5, and Sept. 19 by the First Missionary Baptist Church in Siler City located at 914 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. To verify your current registration status, visit: https:// vt.ncsbe.gov/RegLkup/

UPCOMING

• United Way is seeking volunteers for their First Day of Service event, that will take place on Thursday, Sept. 3. This is a free community service event that pairs volunteers with projects for local non-profits to make an impact where it's needed most in Chatham County. There are multiple volunteer project sites around the county, and even remote and contactless donation drives for everyone to get involved. To view a list of community service projects and donation drives, please visit www.UnitedWayof-ChathamCounty.org/Dayof-Service and sign up before Tuesday, Sept. 1.

• A community COVID-19 testing will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29 at Staunton Memorial CME Church, 230 Credle St., Pittsboro. This is free and open to the public. Sponsored by: StarMed Healthcare, To Sign-up visit: StarMed Healthcare at www. StarMed.care.

 Chatham Community Library is offering free classes on genealogy basics, and job interview skills in August. While the library is closed, all classes will be presented virtually via GoToMeeting. A description of each class and a registration link can be found at www. chathamnc.org/ComputerClasses. Genealogy 101: 3 p.m. on

Tuesday, August 25; Job Interview Skills: 3 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26; For more information, call 919-545-8086 or email reference@chathamlibraries.org. A full list of upcoming programs can be found on the library's

events calendar.

Central Carolina

Community College will offer the Teacher Preparation degrees this fall. To register for the programs, visit www.cccc.edu/ apply-register/ or call **CCCC** Student Services at 919-718-7300. Students can earn an Associate in Science - Teacher Preparation degree or Associate in Arts – Teacher Preparation degree in only two years, and then transfer to a four-year institution and enter as a junior. These degrees allow students to pursue a teaching degree in the K-12 field of education.

ALSO HAPPENING

 Second Bloom of Chatham is accepting Fall/Winter donations during regular store hours, Tues. - Sat., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Due to space limitations, a two bag/boxes maximum. We accept clean, new and gently used men and women's clothing, shoes, accessories and jewelry. We accept credit cards. We are located on the Courthouse circle at 10 Sanford Rd., Pittsboro. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.

• With COVID-19 sweep-

ing the country, artists' livelihoods are being challenged like never before. The Chatham Arts Council has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort. For more information on CAARE. or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.

JMArts hosted a JMA-CoronaConcert via Twitter featuring performances submitted by JM students and faculty. Concerts can be viewed on its Twitter account @JMArts and by using the hashtags #JMA-CoronaConcert performances and #JMACoronaConcert program.

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

 Volunteers Needed – Nonprofit agencies in Chatham seek teen volunteers to help with many projects. Teens can help at food pantries, in gardens, fundraising proj-

ects, office work, and care for animals. Chatham Connecting website lists many volunteer opportunities for youth. See where you are needed to help in the community: www.chathamconnecting. org.

Foster and/or adoptive

information — Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent. Call 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.

Montesinos joins News + Record's 'La Voz' project team

CN+R Staff Report

Patsy Montesinos, a senior journalism student at UNC-Chapel Hill, will help produce multimedia stories for the News + Record's La Voz de Chatham project, Publisher Bill Horner III has announced.

English-language newscast. produced a radio show and reported for her school's sportscast. Her coverage of Venezuelans, which she reported from Colombia, won a national award from the Society of Professional Journalists. In addition, her coverage of a series

school's Spanish- and



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She joins lead reporter Victoria Johnson for La Voz, funded by the Facebook Journalism Project's COVID-19 Relief Fund. The News + Record was awarded a \$30,300 grant from Facebook for the project, designed to cover the impact of COVID on Chatham's Latinx community.

"La Voz de Chatham was the perfect project for me," Montesinos said. "I've always wanted to be part of a project that was about making an impact on the community, especially mine. I wanted to study journalism to find stories that matter, and that wouldn't be told otherwise. In a time like this, with a pandemic, people have been more aware of the news, but that doesn't mean communities of color are being prioritized. People need to know that Latinx folks are being affected at a higher rate, especially in North Carolina, and it's essential to understand why. That's what La Voz de Chatham is here to do; we aim to tell these kinds of stories.³

Montesinos has served as a producer for her

of campus crimes won a regional award from the Society of Professional Journalists.

Born in North Carolina to two Mexican immigrant parents, Montesinos moved to Mexico at age 10, and returned to North Carolina at age 15 and decided to pursue nalism.



"Patsy is a versatile and gifted storyteller, and we're fortunate to have her as a part of this project," Horner said. "She'll work part-time for us throughout the fall as we continue to tell important stories from our Latinx community.'

Montesinos and Johnson — a 2020 graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill's Hussman School of Journalism and Media and a native of Greensboro — have published a number of stories on La Patsy Montesinos, a senior at UNC-Chapel Hill, has joined the News + Record's 'La Voz' project.

Voz de Chatham's Facebook page and on the News + Record's website. Some of the stories they have covered include a story about COVID-19 testing in Chatham County with an accompanying multimedia video, a narrative piece written by Lendy Cerna Carias, who immigrated to the U.S. from Guatemala, and more. Johnson and Montesinos have also translated a number of evergreen pieces that were previ-

ously published by the News + Record. If you are interested in submitting a story to La Voz de Chatham or would like to discuss what type of stories you'd like to see La Voz de Chatham cover, you can contact Victoria Johnson at victoria@ chathamnr.com. You can also stay up to date with the project by following our Facebook Page, La Voz de Chatham.

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What you need to know about Plan C meal services

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN News + Record Staff

After five months of providing free meals to children 18 years old and under, CCS School Nutrition Services will resume its normal school breakfast and lunch programs on Aug. 31. Under this program, meals will only be available to enrolled CCS students through 12 curbside pickup sites, with mobile routes ending Aug. 28.

CCS School Nutrition Services announced this decision last week after the department learned extensions of eligibility waivers and additional state funding would likely not be passed — meaning they could not continue to fee d the community at large through the summer food service program.

Between March 17 to Aug. 14, CCS provided 388,050 free meals in Chatham County, said Jennifer Özkurt, the director of school nutrition services for CCS.

"We're trying to just stay as consistent as possible, because families are having to deal with so much change right now," Özkurt said. "Last week, we got notification that it was unlikely that those waivers were going to be passed, meaning that we will not be able to feed the community at large, so the only other option we have is to go back to the standard (programs)."

At the beginning of the pandemic, 46% of Chatham County's public school students received free and reduced price meals, the News + Record reported in May. Even before the economic impacts of the coronavirus hit, there were already a number of students around 4,200, Özkurt said at the time — who relied on the school system for regular meals.

From March 17, the start of the district's COVID-19 meals guidelines, CCS averaged 25,532 meals per week through June 12 and 7,017 meals per week during summer feeding, June 21 to Aug. 14. Özkurt said this downward trend is typical of most summers, and that sites provided free meals to and children 18 years or older through the summer.

CCS meals under Plan C

As was the case during the summer, meals can be picked up between 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays at the district's 12 pickup sites. Friday meals will still be available for pickup on Thursday.

Starting Aug. 31, a PowerSchool student ID or student meal account number must be presented at time of pickup by the student, parent or guardian. Meals will be applied to a student's ac-count, Özkurt said, "just like in a normal school year." Families must apply by Oct. 7 for free and reduced price meals, with only one application per family needed. Applications can be completed online at www.lunchapplication.com or picked up at schools. Paper application can be returned to schools, central office or mailed to P.O. Box 128, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

"I'm encouraging every single family to apply right now," Özkurt said. "It's just a quick and easy service. And that's one thing parents are not having to worry about this school year."

The district is encouraging people to fill out an online application, as it is the most accurate and efficient method — all applications are processed within 72 hours of being received, which means online applications get processed more quickly than paper applications that must be mailed.

Families apply for benefits based on their income, Özkurt said, with household with incomes at or below 130% of the federal poverty level eligible for free school meals, and households with incomes between 130 to 185% of that level eligible for reduced price school meals. For the 2020-21 school year. students who qualify for reduced price meals will also have their breakfast and lunch fully covered, thanks to the passage of House Bill 1023, which transfers funds from school bus replacements into school nutrition. Normally, the co-pay for reduced meals is no more than 40 cents.

Ozkurt said she is anticipating more students will receive free or reduced price meals this year, based on the negative economic impacts of the pandemic and high unemployment rates in the state. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in North Carolina was 7.6% in June. This rate marks a significant fall from May, when the rate was 12.8%, but it's more than double the state's pre-pandemic rate of 3.6% in January.

"We know that many people are having to make that sacrifice to stay home with their children because there children are at home," she said. "So if you just kind of look at all the variable factors related to the school, I know that there's going to be that need and people should just really take advantage of the service

that is there."

Moving forward

The Board of Education announced Aug. 10 that the fully remote learning option, "Plan C," would be extended at CCS from four weeks to nine weeks. Still, the CCS nutrition program is already preparing for the possibility of Plan B — and potentially more meals to prepare.

"We've been planning," Özkurt said. "But you plan with so many unknowns, and it will be a work in progress, we know that."

She added that the department currently anticipates in-class feeding for both breakfast and lunch, which she said would be the least complex option for distributing meals. Under this option, meals would be ready for students when they arrive to school and dropped off for lunch. She said the schools are completing state-provided trainings and doing mock runs to practice safety precautions and plan for various scenarios.

Through all the planning, she said she's emphasized one thing: flexibility.

"I told them in our back to school meeting this week, every day, I could be saying one thing in the morning and then have to come and retract

12 CCS MEALS PICKUP SITES:

Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bennet School Bonlee School •Horton Middle School •JS Waters School Jordan Matthews High School •Moncure School •North Chatham Elementary School Margaret B. Pollard Middle School •Siler City Elementary School •Silk Hope School •Virginia Cross **Elementary School** Chatham Center for Innovation

or lead vou in a different direction and we just have to accept it and move forward," she said. "The one thing that we're all really kind of positive about is that these changes due to the pandemic, are actually creating some good spotlight on our program as a whole and how really essential we are — that we kind of just been overlooked as a department - and that has really boosted their self esteem and they feel valued."

Reporter Hannah Mc-Clellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

SEAFORTH ATTENDANCE ZONE

Not everyone's pleased with Scenario 3 for new high school

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN News + Record Staff

The Chatham County Board of Education voted unanimously last week to approve Scenario 3 for Seaforth High School's attendance zone.

After months of public input sessions overwhelmingly supporting Scenario 2, some community members are disappointed in the board's decision at its Aug. 10 regular meeting. In their support of Scenario Two, many citizens stated signifCounty resident Kimrey Rhinehardt said. "I feel that Scenario 2 gave both Northwood and Seaforth the best chance. A lot of other people share my opinion the board disagrees, but I'm just I'm very disappointed by their decision."

Gary Leonard, chairman for the Board of Education. told the News + Record that there were five priorities balancing capacity utilization, demographic balancing, maintaining feeder school patters, maximizing student proximity to existing schools and minimizing reassignment impact - and 11 "benefits" the board used to come to its decision. He said the benefits, all details under each of the five priorities, were "outgrowths of the board members' discussions" over the last three years.

rectly across the street from the entrance to Northwood to Seaforth, which is approximately 9 miles away," Leonard said, referring to the building of Chatham Park North across from Northwood High School's entrance in Pittsboro. The 7,100-acre Chatham Park mixed-use development is expected to add over 20.000 homes to Pittsboro over the next three decades, with the homeside across from Northwood currently expected to be complete in 2025. "Scenario 3 also does a slightly better job of bal-

and socioeconomic diversity at Seaforth than the other scenarios. Under Scenario 2, OREd projected 60.7% white students at Seaforth and 65% at Northwood, while under Scenario 3 there would be 64.2% white students at Seaforth 62.3% at Northwood. In regards to socioeconomic diversity, Scenario 2 would have 34.5% of Seaforth students receiving free and reduced lunch and 24% of Northwood students. Under Scenario 3. those trends are flipped, with 24.9% of Seaforth students receiving free and

accomplish this from the start, not 10 years from now with the buildup of Chatham Park North. 2020 has been a year of reckoning. With so much social and racial injustice, I cannot sit by and be silent when I feel so strongly that Scenario 3 is unjust and partial to those that have more."

In an email sent to Superintendent Derrick Jordan and Blice, she raised concerns over Briar Chapel being taken from Northwood's attendance zone, stating: "When you remove a large development like Bridaughter's had an incredibly fabulous experience there," Rhinehardt said. "When I look at what's there now, and then I think about cutting that in half in five years — just what does that look like? What are the programs? There's been no discussion of that."

Data from OREd said Chatham Park will likely generate an equal number of high school students at Northwood as at Briar Chapel between 2027 and 2031, a finding that Leonard said influenced the board's decision. He praised the work of Superintendent Jordan and the other board members and said he was confident of their committed efforts to give all students a quality education. "We knew this would be a complex project. That's why we started so early, Leonard said. "I believe that this was the best choice the board could make at this time.' Seaforth is set to open in fall 2021 to 9th and 10th graders, and will eventually support 1,200 students. Northwood currently has 1,400 students but according to OREd projections, will have approximately 1,056 students in 2021-22 and 781 by 2025-26 under Scenario 3.

icant concern about other options that would "cluster affluence" at Seaforth. The new high school, located off of U.S. Hwy. 64 near Jordan Lake, configured its attendance zone from the existing Northwood High School attendance zone, due in no small part to significant overcrowding at Northwood.

"There are consequences for these kinds of decisions," Chatham "One of the biggest factors that determined my vote for Scenario 3 was that Scenario 2 would have sent students that would live di-



ancing the racial makeup of the two schools."

The board partnered with N.C. State's Operations Research and Education Laboratory (OREd), a third-party evaluation research group that assists with school planning processes, to gather such data to help make the rezoning decision. Leonard said the board was focused on balancing the racial makeup of the two schools more than yielding higher diversity demographics at the new high school.

Scenario 2 zones Briar Chapel to Northwood and all of Chatham Park to Seaforth and Scenario 3 zones Briar Chapel to Seaforth and Chatham Park splits between Northwood and Seaforth. Based on demographic data provided by OREd, Scenario 2 would yield slighly more racial reduced lunch and 34.5% of Northwood students.

Marti Rivadeneira, a middle school parent in Chatham, began communication regarding her concerns with Chris Blice, CCS chief operations officer, in early June. After the vote, she was particularly upset that Briar Chapel would now end up with another new school, after already being zoned at Margaret B Pollard Middle School and Chatham Grove Elementary.

"Scenario 2 is the best option we have. Scenario 2 creates two high schools of equal size. Scenario 2 creates two high schools of comparable socio-economics. Scenario 2 creates two high schools of similar diversity," Rivadeneira wrote in an email to the board members prior to the Aug. 10 meeting. "Scenario 2 will ar Chapel, you also pull the private funds and support those families bring."

Rhinehardt, who is a parent of a student at Northwood, said she wished there had been more focus about how to keep Northwood strong, rather than centering Seaforth's needs in most board conversations.

"There was no discussion of how do we maintain the academic rigor and opportunities at both schools — it can't just be about butts in seats," she said.

She echoed Rivadeneira's concerns about cutting Northwood's student population too quickly.

"I'm a parent of a student at Northwood High School that this will not affect, so I'm coming from a place of, 'I care about my community.' I care about Northwood High School because my

Reporter Hannah Mc-Clellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

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SCHOOL

to learn as a result of the quick pivot last semester."

Continued from page A1

For first-grade teacher Debbie Bitting, who has been an educator for 30 years and teaches at the new Chatham Grove Elementary School, it was clear her students loved seeing their friends and teachers, even if virtually.

"Today, seeing them on Zoom, it was like my heart just exploded," Bitting said. "I saw all their smiling faces, and it felt real. It was really a good experience."

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper ordered all schools to close for two weeks starting March 16 to slow the spread of the coronavirus, later extending the in-person closure through the end of the school year. Cooper's original announcment came over the weekend, meaning many students and teachers didn't know their last in-person class was the last. The quick pivot to online and remote learning made for an overwhelming transition for students.

parents and teachers alike. The governor an-

nounced July 14 that schools would open the fall semester under the hybrid learning Plan B, stating that "there are no decisions more important than our children in our schools." At the time, he said individual school systems could opt for the fully remote Plan C option. At a news conference at the beginning of the month where he also extended Phase Two until Sept. 11 he shared that half of the state's K-12 school districts were offering remote learning, with the other half offering some form of in-person learning.

As people continue to adapt to changes brought by the pandemic, teachers across the state — including those in Chatham are working to make the most of remote learning.

Laurie Page, an educator for 21 years, teaches at Chatham Central High School and said day one "this time around" was different, but not necessarily bad.

"It was a good day," she said. "Lots of getting used to the new learning style, but good." Altangla Harrison, who's been an educator for 27 years, teaches 5th grade at Chatham Grove Elementary School. She's dediated to making remote learning work for her students, even if it's not the same for her without students in the classroom. Harrison led several get-to-know-you activities with her students to help make the most of virtual learning and, all in all, she said it was a good day.

"This was very different, not actually being in the classroom physically with the children and feeling their excitement and getting to know them personally," Harrison said. "I think that it's just going to take more time to get to know them."

The earliest CCS can move to any form of in-person learning is during the last week of October, which coincides with many of the school's end-of-grading quarters. At this time, fully in-person learning known as Plan A — is not an option for any district in North Carolina.

Reporter Hannah Mc-Clellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com.

VIEWPOINTS

On unflattering photographs, age and neuroses

I was startled — a better de-scriptor might be "shaken" —



one morning this past week after opening an email newsletter which included a picture of a sports figure I know. "Mer-

BILL HORNER III Publisher + Editor

cy,"I exclaimed aloud. "How'd he get so old?

It wasn't a totally unattractive picture. The photo showed Ted Leonsis, a former AOL executive and the wealthy owner of several professional sports teams, including hockey's Washington Capitals, the NBA's Washington Wizards and the WNBA's Washington Mystics. Ted was shown smiling and wearing his Mystics 2019 championship ring — which probably paired well with his Stanley Cup ring, earned with the Capitals' National Hockey League title in 2018.

The ring looked great. Leon-

sis? Well, not so hot. Smiling, distinctive, and a champion but much more frail and much grayer that I remembered him. Older. Definitely older.

As a hockey fan and an admirer of great sports team owners — Leonsis is among the best — his is a trajectory I've followed for years. I've read dozens of stories about him and seen his likeness many, many times, but until this one, every single picture I've seen of Leonsis shows a more robust, beefier man who seemed more sturdy and less...well, old.

I realize it's just a picture, and Leonsis is "just" 63. But all of a sudden he's looking ancient.

'Old" may be a state of mind; still, we all know it's also a number that only gets higher, never lower. My own number — my age — will be flipping one higher next week as I celebrate another birthday. Being another year older doesn't bother me. Being "old" does. Looking "old" does. Feeling "old" is the worst.

When I was a child, the oldest I could ever imagine myself

was 37 - probably because, having been born in 1963, that's how old I'd turn in the year 2000. For an 8-year-old in 1971, anything past the year 2000 was extraordinarily difficult to fathom. Then, being 37 years old seemed ancient.

In the blink of an eye, though, I'll be as old as Leonsis.

Time doesn't just fly, it steamrolls. Life's a beach, sunny and warm, with flip flops and fruity drinks containing miniature umbrellas, and then a tsunami comes and all of a sudden you're over the hill and under water, gasping for air and going down stairs sideways. And then you begin to not recognize yourself in photographs taken of you.

We had a "time flies" moment this weekend. Our older son Zach - he'll be 28 soon (pause while I come to grips with that) - and his wife Sarah popped over. When they walked in the door, my wife of 30 years, Lee Ann, and I happened to have been watching the comedy film "What About Bob" — a truly funny movie which makes light of our tendencies toward

self-indulgent neuroses. I'd not seen it in years.

In the movie, Siggy — the young son of the antagonist, the high-strung psychiatrist Dr. Leo Marvin — is an anxious, angst-ridden child who, among other things, pushes back against his dad's attempts to teach him how to dive into a lake off the family pier. Siggy likes to wear black and obsesses a bit about death. So when one of Dr. Marvin's new patients, the uber-neurotic Bob Wiley — portrayed to perfection by actor Bill Murray — follows the family up to New Hampshire on a vacation and ends up being responsible for Siggy's first dive, chaos ensues.

Bob eventually ends up spending the night with the Marvin family, sleeping in a spare bed in Siggy's room. In one poignant scene, the phobic boy and the obsessive-compulsive man-child talk about their fears.

"Are you afraid of death?" Siggy asks Bob. "Yeah," Bob admits.

"Me too," says Siggy.

"There's no way out of it. You're going to die. I'm going to die. It's going to happen. What difference does it make if it's tomorrow or 80 years from now?" A pause, and then Siggy

comes to a realization.

"Do you know how fast time goes? I was 6, like, yesterday.' He pauses, and you can sense the light bulb going off in his head. "I'm going to die. You are doing to die. What else is there to be afraid of?"

The lesson: nothing. Any other fears — age being one of them — are unfounded.

Our own son and his wife enjoyed watching part of the film they weren't familiar with it

while we sat together. One of them asked: "How old is this movie?

Lee Ann said she thought it was released about 15 years ago

I had news for them all. She was half-right: "What About Bob" came out in 1991.

It's a year older than Zach. Time...it flies for Ted Leonsis and the rest of us.

What else is there to be afraid of?

The signs of our times

I'm grateful to The Chatham News + Record for its coverage of the Black Lives Matter bill-



board in Pittsboro. The owner of the land along the highway wished to fly a Confederate flag but not lease his property for this particular sign affirming Black lives

I think about this controversy in light of a brouhaha



in Briar Chapel, a residential community where I live in north Chatham. The Briar Chapel board of directors wishes to adopt a rule that limits permanent signs in residential yards to realtors and

security systems.

I do not think it is a coincidence that this rule was advanced after a neighbor made Black Lives Matter signs available for widespread purchase.

To give the Briar Chapel board members the benefit of the doubt, they defended their actions 'to promote and protect the character of the community." By their own words, then, the signs that display our "character" read For Sale and

Alarm



I believe that a community's value concerns other values.

To be transparent, I do say "Black lives matter" as part of my stand for anti-racism. But I am vehemently against the proposed signage restrictions in my neighborhood because I believe that the free expression of speech is a value that helps to create meaningful conversations.

The willingness to engage in dialogue is increasingly rare in our culture. Defending his decision to remove the Black Lives Matter billboard, the gentleman in Pittsboro claimed that BLM stood for "burn, loot and murder."

The pushback against Black Lives Matter signs in my neighborhood is couched in more diplomatic terms. Some have argued that such a political statement focuses on our differences at the expense of what we hold in common. To again quote the Briar Chapel Board of Directors, the goal of the signage restrictions reflects "the overall intention for the community to be cohesive.

'Cohesive" means "to join together," and the Latin root was originally a medical term in reference to a procedure to heal the body, such as binding a wound. We can safely say that our body politic is hurting, even bleeding. For people of color dying in the streets, this is not a metaphor.

A body is not joined together by denying the differences of individual parts. Cohesion is the incorporation of those differences into a system of harmony and wholeness. Instead of silence and denial, a sign that makes known a moral position can be the first step toward a proactive conversation with respect and care.

Southern Baptist leader Russell Moore (not exactly a bleeding-heart liberal) characterized the sign of our times: "One of the great problems that we have in American life across the board is that we don't ultimately believe that we're going to be able to persuade one another of anything. And so, we assume all we can do is push one another into their categories and to speak about them rather than to them.'

Or we quietly retreat into our homes and pretend that everything is fine.

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

Chatham News + Record

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11 Answering the call

I still remember it like it was vesterday.



UNC after having flunked out for about the 18th time. That was entirely my fault. Too much cutting class and shooting pool at the student

semesters at

It was between

center along with Movin' Around an overall lack of care and concern had put me in a place where the university administration thought someone else could better use my spot in the student body, so the dean invited me not to come back.

I don't even remember where I was working or much of what I was doing or even the exact date for sure. I do know I was living at home and my folks were becoming interested in what I was going to do with my life, if much of anything. It was sometime, I think, in the autumn of '69, about the time I was easing out of my teen years. Life was generally pretty good — not many demands and not much in the way of responsibility

I vaguely remembered during those days that my student deferment from local draft board number 19 would be a casualty of not being in college. Since I wasn't thinking much beyond the next 10 minutes of my life, that didn't really seem like much of a big deal.

Then one day I went to the post office for the family mail and I had a letter from my uncle.

My Uncle Sam.

And not my father's brother Sam who was living in Alabama.

It was a nice pleasant letter. He wanted to know how I was doing. He even started out by saying "Greetings," and it wasn't even Christmas.

Then he invited me to go on a bus ride.

To Raleigh.

To the Armed Forces examining station and induction center.

I didn't want to go. I had heard about Southeast Asia and other places. I had high school friends who had gone there and some had not returned. It was a hard time in our country's life. But I wasn't about to run away to Canada or break my leg so I'd be in the hospital or anything like that. So on a Tuesday (I think) morning at 4:30 I gathered at the draft board office with about 40 others of Chatham County's finest and we piled into the Greyhound and off we went

They made me the group leader. I'm not sure why. Maybe they were impressed with my ability to stick to a task, like flunking out of school on a consistent basis. I asked the lady at the draft board what that meant. "Give them this envelope when you get there," she said.

"Give it to who?" I asked, forgetting that Mrs. Rigsbee and Mrs. May had told us in English class that I should have said "Give it to whom?"

She said something about "the people who will meet you at the door." She was right. They did. I don't think they were impressed with my potential as an officer, however, since when I got off the bus I headed the wrong way. I think I was still asleep. The bus driver blew the horn, stuck his head out the window, hollered at me and pointed me in the right direction to the correct building.

The next hours were a rush of going from one examining point to another. The highlight was when we all got to stand around naked in a big group and see if we could touch our toes. The fellow in charge said something about not wanting to hear a sound, which sounded like pretty good advice to me.

Anyway, I was one of the folks who made the ride back to Pittsboro on the bus at the end of the day. While my hearing and height and weight and general overall sweet disposition were beyond just merely acceptable, the fact I couldn't see an elephant in front of me without my glasses or contacts pretty much meant Uncle Sam would call me later if he wanted me or got really desperate.

Some of the guys who rode to Raleigh with me didn't come back that day. I remember the recruiters telling us that if we wanted to sign up that day, we could and could pick the branch of service and assignment and all that stuff. They said if we didn't volunteer then, we were going to be drafted within 30 days and we wouldn't have much of any choice. Some guys did that. I remember walking by one of my bus mates as he was crying to his mama in the phone telling her he was leaving for Texas in a few hours

and wouldn't be back in Goldston for supper.

In time I got my act together, finished college and so on and so forth. But I've never forgotten that day. And I've never forgotten the folks who went that day and on other days. Sometimes I do a mental checklist of just how many guys my age out of my school buddies went to Vietnam and out of just some 40 or so guys, I come up with about 10 - including a couple of them who paid the ultimate price and made the ultimate sacrifice.

And that's when I start to wonder. I wonder why them and not me. I wonder what genetic event happened in my life that kept me at home and gave other guys an eagle's vision. I wonder what I would have been like if I had gone. Would I have had the internal fortitude to do what millions of other folks have done through war after war?

Seeing a B-17 World War II bomber at the Sanford airport a few years ago just added to that mental exercise. Old veterans in their 80s — including my father-in-law, who spent three years away from his Bennett home without benefit of cell phones or instant messaging working as a mechanic on those planes in India went through the plane, touching and feeling and moving slowly. They told stories ... and no doubt kept some to themselves.

And I wondered ... about them and about me.

A veteran of the fighting in Korea and Vietnam once told me not to feel that way, not to beat myself up mentally because I wasn't there. But still I wonder.

I like to think I could have.

And I appreciate those who did ... Today as so many in our country seem bent on destroying it from within (as Russia's Nakita Khruschev years ago said at the United Nations would happen as he beat the desk in front of him with his shoe), I'm thankful for the men and women who did answer the call

Winston Churchill is remembered for his comment about the Battle of Britain against the German Air Force that "never in the history of mankind has so much been owed by so many to so few." In the U.S., we could rewrite that to say "Never have all owed so much to so many.' May we not forget.

BOB WACHS

VIEWPOINTS

LETTERS

On the N.C. Supreme **Court and victims of** child sexual abuse

TO THE EDITOR:

One of the members of the Chatham County Republican Party is a victim of child sexual abuse. She wanted to personally tell her story and advocate for abuse survivors but is afraid for her family's safety given verbal and physical attacks from across the country on those who oppose the Democratic Party.

This letter comes from her experience.

The current North Carolina Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Cheri Beasley and her Democrat majority recently decided a case in favor of two convicted child sex predators. For details, see the July 2020 Carolina Journal article titled "Competitors for top court position take opposing sides in sex predator case," by Mitch Kokai. That article highlights voting differences between Governor Cooper's appointed Chief Justice Beasley, a Democrat, and Senior Associate Justice Paul Newby, a Republican. Both convictions were reversed by the Democrat majorities on the North Carolina Supreme Court.

According to the website Lauren's Kids, 1/4 of all girls and 1/5 of all boys will be victims of sex abuse before the age of 18. Twenty percent of the victims are solicited on the internet. Plus there are those that go unreported. Statistics show that one child sexual predator can offend an average of 117 times in their lifetime. Once is too many.

As a survivor of long-term child sexual abuse who has kept silent for over 40 years, our colleague wants to speak to those who have suffered from this crime on their bodies, hearts, minds and souls that they will forever carry. She has this message: educate yourselves and decide for whom to vote. Please consider voting for Justice Paul Newby for the North Carolina Supreme Court, and all the conservative candidates running for judicial positions. We must change our Supreme Court to one that follows the law to protect our children, not the predators. We have three months, North Carolina. Use your voice to vote.

Submitted for an anonymous victim, Terry Schmidt

Pittsboro

The letter-writer is the chairman of the Chatham County Republican Party

resulting in anti-discrimination legislation: Four Civil Rights Acts (1957/1964/1968/1991) and the 1965 Voting Rights Act to enfranchise/ integrate African Americans as Lincoln envisioned.

Rather than "Systemic Racism," "Systemic Reconciliation" is demonstrated by a predominantly Caucasian citizenry over a 200-year process, from outlawing slave importation (1808), to Civil War emancipation (1860-1864), to civil rights legislation (1957-1991), to twice electing the first African-American President (2008-2016). Most recently in 2020, the first Black woman was selected as U.S. Vice-Presidential candidate. Furthermore, a predominantly Caucasian Senate twice confirmed African American Attorneys General (Eric Holder, Loretta Lynch). It took 200 years to incorporate African-American leadership. Ultimately, U.S. citizenry emulated Lincoln's magnanimous words paraphrased: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; bind up the nations' wounds.

Frank Dunphy Pittsboro

All lives matter

TO THE EDITOR:

Our police are being killed and assaulted! Some of our Black, white and brown children are being shot and killed. Where are the protesters on behalf of our law enforcement that comes to protect us and our property? Where are the protesters on behalf of our children? Where are the protesters when our businesses are being destroyed?

Most of the cities and states are run by liberal progressive Democrats where this violence is taking place. Some of these Democrats want to do away with our law enforcement. Some of these Democrats want open borders where terrorist, drug dealers and those that hate America come in.

Mistakes are made, and bad cops need to be removed. Most if not all of America is very upset of what the four officers did to George Floyd. I would have stepped in and jerked that officer off George Floyd. Justice has been done for George Floyd.

All lives matter! Wouldn't it be racist to paint "White Lives Matter" on our streets? What about iust "Black Lives" being painted on our streets? Most of these Black Lives Matter are anti-America, Socialist, liberal Democrats that hate America. Most of these white devils don't care about George Floyd. The are using him

to try to destroy America. To all of America, Black, white and brown, let's stand up, speak

So much "blood and treasure" was invested to help defeat socialism in that day. Let us learn from history, instead of repeating it.

Beware of the sweet bait offered by the U.S. Democrat/ Socialist party. Socialism and communism have never worked for the benefit of the people anywhere it has been tried.

Just ask the tens of millions who died in the purges, the millions who now live only as their government dictates, and the few who have successfully escaped to the US from those "Peoples' Paradises."

Yet Barack Obama, Bernie Sanders, Joe Biden, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Nancy Pelosi and others are having success, especially with the millennials, in making people believe in Santa Claus. Let us be like the hero in the

WW2 story, and save our ship of state this November, and every day. **James Andrews** Siler City

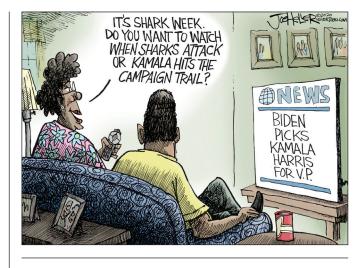
Trump not worth trust of an undecided voter

TO THE EDITOR:

Trump deliberately disrupted our U.S. Postal Service. Slowing post office efficiency in order to prevent absentee voting by mail in time for the election is un-American. Trump is attempting to become a dictator. His unethical behavior, his lies and his ineptitude in handling the coronavirus crisis are enough for any honorable voter to refuse to support this conman who cheated his contractors, mocked the handicapped and promotes hate speech and bullying.

Trump inherited a growing economy from the Obama presidency; he has run that into the ground by not facing the pandemic with strong leadership. Now millions of unemployed workers, including single mothers with children, are facing eviction and destitution. The Republican senate refuses to negotiate to get those unemployed relief, which helped keep the economy going during the first months of this national health crisis. The Democrats in the House had a bill ready months ago, but Republicans think those who lost their jobs won't go back to work if they get benefits, when there are actually few jobs to return to!

He touts law and order, but he considers himself above the law. Kamala Harris, the Democratic VP nominee, actually worked for law and order in her career. His ads falsely claimed Joe Biden wanted to defund the police, but these baseless lies make one wonder: if he has to lie to try to win votes, is he worth the trust of an undecided voter? The Democrats have not tried to ban all guns like the right wing claims, but even sawed-off shotguns are illegal in N.C. and assault weapons to murder hundreds are not needed to go deer hunting or protect your home. A Russian operative worked with the NRA misleading Americans. The Trump administration is rolling back approximately 100 environmental protections for our air, water and land that are essential to our health. Methane leak rollbacks are his latest assault on reducing carbon emissions. Rising seas and worsening hurricanes in warmer oceans are just part of the evidence climate change is real but he denies science, logic, and common sense. Trump lost the popular vote in 2016: this time we need to make sure the electoral college and the popular vote both defeat this mentally unstable and unscrupulous man. He is not draining the swamp: he is the swamp! Russia has a military agency dedicated to spreading false information about his and the Republicans' rivals (CBS' 60 Minutes). Vote in person during early voting if you can, or hand deliver your ballot to your Board of Elections. Trump undermined the postal system, already evidenced by week long delays in formerly prompt Netflix DVD mailings and priority mail, delayed medicine to vets and soon delays for mailed votes.



GUEST COLUMN | JERRY MARKATOS

What's at stake over the survival of the USPS?

As concerns grow over how we will vote in Novem-



JERRY MARKATOS

Guest columnist political football as never before in its centuries of existence. Voting by mail is assailed by our country's chief executive and instead of shoring up this essential service, both the president and the U.S. Senate are playing chicken with its survival.

has

become a

I received a call back from Senator Burr's office after I left a message expressing concern. "Senator Burr is not in favor of pri-vatizing the postal service," the aide said, and when I thanked him for that, he added that Senator Burr is in favor of funding the post together by Democrats and Republicans funded a court action that helped return us to using verifiable paper ballots.

One of the claims during the dispute had been that even paper ballots could not readily be counted in the event of equipment failure. Postal workers at a nearby mail center offered their services in such an event, saying, "We handle millions of pieces of mail in our work, and are happy to volunteer if needed!'

The financial crisis at the USPS is the product of several factors, but until the pandemic hit it would have been solvent had it not been subjected to a requirement, imposed by Congress in 2006, that health care expenses for employees be funded 50 years in advance. Our mail service is burdened with a unique requirement that no other business has had to survive: to set aside billions to cover employees some of whom haven't even been born. This mischief was pushed through Congress

Systemic racism or systemic reconciliation?

TO THE EDITOR:

U.S. institutions are wrongfully accused of "Systemic Racism" in daily media broadcasts. Systemic racism denotes a fundamental social practice diverted to a racial advantage.

During antiquity, free slave labor was an economic advantage in agriculture. War was the primary method to acquire slaves. Slavery existed in 7th Century B.C. Greece and Rome, during the Middle Ages in the Mediterranean, and in 1000 A.D. in Eastern Europe (Germans enslaving Slavs). In 800 A.D., West African slaves were transported to Islamic Arabs and likewise in 1500, the Portuguese transported them to Brazil. In 1619, West African slaves were brought to "British" Jamestown, Virginia. By 1700, the British embraced the lucrative "Triangular Trade," selling slaves to Caribbean traders. Portuguese/Spanish/ French/British colonies used African slaves in labor-intensive plantations.

Quakers established the first Colonial abolitionist society in 1774. By 1780s, the North freed slaves. During the American Revolution, Benjamin Franklin recog-nized critical unity: "We must all hang together or, most assuredly we shall all hang separately." At the constitutional convention 1787-1789, abolition was divisive; unity was critical to survive international (British) threats. A compromise captured unity (allow 20-years of slave importation, then it sunsets in 1808). From 1819-1850, Senate contentiousness occurred, abolitionist versus pro-slavery, until savagery erupted in 1856 Kansas between abolitionist and pro-slavery brigands. Ultimately, slavery was determined on Civil War battle fields where 365,000 (91% Caucasian) Union soldiers died to end it. Republican Abraham Lincoln initiated a 10-year Southern reconstruction with freedmen participation. Later, during Jim Crow (1880s-1954), Southern Democratic Legislatures unraveled reconstruction, disenfranchising African Americans (imposing poll taxes, poll literacy tests, segregation in schools/libraries/transportation). Circa 1957, Martin Luther King Jr. initiated non-violent protests,

up, together against these Antifa terrorist. Let's stand together with President Trump that's done more for Black, white and brown people in three and half years than most of these liberal Democrats have in 50 years.

I love all my Black, white, brown brothers and sisters. Almighty God cares about all lives! The answer for all souls is to repent and be born again, accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Pastor James Mitchell Ramseur

The letter-writer is pastor of the Church of Living Water

Beware the sweet bait of socialism

TO THE EDITOR:

The president of our company shared from his father's experiences in World War II. It is an insider's glimpse into the USA's part in defeating the twin threats of Emperor-worship of Japan, and Fascism (a form of Socialism) of Hitler:

'My Father was a sailor in WW2 and based on a small island in the Pacific.

He remembers one day getting up and at sunrise he could see ships in a convoy going to the next battle — Iwo Jima.

He could not see the beginning or the end of the convoy.

When the sun set he could still not see the end of the convoy -– it was that massive.

He told me stories of great damage ships took during battles.

One story was when a bomb hit a cruiser and a fire broke out below deck.

It was a horrible blaze that was destroying the ship. The blaze was so hot people's

shoes were melting on deck.

People were jumping overboard.

Finally the captain of the ship called to abandon ship.

Yet the lead firefighter wouldn't let his hose down.

Other sailors told him get out of here, but he did something unbelievable.

He pushed closer to the fire. The heat was unbelievable.

Seeing this, other sailors regained their hoses and followed the lead sailor.

It took hours of extremely dangerous work, but the ship was saved.

Joy Hewett Pittsboro

Kudos to Main Street Pittsboro's board

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you to Main Street Pittsboro's hard-working volunteer board for their past hard work and collaborating to develop the new Welcome Center at the circle.

These folks attend meetings work on events, apply for funding and many other duties, all while running businesses and raising families.

Pop in at the Welcome Center and thank them. They are working to keep the charm of old downtown Pittsboro alive in a time of great change.

Mari Trosclair Pittsboro office through September. 'September," I asked?

For as long as I can remember, the USPS has at times adjusted its rates and post office locations, yet whenever shifts in population have caused a rural location to be considered for closure, entire communities have united in communicating with their member of Congress to keep this cornerstone of community function in place.

One element threatening the postal service today is the partisan accusation of fraud if we vote by mail instead of risking our health by in-person voting. Chatham citizens cast aside such division a few election cycles ago, over a real threat to election security. A county in eastern N.C. had lost most of the election results due to touch screen machines with no paper record. A willful decision by a runaway county Board of **Elections in Chatham** had ignored their public hearing where citizens unanimously rejected the move to unverifiable touch screen voting machines. A committee supported

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What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

largely by the efforts of a billionaire whose industries have no such set-aside, and who believes that the USPS, Social Security and Medicare should all be

privatized. For background on the making of this unnecessary crisis, visit inthepublicinterest.org and search "USPS" for public interest investigator Lisa Graves' detailed account.

I'm glad to live in a community with cooperative instincts on these important matters, and hope our coming election produces results statewide and nationally, consistent with Chatham values.

Former press photographer Jerry Markatos has lived in Chatham County over 50 years, and leads the monthly programs of Balance & Accuracy in Journalism since cofounding the group in 1991. Featured subjects include media ethics, equal rights at home and abroad and the public interest struggles we face. Jerry enjoys storytelling, photography and seeing neighbors at the polls.

VIEWPOINTS

We regret to inform you that this is a rejection story

I'm part of the generation of prizes, gold stars and words of affirmation.

Once I grad-

uated from

ill-prepared

me for life's

unavoidable

This is on

today after re-

turning to one

rejections.

my mind

that made

grade school,

I realized how



RACHEL HOROWITZ Millennial Musings

of my hobbies - theatre - during quarantine and getting too confident. I lost multiple roles to other actors in the Triangle because I was so sure the writers and directors would pick me. So, as I sit in the thick of it, I want to share

some tips on how to move past rejection.

When you get rejected, it can feel like the end of the world. In a way, it is the end of a future path you fantasized about since the moment you auditioned or applied. You may try to pinpoint the blame on something other than yourself (e.g., I could definitely rant about nepotism's unwelcome role in many theatre companies). Although, ultimately blaming someone else for your rejection won't allow you to move past it.

So what do you do? One tip that works for me is to separate what you can control from what you cannot. When we first searched for a dog to adopt, we were rejected many times because we didn't have a fenced yard. It was frustrating, but it also wasn't feasible to move to a new, expensive location for the sake of a backyard. By waiting, we were able to work with a wonderful adoption coordinator who found the best fit for us. Looking back on it now, we would have missed out on the most amazing dog.

That brings me to my second tip: reflect on past rejections and the positives that came afterwards. I was rejected from working at a gung-ho wilderness program the summer after graduation. However, if that program had accepted me, I would have missed the opportunity to apply and interview for my current position at Chatham Habitat for Humanity.

My last tip is one of the hardest, and that is to try to separate your personal feelings from the rejection itself. I try to picture the possibility of rejection instead of blindly focusing on what will happen after I am accepted. Then if the rejection comes, you can greet it with a logical numbness. The hiring committee didn't hate you; you just weren't the best fit. The rejection could have saved you from a horrible experience or set you up for an even better one.

If you have faced large-scale rejection — whether from a job, grant proposal, elected office or even a lover you are not alone. You will also not be in this situation forever (although if a rejection is truly unjust or discriminatory. let's fight it).

If — like me — you have also

been on the other side, make sure to notify those you reject so they can move on to the next opportunity. Maybe add a few kind words to your template rejection email so applicants don't avoid your organization forever.

You truly may need them one day.

P.S. My go-to podcast for this topic is "We Regret to Inform You" by Apostrophe Podcast Company. Because guess also faced rejection? Stephen King, Lisa Kudrow, Ed Sheeran, RuPaul, Jay-Z and Lady Gaga.

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

Summer polls are flawed predictors

In this year that sometimes feels like a decade, North Carolinians have yet to cast a single general-election ballot for



president or other offices. But I'm seeing lots of politicos and pundits making confident predictions about the state's key electoral contests based on data from recent voter surveys. You can count me out of that

JOHN HOOD John Locke Foundation

game. I've seen too many North Carolina races narrow in the homestretch. Using summertime polls to predict November outcomes is fraught with peril.

This is certainly true with regard to the presidential race. North Carolina has proved to be a key battleground in recent cycles. The Tar Heel State voted for Barack Obama in 2008 by less than a percentage point. In 2012, North Carolina flipped to the Republican candidate, Mitt Romney, who won it by two points.

Across the eight publicly released polls of North Carolina voters taken during August of 2016, Hillary Clinton led Donald Trump by an average of two points. As we now know, Trump would go on to beat her in North Carolina by nearly four points (although Trump actually got a smaller share of the vote than Romney had four years earlier, due to a higher share of 2016 votes going to Libertarian and other alternatives). Let's also remember what happened the first time Thom Tillis ran for U.S. Senate, in 2014. Across four midsummer polls, incumbent Democrat Kay Hagan led Tillis by an average of 1.5 points. In November, Tillis defeated Hagan by 1.7 points. Even in the North Carolina gubernatorial race, where the conventional wisdom has Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper fated to defeat Republican Lt. Gov. Dan Forest in 2020, recent history makes a case for caution. At this time in 2016, Cooper was leading then-Republican Gov. Pat McCrory by an average of six points in the August polling. As we now know, Cooper would go on to victory — but by one of the closest margins in the history of gubernatorial elections, just two-tenths of one percent.

Saltbox Seafood Joint, surviving the coronavirus

Can any of North Carolina's great roadside

eateries

and local

joints

my

survive

the coro-

navirus?

doubts.

So does

Press. It

UNC

I have



has put the release of an updated and revised edition of my book, "North Carolina Roadside Eateries," originally published in 2016, on hold indefinitely. We just do not know which of the more than 100 restaurants in the book will be in business when and if normal times returns. Nor do we know what the roadside restaurant business will be like in North Carolina after the worst of the coro-

revised "Roadside Eateries." Last month Wilber's reopened, at first only for curbside pickup. Thus, if the revised "Roadside Eateries" is ever published, Wilber's will be in it.

There is more good news. Saltbox Seafood Joint in Durham, one of the places covered in the original "Roadside Eateries," got an expanded description in the now-post-

poned revised edition. It is the sort of joint that can make it through the pandemic. Because it is thriving, it might give a clue about what kinds of locally owned eateries and joints will be available to give us the experiences that "Roadside Eateries" celebrated.

Here is some of what my editors and I wrote for the revised "Roadside Eateries.

olina. He cooked during his seven years in the Army, studied at the Culinary Institute of America, and worked at the fine Glasshalfull restaurant in Carrboro and as the opening executive chef at

Giorgio's in Cary. Moore explained to me that it's not easy or cheap to get the best fish. He has to take into account that "the value is in the quality of fresh product we provide. Good, fresh seafood is not cheap, and the North Carolina fishermen deserve to get top dollar for their catch.

Hush-Honeys are Ricky's version of the hushpuppy. They're a little salty, a little spicy and a little sweet. They're the perfect complement to the best seafood you're liable to find anywhere, let alone in the middle of the Tar Heel State.

Even if you are not able to visit Saltbox Seafood Joint for its mostly take out service, you can learn some of its secrets in a new cookbook published by UNC Press, "Saltbox Seafood Joint Cookbook." Chef Ricky Moore tells his life story. He shares 60 favorite recipes and his wisdom about selecting, preparing, cooking and serving North Carolina

seafood. That includes how to pan fry and deep fry, grill and smoke, and prepare soups, chowders, stews and Moore's special way of preparing grits and his popular Hush-Honeys.

North Carolina's cultural icon David Cecelski is the author of "A Historian's Coast: Adventures into the Tidewater Past" and numerous other books and essays about our state's coastal region. He gushes in his praise: "Chef Ricky Moore's new cookbook is out and I think he's written the finest seafood cookbook you've ever seen and probably ever will see if you're like me and love the flavors of the North Carolina coast.

To learn how one restaurant owner is surviving the pandemic, visit Chef Ricky at the Saltbox as soon as you can. Until then, join Cecelski and me to celebrating Chef Ricky Moore's success and enjoy trying the recipes in "Saltbox Seafood Joint Cookbook.'



In other words, swings of six percentage points or so between August and Election Day are something akin to normal behavior for our state's electorate.

As I write, the August 2020 polls have Trump and Joe Biden tied in North Carolina, Cal Cunningham up five, and Roy Cooper up eight. Naturally, it is better to be up than down. Democrats understandably feel good about their current position. But veteran Tar Heel Dems are likely warning their younger colleagues not to get overconfident, not to take anything for granted. That would be wise.

For example, even if Cunningham and Cooper win in November, it is quite possible their margins will have narrowed considerably by then. Again, based on recent electoral history, it is entirely conceivable that Republicans would still win some other statewide contests, for Council of State and judicial offices, and keep at least partial control of the state legislature under such a scenario.

While it is true that ticket-splitting is rarer than it was a generation or two ago, when as many as a quarter of North Carolinians might vote Republican for federal offices and Democratic for state and local ones, there are still enough true swing voters to tip the balance to one major party or the other on any given Election Day.

That's because those major-party coalitions are so closely balanced in North Carolina. Disregard party registration, which doesn't necessarily reflect voter behavior. When pollsters for Emerson College asked North Carolinians which party's candidates they will support for Congress without mentioning any candidates by name 44.6% said Republicans and 44.2% said Demo-

crats. The latest Civitas Institute survey had it at 43% Democrats and 42% Republicans.

Will some unforeseen event tip undecided voters decisively to one side or the other? Will some voters vote "strategically," consciously splitting their tickets so neither party exercises unchecked power? Will one party's coalition turn out to be more enthusiastic and energized to cast their ballots when it counts?

I don't know. Neither does anyone else.

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 at 12:30 p.m. Sundays on UNC-TV.

navirus is over.

Will we be able to explore places where locals gather for good food along North Carolina's highways?

In general, the forecast is not good. But there are bright spots. For instance, Wilber's, the legendary barbecue restaurant in Goldsboro, closed in March 2019 and was therefore not included in the

Since the last edition of "Roadside Eateries," Saltbox chef Ricky Moore has been just a little busy. Though he's a busy man, don't worry — he's still at it, cooking incredible food for lucky locals.

Now, Ricky's success isn't the least surprising. He's been in the food business all his life. He grew up catching and cooking fish in eastern North CarD.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.

We need a full-court press on the census

Four million North Carolinians have not filled out the 2020 census.



Undercounting our population

These are not "free dollars," from

our benevolent Uncle, as many are

returning dollars we already paid

into federal coffers. All true. But

the reality is that unless the tax

collection and distribution systems

are drastically altered (and it's not

likely to happen anytime soon), the

dollars we sent aren't going to be

About 63 percent of the popu-

lation has responded nationally.

59 percent, according to Rebecca

Tippett and Carolina Demography.

to lose are also the ones most likely

Sadly, the ones who have the most

North Carolina's rate is about

to another state.

returned to our state and might go

quick to point out. The feds are

live in rural sections at both ends of Internet. Census officials asked for our state and people of color. They depend on the food stamps, Medicaid, Head Start, school feeding programs and Pell Grant assistance in higher education.

This data is also important because it will be used to redistrict legislative and judicial districts. For many years, political power resided from those living east of I-95, but rural population declines have shifted power to more urban areas. If current undercounting isn't improved, rural areas could lose even more influence.

Because of population increases over the past decade, it has been widely speculated our state would gain an additional seat in the U.S. House, giving us 14 and a little bit more political clout. Even with our poor showing it is still likely we'll get that additional seat, but where the new district is located will be determined by census numbers.

It didn't help that the 2020 kickoff to the census came the first of April, as the pandemic was rearing its ugly head and changing our lives. That could be one of many reasons why people haven't responded. Feeding families, making rent and schooling children was a higher priority. Some might not understand how important the census is or don't have access to the

more time to complete the count but were given only until the end of September. Some posit there are political reasons why no more time was given.

Those who haven't "self-responded," who didn't take the five minutes or less necessary to complete an online form, are supposed to be included in the NRFU, or nonresponse follow up operation. Census takers are now visiting addresses and taking the count. As you can imagine this is both expensive and time consuming; there are questions about whether there is enough money or enough time to finish the count.

Make it a point to ask everyone you contact if they have responded to the census. If they haven't, ask them to take five minutes and go online to my2020census.gov to do it. It will help them and our state.

We all benefit when everybody is counted. We need an accurate measure of our population. Let's put on a full-court press to complete the count.

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

What's on your mind?

uncounted, including those who

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

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

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

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

That's not good news for a number of reasons. Let's start with the dollars and cents. In fiscal year 2017, our state received \$44 billion dollars from any number of federal programs.

CAMPBELL N.C. Spin could cost us \$7.4 billion per year.

BOC hosts first public hearings since pandemic

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Board of Commissioners hosted its first public hearings since March at its regular session meeting Monday, following months of delayed hearings due to the coronavirus as county staff worked to find the most accessible way to hold public hearings under the board's hybrid-meeting model.

The board, meeting at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center, hosted two public hearings regardings requests by Chatham County Emergency Management on a conditional use permit for a new proposed 350foot communications tower at the Moncure Volunteer Fire Department and a new proposed 300-foot communications tower at the new **Emergency Operations Center.** Both requests were approved and referred to the Chatham County Planning Board without much discussion from the board or any public speakers.

The hearing of these items came

after months of controversy related to the two public hearings for

Williams Corner, a 118-acre mixed use walkable community. These hearings had been scheduled for Monday's meeting, but the developer of the project requested the hearings be indefinitely postponed just a week before, following a sewage spill in Briar Chapel.

At the board's May 18 meeting when it was decided to continue to delay public hearings until an accessible solution was found to host them -- Commissioner Mike Dasher expressed concern about the potential "ripple effect" from delaying projects on the public hearing docket. At the time, board Chairperson Karen Howard said the COVID-19 situation warranted taking things step-by-step. While scheduling these hearing at their July meeting, Howard said she thought limiting the number of hearings at the August meeting would be wise for the board, staff and public and help ensure fairness throughout the discussions.

"It is disappointing if we're getting backed up, but disappointing

is a pill we can swallow," Howard said regarding the public hearings on May 18. "We are not arbitrarily choosing. We are in a critical crisis and making a decision that we hope is for the benefit of all of us.'

At the board's next Aug. 27 meeting, it will host public hearings on requests from Vickers Bennett Group to amend language in the county zoning ordinance, subdivision regulations and watershed protection ordinance. At the Sept. ³ meeting, there will be a public hearing for a request by JNNJ, LLC, for a conditional district rezoning request.

There were about ten attendees present at the Agriculture center for Monday's meeting, and Board Clerk Lindsay Ray said 73 people registered over GoTo Webinar, including remote staff and presenters. The meeting was much shorter than in previous months, with a COVID-19 update as the only board priority of the meeting and only one speaker signed up for the public input session. During her public input remarks, Chatham resident Valerie Broadway called on the board to act

regarding homelessness, referencing Chatham's Salvation Army recent suspension of its emergency financial assistance line due to COVID-19 and potential rises in eviction rates due to the pandemic's impact on the economy.

'In recent weeks did any of you lie awake at night worrying about where the homeless people were as a hurricane passed by in the wee hours of the morning, or perhaps how they were coping on the days when the heat index was 105 degrees?" she asked the board. "I did."

Following her remarks, Howard clarified that she, too, along with the other board members, was greatly troubled about the problem of homelessness and looking for ways to provide additional resources in the county.

The meeting concluded with a county COVID-19 update. Interim Health Director Mike Zelek said at county currently has 1,363 cases and 55 deaths — with the majority of deaths taking place at assisted living facilities. Zelek also announced the county's new online COVID-19 community survey

dashbord, which features results from a survey assessing community prevention and impacts related to the pandemic. During her commissioner report, Howard referenced the return to school amid pandemic precautions, and encouraged parents and citizens alike that Chatham would make it through such challenges.

"I just join in with all the parents that are in the position of having to work and help homeschool and deal with all the myriad tasks that come along with trying to parent and navigate a system of education that we're not particularly well-versed in," she said. "My hat's off to our teachers and staff, superintendent, school board and all the parents and kids who are muddling our way through this — we will get out on the other end in Chatham County, and we will be ready and willing and waiting to engage all of these kids, who are going to be just fine.'

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

VOTE 2020 North Carolina will be the first state to send out absentee ballots on Sept. 4

BY BUCK RYAN

Special to the News + Record

Forget the national media countdown to Election Day, Nov. 3. North Carolina will be the first state to send out absentee ballots, on Sept. 4.

'The kickoff to our election is in just a few days, not 84 days from now," said Karen Brinson Bell, executive director of the State Board of Elections.

She spoke last Tuesday during a Zoom workshop with nearly 60 participants organized by the USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative, whose state media partner was the Chatham News + Record.

With support from Google, the University of Southern California team will bring perspective, tips and resources to all 50 states for election officials, campaign workers, journalists and academics. North Carolina was its 39th workshop.

'North Carolina is especially important because, as one of a handful of competitive states, campaign and election officials will be priority targets for bad actors trying to spread disinformation and trying to discredit the 2020 election," said Adam Clayton Powell III, executive director of the USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative.

Powell noted that the federal government is now offering rewards of up to \$10 million for information about hackers trying to meddle in U.S. elections.

Brinson Bell noted that most counties in the state prefer early voting and that no excuse is needed to apply for an absentee ballot, which has been redesigned and

approach: absentee ballots by mail. onestop early voting sites and in-person voting on Election Day, which she hoped will go smoothly with fewer people because many voted by other means.

"Back in the fall we launched a campaign in North Carolina to increase voter confidence because we know there are a lot of questions around cybersecurity and what goes on in elections," said Brinson Bell, the state's chief election officer working with boards of election in all 100 counties.

'We moved to a completely paper ballot system in North Carolina back in the latter part of last year," she said. "We have a state law in place that says our voting systems are not connected to the internet.

March 3 marked not only the first time North Carolina participated in a Super Tuesday primary election, but it also marked the first reported coronavirus case in the state in Wake County.

'Now, almost a year later after we launched that campaign, not only are we trying to address cybersecurity, but we're trying to address public safety and physical security," she said.

Brinson Bell emphasized the importance of the voter in ensuring election security.

"They are our poll workers," she said. "The neighbors, the people they go to church with, or go to the gym with, those are the people serving as our precinct officials and carrying out the election on the front lines. And now they are doing so with PPE.

The "ripple effect" from the upcoming election makes the stakes higher because 2020 coincides with the U.S. Census, said Ferrel Guillory, director of the Program on Public Life at the University of North Carolina's Hussman School of Journalism and Media.

vember will be in charge of redistricting (for the 2022 elections)," he said. "North Carolina has been ground zero in many respects for almost 40 years in issues having to do with ballot access, gerrymandering, redistricting, and voter suppression or voting rules and regulations.

Like much of America, he said, the largest growth in voter identification in North Carolina has been unaffiliated, which represents about a third of the voters in the state with the other two-thirds being split with slightly more registered Democrats than Republicans.

Since 1972 in state elections, he said, Republicans have won 10 of the 12 presidential elections with Democratic victories only for Jimmy Carter (1976) and Barack Obama (2008). But in those same elections Democrats won eight of the 12 races for governor.

Asked about the importance of the workshop, Guillory said, "USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative produced a valuable workshop for North Carolina, a competitive swing state with statewide elections decided by narrow margins.'

"In this stressful election year," he said, "it's crucial that citizens feel they have robust opportunities to vote, have their vote counted reliably and have confidence in the outcome."

One reporter, who covers election integrity, open government and civil liberties for Carolina Public Press in Asheville, struck a positive note.

"I want to praise election directors in the counties and the state of North Carolina,' said reporter Jordan Wilkie, a Report for

Wilkie also issued a warning.

'Voters need to know that the post office is delivering things pretty slow right now,' he said. "If they are mailing in their ballot, as a record number of voters are doing, they should do that by October 25.'

Politics reporter Steve Harrison, of public radio station WFAE in Charlotte, added perspective from the state's largest city.

"The elections director here says he expects a huge increase in mail voting," said Harrison, who writes a weekly newsletter, "Inside Politics." "Back in 2016 I think there were 29,000 mail ballots in the presidential race. This year they're expecting up to a hundred thousand."

Complicating the challenge, he said, is a new rule that citizens will be allowed a "do-over," a second chance to have their votes counted, if technicalities cause their ballots to be discarded.

As the pandemic has upended the 'person-to-person effect" of traditional campaigning, longtime campaign manager Russell Peck sees another way Election 2020 will be different.

"You can't buy the value of the voter talking to another voter," said Peck, who was campaign manager for former Republican Gov. Pat McCrory in 2012 and 2016. "It is the most valuable piece of being

able to get out the vote.' USC's Powell summarized his national view this way: "2020 will be the most challenging election in our lifetimes.

Buck Ryan, director of the Citizen Kentucky Project on civic engagement, is an associate

which now requires just one witness

The state rejected the idea of all-mail voting, she said, because of supply chain, logistical and voter behavior issues and instead moved forward with a three-pronged

The legislature that is elected this No-

America corps member. "I think North Carolina has done a better job than a lot of states in responding to COVID especially as well as making significant changes since 2012 and 2016 in their election administration.

professor in the School of Journalism and Media at the University of Kentucky. He is conducting a case study of the Chatham News + Record, which he views as a model of success for community newspapers here and abroad.

VOTING

Continued from page A1

elections board member Charles Ramos, a Republican, opposed having

early voting sites open on Sundays "for religious reasons." Frank Dunphy, another Republican member of the board, agreed with Ramos, advocating instead for longer Saturday hours in lieu of

Sunday voting.

The board's three Democrat members — Laura Heise, Amy Meek and Mark Barroso - each advocated in favor of Sunday voting. Heise noted data from 2016 which demon-

strated that the number of voters "drops off" later in the afternoon on Saturdays during early voting.

In the end, the board could not find a plan that would garner a unanimous vote, something re-

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quired by state law for all county election boards' early voting plans. This means the plans under consideration by the county board will now be sent to the State Board of Elections to weigh in at its August 31 meeting.

Chatham County Board of Elections Executive Director Pandora Paschal said it's not very common for the local board to split along partisan lines for its early voting plan. Paschal said that in the past, while the subject of Sunday voting was discussed, the board would often reach consensus on not having early voting on Sundays because "our voters show up" — Chatham County consistently ranks among the top five in the state for election turnout even without Sunday voting.

"Because of the pandemic, this is not a normal time," Paschal said.

The board has been working on plans to "help keep people safe and give people options" in the face of what is expected to be a heavy turnout." This is why, Paschal said, the board unanimously voted to approve two additional early voting sites for the 2020 election at the same meeting. Both of those sites — the Bold Building on Moring Drive and Chapel Hill and the New Hope Baptist Church on New Hope Church Road in Apex — are located in the northeastern portion of the county where there is the highest concentration of voters and where the population is growing the fastest. Those two sites join the county's four early voting sites at the Goldston Town Hall, the Paul Braxton Gymnasium in Siler City, the Chatham County Agricultural and Conference Center in Pittsboro and

the CCCC Health Science Center off U.S. Hwy. 15-501 in Pittsboro.

"People shouldn't have to wait in lines for hours,' Pashcal said. "The board made the move to add two sites because in order to do proper social distancing you need more places to vote.'

The board also approved changes to 14 of the 18 polling locations in the precincts to accommodate social distancing and protecting the safety of voters. Voting for residents in five precincts -Albright, Bynum, Hadley, Harpers Crossroads and Oakland — will be moved to buildings actually outside of their precincts since no structure that can maintain "proper social distancing" is available inside the precincts.

Nine other precincts will be in different buildings, but will remain inside the precinct proper. Four precincts — New Hope, West Siler City, East Williams and West Williams — will remain unchanged. The exact locations were not listed the minutes since the plan is still awaiting the final approvals from the state.

Other than the debate over weekend hours, the local elections board has nearly all of its plans in place for early voting and election day. Following the state's ruling on weekend hours on Aug. 31, the Chatham County Board of Elections will begin the process of "educating the voters" of the changes to ensure "voters know all their options."

Early voting runs from Thursday, Oct. 15 to Saturday, Oct. 31. Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 3.

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

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM 'JETER' DOWDY



William "Jeter" Dowdy, age 84, of Sanford died Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at UNC Hospice, Pittsboro.

Mr. Dowdy was born March 16. 1936, the son of the late Charlie T. and Minnie Oldham Dowdy. He was a member of the Asbury United Methodist Church and a US Army Veteran. Jeter was a star pitcher in baseball in his younger years. He enjoyed bowling and loved spending time with his family. In addition to his parents, Jeter was preceded in death by sisters; Lizzie and Agnes Dowdy, Ruby

Pope and Virginia Coombs, brothers; Norman and Thomas Dowdy; niece, Frances Coombs; and nephew, Charles Lewis "Pick" Dowdy.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Ann Kirkman Dowdy; nieces, Mary Lois Oldham and husband Charlie of Bear Creek, Nancy Hart of Bear Creek, Donna Mashburn and husband J.B of Durham; nephews, Thomas Henry Dowdy and wife Barbara of Bear Creek, Earl Dowdy and wife Patricia of Bear Creek, and Terry Pope and wife Ellie of Greensboro.

Mr. Dowdy laid in state on Friday, August 14, 2020 from 12 to 5 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home.

A graveside service was held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, with Rev. Donald Burns and Rev. Jimmy Talton officiating. Burial followed in Asbury United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to: UNC Hospice, PO Box 1077, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or Asbury United Methodist Church, 809 Asbury Church Road, Sanford, NC 27330

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home assisted the Dowdy family

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

MARY ELIZABETH 'PINKY' COTTEN BARBER



Mary Elizabeth "Pinky" Cotten Barber, age 88, of Moncure died Friday, August 14, 2020 at her home.

Mrs. Barber was born February 13, 1932 the daughter of Lessie Ernest and Mary Ila Waddell Cotten. She was preceded in death by her parents' her husband, John Henry Barber; brothers, Max, Wesley, L.E. and Cevie Cotten, sisters; Ernestine Hackney, Christine Sanders; and grandson, Jonathan Wayne Glosson and great granddaughter, Olivia Rae Barber.

Mary loved her family and was a member of Gum Springs Baptist Church. She enjoyed crocheting and giving her finished projects to loved ones. She

also enjoyed reading and doing word searches. Mary loved watching the birds at her birdfeeders, especially the hummingbirds in the summer. She made the best sweet potato pies and chocolate chip oatmeal cookies in the world. She was retired from Saco Lowell & Carter Weber.

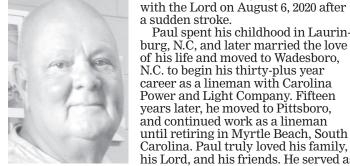
She is survived by two daughters, Dianne Gaster of Moncure, Debbie Glosson and husband Wayne of Moncure; two sons, Danny Barber and wife Gina of Cameron, Ernest Barber of Moncure; grandchildren, John Gaster, Morrissa Barber, Daniel Barber, Mandi Nickell, Shelby Henderson, Taylor Barber, and great-grandchildren,; Rylee Nickell Brianna Gaster, Ryan Gaster, Will Pillow, Eli Nickell, Julia Henderson, Clara Barber, Evan Barber, and Jace Barber; and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Sunday August 16, 2020 at p.m. at Gum Springs Baptist Church, 227 Gum Springs Church Rd, Moncure with Rev Bobby Bunce officiating.

Memorials may be made to: https://www.gofundme.com/f/ surprise-barber-quad-squad or the National Down Syndrome Foundation.

Smith and Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Barber

PAUL ALAN FOWLER Paul Alan Fowler, 70, went to be



a deacon, worked in Stephen Ministries, and was a friend to everyone he met.

a sudden stroke.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Winnie, of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; his daughter Tammie and husband Ronald of Moncure; his son Paul and wife Jennifer of Wilmington; and two precious granddaughters, Moli Arin of Chapel Hill and Lily Catherine of Bynum. Paul has many nieces and nephews that he also adored.

His love for life, gentle spirit, and generosity will always be remembered. Paul, being a giver, elected to donate his body to science for the advancement of medicine.

A celebration of life will be held at Myrtle Beach, S.C. on August 23.

Condolences may be made to the Durham Rescue Mission or Living Free Ministries.

CATHERINE V. MOBLEY

Catherine Vestal Mobley, 77, of Siler City, died Monday, August 10, 2020 at her residence.

with the Lord on August 6, 2020 after

N.C. to begin his thirty-plus year

career as a lineman with Carolina

Power and Light Company. Fifteen

years later, he moved to Pittsboro,

Carolina. Paul truly loved his family, his Lord, and his friends. He served as

Paul spent his childhood in Laurin-

Graveside memorial services, will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, August 24, 2020, at Moon's Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery, Siler City, with Rev. Scott Faw officiating.

Catherine was a native of Chatham County and a member of Moon's Chapel Baptist Church. She earned a Master of Church Music degree and served as former Director of Music/ Organist with several churches in

different states. Catherine was also previously employed as a substitute teacher with Chatham County School System from 1993-1997 and librarian with Wren Memorial Library in Siler City from 1997-2008. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Mobley and her parents, Grady Oliver and Catherine Johnson Vestal.

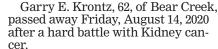
A special thank you is extended to care givers and close friends, Ryan Stutts, Katie Teague, and Laura Moore.

Condolences may be made online at www.loflinfuneralservice.com.

Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service. Ramseur.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Moon's Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 175 Moons Chapel Church Road, Siler City, NC 27344, or to the Alzheimer's Association, 4600 Park Road, #250, Charlotte, NC 28209.

GARRY E. KRONTZ



He was preceded in death by his twin brother, Larry Krontz and his father, Kenneth Krontz, Sr.

Garry was an Army Veteran; a hard-working Mill Wright; and a devoted family man, who he loved spending time fishing and camping

TOMMY LEWIS MADDOX

Tommy Lewis Maddox, 60, of Sanford, died Thursday, August 13, 2020 at his home.

A graveside service was held at 3 p.m. at Morris Chapel UMC Cemetery on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, with Pastor Scott Yow presiding.

Mr. Maddox was born in Lee County, on December 3, 1959, to Doris Lane Maddox and the late Freddie Lee Maddox. He was a retired heavy equipment operator and welder. He served his country in the 82nd Airborne. He was preceded in death by a son, Tommy Lewis Maddox, Jr.

Surviving relatives include his mother, Doris Lane Maddox of Sanford; a son, Billy Maddox of Sanford; brothers, Donald Maddox of Sanford, and Michael Maddox of Bennettsville, SC; sisters, Phyllis Maddox of Sanford, June Osborne of Lemon Springs and Marilyn Bellamy of Sanford; four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home, 600 W. Main St., Sanford, NC 27330 to assist the family with funeral expenses.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

LISA JO COOK BARRETT

Lisa Jo Cook Barrett, 55, of Sanford, died Sunday, August 16, 2020 at Central Carolina Hospital.

The body may be viewed at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home on Friday, August 21, 2020, from 2 to 5 p.m. A grave-side service will be held at Lemon Springs Baptist Church Cemetery, Saturday, August 22, 2020, at 10 a.m. with Pastor Andy Foley presiding.

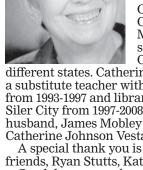
Lisa was born in Lee County, on January 1, 1965, to Ann Baker Cook and the late Joe Bill Cook. She worked as an office manager for a fast food company. She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Lois Cooper Baker, Nathan James Baker, Margie Key Cook Freeman, and Claude Lacey Cook.

Surviving relatives include her mother, Ann Baker Cook; her husband, John David Barrett; daughters, Jennifer Anne Daw and Mary Beth Bender, both of Sanford; sisters, Ginger Keith of Cameron and Carrie Hall of Sanford; and eight grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

SHIRLEY ANN WILSON RIVES



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

ELIZABETH HATCH POLLARD

(1925 - 2020)

Elizabeth Hatch Pollard of Staunton, Virginia died on August 15, 2020.

She was born December 5, 1925 in Pittsboro, North Carolina, the daughter of Edwin Brown Hatch and Elizabeth Chapin Hatch. She attended Pittsboro Public Schools and received an AB in English from Meredith College, Raleigh, North Carolina.

An ardent lover of art, flowers, history, and antiques, Betsy was a gracious person who created beauty around her. She worked as an advertising copywriter for a large department store, taught kindergarten, conducted private tours as a docent for Colonial Williamsburg, volunteered for the Staunton Augusta Art Center, served on the beautification committee for the city of Staunton, in addition to volunteering for other community organizations. She was an active member of the Augusta Garden Club; she received recognition for her many contributions to include Historic Garden Week Chair and District Chair of Historic Garden Week for the Garden Club of Virginia.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by William Carter Pollard, her husband of 71 years.

She is survived by her three daughters and their husbands, Barrett P. and LD Arnold, III, Elizabeth P. and Jesse Hemeter, Anne P. and Jacob McFerren; seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

A private burial will be held in Farmville, North Carolina.

TERRI LYNN SPEARS

Terri Lynn Spears, 55, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, August 7, 2020 at her home. Services entrusted to Knotts

Funeral Home.

MICHAEL MONROE REAVES, SR.

Michael Monroe Reaves, Sr., 68, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, August 10, 2020 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

WILLIAM ANDREW HARRINGTON

William Andrew Harrington, 69, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, August 16 at his home. Services entrusted to Knotts

Funeral Home.

SHARON DENISE NEAL

Sharon Denise Neal, 59, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, August 10, 2020 at her residence.

A wake was held from 12 to 1:30 p.m. on Friday, August 14, 2020 at Knotts Funeral Home.

ISAAC COKER

Isaac Coker, 70, of Virginia, living in Siler City, passed away Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill. Services entrusted to Knotts

and Son Funeral Home.

SUELLEN CABE

Suellen Cabe, 75, of Pittsboro passed away on Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

Arrangements by: Cremation Society of the Carolinas in Raleigh.



with He is survived by his wife, Cynthia Krontz; his two sons, Zayne Krontz and Zolan Krontz; his daughter, Sha-

netta Kin; five grandkids, five great- grandkids; four brothers, one sister; and mother, Donnadell Krontz. A service of remembrance will be held at a later time. Condolences may be expressed at CremationSocietyNC. com

TROY WALLACE RENEAU

Troy Wallace Reneau, 76, of Siler City passed away Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at his home.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mr. Reneau was born July 3, 1944, the son of Stanley and Callie Griffin Reneau. He was an Army veteran and was of the Methodist faith. He retired from Burlington Industries. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Bob Reneau.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Marilyn M. Reneau; daughter, Michele Reneau of Burlington; son, Christopher Reneau of Pittsboro, and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Alamance & Caswell Counties, 914 Chapel Hill Road, Burlington, NC 27215.

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

JAMES ANDREW HACKNEY

Mr. James Andrew Hackney, 78 of Moncure, passed away Friday, August 7, 2020, at his residence

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, August 14, 2020 at Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro, with burial at Liberty Chapel Church Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife Alice Faye Hackney; daughter, Shebra Annette Hackney; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services entrusted to: Knotts Funeral Home, Pittsboro.

BETTY SUE (KELLY) HERIOT

Mrs. Betty Sue Kelly Heriot, 85, of Sanford passed away at Capital City Health Halquist Center in Arlington, VA. on Monday, August 10, 2020.

A funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Sunday, August 16, 2020 at Knotts Funeral Home, with burial following in Lee Memory Garden.

She was born in Richmond County, on June 30, 1935 to Leah Roey and Brooks Lassiter.

GLADYS LANIER

Gladys Lanier, 85, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at her home.

The funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, August 15, 2020 at Lee's Chapel Christian Church with Rev. David Martin and Rev. Greg Little officiat ing. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Lanier was born in Mc-Coll, S.C. on April 27, 1935 to the late Dewey and Gladys Freeman Capps. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by siblings, Leslie (Dick) Capps, Bill Capps, Jerry Capps, Dewey Capps and a grandson. Gladys was a homemaker and worked at Randy's Grill. She was devoted to her church, Lee's Chapel Christian Church, where she served as a Sunday School Teacher, Choir Director and was Fellowship Hall Director. Gladys is survived by her husband of 68 years, William (Bill) Lanier; daughter, Joy Lanier Bain; son, Randy Lee Lanier; six grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at: www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

Shirley Ann Wilson Rives, 85, of Bear Creek, passed away on Monday, August 17, 2020 at her home.

A graveside service will be held at Antioch Baptist Church, in Goldston, where she was a member, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 20, 2020 with Rev. Jim Whitaker presiding. The body laid in state at Joyce-Brady Chapel on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 from 1 to 5 p.m. and at the church one hour prior to the service.

Shirley was born in Chatham County, on September 10, 1934 to Herbert and Etta Wilkie Wilson. She worked at Collins & Aikman for 43 years and then cared for others in private duty elderly care. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her three infant sons. Billy, Christopher, and Gary; two brothers and five sisters.

She is survived by her son, Rocky Rives of Bear Creek; two grandsons, four great-grandchildren; brothers, Rowland Wilson and Bobby Wilson, all of Goldston.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations made in Shirley's memory to: Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 3835 Bonlee-Carbonton Rd., Goldston, NC 27252.

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

LATREEIA ANTIONETTE MILLER

Latreeia Antionette Miller, 37, of Eagle Springs, passed away on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at her home.

Funeral services were held at 12 noon Saturday, August 15, 2020 at St. Peters Deliverance Church of God.





www.chathamnewsrecord.com

A UNC STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

What it's really like at UNC-Chapel Hill right now

BY OLIVIA ROJAS News + Record Staff

CHAPEL HILL — Less than a week. All it took was less than a



clusters to rise and spread around UNC. As a sophomore student

week for four

who decided

to come back

to campus,

I'm not sur-

COVID-19

OLIVIA ROJAS CN+R Intern

CN+R Intern prised by the recent events from the university, but I'm definitely disappointed

definitely disappointed. Students, staff, faculty and residents surrounding the campus all called on the university to go remote for months now. The university ignored recommendations from the Orange County Public Health Department to hold classes remotely for at least five weeks and have at-risk students in on-campus housing only. They moved forward with housing plans that were deemed the highest-risk by the Center for Disease Control. Worries about Greek Life and large off-campus gatherings were voiced again and again. Yet, it was maintained that everything was going to be fine.

Yes, I know I had the choice to go back.

However, I made the decision to head back to campus because I wanted that sense of independence and I wanted to focus on school in my school's own environment. Even though I knew it was not going to be 100% back to normal, the university continued to assert that this concept was feasible with their roadmap.

When I was on campus during these past two weeks, I saw that the community standards were broken plenty of times. Carolina Housing had guidelines for the fall

which said: "Non-residents and campus residents assigned to another building are not permitted in your residence hall." How was that going to get enforced? Let me tell you – it wasn't. I saw students on south campus, an area where the majority of first-years live, at night in party clothes with rumors swirling that fraternities were hosting parties. For the most part, everyone wore facial coverings, but from time to time there were those who didn't.

I understand that students need to be held accountable for their actions and take personal responsibility, but, as The Daily Tar Heel said in a now-viral editorial, we all saw this coming.

A lot of people feel hurt and betrayed right now. Some are confused on what the next step is, or they're canceling their housing and going home. Personally, I'm pretty sure that I'm heading home sometime soon. My heart breaks for the first-years — including my own sister — and those who did uphold the standards. A college experience should not have been dangled in front of students and then ripped away like that. Not to mention, the anxiety of the fast spreading COVID-19 clusters appearing in your living space. There is too much time, effort and money that goes into this experience for it just to be a trial run — a one-week trial run. Better to be safe than sorry.

safe than sorry. On Aug. 17, the University of North Carolina System President Peter Hans issued a statement about UNC's announcement where he wrote that students need to take "personal responsibility" and enforce those community standards for a successful semester and public health.

"Each campus is different, and I expect situations to evolve differently," he wrote. "In any circumstance, we will be grounded by reliable public health data and prevailing local health conditions. I will continue to stay in close contact with our chancellors and fully support their efforts to fulfill our core educational mission in safe learning environments."

Here's the thing: I don't think every campus is different. A cluster has now surfaced at East Carolina University, and there are concerns about COVID-19 information at North Carolina State University. If anything, UNC's experience with reopening needs to be a warning and a wakeup call for the UNC system. We're in the middle of a pandemic, a global public health crisis. There's nothing different about that.

As for us Tar Heels, we're going to get through this and we're going to go back when it is completely safe to do so.

Olivia Rojas, a News + Record intern and UNC sophomore, is from Sanford.

Pittsboro resident to appear on Food Network's 'Guy's Grocery Games'

BY CASEY MANN News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Root Cellar co-owner and chef Sera Cuni will make her national television debut on the Food Network's Guy's Grocery Games at 9 p.m. Wednesday.

The show, hosted by celebrity restaurateur Guy Fieri, pits chefs from around the country in a single episode who are given a theme — and then a limited time to grab ingredients from the "warehouse market place" Fieri helped create and cultivate. The chefs then create items that are evaluated by a three judge panel.

In each of the three rounds in each episode, one chef is eliminated until a single chef participates in a shopping spree where they are given clues to different foods that they must find in the market place and place in their cart. If the contestant gets all the ingredients in time, they win \$20,000. Cuni, a Pittsboro resident,

didn't apply for the show. She said she received a Facebook message over the winter from what she described as a "random lady" asking to be friends. The woman then messaged Cuni asking whether she had interest in being on a television show "I thought, 'This is a scam," Cuni told the News + Record. "So I gave her very specific times and hours, like between 2 and 2:30 on a Tuesday. And they called.' The caller told Cuni representatives from the show 'scour social media" for possible contestants. Cuni said she was "very skeptical" as it felt like a "rush-rush thing." She did another interview, with the caller never saying what show they were calling from. By the evening, the producers for the show called to say she was a

contestant.

"It was kinda like a whirlwind thing," Cuni said.

The biggest struggle for Cuni as a business owner was that show producers didn't give her an exact date for filming — and with two businesses, Root Cellar locations in Chapel Hill and Pittsboro, she had a lot to juggle. The next thing she knew, she was on a plane for San Francisco, waiting for a car to take her to the studios.

The contestants were picked up early and taken to a trailer where producers reviewed rules and decided which of the seven different outfits they would wear on the show. Cuni said she spent a lot of time with the other contestants, fellow chefs from other areas of the country.

"I know it's a competition, but we were all cheering for each other too," Cuni said. "I feel like we really all lifted each other up."

And then there's Guy

Cuni said Fieri gave the chef contestants a pep talk before the day began. Cuni said Fieri knew little pieces about each of the contestants. "I'm going to remember that forever," Cuni said. "He said to us, 'You've already won if you're here, because we think you're somebody.' He really cares. Cuni also raved about the market place the show created in a warehouse saying it contained "everything you could want" and the "most interesting things" that don't appear in a typical grocery store. "The produce section," she said, 'was beyond amazing.'

before the COVID-19 pandemic hit the region, causing shutdowns. She said she started seeing things slow in Pittsboro, so she and her wife and co-owner, Susan White, decided to close that store first, then the Chapel Hill store. But they continued doing "family meals," where customers can order five nights of meals for two, including salads. And they continued doing Friday night take-out where Cuni makes up a menu for the evening. Her staff distributes the meals at the Chapel Hill store, the Pittsboro store and in Briar Chapel.

"We knew it was helping people, too, because they were having a hard time finding things at the grocery store and they were afraid," Cuni said. "But the hardest part was telling our staff, many of whom were with me when I started 15 years ago. These are my family. We're working on hopefully being able to bring them back, but with take out and only having 50% capacity, it's hard to bring back 30



The Root Cellar during COVID

Back at home, Cuni returned to The Root Cellar employees."

Throughout COVID, Cuni has stayed in touch with her fellow contestants.

"We've all had our ups and downs through the coronavirus," she said. "It's good to get their view. We were all chefs. They all have restaurants all over the place and they are all really great people."

Looking forward, Cuni said she doesn't really know what is going to happen with both Root Cellar locations. She said "we make decisions every morning." She wants to reopen the Pittsboro location, but doesn't feel like it's safe. And she's not sure they can afford to reopen Pittsboro under the current restrictions considering the economics adding that "everybody is

Submitted photo

Pittsboro resident Sera Cuni will be appearing on the Food Network's Guy's Grocery Games on Wednesday. Cuni is also the co-owner and chef at The Root Cellar.

struggling."

Cuni had hoped that the show would be a "big break" for them, but COVID hit. They had wanted to do a watch party, but for now she and friends will will simply watch it from home in their living room. "I was representing North Carolina and Chatham County," Cuni said. "I hope I made Chatham County proud and represented it well."

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



Pittsboro

Chad Virgil, CFP^{®,} ChFC[®], CLU[®] 630 East St Suite 2 919-545-5669

Penguin Place

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

Siler City Laura M Clapp

301 E Raleigh St 919-663-1051

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

Pittsboro Kevin C Maley 984 Thompson St Suite E2 919-444-2961 Pittsboro Lee Shanklin, AAMS® 120 Lowes Drive Suite 107 919-545-0125

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

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NEWS BRIEFS

Brookwood Farms to expand operations

Brookwood Farms, a Siler City-based barbecue production facility located on Alston Bridge Road, will be expanding its operations to an area located on what was previously called the Phase 3 section of the Chatham Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site on U.S. Hwy. 64, now called the Midstate Development Center.

The company is planning to open a distribution center at the site, a \$3.7 million investment. Production would still continue at the company's Alston Bridge Road location. The expansion will require a \$1 million road extension for access to the site. The town of Siler City is working with multiple entities including Triangle J Council of Governments and Golden LEAF to seek out grant opportunities for the road expansion.

The site currently does not have public water or sewer access, but as no production is planned to occur there, Brookwood Farms believes it can use well and septic while the town explores grant options to pay the nearly \$1 million to extend those services to the site.

"The town and EDC are proud to have a family-owned and operated business such as Brookwood have the confidence to expand in Siler City," Siler City Town Manager Roy Lynch said. "We look forward to continuing to work together to source funds to move forward on site preparations for both Brookwood Farms and other tenants."

Chatham County COVID-19 Community Survey Dashboard now available

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Public Health Department has released an online data dashboard with results from a survey conducted in May and June 2020 to assess community prevention and impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The survey utilized Chatham County's innovative Community Assessment Cohort, which is representative of Chatham's population. This survey was a collaborative effort between the CCPHD, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, and the North Carolina Institute for Public Health and the Department of Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Gillings School of Global Public Health. Key results are now available online at www.chathamnc.org/coronavirusdata.

"While much has changed in the COVID-19 pandemic between June and today, the responses provide us with useful information that can inform our ongoing efforts," said Interim Public Health Director Mike Zelek. "The numbers show that the Chatham community has taken the virus seriously and has been practicing the 3 Ws. We are also able to learn about broader impacts of the pandemic, from economic indicators to exercise."

The survey was designed to better understand the prevalence of COVID-19 and its impacts on the community. Respondents answered questions about following the 3 Ws, a potential COVID-19 vaccine and how the pandemic has affected residents' lives. Among the highlights were:

• More than 90% of respondents said they were following each of the 3 Ws – wait six feet apart, wear a face covering and wash your hands regularly.

• 7 out of 10 respondents planned to get the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available.

• 27% said they have exercised less than usual since March.

• 47% stated the outbreak has posed a "substantial" or "moderate threat" to their household's finances.

The survey was also used to recruit participants to a separate and ongoing study led by UNC-Chapel Hill faculty to monitor the prevalence of COVID-19 in Chatham County over time.

CCL Launches Kids' Club for Social Justice

The Youth Services Department of the Chatham Community Library has announced a new monthly event for elementary-school aged children to openly discuss social justice topics.

Social justice topics are frequently in the news, and children may have questions or concerns. The monthly forum also provides a space to brainstorm ideas about how to make the world a better place. "Kids' Club for Social Justice" is a safe space for children in grades K-5 to talk about social justice topics. The first GoToMeeting event will be held from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17. Then, and every third Thursday from there on, a Youth Services staff member will read a book with a social justice theme and invite children to connect with the topic and with each other. The topic for September's meeting is racism, and the book the group will read together is "Chocolate Me, written by Taye Diggs and illustrated by Shane W. Evans. At the end of the meeting, one child will win a copy of the book.

Future meeting topics include bullying, colonialism, sexism, homophobia and anti-Semitism. Parents, older siblings and caregivers are welcome at these meetings, which will be virtual until the library reopens, and will not be recorded or archived.

For additional information on this program or to receive virtual meeting instructions, please contact the Youth Services department at 919-545-8085 or via email at youth.services@chathamlibraries.org. This program is free and open to the

public.

-CN + R staff reports



Town of Siler City Public Works and Utilities

CHURCH NEWS

COMMUNITY COVID-19 TESTING

A community COVID-19 testing site will be available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29 at at Staunton Memorial CME Church located at 230 Credle St., Pittsboro. The testing center is free and open to the public.

This event is sponsored by StarMed Healthcare. To sign-up visit: StarMed Healthcare at www.StarMed.care.

HANOOD RECEIVES NATIONAL HONOR

The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) has announced that student Austin K. Honood from Goldston has been selected to become a

member of their organization, recognizing scholars demonstrating outstanding leadership, scholarship and community commitment.

Siler City to resume water/sewer shut-offs in September

BY CASEY MANN News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The Siler City Board of Commissioners decided to resume water and sewer shut-offs for non-payment following the end of the moratorium on utility shut-offs issued by N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper in March.

Last week, the town had 360 accounts that were delinquent with residents in the arrears more than \$73,000. Siler City Finance Director Tina Stroupe did note on Monday that the number of delinquent accounts had dropped in the past week to 284, but was not sure of the remaining amount due.

A majority of the delinquent accounts are residential, but Stroupe did say that some were commercial.

"We don't want to shut people's water off," Stroupe said. "Especially since this is something none of us expected."

Stroupe suggested the town institute a sixmonth payment plan for the outstanding accounts. Utility users who are behind on payments would need to make their current payments as well as sign up for the sixmonth plan. The amount that each account owes would be split equally among the six months with a monthly payment date agreed to by the customer. The Siler City Board of Commissioners agreed to the plan on Monday.

Stroupe did note that if customers do not make a payment or sign up for the payment plan, the town would begin conducting shut-offs to customers on Sept. 8.

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

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo NEIGHBORS' NAMESAKES

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August 12, 2020

Dear Customer,

The town is experiencing an increase of brush and junk placed on the side of the road with so many people staying and working from home. Due to the volume, we are experiencing extended pick up times.

We also now have to deliver our waste to Sanford, NC, since the closing of the Siler City Waste Management transfer station in 2019.

Please remember these rules for brush and junk pick up:

1. Do not combine brush and junk together. It will not be picked up.

2. No oils, paints, gas, weed killers, or hazardous containers should ever be placed out at the side of the road for pick up.

3. No construction debris: wood pallets, brick, cinder block, drywall, concrete. These should be removed by the contractor or homeowner.

4. Grass clippings should be bagged separately. Do not place loose grass clippings in the same pile as your brush. It will not be picked up as it cannot be mulched.

5. Anything that can be recycled, should be. This not only reduces the cost of pick up but goes a long way to help our environment.

6. The town offers a roll-off waste cart rental if you are removing high volume junk or limb debris. Call Town Hall for more info on rental: (919) 742-4731.

Agosto 12, 2020

Estimado Cliente,

La ciudad está experimentando un aumento de desperdisio de yarda y chatarra colocada al lado de la carretera. Debido a que tanta gente se queda y trabaja desde casa. Con el alto volumen, estamos experimentando retrasos para cuando los articu-los serán recogidos.

También ahora tenemos que entregar nuestros residuos a Sanford NC, desde el cierre de la estación de Siler City Waste Management en 2019.

Por favor, recuerde estas reglas para la recogida de desperdisio de yarda y chatarra: 1. No combinar el desperdisio de yarda y chatarra. No serά recogido.

2. No se deben colocar aceites, pinturas, gas, productos quimicos para matar hierba o recipientes peligrosos a lado de la carretera para ser recogidos.

3. No escombros de construcción: palets de madera, ladrillo, bloque de cemento, pared seca y concreto. Estos deben ser retirados por el contratista o propietario de la casa.

4. Los recortes de hierba deben embolsarse por separado. No coloque recortes de hierba sueltos en la misma pila que su desperdisio de yarda. No se recogerá ya que no se puede hacer en mantillo. Cualquier cosa que pueda ser reciclada, debe ser. Esto no sólo reduce el costo de la recogida, sino que ayuda mucho a nuestro medio ambiente.

5. La ciudad ofrece el programa Roll Off Waste Cart si está retirando chatarra de alto volumen o escombros de extremidades. Llame al City Hall para obtener más información sobre este programa: (919) 742-4731.

Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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Chatham EDC announces Byrd's resignation

PITTSBORO — Alyssa Byrd, the president of Chatham Economic Development Corporation (EDC), will be resigning from her post effective Aug. 28 to join the Town of Fuquay-Varina in Wake County as its economic development director.

Byrd joined the EDC in 2011 as a communication specialist. In her nine and a half years with the organization, she took on increasing leadership roles, serving as the director of communication and strategic projects, interim president, and as of February 2019, president.

"It has been a privilege to serve the EDC and residents of Chatham County, and I'm really proud of the work that's been done," Byrd said. "Chatham County has incredible assets that will be transformative for the region."

Chatham EDC chairman Jeff Wilson of Wilson Bros. Trucking said, "Alyssa has been a strong leader for the organization and in the community, and while we will miss her, we wish her the best with her new endeavor."

In her tenure as president, among many other notable accomplishments, Byrd recruited new industries to Chatham County — including Gilero in downtown Pittsboro and A.D. Tubi in Siler City — oversaw the continued development of Chatham's industrial sites, increased the EDC's capacity by expanding the staff, and led the organization through a strategic planning process.

The EDC's board of directors has engaged the firm Creative Economic Development Consulting to conduct an executive search. Byrd will remain available to support the staff and board through the transition period of selecting a new president.

The Chatham EDC is the lead economic development agency for Chatham County. The EDC is a 501(c)3 economic development non-profit that provides support to businesses throughout the county and markets Chatham County as the preferred location for emerging growth companies.

BYRD

Continued from page A1

The ultimate goal of economic development is to create increase and create wealth within a community. So I think from that standpoint, it won't be much different — just how that work is deployed, and what those strategies look like...they'll be tailored specifically to that geographical area and their assets and what they want to achieve.

Fuquay-Varina has seen a lot of residential growth over the past 10, 15, 20 years. That's much like Chatham County, but very specific to their economic goals is to increase their retail and services to support that residential growth. So the ultimate goal is still to increase wealth and community support and diversify your tax base support employment, but to tailor it to that community.

What are you most excited about with the new position?

It's a new adventure, right? I like learning things. I like challenges and I think this will check both of those boxes. There's a learning curve and meeting a lot of new people. So it's hard to just pick one thing, but the position has all the things that get me excited about Chatham County. In that sense I think the positions are very similar.

As you look back, what

are going to be the accomplishments you're most proud of? What will you remember most fondly?

I think that I was so lucky to recruit Sam Rauf and Ann Fitts to our team. They are two exceptional young professionals that Chatham County and the organization are lucky to have. One of the most difficult things with any business or any organization is getting the right fit on your team. They're such critical pieces of the success of the organization. So I'm so confident in them and their ability to adapt and rise to the challenge of being down a staff person. They'll see the road bumps much like I did when I was in that position, but you know, they have built strong relationships in their short tenure within the community and they'll do really well.

In the meantime we have contracted with a consulting and economic development consulting firm out of North Carolina. It's actually the same firm that helps Lee County and Sanford when they were transitioning their organization, and they are going to support us with executive recruitment as well as providing some back office internal support as needed.

Give us your assessment of where the county is right now...and what would you say to your successor about what's happening in Chatham County?

Chatham County is in such a great position. We have done a lot of groundwork, you know, starting back with Diane Reid, developing industrial sites. At this point, the two megasites are well-oiled machines. We've gotten a lot done with their development; any missing pieces, we know what they are and we know what it takes to do them. Chatham Park is developing; it's really taking off. I think the state of things is that we're going to see a lot of residential growth as Chatham Park builds homes. And from that there's going to be a natural demand of services within the community.

Especially now, with people staying at home or staying closer to home, I think that's a big opportunity for people to appreciate the services and the businesses within their community, as opposed to commuting out and maybe not embracing that.

So the state of things is that really great groundwork has been laid. There still some hurdles in the way — some refining and polishing of things we know we want and need to do. But the sky's really the limit here.

You mentioned hurdles...

I think that's one of the hard parts of me leaving. These projects aren't like two-week projects. They take months and months and they're long-term investments. I know some of the things in progress and in the works, and stepping away when they're 80% there and not being able to see them completed is really tough.

If you had a wish list of things you could bestow on

your successor, or Chatham County, what would be on that list?

Just three? (laughs). Let's see...I think funding for infrastructure is one of the biggest challenges. Siler City needs support. There's no county-wide, county-maintained sewer and sewer is so critical for good development practices. We don't want a lot of separate septic systems or shopping centers developed with septic or individual package plan. So I think sewer that will continue to be a need across the county. That's always going to be at the top of the wish list.

I think something tying into that infrastructure piece is broadband. The county does what it can do, but there are limitations to what they are legally permitted to do. And I know they want to do more. That's really in the hands of higher powers when it comes to legislation of what a municipality is permitted to do and provide. But I think that if given the opportunity, we would very much be compelled to invest in widespread broadband solutions.

Third on the wish list to continue to get through COVID. Let's protect our existing businesses and make sure they have the resources they need to be resilient through this, and that's going to be really challenging. Every community is facing that challenge right now, but that's my wish — for Chatham County businesses can hang on and get through this.

When you think about Fuquay-Varina, there's the old downtown area with breweries and coffee shops and lots more. Plus there's a huge retail base there...

There is. And I think we have that demand from folks who live here in Chatham County. But ultimately, when it comes to recruiting... Over the course of my time in Chatham County, I wish I had counted the number of times people asked me when we were going to get a Chick-fil-A. Part of economic development and understanding opportunities like that is knowing that a lot of those franchise or corporate location decisions are really based on metrics. A lot of what businesses like that require is based on headcount. A big piece of it is just having the population base to support the business.

What do you say to people who may not be as energized about growth, who would like to see Chatham stay the way it is?

I think I totally understand that. I'd say there are two things. One is that change is hard, and the other is the unknowns that come with change.

Seeing a proposal on a piece of paper is not the same as being able to enjoy the amenities that it might bring. So that's the first thing, because just being the funny little creatures we are, humans find it difficult to change and embrace the unknown.

I think across the

board, we can always do a better job at communicating the benefits of overall development and the very specifics about a project — because these things can really take off and spiral in a way that is not necessary. We need to do a better job communicating on the front end, and I think that comes with building community relationships...

We're lucky in Chatham County that we have some really exceptional developers tied to our projects, and the fact that they're local... You know, these are our neighbors and they're invested in our community. And I think you've got to embrace that.

Anything we didn't cover, or any final thoughts?

I have said this before, but I am so confident in Chatham County and this region and I have no doubt that this organization and will be able to recruit either from within or externally to bring top talent here. It's an incredibly compelling region. I might be leaving, but I'm not going far because this is a great place to live and to raise a family and to have a business. It's going to continue to grow. And we're going to continue to have extremely skilled and educated people coming out of the community college and university system. So I think people should be very proud of what's going on in Chatham County and embrace that growth because we're a big player in a good region.

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NAVIGATES

Continued from page A1

invoicing, while Rich is in charge of production and product development. Together, they make a team that's established a major presence in the North Carolina fiber arts community.

Twin Birch Products also offers wholesale buying, selling its products to more than 100 businesses nationwide, along with many schools that are still teaching traditional fiber art skills.

In addition to their appearance at in-person shows, the Szarys also have a 4,000 square-foot brick-and-mortar "fiber space" called Twin Birch & Teasel, located in the downtown arts district in Siler City, which remains open with modified hours.

This location serves as a retail, studio and education space, where they place a heavy emphasis on local artists, selling products like fair-trade African baskets, yarn, spinning wheels and accessories, fiber-related jewelry and other locally sourced goods, alongside their own birchwood fiber art tools.

"What we do is try to encourage local sales, local artists," Sue said. "Everything in our store needs to have a story. It has to have kind of a hands-on component to it. There's a human piece, the handson, the actual imagination that goes into the things that we carry here."

Twin Birch Products also works with the Siler City Merchants Association to raise awareness about the fiber arts community in Chatham County, while simultaneously using its space to give artists a place to create.

There are three resident artists at Twin Birch & Teasel's studio, including Sue, which she refers to as their "playground" because they tend to experiment with different types of art. Rentable studio space is also available, both short- and longterm, for artists. Education is also a major component of Twin Birch's mission, with a few guest artists teaching in-house classes such as Saori — a Japanese weaving technique — and Tunisian crochet. However, no classes have been held in the space since late February due to the pandemic and there is no plan to teach them in the foreseeable future. While Twin Birch &

While I win Birch & Teasel may not be hosting any physical classes and very few virtual classes — that doesn't mean the Szarys have stopped working to get new people involved in the community.

"We always take joy in introducing products to new knitters, to student knitters, to children that are learning at home," Sue said. "We're enablers here. We're going to help people down the path, get them information, get them the materials that they need and answer as many questions as we can."

Over the past five months, which saw the announcement of the stayat-home order by Gov. Roy Cooper in March, many people have attempted to pick up new hobbies or relearn old skills while they have more time on their hands. Sue has gotten to see this first hand.

"Last weekend a woman bought a pair of knitting needles for her mother in Texas and her 7-year-old daughter was with her," Sue said. "The daughter said 'I want to learn to knit too!' So now that she's home with her, she bought a pair and

she'll teach her to knit." There have been some knitters who have come into Twin Birch & Teasel to buy more needles because they're working on five or six projects at once since they now have the time and flexibility to choose which project they want to spend time with.

The lack of in-person fiber art shows, however, is limiting to how Twin Birch Products can branch out, grow their brand and introduce new folks to the art.

That's where virtual

shows come in.

Some of the larger fiber art shows, such as the Southeastern Animal Fiber Festival in Asheville, aren't hosting virtual shows, but they have a spot on their website where people can view all of their would-be vendors and visit their websites to buy directly from them online.

Other shows will begin hosting virtual events where someone can set up a time slot to "visit" a specific vendor online — such as Twin Birch Products — who will have their camera on so the customer can browse the products being offered and then purchase them from the vendor's website.

It may not be the most ideal way to spend the show season, but according to Sue, it's better than nothing.

"You speak with your customers across hundreds and hundreds of miles and try to make that work," Sue said. "It's really not the same as the touchy-feely and being able to tell stories with each other. The fiber arts community shares so many stories of their experiences with the traditional craft and so it's not quite the same, but at least we'll still have a presence."

Twin Birch Products aims to attend some virtual shows throughout 2020. With an already well-established website that includes an online marketplace where people can buy their products, the Szarys are ahead of the curve.

Despite all of the challenges that have emerged over the last five months, Sue remains optimistic for the future and continues to reinforce why she loves her job.

"We make tools that other people can walk around and say, 'I made this, I made it with your needles, look at what I made because of your tools," Sue said. "I think my favorite part [of owning Twin Birch Products] is just the endless possibilities for ourselves, for others and the opportunity to make connections."

STRUGGLES

Continued from page A1

companies is greatly intertwined. Recent correspondence from DEQ lists Michael Myers, the president of Envirolink, as the president of Old North State Water. But the president of Old North State Water, which is based in Alabama, is John McDonald, according to documents filed with the N.C. Utilities Commission. The companies have seemed to merge together for the purposes of the work in Chatham County into Old North State Water North Chatham with Myers at the helm.

Last year, DEQ assessed nine violations and ultimately penalized the company \$1,500. Letters of violation have also been sent to the company for this year's incidents including one for having an invalid operator designated, but penalty assessments are still "pending," according to DEQ documents.

During that same period, the companies were working through the process with the NCUC to connect the Briar Chapel system with Fearrington Village. The residents of both communities soon began speaking out against the merger. At a January public hearing on the subject, 230 people were in attendance with more than 30 speaking in opposition to the transfer.

Following the public hearing, the public staff at the NCUC filed a motion to postpone public hearings scheduled for later in January and instead schedule a June evidentiary hearing.

"The Public Staff is extremely concerned about the extensive and compelling customer testimony on the reclaimed water issues," the motion stated, "including odor, excessive watering, spraying outside the permitted areas, windblown reclaimed water, and the lack of responsiveness by Old North State and Environlink's to the customer complaints."

In the meantime, the NCUC allowed three additional groups to participate in the process as intervenors — the Briar Chapel Community Association, StopChathamNorth and the Fearrington Homeowners Association — and more than 600 residents signed a petition against the project. The petition later become part of the public record for the NCUC investigation.

In May, the hearing was postponed to September "to allow the Public Staff and intervenors time to further investigate and prepare testimony on issues in this case." The actual date is likely to be later than that, according to Bill Grantmyre, a member of the public staff of the N.C. Utilities Commission leading the investigation. Grantmyre said that the team is still working to gather information from the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality and other outside sources. He believed the hearing could be anywhere from November to January.

Briar Chapel's most recent spill of 8,400 gallons of untreated wastewater on July 26 may have further complicated matters. Grantmyre said the commission was aware of the spill and is working with the other regulatory agencies responsible for monitoring the system. But the last spill was enough for at least one developer.

Chris Ehrenfeld — a partner in Chatham Media Group, which owns the News + Record — and the owner of Bold Development, the developr of Williams Corner, put public hearings on the project on hold citing concerns about the ability of the company to manage wastewater. In the letter to the county requesting the delay, Ehrenfeld said his company relies "on utility partnerships and have faith in local providers to hold up their end of the bargain and adequately perform the services for which we engage them. Bold is not willing to gamble with the health of our surrounding community."

At the same time, the town of Pittsboro voted unanimously to sever its agreement with Old North State Water Company for the operation of its wastewater reclamation plant still under construction on U.S. Hwy. 64 East at its regular meeting on Monday, August 10. The town originally entered into an operators agreement with Old North State Water Company in May 2018. The resolution dissolving that relationship stated that "irreconcilable issues" between Chatham Park and Old North State Water Company "have arisen in 2020" making it such that Chatham Park has not entered into an agreement with them to own and operate the facility. That agreement was a pre-requisite for the original operator agreement with the town.

Tim Smith, one of the developers with Chatham Park, said that while the two companies are in negotiations, without an agreement, Chatham Park asked the town to make the change for the NPDES permit, the one issued from N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality that allows the plant to operate.

"The town's NPDES permit needed to be in the same name as the town agreement on the Chatham Park plant as directed by the state," Smith said. "It was decided that putting both the permit and the agreement in Chatham Park's name was best. That way if there ever was a change in operators of the plant, the name, Chatham Park, would not need to change."

What Old North State Water Company, Envirolink and the combines Old North State Water Chatham North do moving forward is likely a question for regulators. The companies own and operate dozens of facilities across the state, most of which are smaller subdivision size water systems and seven wastewater systems.

The Briar Chapel system is "substantially larger" than any of the other systems that it operates, according to Grantmyre. According to records from the N.C. Utilities Commission, the average user number for its water systems is 40. Its six other wastewater treatment plants range between 10,000 to 150,000 gallons per day. The system in Briar Chapel processes about 250,000 gallons per day and has over 1,700 customers. Grantmyre said that he was not aware of any current action against any of those systems.

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



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Chatham News + Record SPORTS NEWS & CLASSIFIEDS

AUGUST 20-26, 2020 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

NEW CHATHAM BUSINESS Carolina Waters takes off: Locally born brand built on the water marries performance and design

BY ADRIANNE CLEVEN News + Record Correspondent

BEAR CREEK — Two longtime friends, countless fishing expeditions and a love of smalltown life have added up to a young business for Chatham native Chris Callicutt and his friend Brad Terry.

The two men have regular day jobs — Callicutt is a physical education teacher at Chatham Charter School, and Terry is a store manager but each manage to spend a decent amount of time on fishing expeditions across the state. This year, their hobby crossed over from an intense pastime to a business venture: a performance and lifestyle clothing brand called "Carolina Waters.

"The more I researched it," Callicutt said, "there's not a ton of North Carolina-based outdoor companies ... And I thought that was a little market that we might be able to take advantage of and really succeed in. You have your 'Lake Life' and your 'Salt Life' (brands) ... but there's not a whole lot of North Carolina-based stuff.'

Starting with a company name and a logo, the two set out to change that in between their daytime work and duties as fathers to young kids. It took around four months for the brand to move from ideation to its debut online last month.

"We're trying to get our dad time in, to do a little fishing on the side," Callicutt said. "But we wanted to do something extra with it this year. And the more that that evolved, we wanted to get a branding for our little adventures. And that's where we came up with the name Carolina Waters ... we like to fish throughout the whole state, so we wanted to find something to encapsulate that.

Each member of the pair brings a certain specialty to the project. Terry has worked in retail management for around 15 years, while Bear Creek native Callicutt did some sports marketing work before his current positions as a P.E. teacher and basketball coach at Chatham Charter in Siler City.

But the engine behind the Carolina Waters project stems from a longtime love of fishing and being outdoors. Though Callicutt is the only Chatham native of the duo, they both spent plenty of time fishing in



Brad Terry (left) and Chris Callicutt, the co-founders of the fishing and lifestyle clothing brand Carolina Waters, pose near a family pond in Tramway.

the county's waters. According to Terry, the Cape Fear, Haw and Deep River are all "home waters for us." They've both made sizable catches in Harris Lake and Jordan Lake, too.

"I love seeing the sunrise on any body of water," Terry said. "It feels like the closest I am in nature — when you see the sun come up. So that's one of my favorite traditions, being on any body of water and watching the sun rise and getting the first snippet of light over the water ... It's gorgeous.

When Callicutt and Terry dip their lines into a pond owned by Terry's family, it's evident they're not too worried about scaring fish off with competitive banter and dad jokes. When one of them hooks a tree with a line, it's jokingly called a "tree-pounder" instead of what they're really after: a threepound fish or an even bigger catch.

Submitted photo

Neither of them make a practice of eating their catches - Terry said he doesn't like the taste of bass — but by the end



Submitted photo

Brad Terry, co-founder of the fishing and lifestyle brand Carolina Waters, holds a largemouth bass he caught in a family-owned pond in Tramway. His business partner Chris Callicutt walks behind him.

of an evening of fishing they've caught a few nice-sized largemouth bass. One tips the scale

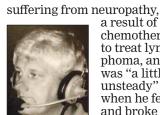
See **BUSINESS**, page B2

Phil Senter, longtime Jordan-Matthews football coach and teacher, dies

BY CHAPEL FOWLER News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Phil Senter, the vaunted Jordan-Matthews football coach who led the Jets to 14 consecutive playoff appearances in 19 years at the helm, died Tuesday morning.

His daughter, Wendy Copelan, confirmed the news in a Facebook post early Tuesday. She said Senter had been



Senter

phoma, and was "a little unsteady" when he fell and broke his neck Monday night pulling

chemotherapy

to treat lym-

a recycling bin in from the road. Neurosurgeons arrived to

treat him, but Copelan said the injuries from his fall were "too severe."

"My daddy and my hero left us peacefully this morning." Copelan wrote. "I am so angry that he fought lymphoma and won and this fall took him.

"I am everything I am today because of this amazing man!" she continued. "Please pray for strength for us. We are rocked to the core. God, I need you!"

Senter, who retired from the school in 1996 after going 146-65-2, remained a beloved fixture in the community long after he stopped coaching.

P.J. Lowman, the former Jor-dan-Matthews men's basketball coach who played four years of football for Senter at J-M, said the coach changed his life for the better — "and there's hundreds of people just like me" who feel the same, he added.

"Honestly, I don't even know

where to start," said Lowman, now coaching at Apex Friendship. "He's a guy who held the coach title long after he coached. He was so active on Facebook. If I ever posted something about my teams, he was always there with a word of encouragement. He stayed our coach 25 years after he was gone."

Funeral and memorial service details are still developing. Visit chathamnewsrecord.com/ sports for further information.

'ALL YOU REALLY NEED IS A PAIR OF SHOES'



CN+R file photo

More than 100 athletes from 20 schools competed at the NCHSAA 3A Mideast Regional on Northwood's campus last fall.

Cross country during a pandemic? Local runners, coaches say not much has changed

BY CHAPEL FOWLER

News + Record Staff

Every morning, Sarah Barbour wakes up at 7:30 a.m. By 8 a.m., she's running, with the open country and trails of Moncure as her course and contemporary Christian as her music of choice.

The Northwood sophomore puts in three to six miles a day. She's up to 184.8 miles for the summer. In June, she shattered her previous personal best in a two-mile run by 53 seconds. An optimist, Barbour said she realized the coronavirus pandemic has helped her in that regard.

"I'm making the best out of the worst situation," Barbour said. "Without all of this being at home, the growth that I've had probably wouldn't have happened."

With life slowed down a bit, she's found it easier to eat healthy, stay hydrated and most of all keep up with her stretching — "usually," she said, "I'm horrible at that." So far, the results of Barbour's hard work have shown, and she's excited to carry them over to the Chargers' 2020 season.

Her progress is a nod to cross coun-try's place in a sports world still largely dictated by COVID-19. An individual

sport at its roots, it remained relatively unscathed in comparison to team competition. And, more so than golf and tennis, two lower-risk sports that have also seen a surge, running is equitable.

"All you really need is a pair of shoes, somewhere to run and some motivation," Barbour said.

As such, coaches in Chatham County said they had an easier time making progress this summer. Whether in-person, under the NCHSAA's socially distanced guidelines, or remotely, their athletes can still go the extra mile. At Woods Charter, co-head coaches

Bernard Penney and Karen Hawkins just wrapped up six weeks of workouts, focusing mostly on "regular runs" of 30 to 45 minutes to help runners establish base times for running a mile, two miles and so on. They also utilized "tempo runs," shorter-interval runs meant to build up speed for competitions, jump roping, agility ladders and core and strength training.

It was a "safe environment," Hawkins said, as the Wolves adhered to the NCH-SAA's Phase One and Two guidelines for in-person workouts. When they weren't running on the shady one-mile trail behind Woods Charter's Chapel Hill campus, athletes wore masks, and everyone got

See **RUNNERS**, page B2

WE'VE GOT TO ROLL WITH IT'

How county ADs are tackling the NCHSAA's new 2020-21 athletics calendar

BY CHAPEL FOWLER News + Record Staff

After a spring and summer's worth of coronavirus-induced cancellations and delays, Chatham County's five high schools got a comprehensive roadmap for fall sports last Wednesday.

That afternoon, the NCHSAA announced its much anticipated 2020-21 athletics calendar. No teams will hold official practices until November, football games won't start until February and all but three sports (cross country, volleyball and swimming and diving) won't compete until 2021.

It was an understandably dramatic overhaul, one that brought with it plenty of questions and made for an atmosphere of "hesitant excitement," as Jordan-Matthews' Josh Harris put it. Still, though, he and the rest of the county's athletic directors had some-thing definitive. And that was a relief. "On social media, a lot of people are starting to get really bitter and negative

about things," Northwood co-AD Jason Amy said. "I'm just tickled to death they told us we were even going to do something. It was better than guessing.

Added Chatham Charter's Clint Fields: "We've gone so long with, 'There's something coming, there's something coming,' and now we finally have it. We've got to roll with it."

NCHSAA commissioner Que Tucker said she hopes the schedule, which runs from November to June, is a "oneyear blip on our radar." The changes to football are the most eye-catching a slew of top in-state recruits have already announced they'll pass on a spring season and enroll early at their respective colleges — but there are sub-stantive changes to other sports, too.

Men's soccer, a traditional fall sport, and men's/women's lacrosse, traditional spring sports, will all begin games Jan. 25. Outdoor cross country, which usually ends its season in November, will now start meets Nov. 16. Wrestling, a winter sport, will compete from April to June.

"When you have a schedule, you can move forward, make plans," Woods Charter athletic director Dena Floyd said. "Let's be positive. People need to realize it's not going to be like it was last year.'

Tucker, in a news conference last Wednesday, provided more specifics on the calendar, which is still in the works. The NCHSAA hopes to hold playoff competition for all sports, she said, and acknowledges that weather may play a role in traditionally outdoor sports budgeted for the winter — as such, the current limit of two competitions a week is "not set in stone.

Tucker also confirmed the NCHSAA has no rules preventing athletes from participating in multiple sports, even if those sports' seasons run simultaneously. Floyd said Woods Charter, a 1A school that relies heavily on multisport athletes to field enough players for its varsity rosters, will have to "get creative" there; it'll also be a point of concern at fellow 1As Chatham Charter and Chatham Central.

Scheduling is also on athletic di-rectors' minds — usually a year-long process and collaboration between them and their individual coaches, it's back to Square One in terms of finding opponents.

As HighSchoolOT reported Friday, the NCHSAA placed a temporary moratorium on official scheduling, but schools can still make plans unofficially. In the Central Tar Heel 1A Conference, home to Chatham Charter, Woods Charter and six other charter schools, that can be tricky.

Since charter schools act as their own local education agency, or LEA, under NCHSAA rules, each may take its own stance on how and when it will return to competition, including in stricter ways

Amy said the same goes for the Big 8 3A Conference that Northwood competes in. In that conference alone, five systems are represented: Chatham County, Orange County, Durham Coun-

See **CALENDAR**, page B2

Spring football, no sports practicing until November and other changes in new NCHSAA calendar

BY CHAPEL FOWLER 2020 News + Record Staff

High school sports in North Carolina won't begin official practices until Nov. 4 and competitions until Nov. 16, according to the NCHSAA's new 2020-21 athletics calendar announced last Wednesday by commissioner Que Tucker.

The new calendar, approved by the NCHSAA Board of Directors last Tuesday, also moved the first football practices to Feb. 8, 2021, and first football games to Feb. 26. Football teams can play seven total regular-season games, and one game a week, through April 9.

Men's and women's basketball teams will first practice Dec. 7 and play games from Jan. 4 to Feb. 19, with a 14-game cap; cross country and volleyball will be the first two sports to resume practices and games in November. Swimming and diving, which practices Nov. 23 and start meets Dec. 7, is the only other sanctioned sport with competition scheduled in

"We recognize that this is a lot of information to digest and drastically different from the way the sport calendar has been aligned for years in North Carolina, Tucker said. "However, as we mentioned many weeks ago: we will play again. In that mantra we believe, and it is in that spirit that we present this calendar.

She added that "all proposed dates are dependent on COVID-19 conditions improving" across the state, but the board still saw the calendar as "a framework we believe maximizes the opportunities for students in our membership to participate in athletics at some point during this school year."

The calendar overhaul came a week after the NCHSAA initially delayed the start of the fall sports season until at least mid-September, in reaction to Gov. Roy Cooper's extension of Phase Two in the state through at least Friday, Sept. 11. In normal years, official fall sport tryouts

2020	0-2021	NCHSA	A SPOR	TS CALEI	NDAR
Sport	1st Practice Date	1st Competition Date	Final Contest Date	Season Contest Limit	Weekly Contest Limit
Cross-Country	November 4	November 16	January 8	10	2
Volleyball	November 4	November 16	January 8	14	2
Swimming & Diving	November 23	December 7	January 30	10	2
Basketball	December 7	January 4	February 19	14	2
Lacrosse (M&W)	January 11	January 25	March 12	14	2
Soccer (M)	January 11	January 25	March 12	14	2
Football	February 8	February 26	April 9	7	1
Golf (M&W)	March 1	March 15	April 30	14	2
Soccer (W)	March 1	March 15	April 30	14	2
Softball	March 1	March 15	April 30	14	2
Tennis (M)	March 1	March 15	April 30	14	2
Baseball	April 12	April 26	June 11	14	2
Tennis (W)	April 12	April 26	June 11	14	2
Track & Field	April 12	April 26	June 11	10	2
Wrestling	April 12	April 26	June 11	14	2

The NCHSAA has also scheduled a cheerleading invitational for May 1.

and practices begin on Aug. 1.

The NCHSAA has allowed its member schools to work out under comprehensive Phase One safety guidelines since June 15 at the discretion of their local education agencies, or LEAs. On Aug.

3, the NCHSAA allowed schools to move into somewhat less restrictive Phase Two workouts.

Tucker said Wednesday the NCHSAA will continue to allow schools to work out under Phase Two guidelines with one tweak — access to locker

rooms and weight rooms will be governed by each LEA.

Both of those decisions were approved by the NCHSAA Board of Directors on Tuesday night along with the new calendar. The board also kept in place a dead period for the first five

"student days" of the school year so athletes can focus on academics. For most schools, that dead period will run Aug. 17 to 21.

Submitted photo

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

CALENDAR

Continued from page B1

ty, Vance County and Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools. They, too, may govern their own reopening and athletics.

"I want to personally just see if we can get through cross country and volleyball," Amy said.

The feasibility of any plan as comprehensive as the NCH-SAA's during the coronavirus pandemic remains a lingering fear. Tucker said last week Gov. Roy Cooper's reopening plan

— namely, moving into Phase 3 - will play "a huge role" in the NCHSAA's target start dates in

November.

In Chatham County, all public and charter schools started the 2020-21 academic year with virtual learning Monday. But in terms of athletics, they've haven't been as uniform.

While Chatham Charter and Woods Charter held summer workouts - and are making plans for fall workouts under NCHSAA guidelines, public schools Northwood, Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central remain on pause as Chatham County Schools begin the year with nine weeks of remote learning.

"There's so many different scenarios we can paint," said Amy, who also teaches physical education at Northwood. "I'm

'People need to realize it's not going to be like it was last year.'

DENA FLOYD, Woods Charter athletic director

just trying to pull back and focus on starting school."

'That's the big thing: there's probably going to be some hiccups," Fields of Chatham Charter said. "It's just being patient and working with your coaches and administration, because this is new to everyone.'

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



Under the NCHSAA's new athletics calendar, volleyball will be one of two sports starting practices Nov. 4 and competition Nov. 16.

CN+R file photo

RUNNERS

Continued from page B1

temperature checks.

"Despite all of those added things, I've seen a joy that they're improving and getting a few moments to hang

of school. Cross country coach Gary Oakley didn't hold summer workouts, but he said he's working on a fall schedule where he can train athletes in specific techniques, such as heel or speed exercises, to supplement their solo distance runs.

'When kids are together

calendar. It places cross country front and center along with volleyball, as both are scheduled to start official practices Nov. 4 and competitions Nov. 16 — the earliest of any sports in the state.

Jackson Adams, a Northwood sophomore, said the idea of cross country being front and center under the new schedule was "awesome," even if it brings some necessary adjustments to cooler weather. Outside of a two-week stint in July, the high schools in the Chatham County Schools system (Northwood,

Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central) have not held summer workouts. So Northwood coach Cameron Isenhour and his athletes have done most of their work individually, logging times and keeping up with each other's runs through the app Strava, which Adams

Barbour, has improved dramatically — $\bar{h}e$'s dropped 42 seconds from his previous best two-mile time.

The only reason I'm willing to do that is because next season in the fall, we have a very good chance at a state championship," Adams said. "I'll do anything to help that."

their respective all-conference teams.

This season, coaches and players want their season one of the first in the NCH-SAA's attempt to resume high school sports, which haven't been played since March amid coronavirus to mean even more.

out with their peers," said Hawkins, a former scholarship runner at N.C. State.

Chatham Charter started holding workouts June 15, the earliest date allowed the NCHSAA, and will resume them next week after a dead period for the first five days

and they see each other." he said, "they're more likely to push each other."

Area runners and coaches got a nice surprise last Wednesday, too, when NCHSAA commissioner Que Tucker revealed the association's new 2020-21 athletics

described as "an Instagram for running."

This summer, Adams has started his hour-long runs around 7 a.m., running the backroads of his Pittsboro home. He logs between 50 and 60 miles a week (seven to nine a day) and, like

The Northwood men's cross country team finished 8th in last year's NCHSAA 3A state championship meet, capping off a successful 2019 season in which all five high schools in Chatham County placed at least one men's and women's runner each on

"We hope we can not only be a sport that people tune into," Hawkins said, "but a sport that gives them hope.'

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

BUSINESS

Continued from page B1

at five pounds.

Their expertise and real-life hours out on the water have translated to a line of clothing that's conscious of the needs of fishermen. The clothing line, hosted on the website of an outdoor clothing company called Nuthreads, offers performance fishing shirts and cotton T-shirts. Callicutt and Terry also sell Carolina Waters-branded hats and decals.

'Our performance gear is sort of that dri-fit, moisture-wicking style gear," Callicutt said. "It has SPF 50 sun protection, so it minimizes the use of sunscreen and it also keeps you covered from pretty much head-to-toe with the long sleeves. And you still remain cool, because it's lightweight.

According to Terry and Callicutt, the design of the Carolina Waters logo was created just as intentionally. After Callicutt created a base design, local designer and Chatham resident Elgin Marsh took the original mock-up and, in Callicutt's words, "brought it to life." The final design includes an outline of the N.C. border, a fishing hook and waves that represent the ocean along the state's coast.

"I was excited to get on board and help bring (Callicutt's) vision to life," Marsh said in an email. "I wanted to create something eye-catching but symbolic of the name 'Carolina Waters.'

Though the business is still in its infancy, Terry and Callicutt are using

social media to spread the word. They recently reached an agreement with Gulf's J.R. Moore & Son to sell their product in-store.

Julie King-McDaniel, the co-owner of J.R. Moore & Son, said partnering with another business to sell a successful product "is a win for both us and the vendor

"When we have an opportunity to support a local business by offering and showcasing their goods at our store, we try to make that happen," she said. "We

THERE

think that local businesses should be supportive of one another.

Callicutt and Terry said they've felt supported by the community, especially during a pandemic that has disrupted supply chains across the nation.

"During this time, if you can support your neighbor, whether that be the small shops downtown or people with creative ideas like ourselves ... if there's mutual support between neighbors and families, then that's going to keep our area positive and our community on an uptick no matter what situation comes our way," Callicutt said.

'As far as where I see us going in the future," Terry "I think as long as said, the interest is there we'll keep broadening the horizons as far as designs and new additions to the logo and different color palettes ... I think if we can tell a story with our colors and our designs on our shirts, I think they're going to continue to be popular.'

Still, both seem to care more about showing pride for their state and perfecting their fishing technique than maximizing sales.

'I don't want it to be this huge fad because I'm not a big numbers guy,"

Callicutt said, "So I really don't care if we get a huge amount of sales. I just want the customer to appreciate the product that's in their hands and the design that they have, and they take pride in wearing it."



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Siler City seeking more info on proposed Third Street closure

BY CASEY MANN News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The Siler City Board of Commissioners decided on Monday to wait for additional information before moving forward with public hearings on the proposed closure of E. Third Street in front of the Mountaire Farms chicken processing plant.

Mountaire, a Delaware-based company, has been seeking the closure of the road for more than a year. In previous meetings, the board requested several pieces of information — a new traffic impact analysis to include not only impacts around the plant, but impacts on Raleigh Street; an economic impact study by the Chatham **Economic Development** Corporation; and public informational sessions on the plan to be held



CN+R file photo

Mountaire continues to pursue its request to have a portion of Third Street in Siler City be permanently closed. Siler City officials have opted to wait and get additional information and public input before moving forward.

and for staff to prep the necessary resolution documents to schedule formal hearings.

As of Monday, the only item that was complete was the resolutions. Board members indicated they felt uncomfortable moving forward with the formal process without the other items.

Mark Reif, Mountaire's community relations manager for North Carolina, raised concerns about having in-person informational sessions due to COVID-19 and noted they were planning instead to host a video conference for the public using the Zoom online platform. The board was not receptive to holding only virtual meetings.

"Not everybody has access to Zoom, but (they want) to voice their opinion," Commissioner Tony Siler said. "They're going to be left out."

"Not everyone has the phones or computers to do that," Mayor Pro-Tem Cindy Bray added. "We do, but we can't take it for granted because not everyone does. We're talking about older people who don't have access to this stuff."

"Can you see my mama on a Zoom?" Commissioner Chip Price quipped. "No paither that's why

"Me neither, that's why I've been here every meeting," Bray responded. "I don't personally feel

"I don't personally feel like I can consider anything until I have public input," Price said. "Until I get some input from the citizenry."

Several commissioners suggested that written questions needed to be collected by the staff prior to any virtual meeting. At the same time the board wanted to ensure that answers and responses were distributed in a variety of ways, perhaps at Town Hall or through media outlets.

Reif remarked that "it sounds like we need to do this a few different ways."

Another significant concern for the board was the completion of an economic impact study. Reif noted that such a study could take five or six months to complete, which was "a problem" for the company. Sam Rauf, the project manager for the Chatham Economic Development Corporation, acknowledged that a "full economic formal study from a third party" might take at least six months, but that it may be possible for him and town staff to do a door-to-door survey of businesses that may be affected by the road closure rather than contract with a third party to do the study.

"It may not be as formal, but we're happy to try to find a way to expedite," Rauf said.

The board seemed satisfied with that option as long as businesses surveyed went beyond just those on E. Third Street.

The timeframe for the completion of the items requested by the board was not certain, but the board agreed that it was not comfortable moving forward to the formal public hearing process without having the information prior.

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

Pet of the Week: DIESEL



Photo courtesy of the Chatham Sheriff's Office

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Diesel, a 1-year-old, neutered lab mix! Diesel would be a total lap dog if he could – although his size doesn't exactly mesh with that job description. He is known around the Animal Resource Center as a goofy, lovable pooch who enjoys long walks and snuggles with his humans. Diesel is very playful, but also conscientious and mindful when playing with children and small dogs; he is extremely gentle and careful not to harm those smaller than himself. Diesel would make a wonderful companion for an individual or family home, especially if members of the household are moderately active or if there are other dogs or children to entertain him. He is the giant, endearing sidekick of your dreams! Through the month of August, Diesel's adoption fee is 50% off - meaning he can go home with his new owner(s) for only \$50! This fee covers microchip implantation, Rabies vaccination, and Bordetella/Distemper vaccinations. For more information on how to meet or adopt Diesel, call ahead to 919-542-7203 to schedule a visitation appointment or speak with an Animal Resource Officer. The ARC is located at 725 Renaissance Dr., Pittsboro, and is currently participating in Clear the Shelter month! For details on how you can get involved in helping local animals, visit www.facebook.com/chathamsoar.

Pet of the Week: DUCHESS



Photo courtesy of the Chatham Sheriff's Office

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office would like you to meet Duchess, a 10-month-old, female, calico domestic shorthair. She is an adorable, engaging feline looking for a cozy home to call her own! Duchess earned her name by establishing herself as the resident Animal Resource Center diva - occasionally demanding attention, chin scratches, and snuggles from her caretakers. Duchess loves to spend her days lounging about and watching visitors come and go from the ARC. She would do well in an individual or family home as she is a very quiet, peaceful companion who craves nothing more than human interaction and a soft bed for casual afternoon naps. Her low-cost, \$20 adoption fee covers her spay, microchip implantation, and vaccinations! For more information on how to meet or adopt Duchess, call 919-542-7203 to speak with an Animal Resource Officer. If you would like to visit the ARC at 725 Renaissance Dr., please call ahead to schedule an appointment. August is national Clear the Shelter month, so be sure to check out www.facebook.com/chathamsoar for details on how you can get involved in helping local animals find their fur-ever homes!



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DEBBIE **MATTHEWS** The Curious Cook

bill each month, I hate wasting food.

More than a frosted lemonade, more than a new Mad magazine, more than no line at the bank, I love rustic, artisanal, bakerv breads.

This puts me on the horns of a dilemma.

I'd love to fill my kitchen with sourdough miche. ciabatta rolls, multi-grain loaves and big, fat, yeast rolls. But the drawback to these kinds of breads is that they go furry quickly, and go stale even quicker. So, what's a girl, to

whom throwing away food is anathema, to do? This girl uses the bread as fresh as possible for

things like tomato sandwiches, made with garden fresh tomatoes. Once the bread goes

stale, it's still great for grilled or toasted sandwiches. After that, but before it goes furry, bag it and place it in the freezer. It's perfect for bread crumbs and coating for oven-baked pork chops and chicken. I haven't bought Shake & Bake or any breader for literally decades.

But even from the chill chest, this bread can make a delicious, unusual starchy sandwich siding.

Thaw two slices of the bread. Spread a little softened butter on one side of each Place buttered side down onto heated skillet and cook until browned and crispy. While grilling, the other side will become

as soft as fresh. Then spread the grilled sides with sandwich fixings. Tuna is terrific on this reclaimed bread.

This procedure makes the best peanut butter and jelly sandwich you will ever put in your mouth. The butterv crunch of a grilled PB&J is wonderful. But peanut butter and jelly will both warm, soften, and drizzle right out once you pick it up. This way, though, you can wait a minute until it cools, and you get the buttery crusty, along with the soft pillowy experience of fresh bread on the outside.

Below, I've got a couple of recipes for our favorite grilled cheese sandwiches. The mayonnaise may seem odd, but the egg in it makes the crust almost take on a savory French toast texture.

Thanks for your time. Contact me at debbie@ bullcity.mom.



Photo courtesy of Debbie Matthews

A delicious grilled cheese sandwich is enhanced by - of all things mayonnaise.



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Petey's Perfect Grilled Cheese

2 slices hearty rustic bread 4 slices bacon, cooked 'til very crispy

2 slices Velveeta cheese 1/3 cup shredded mild cheddar

2 teaspoons mayonnaise

Heat a cast-iron or other heavy skillet on medium-low. Make sandwich:

1 slice Velveeta, shredded cheddar, bacon, then the final slice of Velveeta. Spread mayo on the outside of both slices of bread.

Place sandwich onto heated skillet. Cover pan and cook until cheese has begun to melt. Uncover and cook until the first side is browned and crispy.

Flip sandwich and cook the other side until done.

Remove from pan and let sit three minutes or so before cutting.

Debbie's Deluxe Grilled Cheese

(optional)

2 slices hearty rustic bread

4 thin slices of the sharpest cheddar 2 tablespoons onion jam (*recipe is in the Nov. 22, 2019, edition of the News +Record)

2 teaspoons mayonnaise

1-2 teaspoons brown deli or Dijon mustard

NDC #74446-333-01

HAND

GEL

1/2 teaspoons horseradish

you can find

Heat skillet to medium-low. Mix mustard and horseradish until smooth. Construct sandwich: spread mustard on one slice of bread, then layer two slices cheddar, onion jam, topping with last two slices.

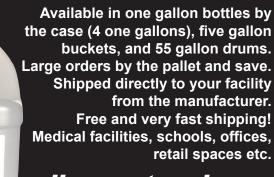
Spread one teaspoon mayo on the outside of each slice of bread.

Place sandwich onto heated skillet. Cover pan and cook until cheese has begun to melt. Uncover and cook until the first side is browned and crispy.

Flip sandwich and cook the other side until done.

Remove from pan and let sit three minutes or so before cutting.

HAND SANITIZER GEL IN BULK KILLS 99.9% OF GERMS



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REA

ESTATE

The word on vaccines and immunization from Chatham's Health Department

August marks National Immunization Awareness Month The Chatham County Public Health Department is marking the month by celebrating "Vaccine Appreciation Week" on its Facebook page, facebook.com/chathamhealth, from August 17-23. A team that included Public Health Nurse Laura Parks, Childcare Health Consultant Dorothy Rawleigh, Communications Specialist Zachary Horner and Interim Public Health Director Michael Zelek from the CCPHD answered some questions about immunizations, including what is offered at the department's Siler City clinic, potential COVID-19 vaccines and the upcoming flu season.

What vaccines does the Health Department offer? And why those vaccines?

The Chatham County Public Health Department currently offers vaccines for children to cover state requirements for entering school. Those vaccines include Tdap, Td, Hepatitis A and B, HPV, Polio, DTaP, MMR, Menactra (Meningococcal), Hib, Prevnar (Pneumococcal), Rotateq, and Varicella. CCPHD recommends children receive all of these vaccines and follow the vaccine schedule recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The clinic also offers adult immunizations for the seasonal flu, Hepatitis A and B, HPV, MMR, Prevnar and pneumovax 23 (Pneumococcal), Rabies, Shingrix (Shingles), Td and Vaicella. Coverage for adults is dependent on insurance. Some adults may meet coverage criteria for state supplied vaccine, which means no out of pocket cost to client.

Beyond us, there are many options in the Chatham community to get vaccinated. Talk to your doctor or medical provider to ensure you and your family are up-to-date on vaccines and protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

The World Health Organization called "vaccine hesitancy" — "the reluctance or refusal to vaccinate despite the availability of vaccines" — one of the top 10 threats to global health last year. Is that a concern in Chatham County?

Vaccines are among the most important public health interventions that



exist, and we always encourage Chatham residents to protect themselves and their families by getting vaccinated. Here in Chatham, our community has responded. Vaccination rates among young children in the county consistently rank among the highest in the state. In 2019, 99 percent of children in licensed child care in Chatham were up-to-date on age-based vaccine requirements. Additionally, all 43 of Chatham's child care facilities are fully in compliance with immunization laws. Only around 4% of parents of children under two years old have refused to get their children vaccinated. The Chatham County Public Health Department and residents have worked together to make this happen.

The CDC published a report in May saying that immunizations in Michigan declined by around 50 percent among children two years and younger during the COVID-19 pandemic. Should parents be bringing in their children for immunizations right now?

Yes. Vaccines are as important now as ever. For example, getting COVID-19 and the flu at the same time could make you very ill, and vaccines are as good of a tool as we have to protect ourselves. Medical providers across Chatham County and the country have implemented measures focusing on patient safety during the pandemic. If you have questions about these measures, give your doctor a call.

If more people do not vaccinate their children on time, the likelihood of a vaccine-preventable disease outbreak increases. No one wants to deal with an outbreak on top of a pandemic. A person who has influenza, measles or pertussis, for example, is going to be at a greater risk for a severe COVID-19 infection because their immune system will already be compromised. The situation we're in really highlights the critical importance of vaccinating children on time for every childhood immunization.

With flu season coming up, what is the status of the flu vaccine in Chatham County? What should people know about the flu vaccine this year as compared to previous years?

This flu season, it is more critical than ever that Chatham residents get the flu vaccine. With one virus being rapidly transmitted around the county, it's important that Chatham respond and get vaccinated.

The flu vaccine will soon become widely available, and we will be updating the Chatham community through our website, chathamnc.org/publichealth, and our Facebook page, facebook.com/ chathamhealth. Your doctor and pharmacy are beginning to get the flu vaccine. Given them a call to schedule your visit.

Another interesting fact is that social distancing was not created specifically for the coronavirus — it has been practiced for many years. During the 1918 flu pandemic, cities across America closed movie theaters and schools and prohibited public gatherings to help curb the spread of the virus. To help prevent the flu from infecting people, we need to be conscious of how we interact with others in public. And while the COVID-19 pandemic is still going on, it's vital that we continue to follow the 3 Ws — wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, wear a face covering when in public and wait six feet apart from others.

What is the most common misconception you've heard about vaccines, and why is it a misconception?

We hear many people express concern about children receiving "too many" vaccines and that these vaccines will overwhelm an infant's immune system. It's understandable for parents to question the number of shots and the components in them, but it is important to know that the benefits of being up-to-date on vaccines are clear.

We encourage parents to learn more about how the different kinds of vaccines are made and how our immune systems work. It's really quite fascinating. Vaccines contain parts of viruses or bacteria that induce protective immune responses. These active ingredients are called immunological components. The challenges from the immunological components in vaccines is minuscule compared to the immune system challenges that infants experience every day from viruses, bacteria, parasites and fungi in our environment, on our skins, in our food, in the water we drink and the air we breathe. Babies are constantly making antibodies to respond to the trillions of bacteria they are colonized with. Each bacterium contains 2,000 and 6,000 immunological components. The challenge from the 150 immunological components in vaccines is dwarfed when compared to what their immune systems manage every day.

While we don't know what the COVID-19 vaccine will look like, what role do immunizations play in viruses that spread like the strand of the coronavirus does?

The history of vaccines tells us a lot about how effective they have been in the past, and we hope that the COVID-19 vaccine will do something similar. Like COVID-19, measles is a disease caused by a virus that is spread by respiratory droplets from person to person. Thanks to effective use of vaccines, measles was virtually eliminated in the U.S. by 2000. Unfortunately, it has returned due to some children not being immunized, and there have been some notable outbreaks in recent years. Polio was a disease spread through person-to-person contact and caused issues ranging from a sore throat to death. The polio vaccine eliminated the disease in the U.S. in 1979. Varicella, more commonly known as "chicken pox," is spread in part by coughing and sneezing. Prior to the first vaccine in 1995, around 4 million people in the U.S. contracted it every year. The total number of cases per year is down to around 12,000. (All data is courtesy of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Vaccine Information Center.)

We know many are eager for a COVID-19 vaccine. In a recent survey we conducted among Chatham adults, more than 7 in 10 said they would get a vaccine for COVID-19 when it became available.

The history tells us that vaccines and immunizations play a vital role in protecting public health, which is our No. 1 job at the public health department. While we do offer some vaccines at our clinic, we encourage everyone to talk to their primary care physician or visit immunize.nc.gov to learn more about the various vaccines required for children in North Carolina.

At Cambridge Hills & Twin Rivers





POLICE REPORTS

United Way's 'Day of Service' set for Sept. 3

The United Way of Chatham County's annual Day of Service event — which pairs volunteers with projects for local non-profits to make an impact where it's needed most — has been scheduled for Sept. 3.

There are multiple volunteer project sites around the county, and even remote and contactless donation drives for everyone to get involved. The Day of Service will allow community members to make a tangible impact in Chatham County by sharing their time, talent and resources. Volunteer opportunities include event photography, indoor and outdoor revitalization projects at non-profit agencies, assembly of athletic equipment for children, home construction, a food drive, a school supply drive, and a drive for comfort items to benefit Chatham County's home-bound seniors. You can even submit cards of appreciation to Chatham County School Teachers and Chatham's Healthcare workers without leaving your home.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Way has reimagined the annual kick-off event to their fall fundraising campaign, according to Interim Executive Director Katie Childs.

"The coronavirus has affected Chatham County in many ways," she said. "Knowing there are so many opportunities to make a direct impact on those who have been most affected by this virus was the reason we shifted the focus of our annual campaign kick-off event. Connecting United Way supporters with hands on volunteer projects and supply drives to support people all over our community is our way of showing that social distance does not equal social disengagement."

To view a list of community service projects and donation drives, please visit www.UnitedWayofChathamCounty.org/Day-of-Service and sign up before Sept. 1.

This event is generously sponsored by Realty World Carolina Properties and The Chatham News + Record.

Farm Service Agency still taking committee nominations

CN + R Staff Reports

Nominations for the Chatham County Farm Service Agency County Committee continue through Aug. 3, with elections taking place this November. The 2020 election for Chatham County will be held in Local Administrative Area (LAA) 1 and is comprised of Albright, Bear Creek and Matthews townships, which is roughly the western end of the county.

To be eligible to serve on a Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program admin-

Siler City Parks &

Rec to host drive-

in movie

SILER CITY — Siler City Parks and Recre-

ation's Friday Night Flicks events — a pop-

ular movie in the park

series — is traditionally

organized by the Town of

Siler City Parks and Rec-

istered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate and that area must be the one holding the election.

Producers may nominate themselves or others, and organizations representing minorities and women may also nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A, agreeing to serve if elected. The form and other valuable information about FSA county committee elections are available online at: http://www. fsa.usda.gov/elections. Nomination forms for the 2020 election must be postmarked or received in the Chatham County FSA Office by the close of business on Aug. 3.

FSA strongly encourages beginning farmers, women and underserved farmers to actively seek a position on the county committee.

FSA will mail ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 2. The voted ballots are due back to the local county office either via mail or in person by Dec. 7. Newly elected committee members and alternates take office Jan. 1, 2021.

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jhadius Person, 21, of Siler City, was charged Aug. 7 for breaking or entering a motor vehicle and misdemeanor larceny. Person was jailed under a \$25,000 secured bond with a Aug. 17 court date in Pittsboro.

Ieesha Alston, 29, of Siler City, was charged Aug. 7 for failure to appear on charges of driving while impaired cancelled/revoked/ suspended certificate/ tag, fictitious/altered title/registration/ card/tag, permitting the operation of a vehicle with no insurance, failure to wear a seat belt, operating a vehicle with no insurance, driving while license revoked, giving/lending/borrowing a license plate and driving a motor vehicle with no insurance. Alston was jailed under a \$2,000 secured bond with a Sept. 15 court date in Pittsboro.

Dimitri Rone, 27, of Pittsboro, was charged Aug. 8 for domestic violence protection order violation. Rone was jailed under a domestic violence 48-hour hold with a Sept. 9 court date in Graham.

Frank Williams, Jr., 47, of Siler City, was charged Aug. 8 for driving while impaired. Williams was issued a written promise with a Sept. 2 court date in Pittsboro.

Jodie Marshall, 33, of lation on S Moncure, was charged Pittsboro.

Aug. 8 for violation of court order, injury to personal property and injury to real property. Marshall was jailed under a \$3,000 secured bond with a Aug. 19 court date in Pittsboro.

Anton Moffitt, 25, of Siler City, was charged Aug. 8 for failure to appear on charges of speeding. Moffitt was issued a written promise with a Aug. 24 court date in Asheboro.

Larry White, Jr, 32, of Siler City, was charged Aug. 10 for burglary/ breaking and entering. White was issued a written promise with a Sept. 1 court date in Pittsboro.

Phillip Dennis II, 31, of Pittsboro, was charged Aug. 10 for failure to appear on charges of driving while impaired and reckless driving with wanton disregard. Dennis was jailed under a \$500 secured bond with a Aug. 18 court date in Pittsboro.

STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

George McLamb of Lillington III was cited Aug. 12 for failure to reduce speed on SR 1008 near Pittsboro.

Samuel Robinson of Raleigh was cited Aug. 12 for driving while intoxicated and lane control violation on U.S. Hwy 64 in Pittsboro.

Ollie Sanders of Chapel Hill was cited Aug. 12 for lane control violation on SR 1534 in Pittsboro.

www.chathamnewsrecord.com



NEWS BRIEFS

plex in Siler City. The first event will premier "The Lion King," a 2019 photorealistic animated film. "The Lion King" will premier on the big screen on Friday, Aug. 28. The movie will begin at dusk and gates will open at 7 p.m. for ticket-holders to enter. Tickets for the event are free; however, pre-registration

The 2020 Friday Night Flicks sponsors include Chatham News + Record, Countryside Collectibles & Antique Mall, Central Piedmont Urgent Care, Mountaire Farms, Chatham - Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site, Rotary Club of Siler City, Crossroads Grill of Siler City, Freedom



reation Department in the park each year. Out of an abundance of caution, and to ensure compliance with both state and federal COVID-19 guidelines, the 2020 series of events will be modified to offer a family-friendly event for the community to enjoy.

Events will take place on the fourth Friday night of August, September and October at the Bray Park Sports Com-

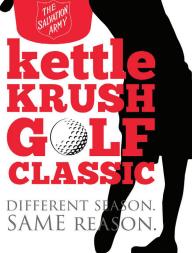
is required as space is limited. Tickets will become available two weeks prior to the event, at 9 a.m. on Aug. 17. Tickets can be reserved online at www.silercity.org or at the Water and Billing Department on the 1st floor of City Hall. (Tickets are 1 per vehicle, not per person). No tickets will be available on the day of the event. Tickets must be presented when entering the park to attend.

Family Church of Siler City, Martial Arts A.F.E. Taekwondo Fitness Academy, Sir Pizza of Siler City and Wilson Brothers Trucking

For more information, please contact the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at 919-742-2699, email recreation@ silercity.org, or visit us online at www.silercity. org.

-CN + R staff reports





Thursday, Aug. 27 | 1:30 p.m. Sanford Golf Course

4-person Captain's Choice \$60 entry fee / \$240/team Lunch/driving range open noon-1:15 p.m. Prizes on all par-3's/longest drive Hole-in-one prizes: a NEW CAR, courtesy Wilkinson Cadillac Chevrolet Buick GMC & \$25,000 (50/50 split with The Salvation Army) Lots of other great prizes!

HELP OTHERS while enjoying a round of golf!

register at leearmy.org sponsored by FirstHealth FITNESS Chatham News + Record

'WE ARE STILL HERE' Siler City's Hispanic businesses stay afloat despite little aid

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — To Siler City beauty salon owner Yazmín Hernández, Gov. Roy Cooper's decision to reopen businesses came as a great relief.

"I had been thinking about looking for a temporary job to be able to support myself and my business," she said. "Economically, wow. (Being able to reopen) was one of the best things that happened to me after the pandem-

ic began. Like Hernández, many Hispanic business owners in Siler City struggled to stav afloat and

secure federal coronavirus aid during and after North Carolina's stayat-home order. Yet despite receiving little aid, several Hispanic business owners in Siler City found ways to innovate and survive.

DE

Hernández owns Estética Yaz, a beauty salon on North Fir Avenue. She'd originally worked in Archdale but moved to Siler City and opened up her salon in early February.

"Hardly after being open a month, I had to close," she said. "It was like, 'Oh my God.'

But she was able to stay open: She also handles money transfers and other financial services considered essential at her salon. People can go to her salon to pay telephone bills and send remittances back home.

"It's not like I made a lot of money in that aspect because my main business is my beauty salon," she said. "This (financial services) is something extra.

To move to Siler City, she took out several loans that she's still paying, and the commissions she earned from her financial services haven't provided much.

ward little by little." After reopening in late May, Hernández said she's begun to see more and more clients come in. Everything's done by appointment, and she estimated that the maximum number of people she sees in a day is around 12

"I try not to have many people because I don't want the salon to turn into a center of infection," she said, adding, "I try to follow everything they say about checking temperatures,

cleaning after every client and not having many people concentrated in one place." Leo Davalos-Nuño and his

wife

own a

Aidee

Mexican СНАТНАМ restaurant called Rojo

Canela on East Third Street in Siler City. There they serve family recipes in a restaurant that Davalos-Nuño said "looks like a house." If you're not careful, he added, you could drive right by it.

For Davalos-Nuño, the pandemic came as an unwelcome sequel to a previous misfortune: Last year, Third Street closed for seven months and hurt Rojo Canela's bottom line.

"At the beginning, we were selling like anywhere from \$800 to \$1,400 a day," Davalos-Nuño said. "Then when they closed the street, it went down to \$600. And then it kept going down and down and down because they sent the traffic to the next street.'

And then COVID-19 struck.

Following Gov. Cooper's stay-at-home order in March, Rojo Canela closed its in-door dining and switched to fulfilling take-out orders.

'Sometimes we would only sell like \$80 or \$50 (in a day)," Davalos-Nuño said. They also had to let

go of their remaining employees, and Davalos-Nuño said he doesn't think he'll earn even half of the revenue Rojo Cane-



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

Yazmín Hernández owns Estética Yaz, a beauty salon on North Fir Avenue in Siler City. After opening her salon in early February, she had to close it down in March due to COVID-19.

business has picked back up. They're now selling between \$250 to \$400 a day in take-out orders, and some customers even leave generous tips. In fact, Davalos-Nuño said one customer bought a meal for around \$13 but left a check for \$200.

On South Chatham Avenue, Luis Armando Lucas owns a small shop called Tres Estrellas. A friend. who had owned and operated the shop for 12 years, signed it over to him last October, and he's been managing it ever since.

Tres Estrellas offers a little bit of everything: People can wire money to different countries, pay their bills and reload their phones. They also sell sporting goods, athletic clothing, Bibles and "things from different places.

"We fulfill orders," he said. "More than anything, people come, and if what they're looking for isn't here, we order it.

Since they provide essential financial services and sell food, Lucas said they never had to close the shop under the stayat-home order. But, he added, it's been difficult.

"There are highs and lows," he said. "Sometimes there's business and other times there's definitely not any.

The most difficult months were March and

for such loans, but only open, but there wasn't much movement." one managed to get any funds.

it used to be.

Hernández tried to

loan, a forgivable loan of

to help employers retain

their employees. Since

she's self-employed, she

wasn't eligible to apply for

the program until about a

And then funds ran out.

week after it had opened.

more money into the PPP,

she tried to put in an appli-

cation online and over the

were going to call me, but

they never did," she said.

times I was waiting for up

Likewise, Lucas wanted

After Congress infused

phone without success.

"They told me they

"And well I tried three

times to call, but some-

to two hours online and

nothing, nothing, noth-

to apply for a PPP loan,

qualify because of the

but he was told he didn't

"I think the majority

of Hispanic businesses

didn't qualify for being

very small," he said. "It

those kinds of things. Those that qualified,"

wasn't so much what they

are or what they report or

Lucas added, "it could be

that the government only

helped them a little bit."

ing, nothing.

"time" he had.

up to \$10 million intended

apply for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)

It began to improve in May, he said, after the governor partially lifted the stay-at-home order. "Purchases have begun

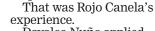
to normalize again," he said, "but there's still not as much movement as we were hoping for.³

'Nothing, nothing, nothing'

In mid-July, Camino Financial, an online financial institution, released its quarterly U.S. Latinx Small Business Survey. The survey, which compiled data from all across the country, concluded that many Hispanic businesses are "in a credit crunch caused by a disproportionate lack of access to government relief funds and other lines of credit.

According to the survey, 70% of Hispanic businesses had to close at some point during the first half of 2020, and sales declined for 80%.

"Latinx-owned businesses get the short end of government business relief." the survey further explained. "Lack of technical and financial support withheld Latinx-owned businesses from relief funds," such as the COVID-19 Small **Business Administration**



it," he added, "but we only get \$3,000."

Leo Davalos-Nuño owns Rojo Canela, a Siler City

Mexican restaurant, with his wife, Aidee. Though

business is picking up, he said it's not as much as

'We're still walking'

Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

To stay afloat, Hernández and Davalos-Nuño found ways to cut costs or generate more income. Davalos-Nuño began doing what he could to cut restaurant costs, including turning to more efficient cleaning measures to cut his water bill down to a fifth of what it

was pre-pandemic. Likewise, Hernández collected cleaning and household supplies - like toilet paper, snacks and hand sanitizer - and sold them to customers "without exaggerating the prices." She also began to sell phone cases and masks, which she still sells now even after reopening.

"If you simply can't earn income one way, you've got to find another way," she said. "It was like we mobilized ourselves in all that we could.

Davalos-Nuño said he's optimistic despite lower income and fears over contracting COVID-19.

"I will be here and serve the people with quality and friendliness," he said. "And I'll be here as long as I need to be.'

Hernández said she's working nearly seven days a week to pay off her loans as quickly as possible.

"So, yes, (the pandemic) affected me a lot in everything since I'd hardly just opened," she said, adding, "But we're moving forla earned during their first year in Siler City. But since North Caroli-

na reopened restaurants at half capacity, he said

April, he said.

"There were no people," he said. "People were scared and panicking. In March and April, we were

loan programs funded by Congress in late March.

All three Hispanic entrepreneurs in Siler City applied or tried to apply

You're Invited to Register Today! **United Way of Chatham County Day of Service** Thursday, September 3, 2020

To view a list of community service projects that can be completed at home or in person, visit: **UnitedWayofChathamCounty.org/Day-Of-Service**

United Way is partnering with agencies to host a variety of safe and socially distant volunteer opportunities & donation drives to support our community.

For questions call the United Way Office at (919) 542-1110.

Follow us on Facebook to join virtually: fb.me/UnitedWayofChatham



United Way of Chatham County

Due to COVID-19, United Way is reimagining the Annual Campaign Kick-Off Event.

Join us by signing up for a service project.

Event Sponsor: Realty World Carolina Properties Media Sponsor:

Chatham News + Record

Davalos-Nuño applied for and received a PPP loan of just over \$3,200. They couldn't get more, he added, because they didn't have all the necessary documentation and they paid employees by check.

We only had the proof of the checks," he said. "but they wouldn't take the checks as proof of having people working for us.

He said he'd seen many large companies collecting what they needed to survive and even some returning the money.

"You never know what's going to happen in December or January with flu season coming up," she said. "Sometimes it looks positive. Other times it looks a bit negative.'

Lucas said his shop will finish the year with a negative balance, but he said they're surviving.

"But well, thanks to God, we are still here," he said. "We're still walking. We don't give up so easily."

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at victo-"People like us, we need ria@chathamnr.com.

USDA - Farm Service Agency Notice of Availability **Poultry Facility Construction Final Environmental Assessment**

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces they will be completing Environmental Assessment an for the poultry facility construction located at Chatham county Tax Parcel number 0089771 and Pin Number 869700553969. The primary objective of this activity is to construct 4 poultry houses on the 64-acre property.

FSA is accepting comments on the potential effects of the proposed project on protected resources and the human environment through September 21, 2020. Information regarding this project can be reviewed in person at the FSA office located at 3230A Presson Road, Monroe, NC 28112. Comments should be submitted to Suzanne Simpson at 3230 Presson Road, Monroe, NC 28112 or by email at suzanne. simpson@nc.usda.gov.



GREAT MOMENTS IN WOMEN'S HISTORY How Women Won the Right to Vote



Can you imagine a world in which women do not have the right to vote?

How long do you think women in the United States have had the right to vote? 300 years? 200 years? 150 years?

In the United States, women have had that ______ for only 100 years of the 244 years we have been a country. And getting the right to vote took _ of protesting and writing to lawmakers who were all men at the time.



Meeting for Women's Rights

In 1848, a group of people met in Seneca Falls, NY to talk about the

____ women faced because they didn't have the same rights as men.

The word **suffrage** means the right to vote in elections. A **suffragist** is a person who fights for suffrage.

At that time, women could not own property, they could not vote and very few could go

This meeting was the first women's rights convention

to _____.

in the United States. At that meeting, men and women signed a document called, "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions." By signing, these people agreed to the _____ of what was becoming the woman's movement.

For more than 70 years, women and men_____, wrote letters and articles, protested and picketed to

Victory!

On May 21, 1919, the U.S. House of Representatives finally the **19th Amendment**, also known as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote. But that was just the first _ 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 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 American women's

right to vote.

Today, more than 68 million women



Extral Extral **Should kids** be able to vote?

Write a letter to the editor of this newspaper sharing your opinion about whether or not kids should be able to vote.

Kid Scoop Together:

Read this article aloud to a family member. Then discuss your answers to the questions it asks.

ARRESTED FOR VOTING



On Election Day, Nov. 5, 1872, Susan B. Anthony walked into her polling place and voted.

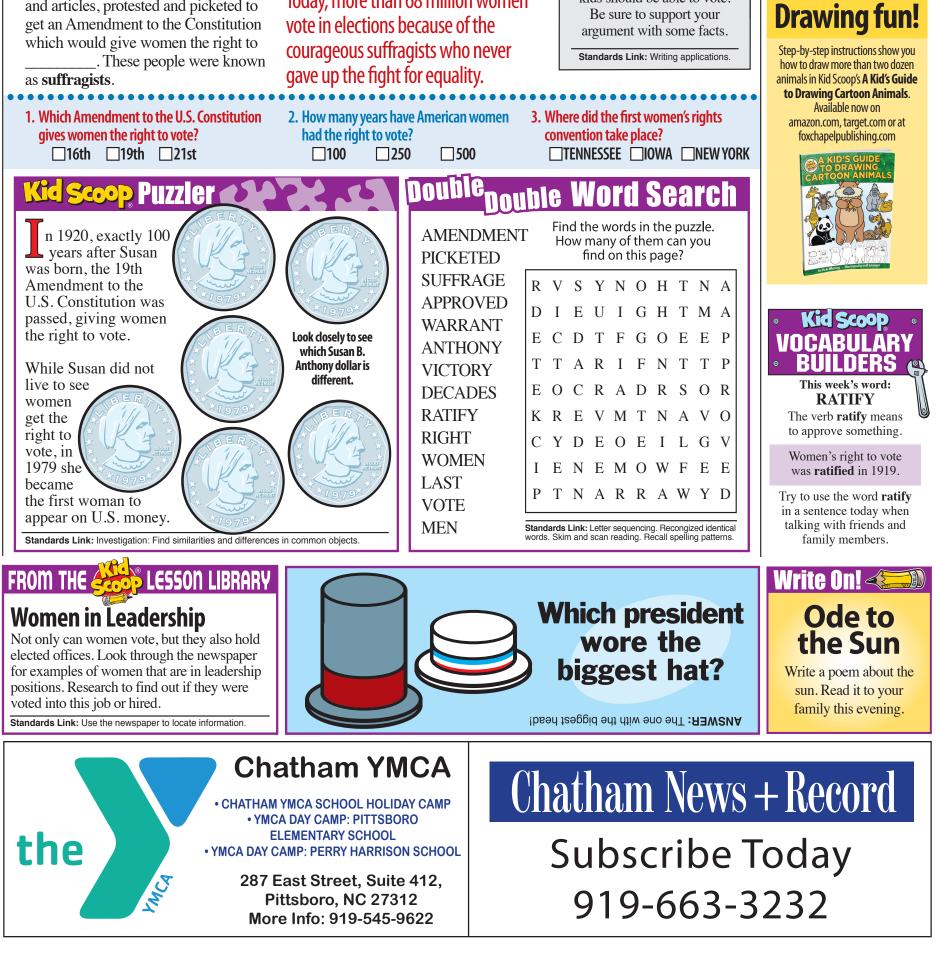
Two weeks later, a U.S. marshal knocked on her door.

"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? Would she have been arrested in November of 1920?



Cooper and Stein account for, reaffirm commitments to N.C. Latino Congress

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON News + Record Staff

In 2016, candidates Roy Cooper and Josh Stein made a series of promises to 1,400 Latinos at a North Carolina Congress of Latino Organizations (NCCLO) assembly in Durham. Last Thursday, Gov. **Cooper and Attorney General** Stein met with the NCCLO once **Power accounts** again to account for and to renew these promises.

'This is a historic event in North Carolina in terms of an accountability report from two of the most influential elected leaders of the state,' NCCLO executive director Ivan Parra

told other members during the meeting.

Among other things, Cooper promised to issue an executive order to help protect essential workers, particularly meat-processing plant workers and farmworkers. from COVID-19, and to continue fighting against disparities in public education. Stein committed to continue supporting DACA, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, and to support legal challenges against policies intended to harm immigrants and their families.

More than 850 delegates attended the meeting, including nearly 700 Latinx leaders representing some 150 organizations from all over North Carolina. Thirty-six Latinx community leaders from Chatham County attended the meeting, including Chatham County Schools' Johnny Alvarado.

During the meeting, Alvarado asked Gov. Cooper to commit to ensuring all children equal access to a "sound basic education," a right guaranteed under the North Carolina Constitution and reaffirmed by the 1997 court case Leandro v. State.

(Leandro) requires North Carolina to identify specific resources necessary to guarantee that all children and young adults, including those who are learning English, have access to that education," Alvarado said. "We hope that whoever

becomes the next governor will be a strong leader in ensuring that promise comes true.

In response, Cooper promised to do everything he could to fulfill the Leandro requirements. 'High quality public education is critical to me," he said, "and I want to make sure that every child has one.'

In 2016, then-gubernatorial candidate Roy Cooper made the NCCLO four promises: to meet with with NCCLO leaders within 90 days of taking DE CHATHAM office

• to reinstate the Hispano/Latino Advi-

sory Council to the Governor to strengthen relations between Latinos and law enforcement, including vetoing legislation seeking to require that North Carolina's sheriffs cooperate with ICE, and

 to work toward improving the state's ability to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate health and human services to North Carolina's growing Spanish-speaking community.

Per his report, Cooper said he had met or was working toward fulfilling his promises. Besides meeting with the NCCLO in 2017, he said he reinstated the Hispanic/Latino advisory council, upon whose recommendations he appointed the "first ever Hispanic district attorney in the history of North Carolina.

He vetoed House Bill 370, the bill that sought to have sheriffs work with ICE to deport undocumented immigrants legislation he said "came from a bad place.'

"It came from political leaders who were using our national origin to try and divide he said during his report. 11S. "I believe strongly that we are a state and a country that is more successful when it is diverse.'

His final promise contained several parts, which Cooper said his administration is still "working on meeting." Parra said the NCCLO's

health and human services

requests "amount to a total reshape of the way health and human services agencies serve (the Latinx) community throughout the state." Among others, the NCCLO asked for the Cooper administration to provide information on health and human services in Spanish and consider collecting federal reimbursement funds designed to incentivize health care providers and insurance companies to hire bilingual staff.

Cooper's administration has met or is working to meet most of the health and human services requests he promised to realize, Parra said during the meeting.

The only request the NCCLO is unsure about, Parra said, is whether the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services has assessed the capacity of all 100 counties to serve their Spanish-speaking communities something he said is particularly important during COVID-19.

"A simple letter from you or the Secretary of Health assessing the capacity of the state to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services to our community is in need if it hasn't been provided," he said to Cooper. "It would give you a baseline about the kind of capacity that the state has to support our community."

Then-candidate Josh Stein committed in 2016 to defending DACA in federal court, to issuing guidelines about where ICE may go, and to defending the rights of Latino mobile home park residents.

Per his report, Stein said North Carolina under his legal authority successfully challenged federal attempts to abolish DACA. He also reported his department has routinely put out information on ICE impersonation scams targeting the Latinx community and that he's investigating a Cary mobile home park with a large Latinx population.

"Unfortunately, COVID has slowed it down a bit," he said, "but we are committed to ensuring that all tenants - all consumers, no matter who you are, what your race is, where you were born, what language you speak — are equally pro-



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

A screenshot from the NC Latino Congress Zoom meeting.

tected under the laws of North Carolina.

Renewing promises

Cooper and Stein also reaffirmed their commitments to the Latinx community. Both promised to meet regularly with NCCLO leaders and to continue supporting the rights of Latino

mobile home park residents. Stein promised to continue fighting federal attempts to intimidate and harm the Latinx population. He also committed to keep defending DACA, the program that protects over 24,000 people in North Carolina.

"But DACA has only ever been a Band-Aid," he added. "It's only been a partial solution. And it only addresses a small percentage of people who live in fear of deportation, people who have lived in this country for many, many, many years.

What the country needs, Stein said, is a comprehensive DREAM Act that grants DACA recipients a pathway to citizenship — an act he said he's urged Congress to pass.

Likewise, Cooper promised to issue executive orders mandating social distancing, regular sanitation and other measures to protect essential workers, particularly farmworkers and meat processing plant workers who often come from the Latinx community.

Morís Aldana, the meeting's co-chairman, called the pandemic "a matter of life and death" for North Carolina's Latinos.

'Our people are getting sick and dying," he said. "We have been called essential workers and made to work during this pandemic so that others can be nourished and comfortable.

COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted North Carolina's Latinx community. Right now, North Carolina has over 146,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, and about 39% originated from the Latinx community, even though they only represent about 10% of the state population. More than half of Chatham County's confirmed cases also come from the county's Latinx community.

"I care about the people who are performing these jobs, Cooper said, adding, "Since we can't get the general assembly to do anything, we think an executive order would be the best way to provide these protections. We're working very hard to put it together.

The pandemic is "shining a bright light" on disparities that existed prior to it, Cooper told the NCCLO.

'So we want to continue to emphasize our communities of color and particularly the Latinx community that has been hit so hard by this virus," he said. "I pledge to you my work."

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



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TOWN ENGINEER - TOWN OF PITTSBORO. NC. This position will assist the Town with all aspects of municipal engineering including technical reviews of site plans and development applications, inspection of utility infrastructure construction projects, capital projects management, preparation of the annual Powell Bill Report, stormwater program administration and engineering designs on small municipal projects. Serves as the Town Stormwater Program Administrator for the administration of the Jordan Lake Watershed New Development Stormwater Ordinance for the Town of Pittsboro. Some design of small-scale Public Works/Public Utilities projects including sewer and drain installations, streets, and parking lots. Reviews the assessment of access fees and capital recovery fees for connections to the Town's water and sewer systems. Coordinates and directs land survey work and prepa-ration of utility easements, encroachment agreements and right-of-way acquisitions with the Planning Director and Town Attorney. Prepares project plans, specifications, and cost estimates for small capital projects; manages bid process; monitors expenses against budget; negotiates change orders. For large capital projects, serves as the Town's project manager and coordinates the activities of consulting architects and engineers. Assists the Planning Director and Finance Officer with preparation of the annual Capital Improvement Plan. Reviews and comments on subdivision proposals to ensure compliance with applicable Town, state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

Career

Participates in site plan review process and in reviewing new zoning regulations. Meets with applicants regarding submissions before the Planning Board and/or Board of Commissioners and provides advice and consultation to applicants. Inspects the installation of streets, water, sewer and storm sewers constructed by developers prior to acceptance of these facilities by the Town. Serves as the Town's representative on the Jordan Lake Partnership Technical Review Team. Prepares other engineer-ing reports, documents and records as required. Performs traffic engineering duties such as traffic engineering studies, periodic review and revision of Town traffic regulations for approval by Town and submission to state for required permits. Attends public hearings to present technical information and to respond to citizen inquiries, requests and complaints. Assists citizens and other Town departments in resolution of engineering problems. Per-forms other engineering related duties as assigned. Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree in civil engineering, registration as a Professional Engineer in North Carolina and 3-5 years of experience in municipal engineering. Salary is commensurate with training and exp. with excellent benefit package. Submit Town of Pittsboro Employment Application to Town Manager, P.O. Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312. Download application at: www.pittsbo-ronc.org or call (919) 542-4621 ext. 1104 to ask for an applica tion in the mail. Criminal background checks and verification of educational credentials will be done on final candidates. Pre-employment drug test req'd. EOE. Open until filled. For assured consideration apply by September 18, 2020. Au6,13,20,27,4tc MOUNTAIRE FARMS OF SILER

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LEGALS

CHATHAM COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA NOTICE OF SERVICE Robert Terrell III hereby notifies General Shale Brick Inc., all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate; to notice by the adjustments of the court to determine the orders and judgment of claims preceding conditions. The mandated trial merits are fulfilled formulating issues as their prerogative writs. Robert Terrell III

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NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY



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EOE

ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against GLORIA RUTH ROYS, deceased, of Chatham County, N.C., are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before October 30th, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 30th day of July, 2020. Lynda R. Heymen, Executor Estate of Gloria Ruth Roys c/o Roberson Law Firm 1829 E. Franklin St., Ste. 800C Chapel Hill, NC 27514

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, Theresa Brooks and Veronica Brooks. having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **ROBERT HEADEN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 31st Day of October, 2020, or this notice

Jy30,Au6,Au13,Au20,4tc will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 23rd day of July, 2020. Co-Executors 1. Theresa Brooks 201 Elder Road Siler City, NC 27344 919-742-4503 2. Veronica Brooks 1112 Stockyard Road Staley, NC 27355 1-336-257-0431 W. Ben Atwater, Jr. Attorney at Law P.O. Box 629 Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2850 batwater@pinehurst.net Jy30,Au6,Au13,Au20,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, Tracey S.

Wilkie, having qualified as Administrator CTA of the Estate

of SYLVIA ANN THAMES SCOTT, deceased, late of Chatham

persons having claims against

said estate to present them to

the undersigned on or before

the 31st Day of October, 2020,

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CHATHAM COUNTY

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payment to the undersigned.

This 23rd day of July, 2020.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 146 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of BENJAMIN FRANK-LIN WOMBLE, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before October 30, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 30th day of July, 2020. Sherrika Martin, Executor 710 Horton Road Goldston, NC 27252

Jy30,Au6,Au13,Au20,4tp



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 354 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of HAROLD STEVE RIGGSBEE, late of Apex, 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 C/O Stam Law Firm, PLLC at 510 W. Williams St. Apex, North Carolina 27502, on or before the 30th day of October, 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 27th day of July 2020. /s/ Vickie Riggsbee Goodwin Executor of the Estate of Harold Steve Riggsbee Lisa M. Schreiner Stam Law Firm, PLLC 510 W. Williams St. Apex, NC 27502 Jy30,Au6,Au13,Au20,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 174 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY All persons, firms and corporations having claims against ESTATE of EUNICE ANN POWERS, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on March 24, 2020, are hereby notified to present their claims to JOSEPH LUNDY POWERS & DEIDRE POWERS DEAN, CO-ADMINISTRATORS, at the address listed below, on or before October 30, 2020 or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the deceased, please make immediate payment. This 27th day of July, 2020. Co-Administrators: Joseph Lundy Powers 8551 North Douglas Hwy Juneau, AK 99801 Deirdre Powers Dean 326 Powers Country Lane Bennett, NC 27208 Jy30,Au6,Au13,Au20,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 319 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of DONALD GRAY BOYD, 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 NO-VEMBER 6, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 30th day of July, 2020. Amanda Tillman Clack, Administrator 539 Ryder Lake Drive

Sanford, NC 27330 Au6,Au13,Au20,Au27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 334 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of LARRY W. STEVENS, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina. the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corpora-tions having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before NOVEMBER 6, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 30th day of July, 2020 Larry Dale Stevens, Limited Personal Representative 4124 Chatham St Bennett, NC 27208 Au6,Au13,Au20,Au27,4tp

being sought is as follows: Child Custody You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than September 15, 2020 and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. This, the 6th day of August, 2020

D. Melissa Averett Attorney for Plaintiff 50101 Governors Drive, Suite 150

Chapel Hill, NC 27517 Au6,Au13,Au20,3tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, August 27, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro, North Carolina at 1192 US-64 W BUS. Due to the Governor's restrictions on mass gatherings, public seating at the meeting will be limited. There will also be an option to participate electroni-cally and for more information about the meeting you can select the meeting date at the following link: https://www. chathamnc.org/government/ commissioner-meetings/calendar-with-agenda-minutes Additional information is available at the Chatham County Planning Department office. Speakers are requested to sign up at the meeting prior to the hearing. You may also sign up on the county website prior to the meeting at www chathamnc.org by selecting the heading County Government, then Commissioner Meetings, then Public Input/Hearing Sign Up. The public hearing may be continued to another date at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input, both written and oral, on the issues listed below: Legislative Request:

1. A Legislative public hearing for a request by Vickers Bennett Group, LLC to amend the language in the Zoning Ordinance, Sections 5.2, 7.2, 10.12 to accommodate language for Conditional District Mixed Use Cluster Residential (CD-MU-CR)

2. Á Legislative public hearing for a request by Vickers Ben-nett Group, LLC to amend the language in the Subdivision Regulations, Section 7.7, to add MU-CD-CR.

3. A Legislative public hearing for a request by Vickers Bennett Group, LLC to amend the language in the Watershed Protection Ordinance, Sections 109, 302 [E] (2), 303 (A), and 303 (C), to accommodate language for Mixed-Use Develop-ment and Cluster Development. 4. A legislative rezoning public hearing for a request by 919 Storage LLC on Parcel No. 3080, located at 72 Marvin Edwards Lane, from R-2 Residential to Conditional Regional Business District (CD-RB) on approximately 7.93 acres out of the 17.64 acre tract for self-storage mini warehouse facility, William's Township. Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discus sions. Notice to people with special needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312. Au13,Au20,2tc

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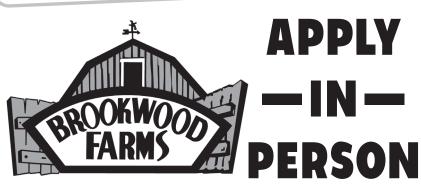
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Apply Online: Visit the "Career" section of our website: www.hogslat.com

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NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PRO-**CESS BY PUBLICATION** STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY In the District Court Division 19 CVD 943 EDMONDS v. MCMILLAN To: Jonathan McMillan: Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief





1015 Alston Bridge Road • Siler City, NC

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Co-Executors of the Estate of JAMES B. WEEKS, SR., 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 11th day of November, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recover This the 3rd day of August, 2020.

James B. Weeks, JR. and Julia W. Greene, Co-Executors of the Estate of James B. Weeks, SR. Post Office Box 665 Siler City, North Carolina 27344 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 665 SILER CITY, NORTH CAROLINA (919) 742-5614 Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tc

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED PROPOSALS

Chatham County Schools RFP 2020-2021, BANKING SERVICES

Sealed Proposals titled "BANKING SERVICES" may be furnished to Chatham County Schools, 369 West Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-9573 until 12:00 pm, Monday, August 31, 2020. The intent of Chatham County Schools is to obtain Banking

Services. Instructions for submitting proposals and complete specifications may be obtained at the above address during regular office hours. **Chatham County Schools** reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals. Please refer to our website

for the complete RFP: www. chatham.k12.nc.us Au13,Au20,Au27,3tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20-E-361 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

The undersigned, Shanelle K. Edmonds, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of JEFFREY D. HASSLER, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13TH day of November, 2020, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 13th day of August, 2020.

Shanelle K. Edmonds Administrator for the Estate Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455 Pittsboro, NC 27312

Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20-E-105 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, Marie Hopper, having qualified as Adminis-trator of the Estate of DAVID PERRY MANN, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13TH day of November, 2020, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons in-

debted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 13th day of August, 2020. Marie Hopper Administrator for the Estate C/O Shanelle K. Edmonds Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC Post Office Box 1455

Pittsboro, NC 27312 Au13.Au20.Au27.S3.4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 348 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against THERESA M. DOYLE aka THERESA MARGARET DOYLE [hereinafter 'Theresa M. Doyle'] of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 5th day of March. 2020. are notified to present them to Margaret O'Connor, Executrix of the Estate of Theresa M. Dovle in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before November 19, 2020. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executrix, and the devisees of Theresa M. Dovle. Those indebted to Theresa M. Doyle are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. Dean P. Broz Higgins, Frankstone, Graves &

Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont

Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Admin-istrator of the Estate of MICAH JOEL GURLEY, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corons having claims against porat the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of November, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 7th day of August, 2020. Cindy I. Gurley, Administrator of The Estate of Micah Joel Gurley Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of JOSEPH CLAXTON HARRIS, 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 November 13, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 10th day of August, 2020 Dorothy H. King Harris, Executrix 10234 Governors Dr Chapel Hill, NC 27517 Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TOWN OF PITTSBORO The Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners will hold 1 Legislative Public Hearing and 1 Evidentiary Hearing on Monday, August 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The Public Hearings will be conducted remotely via Zoom, a teleconference software, for the following items:

1. Legislative Public Hearing for a Rezoning Request: Luke Staritt is proposing to conditionally rezone a 3.77 acre lot on Thompson Street adjacent to Pittsboro Town Hall from R-10 to O&I(CZ) (PID 8155). The purpose of the legislative public hearing is to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request.

If you wish to participate in the legislative public hearing you may speak via Zoom or voicemail or submit written comments for consideration by the Board. The Comments will not be read, but will be provided to the Board and included in the minutes. Written comments may be sent to the Town Clerk, Cassie Bullock, at cbullock@pittsboronc.gov. The Clerk will receive written comments to be included in the minutes for 24 hours after the meeting. Please sign up with the Clerk by 4:00 p.m. on August 24, 2020 if you wish to participate. SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING.

2. Evidentiary Hearing for a Special Use Permit Request: ODG 87, LLC is proposing a 99 townhouse lot subdivision, on an approximate 16.42 acre parcel, located south of the intersection of NC 87 Bypass and Burnice Place (PID 7006). The property is located in the R-15 zoning district where townhouses are required to obtain a Special Use Permit The purpose of the evidentiary hearing is to determine, by presentation of factual evidence whether the specified use(s) will be allowed on the above referenced property. The complete records are on file at the office of the Town Planning Department located at 480 Hillsboro Street, Suite 400, and are available for inspection through e-mail. SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE PERMIT REQUEST MAY BE MADE FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEAR-ING IN ITS PROPOSED LOCA-TION, BUT ONLY THOSE CONDI-TIONS MUTUALLY APPROVED BY THE TOWN AND THE PETITIONER MAY BE INCORPORATED INTO THE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. If you have standing and wish to participate in the evidentiary public hearing you may speak under oath via Zoom video or audio. Please sign up with the 4:00 n. on August 24 2020 if you wish to participate. Instructions on how to join the Zoom Meeting can be found on the Town's website under the BOC Agenda, Minutes, and Audio tab (PittsboroNC.gov). Au13,Au20,2tc **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE** A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, September 3, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center in Pittsboro. North Carolina at 1192 US-64 W BUS. Due to the Governor's restrictions on mass gatherings, public seating at the meeting will be limited. There will also be an option to participate electronically and for more information about the meeting you can select the meeting date at the following link: https:// www.chathamnc.org/government/commissioner-meetings/ calendar-with-agenda-minutes Additional information is available at the Chatham County Planning Department office. Speakers are requested to sign up at the meeting prior to the hearing. You may also sign up on the county website prior to the meeting at www.chathamnc.org by selecting the heading County Government, then Commissioner Meetings, then Public Input/ Hearing Sign Up. The public hearing may be continued to another date at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input, both written and oral, on the issues listed below: Legislative Request: 1. A Legislative public hearing for a request by JNNJ, LLC, for a conditional district rezoning from R-1 Residential to CD-O&I for office - business, professional, and governmental, Parcel No. 69884 being 5 acres, located at 10441 US 15-501 N, Baldwin Township. Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discussions. Notice to people with special needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312. Au20,Au27,2tc

CHATHAM COUNTY

Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed by Arthur A. Sellers, Jr. and Belinda K. Sellers to Linnie W. Causey, Trustee(s), which was dated September 29, 2008 and recorded on September 29, 2008 in Book 01424 at Page 1069, Chatham County Registry, North Carolina. Default having been made of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned. Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC, having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, and the holder of the note evidencing said default having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door of the county courthouse where the property is located, or the usual and customary location at the county courthouse for conducting the sale on September 1, 2020 at 1:00PM, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property situated in Chatham County, North Carolina, to wit: TRACT 3: BEING ALL OF THAT LOT, CONTAINING 0.498 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, ACCORDING TO A PLAT ENTITLED "JACK P. JUSTICE," PREPARED BY VAN R. FINCH - LAND SURVEYS, DATED FEBRUARY 13, 2004 AND RE-CORDED ON PLAT SLIDE 2004-83, CHATHAM COUNTY REGISTRY, **REFERENCE TO WHICH IS** HEREBY MADE FOR A MORE PAR-TICULAR DESCRIPTION. TRACT 3: WAS CONVEYED TO MARY G. JUSTICE BY DEED RECORDED IN BOOK 1092, PAGE 9, CHATHAM COUNTY RÉGISTRY. Save and except any releases, deeds of release or prior conveyances of record. Said property is commonly known as 120 NC Highway 902, Pittsboro, NC 27312. A cash deposit (no personal checks) of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts are immediately due and owing. THIRD PARTY PURCHASERS MUST PAY THE EXCISE TAX AND THE RECORDING COSTS FOR THEIR DEED. Said property to be offered pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS WHERE IS." There are no representations of 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. This sale is made subject to all prior liens, unpaid taxes, any unpaid land transfer taxes, special assessments, easements, rights of way, deeds of release, and any other encumbrances or exceptions of record. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owner(s) of the property is/are Arthur Andrew Sellers, Jr. and spouse Belinda Sellers. An Order for possession of the property may be issued pursu-ant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into

Classification and Salary Plan Chatham County is requesting proposals to provide a study of Chatham County's Classification and Salary Plan to include a review of selected budgeted, permanent position classifications including legal compliance; to review the current pay structure for internal and external competitiveness; to enable ease of ongoing administration and maintenance by internal HR staff.

The complete RFP document and details are located on the **Chatham County Current Bids** and Proposals webpage at: http://www.chathamnc.org/ government/current-bid-proposal-opportunities. The County is requesting 3 hard copies and one electronic pdf file, included on appropriate media, and included with the paper copies. The submittal package must be received by September 17, 2020 at 5:00 PM EST, to one of the following delivery addresses: Postal Address: Kim Johnson, Chatham County Finance Office, P. O. Box 608, Pittsboro, NC 27312, or Street Address: Kim Johnson, County Finance Office, Courthouse Annex, 12 East Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312 All inquiries relating to this request must be in writing and submitted by e-mail to Kim John-son at purchasing@chathamnc. org. Late submittals will not be accepted under any circumstance and will not be opened or reviewed. All inquiries must be made no later than 12:00 PM on Thursday, September 10, 2020 to purchasing@chathamnc.org or by fax to (919)-545- 2417. No RFP inquiries by telephone please. All addenda will be posted by 5:00pm on Friday, September 11, 2020 and available at http:// www.chathamnc.org/government/current-bid-proposal-opportunities. Chatham County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, sexual

Au20,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

or disability.

orientation, gender identity, age

Estate of Patricia R. Thomas Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of PATRICIA R. THOM-AS, late of Chatham, County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 100 Europa Drive, Suite 271, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517, on or before the 21st day of November, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 20th day of August, 2020. Anne T. Neal, Executor of the Estate of Patricia R. Thomas Dori J. Dixon Schell Bray PLLC Attorney for the Estate

100 Europa Drive, Suite 271 Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27517 Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

of the Estate of THOMAS JAMES SAVAGE aka THOMAS J. SAVAGE, 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 NOVEMBER 20, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 17th day of August, 2020 Sandra Savage, Executrix 880 Castle Rock Farm Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY All persons having claims against MARIELLA BLACKWOOD MASON AKA MARIELLA B. MASON [hereinafter "Mariella B. Mason"] of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 5th day of July, 2020, are notified to present them to Kenneth Berry Mason, III, Executor of the Estate of Mariella B. Mason in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone. Graves & Morris. P. A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before November 26, 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 Mariella B. Mason. Those indebted to Mariella B. Mason are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. Dean P. Broz Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A.

1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadowmont Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tc

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION **BEFORE THE CLERK** 20 SP 67 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF: BETTY JEAN

BOWERS NOTICE OF SALE Pursuant to N.C.G.S.§ 35A-1301 and N.C.G.S.§1-339.13, Commissioner C. Todd Roper notices the public sale of real as follows: 1. C. Todd Roper was appointed Commissioner to sell the real property referenced in the Petition pursuant to an Order of Public Sale filed July 8, 2020. 2. The real property hereinafter referred to shall be sold at public auction on the 29th day of August, 2020, at 12:00 noon at 276 Reno Sharps Store Road, Bear Creek. North Carolina 27207. 3. The real property to be sold is identified as described in Deed Book 399, Page 273, Chatham County Registry, and more particularly described as: BEGINNING at a point in the center of S.R. 2188, where it intersects with the line of William Fields and the old Goldston Road, and running thence in a westerly direction with the line of Fields and the old Goldston Road 373 feet to a point; thence along with a new line of Sharpe in a northerly direction 175 feet to a point; thence along a new line of Sharpe in an easterly direction about South 80 de grees East 373 feet to a point in the center of S.R. 2188; thence along the center of said road in a southerly direction 175 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING. 4. The terms of the sale will be as follows: It is responsibility of the highest bidder to personally inspect the property being sold and to bid accordingly based on his or her judgment; inspections, which may constitute a condition of sale, must be completed prior to the auction. The highest bidder shall be required to sign the Purchase Agreement at the auction. This is a cash transaction and is not subject to the highest bidder obtaining financing or any other contingency. After the expiration of all of upset bids as required by law for real property, the highest bidder shall receive a Commissioner's Deed with possession being granted to the highest bidder at closing. The sale of real property is made subject to any easements, encumbrances and covenants of record, and likewise subject to any cemetery or cemeteries that may now exist on this property which are not mentioned in the above findings of fact. Auctioneer and sellers do not warrant or covenant with the

highest bidder with respect to the existence or nonexistence of any pollutants, contaminants or hazardous waste prohibited by Federal, State, or local law or claims based thereon arising out of the actual or threatened discharge, release, disposal, seepage, migration or escape of such substances at, from or into the demised premises. Highest bidder is to rely upon its own environmental audit or examination of the premises.

5. If the Commissioner so chooses, he may make the following additional terms of the sale in this action:

a) Auctioneers shall be compensated by receiving a commission equal to 5% of the purchase price

b) The highest bidder at this sale will be required to make a depos-it of 10% of the purchase price by cash or certified check on the date of sale. The bid on the real property will remain open for 10 days for an upset bid as by law required. Within 30 days following the upset bid's expiration on the real property, the highest bidder shall close and tender the purchase price to purchase the real estate; provided however, this shall be subject to confirmation by the Clerk of Court and Resident Superior Court Judge. THIS, the 24th day of July, 2020. C. TODD ROPER, COMMISSIONER Au20,Au27,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF CREIGHTON LEE CALHOUN. JR.

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY All persons, firms and corpo-rations having claims against CREIGHTON LEE CALHOUN, JR., 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 November 20, 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 17th day of August,

2020. Gregory Herman-Giddens, Executor

c/o Gregory Herman-Giddens. Attv.

Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A.

8889 Pelican Bay Boulevard,

Suite 400 Naples, FL 34018

Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

20-E-394 All persons having claims against **RICHARD PAUL LACEY** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 5th day of June, 2020, are notified to present them to Adrienne Joy Lacev. Executrix of the Estate of Richard Paul Lacey in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before November 26, 2020. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the state, the Executrix

MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of MITCHELL JAY GURLEY late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and cor-porations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of November, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 7th day of August, 2020. Cindy I. Gurley, Administrator of The Estate of Mitchell Jay Gurley Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

27312 (919) 542-5605

Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 290

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of CHERYL ANN **DIXON.** 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 October 28th, 2020, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 13th day of August, 2020.

Administrator. Anthony Joseph Sanford 477 Blue Hill Avenue Boston, MA, 02121 Au13,Au20,Au27,S3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 383 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE 20 SP 61 NORTH CAROLINA

1, 2007, may, after receiving the notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but 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 the tenant provides the notice of termination [NCGS § 45-21.16A(b)(2)]. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

or renewed on or after October

If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in their sole discretion. if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further

remedy. Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC Substitute Trustee Brock & Scott, PLLC Attorneys for Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC 5431 Oleander Drive Suite 200 Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (910) 392-4988 FAX: (910) 392-8587 File No.: 19-12857-FC02 Au20,Au27,2tc

ADVERTISEMENT - CHATHAM COUNTY Request for Proposals (RFP)

NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of JANICE R. DEAN-GELO, 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 NOVEMBER 20, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 17th day of August, 2020 Donna Horvath, Executrix 321 Rectory St, #415 Pittsboro, NC 27312 Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 387 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of EVERETT ROSS WINZELER, deceased, of Cha-tham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before NOVEMBER 20, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 17th day of August, 2020 Robert G. Winzeler, Executor 2840 Old Graham Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 366 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix

IRING

CNA's

2ND & 3RD SHIFTS

CALL: 919-542-3151

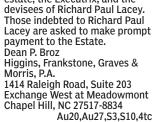
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm

for appointment to complete

application and interview

Pittsboro Christian Village

1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC



NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 372

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of JEAN VALERIE MORIARTY, 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 NOVEMBER 20, 2020 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 18th day of August, 2020 Thomas J. Moriarty, III, Executor 1333 Windy Ridge Rd Chapel Hill, NC 27517 Au20,Au27,S3,S10,4tp

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