In Chatham County Schools, nurses working to keep students healthy, PAGE A11

Chatham News + Record

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AT THE POLLS



Staff photo by James Kiefer

A man walks to cast a vote at the Bonlee School Gym on Election Day Tuesday.

Residents talk expectations, concerns on Election Day

BY JAMES KIEFER News + Record Correspondent

Despite a frosty start to Election Day, residents across Chatham County made their way to polling places on Tuesday for their last chance to weigh in on the 2020 election cycle.

At the Paul Braxton Gym in Siler City, Dewey Ferguson stood outside his polling place wearing a Van Halen jersey with a sample ballot in hand. His beard peeked around parts

of his face mask as he spoke, explaining he came to the polls in person because Election Day is special to him, saying he always tries to vote in presidential elections.

"I'm sentimental to the day," he said. "I hope the Democrats

win and we get the Senate." For Pam Tilton, Tuesday was a new experience. She said she was a first-time voter and doing her part to keep President Donald Trump in office. Tilton mentioned that even though she'd avoided previous elections, she approves of Trump's resume and wanted her support for him to count which meant going to vote in

Tuesday was also a big day for Corbett Dark, another firsttime voter. He made his way out to the gym before 8:30 a.m. to avoid waiting in long lines, and to make sure he got a real voting experience. This year, he said, he decided to vote because he'd been pestered by

See **ELECTION**, page A3

ELECTION 2020

You voted. So what happened to your ballot afterward?

D. LARS DOLDER News + Record Staff

When polls closed Tuesday night in every precinct around the country, it marked the end to a historic voting season but the election process is far from over.

Widespread concerns about voter fraud and insecurity over the voting process have cast a pall over the integrity of this year's election. To investigate the legitimacy of voter fears that ballot counting procedures may permit fraudulence, the News + Record spoke with members of Chatham County's Board of Elections to learn how your votes make their way from mail-in ballot or poll booth to helping to elect the next president.

Election Day was just the

Early voting closed last Saturday with record numbers nationwide. Already, by then, more than 4.5 million North Carolina voters had cast their ballots, exceeding 95% of the state's total vote in 2016. Chatham contributed more than 43,000 votes to the tally, accounting for nearly 75% of

'Teachers should

all registered voters in the county. And Election Day was expected to boost that number significantly.

But official results cannot be certified until at least Nov. 13, and it will likely be later than that. So, what really happens between the start of voting season and the announcement of the country's next president? How are millions of votes compiled, verified and tabulated to establish winners?

Here's a run through the calendar, starting in Chatham

Saturday, Oct. 31

On the final day of early voting, an electronic machine at each of Chatham County's six early voting sites processes the day's paper ballots and prepares them to be added to the county's running total.

"The machines look like an old electric typewriter," said Frank Dunphy, the BOE's most junior member. "It's about the size of a scanner, maybe two scanners put together. It sits on top of a table, and when you vote, you mark your paper ballot and then you feed your

See **BALLOT**, page A3

Chatham County voting results and elections updates: cutt.ly/chathamvotes

Results from Chatham's 2020 elections came in after press time; watch for full coverage online.

'THERE'S A BREAKING POINT'

Some teachers, staff concerned about return to school under Plan B

'Please don't forget

this impacts more

than just students.

Teachers and staff

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN News + Record Staff

When Chatham County Schools first asked its employees in a September survey how they felt about returning to in-person learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, 41% did not feel com-

fortable returning. Emily, who teaches at a CCS high school and considers herself to be in the high-risk category for getting sick, is one of them. Not because she thinks remote learning is without challenges or that the school district isn't trying to be safe, but because she worries teaching in person will inevitably lead to people dying or facing debilitating health consequences people like her. "That frightens me," she said.

Like all the other employees interviewed for this story, Emily has been given

feel really confused a pseudfor the teachers. How onym to is that going to work ensure her privacy. Current-

ly, Emily's school is operating with only a few students coming to in-person learning, and the limited number of faculty and staff not working from home makes it easy to socially distance, she said. Still, she worries what will happen when more students come back — worries that there will be more cases among older

students and that some may comply with school coronavirus policies.

Since last March, most Chatham County Schools have been in fully

are impacted too.' remote learning; the county's board of education voted in July start the year with four weeks of re-mote learning and later extended that

through the first nine weeks, which ended Oct. 16. On Sept. 23, the board voted 4-1 to extend remote learning through Jan. 15 — the end of the semester — signaling it would bring select student groups back earlier under

Plan B. Less than one week later, the board unanimously voted

to send Extended Content Standard E.C. students, Pre-K students and K-2 students to school under hybrid learning starting Oct. 19. They also implied more stu-

have the same choice as students! dents might return sooner than the Jan. 15 date decided the week before.

Janice Frazier, the associate superintendent of human resources at CCS, said the district has been processing concerns with employees since the school year resumed in August, ranging from personal health issues to overall apprehensions about returning to on-site work.

See CONCERNS, page A6



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

Jean Davis, center in blue, prepares to cut the ribbon at her newest children's home, Grace Haven, assisted by Rev. Neal Jackson, left of her.

New children's home unveiled, will help address Chatham's foster needs

D. LARS DOLDER News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Ebenezer Christian Children's Home, a non-profit organization that operates residential child-care facilities, has unveiled a new children's home called Grace Haven, the organization's first in Chatham County.

The 9,000-square-foot facility, Davis' seventh project. Since located at 500 Crestmont Dr., sits on 53 acres and is licensed to serve up to nine children at a time, overseen by at least two staff members. The former Methodist campgrounds include a pond, a play area and

an outdoor chapel. The home is ECCH founder and Executive Director Jean

1994, she has operated six facilities in Wilkes County, where she lives. As of this year, ECCH has served 587 children through its residential pro-

Since 2012, the organization has also licensed several

See EBENEZER, page A7

Cyber incident's fallout leaves Chatham government still without network, email access

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN News + Record Staff

The "cyber incident" which knocked out Chatham County government's computer network, telephones and email on Oct. 28 is still ongoing nearly a week later — with the source of the breach still unknown.

In the meantime, county officials are operating with newly-created temporary email addresses and phone numbers.

At Monday's Chatham County Board of Commissioners meeting, held completely in-person due to the cyber attack, County Manager Dan LaMontagne gave updates on the incident, stating that it "hit us like a ton of bricks.'

"The problem is really, really

bad," LaMontagne said at the meeting. "But we are starting to see little glimmers that it's not as bad as it could be. We'll just say that this is an ongoing investigation as far as what has happened and what the impacts are to the county.'

He said the county is continuing its efforts to get the "critical facilities," such as Chatham's Department of Social Services and Sheriff's Office, up and running first, and that it will not have phone numbers to every staff person and department immediately. County officials are able to post updates to the county's website, LaMontagne said, but staff members are having to use mo-

See CYBER, page A7



Chatham Health pursuing birth equity in former 'care desert.' PAGE A6

Interim 'Shorty' Johnson takes over as Pittsboro's new Chief of Police. PAGE A9 Wake Forest season. PAGE B1 ops renovation. PAGE B3

Remembering John Grimes' Siler City, Duke Energy football career, historic

team up for emergency



COMMUNITY **CALENDAR**

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

CANCELLATIONS

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

ON THE AGENDA

 The Pittsboro Board of Commissioners will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, at Pittsboro Town Hall.

 The Chatham County Schools **Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 9, at Horton Middle School

• The Siler City Board of Commissioners will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 16, at town Hall in Siler City. Central Carolina Community

College: Whether you are looking for flexible course choices to meet your personal schedule or starting a new program of study, CCCC's 8-week term allows you to find courses that fit your academic and career goals. To register for courses, contact your advisor or the admissions office at 919-718-7300 (Lee Main Campus), 919-545-8025 (Chatham Main Campus), and 910-814-8827 or 910-814-8867 (Harnett Main Campus). See www.cccc. edu/12and8 for a list of classes.

THURSDAY

· The Chatham Historical Museum is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Masks required and groups will be distanced. Adult and kid friendly; with no admission fee. The current special exhibit is vintage toys. Don't miss it! Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The Museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the circle. More info: https://chathamhistory.org

 The Pittsboro Farmers Mar**ket** is open with seasonable items year-round from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays. It is located at 287 East St., Pittsboro.

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

 Second Bloom of Chatham is having a Halloween Sale. All black and orange clothing will be 50% off until October 31. Treat yourself to some fine clothing and jewelry. Masks are required and hand sanitizer is also available. The store is open 10 a.m. to 4p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday. We are now accepting donations of 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 Road, Pittsboro

SATURDAY

 Calling for volunteers to help the Loves Creek Watershed Stewards with planting small herbaceous (plug size) vegetation in our Floodplain Restoration Project on Saturday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. We will be maintaining social distancing and ask that everyone wear a mask and bring their own trowel and/or small planting tool, work gloves and water bottle. If you'd like to help, email cdeininger@biocenosis.org and we'll send you directions on where to meet up. We plan to keep numbers under 25, so signing up

before hand is important. Feel free to share with others who might to help plant.

TUESDAY

· Chatham Community Library is offering free classes on digital genealogy and Microsoft PowerPoint in November. While the library is closed, all classes will be presented virtually. Register online to receive a meeting link. A description of each class, including topics covered and prerequisites for attending, can be found at www.chathamnc. org/ComputerClasses. - Microsoft PowerPoint Basics, Part 1: November 10, Tuesday, 3 p.m. - Part 2: November 17, Tuesday, 3 p.m. and - Going Digital with Genealogy, Part 2: November 19, Thursday, 3 p.m. For more information, call 919-545-8086 or email reference@chathamlibraries.org. A full list of upcoming programs can be found on the library's events calendar. Supper with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be held on Friday, December 4, 2020, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Paul Braxton Gymnasium, where the facility will be turned into a winter wonderland. This is a floating event and pre-registered tickets are required to enter as space is limited. Event tickets are available online at www.silercity.org or in City Hall, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, Adult tickets are \$10 and tickets for children age 12 and younger are \$5. The deadline to register is November 27, 2020 or until full. No tickets will be available on the day of the event. For more information, contact Daniel Spivey with the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at (919) 742-2699, email recreation@silercity.org, or visit us

online at www.silercity.org. Thales Academy, a college preparatory network of K-12 independent schools, will be opening its newest campus in the Vineyards neigh-

borhood of Chatham Park in July 2021. The first school to open in the Chatham Park community is now accepting applications for grades K-4 for the 2021-2022 school year. Subsequent grades will be added in the future to ulimately serve grades K-12. Applications are firstcome, first-served and will be open until seats are filled and a waitlist is created. Enrollment is open to all area families, not just Chatham Park residents. Tuition at Thales Academy Pittsboro will be \$5,300 per year. Scholarships, discounts, and payment plans are available to further reduce this cost. Families may apply right from our website, ThalesAcademy.org, and if they have any questions, they may contact admissions@thalesacade-

my.org. With COVID-19 sweeping the country, artists' livelihoods are being challenged like never before. The Chatham Arts Council has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort. For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org

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

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

chathamconnecting.org. Foster and/or adoptive information: Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 to learn more.

 Alcoholics Anonymous North Carolina District 33, call the Help Line at 866-640-0180 for the meeting schedule for this area.

 Motorcycle Association The Motorcycle Association for Chatham, Western Wake, Lee, Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www. chathamCBA.com.

 Narcotics Anonymous — For drug problems in the family, Narcotics Anonymous helps. Call 1-800-721-8225 for listing of local meetings.

 Al-Anon Meeting — Pittsboro Serenity Seekers Al-Anon Family Group meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Chatham Community Church, in the lower level of Chatham Mill, Pittsboro.

Scout News

• Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstroop93.org for more information.

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

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

Curiouser and curiouser

Maybe, Gentle Reader, you've noticed that this



DEBBIE MATTHEWS The Curious Cook

is titled, "The Curious Cook." When we were getting ready to introduce

these

essays

epistle

to the readership of the Chatham News +Record. the need to name it was discussed. My first choice, "Does this taste funny to you?" was nixed because of its unwieldiness and the connotation of the reference to spoiled grub.

Other names were ban-

died about. Some of the early ones included "chef." That was an automatic "no" from me. I am not a chef. Chefs train under other chefs, either on the job or in culinary school. I hadn't put in the blood, sweat, tears and burned flesh to earn the right to call myself "chef." I explained I was not a chef, but a curious home cook who is constantly learning.

That did it. "Curious Cook" it became.

It's grown on me. I like it because I am curious about cooking, techniques, ingredients and doggedly persistent about asking questions to every cook, chef, or food producer I meet.

I am also curious in another definition of the word. According to Dictionary.com, it also can mean "arousing or exciting speculation, interest, or attention through being inexplicable or highly unusual; odd; strange; a curious sort of person; a curious scene.

And you know what, Gentle Reader? I am totally and completely OK with that. Who wants to

be like everybody else?

In the spirit of curiosity and the search for new tastes and experiences, I'd like to share some recent discoveries I've made in the realm of food and drink.

When you're having a horrible day, or you feel the need to reward yourself, or you want to make someone else's day, but you don't want to risk exposure, go drive-through.

In my hometown, there is a Krispy Kreme that's open 24 hours a day. So, if you're up at 2 a.m., need to get out of the house, and don't want to run into a bunch of folks, go Krispy. Last time I was there. I got two doughnuts - one original and their new creation, a ring doughnut filled with their sweet fluffy cream.

As soon as I got them, I pulled into a parking space. The original was still warm. That first bite was so good I almost wept. The cream-filled was full of cream. I decided it was my reward for still retaining some shred of kindness even though we were about six months into this perfidious year of 2020.

My other drive-through delights are at Chick-fil-A. One is both healthy and delicious, and the other is just plain delightful.

They now serve a really tasty kale salad. It's predressed and a great side for a sandwich. But The Kid and I have found that two large salads topped with eight or ten of their grilled nuggets make a very virtuous dinner.

Then you can have dessert.

Frosted diet lemonade! It's a mixture of vanilla soft serve and sugar-free lemonade. A large is only about 300 calories and it tastes like frozen lemon meringue pie in a glass. Everybody that I've forced to taste it, loves it. But they only get a sip or two, and then they have to get their own.

My wimpy palate is no secret. Sometimes black pepper hurts me. Poblanos are the hottest chile I can handle.

But horseradish is my jam. The heat works differently and I can not only handle it, I enjoy it. In my fridge at all times is a squeezy container of Inglehoffer's. I add it to mayo for roast beef sandwiches, sour cream for hash, beef stock for gravy and potato salad.

The other night I split some fingerlings and roasted them until they were cooked through and caramelized. I was going to make either a lemon mayo or a horseradish cream as a dip. When I was trying to decide which, I wondered what a lemon horseradish dip would be like. It's like heaven, you

guys. I whisked together 1/2 cup mayonnaise, 1/4 cup sour cream, the juice of one lemon, and a tablespoon of horseradish. Freshly cracked black pepper and plenty of salt because both lemon and horseradish need a ton. This combo was bright

with a bite. It was delicious on the fingerlings, but would be great on sandwiches, in mashed potatoes, or on pasta. Promise.

Another taste combo that should be a thing is pumpkin and peanut butter. I make dog biscuits with the two ingredients and when baking it makes

the house smell like autumn heaven. It smelled so good I knew it had to taste amazing. It does. Try a pumpkin bread with a peanut swirl, or even peanut butter and apple jelly on another new delish discovery, pumpkin spice English muffins.

It might be basic, but there's a reason Starbucks sells millions of dollars worth of pumpkin spice lattes.

My final discovery I read about online. It was so cool and so simple I figured it had to be bogus. But I tried it the other day and it was a rousing success.

Once you use a handful of green onions, don't throw the roots out. Put them in a glass of water and stick them in a sunny window. Overnight. shoots will begin growing out of the cut ends and continue growing. In two or three days, you have a whole new crop of freshly grown scallions.

I'm not sure how many times they'll regenerate. Mine are on their third cycle and still look happy and healthy.

Now if you have any of your own discoveries, Gentle Reader, drop me a line. I'll check them out and share them in a future column.

Now get out there and be curious, you Marco Polos of the supper table. Thank you for your

Chatham County Council on Aging WEEKLY TRIVIA HUNT! Q: What Chatham town was

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

originally named Richmond?

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ELECTION

Continued from page A1

both friends and outreach efforts by various cam-

"I'm ready for (the election) to be over," he said with a laugh. "My phone's been ringing off the hook for the last couple weeks.

Dark also said he's more concerned about national politics and isn't as interested in how this election will impact Chatham County at a local level. He said politicians should use this time as a unifying moment, instead of a dividing one. He also admitted he could see more unity under Democratic administrations.

Over at the Bonlee School Gym, Lenora Lucas and Jerry Hilland went to cast their votes together. Lucas said she wasn't as sure that her vote would be counted if she sent it by mail or voted early, so she came for the reassurance. This election was important for her ideologically. She sees a possible Biden administration as opening the door for socialist policies, something she opposes.

This election is the most important for the sake of my family," she

At least one person wasn't thrilled about election season coming its end — Larry Clark. He said he works for a mobile stage company out of Pittsboro that's been providing equipment for political rallies, and he's been happy to have made some money. Being

'This election is the most important for the sake of my family.'

LENORA LUCAS, voter at the Bonlee School Gym



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Cousins Carol Johnson and Chreatha Austin voted together early Tuesday at the Ag Center in

'It's like choice overload. It's like you go to the grocery store and there's 12 types of jam and there's so much, you're less likely to pick any.'

KIRBY BARNES, voter at the Ag Center

busy is also what kept him from voting earlier, he said, but he took that extra time to research candidates.

Clark added that it feels like everything from local to national politics have higher stakes this year, but he declined to predict any outcomes.

"I don't know what's going to happen," he said. "I just know I voted and waited until today to

Like Clark, Charlie Fields took the "wait and see" approach to this year's election. He cast his vote Tuesday morning at the J.S. Waters School in Goldston. Election Day was the only day he felt safe to vote.

"It's when you're supposed to vote," he said. Fields also didn't shy away from identifying his candidate of choice, saying that President Trump seems to be interested in protecting his rights as a

"I enjoy my freedom,"

he said. "Trump isn't my favorite person, but he's done what he said he was going to do.

Local politics also played into his decision to vote on Election Day, Fields said. He mentioned there's a lack of conservative ideology among Chatham County's elected officials, and he'd like to see more people that align with his beliefs in office.

At the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro, some voters talked about how choosing a candidate this vear proved more difficult than they had expected. Melissa Harshman said she came to vote in person because that's what she feels comfortable with, and — like many was grateful to see the election cycle come to a close. She also added that this year's mudslinging

spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. While Harshman

and political plays felt

pretty standard, even in



From left, Douglas Coopola, Lewis Hendricks and Karen Hendricks were among the early voters on Election Day Tuesday at the Chatham County precinct in Briar Chapel.

planned on voting for Trump, that decision came after evaluating each candidate's morals and plans of action.

"Looking at Trump, he doesn't have all the morals (I wish he had), but neither does Biden," she said. "But Trump has more of them."

Kirby Barnes, another voter at the Ag Center, said she wasn't even planning on voting this year until she realized how much she disliked incumbent Republican Sen. Thom Tillis.

"I don't like the two-party system," she explained. "It feels like tribalism and that vou're demonizing your neighbor.

Barnes has also felt desensitized by this election, mostly by a deluge of candidate information from both media outlets and political outreach efforts. She mentioned she's looking forward to not getting anymore political texts or phone calls.

"It's like choice overload," Barnes said. "It's like you go to the grocery store and there's 12 types of jam and there's so

much, you're less likely to Harrison. That's because

As for following the election results as they come in Tuesday night, Barnes said she might take a look — if she can make it to the liquor store

Voting hit a more familial chord with Kayla Gardener this year. She would have voted earlier. she said, but wanted to go cast her ballot with her mother over at Perry Harrison Elementary School. While she doesn't expect the end of election season to halt political infighting, she does hope that voters can boot out some disappointing leaders at

the national level. "I know what I'm hoping for," she said, "and that's a Biden presiden-

Inaction following protests against police brutality has concerned Gardener, and that's one thing she hopes will be addressed by a new administration.

As for Christen Bell, voting day provided a convenient moment to cast her ballot at Perry she recently gave birth to a daughter, she said. These days, she pretty much lives on her newborn's schedule.

She would have also felt comfortable voting early, she said, but was looking forward to seeing an exhausting election year end. One of her main complaints was the lack of civility between both candidates, which created

a "clash of negativity." Bell has done her best to stay neutral and give people breathing room when they express their political views. She said she approves of how Gov. Roy Cooper has dealt with the pandemic, but also recognizes how businesses shuddering in the economic fallout can be disheartening.

Bell declined to say which candidate she planned on voting for, but did say she expects to see a landslide victory. Getting to watch the results, though, will depend on how her newborn daughter is feeling.

"We may sleep if she lets us," Bell said.

BALLOT

Continued from page A1

paper ballot into this machine.

A chief judge at each location and his or her assistants preside over the machines' transferal from voting site to the BOE's office in Pittsboro.

"They have legal powers to enforce law in that space," Dunphy said. "I didn't realize this, but if you go in there and create trouble, they can get you

arrested — just like a judge in a courtroom."

To prevent tampering, the judge closes the machine and covers it with a seal. To ensure absolute integrity, at least one assistant judge must watch the

"Then, they pick up that machine, they put it in the car, and they drive it to the board of elections office," Dunphy said. "This is happening Saturday afternoon after 3 p.m. to six machines, six automobiles from six separate sites in the county

— they're hand-delivered to the board of elections office. And that's all your early voting.

But what about remote interference? Can hackers and other malcontents access the voting machines and obfuscate the data?

Impossible, Dunphy

"None of them are connected to the internet," he said. "They're a little chip inside with all the tabulated votes for the candidates. So, they can't be tampered with by some Chinaman, or Russian. or Romanian — some high-tech expert in some foreign country. They're totally separate from the internet.

Once the six early voter site machines arrive at the BOE's office, board members and Steve Simos, the deputy director of elections for the county, preside over the movement from each car the machines are locked awav.

Meanwhile, board of elections members are already working with additional machines stationed in their office.

"We've been meeting twice a week," said Mark Barosso, another board member. "We put the (mail-in) absentee ballots in the tabulator — we open up the envelopes and put them in there. We've been doing anywhere from 800 to 1,200 a meeting. And then we have the military and overseas ballots that we have to transcribe'

There are, in fact, three tabulators used for this purpose.

'Šo, now we're talking about nine machines," Dunphy said, "aggregated together in the building where they will be locked away with all the votes made through Saturday afternoon.

Tuesday, Nov. 3 — **Election Day**

Midway through Election Day, the BOE meets again to finalize early voting compilation.

"So, voting is happening and all kinds of activity is going on — all the precincts are busy,' Dunphy said, "Well, at 2 p.m. we have another meeting, the board of elections. So, I'm going down there, the other four members go there, and this is what happens: the six machines that were locked up Saturday evening, we take them out, and we get a thumb drive.

At this point, Dunphy emphasizes, all board members must watch the process together.

"We all stand there looking at this thumb drive," he said. "We take the thumb drive out of machine one, and we put it into two, three, four, five and machine six. So, there are all your early voting numbers.'

The thumb drive, load-

ed with voting data from each of the six machines, is then plugged into a separate device to compile ballot figures. When it finishes, early votes are officially accounted for.

"We're all sitting there watching — watching it happen," Dunphy, a Republican, said. "Liberals and conservatives sitting in the same room watching and making sure everything's good.

Election Night

The polls close at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday night and the ballot-processing operation proceeds much like it had on the previous Saturday, but three times more involved — there are 18 Election Day voting precincts across Chatham County, compared to six early voting sites.

'Once the polls close," said Pandora Paschal, director of the board of elections, "the chief judge brings back the machine with the thumb drive in it — it stays intact, is not removed, and it has a seal on it — until they get here to the office.'

Votes from all 18 machines are amassed onto a single drive, which then I upload to the state elections reporting site," Paschal said. That transmission is not conducted over a regular internet connection.

'It's sent to Raleigh on a secure encrypted line," Dunphy said.

Only then, according to Paschal, can the board post its figures online.

'We publish them internally first," she said, "to check to make sure that the results are correct against our report. After that we can publish to the public.'

Canvassing

The voters' work finishes on Nov. 3. But there is still much to be done before election season concludes.

"Everybody goes, 'Oh, I bet you can't wait until after the 3rd," Paschal said. "No, I can't wait until after the 13th.'

Just five days before Election Day, the U.S. Supreme Court settled a debate over North Carolina's election rules. They decided not to interfere with the state's mandate permitting the N.C. Board of Elections to collect mailed-in ballots through Nov. 12 instead of Nov.

6 — the previous deadline set by state law.

But ballots must still have been postmarked by Nov. 3.

"So, on Nov. 13," Dunphy said, "We have another meeting called canvass, and that just means expert review. What we do at canvass is we deal with contested voting, compliance and generally bellyache. It's a gripe session.

In other words, it's when the BOE must use its professional judgment to make rulings on any votes cast under questionable circumstances.

"We're auditing, essentially," Paschal said. "We have to make sure that whatever the precinct totals are, we have the same amount of voter history as ballots cast. And if it doesn't match, vou will have to have an explanation as to why.'

Sometimes, the mistake is as simple as a poll worker failing to click the "vote button" on the back of the polling machine, Paschal said. But other times, it could indicate voter misconduct. Either way, the BOE takes careful steps to ensure the integrity of each vote, or else strike it from the

"It's a tedious process ." Pachal said, "and it's exhausting.'

But contrary to some rumors circulating the country, this year's voting process has proceeded smoothly, the BOE said, at least in Chatham County. Tremendous voter turnout during early voting will likely simplify the process of verifying election day results.

"I don't tȟink it's going to be that big of a deal,' Barosso said, "because I think people are so enthusiastic about voting, they've taken all the precautions to make sure they meet the deadlines. I'm sure we'll have some stragglers, but I doubt seriously it's going to change the vote."

Still, the BOE will have gone through nearly two months of rigorous election supervision by the time they can release official results, and its members will be relieved.

"People don't have a clue what we do here, Paschal said, "but it's a

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com.

By the time this is read, the election will be over, but I want my position clear and unedited. Jimmy Pharr

ON THE MONUMENT: That is a specific type, one at every county seat courthouse in NC – a memorial to those who died, most without grave markers.

I'm against this or ANY historical ones being removed. I'm against history rewriting or erasing: including historic artwork, textbooks, building or street names changed just because they are of an era (which includes our Founders), or biased views of Columbus, sports mascot names - nearly ALL of which COULD fall under some PC definition nowadays.

As to promising to put it back up? I was for leaving it alone, so ideally, I want it back where it was. BUT MY **POSITION IS: 1) I want to keep promises I make in** life; 2) I honor the Rule of Law and will not casually do what those four commissioners did – I will NOT agree to something I'm legally vague on; 3) Ownership of the monument must be established. If UDC becomes the owner, I will abide by their ownership decision on what they do with it. If the county becomes the owner, then it's for the county to address.

One thing is clear: it continues to sit in storage on taxpayer money at \$3-400 a month, so whoever is elected will still have to deal with that. I make no promise because if ownership DOES need judicially established, that could take time.

They chose to remove it, with no outcry at all at that time. Perhaps for justification, petitions were accepted. While likely surprised that they were over 3 to 1 against removal, they proceeded. It created a mess far beyond just the contentious divide of "for or against" removal.

Paid for by CTE Jimmy Pharr

VIEWPOINTS

Deconstructing an election, casting a view forward

Late on a recent sun-dappled Thursday afternoon, I strolled



with some family members from my car toward our early voting location. There, I exchanged

greetings **BILL HORNER III** and a Publisher + Editor

few fistbumps with friends and candidates from both parties I knew who lined the sidewalk leading to the entrance. Then I walked inside, gave the friendly precinct worker my full name and address, got my ballot and

When it was done, I walked away with a new ballpoint pen, courtesy of the N.C. Board of Elections, and two "I VOTED" stickers. Why two? The one I picked up had a second still attached to it; after putting both of them on my t-shirt, I replied to one questioning candidate outside, through my face covering, that, yes indeed, I'd gotten a special dispensation this year to vote twice.

I was joking, of course, but a maskless man wearing an American flag shirt — who was handing out yellow copies of ballots with his preferred candidates' names encircled to anyone who would accept overheard the exchange and then took a picture of me with his cell phone.

Yep, it's been the weirdest election cycle ever.

You've likely voted, too, given that Chatham County's turnout set the standard for all of North Carolina. I'm writing this on Election Day morning, and you're reading it afterward, so right now you're likely relieved it's in our rear-view mirror. And maybe, like me, you're

trying to make sense of it all. That it's been a wild ride doesn't begin to qualify as an understatement. One pundit I read over the weekend described this year's election as

"a vomit milkshake." I certainly held my nose when I cast my vote for president, but I didn't go so far as to toss my lunch. (Check in with me again in a day or so, though.)

This election cycle, among all others, has been maddening,

deeply sad and at times crushingly repugnant.

It's tempting to join the chorus and sing about healing and reconciliation. My personal faith and glass-half-full perspective give me confidence about our future. But the present? Not so much.

It feels like we're the "United" States in name only. Politics have helped make us way too tribal. Republican or Democrat. Red or blue. Conservative or liberal. All or nothing.

Along the way, we've somehow stopped being aware of the stories we tell ourselves about ourselves because we're so steeped in the narratives we construct about everyone else — particularly about those who hold even slightly different

We no longer look inward, only outward.

It's reverse tribalism, in a way, and it certainly explains what's so unique about this election season: it's the first time in history, social scientists now tell us, that we hate the opposing political party more than we like our own. And because Americans now

also hate people in the opposite political party with more fervor than ever, our behavior — not just those behaviors of the bad actors already on the political stage — brings with it even more harrowing implications about how we're collectively going to respond to this year's election results.

Sound crazy? No surprise there, it turns out. Another byproduct of this election is cognitive distortion, which certainly would explain some of the things some politicians (and their rabid supporters) have done and said in the weeks leading up to Tuesday. The same Northwestern University-led study which broke the news about hate also said these cognitive distortions ways our minds convince us of things that aren't really true only serve to reinforce the ugly thoughts and behaviors we've seen in the run-up to Election

The only way I know to combat hate and lies is with cooperation and truth. So here's an idea: let's ask the winners and the losers from Tuesday to rally around what they can agree upon and build from there. Find commonalities first. Look inward, then work outward.

In Vienna, Austria, on Monday, four people were killed and 14 injured in a shooting described by officials there as an "Islamist terror attack" after a heavily armed 20-year-old opened fire in the city center. I have a dear friend in Vienna, Lizzie, a Chinese journalist, and during three visits to Vienna in the last five years, my wife Lee Ann and I have spent hours and hours walking around the city center with her, stopping for coffee and strudel and marveling at the architecture and the city's rich history.

We messaged Lizzie after the attack to check on her. She's been working from her apartment there and is fine, she told us; she's been reporting on the incident as part of her work. But even from there, she's watching us.

Today is supposed to be the day that people all around the world focus on America," she

Maybe it'll be the day we set a good example.

I know what I wrote, but it's not what I meant

In my column last week, I mentioned one of the shortcomings of the printed word. It's that



BOB WACHS Movin' Around thoughts on paper are often limited in their effect since

there's no way to convey things like voice change, body language and such that are a part of the message. There are, however, some

other factors which affect what's being said. For instance, computer programs that check spelling and grammar are far from perfect. Sometimes they

will insert something that isn't what was intended, drastically changing the meaning. And if it isn't caught, well ...

And sometimes there's the simple human dynamic of forgetting to say something or of seeing what you meant, even if it's not there. That's why writers and editors often ask another to go over their product before it's printed. Think, for example, the difference if you meant to write "I don't like such and such" and the "don't" was accidentally omitted.

But of all the possible pitfalls, perhaps the most likely falls under the category of "what I wrote didn't turn out like what I meant." And, of course, the mistakes are recorded forever.

Consider, if you will, these examples from church bulletins and newsletters:

- The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes
- · The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict. • Don't let worry kill you off — let the church
- Miss Charlotte Mason sang "I will not pass

this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation. • Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a

chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands. Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

 The Rector will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing: "Break Forth Into Joy." Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were

married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days. · Eight new choir robes are currently needed

due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones. Please place your donation in the envelope

along with the deceased person you want remembered.

• Potluck supper Sunday at 5 p.m. — prayer and medication to follow.

· The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

• The Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. Please use the back

• The 8th-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 p.m. The congregation is invited to attend

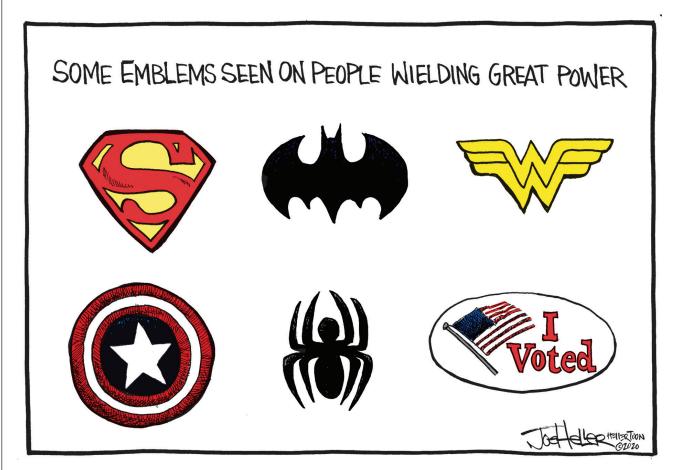
Having shared those, let me assure you as a "professional" journalist, I'm not ridiculing those folks. I've had my share. Once I wrote a piece about how our local community college was working to increase the literacy of our county's adult population. The headline, which I wrote, said "Literacy still big problem in Chatham." That's OK (I think) but the sub-head I added went on to proudly proclaim: "CCCC working against it.

That was one of the few times I did get to holler, as the movies show, "Stop the presses!" And one time, our advertising department announced a "Shirt Sale" for a local retailer and an important letter was left out of "shirt."

I say all that to say this: When you're called on to write, pay attention. Hang onto your humanity; just make sure it's the best it can be. And cut the folks who write what you read

some slack.

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



An open letter before the election

I write after church on Sunday. It has rained all morning, yet the sun



ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN Hope Matters

is peeking from the clouds as I type. Knowing when the News + Record is published. I write these words assuming that you, gentle reader, already know the outcome of Tuesday's national election. I write wondering what

the future will be

I know what happened yesterday. My wife had vacationed at the beach for three nights. Our three children spent a night here, then all of us decamped to my parents' home in Raleigh. After topping off a lovely visit with Nana's pumpkin pancakes, the kids and I came home ahead of their mother. I had designs on getting the house in order before the Halloween fun later that evening.

But as I unloaded the minivan, our 5-year-old son ran out of the house. "Daddy, there's an emergency in

your bedroom!"

I dropped the suitcases and took the steps three at a time. I saw the puddle on the carpet first. Then the baseball-sized bulge in the ceiling, dripping water.

I rushed up to the third floor and shut off the valves to the bathroom sink and toilet. I raced back downstairs. If anything, the drip

was faster and the bulge was bigger. Back up the stairs to the attic where I began hauling out boxes of photo albums, Christmas decorations and battery-operated toys that play music.

Our three children watched quietly until those toys hit the light of their playroom. Then, kids and toys sprang to life noisily, but for once I was too distracted to care about umpteen repeats of Old MacDonald.

Finally, I cleared a path to the water heater and saw the soaked plywood.

My readers should know that I have little knowledge about any home appliance. I've rented for the vast majority of my adult life. If something didn't work, I called the landlord.

Now that I pay a bank for the privilege of living in a home, the buck stops here.

I did the only thing I knew how to do. I ran all the way downstairs into the backyard and hollered for my

As usual, he was in the midst of his own home repair project. We first bonded over friendly discussions while he was rebuilding his front porch. Last fall, he installed a replacement garbage disposal for me for the price of beers. This summer, we share a few more frosty beverages.

Saturday, he halted his project and rushed around our fence. He helped me shut off the water heater and mop up while I began the project of drying the bedroom

My readers should know that I have little knowledge about any home appliance. I've rented for the vast majority of my adult life. If something didn't work, I called the landlord.

carpet.

A water leak can be a disaster. But thanks to a little luck and a helping hand, this particular leak is going to be fine. It cost me 30 minutes of stress as well as a few cold showers. But I imagine that, by the time you read these words, I'll have a new water heater.

Perhaps you and I will also know if we have a new president. Based on our conversations, I don't think that my neighbor would like that change. But I know that he offered to help fix the drywall on my ceiling. He tells me to holler if I need anything at all.

That gives me hope not only for my home but for our country. And I wanted you, gentle reader, to know this hope, which is why I write this Sunday afternoon as the sun peeks from the clouds.

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

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VIEWPOINTS

Elections are a soap opera

The day before the 2018



JOHN HOOD John Locke Foundation

to do if you lose." Without knowing the outcome, I urged those about to be disappointed not to react to their loss in ways that would make themselves, and everyone

about "what

around them, miserable. "While mourning a disappointing cycle is inevitable," I argued, "don't wallow in grief or yield to persistent bitterness. It's probably not the first time a political result has disappointed you, and it certainly won't be the last. While every election is important, the repeated claim that 'This election is our last chance to avoid disaster' is more hysterical than histori-

Now, as I write just before

the 2020 general election, please allow me to revise and extend my earlier remarks.

The fate of the Donald Trump presidency is certainly important, as is control of the U.S. Senate. Our country faces many challenges: COVID-19, the resulting recession, social unrest, an escalating culture war, the federal government's fiscal insolvency, the affordability and accessibility of health care, and educational stagnation, just to name a few.

By no means do I mean to suggest that the 2020 elections aren't momentous. I have spent much of the past two years talking about them. But whatever happens this year, the republic will survive. Claiming otherwise is wrongheaded and dangerous.

As I pointed out two years ago, our recent political history is littered with examples of pundits confidently — and fool-ishly — declaring the demise of the party that just lost an election. Every time "experts" begin singing the funereal hymn, the supposedly dead faction shows up at the church, like Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn, to disrupt the proceedings with some new political caper.

Two years after Bill Clinton won the presidency in 1992, for example, the GOP roared back to capture both houses of Congress for the first time in nearly half a century, as well as dozens of governorships and legislative chambers.

After the 2004 elections, triumphant Republicans proclaimed a new majority. Two years later, they took it on the chin in the midterms, then saw Barack Obama elected in 2008. Now, indeed, was the GOP truly finished? Nope. A massive red wave built over the next two years.

These shifting political winds had policy consequences, to be sure. Clinton worked with the newly Republican Congress to enact welfare reform, cut capital gains taxes and balance the federal budget. During his first two years of unified Democratic power in Washington, Obama on Monday's episode. and his Congressional allies enacted the Affordable Care Act. During his first two years, Trump and his Congressional allies reformed the tax code.

Still, these bursts of legislative activity punctuated what was otherwise a long period of confrontation and stalemate. Whatever happens this year, I would not count on a sustained radicalization of federal policymaking. If the Democrats obtain full control of Congress, its stability will depend on center-left senators who may be loath to declare war on longstanding traditions and broad swaths of the business community. If Republicans retain the Senate, obviously the aperture through which federal bills must pass to become law will be even narrower.

In other words, elections are not like movies with clear endings. They are soap operas.

That shocking, cliffhanger ending on Friday? Exciting, yes. But the storylines will continue *p.m. Sundays on UNC-TV.*

Another point I made in 2018 deserves restating today. Yes, politicians may win whose views you detest. Keep in mind, however, that they truly believe their public service — for which they will likely sacrifice a great deal — will advance the public good as they see it.

'You can disagree strongly with your political rivals without demonizing or wishing misfortune on them," I wrote. "Just as they should avoid being obnoxious winners in the coming months, you should avoid being a sore loser. Next time around, the results could be reversed. How would you like to be treated in that case? This is always a good rule to follow. One might even call it golden.' Still true.

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

Former presidential contenders in a new cabinet?

Who will be serving in the new presidential cabinet?



D.G. MARTIN One on One

If Donald Trump turns out to be the winner of the Nov. 3 election, there may be changes, but probably merely a continuation of the shifting sands of the last four years.

If Joe Biden, however, is the winner, there will be a total turnover in the cabinet.

Last year about this time I wrote that many of the then-20 Democratic candidates were really not running for presi-

dent. Instead, they were auditioning for high-level jobs in the new president's administration. It turns out I was right.

For instance, I wrote about candidate Pete Buttigieg, "Most of us had never heard of him until a few months ago. But we have learned that he is smart, quick on his feet, articulate, trustworthy, speaks several foreign languages, and has been a Rhodes Scholar and a soldier. He is cool and persuasive. He could be Secretary of State or ambassador to the United Nations.

Buttigieg is now being considered for the U. N. position and for several other jobs including Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

Susan Rice was not mentioned in my earlier column because she did not run for president. However, she was considered for Biden's vice-presidential running mate. In the Obama administration, she served as national security advisor and ambassador to the United Nations. Her experience and her close relationship with Biden make her a likely choice for Secretary of State or another high-level national security or intelligence position.

I noted that Andrew Yang, a respected business leader, had made a good impression as a candidate for president. As a result, he is being mentioned for several possible cabinet positions. Yang has talked about a "trickle-up economy" and a future automated economy, so automated that human workers would be unnecessary. As Secretary of Commerce, he could bring his futurist thinking to the practical world.

Julián Castro served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for President Obama. I thought the new president might ask him to take that position again. More likely, he will become Secretary of Homeland Security.

I opined that Washington Gov. Jay Inslee "may have staked a claim for the top job at the Environmental Protection Agency." Sure enough, he is being considered for that post and for Secretary of Energy.

In last year's column, I suggested that the U.S. Senators who were running for president (Warren, Bernie Sanders, Kamala Harris, Kirsten Gillibrand, Cory Booker, Amy Klobuchar and Michael Bennet) would be reluctant to give up their current high-status positions for any other job. Also, I thought, a new Democratic president would not want to appoint anyone whose Senate seat would be filled by a Republican governor.

Maybe I was wrong. For instance, Elizabeth Warren may be lobbying for appointment as Secretary of Treasury even though the Republican governor of Massachusetts would appoint her successor. She gets good grades for mastering the complicated American financial system. She is an informed advocate for policies to restrain the powers that run that system. Thus, she would be a controversial appointment. Another former presidential candidate, Mike Bloomberg, is on the list of possible Treasury secretaries.

Other current senators such as Klobuchar and Booker are in the mix for new positions, showing how wrong I was about their aspirations.

No North Carolinians competed for the Democratic presidential nomination, but some could be in the running for high-level positions in a new administration: Secretary of the N. C. Dept. of Health and Human Services Mandy Cohen to lead the national Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and U.S. Rep. Alma Adams for Secretary of Education.

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

GUEST COLUMN | JUDGE ROBERT F. ORR

ho was that masked man?'

My first introduction to "The William Tell Overture" came not in



BOB ORR Guest columnist

some opera theater but as a young boy watching a grainy, black and white television. With the stirring introductory theme music, the announcer would commence with: 'A fiery horse with

the speed of light, a cloud of dust and hearty, 'Hi-Yo, Silver! The Lone

For the next 30 minutes, I would be enthralled by the tale of right and justice prevailing over the forces of evil. In the end, as the Lone Ranger road off into the sunset, someone would say, "Who was that masked man?'

As we stand on the cusp of the 2020 election, one of the great divides in our country and here in North Carolina is the question of wearing a mask. This issue has fallen in large part along political lines as best exemplified by the constant refusal of the so-called leader of our country, Donald J. Trump, to wear a mask in public unless completely forced to by circumstances. By contrast, Joe Biden has made it a point to wear a mask and to encourage the general public to do so — a decision derided consistently by Trump.

Our public health officials at both the national and state level have recently begun warning us of a resurgence of the COVID-19 dangers as we move into colder weather and regular flu season. If we seriously want to avoid another major health catastrophe, potentially worse than

what we've seen to date, the three fundamentals of washing hands, social distancing and mask wearing need to be taken to heart — by all of us, starting with the man in the White House.

Now the Lone Ranger, as we all know, wore a very different kind of mask from the protective gear of today. The Lone Ranger wore his mask for the purpose of protecting his identity, having ostensibly been killed as a Texas Ranger by a marauding band of outlaws. The Lone Ranger's mask wouldn't cut it today as public health officials stress the necessity of covering the nose and mouth securely with a mask made of a variety of materials and filters to protect against spreading or inhaling the dreaded COVID-19 virus.

In a book published in 1996, titled "The Lone Ranger's Code of the West," Fran Striker, the son of one of the creators of the Lone Ranger, set out to articulate in print the Ranger's Code. That Code was intended to mold individual character and define a set of personal dictates for action. The Code set out a list of characteristics that Striker felt defined the actions of the Lone Ranger over the course of his long career. The Lone Ranger is: honest, fair, caring, respectful, loyal, tolerant, morally courageous and does his duty.

At the end of the book, Striker sets out three character-based decision-making tools of the masked man. 1) The Lone Ranger considers the interests and well-being of all likely to be affected by his actions. 2) He makes decisions characterized by the core ethical values of honesty, fairness, caring, respect, loyalty, tolerance, duty and the moral courage to do what needs to be done. 3) If it

is clearly necessary to choose one ethical value over another, the Lone Ranger will do the thing that he sincerely believes to be best for society in the long run.

As our country, state and local communities struggle with painfully difficult decisions weighing the public health consequences and the economic ramifications of this pandemic, our leaders from top to bottom, across party lines and self-interest would do well to remember the Lone Ranger's Code of the West. Wearing a mask today whether in a store or work place; whether appearing in groups of people for social, religious or political purposes, is done for the very best of reasons. All of those first responders, health care providers, law enforcement and others are setting the right example for us.

Maybe the next time that person in line at the store or choosing to sit next to you in a meeting has a mask on, our response needs to be one filled with admiration and appreciation for their concerns about all of us. "Who was that masked person?" - simply answered, a fellow citizen that cared for others. Thanks for remembering the Lone Ranger's Code of the West.

Judge Bob Orr was the first Republican to win a statewide judicial race in N.C. in the 20th century. A native of Hendersonville, he has also taught a course on the N.C. Constitution at UNC School of Law since 2002. Having been back in private practice since 2010, Orr has argued numerous cases in both state and federal court. He practiced law in Asheville for a number of years before being appointed to the Court of Appeals by Governor Jim Martin in 1988.

GUEST COLUMN | DR. JOHN DYKERS

A word on vaccinations and flu shots

Vaccines are human's best defense against viral infection. Smallpox. Polio.



JOHN DYKERS

Measles. German measles. Mumps. Whooping cough. Chickenpox/ shingles. Hepatitis.

Human Papillomavirus. Influenza. Now, hopefully, SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes

Guest columnist Diphtheria, Hemophilus influenza, Pneumococcus pneumonia and meningococcus are bacterial

COVID-19.

Some people don't appreciate vaccines. This is mostly because they have never seen illnesses our major vaccines prevent. One of these is smallpox with a 35% death rate, gone since 1977. Paralysis and death from polio is almost gone, worldwide. You have likely never met anyone who

infections for which there are vacci-

SARS-CoV-2 is not as deadly as smallpox. A vaccine is not as likely to eradicate COVID-19.

All vaccines are not the same. A flu shot is not as effective as measles vaccine. The new COVID-19 vaccines are of unknown effectiveness and safety.

The initial COVID-19 vaccines will prevent illness rather than kill the virus. Wearing face masks, distancing, avoiding crowds, adequate ventilation and being outdoors will still be crucial for enabling economic activity to revive and prevent spread of the virus.

You and I become ill, have heart attacks, pneumonia, colds, strokes, accidents, cancers, backache, fever, nausea, headache, diarrhea, and various other illnesses for no apparent reason all the time. When we have a vaccine injection, there are potential side effects. We have to try every vaccine and watch our response carefully in thousands of us in order to determine if any illness happening after the shot is caused by the vaccine or just happened as it would have anyway.

I nagged patients, and I nag you now, to have your flu shot before Halloween every year! I occasionally would fudge to Thanksgiving. Almost never close to Christmas.

The reason was that with flu season in full swing by January, it was too likely for you to have your flu shot and catch the flu the next day or two by chance and blame it on the flu shot. Then you would tell others the shot caused flu, when it did not. This would discourage all from having their flu shot. Then my waiting room would be full of flu next January, February and March, and I did not want that. This worked well, and after a decade of so, my patients were well protected from many strains of influenza, and winter was not so bad.

Most people are rightfully thankful for vaccines as keeping us from being sick. Thanks to Dorothy Rawleigh and staff at Chatham County Health Department, and everybody who vaccinates children, Chatham schools have a 95% or better steady vaccination rate. I urge our pharmacists to give children flu shots as well.

Dr. John Dykers was a family practitioner in Siler City from 1964 until 2010. In addition to making house calls and delivering babies, he served as chairman of Chatham Hospital's continuing education program for 35 years. Find out more at dykers.com.

What's on your mind?

had either of these. SARS-CoV-2

spreads more easily than polio.

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

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

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

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

MATERNAL & INFANT HEALTH IN CHATHAM

Pursuing birth equity in former 'maternity care desert'

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN

News + Record Staff

Across the country, racial disparities in birth outcomes reflect a large health inequity — one that means Black women and infants are dying from preventable pregnancy-related complications at higher rates than other demographic groups.

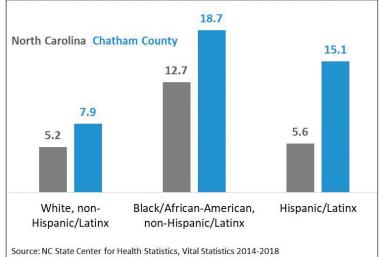
Unfortunately, this trend holds true in Chatham, according to a report on health disparities just released by the Chatham County Public Health Department. It's a reality the department is partnering with many other local health officials and community members to work toward changing, according to CCPHD Strategic Planning and Development Officer Casey Hilliard.

"Although we are investigating what is contributing to the disparities in infant mortality and low and very low birth weights in our county, we do know that racial disparities in birth outcomes are a well-documented and troubling reality across the country," Hilliard said. "The evidence, including studies that show that these disparities are persistent across income and education levels, points to racism as a root cause of these unequal outcomes."

The report is part of the department's work to pursue health equity in the community; in addition to examining maternity wellness, the report also included rates related to COVID-19, mental health, life expectancy and more. Health disparities, the report said, are the consequence of "structural inequities that push communities into the margins and create the external factors that redirect, reduce, and remove opportunities to achieve optimal health."

Hilliard emphasized that it's the combination of structural racism
— "which contributes to poorer quality of care and unequal access to care and the social drivers of health" — along with the experience of racism over a person's lifetime, which drives inequities in birth outcomes.

In Chatham County, infant



Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health

Infant mortality rates per 1,000 live births are higher among Black/African-American Non-Hispanic/Latinx residents and Hispanic/Latinx residents than White Non-Hispanics/Latinx residents, according to the CCPHD's recently released report on health disparities.

mortality rates are higher among both Black and Hispanic residents than white residents — 18.7 and 15.1 per 1,000 live births, compared with 7.9.

"It is worth noting that the disparate outcomes for Hispanic/Latinx women and babies in Chatham County are not mirrored in state and national statistics," Hilliard said. Nationally, racial and ethnic disparities in pregnancy-related dealths affect Black, American Indian/Alaskan Native women at the highest rates, according to a 2019 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We are not sure why birth outcomes are worse for Hispanic/Latinx women in Chatham," Hilliard said, "but we are concerned and committed to addressing these inequities through collective system-level solutions."

One large part of such solutions is the new Chatham Hospital Maternity Care Center, which became the first maternity center in the county in nearly 30 years when it opened in September. Prior to the maternity center opening, Hilliard said, Chatham ranked in the bottom quarter of North Carolina

counties for average distance between a resident's home and a hospital offering childbirth services — 25 miles and upwards of 30 to 40 minutes.

"Bringing quality maternity care to this critical access rural hospital will have a ripple effect for the health of women and babies in Chatham. In fact, it already has," she said.

Chatham Hospital Chief Medical Officer Dr. Andy Hannapel echoed this sentiment, stating it's important to have a safe place within the community where maternity needs are met.

"Chatham County and surroundings are subject to these same trends and have contributing factors similar to other U.S. and N.C. communities — especially around rural health care issues of access and limited resources," he said.

Hannapel highlighted another big part of the community's efforts to address disparate maternal and infant outcomes in Chatham: Equity for Moms and Babies Realized Across Chatham (EMBRACe). A two-year grant-funded project aimed at achieving equitable birth outcomes in the county, EMBRACe is a product of collaboration

between Chatham Hospital, CCPHD, Piedmont Health Services, Chatham County Department of Social Services and Chatham Health Alliance.

"Chatham Hospital, together with our community partners, wants to create and maintain a welcome, safe place for people to come and receive the care that they need and that they seek," Hannapel said. "It isn't enough that we spent \$2.6 million to build the Maternity Care Center. We have to make this a part of the safe community space with PHS, CCPHD, CCDSS—where mothers and their babies come for care."

Through partnerships to share leadership, decision-making and data, the project specifically focuses on advancing policies, practices and programs "to ensure all women receiving prenatal and perinatal care are treated with dignity and respect," Hilliard said.

Ellen Chetwynd, a lactation consultant and researcher who's led maternal health efforts at UNC Family medicine, is one of the founding member of EMBRACe. She said she was initially drawn to the project because of the aligned vision to bring maternity care to an area that was previously a "maternity care desert."

"It just was such a beautiful fit to have two years to really focus on systems and alignment of services and integration of care, which, you know, even though everybody wanted it, nobody really had the time to focus on that specifically," she said.

Chetwynd was also inspired by a doula program she encountered in Asheville, SistersCaring-4Sisters — founded by women of color for women of color.

"That was one of the stories that fed into EMBRACe, just this example of another group of people who had come together around a topic area and created something that was truly based on community desires," she said.

Chetwynd has helped lead the community engagement piece of the project, with experience holding listening sessions in English and Spanish to

hear from women in Chatham what they were looking for in Chatham's maternity care center.

EMBRACe hosted one listening session before COVID-19 hit, Chetwynd said, meaning their engagement efforts were temporarily postponed. Now, the group will be hosting sessions online, focusing on more of a "storytelling format" than a formal focus group one.

"It's tough to run a maternity care unit in a rural setting — they're expensive," Chetwynd said, referencing the hospital's efforts to connect with other rural maternity centers prior to opening. "We've been at this now since January, we're nine months in and I think we've got a good solid base. That's not very interesting, but literally within the last couple of weeks we've started to take the first steps toward launching into our actual efforts. I think we've done some solid work."

Along with the logistical challenges COVID-19 has brought for the project, it's also exposed the many inequalities in health care delivery and access, Hannapel said. He added that work done to address these disparities must not focus on the outcomes that result from the system such as exposure, illness, or death but the root case — "a system that discriminates on the basis of economic status (the poor, the uninsured), race and ethnicity."

"This is difficult for all of us because that is not how we see ourselves in America as Americans. But the truth is this is the system we have and participate in," Hannapel said. 'EMBRACe has developed a structure to examine this in each of the community entities and provide this information back to the individual institution and the group. We want to be informed and coordinated across the community partners in our policies and practices. This work towards consistency across entities... I believe, will help our patients."

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

CONCERNS

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"We have also heard from teachers who feel strongly that students should return to in-person instruction. It is essential for us to ensure that our staffing decisions allow for the continued fulfillment of students' instructional, social-emotional and basic needs.' Frazier said. "However, we are highly sympathetic to each and every worry that has been expressed. As such, we will continue working hard to provide the highest level of support possible for our employees as we respond to individual circumstances.'

To that end, Frazier said the district is encouraged by employees whose concerns were lessened once returning to school and experiencing "the safety protocols and procedures in our comprehensive reentry plan."

The board will meet again for its regular meeting next Monday and plans to discuss timelines for the possible return of additional student groups to in-person school.

Emily has mixed feelings about these decisions. She understands that remote learning presents many equity problems for students without broadband access or academic support at home, and that learning in person is the ideal way to learn.

"I really want school to be normal," she said. "I don't know anybody that has chosen to work with kids that doesn't want to be with kids because this is just what we do. We want things to be normal, but normal is scary. It's risky. And that risk is more significant for me."

Steve, another CCS high school teacher, feels that risk acutely — not necessarily for himself, though he does have mild asthma, but for his elderly mother, who lives with him.

"I just can't put my life, or her life, in the hands of teenagers," Steve said. Like Emily, Steve has

Like Emily, Steve has been impressed with both his school's and the district's communication throughout the start of the school year. He doesn't think it's an easy decision, or that administrators are approaching it lightly, but ultimately he needs to prioritize his family's health.

"If and when the school board decides to bring students back, if the virus is this out of control, I will have to resign or retire early," he said.

Though 41% of CCS employees said they did not feel comfortable returning to in-person learning in September, according to the employee survey, just over 10% said they'd request leave or would resign. More than 26% said they'd "request a reasonable accommodation," which the district said at the time did not necessarily mean requesting to work remotely.

The current phase of reopening affects just over 2.000 CCS students, but it also impacts teachers and the schools' staff. Supporting parent choice has been a major part of the conversations about returning to school, but many employees have noted that teachers and staff do not have the same luxury. Many teachers seem thrilled to be back with students, but for other teachers who feel unsafe, some feel speaking openly could cost them their careers.

Currently, teachers can only opt to work completely remotely with a medical doctor's note.

Emily hopes that the district will provide some kind of accommodation that can allow teachers to be creative when it comes to their role under in-person learning. She has the option to retire, but worries for her co-workers who have conditions that make them higher-risk but do not qualify them for medical accommodations. And, though she's thought about retiring frequently since the pandemic began, she doesn't want to.

"It's not an option I want — I'm not somebody that's like counting down the days until I can retire," she said. "I love my work. I love my co-workers. I love my students. And I would be more than a little heartbroken if I felt like I needed to retire."

Laurie, who works as a custodian in the district, is not worried about the virus. If she could have it her way, all students would have been back in school yesterday. And while her job could potentially expose her to more germs,

she said she has felt safe and protected at work.

Still, the return to in-person learning is not without its challenges for her. She'd been on partially paid leave prior to Oct. 19, but was able to return to work because her school is offering free child care for staff.

"Unfortunately, my
own children are in upper
elementary and middle
school, so they're still
having a very hard time
not being back in school
— mentally, emotionally,
socially, it is horrible for
them." she said.

Though she's grateful she's been able to continue working, she has concerns for how the child care impacts her children.

are impacts her child "It's not a good situation in my mind because the kids all go to one room, they socially distance apart, which is I guess the good part," Laurie said, "but they're sitting at a desk, quiet with their mask on from 7:30 in the morning till 4:30 in the afternoon with a break here and there and lunch and recess, but you are sitting at a desk with a mask first from 7:30 to 4:30. And honestly, I'm not OK with that. There's just nothing good about being shut down." Another CCS teacher,

Ruth, also has school-aged children. As a teacher, she worries about interacting with students in-person and increasing the exposure to her family. As a parent, she also worries about her children's safety, particularly during times like lunch or snack when students aren't wearing masks. (At CCS, students eat at their desks, spread six feet apart, and are not allowed to socialize until after they've finished eating and return their mask over their mouth and nose.)

Another part of hybrid learning that concerns her is the added workload for teachers.

"Right now it's really a lot on teachers. I know a lot of people don't see that, they only see the teaching part. But a lot goes into the prep work," Ruth said, adding that she expected the prep work required for A and B days, in-person and virtual lessons to "go up exponentially."

Prior to speaking with the News + Record, Ruth consulted two of her teacher friends to discuss their main concerns: spreading the virus to their students and families, yes, but also their mental well-being. "If we go on this A-day

B-day plan, to see the workload — it's already a lot of extra time to be a teacher," she said. "And we all knew that coming into it and understand that but there's only so much you can pile onto a person. There's a breaking point. That might be some people's breaking point, and it'll be sad to see."

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







A letter from the president

Thomas Johnson, a 2020 graduate of Chatham Charter, mailed a graduation announcement to President Trump last spring. The president responded with a letter of congratulations dated July 18 but received just last week from the White House. Thomas, the son of Irvin and Kim Johnson, works for the Siler City Post Office and with his brother Nate at Johnson Roofing. Submitted photo

EBENEZER

Continued from page A1

foster families. More than 255 children have been placed in these homes, resulting in 63 adoptions

"It is humbling to see how God has used Ebenezer, this group of people, to show his love to over 800 children, Davis said. "It is not just a number; each child has a story — their own strengths and needs and we get to plant the seeds of love that will hopefully change the trajectory of their lives.

Davis conceived of the Grace Haven project in 2016. To raise funds, she approached Neal Jackson, the senior pastor of Beulah Baptist Church in Robbins, whom Davis had helped to adopt twin boys two years earlier.

Jackson was not immediately thrilled with the idea.

"I thought, 'That's nice, that's sweet,'" Jackson said. "Basically, we'll see what happens.

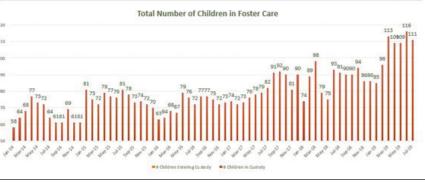
But Davis was determined to secure funds for a new home in Chatham County, where she had identified a substantial need in the foster care system.

"Then she had a stroke ." Jackson said. "Most people having accomplished what she had already accomplished (six) homes up there in Wilkesboro — would have said, 'No, I'm good. I'm done. I don't need another challenge in my life.' But not Jean; she called me back. She said, 'Hey, you still up for doing that children's home?

Jackson was so impressed with Davis' zeal and commitment that he volunteered to assist in raising the bulk of the project's renovation funds. Within four weeks, Jackson's congregation had raised more than \$220,000.

"While the supporters are too many to mention by name," said Davis, who has since recovered from her stroke, "we do

Number of Children in Foster Care from 2014 to July 2019 in Chatham County



Submitted by Chatham County DSS

The number of children in Chatham County foster care has risen steadily since 2014. So far this year, about 113 children are in the system each month with only 18 available foster homes.

want to recognize one church in particular that spearheaded the fundraising for this massive project. Beulah Baptist Church in Robbins played an integral part throughout the process.

After securing the land and building — about 10 minutes north of downtown Siler City renovations commenced immediately.

"We had to start from scratch," Davis said, 'totally renovating the structure from the ground up to ensure all aspects of the home met the strict state standards for homes for children in foster care."

ECCH anticipated the home would open in May 2018. But after some delays in construction, the project was further set back with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic in March.

'That messed up our plans a bit," Davis said, 'but we kept plugging along."

Despite opening more than two years behind schedule, the home arrived at a fortuitous time to help Chatham County's Social Services accommodate a rising need.

"Honestly, their case loads are just totally overwhelming," Jackson

Chatham County has had between 13 and 20 licensed foster families at any given time over the last five years. It currently has 18, according to Cim Brailer, family services program administrator for the Chatham County Department of Social Services.

"Given that we averaged 113 children in foster care over the last fiscal year," she said, "this is not enough to meet all of the needs."

The county has intensified efforts to recruit new families into the program, but its efforts have barely managed to keep up with the churn in the system.

'We are losing families at the same rate or higher than we are able to recruit, train and license new families," Brailer said.

Also, while the shortage of foster parents remains almost constant, more children enter the program each year.

'The challenge is that the increased demand as more children have entered foster care has outpaced the rate at which



Grace Haven's 53-acre property features a playground, pond and outdoor chapel. A basketball court is also under construction.

we are able to license new families," Brailer said.

In fiscal years 2015 to 2017, Chatham County averaged 72 foster children per month. The number started rising in 2018 with an average of 86 per month, then 97 per month in 2019, before arriving at 113 this year.

Although there is no one reason that accounts for the increase over the past few years, parental substance abuse has been the most frequent factor leading to children entering foster care," Brailer said. "When we looked at cases over a two-year period, almost 80% of the cases that eventually led to petitions of custody involved some type of substance abuse ... Due to the complexity of these issues and the time involved in appropriately treating them, the number of children and youth coming into foster care is simply much greater than the number exiting over the same period of

When a child is displaced from his or her parents, the county department of social services first tries to establish housing arrangements among close family members. When that strategy fails, organizations like ECCH do their best to pick up the slack. Ultimately, if no available beds are to be found, DSS must coordinate with other counties to place children in available foster homes beyond

Chatham. Some kids are hard to place," Jackson said, "so they can place them here until they find foster homes, or they can stay here until adulthood if necessary.'

Grace Haven is still undergoing some final touches. Davis hopes the pond will have a dock soon from which the children can fish or launch boats. A basketball court is also under construction, and the chapel needs some final touches, but the main building is operable and ready to receive children.

"We'll probably have kids in here next week,"

Jackson said. Davis is excited to open her doors. ECCH is not just a boarding house, she emphasized. It provides a loving and stable environment in which disadvantaged children can start new lives

"It is our goal to provide total care for the children we serve," Davis said. "We are not only providing a bed and meals, but working to meet the child's individual needs physically, mentally, academically, emotionally and spiritually."

Grace Haven's operating expenses are covered by state and county funding, but donations are always welcomed. For more information on Ebenezer or to learn how you can contribute, call (336) 667-LOVE (5683). To learn about becoming a foster parent with Chatham DSS. call (919) 542-2759 or email safeplace2grow@chathamnc.org.

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com.

h houzz build BOLD nc. com CHAPEL HILL







CYBER

Continued from page A1

bile hot spots to conduct

all business. In the original email sent by Chatham County government last Wednesday evening said it had identified a cyber incident that left its network. office phones and email "inoperable for an undetermined amount of

time.' That email was sent from a new email address for Public Information Officer Kara Dudley, pio@ chathameoc.com, since the county still did not have access to its email server. A second email notice was sent early afternoon Thursday containing the same informa-

Chatham County immediately notified authorities of the incident, LaMontagne said in the email. and is continuing to work toward identifying the extent of the problem.

"Chatham County 911 communications were not impacted and continue to operate without issue. Chatham County early voting also was not affected in this incident,'

LaMontagne said. "We are working with law enforcement and support agencies so we can recover from this incident as soon as possible. Our priority is to restore our systems in a secure manner and maintain the provision of critical services."

County officials would not confirm a report that the FBI was involved in the investigation of the incident, nor address questions about whether that incident involved a request for a ransom or a payment of any kind.

Though voting data was not compromised, LaMontagne said on Monday at the BOC meeting that all poll workers' laptops were replaced "out of an abundance of caution.' The elections office was unaffected because it is connected to a state-level network and not the county's.

"The cyber incident that was discovered on October 28th that affected Chatham County government's network is still under investigation, Dudley said in a follow-up email message sent Friday evening.

In that message, **Dudley said Chatham** County's Management and Information Systems (MIS) Department was working to restore the affected systems, along with federal, state and

local partners. "A timeline has not been established for full service restoration at this point," she wrote. "Updates on the restoration of services/systems will continue to be provided as progress is made. We are working around the clock to restore workstations in county departments.'

Dudley encouraged community members to monitor the county's website and their social media channels (Facebook and Twitter) for updates.

'Everyone's patience is greatly appreciated as we understand there have been some inconveniences and delays in service, Dudley said. "Thank you for your continued support as we continue to work through this situation.'

This is a developing story. This article and our Facebook page will be updated as more information becomes available.

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

OBITUARIES

PAUL HARVEY MCMATH



February 6, 1929 - October 25,2020 GREENSBORO — Paul Harvey McMath, 91, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, October 25, 2020. Paul was born in Greensboro to the late Gordan B. and Elsie McMath on February 6, 1929. He was married to Virginia McMath, who will remember Paul as her hero.

Raised on the family farm in Chatham County, Paul graduated from Silk Hope School, Siler City, N.C. He moved to Greensboro with his wife, Alma, where two sons, Steve and Alan, would be born and his dear wife

would pass away too soon. He married June Carol Harris, a Silk Hope classmate and gained his third son, Mike Moody in

He was hired to tame the cotton fibers by sweeping the floors at JP Stevens, a Greensboro based textile mill. With hard work and dedication, Paul advanced within the company, taking courses in management and at his retirement after

35 years, he held the position of plant superintendent.

He grew up in the Hickory Mtn. Baptist Church, Siler City, where his family had attended for many years and later moved his membership to Mt. Vernon UMC, Siler City, where he served in many capacities but most notably as Sunday school superintendent, teacher of the adult Sunday school class and delegate to the N.C. Conference of the United Methodist Church for many years. He attended Trinity Church in Greensboro in his later years. Paul was a man of great faith, with a fabulous sense of humor who dearly loved his family

Paul enjoyed raising cows and for many years he made the journey to Siler City on the weekends to spend time on the farm where he was raised. Later, he had a small garden at his home in Greensboro where enjoyed growing heirloom tomatoes and other vegetables but he was always eager for his visits to "the country" where he could watch his cattle graze and meet the new calves that had been born. He knew them by name and asked after those that were his favorites.

In addition to his parents, Paul was predeceased by his wives, Alma Jackson McMath (1968) and June Harris Mc-Math (2015); brothers, Carl and Keith McMath; sister, Patsy M. Beale; and daughter-in-law, Myra McMath.

Survivors also include his sons; P. Stephen McMath (Brenda), Alan McMath (Carolyn) and Mike Moody (Beverly); his grandsons; Brooks McMath, Drew McMath, Joel McMath (Autumn) and Josh Moody (Nicole); great-grandchildren; Theodore Paul Hester-McMath, Dylan, Dalton and Dakota Rose Moody. Paul is also survived by his sister-in-law, Faye McMath, and extended family.

There was a graveside service at Westminister Gardens on Friday, October 30, 2020, at 2 o'clock. All COVID protocols were observed.

Forbis and Dick Funeral Home, N. Elm St., is serving the family.

Memorials may be made to the memorial association at Mt. Vernon UMC, 3631 Mt. Vernon Hickory Mtn Rd., Siler City, N.C., or to the Hickory Mtn Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 1094 Mt. Vernon Hickory Mtn Rd., Siler City, N.C. 27344.

CARL THOMAS HOLT



Carl Thomas Holt, 87, of Siler City passed away peacefully Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at his home surrounded by his family and friends.

Mr. Holt was a native of Chatham County, born March 9, 1933, the son of Newby and Carrie Lee Johnson Holt.

Carl was a Navy Veteran, serving as a 3rd Class Petty Officer in the Korean War, and spent the rest of his years as the owner/operator of Holt Upholstery and co-owner of Holt's Interiors. He was the Rives Chapel Choir director for 40 years, a Deacon

of the church, and co-founder and organizer of the Annual Rives Chapel Church Golf Tournament. Carl loved God and his church. He enjoyed spending his time playing golf and listening to Gospel or old country music. Carl loved singing and playing his guitar.

In addition to his parents, Carl is preceded in death by his brothers, Mack, Jack, Robert "Kitten", Larry "Pinto", David and Lewis Holt and sister, Thelma Holt Pickard.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Rosemary Gordon Holt; daughter; Tammy Holt Hancock and husband Randy of Siler City; sisters, Jeannie Holt Lanier and husband Jerry of Emerald Isle, Margaret Holt Dowd and husband Clyde of Siler City, Carol Holt Burke and husband Wilson of Asheboro, and Eleanor Holt Hawkins of Asheboro; brother, Bryce Holt of Siler City; and grandchildren, Heather Hancock, and Tara Johns and husband David.

Memorials may be made to the Rives Chapel Church Cemetery Fund, 4338 Rives Chapel Church Road, Siler City, N.C.

The family received friends Friday, October 30, 2020, from 9 to 11:00 a.m. at Rives Chapel Baptist Church, 4338 Rives Chapel Church Road, Siler City. A graveside service with Military Rites followed at 11 a.m. with Dr. Tripp Foltz and Rev. Wesley Thomas officiating. Smith & Buckner assisted the Holt family.

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

WAYNE DEAN GRAHAM



Wayne Dean Graham, 83, of Pittsboro, N.C., passed away at home Saturday morning, October 31, 2020, after a long battle with Lewy Body Dementia.

Wayne was born in 1937 to the late Edgar and Louise Graham and grew up in Amarillo, Texas. He was the third of four sons. His brothers, Jack Graham, Gene Graham, and Gary Graham preceded him in death.

Wayne joined the Navy shortly after high school and served honorably for twelve years, including fighting in the Vietnam War. He was extremely

proud of his military service, and this was an important part of his life. After the Navy, he moved to North Carolina and spent his career working as a maintenance supervisor for Chatham County Schools and as an HVAC technician and supervisor, retiring from UNC Hospitals. Wayne was also an avid and talented woodworker and created many beautiful pieces of furniture for his family and friends over the years. He loved to cook, especially breakfast, working at Allen & Sons on the side and running a restaurant, Wayne's Place, in Pittsboro for a few years.

Wayne is survived by his daughter, Deanna Lewis and her husband Richard; granddaughters, Logan Baker of Burlington, Simone Baker of Wilmington, Rachel Watts of Efland, and a great-granddaughter, Ava Green.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, November 15, 2020, at Donaldson Funeral Home and Cremation in Pittsboro. There will be time for visitation immediately following the service. Due to Covid-19 precautions, the family asks that anyone attending the memorial service wear a

Flowers are welcome and appreciated. Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

PATRICIA E. (ROGERS) SLAMIN



Patricia E. (Rogers) Slamin, age 91, of Pittsboro, N.C., died peacefully on October 28, 2020.

Patricia is survived by her daughter, Cynthia Regan of Boxborough, Massachusetts; her son, Timothy Slamin of Milford, Massachusetts; and her daughter, Patricia Noonan and husband, John, of Durham, N.C.; her grandchildren, Christopher Noonan, Elise Noonan, Brandon Westfield, Jae Regan; and several nieces and nephews.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut, on March 19, 1929, she was the daughter

of the late Arthur J. and Florence M. (McDermott) Rogers. Patricia was predeceased by two sisters, Barbara (Rogers) Odell, Florence (Rogers) Wiley and three brothers, Arthur J. Rogers Jr., E. Robert Rogers and William Rogers. The Rogers family moved to Wellesley, Massachusetts, where Patricia graduated from high school. She attended Marjorie Webster Junior College in Washington, D.C., and received an associate's degree in secretarial science. After college she moved with her father to Palos Verdes, California, and soon after married her now deceased husband, James B. Slamin Jr. The couple settled and raised their family in the town of Natick,

Patricia worked several years as a medical secretary for an orthopedic practice at Leonard Morse Hospital in Natick, Massachusetts. After retiring, she moved to Hopkinton, Massachusetts, and then to Fearrington Village, Pittsboro, N.C.,

Family, holidays and her faith were most important to Patricia. She could be relied upon to pick up her grandchildren from school, bring them to various activities and bake endless cookies, cakes and pies for family celebrations. Her custom recipe book was always close at hand.

While living in Massachusetts, Patricia was a member and volunteer at the Hopkinton Senior Center. In North Carolina, she was actively involved with the Pittsboro and Chapel Hill Senior Centers, as well as the Fearrington Village Community. Some of her many hobbies included baking, bridge, knitting, crocheting, gardening, ballroom dancing, puzzles and water aerobics. Patricia also enjoyed traveling within the U.S and Europe. Favorite locations included Rockport and Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Maine, Ireland, Scotland, Italy and Austria.

Due to the current restrictions, a service and burial will be

Condolences may be shared at CremationSocietyN.C..com. Gifts in Patricia's memory may be made to https://www. dementiasociety.org/ or https://www.corafoodpantry.org/.

WILLIAM THOMAS BARE



William Thomas Bare, 76, of Siler City passed away on Monday, October 26, 2020, surrounded by family at his

Mr. Bare was born October 31, 1943, a native of Chatham County, and the son of Thomas Reginald and Eva Mozelle Moody Bare. William was a Navy Veteran and spent the rest of his working years as a truck driver. He enjoyed spending time with family, friends, and his beloved dog Tater. You could find William on a nice day enjoying a ride on his Harley

Davidson motorcycle. He had a green thumb, especially when it came to his roses. William had the ability to fix just about

In addition to his parents, William was preceded in death by his sister Rejina B. Maness.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Donna Cross Bare; daughters, Theresa Bare Fox and husband Craig of Siler City, Angela Bare Stovall and Tony Ball of Snow Camp; sister, Charlotte B. Allsup and husband Thurman of Pittsboro; and brother, Henry W. Bare and wife Sylvia of Fuquay Varina; grandchildren; Justin Stovall, Erick Stovall (Katrina Abbott), Joe and Will Cox, and great-grandchildren; James, Zurie and Kayden Stovall. The family would like to acknowledge some of William's

special friends: Sherlyn "Dallas" Burns, Mike Holt, Ernie Rickman, and Sonny Dixon.

The family received friends Friday, October 30, 2020, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Wesleyan Church, 9468 Snow Camp Road, Snow Camp, and other times at the home of Theresa and Craig Fox, 518 Johnny Lindley Road, Siler City, N.C. 27344. A celebration of life followed at the church on Friday, October 30, 2020, at 3:30 p.m. with Pastor Don Southern officiating. Inurnment with Military Rites followed at Plainfield Friends Meeting Cemetery, 1956 Plainfield Church Road, Siler City, N.C.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society Chatham Unit, 8300 Health Park - Suite 10, Raleigh, N.C.

Smith & Buckner assisted the Bare family. Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneralhome.com.

DAVID RAY SNIDER

Pastor David Ray Snider, 68, passed away Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at UNC Hospital.

The graveside service was held on Saturday, October 31, 2020, at Community Independent Baptist Church in Seagrove with Pastor Tom Cochran and Pastor John Forrest presiding.

Pastor Snider was born in Guilford County on December 4, 1951, to James and Beulah Bryson Snider. He was employed by Goodyear for 10 years and pastored Community Independent Baptist Church for the last 12 years. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister

Susan and brother Doug. Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Shelley Jo Tysinger Snider of the home; son, Robbie Ray Snider of Seagrove; sisters, Renee Williams of Archdale, Edye Miller of High Point, Vanessa Blackburn of Murphy and Jaimee Brown of Asheville; brother, Mark Duncan of Thomasville;

and three granddaughters. Condolences may be offered

online at www.joycebradychapel.com.

DONNA SLOAN MABE

Donna Sloan Mabe, 64, of Sanford, died Friday, November 30, 2020, at Central Carolina Hospital.

A service for family and friends was held from 2 to 4 p.m. at the home of Karen and Bobby McNeill on Sunday, Npvember 1, 2020.

She was born in Lee County, daughter of the late James Archie Sloan Sr. and Geraldine Womack Sloan, who preceded her on death.

Surviving is her husband of 48 years, Sam Mabe of the home; daughter, Karen Mc-Neill of Sanford; son, William Nicholas Mabe Sr. of Sanford; brother, Bobby Sloan of Goldston; and six grandchildren.

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

WILLIAM OUGHTOBE BUTLER

William Oughtobe Butler, 90, of Sanford passed away on Saturday, October 31, 2020, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

NANCY YVONNE LITTLE

Nancy Yvonne Little, 70, of Siler City passed away on Thursday, October 21, 2020. Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

STEWART JUDD

Stewart Judd, 72, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, November 2, 2020, at his residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

FREDERICK DEANGELO **COTTEN**

Frederick DeAngelo Cotten, 51, of Pittsboro passed away on Monday, November 2, 2020, at Signature Healthcare in Chapel Hill. Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

BEULAH RAY (HEADEN) MCCRIMMON

Beulah Ray McCrimmon, 93, of Goldston, passed away Sunday, November 1, 2020, at Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst. Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

PATRICK LAMONT **FRENCH**

Patrick Lamont French, 49, of Pittsboro passed away on Monday, November 2, 2020, as his residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

LILLIE ONETIA HEADEN

Lillie Onetia Headen, 61, of Goldston, passed away on Sunday, October 25, 2020, at her home.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday, October 29, 2020, at Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford with burial following at St. Luke United Church of Christ.

HATTIE ELLEN (MCKOY) HANNANS

Hattie Ellen (McKoy), 76, of Sanford passed away on Friday, October 30, 2020, at Westfield Rehabilitation Center.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

JANET KAY MULLINS

Janet Kay Gohagan Mullins, 64, of Sanford, died Thursday, October 29, 2020, at her home. Graveside funeral services

were conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday, November 1, 2020, at the Broadway Town Cemetery with Rev. Garland Smith officiating.

She was born in Charleston, S.C., daughter of the late Linward Alva and Marion Elva Johnson Gohagan. She was preceded in death by her parents. Janet retired from Coty after 35 vears of services.

Surviving are her husband, Homer Mullins of the home: son, Dan Mullins of the home; daughter, Jennifer Mullins of Sanford; sisters, Donna Gohagan, Mary Beth Gohagan, both of Sanford, Debra Gohagan of Minnesota; brother, Steve Gohagan of Sanford; and two grandchildren.

Flowers are welcome or memorial gifts may be made to Smith Funeral Home, Broadway, to help with funeral

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

BOBBY RAY JONES

Alex Smith officiating.

Bobby Ray Jones, 82, of Raleigh, passed away Friday, October 30, 2020, at his home. Graveside services were held at 3 p.m. Monday, November 2, 2020, at the Baptist Chapel Church Cemetery with Rev.

He was born in Wake County, son of the late Clyde and Hattie Irene Jones of Fuquay-Varina. He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Floyd Jones, Douglas Jones, Herbert Jones and son, Steve Allen Jones. He was a member of the Baptist Chapel Church. He retired in 1987 with 30 years of State Service with the Governor's Office.

Surviving is his wife, Margaret Thomas Jones of the home; daughters, Tracie Kay Jones and Bonnie B. Brock of Raleigh; son, Robert R. Jones of Raleigh; and two grandchildren.

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

See **OBITUARIES**, page A9





Charles Campbell



Greg Campbell

Quality Monuments At Affordable Prices Phone: 663-3120

Over 50 years experience designing, lettering and erecting monuments in Siler City and surrounding area.

Opposite Smith & Buckner Funeral Home

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

LARRY MASON SMITH



Larry Mason Smith, age 72, of Pittsboro, died Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at UNC Hospital.

Larry was born in Chatham County on November 20, 1947. He was the son of Claudia Walters and stepson of Alfred Foushee.

Larry is survived by his wife, Martha Hope Smith of Pittsboro; two daughters, April Hope Smith of Wilmington, Lisa Smith Powell and husband Bobby of Pittsboro; three brothers, Robert Manring and wife Amie of Roxboro, Jimmy Manring of

Missouri, Teddy Manring and wife Janet of Pittsboro,; four sisters. Louise Lefler of Pittsboro, Donna Bass of Chapel Hill, Amanda Valmassoi and husband Tony of Morrisville, Kathy Manring of Pittsboro; four grandchildren, Cali Powell, Hanson Powell, Quin Powell, Mason Powell; and several nieces and nephews.

The family received friends Monday, November 2, 2020, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 at Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory Griffin Chapel.

A Celebration of Life followed at 2 p.m. with Rev. Bob Wachs presiding.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in Larry's memory to the National Wild Turkey Federation, P.O. Box 530, Edgefield, S.C. 29824-0530, North Chatham Fire Department, 45 Morris Road, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312 or a charity of your choice.

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

JOHNNIE ODELL GLOVER



Johnnie Odell Glover, 88, of Siler City passed away on Thursday, October 29, 2020, surrounded by loved ones at his home in Siler City.

Mr. Glover was born February 11 1932, a Chatham County native and the son of Odell and Annie Pearl Brooks Glover. Johnnie was an Army veteran and spent his working years after that for the Chatham County School system. He was a member of the First Missionary Baptist Church and a Deacon, who sang in his church choir and male chorus. He enjoyed

spending his time traveling and spending time with his family. He loved building things, working on cars and tending to his garden. In addition to his parents, Johnnie was preceded in death by his son, Lonnie Glover; brother, Robert "Bill" and

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Evelyn Edwards Glover; daughters, Portia Glover, Lori Snipes (Rusty), and Raquel Thomas (K.T).; sons; Nathaniel J. Glover and Johnny Glover; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The family would like to give special thanks to Clara Milligan, Mike and Jerry White and his beloved dog, Chip. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Chatham

County Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 610, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312. A graveside service was held Monday, November 2, 2020, at 12 noon at Chatham Memorial Park, 13260 Hwy 64 West, Siler City, N.C., with Rev. Albert Reddick officiating.

Smith & Buckner home assisted the family. Online condolences may be made at www.pughfuneral-

home.com.

DWIGHT HICKS



Dwight Hicks, 74, of Bear Creek, N.C., passed away on November 1, 2020, at Moore Regional Hospital.

Mr. Hicks was a native of Chatham County, born on July 20, 1946, the son of the late William (Bill) Hicks and Beulah Caviness Hicks.

Dwight was an Army veteran serving in the Vietnam War. After returning from service Dwight was employed with Carolina Telephone which later became Sprint Telephone. He worked for the telephone company from 1970 until his retirement.

After retirement he worked for Cheek Electric in Goldston. Dwight loved the Lord and was actively involved in church. He sang in the choir and served as a deacon and Sunday School secretary as well as the RA director for many years at Goldston Baptist Church. Until Dwight's passing he was an active member at Meroney United Methodist Church where he served as an adult Sunday School teacher, Sunday School superintendent, and sang in the church choir. Dwight had a passion for tinkering with computers and woodworking.

Dwight is preceded in death by his father William (Bill) Hicks and his first wife, Jane Townsend Hicks.

He is survived by his mother, Beulah Caviness Hicks of Goldston: his wife of 18 years. Dianne Phillips Hicks: daughter, Sonja Hicks Kitchings and husband Scott of Goldston; son, Shannon Dwight Hicks and partner Shannon Hicks Jackson of Pittsboro; stepchildren, Dana Phillips Birdsong and husband Heath of Siler City, Dawn Phillips Mueller and husband Jeff of Pittsboro; grandchildren, Andrew Hicks, Nicholas "Jordan" Hicks, Gillian Kitchings, Connor Kitchings, Hunter Hicks; step-grandchildren, Nikki Bailey, Joey Mueller, Emilee Mueller, Jeffrey Mueller, Addilynn Birdsong; step-great grandchild, Kinsley Bailey; brothers, David Hicks and Ray Hicks, both of Goldston; sisters, Phyllis Hicks Dickerson of Greensboro, Doris Jeanette Blackmon and Kay Hicks, both of Goldston.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to The Wounded Warriers Project or Meroney United Methodist Church. In an effort to protect the well-being and safety of our friends during this time, the family will be holding a private, graveside service at Goldston United Methodist Church Cemetery, Dwight laid in repose on Tuesday, November 3. 2020, from 12 to 5 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Avenue, Siler City, N.C.

STEVEN MICHAEL PATTERSON

Steven Michael Patterson, 44, of Broadway, died Friday, October 30, 2020.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, November 2, 2020, at Holly Springs Baptist Church with Rev. Scott Yow officiating. Burial followed in the Church Cemetery.

Steven was born August 13, 1976, the son of James Russell and Arlene Stewart Patterson. He was preceded in death by his grandparents Thurman Patterson, and Emery and Adline Stewart. Steven was a member of Holly Springs Baptist Church.

Surviving is his grandmother, Christine Patterson of Broadway; parents, James Russell and Arlene Stewart Patterson of Broadway; sons, Dylan Michael Patterson and Blake Steven Patterson both of Broadway; and a sister, Holly Patterson of Orlando, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Smith Funeral Home to assist with funeral expenses. Online condolences can be made at www.smithfuneralhomebroadway.com.

WILMA MAXINE ODOM COMER

Wilma Maxine Odom Comer, 87, passed away Friday, October 30, 2020, at her home.

A graveside service was held on Sunday, November 1, 2020, at 2 p.m. at Asbury Baptist

Church in Seagrove, where she was a member, with Rev. Patrick Robinson presiding.

Wilma was born in Randolph County on December 27, 1932, to Aster Carl and Rionia King Odom. She retired from Russell's Hosiery. In addition to his parents, Wilma was preceded in death by her husband, Gaston Comer; one brother and two sisters

She is survived by daughters. Brenda Hussey of Carthage, Carol Dunn of Star, Sandra Greene of Robbins; sons, Bruce Comer of Seagrove, Chris Comer of Level Cross; seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

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

MICHAEL RANARD FOX

Michael Ranard Fox, 51, of Lillington, passed away Wednesday, October 28, 2020. Graveside services were held at 12 p.m. Wednesday, November 4, in Lee Memory Garden in Sanford.

JORGE ALBERTO FLORES

Jorge Alberto Flores, 79, of Sanford passed away Sunday, November 1, 2020, at his home. Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home

EDITH MAE WILSON GUNTER

Edith Mae Wilson Gunter, 78, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, October 30, 2020, at her

Mrs. Gunter laid in-state at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home on Sunday, November 1, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Funeral services were private due to COVID-19 per the family's request.

She was born in Lee County on July 19, 1942, to the late Carlie and Beulah Mae Edwards Wilson. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, James (Jimmy) Daniel Gunter and a brother, Harold Wilson.

She is survived by a son, Danny Gunter of Sanford; daughters, Debbie Gunter Causey of Carbonton and Vicky Gunter Daniels of Sanford; sister, Judy Godfrey of Sanford; six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

Shorty Johnson takes over as Pittsboro's police chief

BYD. LARS DOLDER News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The police department has a new chief: Pittsboro native Clarence "Shorty" Johnson Jr., who inherits the position at a pivotal juncture in the depart-

ment's history. Johnson, 49, was officially sworn in last Monday at a meeting of the board of commissioners. He had already been serving as interim chief for more than six months following the retirement of Chief Percy Crutchfield in March.

"I think Shorty has done a great job as interim," said Town Manager Chris Kennedy, who was tasked with hiring Crutchfield's replacement. "I think the decision for me was looking at someone in this very critical time in Pittsboro, and Chatham County, and North Carolina and the country at large, and finding a very reliable, strong, but compassionate leader to look over our police force.

It has been an unusual year for police departments across the nation as they navigate a global pandemic and calls for law enforcement reform in the wake of several nationally decried wrongful deaths at police hands.

'It's been a real strange year for all of us," Johnson said, "with the pandemic and race relations. Law enforcement all over the country has had to reevaluate their policies and procedures and how we do things to make sure that we're treating people fairly. I think we're doing a great job here in Pittsboro and Chatham



Submitted photo

Clarence 'Shorty' Johnson Jr. has been officially appointed as Pittsboro's new police chief after serving as interim chief since March.

County as a whole. But are there things that we can improve on? Sure.'

While Pittsboro has seen fewer protests and rallies in recent months than neighboring Raleigh and Durham, the small downtown has still been host to several confrontations. Johnson was not aware of any planned events to follow election day, he said, but his department is gearing up to address potential issues.

'Our response is to try to be hands off as much as we can," he said. "We want both sides to come out and be able to express their constitutional rights to protest or have their say on whatever side they're for or against. But we try to do our best to make sure everyone is safe.

Johnson hopes things will not escalate to the point of violence, but if they do, his officers will intervene as they have at prior protests gone bad.

"It was definitely

stressful," he said, "for us as law enforcement and also for the community at large. Unfortunately, we did have to make a few arrests. But still, we tried to let people have their say, and not get involved if we didn't have to.'

Johnson's wariness over potential police misconduct is evidenced in the reform program he began as interim chief which he plans to continue in his permanent role as head of the department.

'We're right now going through our entire policy and procedure manual," Johnson said. "We've gone in and we're adding - vou know, a big thing now — de-escalation techniques ... And we're trying to get our guys lined up to take some training classes. But it's hard right now finding classes because of the pandemic.'

Navigating the coronavirus pandemic and responding to calls for reform create a troubling conundrum for police departments. To address law enforcement response techniques and educate officers effectively, departments must hold training sessions. But in-person instruction is frowned upon while the threat of spreading the coronavirus still looms. Johnson is trying his best to strike a balance, but there can be no ideal solution while the pandemic continues.

We're trying to do some things online, Johnson said. "And then, like I said, when classes and training open fully back up, we'll get our guys in there. We're trying to make our officers

Right now, Pittsboro's department has 14 total police officers: 10 patrol officers a community police officer who doubles as a domestic abuse specialist, a detective, a captain and Johnson. In January, he plans to hire one more officer, but Pittsboro faces the same staffing difficulties that all law enforcement agencies have contended with for

years. "It's been tough for several years now finding people," Johnson said. "You know, people aren't applying to want to go into law enforcement. A lot has changed since I went into law enforcement in '94."

Back then, it was police work's noble mission that attracted Johnson. He was not originally destined for a career in law enforcement; in fact, when he first attended Appalachian State in the early 1990s, Johnson intended to pursue a busi-

ness degree. "But I started working down at Jordan Lake part-time as a seasonal (worker) and the park rangers were law enforcement officers, or law enforcement-certified," Johnson said. "I got to talking with them, and I thought that I would be good as a law enforcement officer It was about, basically, just trying to resolve issues that come up just listening to people and trying to find the best solution you can. So, that just seemed like

a good fit.' From the beginning, Johnson knew he wanted to make his way back home to Pittsboro, where he was born and raised.

better all the time, but it's His mother worked in the just tough." His mother worked in the poultry industry before moving into education and his father operated a

country store. (Johnson said his father and namesake was always smaller than the other kids in school. But Johnson stands 5-foot-11 or 6-foot, "depending on what heels I got on my shoes," he said. "So, that's always kind of been the joke: 'How in the world did you get that name? You're not all that short.")

After graduating from App State with a B.S. in criminal justice, Johnson started his career with the Chatham County Sheriff's office before moving to Siler City's police department in 2003. After 12 years, he finally made his transition to Pittsboro's department where he worked as a detective before his recent promotion.

But most young people, according to Johnson, are not attracted to smalltown police work even when they have general interest in law enforcement. They are discouraged by few opportunities for advancement and

mobility. 'We do have a tough time trying to get applicants here," he said, and I think one of the reasons is just the nature of law enforcement itself. It's tough being a small department because, if you had a bigger department, you would have more growth inside of that department where it would open up more opportunities. It's tough getting (potential applicants) to buy in that you are a good department. Even though you don't have a lot of opportunities,

you can start work here and move your way up and have a successful career."

Pittsboro may have limited opportunities now, but under Johnson's leadership, the department is likely to undergo tremendous growth. As aggressive development continues across town, especially with the ongoing Chatham Park project, police staff will have to expand to meet the demands of a swelling population.

"At one time I heard that when Chatham Park would officially be built, the department would need to be between 140 and 160 officers, or employees," Johnson said. "That's just hard for me to fathom right now ... Unfortunately, we probably will play catch up for a little bit. But hopefully we'll be able to meet the need and grow accordingly."

Kennedy, in his role as town manager, is similarly bracing for a meteoric spike in population. The police department will be essential in maintaining Pittsboro's high standard of living, and Kennedy is confident that Johnson is the right man for the job.

"I've had a lot of good feedback, so far, about Shorty being appointed to that position," he said. 'And so, we're excited to have him with the interim tag removed and for he and I to work together on a lot of good things to make the Pittsboro police department — in conjunction with the town operation — a great community asset."

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com.

CHURCH NEWS

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The Rodgers Missions group of First Baptist Church, Siler City, will host a Fall Food Drive, benefitting the West Chatham Food Bank. The "Drive-Thru Donation" event will be held on Sunday, November 8 from 4 to 5 p.m. Drive through the church parking lot and let the youth group provide curbside service and assist with taking your donations! Items needed for the holiday season: canned goods

and non-perishable food items.

The church is located at **EMMAUS BAPTIST** 314 North Second Avenue, Siler City, .

RED HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Revival serices will be held at Red Hill Missionary Baptist Church on November 16, 17, and 18 at 7 p.m. Pastor Tyler Gaulden of Church Street Baptist Church, Greensboro will be the guest speaker.

Everyone is welcome. The church is located on Highway 42, Goldston.

CHURCH

Fall revival services will be held at Emmaus Baptist Church Sunday. November 8 at 8:45 a.m. (early service), 11 a.m. (late service) or 7 p.m. evening service; also, Monday, November 9 through Wednesday, November 11, also at 7 p.m. Pastor Bob Pittman will lead the services.

The church is located at 2430 Silk Hope Gum Springs Road, Pittsboro.

NEWS BRIEFS



Submitted photo

Maggie Thornton

Artist Maggie Thornton wins JM contest; work selected for JMArts holiday cards

SILER CITY — Maggie Thornton, a sophomore at Jordan-Matthews High School, was named winner of the school's second annual holiday card art contest during an announcement made on JMArts social media.

Her painting, "Winter Solace," will appear on holiday cards sold by JMArts, the Jordan-Matthews Arts Foundation, to raise money for JM artists. Thornton received an award certificate and \$100 for the rights to reproduce her work.

Holiday cards feature the painting on the front with a blank area inside for personal messages. The back lists the name of the artist and her work, along with a very short artist statement about the painting.

JM art teacher Rahkie Mateen-Mason said "Winter Solace" was selected on the basis of artistic merit and its expression of the moment we are currently experiencing in a global pandemic.

"The work expressed both the sense of isolation many of us feel right now and hope and comfort that the holidays will bring," Mateen-Mason said in the award announcement.

Preorders for JMArts holiday cards will be accepted online at JMArtsHolidayCards.com starting November 1. Cards will be sold online in packets of 15 cards and 17 envelopes for \$15, a price that also includes domestic shipping. The domain forwards to a Google form, where you can place your order and pay online with a credit card or through the mail by cash or check. Cards also will be on sale soon after that for \$12 per packet, cash or check only, at the NC Arts Incubator in downtown Siler City.

More information about JMArts. including a schedule of upcoming arts

events and information on membership, is available online at JMArts.org.

State treasurer announces bond sales

RALEIGH — State Treasurer Dale R. Folwell, CPA, and the State and Local Government Finance Division (SLGFD) have announced the sale of \$700 million of Build NC Bonds.

The bonds are part of a \$3 billion transportation package approved by the North Carolina General Assembly in 2018. The SLGFD, a division of the North Carolina Department of State Treasurer (DST), issued \$300 million of Build NC Bonds (BNC) in June 2019.

The bonds are being purchased by a syndicate led by Bank of America Securities Inc. at a preliminary all-in total interest rate of approximately 1.54%. Other members of the syndicate are Barclays, Citigroup, J.P. Morgan, Loop Capital Markets and Wells Fargo Securities.

"I'm very pleased at the low interest rate that we were able to get," said Treasurer Folwell. "When we're able to finance debt at such incredible rates it's the taxpaver that wins because it will keep their taxes down while allowing more money to be available for schools, roads and other critical needs in the state.

The BNC bonds are limited obligations payable from the state's Highway Trust Fund (HTF), which is separate and distinct from the state's general fund and is subject to annual appropriations by the NCGA. The bonds are being issued to finance a variety of transportation projects across the state. Revenue for the HTF comes primarily from a 3% highway use tax assessed on the retail value of motor vehicles at the time of sale and a portion of the state's motor fuels tax revenue.

2020 'Reindeer Run' to be done virtually

Because of COVID-19 and different restrictions on gathering, the 2020 Reindeer Run is switching to a virtual format.

Race organizers will be marking courses at multiple Chatham County Parks, as well as Central Carolina Community College. These locations will be available for runners for a 5-kilometer run using the running app Strava to record your time. Runners are also able to run at any place of their choosing but are asked to be sure to monitor their distance to make sure they do not finish short of a 5k or go over the required

distance. For more information, go to chathamkids.org/5k.

--CN + R staff reports

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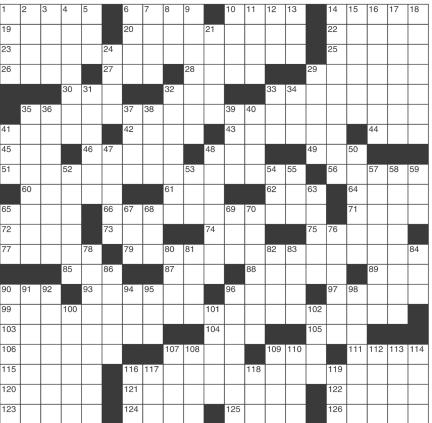
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Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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CHATHAM ARTS COUNCIL'S CAARE

Program makes positive difference in a community of creative souls

BY APRIL STARLING

Chatham Arts Council

Will Ridenour has been a full-time professional musician, specializing in folkloric percussion from numerous international traditions, since 2006.

Not only does Ride-nour make and perform music, he also teaches, repairs instruments, co-facilitates keynote presentations for large corporations and men-tors up and coming musicians. Though he has taken a multi-faceted approach to his art, he was not spared the economic impact of COVID-19.

"Basically overnight, all my gigs were canceled for the year," Ridenour says. "I was looking at a whole lot less money coming in and I was freaking out." Ridenour, who receives 100% of his income from the arts, applied to several local and national grants and was relieved to receive financial assistance from the Chatham Arts Council's CAARE — the Chatham Artist and Arts-Workers Relief Effort program.

"If I had not gotten this grant, I would've been worried about my expenses for the next couple of months," Ride-

nour said.
CAARE was created with initial seed money generously granted by Manbites Dog Theater Fund and has been sustained by donations from the Chatham community. The application process is simple and the goal is to help with basic financial needs for artists and arts-workers (people who make their living in the arts by making artist events possible, including gallery



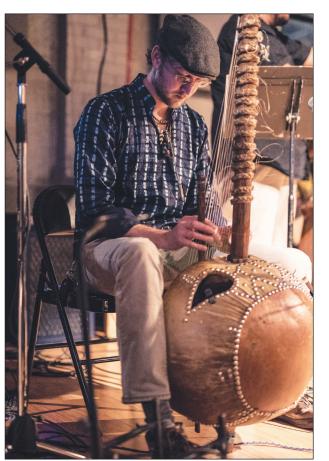


Photo courtesy of the Chatham Arts Council

Musician Will Ridenour is one of a number of local artists who have benefitted from a CAARE relief grant.

owners, artist managers, stage managers, arts nonprofit administrators, etc.).

Unfortunately, many artists and arts-workers, like Ridenour, are still dealing with widespread cancellations of concerts, plays, events and art shows — the outlets that they rely on to pay their bills. CAARE is meant to provide immediate assistance to help relieve this burden. The funds have been used to pay for medication, rent, groceries, utilities — all the regular expenses that seem out of reach when a pandemic dries

up income. 'There was a point when I thought things are getting tough. I'm getting less money for my job, but I'm still making by,' said JR Butler, a visual artist known for his murals.

Then as the pandemic dug its heels in, he lost his part-time arts job altogether.

"I went in to pick up my last paycheck and was told, 'By the way, you can't work anymore, he explained. "That last paycheck was already spent, so it was a rude awakening."

For Butler, not having a paycheck meant more than not being able to pay living expenses. It also

meant not being able to afford needed medication to mitigate a heart condition.

"When I got the CAARE package, I had run out of meds and I didn't know what I was going to do," he said. "The funds helped with everything — I paid for medication, groceries, a doctor's appointment, toiletries, insurance for my car, gas, propane everything!'

That's precisely the goal. The Chatham Arts Council is working hard to spread the word about the availability of CAARE

"We've gotten a recent \$8,500 infusion of CAARE funds through the County Coronavirus Relief Fund, and artists should apply as soon as possible — because we'll be granting all those dollars by Dec. 31," said Cheryl Chamblee, the executive director of the Chatham Arts Council.

The CAARE application can be found at ChathamArtsCouncil.

Both of these artists are encouraging fellow artists to apply for the grant right away. And they both agree that the process was much easier than other grants they've applied for.

If you are going to do anything to make your

situation better, apply for CAARE because it's so simple and it's so immediate," Butler said.

Right now, so many people are suffering the financial impact of a pandemic that seems determined to stick around. The Chatham Arts Council hopes CAARE will be a welcome relief.

"The knowledge that people were being supported as artists was really powerful," said Ridenour. "It let me know that there were people there for me." And that, is what Chatham County is all about.

For more information or to apply, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.

CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

School nurses work to keep students healthy, safe

News + Record Staff

As a nurse for 26 years and school nurse at Chatham County Schools for 14, Melissa Lassen has seen a lot of health crises in the country during her tenure: the 2009 swine flu, Salmonella and even clusters of

Still, nothing could've prepared her for the reality of living during the coronavirus

pandemic. "The amount of planning that has gone into this is unlike anything I have ever experienced as a nurse for 26 years, and I have never experienced anything like the planning that has gone into COVID," said Lassen, who is the lead school nurse for CCS. "I don't think anyone has any idea of the amount of fine details that we have detailed out to keep our

students and staff safe. Just two weeks ago, more than 2,000 students returned to in-person learning on Oct. 19 for the first time in almost seven months, under Plan B. This followed the CCS Board of Education's unanimous Sept. 29 decision to send Extended Content Standard E.C. students, Pre-K students and K-2 students back to school under hybrid learning starting Oct. 19: for now, all other students

will be in Plan C until Jan. 15. The preparation required to make that transition possible was immense, Lassen emphasized, adding that Chatham's nursing staff had played an important role in all the logistical planning and execution required to ensure students can return to

in-person learning safely. Normally, school nurses do a lot behind the scenes to manage student health needs: overseeing handling of medication, educating teachers on how illness can impact academics and ensuring school vaccinations are up to date — in addition to the widely recognized role of treating student injuries or illness. During a pandemic, school nurses are still doing all of that, with the added responsibility of helping with student symptom screenings, serving as a resource regarding COVID-19 school protocol and assisting with contact tracing now that students are back in the school buildings.

"It added a couple of extra layers to what we normally do and made things a little more challenging for us," Lassen said of the remote learning plan, which made communication with students and families more of a challenge in some cases.

As the lead school nurse, Lassen serves as a constant resource for the school administrators and the county's eight other full-time nurses, who float among Chatham's 19

Tracy Fowler, the executive director of student services and support programs for Chatham County Schools, said phasing in the return to in-person learning with a smaller number of students first has benefited nurses as they are having to adjust to doing all their normal duties along with their new COVID-19-related responsibilities.

They are liaisons between the health department and the school system," Fowler said of the district's nurses.

Many health officials and workers have felt the added strain from working during a public health crisis, and that's especially noticeable among school nurses, who are often understaffed. The nationally recommended ratio is one nurse per every 750 students, but in North Carolina, 54% of school districts fail to meet this ratio, according to July findings from a public policy research group at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Chatham has just over 9,000 students, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, meaning the district would need three more nurses to meet the recommended ratio. It's a ratio that is much better than in many surrounding counties, but eventually, Lassen said she'd love to see a full-time nurse in each of the district's schools.

'I can tell you from just the number of years that I've done this, that the more you have a nurse in the school, the healthier your students will be and the better able they are to manage their academic with like their health issues," Lassen said.

Still, she said each of the county's nurses have been with the school system for a long time and have built strong rapport with the schools they serve. This sense of trust be-



Photo courtesy of Chatham County Schools

'At the end of the day, it was worth it all just to know that these kids have a little bit more of a normal environment,' said Melissa Lassen, lead CCS nurse, of the all the work involved in preparing for COVID-19.

tween nurses and their schools have helped make the implementation of so many new policies and protocols smoother, Lassen said.

There are no vacancies in the district's nursing positions, which Lassen said is a big relief as the nursing team prepares for the eventual return of more students to school. While she does anticipate the pandemic will continue to increase their workload, she said picking up extra work is something each of the school nurses is used to doing every year — not just during COVID-19.

'I mean, I think the biggest challenge is probably being available to every school that needs us," she said. "It's easier because we don't have every school in session right now, and we all know that. One of the ways we worked through it is I'm available to all the nurses ... we also are meeting weekly

with the nurses." CCS public relations coordinator John McCann praised Lassen's leadership, emphasizing that all the nurses' COVID-19 efforts reflect their larger goal of managing and maintaining student health.

"Just like feeding them is important, keeping them healthy is important, too," he said. "It all works together.

"It all works together," Lassen echoed.

Since partially reopening under Plan B, 14 positive COVID-19 cases among staff members and two student cases have been reported, according to the district's COVID-19 tracking page. These cases have been spread out among the county's schools and there are no report-

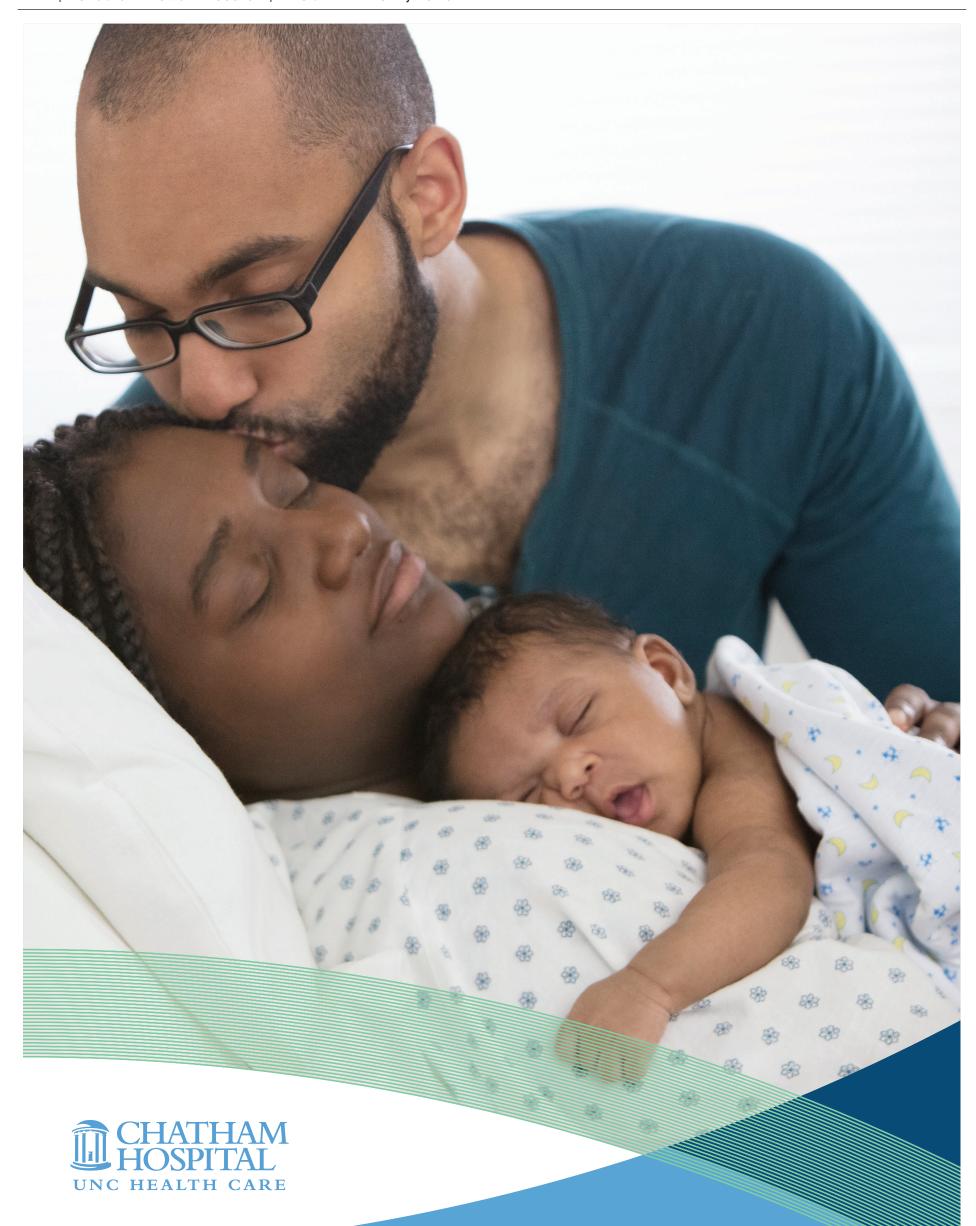
ed clusters. Combined with evidence of students and teachers wearing masks and socially distancing, Lassen thinks this demonstrates the school's safety protocols are working. She was admittedly apprehensive about returning to in-person learning, but after the first day back, she became convinced the return could be and was being done safely.

"It's good to see that our processes are working, that everything we put in place is working," she added. "I mean, you can have great plans in place, but until you actually live it and walk through it, you don't know, but it's good to see that our plans are working.

On Oct. 20, the second day of learning under Plan B for some students. Lassen was sitting in her office listening to a principal reading to one of the classrooms when she heard it — the sound of kids laughing.

"I thought, I am tired, I am worn out," she said. "But at the end of the day, it was worth it all just to know that these kids have a little bit more of a normal environment. I mean, it made me feel like, OK, everything that we've done since March with all this planning, it's worth it just to hear that 30 seconds of laughter in the classroom."

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



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Chatham News + Record SPORTS NEWS & CLASSIFIEDS

NOVEMBER 5-11, 2020 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

JOHN GRIMES ON THE GRIDIRON

Before a career of public service, late Siler City mayor excelled in football

BY CHAPEL FOWLER

News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Back in the 1960s, long before the celebrated career that made him one of Chatham County's most beloved leaders, advocates and public officials, Siler City Mayor John F. Grimes III was a

football player.
And a good one at that.
It's been two weeks since Grimes, 77, died on Oct. 20 at



Grimes

Siler City, after a few months of declining health and four days of hospice care. Ensuing tributes have largely, and understand-

his home in

ably, focused on his 50 years of public service: as a businessman at Cecil Budd Tire Company, as a county and town commissioner and as a popular mayor, who was re-elected for his fourth two-year term last

But there's a story in those early years, too, when a young Grimes instead made his name on the gridiron: as a blue-chip recruit at Davie County High School, a successful wide receiver/tight end at Wake Forest and a pro prospect courted by the NFL's Cleveland Browns and Baltimore Colts.

"John? Boy, he gave 110%, every game and every time," said Mike Kelly, a Wake Forest teammate and longtime friend who served as a pallbearer at Grimes' Oct. 24 funeral. "Of course, we didn't throw the ball back then like we do now ... but if it came his way, he'd go for it. Really,



Submitted photo

Future Siler City Mayor John Grimes (middle) celebrates Wake Forest football's 1964 home win over Duke with his teammates, including star running back Brian Piccolo (far right).

really gifted."

'He excelled'

Kathy Januzelli, Grimes' younger sister, was among the first to pick up on her brother's athleticism.

Growing up in Cooleemee, a small mill town in Davie County, she said they were "playing outside 99% of the time" with

a rotating group of around 40 children who also lived in their neighborhood.

"You go out in the morning," she said, "and you don't come back until dark."

There were long summer days at the Bull Hole, a nearby fishing and swimming spot, and epic basketball games, played by boys and girls alike on the wooden backboard that John

Grimes Jr. (Kathy and John III's father) built by hand and nailed up on the side of their home over a patch of dirt.

'Then, of course, John continued in high school and he excelled," Januzelli said. "Basketball was a sport for him, too, (but) football sent him

Indeed, by Grimes' senior year in 1960, he was a hot

commodity. As the second paragraph of his obituary proudly noted, he received 22 full-ride football scholarship offers, including one from all eight teams in the Atlantic Coast Conference, and was the first athlete at his high school to land a Division I offer.

Grimes ultimately committed to Wake Forest, where proximity was a big factor — playing in Winston-Salem meant his family could easily make the 35-mile drive from Cooleemee for home games.

Ineligible to play as a freshman in 1961 under NCAA rules, Grimes stayed busy at Wake Forest with ROTC and Sigma Chi, his fraternity. He also struck up a friendship with Kellv. a teammate from Kingsport, Tennessee, who lived in the same suite as him and was also in ROTC and Sigma Chi.

The Demon Deacons had forgettable seasons in 1962 (0-10) and 1963 (1-9) under head coach Billy Hildebrand. And Grimes, whose official position was "split end," got consistent playing time but few targets as a hybrid receiver/tight end; in his first 20 games, he had a combined five catches for 57

'On to the next thing'

But his senior season, in 1964, proved historic.

Grimes, a lean 6-foot, 200-pound starter, doubled his previous production with a career-high 10 catches for 147 yards in 10 games. And under new head coach Bill Tate, who'd replaced the fired Hildebrand earlier that year, the entire program was reinvigorated.

See GRIMES, page B2

'TOWNS LIKE THIS GET OVERLOOKED'

Meet Bill Green, the track coach who wants to start a video game animation school

BY CHAPEL FOWLER News + Record Staff

BENNETT — Bill Green has seen a lot of bad portfolios.



In his 20 years as a video game artist, they've come up a lot, whether he's giving direct feedback on a potential hire or

simply networking with a college student. The pitfalls are frequent: poor animation, poor

texturing and very few "props" think crates, buildings, weapons or any other object you might encounter roaming around a standard video game world — to showcase to employers.

And he doesn't blame the animators themselves. He blames the schools educating them.

"It just bothers me so much to see kids applying for jobs when they have horrible portfolios," Green, 43, said last week. "And what bothers me the most is they owe \$100,000

back and they can't get a job.' Early next year, though, the Chatham Central assistant track and field coach is hoping to a launch a program to correct that trend: an accessible, hyper-focused video game animation class, created and taught by him in downtown Siler City, for local teens ages 13 to 19.

"It's my way of getting back at those schools that are taking those kids' money," Green

In that vein, the program is less of a money-maker and more of a public service to Green, who has previously worked for Sony and Carybased Epic Games on major titles such as Fortnite and the Gears of Wars franchise. (His current employer, another major video game production studio in the Triangle, requested anonymity as to not imply any endorsement of Green's project, which is an indepen-



Submitted photo

Chatham Central track and field coach Bill Green is a fulltime video game animator whose work includes 3D models like this one.

dent venture.)

Come January, if everything goes smoothly, Green will be using those two decades of expertise and hands-on work to teach an inaugural class of 10 to 15 students the "right ways" to model, texture and create open worlds. And he'll be doing it right here in Chatham County, for Chatham County kids in Siler City and beyond.

"Towns like this get overlooked," he said. Green dotted all around the

country before settling down in Bennett, where he's lived for eight years with his wife, Janet, and daughter, Kailey, a sophomore at Chatham Central.

Adopted by his grandparents in middle school, he grew up in Clinton, Arkansas, and was a record-breaking, all-state high jumper in high school despite standing at just 5-foot-9. He walked onto to the varsity track and field team at Division I Missouri State and caught on there, too, again earning all-conference high jump honors for the Bears.

When Green graduated from Missouri State in 2000 with a

bachelor of arts, he wanted to work in movies — not video games. He was so dead set on making it to Hollywood that he skipped walking the stage on graduation day in Springfield to search for work instead.

"I figured no one was going be looking for a job that day. Green said, laughing.

A couple of résumés posted on walls later, he and his roommate moved out to California to work for an internet startup company; it folded and laid off its entire staff after six months. That's when a desperate Green stumbled upon Page 44 Studios, a San Francisco-based video game developer.

The company offered to train him. That's all he needed to hear.

"I've been doing games ever since," Green said. "And it wasn't the plan. It just landed in my lap.'

Building and animating a video game, he said, is liking building a Lego set. To create an excellent final product an interactive world for a

See **GREEN**, page B2



Darrius Taylor takes part in a fullcourt layup drill at a socially distanced Chatham Charter preseason workout on June 15. Staff file

Sophomore guard

Chatham Charter will pause athletics until Nov. 12, still plans to start seasons on time

BY CHAPEL FOWLER News + Record Staff

 ${\bf SILER~CITY-Chatham}$ Charter is postponing high school athletics until at least Nov. 12 but still plans to start its cross country and volleyball seasons as scheduled the

following week.
"That's our plan for now, unless something changes, athletic director Clint Fields told the News + Record last

Thursday.
The school's athletics postponement came as part of a comprehensive email to families last Wednesday, in which Chatham Charter announced it would return to fully remote Plan C learning for the rest of the semester after administration learned "an individual with a connection to the school" tested positive for COVID-19 two weekends ago.

Kindergartners started in-person learning at the Siler City school Oct. 7, and 1st through 5th graders returned the following week. Older students were set to return last Monday, Oct. 19 before the school learned Sunday, Oct. 18, that an individual had tested

positive for coronavirus. Chatham Charter initially postponed all in-person learning and athletics through Friday, Oct. 30, before announcing this week its move to virtual learning through Dec. 18. As of Wednesday, there have been three total positive COVID-19 tests: the initial individual and

two close contacts.

From a sports standpoint, the postponement doesn't affect too much for now.

The Knights will miss out on roughly four weeks of preseason "skill session" workouts, which they have been holding in some form since mid-June. And their official cross country and volleyball tryouts/practices — which can start Nov. 4, per the NCHSAA will be delayed at least a week.

But, as Fields said Thursday, Chatham Charter is still planning to start its 2020 volleyball and cross country seasons the week of Monday, Nov. 16. That's another date provided by the NCHSAA.

And playing games while students remain in virtual learning isn't a concept unique to Chatham Charter.

The three high schools in the Chatham County Schools system — Northwood, Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central will start their athletic years with high schoolers in remote learning, too. As of now, the majority of CCS students will remain in Plan C through mid-January.

As a side effect of Chatham Charter's decision, the camps its varsity basketball teams were planning to host in November for 2nd through 8th grade players have all been canceled, too.

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

Official NCHSAA practices this week

This Wednesday marked a big step for North Carolina high school athletics. Starting Nov. 4, NCHSAA member schools can hold official practices and workouts for volleyball and cross country — a pivot from the preseason "skill sessions" they could hold during the

summer and fall. With games starting as early as Monday, Nov. 16, these practices/tryouts allow coaches a final look at their potential 2020 rosters. Notably, these practice/tryouts can also be mandatory for athletes. (Per NCHSAA rules, preseason workouts cannot be mandatory or serve as a prerequisite for making a team.)

Chatham Charter has paused all athletic activities through Nov. 12, but Chatham County's four other high schools - Northwood, Jordan-Matthews, Chatham Central and Woods Charter — will go forward with volleyball and cross country practices/tryouts this week and into the next.

Harrington gets second career pick

Another Appalachian State football game, another Brendan Harrington interception.

The 2019 Northwood graduate picked off his second pass in five games as App State beat Louisiana Monroe, 31-13, on the road Saturday. The Mountaineers moved to 4-1 and 2-0 in Sun Belt play.

With App State leading 28-7 in the third quarter, ULM quarterback Jeremy Hunt dropped back and tried to fit a

pass into a tight window on a crossing route. It bounced off a receiver's hands, then two App defenders' hands, and finally into Harrington's — who made a

SPORTS BRIEFS

diving effort to secure the ball. The 6-foot-1 outside linebacker also had two tackles and a pass breakup in the win. On the season, Harrington has 21 tackles and five pass breakups to go along with his two interceptions (tied for the second most on the team). App State's next game is at 3 p.m. Saturday

NCISAA crowns fall champions

The North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association held championships last weekend for six fall sports: volleyball, cross country, men's

soccer, field hockey, women's tennis and women's golf.

Chatham County doesn't have any high schools that compete in the NCISAA, but one nearby school performed well — Lee Christian School of Sanford won the 1A volleyball title in straight sets over Kerr-Vance Academy of Henderson and also swept the 1A men's and women's cross country team

Grace Christian School, also in Sanford, advanced to the 1A men's soccer championship Saturday but lost 7-0 to Greenfield School of Wilson, Notably, the NCISAA has now completed its fall sports season before the NCHSAA even permitted member schools to hold official practices/tryouts (Nov.

— *CN+R staff reports*

GREEN

Continued from page B1

character to roam around in — there are countless tiny steps.

Ĕvery object, or prop, must be modeled. The same goes for the characters, their accessories, their vehicles and anything weather-related: a beaming sun, a steady downpour, clouds. Concept artists generate the ideas and designs, but prop artists create models for them and environment artists — that's what Green does right now — are responsible for taking those individual elements and working them together seamlessly into a richly detailed environment.

And that brings him to

'It's my way of getting back at those schools that are taking those kids' money.'

BILL GREEN, Chatham Central track and field assistant coach

the main thing he'll teach his potential students: specialization.

"When you're applying for a job, you need to have some strength," Green said, "because you're going to either be a modeler, or you're going to do animation, or level propping. You're not going to do all

Other logistics for his vision remain up in the air. He's strategizing a marketing plan, negotiating a downtown space in Siler City and seeking out myriad grants to fund the project, which he estimated will cost around \$10,000, with most of

that money going toward

computers. Still, he remains steadfast in accessibility. His class will use the Unreal **Engine from Epic Games** (software free to students) and, in a perfect world, pay \$0 in sign-up fees. Green, who will continue to work full-time and help out the Bears' track and field team as a volunteer assistant for a third season, isn't taking a "for-profit" mindset here.

"If I can get enough money raised to where I don't have to charge these kids, and it comes from grants, I'd prefer that

even if I bring less money in (personally)," he said. "Because if the kids come in and they don't have to pay a cent? Oh my God, there could be a kid down the street who's super hyper talented but doesn't have the money to pay for it. And that's the kid I

Specialization. Affordability. Plus, no homework. That's the pitch to Chatham County teenagers from Green: an all-conference high jumper turned video game animator who's determined to help the young professionals in his field — locally, and one improved portfolio at a

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



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



GRIMES

Continued from page B1

Wake Forest went 5-5, and senior running back Brian Piccolo (a good friend of Grimes') led the country with 1,004 rushing yards and 17 rushing touchdowns. He was also named ACC Player of the Year and finished 10th in 1964 Heisman Trophy voting before joining the NFL's Chicago Bears as a free agent.

Piccolo's story took a tragic turn, though, when he died of cancer in 1970. He was just 26 years old and four years into a promising pro career. Piccolo's life and friendship with future Hall of Fame Bears running back Gale Sayers was depicted in

"Brian's Song," ABC's 1971 tear-jerking TV movie. Cecilia Grimes, John's wife of 55 years whom he met at Wake Forest, said her husband always spoke highly of Piccolo. When ESPN revisited Piccolo's life and the movie in a 2003 documentary series, Grimes was ecstatic to participate and spoke at length with a camera crew on the porch of his Siler City home.

Grimes, a 1965 Wake Forest alumnus, actually had a chance to join Piccolo in the professional ranks — after graduation, the Browns and Colts both offered him an undrafted free agent contract.

But Grimes declined them. He was ready to move on from the daily grind of football — work-

'He gave 110%, every game and every time.'

MIKE KELLY, John

Grimes' Wake Forest football teammate

outs, playbooks, lingering injuries — and onto the next steps: joining the military and starting a family.

Cecilia remembered her husband often telling people football "got me where I wanted to go," which was through college, for free, with a bachelor's of science degree and an adult life ahead of him.

'He wanted to follow in his dad's footsteps and serve his time" Januzelli said. "The NFL was important but not his No. 1 priority. And that was my brother. He was always that way: on to the next thing.

'The leading example'

Once he returned to Siler City, after an overseas stint with the U.S. Army's 8th Infantry Division in Germany, Grimes always kept up with his Demon Deacons.

Wake Forest's football team was a frequent topic of conversation with Kelly and other former teammates. Before his health declined, Grimes always made it up to Winston-Salem for a few home games each season. He attended school booster and alumni events, too.

"I remember Dad telling so many stories from back then," John Thomas Grimes, one of John and

Cecilia's two sons, said with a laugh.

One of Grimes' favorites: when he brought his Wake Forest football and basketball buddies back home to Cooleemee. everyone always had to duck their head while walking in to avoid the door frame.

He always repped his alma mater proudly, including on election night last year, when he celebrated winning his fourth term as Siler City mayor in a gold thermal vest and black Wake Forest football ballcap.

A 2007 Davie County Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, Grimes also left a tangible impact on his former teammates and coaches. Just a few days after Grimes' obituary went online, Cecilia got a handwritten note in the mail from Tate, Grimes' former coach at Wake Forest, who's now in his late 80s and living in Omaha, Nebraska.

'John was the leading example of how I wanted my players to perform," he wrote.

Kelly, Grimes' former teammate, was vacationing in Florida when he got the news. He promptly flew back to Knoxville, drove home to Kingsport and left the following morning at 6 a.m. with his daughter to make it to the service, which was held at Chatham Charter School in Siler City at 11 a.m. that Saturday.

It wasn't the easiest trip for Kelly, who's also 77. But missing the funeral

never once entered his mind. For Grimes — his onetime teammate and lifelong friend — it wasn't a question of yes or no. Only how.

'I'd do anything for him," Kelly said. "He was just the greatest guy in the world."

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



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DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION GRANT

Police department completes \$20,000 renovation

BY D. LARS DOLDER News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The police department has completed a \$20,000 renovation project of its emergency operations center using donated funds from the Duke Energy Foundation.

The grant was awarded last year as part of a \$1.1 million philanthropic effort by the Fortune 125 company. Siler City's police department was one of 65 organizations across North Carolina to receive money for use in "storm resiliency," a nonspecific category that included "specialized training for first responders for severe weather scenarios, organized planning initiatives for communities to prepare for extreme weather, equipment necessary for severe weather rescues to preserve human life" and more, according to the company's press release.

"Every year we focus on a different local impact focus area," said Indira Everett, a Duke Energy district manager who oversaw the dispensation of grant money for Chatham County. "And because we had had so many hurricanes last year, we decided to focus on storm resiliency grants, which allow the towns and the cities and others to submit grants.'

The project was unique. Organizations like the police department would not typical-



Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner stands in his department's newly renovated emergency operations center that Duke Energy District Manager Indira Everett, right, helped to fund.

ly qualify to apply for money from Duke Energy's outreach

"It's usually not the way our foundation dollars are given,' Everett said. "They're usually given to just nonprofits. So, I was really excited about it because (Siler City's police department) could get money.

Everett, who oversees Chatham, Durham, Orange and Lee counties in her role at Duke Energy, lives in Durham. But she has a special fondness for Chatham, serving this year as the chairperson of the board of directors of the Chatham Chamber of Commerce.

'It's important to me to be deeply ingrained into my community," Everett said. "And

that's everybody's job (at Duke Energy). All of us make an effort to be on strategic boards, to have relationships with our elected officials and our nonprofits."

Last year, Everett was serving on 11 boards when she realized it was too much.

"I was stupid," she said jokingly. "I was just wearing myself out. I wasn't doing as well as I wanted to do and didn't have the time to commit like I wanted to. And so, one of my goals in January was to split that in half. So, I think I'm down to five boards now. But the chamber was one that was important to me to stay on.'

From her intimate knowledge of Chatham County, Ever-

ett knew exactly what potential applicants could benefit most from the grant money when the program was announced.

"I have a key community leader list and storm list and I sent out a note saying this grant cycle window is about to open, we encourage you to submit," Everett said.

In Siler City, then-town manager Bryan Thompson and Interim Police Chief Jeanne Miller were quick to seize the opportunity.

"They put their proposal out," said current Chief Mike Wagner, who has overseen most of the EOC's renovation. "They populated the grant with all the needs and necessities and they were awarded the money. And

that's how this room got built. Before the project began, the department's EOC was run down and its technology antiquated.

'So, it's been a great partnership," Wagner said. "It's great because I can tell you this, without Duke Energy and their vision of having grants for projects like this, I could never afford this — never.'

The room features a brandnew conference table, several desks, ergonomic seating and a striking centerpiece: an 85-inch interactive whiteboard monitor.

'Basically, it's a computer and a theater is what it is,' Wagner said. "It has the capabilities — with different tools that you can draw on it, you can

write on it, you can do whatever you want with it really. And with the Zoom capabilities with the camera, it gives us the ability to have conference calls with other emergency management personnel or any particular special interest group that we're working with for a pre-planned event or some type of critical incident. It now gives us the capacity to work with our peers regionally, without having to be displaced.

Wagner hopes the updated EOC will prepare the department to better serve Siler City despite the department's limited size.

"This is so important to the public safety, especially for a small town where the budget is not big as others'," Wagner said. "It doesn't matter if you're a \$500 million department or \$50 million department, the basic needs and the service that their community demands are still the same. But it's more of a struggle in a small town because of the other different things pulling on budgetary items of need."

Wager said the department needed the upgrade.

"Just because we're a smalltown department doesn't mean we don't have to have that capacity to do the same work," he said. "It's all the same."

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

County to host free document shredding event

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Solid Waste & Recycling division is holding a free document-shredding event for Chatham County residents.

The document shredding event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21, at the Solid Waste & Recycling Main Facility, located at 28 County Services Road, Pittsboro.

Chatham County residents can bring up to three boxes or bags of documents from their household for free shredding. This service provides an opportunity for residents to safely destroy and recycle

old tax records, credit card statements, and other personal documents.

Because of coronavirus restrictions. staff will not be able to unload documents for you. You will need to unload your documents and put them into a cart. Face coverings are required.

Please remove papers from folders or files, as those items can go in your recycling bin and do not need to be shredded. Do not bring CDs, tapes, etc.; throw those items in the trash. Businesses are not allowed.

If you have any questions contact the main office from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays at (919) 542-5516 or email recycle@

Voto Latino says Latino vote breaks records

According to new proprietary TargetSmart data provided exclusively to Voto Latino — the nation's largest Latino voter registration and advocacy organization — early Latino voter turnout is breaking records across battleground states, particularly in North Carolina.

The Latino electorate in the state now makes up more of the early vote share than it did in 2016 and 2018, outpacing other key voting blocs.

Nearly 98,000 Latino voters cast their ballots early in North Carolina, compared to just 52,400 in 2016

The greatest turnout increase can be seen among young Latino voters aged 18-29, with more than double the number of voters turning out in 2020 (32,100) compared to 2016 (15,800) — highlighting the growing Latino population that has come of age in the state within the last four years.

A whopping 40% of Latinos in N.C. who did not vote in 2016, have voted in 2020, and an estimated 22,000 additional Latino voters were expected to vote this vear, with most being millennial and Gen Z voters (ages 18-39).

--CN + R staff reports

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SILER CITY COMMISSIONERS

Board amends town ordinances, plans future coronavirus spending

BY D. LARS DOLDER News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The board of commissioners resolved several town planning amendment proposals before evaluating plans to spend federally-awarded coronavirus relief funds at its Monday night meeting.

In the board's Oct. 19 meeting, Planning and Community Development Director Jack Meadows introduced a series of suggested revisions to sections of Siler City planning code in response to various citizen requests. They included:

· An adjustment to accessory building setback requirements in response to a resident's petition to build a carport in violation of standing ordinances. Meadows pointed out that many older Siler City homes have long had similar carports; the request was not unreasonable, he

• Editing town code requirements for entrances to streets and parking area aisles widths to accommodate plans for the affordable housing project on Campus Dr. and adjustments to the Deep River Missionary Baptist Association facility. The amendment would also permit Mountaire Farms to make street modifications around its property.

The board voted to pro-

ceed with both ordinance changes.

Back in May, the commissioners approved a request for "vendors for nuisance abatement services" — contractors hired to address violations of the town's ordinances respecting "public nuisances" on privately owned property. According to a memorandum issued following the request, public nuisances include but are not limit-

· "Mattresses, boxes, paper, tires, garbage, junk, food waste, animal waste, rotten/decaying matter, items with rough and jagged edges and vacant dilapidated homes.

Approved contractors would be invited to investigate sites identified to be in violation of public nuisance ordinance, the memorandum outlined, and given 24 hours to submit sealed bids. The selected contractor would be paid following satisfactory completion of work at which point the town would "submit a statement of cost to the property owner" plus "the town's \$180 nuisance abatement fee.

Town staff emailed about 700 vendors with a request to join the town's approved list. Eight

responded with proposals. The commissioners voted to approve the eight,

but added the stipulation that any bid in excess of \$1,500 must be submitted to the board for approval before the contractor renders services.

CARES Act spending

Discussion continued at length concerning what to do with \$381,000 in coronavirus relief funds awarded to Siler City as part of the federal CARES

Town Manager Roy Lynch recommended the board distribute the money according to four categories of spending.

"The first area that we are looking at," he said, "is citizen communica-

The spending would include modifications to the town's website, purchase of emergency communication tools, "voice amplifiers for the fire department" and other technology updates including "purchasing iPads for the board of commissioners.'

"You know, many times now we're constantly printing out the agendas and all the packets and having to disseminate the information that way,' Lynch said. "But with newer upgraded technology with these iPads, Jenifer (Johnson, Siler City's Town Clerk) would be able to send everything out through those. You'd

be able to bring those to the meetings, use them, instead of having all this paperwork."

The second category of spending would be for non-profit organizations.

"As I have mentioned before," Lynch said, "many local governments were supporting their communities through these non-profit organizations. This past year, as we realized what our revenue constraints were going to be, the board had to make the decision to pull the non-profit funding... However, with this generous funding, we potentially will be able to go back and appropriate that funding.

Each non-profit would only receive about 50% of what was allocated for them in the town's original, pre-pandemic budget, though.

Category three would encompass public safety expenditures.

'In looking at this one,'' Lynch said, "we have the body cameras for the police officers... You know, the use of body cameras is an invaluable tool for the department due to all the COVID changes we have seen over the past few months. We'd actually be able to see how the staff interact with community, and if there ever was a situation they became engaged in, be able to identify what the

situation was in relation to any COVID incidence.3

that personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies make up the

fourth spending category. A breakdown of exact funding for each category was not publicly available during the meeting.

The commissioners responded vociferously to the proposal, calling for a greater proportion of funds to be allocated for non-profit organizations.

'We don't necessarily have to decrease funding to a non-profit," said Commissioner Lewis Fadley. "We could pull it from another category... My first preference would be to see if we can pinch our own pennies.

Commissioner Bill Haiges agreed, and suggested that Lynch revisit the proposal and resubmit to the board at its next meeting.

'I think maybe Roy can come back to us," he said. "The more I think about it, the more I don't want to take from the non-profit and give it to another (category). Maybe we can find out of some of the other three categories (money) to put toward non-profit funding.'

The board at large agreed to have Lynch reevaluate the proposal. The town has until Dec. 30 to finalize its spending plan for submission to the federal government.

Finally, Lynch proposed A poignant moment

This week's board of commissioners meeting was Siler City's first since Mayor John Grimes passed away two weeks ago, and the weight of his absence was palpable. Before drawing the meeting to a close, Mayor Pro-Tem Cindy Bray asked to express herself.

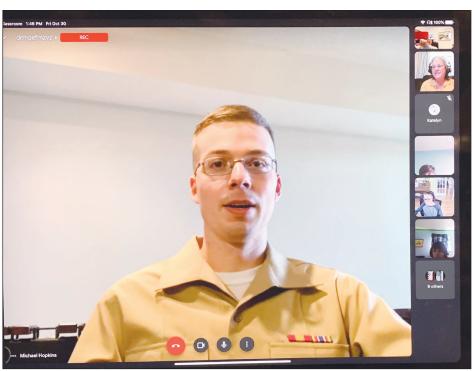
"I'd just like to say," Bray started, "that it's been a rough six months for this board, for this town. We've lost two people that could never be replaced."

Before Grimes, Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Cheek passed away in May.

"I know everyone has done the best they could, and I'd like to say that I'm thankful for that, Bray said. "Always keep the town in our prayers, because we've had a rough go of it. But I think everybody here has been awesome; I think the town employees have been awesome; I think Roy has been awesome. We couldn't ask for anything better, and I think we should all be grateful."

Out of respect for the late mayor, the board did not discuss any plans to fill Grimes' seat.

Reporter D. Lars Dolder can be reached at dldolder@chathamnr.com.



Zoom screengrab by Chatham Charter

Staff Sqt. Michael Hopkins of the U.S. Marine Band talks via Zoom with middle school students from Chatham Charter.

Chatham Charter middle school band students enjoy virtual meeting with U.S. Marine Band percussionist

From Chatham Charter

Amid the challenges of fully remote instruction, Chatham Charter's middle school band students enjoyed an opportunity last Friday to interact with a percussionist in "The President's Own" **United States Marine** Band through a Google Meet.

The band students enjoyed a virtual discussion with Staff Sgt. Michael Hopkins, who was a middle school student of Chatham Charter instrumental music teacher Elizabeth Taylor when she taught in the Wake County Public School System.

During the virtual meeting, Hopkins complimented Taylor on helping him have a strong foundation in music.

The Q&A session was an outreach of the Marine Band's Music in the Schools initiative. The educational program helps students experience Marine Band music and allows them to interact

with its musicians. In explaining his musical journey, Hopkins mentioned the dual degrees he earned at Northwestern University in percussion performance and civil engineering. Two years ago he auditioned and was accepted into the Marine Band, which also included joining the U.S. Marine Corps. Hopkins explained

that the Marine Band performs at the White House and Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery funerals, Presidential Inaugurations, and at other events in the Washington, D.C., area. It also presents its own wind ensemble, jazz and string concerts. Typically in October the Band does a national concert tour, but that was not possible this year due to the pandemic.

Hopkins recounted one of his favorite moments to date as a member of the Marine Band. It occurred almost exactly a year ago, when the band's concert tour took it throughout cities along the West Coast of the United

"We were in Los Angeles," Hopkins said. "The Marine Band has a special relationship with composer John Williams. He surprised everybody and walked out onstage and conducted the band in playing 'The Empire

Strikes Back' from Star Wars. That was incredible. This is the guy who wrote it, and he was conducting me playing it.'

As he answered student questions, Hopkins was able to weave in aspects of his job as a professional military musician as well as how his love of music developed from a

young age.
"I really appreciated Mrs. Taylor reconnecting with Staff Sgt. Hopkins so our students could meet a professional musician who is also an active member of the military," administrator and music educator Beth McCullough said. 'Additionally, not being able to have our usual Veterans Day event on campus in November, this opportunity had extra timeliness. Staff Sgt. Hopkins gave the students insight for developing a lifelong love of music, whether they choose it as a career or not. He also talked about many good habits he developed as a college student that align with those we stress at Chatham Charter. We are grateful he was able to make time to meet with our students.



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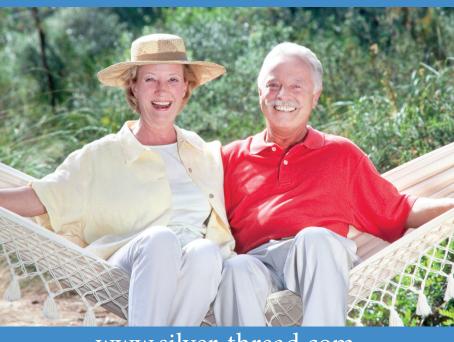
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'HIT US LIKE A TON OF BRICKS'

Chatham commissioners discuss cyber incident, future building projects in regular meeting

BY ADRIANNE CLEVEN

News + Record Correspondent

PITTSBORO — During a regular session Monday night, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners discussed future building projects as well as last week's cyber attack on Chatham County's communications infrastructure and network.

Members of the public have been asked to attend Chatham County Commissioners meetings virtually since late April, but the meeting was held completely in person Monday after county officials discovered a cyber attack on the county's electronic systems Oct. 28. The attack affected Chatham County's phone system, network and email, leading officials to choose a limited-attendance, in-person meeting.
At the session, held inside

the historic Chatham County Courthouse, the board heard a preliminary presentation on Chatham's Capital Improvements Program (CIP), which will help officials plan public projects and budgetary allocations for a seven-year period starting in 2022.

A first look at the 2022-2028 CIP

Taking a big-picture perspective on the county's infrastructure and financial standing, **Assistant County Manager** Bryan Thompson presented a first look at Chatham County's recommended CIP for fiscal years 2022-2028. According to a county press statement, "the

seven-year CIP is updated every million. New projects include year as a process to plan for and fund major capital needs costing more than \$100,000.'

The decisions made during the CIP will directly impact, to a large degree, part of the outcomes in the operating budget Thompson told the board.

"For example, when a building project comes online, there will be an increase in the operating cost within the operating budget.'

The initial CIP presentation was purposely brief and somewhat general, anticipating future board and community input. The board will hear public comments regarding the plan during its regular session Nov. 16 at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center.

The proposed CIP will be available on the county website at chathamnc.org/cip at such time that county data is available again, and the final CIP is expected to be adopted at the board's regular meeting

The 12-slide CIP presentation includes a recommendation that the county be "cautious with debt-funded projects until (the) impact of significant future projects and of future growth (e.g. Chatham Park) is

The CIP also included an approximate \$3.857 million budget increase in the plan to build a new Chatham County Schools Central Services building. An **Emergency Operations Center** expansion project is expected to cost an additional \$3.873

\$200,000 toward athletic field lighting in Northeast District Park and a \$7.943 million allocation that would encompass some smaller maintenance and replacement projects county-wide.

Rounding out the list of new projects is a \$4 million expenditure to finish "final cell blocks" in the Chatham County Detention Center.

The latter project is slated for 2028, and Thompson mentioned the possibility of non-prison alternatives.

"What we do know is that there might be some programming that could help mitigate some of the growth of the jail population," he said. "But we also know that Chatham County is also growing, and that growth may also result in that effect of needing more space.

Thompson also reported that Chatham received an AAA bond rating this summer from the credit rating agency Standard & Poor's, meaning "the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong, according to S&P definitions.

As the county looks toward projects in the CIP that necessitate borrowing funds, the positive rating bodes well for future interest rates. According to Thompson, Standard and Poor's "specifically highlighted very strong management, budgetary flexibility and liquidity, as well as strong economic and budgetary performance ... The county has also received an Aa1 bond credit rating from

Moody's.

Cyber attack update

County manager Dan LaMontagne reported that the cyber attack on Chatham County last week "hit us like a ton of bricks.

"The problem is really, really bad," LaMontagne said, "But we are starting to see little glimmers that it's not as bad as it could be. We'll just say that this is an ongoing investigation as far as what has happened and what the impacts are to the county. We are working to restore workstations; to get phones to our county departments ... we will not have phones to every staff person, and we will not have phones to every department immediately. We are trying to get the critical facilities up first.

LaMontagne said his team is "working with federal, state and local agencies on this recovery and forensics."

"It has impacted our services to the public," he said about the attack. "We are very apologetic on that. We are prioritizing now and trying to get technology and equipment onsite. We don't have internet in the offices.'

While Chatham officials are still able to post updates to the county's website, Chatham County employees are using mobile hotspots to conduct business.

"We are really taxing the Verizon system now between wireless hotspots," LaMontagne said. "We have to have clean laptops. All of our laptops are not usable until we wipe them and rebuild them.'

Chatham's Department of Social Services and Sheriff's Office are top priorities as the county staff works to restore services. Chatham's election and polling infrastructure is connected to a state-level network and not the county's network, LaMontagne said, so it remained secure even when county-level functions were affected.

Still, he said that laptops used by poll workers have been replaced out of "an abundance of caution."

"At no time whatsoever was election data ever compromised," LaMontagne said. That was looked at immediately. That and the ability to take 911 calls were our first two things we looked at ... I want to assure everyone that that absolutely was not impacted whatsoever."

"I can't imagine being on the other end where you guys are," board Chairperson Karen Howard said of county staff. "So I thank you all for responding so quickly and for doing whatever needs to be done to get us back where we need to be.

The regular section of the meeting, which lasted just under an hour, was followed by a closed session during which the board met to discuss, according to the agenda and Howard, "the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee.'

CCCC, Methodist University begin partnership

From CCCC

SANFORD — Central Carolina Community College and Methodist University have signed an agreement that will allow CCCC students a more seamless transfer to Methodist.

Methodist will accept students who complete Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied science degrees at CCCC and meet eligibility criteria. These students will receive joint academic financial aid counseling and academic advising from both institutions and students may be eligible for the prestigious Methodist University Presidential

Scholarship. Participat-

ing CCCC students will also be able to take up to eight credits of Methodist classes at current CCCC tuition rates

'We know how important transfer options are for our students,' CCCC President Dr. Lisa M. Chapman said. "This agreement with our Methodist University partners not only

supports alignment of coursework between CCCC and Methodist, it also strengthens successful transfer through joint advising and financial aid counseling as well as co-enrollment opportunities that enhance shared resource access for students.

Methodist University President Dr. Stanley T. Wearden said of the agreement: "We are pleased to have the opportunity to offer a smooth transfer and articulation process for students coming from Central Carolina Community College. Central Carolina is one of the most important colleges in the state and we're thrilled that this is one of our first agreements. It's a great moment and ground-breaking agreement for us."

'We are delighted to

enter into this partnership with Methodist University," said Scott Byington, CCCC's dean of university transfer and advising. "At CCCC, we are always seeking to work with other colleges and universities that can offer high quality educational experiences for our graduates. In addition to having many great program options, Methodist University has offered a unique package of benefits that will likely interest CCCC students.'

Methodist University year institution of higher education with more than 2.300 students from across the U.S. and more than 70 countries. Methodist offers 80 majors and concentrations, masters and doctoral-level programs (on campus and online options), numerous clubs

and organizations, and 20 NCAA Division III intercollegiate sports. To learn more about Methodist, visit www.methodist.edu.

Central Carolina Community College offers a wide variety of programs, as students can earn associate degrees or college transfer credits, diplomas, or certificates. CCCC also offers instruction in such areas as Short-term Job Training, College & Career Readiness, Personal Interests, Business & Industry, and Emergency Services Training. CCCC has been nationally ranked as No. 25 in The Best Community Colleges & Trade Schools of 2020 by BestColleges and ranked first in the Niche 2020 Best Community Colleges in North Carolina rankings. To learn more about CCCC, visit www. cccc.edu.

Chatham COA Helpful Happenings November 5th - 11th

Thursday, November 5th

- Arthritis Foundation Exercise at 10 AM
- Living Positively with Alzheimer's at 11:15 AM 🛜

Friday, November 6th

- Body Conditioning Exercise with Jackie at 9:00 AM 🤶
- Salute to Veterans! at 10:15 AM 📞

Monday, November 9th

- Tai Chi for Arthritis at 9:00 AM 🛜
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise at 10:00 AM 🛜
- Bingo with Joe at 11:15 AM 🤶

Tuesday, November 10th

- Body Conditioning Exercise with Jackie at 9:00 AM 🤶
- Chatham Striders Walk & Learn at 11:15 AM

Wednesday, November 11th - Closed for Veteran's Day



On Zoom

On Conference Line: 727-731-8717

For more information or to register for these programs, visit our website: https://chathamcouncilonaging.org/coa-virtual-activities/

Virtual Salute to Veterans – Live!

Friday, November 6th at 10:15 AM on Our Conference Line: 727-731-8717

Join the Trivia Hunt!



Each week the COA will offer a trivia question in the Chatham News + Record. Find the correct answer in the paper and enter to win a \$25 VISA gift card in the COA's monthly trivia hunt contest drawing. Look in **Section A** for this week's question.

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

CCCC records secondhighest enrollment

are striving to be pre-

From CCCC

SANFORD — Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Central Carolina Community College has recorded its second-highest enrollment ever during the current fall semester.

A total of 5,453 students are currently enrolled for the fall semester in campuses in Chatham, Lee and Harnett counties. The alltime high enrollment was 5.900 students enrolled for the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

"I am so proud of our students for persevering and continuing to push towards their career goals in spite of the current challenges," CCCC President Dr. Lisa M. Chapman said. "They pared for the opportunities available and coming to our communities. This fall enrollment is not only a reflection of our students' determination but also of the dedication of our college faculty and staff. Our college team has worked so hard to ensure that our students still have the opportunity to succeed and I realize every day what an honor it is to serve with them. We are also so thankful for our community commitment to our students through programs like Central Carolina Promise — that commitment is making a difference.

Ken Hoyle, CCCC's vice president of student services, noted of the enrollment: "To have

EUreka! You found the answer!

A: Bear Creek

To enter the COA's monthly drawing for a \$25 Visa Gift

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November's winner will be drawn from eligible entries

provided by 11/30/2020. The November winner will be

announced in a December issue of the Chatham News +

Record. One entry per household, per week. Employees of

follow the prompts on the voicemail.

the COA and their dependents not eligible.



such an enrollment as this during the pandemic is simply amazing. Our staff/faculty have worked so hard, in uncharted waters, to make this enrollment what it is and benefit so many seeking new skills or higher education. This is a huge testament to how the college is viewed by our local communities as 'the answer' when changes in our economy force folks to re-evaluate the current employment status. Whether we are re-training seasoned employees, establishing training for young students, or helping those seeking new employment opportunities, the college is always here to help out and bring new economic life to our workforce.

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

POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S Nov. 9. **OFFICE**

On Oct. 20, Tarik Jihad Greene Jr., 24, of 2090 Hamlet's Chapel Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Dominique York on a Virginia State Fugitive Warrant relating to Credit Card Fraud, Identity Theft, and Conspiracy to Commit Credit Card Fraud. Greene was jailed on a \$25,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on

On Oct. 20, Blaine Ivey Rhodes, 25, of 15 Weldon Drive North, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Dexter Jarmon for Destroying Criminal Evidence. Rhodes was issued a Written Promise to Appears in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on Oct. 23.

On Oct. 20, Blaine Ivey Rhodes, 25, of 15 Weldon Drive North, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Dexter Jarmon for

Unsafe Lane Change and Hit/Run Leaving the Scene with Property Damage. Rhodes was issued a Written Promise to Appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on Dec. 3.

On Oct. 20, Heather Lynn Holdren, 44, was arrested by Deputy Grant Carter for a Failure to Appear on charges of Operating a Vehicle with No Insurance, Driving While License Revoked, Expired/ No Inspection, and Cancelled/Revoked/ Suspended Certificate/Tag. Holdren was

jailed on a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on Nov. 9.

On Oct. 21, Ricky Lee Brooks, 54, of 206 Seventh Street, Burlington, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for Failure to Appear on charges of Driving While License Revoked. Brooks was jailed on a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on Nov. 12.

'WE ARE A KEY PIECE'

Wake educators share remote learning tips for N.C. Latino parents in statewide conference

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON

News + Record Staff

Several Wake educators offered free remote learning advice and resources to struggling Spanish-speaking parents last Wednesday during a free, half-day conference broadcast across North Carolina.

The conference, the REAL 2.0 (Remote Education & Learning) Conference, was hosted by the North Carolina **Business Committee for** Education hosted the conference, along with several other education-oriented organizations, as a part of a state initiative to close digital literacy gaps, called NC Student Connect. Though most presenters led sessions in English, several educators from the Wake County Family Academy led three in Spanish, which taught listeners about their children's virtual learning platforms, the college application process and family mental wellness during COVID-19-related school

A district program, Wake's Family Academy strives to connect families with the tools their children need to succeed in school. To that end, they have hosted numerous online workshops in many different languages

including Spanish about virtual learning tools and strategies. Two educators involved in that program — Alma Davalos and MariaRosa Rangel - led or facilitated all three conference sessions

Rangel, who works in Wake County Public Schools' equity department, oversees the district's Family Academy program while Davalos works as a Family Academy coordinator. Here are several ways both thought North Carolina's Latino parents can support their children during remote learning:

Set aside a designated workspace for your children.

Be creative, Rangel said, and use the dining room or the living room. Set up a table for them with everything they may need — computer, paper, pencils.

Put everything they need there, she said, ' that they know when they sit there, they're sitting there to learn.

Know your child's routine and check on



MariaRosa Rangel, the director of family and community engagement in Wake County Public Schools' Office of Equity Affairs, gave several presentations in Spanish during North Carolina's free REAL 2.0 Conference on Oct. 28.

only ones in charge of

and that the child or young person has to adapt

and we, as parents, are

said. "I believe that as

responsibility to accept

this challenge of virtual

Familiarize

with your children's

platforms and tools

know everything about

every platform, Rangel

told the News + Record;

just need to know their

children know how to

connect to their online

But it helps to be

know a bit about the

tools they use: In the

she taught parents the

basics of several virtual

learning platforms and

tools, including Google

Powerschool and Zoom.

parents to monitor their

children's grades and at-

tendance "in real time." Learning these plat-

forms would also make

children's teachers via

translation applications,

virtually with their

Maintain contact

it easier to communicate

Powerschool, she said,

is especially useful to

learn since it allows

Classroom, Canvas,

Google Meet, Seesaw,

first REAL session

she led in Spanish,

at a minimum, they

classes

Parents don't need to

online learning

DE CHATHAM

education and be with

them (and) not leave

yourselves

them alone in this.'

parents it is also our

more comfortable staying on the sidelines," Davalos

find others to do it. Be involved.

Parents need to become aware of their children's daily class schedules, Rangel said, so that they can keep an eye on them and make sure they're attending all their classes

"They could ask the kid to write it out or they ask the school to give them the schedule," Rangel told the News + Record "If they don't

access to a printer they could

write it out and put it out in different areas to let the kids know, man, they have to get connected to the next class.'

It also helps, she added, if parents constantly check up on their children's progress, whether they're able to do that at home, by phone or by

"I know that many of us have to work and leave them alone, but if we have older children, they can lend us a hand," she said during the conference. "And if you don't have any other children, you have to call them to remind them, 'Look, you have 10 minutes until your next class. Get ready for it. If you have to eat breakfast or get a snack, do it quickly because you've got one minute."

Otherwise, she said parents could leave children with babysitters or others they trust to monitor their children's progress in their places.

Davalos added that students need to feel supported by their parents and know they aren't facing remote learning challenges alone.

"Sometimes we think teachers, and ask the that the students are the schools for help when you need it their virtual education

If there's an issue with technology, Rangel said, let the school know. Many school districts offer technology help to parents with little technological know-how or to those experiencing problems.

"It is important that you ask your children's teachers or the school if they have a service to help you and also if they have access to interpreters who can help you with the language," she said during the conference.

Beyond that, parents need to maintain open communication with their children's teachers and be honest about the challenges they face.

If there's a problem, Rengel said, parents need to reach out and "You know what? I don't know how to help my child with math or English because I don't speak it,' or, 'I don't understand how to do the math because the way you do math is very different than the way I was taught at home."

"So it's about being honest and letting the school know, letting the teacher know, and requesting online resources," she added.

Many teachers have lists of online resources, she added, and if they find out one of their

students is struggling, they will build a list of resources to support that student's need.

After all, Davalos said, schools and teachers are "desperate" to communicate with Latino parents, clarify doubts and explain how online learning tools

"(Teachers) even in some presentations have commented, 'Please write me an email in any language as you can and I will look for someone to translate it for me here.' They want to approach us as parents," she said during the conference, adding, "We are walking towards the academic success of our children, and we are a key piece.

For schools and teachers

Rangel also had some advice and pointers to share with teachers and schools who count Spanish-speaking families and students among those they serve.

Reach out to all your families, in person and online, she suggested; know your demographics, and pinpoint those families "who are going to be in more need.

'It's using your social workers, your counselors, ESL teachers to reach out to these families," she told the News + Record. "It's about building relationships. It's about trust. And COVID-19 has really amplified those inequities, and we as educators need to make sure that we are attending to those inequities by reaching out to those who most need

Many Hispanic families in Siler City have struggled with technology literacy, as the News + Record has reported in the past. Some districts offer customer service assistance with technology, but Rangel said that sometimes that's not enough.

The things that I'm telling the school (are) that true, you could provide this customer service, but the parents don't know and understand. It defeats the purpose,' she said. "So I'm asking schools to provide at least one week, following all the protocols, to allow parents to come to the

S DIRECTY

building so that you can see what's wrong with the device and fix it right there and then."

But schools could also go directly to parents to provide support, she added.

In Wake County, Rangel said schools are going out into the community, especially into the most isolated areas, to provide COVID-19 testing and other assistance.

"If they need books, we give them books," she told the News + Record. "If they need a food voucher, there's maybe some folks giving vouchers for food. So again, it's taking the resources to them, obviously, following protocol. And we have to be intentional and intentional means going out."

If some students aren't showing up for class, Rangel also suggested that teachers or staff call families and ask what they can do to help.

"You don't want to call back to know why the child is not showing up. Just say, you know, 'We have concerns. We wonder if there's an issue with technology or anything going on that we could help you with," she said. "And then families will be more open to open up and say, maybe they haven't paid the electric bill, and that's why there's no connectivity."

Tap into the schools' resources for help, she added; loop in your social workers, ESL coordinators, interpreters and translators.

We have to reach out and find out what's happened," Rangel said. "And (parents) want to tell you, 'This is what's been happening. This is where we are.

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

Look ahead...

Key takeaways from remote learning conferences for students, parents, teachers. **SEE** PAGE B12

NEWS BRIEFS

NAACP sets procedures for branch vote

The Chatham Community NAACP Branch #5377 has announced its voting procedures for this year's office re-election. The voting format has been modified to address concerns about the transmission of COVID-19. Members will submit their ballots electronically during a Zoom meeting schedule for 6 p.m. on Nov. 16.

Members will receive a link to this branch meeting. For members without internet access, two members of the Election Supervisory Committee will accept ballots over the phone between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Nov. 23. For information about casting ballots that way, call committee member Adele Kelly at (919) 533-6064 or Deborah Turrentine at (919) 542-3802.

NCDOT outlines winter weather preparation

she added.

Now that it is fall, the NCDOT's maintenance divisions are preparing for the winter. Counties are inspecting equipment such as plows, spreaders, brine tanks and snow blowers — to help keep roads open and safe during inclement weather.

Just before winter weather is expected to arrive in an area, NCDOT will treat roads based on priority. Interstates and four-lane highways and other primary routes are first, followed by secondary roads.

For the most up-to-date traffic information go to drivenc.gov.

--CN + R staff reports



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BBQ PLATE BENEFIT

Tyler & Jennifer Bridges

To Help with Medical Expenses



Siler City Moose Lodge 721 Alston Bridge Rd. Siler City November 14 from 11-6 Take out ONLY - Drive Thru line

Raffle Tickets will be available

Drawings will be at 6, you DO NOT have to be present to win

\$10 Per Plate

Benefit for Det. Bridges' family

Friends and family of Siler City Police Det. Tyler Bridges and his wife Jennifer will host a fundraiser Nov. 14 to help mitigate the cost of medical care for the couple's newborn twins. The two boys were born four months premature and are undergoing specialized treatment to keep them alive. The hospital where they are located has been withheld at the family's request to protect their privacy. 'They're trying to get them stabilized,' said Siler City Police Chief Mike Wagner, 'but it's quite the challenge... (Tyler and Jennifer) are isolated...so we're just to help them out to offset some of these excruciating medical bills.' The event will feature \$10 barbecue plates prepackaged for takeout and a raffle. 'The whole town is really rallying them,' Wagner said, 'it's been great to see.' More than \$5,000 has already been raised for the Bridges at previous events and organizers say they plan to have about 800 plates available at next week's benefit.



Submitted photo

Chippy and the mayor

Chippy, Chatham Park's mascot, welcomed Pittsboro Mayor Jim Nass (shown here) and a host of town staff and members of the town's board of commissioners and planning board members at a luncheon on Oct. 27 at the Vineyards in Chatham Park. Chatham Park welcomed about 40 town officials to see part of the finished product at the work, live, and play community north of Pittsboro, according to Vanessa Jenkins, the executive vice president of Preston Development, the owners and developers of Chatham Park. Jenkins said years of planning had been poured into Chatham Park. 'We wanted everyone to see the plans go from paper to real life,' she said.

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Groups challenge Trump administration rule allowing more toxic wastewater from coal plants

CHAPEL HILL — Representing groups from communities near and downstream of coal plants in the Carolinas, the Southern Environ-mental Law Center has challenged the Trump administration's rewrite of a rule — known as the Effluent Limitation Guidelines or ELG Rule for power plants — that allows coal plants to dump more toxic pollution into rivers and lakes.

The Southern Environmental Law Center filed the challenge in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the of the Stokes County

Branch of the NAACP, WinyahRivers Alliance, Appalachian Voices, and Good Stewards of Rockingham.

This illegal rollback of clean water protections by the Trump administration allows dirty coal-burning plants to dump more toxic substances into our rivers, lakes, and drinking water reservoirs and exposes our communities to more cancer-causing pollution," said Frank Holleman, a senior attorney at the Southern Environmental Law Center. "The technology to prevent and treat toxic water pollution from these plants is widely available. Instead of protecting people, this administration made it easier for the most polluting and worst run

ways our communities depend upon."

At least 30% of all toxic water pollution from all industries in America comes from coal-fired plants, according to EPA. In the Southeast, the percentage is likely even higher because of the prevalence of polluting coal-fired power plants. By rewriting this rule at industry's request, EPA allows polluters to dump more arsenic, mercury, and selenium into lakes and rivers — even though available technologies to control this pollution are working at coal-fired plants across the South and the nation.

At Belews Creek and other plants in North Carolina, Duke Energy already installed the technology needed to limit toxic wastewater

But the administration's rewrite now lets them pollute more instead of polluting less.

NEWS BRIEFS

EPA's rollback also fails to take action against bromide pollution from power plants. Communities in North Carolina, including those downstream of Duke Energy's Belews Creek facility, experienced spikes of cancer-causing byproducts in their treated drinking water because of bromide pollution from upstream coal-fired power plants.

In South Carolina, Santee Cooper's Winyah Plant, which is set to decommission all its coal-fired units by 2027, may not even be required to implement pollution controls or meet even the new rule's weakened limits under a special cardumping toxic pollutants into our local waterways is unacceptable to us and our communities," said

Christine Ellis with Winvah Rivers Alliance.

--CN + R staff reports



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Connect the dots to discover the mascot of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy whose name is Objee. After connecting the dots, color this mascot brown.

USMC

Double ora

MILITARY VETERANS MASCOT LSDRAUGUSP **ANIMAL MARINE COAST GUARD GROUP** ARMY **NAVY TEAM GOAT SAFE DOTS** DAY

USMO

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

Look through the newspaper for a

company logo or ad that includes an animal. Why do

you think the company chose that animal?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information

A D G R O U P N P M MAMESOARIT IYVANRTLGT NHFCEIIEOE A E T T O T R C A A EAEMAASATM MVSRLASIMT ARYYMDOTSS

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



Are you an eagle- eyed reader? Circle the 10 errors in this article.

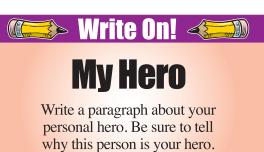
Military Mascots

The first mascot given to the United States Murine Corps in 1922, was a bulldog by the name of Private Jiggs. He quickly rows in the ranks to become a Sergeant Major. Bulldogs have appeared as mascots for several units since then. The kerrent mascot of the Marine Barracks in Washington, DC, is the 14th. He is named "Chesty" after a famous Marine Lieutenant General Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller Jr. Chesty goes out on pearade each week.

At West Point, N.Y., the official mascots of the U.S. Army are "Ranger 111" and "Stryker"—two mules. Steve Townes, a formur Army officer with the 75th Ranger Regiment donated the mules with the condition that one would be called "Ranger." Townes was once a mule ryder at West Point.

A Russian wolfhound named "Kolchak XV1," is the official mascoot of the 27th Infantry Regiment in Huwaii. This unit served in Siberia during the Russian Civil War in 1918. They won the respact of the Bolsheviks who gave them the name "Wolfhounds," which is now the simbol of the regiment.

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade-level words.





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Fifth annual Death Faire event





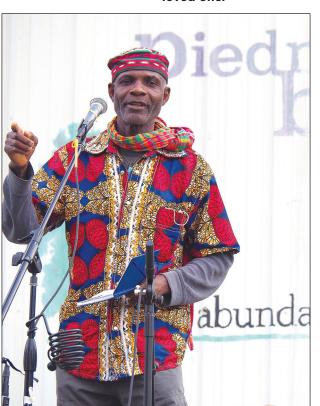
Staff photo by Kim Hawks

As part of the healing process for those who have lost loved ones, Death Faire offered several altars where you could leave a note or message to a loved one.





Death Faire organizers Tami Schwerin of Abundance NC was moved by poetry shared at this year's event.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Godi Godar Moteke Molanga shared village grief rituals at Saturday's 5th annual Death Faire event at The Plant in Pittsboro.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Ally DeJong, the associate director of Abundance NC, shared a poem at Death Faire about loved

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

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VecinoAVecino

Your community needs you! Do you have time and resources to financially help your neighbors during these unprecedented, Covid-19 times?

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Chatham County government takes gradual steps to provide in-person services

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper issued Executive Order 170. keeping the state in Phase 3 of lifting COVID-19 coronavirus restrictions until at least 5 p.m. on Nov. 13, last Wednesday. North Carolina has seen increased hospitalizations and trajectory of cases in

recent weeks. Chatham County government has been working diligently behind the scenes to take gradual steps toward providing in-person services and programming to the public while keeping both employees and visitors safe and healthy. Some of these actions include posting signage to instruct physical distance, installing protective barriers like plexiglass and stocking supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as face coverings for staff and the public.

'Throughout the last several months of the pandemic, our departments have remained

flexible and adapted in numerous ways so that we could continue providing critical services to the community," said Chatham County Man-

ager Dan LaMontagne. "As we begin to reopen our lobbies and serve the public face-to-face, we want to make sure we're taking cautious steps and implementing preventive measures so that our staff and the community stays healthy

and safe." Some examples of how Chatham County departments have begun providing in-person services include: the Chatham County Department of Social Services is offering curbside services and appointments; Chatham County Parks and Recreation is open for normal operating hours and is accepting reservations for indoor and outdoor facilities; although the libraries remain closed to the public, curbside pickup service is available at all three branch locations.

For additional updates, residents are encouraged to check the Service Impacts page of the county website at chathamnc. org/coronavirus-serviceimpacts or call the department directly.

As North Carolina remains in Phase 3, COVID-19 is still present across Chatham County. New positive cases are being reported every day, highlighting the importance for all to keep following the 3 Ws: wait six feet apart, wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer and wear a face covering while in public.

"Practicing the 3 Ws helps to limit the spread of the virus and keep us safe while delivering important services and doing the activities we enjoy," said Chatham County Interim Health Director Mike Zelek. "These actions will be as important as ever as we continue in Phase 3 and approach the winter months.

For more information about Chatham County's response to COVID-19, including resources and testing sites, visit chathamnc.org/coronavirus.



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YARD SALES

YARD SALE, SATURDAY, 11-7-2020, 8am to 12 noon: Bedroom Suit, Children's games (like new). Ladies bicycle (large seat, no hand brakes), ridden very little; Household items, artificial Christmas Trees, decoration village, angels, pillows, etc., Nice ladies coats. 1436 Glosson Rd, Siler City. Watch for red ballons and signs. Come rain or shine, under carport.

YARD SALE - Sat., Nov. 7, 8 a.m. until - House at Ore Hill, Old 421 toward Bonlee; Household, bedspreads, fall and Christmas dec, Rugs. N5,1tp

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 312 West 3rd St, Siler City, 7 to 1 p.m., Multi-Family. Rugs all sizes, Drapes/Rods, clocks, Home decor Coffee theme, toys, clothes, numerous items, Good Buys!, Mask & Social Distancing required. N5,1tp

CLEARANCE YARD SALE - Carbonton Community Center, Friday, November 6, 7am to 7pm. Wall pictures, dishes, Christmas items, 8ft Folding Tables and clothes. Everything must go! N5,1tp

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE. Fri-6th, Sat-7th, 9am-2pm. 150 Kimberly Ln, Siler City - 1 mile above Oakley Baptist Church.

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MOUNTAIRE FARMS OF SILER CITY is seeking an OCCUPA-TIONAL NURSE, Hours 4:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m., to provide first aid and emergency care for occupational injuries and illness, performing required pre-employment physicals and drug screens and record-keeping and documentation of visits to health services. Seeking an LPN or RN with 2 years of practical experience preferably in a Manufacturing environment or Emergency Care. Knowledge of case management, workers' compensation and OSHA regulations preferred. Ability to work with limited supervision and high motivation., Ability to work well under pressure, meeting multiple and sometimes conflicting deadlines. Strong computer skills (MS Word, MS Excel and HRIS sys tem), Bilingual English/Spanish preferred. - Job Type: Full-time. Salary: \$18.00 to \$22.00/hour - https://mountairejobs.com, Au6,tfnc

LEGALS

CHATHAM COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

NOTICE OF SERVICE Robert Terrell III hereby notifies General Shale Brick Inc., all per sons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate; to notice by the adjustments of the court to determine the orders and judgment of claims preceding conditions. The mandated trial merits are fulfilled formulating issues as their prerogative writs. Robert Terrell III 126 West Presnell Street; Apt C Asheboro, North Carolina 27203 (910) 580-9261

Robertintel.o@gmail.com Self-Represented

Jy2-D24,25tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of WALTER FARRAR, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 6th day of October,

Walter M. Farrar, Administrator of The Estate of Walter Farrar Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina

MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & LEE, LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

(919) 542-5605 O15,022,029,N5,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of MARY **HENRIETTA FARRAR**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having

claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 6th day of October,

Walter M. Farrar, Administra-The Estate of Mary Henrietta

Post Office Box 1806 Pittsboro, North Carolina MOODY, WILLIAMS, ROPER & ATTORNEYS AT LAW

BOX 1806

(919) 542-5605

PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

O15,O22,O29,N5,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHAHAM COUNTY

20 E 441 All persons, firms, and corporations having claims against SHARON L. ROBINSON, deceased, of Chatham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before January 15, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 12th day of October.

Diana Robinson Denton, Administrator CTA c/o M. Cory Howes, Attorney Forrest Firm, P.C. 3700 Glenwood Ave, Ste 240

Raleigh, NC 27612 O15,O22,O29,N5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of JENNIFER ELAINE BARTLETT, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 15, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 15th day of October, 2020. Rebecca Lynn Rupp, Executrix 8839 Cameron Meadow Circle Salida. CO 81201 Howard, McCoy & Bolton, L.L.P.

O15,O22,O29,N5,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PO Box 10305

Raleigh, NC

20 E 506 **NORTH CAROLINA** CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of MARJORIE K. STEPHENSON, deceased, of Chatham County, North Caroli-na, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 22, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.

The 16th day of October, 2020. Bruce C. Sargent, Administra-

140 Ridge Top Drive Chapel Hill, NC 27516 O22,O29,N5,N12,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS **NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of DELLA MARGARET FARRELL, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at the address P.O. Box 421, Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312, on or before the 22nd day of January, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make

This 13th day of October, 2020. Patricia F. Batchelor, Executor PO Box 421 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

GUNN & MESSICK, LLP P.O. BOX 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880

O22,O29,N5,N12,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 455 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of CHERIE L. WEISS, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 22, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.

The 16th day of October, 2020. Thomas E. Cameron, Executor 3821 Knickerbocker Pkwy. Raleigh, NC 27612

Cameron Advisors, LLC 231 Inwood Forest Drive Raleigh, NC 27603

O22,O29,N5,N12,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administratrix of the Estate of LAURA JANE MOSS, 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 January 25, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recivery This the 22nd day of October,

Carol Elaine Moss Johnson, Administratrix of Laura Jane Moss, Estate 955 Green Level Rd Apex, N.C. 27523 919-413-6013

O22,O29,N5,N12,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator C.T.A. of the Estate of MICHAEL LEE LINDLEY, 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 January 25, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recivery.
This the 22nd day of October,

RONALD P. COLLINS, Administrator, C.T.A. Estate of Michael Lee Lindley 117 West Raleigh Street Siler City, NC 27344 919-663-2533 O22,O29,N5,N12,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of SHIO SAEKI NORTHUP AKA SHIOKO SAEKI NORTHUP, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the

to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 22nd day of January,

or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 22nd day of October, 2020.

CHRISTOPHER KEN NORTHUP, **EXECUTOR** ESTATE OF SHIO SAEKI NORTH-UP AKA SHIOKO SAEKI NORTHUP Tillman, Whichard & Cagle,

501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 022,029,N5,N12,

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator of the Estate of ATLAS LEE BOONE, 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 January 27, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

This the 22nd day of October, RONALD P. COLLINS, Adminis-

trator Estate of Atlas Lee Boone 117 West Raleigh Street Siler City, N. C. 27344 919-663-2533

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

O22,O29,N5,N12,4tc

NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY** The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the

Ëstate of **PEGGY ANN PERLMAN**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 22nd day of January, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons in-debted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This 22nd day of October, 2020. MICHAEL KENNEDY SCHMITT, **EXECUTOR** ESTATE OF PEGGY ANN PER-

LMAN Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130

Chapel Hill, NC 27514 O22,O29,N5,N12,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20-E-512 NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY**

Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of EMMALINE ROSE DOHERTY, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 24th day of March, 2020, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corpora-tions having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 31st day of January, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 29th day of October, 2020. Pearl Doherty, Personal Representative c/o Larry H. Rocaora Attorney for the Estate McPherson, Rocamora, Nich-

Wilson & Hinkle, PLLC 3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400

O29,N5,N12,N19,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 E 46 NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY** Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of RICKY THOMAS BECK, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does here-by notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 29, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 26th day of October, 2020. Kathy Tavoada, Administrator

1105 George St Siler City, NC 27344 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 471 NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of GEORGE PAIRE, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 29, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 26th day of October, 2020. Kathryn Cox, Executrix 711 Massey Rd Reidsville, NC 27320

O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 C 530 NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY** Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of RICHARD B. TABER AKA RICHARD BURT TABER, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 29, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 26th day of October, 2020. Jeffrey Scott Taber, Executor 495 Beaumont Lane

Pittsboro, NC 27312 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Line ad deadline Tuesday — Noon

Display ad deadline

Rates and payment Minimum charge of \$5 for each classified advertisement of 25 words

or less per week. For each

additional word, no matter

how many insertions, add

20¢ per word. Payable in

Blind ads No information will be given out by this office to the identity of person placing "keyed" or "blind"

In advertisements that run more than one week, we are responsible for errors appearing in the first week only. If you find an error in your ad, report it immediately.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

20 E 533 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY Having qualified as Adminis trator of the Estate of JOSHUA **GRANT GAINES**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before January 29, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 26th day of October, 2020. Connie Sue Gaines, Adminis-

144 Windsor St PO Box 284 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

19 E 564 NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY** Having qualified as Limited Personal Representative of the Estate of WILLIAM NEWELL, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all tions having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the Members

Trust Company, P.O. Box 27832, Raleigh, NC 27611 on or before January 29, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 26th day of October, 2020. Hemphill Gelder, PC. PO Box 31205

Raleigh, NC 27622 O29,N5,N12,N19,4tp



Career **Opportunities Available**

Visit www.chathamnc.org and click on Jobs

PITTSBORO VILLAGE **APARTMENTS**

Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up. 400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312 919-542-5410

> TDD 1-800-735-2962 Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMGT.com **EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES**



HIRING CNA's

3RD SHIFT CALL: 919-542-3151

Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm for appointment to complete application and interview **Pittsboro Christian Village**

1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

against the party or parties

which the property is sold.

in possession by the clerk of

superior court of the county in

Any person who occupies the

property pursuant to a rental

TOWN OF SILER CITY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Nov. 16, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the City Hall Courtroom located at 311 N. 2nd Ave. Public hearing and Board discussion will be conducted on the following requests:

Town of Siler City proposes text amendments to §41 Definitions (minor subdivision, subdivision), §66 Minor Subdivision Approval (certificates), §137 Use of the Designations P,S,C in Table of Permissible Uses (residential, nonresidential), and §147 Table of Permissible Uses (multi-family residences) of the UDO.

The proposed items are available for review by contacting the Planning and Community Development Director at imeadows@silercity.org or 919-742-2323. All persons inter-

ested in the outcome of the application are invited to attend the public hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced items. The Planning Board will meet on Nov. 9 @ 6:30 pm to consider a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. If you are interested in attending the meetings via Zoom, then contact jbridges@ silercity.org for the Planning Board meeting and jjohnson@ silercity.org for the Board of Commissioner meeting. The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that

de aloiamiento para esta N5.N12.2tc

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

disabled persons are provided

arrangements may include, but

viding taped cassettes of mate-

other accommodations, such

are not limited to, providing

silercity.org for accommo-

información está disponible

Nancy Hannah al nhannah@

en español o en cualquier

interpreters for the deaf, pro-

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Deed of Trust made by Fred T. McKee, Heirs of Fred T. McKee: Wayne T. McKee, George McKee, David McKee (PRESENT RECORD OWNER(S): Fred T. McKee) to PRLAP, Inc., Trustee(s), dated January 2, 2009, and recorded in Book No. 01442, at Page 0483 in Chatham County Registry, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the promissory note secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Substitute Trustee Services, Inc. having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust by an instrument duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds Chatham County, North Carolina and the holder of the note evidencing said indebtedness having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door in Pittsboro, Chatham County, North Carolina, or the customary location designated for foreclosure sales, at 1:30 PM on November 19, 2020 and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following real estate situated in New Hill in the County of Chatham, North Carolina, and being more particularly described as follows: All that real property situated in the County of Chatham, State of North Carolina: Being the same property conveyed to the Grantor by deed recorded 10/10/1983 in Book 464, Page 444 Chatham County Registry, to which deed reference is hereby made for a more particular description of this property. Together with improvements located thereon; said property being located at 2311 New Elam Church Road, New

Hill. North Carolina. Parcel ID: 0005779 Trustee may, in the Trustee's sole discretion, delay the sale for up to one hour as provided in N.C.G.S. §45-21.23 Should the property be purchased by a third party, that party must pay the excise tax, as well as the court costs of Forty-Five Cents (\$0.45) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)

The property to be offered purbeing offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS, WHERE IS." Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust/security agreement, or both, being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property being offered for sale, and any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition are expressly disclaimed. Also, this property is being sold subject to all taxes, special assessments, and prior liens or prior encumbrances of record and any recorded releases. Said property is also being sold subject to applicable Federal and State laws. A deposit of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is reguired and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale. 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 its sole discretion, if it believes 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. Additional Notice for Residential Property with Less than 15 rental units, including Single-Family Residential Real

Property An order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and

LLC. Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees

rials for the blind, or assuring agreement entered into or a barrier-free location for the renewed on or after October proceedings. This information 1, 2007, may after receiving is available in Spanish or any the notice of foreclosure sale, other language upon request terminate the rental agreement Please contact Nancy Hannah by providing written notice of at 919-726-8625, 311 North Sectermination to the landlord, to ond Avenue, Siler City, North be effective on a date stated Carolina 27344, or nhannah@ in the notice that is at least 10 days but not more than 90 days, after the sale date dations for this request. Esta contained in this notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor otro idioma bajo petición. Por has not cured the default at favor, póngase en contacto con the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. silercity.org o 919-726-8625 o Upon termination of a rental en 311 North Second Avenue, agreement, the tenant is liable Siler City, North Carolina 27344 for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the ef-SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE SER-VICES, INC. SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE c/o Hutchens Law Firm P.O. Box 1028 4317 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, North Carolina Phone No: (910) 864-3068 https://sales.hutchenslawfirm. Firm Case No: 3595 - 10137

> **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS** Sealed proposals will be received from qualified bidders until 3:00 pm on Wednesday, December 9th by Jenifer Johnson, Town of Siler City Town Clerk for Town of Siler City, North Carolina for the Town of Siler City

N5,N12,2tc

City Hall Improvements & Renovations, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, NC 27344. The Bid Opening will take place in the 2nd floor Courtroom and will be live-streamed via Zoom. At that time bids will be opened and read. The interior work encompasses Phased renovations to portions of the 3-level (+/- 12,100 SF) building. Work items include

selective demolition, new walls, elevator modifications, new finishes, and new or modified P.M. E. systems. Exterior improvements include new sidewalks, modified parking areas, and a new rear entrance with ADA lift. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places. Complete plans and specifications for this project can be obtained from:

Accent Imaging's Planscope Planroom System available at www.planscope.com/public. php, 8121 Brownleigh Drive, Raleigh, NC 27617 (919) 782-3332 On Monday, November 9, 2020 Plan Deposit Required: \$150. Or by contacting Hobbs Architects, PA, 159 West Salisbury Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312,

919.545.2004. The Town of Siler City reserves the unqualified right to reject any and all proposals.
A mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at the site. Due to COVID-19, the meeting times for the Pre-Bid will be staggered and scheduled with interested bidders Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. Hobbs Architects will coordinate the meetings and escort the attendees. Hobbs Architects contact information listed above Ma required for attendance. Signed: Town of Siler City

N5,1tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on Monday November 16, 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 for the legislative requests 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. Members of the public who wish to provide comment for the quasi-judicial request must participate in person at the Agriculture and Conference Center. 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. Legislative public hearing for a request by K&B Investment Corp, for a general use rezoning from B-1 Business to IND-L, Light Industrial, Parcel No. 60705 being approximately 13.154 acres, located at 144 Old Lystra Rd, Williams

Township. 2. A legislative public hearing for a request by CRCED Treatment LLC for a rezoning from R-1 Residential to Conditional District Office & Institutional (CD O&I) on parcel 20029 and .03 acres of parcel 93851 to expand services for a residential group home treatment facility. located on approximately 6.38 acres at 7990 NC 751, Williams Township.

3. A Legislative public hearing for a request by Scott Pearce of For Garden's Sake, for a map amendment to the Chatham/ Cary Joint Land Use Plan for Parcel 62824, being about two acres, located at 9245 NC 751, previous Old Kelly Chapel Church, from Very Low Density Residential, to change to a commercial/retail designation,

Williams Township.
4. A legislative public hearing for a request by the Plan-ning Department to consider amendments to the Chatham County Zoning, Subdivision, Watershed Protection, and Flood Damage Prevention Ordinances required by the Chapter 160D Statutory update. Testimony is required to be given under oath during the evidentiary hearing for the following items: Quasi-Judicial Request:

1. A quasi-judicial public hearing for a request by Jennifer Miller-Farias, for a Conditional Use Permit for a Boarding Kennel, Parcel 64991 being approximately 6.75 acres, located at 5821 NC HWY 87, Hadley Township.

2. A quasi-judicial public hearing for a request by Matthew Malone, for a Conditional Use Permit Revision for a site plan change and request additional uses, Parcel 2759 being approximately 2.29 acres, located at 9553 US 15-501 N., Baldwin Township.

N5,N12,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 20 E 545 NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY**

Having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of CARLYLE CAS-WELL LEWTER, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 5, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. The 5th day of November, 2020. Brenda Dail, Executrix c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC PO Box 31205

Raleigh, NC 27622 N5,N12,N19,N26,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 20 E 384

All persons having claims against RUTH ELLEN MILLER LUCIER deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of February, 2021, or this notice will pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 5th day of November,

Stanley Miller, Administrator CTA

c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC PO Box 31205 Raleigh, NC 27622

N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Section 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 and applicable State funding, or combination

thereof.

This is to inform the public that a public hearing will be held on the proposed Capital Community Transportation Program Application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation no later than December 1, 2020. The public hearing will be held on November 16, 2020 over Zoom (https://

zoom.us/j/93100665018) at 12:00PM before the Board of Trustees of Central Carolina Community College Foundation, Inc.

Those interested in attending the public hearing and needing either auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or a language translator should contact Meghan Brown on or before November 9, 2020, at telephone number 919-718-7422 or via email at mbrown@

cccc.edu. The Community Transportation Program provides assistance to coordinate existing transportation programs operating in Chatham County as well as provides transportation options and services for the communities within this service area. These services are currently provided using Central Carolina . Community College's state funding allocation. Services are rendered by Chatham Transit Network (CTN).

The total estimated amount requested for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 Project Total Amount Local Share

Administrative \$ (15%)Operating (5311) \$ (50%)Capital (Vehicles & Other)\$ 60,000 \$6,000 (10%)

(50%)Other TOTAL PROJECT \$ 60,000 \$ 6,000 Total Funding \$ 60,000 Total Request Local Share \$6,000 This application may be inspected upon request from 17-20 November, 2020. Written comments should be directed to Meghan Brown (mbrown@ cccc.edu) before November 23. 2020. End of Notice.

AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA Sección 5311 (ADTAP), 5310, 5339, 5307 y fondos estatales aplicables, o una combinación de ellos. Por medio de este aviso se in-

forma al público que se llevará a cabo un Anuncio Público acerca de la propuesta para la Aplicación del Programa de Transporte Comunitario (Capital Community Transportation Program Application) la cual será enviada al Departamento de Transporte de Carolina del Norte antes del 1 de Diciembre de 2020. El anuncio público se llevará a cabo el día 16 de Noviembre de 2020 a las 12:00 pm a través de Zoom (https://zoom.us/j/93100665018). El anuncio se realizará ante la Junta Directiva de la Fundación del Colegio Comunitario Central de Carolina del Norte (Board of Trustees of Central Carolina Community College Foundation, Inc). Aquellos interesados en asistir a la audiencia pública que necesiten asistencia auxiliar

y servicios bajo el Acta de Discapacidad (Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)) o intérprete deberán contactar a Meghan Brown antes del día 9 de Noviembre de 2020. Su teléfono es el 919-718-7422 y su email: mbrown@cccc.edu. El Programa de Transporte Comunitario (Capital Community Transportation Program) provee asistencia para coordinar los programas existentes en el condado de Chatham v además brinda alternativas de transporte para la comunidad dentro del área de servicio. Estos servicios se ofrecen en la actualidad utilizando fondos que el estado distribuye al Colegio Comunitario. Los servicios son prestados por Chatham Transit Network (CTN).

La cantidad total estimada solicitada para el período del 1 de Julio de 2021 al 30 de Julio de 2022. Proyecto Cantidad

Acciones locales Administrativo \$____ En funcionamiento (15%)

(5311)\$ (50%) Capital (Vehículos y Otros) \$ 60,000

\$6,000 (10%) 5310 de funcionamiento \$_ (50%) \$___ Otro_

%)

PROYECTO TOTAL: \$ 60,000 \$6,000 Solicitud de financiación total \$60,000

Participación total local \$6,000 Esta aplicación puede ser in-

speccionada a petición a partir del 17 al 20 de Noviembre de 2020. Los comentarios escritos deben dirigirse a Meghan Brown (mbrown@cccc.edu antes 23 de Noviembre de 2020. Fin del Aviso

N5,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA **CHATHAM COUNTY** 20 E 539

All persons having claims against MILDRED K. JOHNSON deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of February, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 5th day of November, 2020.

Lisa Renee Williams, Executrix 26 Landrum Creek Dr Siler City, NC 27344

N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 20-E-522

All persons having claims against ELWARD ARNOLD HOR-TON of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 4th day of August, 2020, are notified to present them to Jeffrey Wayne Horton, Executor of the Estate of Elward Arnold Horton in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris. P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before February 11, 2021. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executor, and the devisees of Elward Arnold Horton. Those indebted to Elward Arnold Horton are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate. Dean P. Broz

Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A. 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203 Exchange West at Meadow-

Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 N5,N12,N19,N26,4tc

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Key takeaways from remote learning conferences for students, parents, teachers

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BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN & **VICTORIA JOHNSON**

News + Record Staff

RALEIGH — Parents and educators across North Carolina attended a free half-day conference last Wednesday that provided them with remote learning strategies, resources and tutorials.

The conference, called the REAL 2.0 (Remote Education & Learning) Conference, offered 46 Zoom sessions, some targeting parents while others targeted teachers. Nearly 1,300 parents and teachers from 89 of North Carolina's 100 counties registered for the conference, including several from Chatham.

Among other topics, educators and experts gave tutorials in virtual learning platforms like Google Classroom, spoke about maintaining mental wellness and offered virtual learning strategies. Wake County Family Academy educators also led three sessions in Spanish for Spanish-speaking parents.

The North Carolina **Business Committee for** Education (NCBCE), an education nonprofit working out of the governor's office to support workforce development, organized the conference along with Hometown Strong, Community Family Academy and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

"This is an unprecedented time that we're in right now for education," Caroline Sullivan, the NC-BCE's executive director, said in an Oct. 14 press release. "We're pleased to be able to support our teachers and parents by providing a resource that will assist both of these groups in their new

News + Record reporters Hannah McClellan and Victoria Johnson tuned in to several sessions of the REAL 2.0 Conference. Johnson also attended a separate social and mental wellness webinar hosted by the Chatham Education Foundation (CEF) last Friday. Here are their key takeaways:

Students

• 20-20-20 Rule: Every 20 minutes, look away from your computer screen 20 feet away for 20 seconds. This helps prevent eye strain and reminds students that taking breaks are important, REAL presenter and educator Chris Beneck said.

· Communication with teachers. Your teachers want to help you succeed and are available to help address your remote learning questions or challenges, presenters emphasized.

• Be on time. Even though you're learning from your home and can wake up right before school starts, finding a quiet place to sit with your gathered materials before



Florida educator David Futch explains how teachers can motivate their students while they learn remotely in this screenshot from North Carolina's free REAL 2.0 Conference on Oct. 28.

class starts will help you to get in the mindset of actually going to school.

• Build a new routine. Take breaks and eat food, like you would during a normal school day. Set aside time to work on homework and also set aside time for activities unrelated to school. And don't underestimate the power of sleep — try to go to bed and wake up around the same time every day while aiming for eight or

more hours of sleep.
• Stay engaged. It's a lot easier to get distracted on your computer than at a desk in school. Stay off of social media while learning, keep your Zoom or video window open and take notes in a Word document or on paper to help you pay attention and remain focused.

· Knowing about accommodations available to you. If you or your student need learning accommodations, there are some virtual tools available. "I feel like that is such an important part of our struggling learners," REAL presenter Vicki Anderson said. "Not all struggling learners are those who need accommodations but those are kind of a subset of what we're talking about here." Here are a few tools Anderson has

compiled: rb.gy/opxzth. Set small and attainable goals each day so you don't feel overwhelmed. "It is so helpful to be able to set a small goal to get two things done today. said Orlando Dobbin, a school counselor at Pittsboro Elementary who spoke at the CEF's webinar. "And it can give you motivation to get the next thing done. So instead of saying we're going to get all our assignments done by next week, you can set a short, really specific, attainable goal of 'Let's get one or two pages done."

Parents

· Help encourage your students to show up on time and prepare for virtual learning. Your students can create a new remote learning routine that includes getting ready, eating breakfast and having their school materials ready before going to class.

· Positive reinforcement. Remote learning and the social isolation it can bring — is really hard. Reminding your students of their achievements and successes can help motivate them during times that feel par-

ticularly challenging. Using resources teachers provide. Many teachers are posting videos and messages for both students and teachers those resources are there for you to use. When in doubt, email your student's teachers to see how you can best stay connected to resources they're posting.

· Stay in communication with your student's teachers — not only to stay up to date on assignments and available resources, but also to check in on how your student is

• "Success looks different now." That's something Dobbin emphasized, adding that even if your student typically gets all A's, not holding them to that standard is important as they navigate remote learning.

 Acknowledge that remote learning is difficult — for you and your student. Chatham Education Foundation Executive Director Jaime Detzi began Friday's webinar by emphasizing that reality: "This is a tough time for students and families, and not all kids were built to learn remotely," Detzi said. 'Not all families were built to learn remotely, whether that's that you are not able to be around due to work obligations. And not all families even have the resources to learn remotely. We know broadband, it's a big question here in Chatham.

· Listen to your student's thoughts and feelings. "Validate, validate, validate," said Danelle Louder, a CEF panelist and clinical mental health counselor. "There is no better way to open a conversation with somebody than say, 'I hear you.' An easiest way to connect with a young person is to get on their level. Sit, don't stand over them. Just get down on their level and say, 'What I hear you saying is this.' Young

learning barriers feel as if they can still be engaged in your classroom.

 Student temperature check-ins. Anderson recommended checking in with students with "stress checks" (which you can build through Google Chrome extensions), lesson understanding checkpoints and use of emoiis.

 Keep things moving use short segments with active transitions. REAL presenter and educator David Futch said keeping students engaged so they don't feel like you're wasting their time is crucial in motivating them. "As we work with students, as you work with students, we see just how difficult it is for those students to — some of them — to get motivated," Futch said. "If they don't bring intrinsic motivation with them, then it makes it difficult.'

This idea carries over into filming lessons, too, Futch said. Studies show that short two-minute videos attract high engagement, so aiming to keep your videos between two and five is crucial.

 Allow students to express themselves and use lots of positive reinforce-

 Encourage meeting in small groups through breakout rooms. Both conferences emphasized the importance of starting class time with class check-ins and allowing students to share with each other how they're doing.

· Get out of your comfort zone. Post videos that are silly and engaging, ask your students how they're doing and try new ways of teaching lessons you've gotten used to teaching in-person. Perhaps have students draw or ask them to use a tool called Blabberize to add audio to pictures.

"What does a plant have to say when a hurricane comes?" Futch said, suggesting topics. "How does an animal feel when there's pollution? So all of these things. So I think that one, we've got students that may not want to write or that may not be their strong skill set."

 Know that self care is necessary. The work you are doing is important, and the stress you've experienced during the pandemic can be traumatic, REAL presenter Natasha Rachelle said. Having lots of "tools in your toolbox" for when you need them is just as important as having virtual lesson plans and videos for students.

Recordings of all 46 sessions will be released onto the conference's site, ncstudentconnect.com, in about two weeks at the latest.

The REAL 2.0 Conference follows a previous conference held in early August for North Carolina's teachers. Both conferences are part of Gov. Roy Cooper's NC Student Connect initiative, a \$40 million program launched in September to help close internet connectivity and digital literacy gaps among teachers, students and parents.

Money from this initiative will also fund two more remote learning NCBCE conferences later this year — including one for STEM teachers on Nov. 17 and another for arts and humanities teachers on Dec. 15 and Dec. 16.

Visit nestudentconnect. com for more informa-

Reporters Hannah McClellan and Victoria Johnson can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com and victoria@chathamnr.com.

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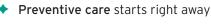












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