

Chatham News + Record

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CCS test scores higher than most state averages, but show COVID-19 decline

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

The majority of North Carolina public school students failed end-of-grade and course state exams last school year, according to test results released last week — including in Chatham County Schools, though the district performed above the state average in multiple categories.

The scores reflect the learning challenges brought by COVID-19 and re-

mote learning during the 2020-21 school year. At CCS, for instance, 44.1% of high schoolers demonstrated grade-level proficiency last year — or passed their exams — as opposed to 51.8% in 2019, before the pandemic, according to district data. Among CCS elementary and middle schoolers, 48.5% of students were grade-level proficient, compared to 64.8% in 2019.

Across North Carolina, 43.5% of high schoolers passed state exams given last school year, according to results pre-

sented at last Wednesday's State Board of Education meeting, and 45.5% of elementary and middle school students demonstrated proficiency, according to CCS data. During the 2018-19 school year, 60.4% of elementary and middle school students passed, according to that same data, and 51.8% of high school students did. Though scores are lower than typical in most districts this year, state and local leaders alike warned against comparing this year's data to pre-pandemic scores.

"We know that the conditions by which the students were instructed changed, but the assessment stayed the exact same," said CCS's Amanda Moran, the district's assistant superintendent of academic services and instructional support.

"So if you are a person in the community, and you don't understand that, you might look at the assessments and you think, 'Wow, the students did much

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'BRUNCH AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WAYS'

Small Cafe B and B will take diners on a culinary tour of the world

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro's Small Cafe B and B (formally The Small B&B Cafe) has new owners with ambitious plans to infuse the quaint, downtown eatery with flavors from around the world.

"We want to preserve the essence of the place," Christoffel Verwoerd, the restaurant's one-third owner, told the News + Record. "But we're definitely going to put our mark on it."

Verwoerd bought the property earlier this summer with his wife, Lisa, and her nephew, Chef R.L. Boyd. The restaurant — at 219 East Street, immediately east of the downtown traffic circle — was previously owned by Lisa Piper and Dave Clark, who started looking for buyers earlier in the pandemic. The site features Small Cafe and three standalone cottages available for rent on Airbnb.

"We're just ready to move on to new things," Clark told the News + Record last year.

The new owners took over July 1, and have since maintained the menu and ambiance that endeared customers to the eclectic cafe.

"The previous owners really created a cute little niche here with a little cult following," Lisa Verwoerd said, "just loyal, wonderful customers and community.



Staff photo by D. Lars Dolder

Christoffel Verwoerd, R.L. Boyd and Lisa Verwoerd (from left) are the new owners of Pittsboro's Small Cafe B and B, where they will introduce flavors from around the world during a year-and-a-half-long campaign.

One guy came in and he got up and came to the kitchen and goes, 'I'm glad to say that this has been my favorite breakfast place and now it's changed management and it's still my favorite breakfast place.' That kind of feedback means a lot to us."

Most of the restaurant's ingredients come from local suppliers: eggs from Massey Creek in Madison,

pork from Durham's Firsthand Foods and coffee from Pittsboro's Aromatic Roasters. Boyd also frequents farmers' markets for seasonal items.

Small Cafe's farm-to-table commitment and staple menu — including eggs and smashed potatoes, French

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9/11: A REMEMBRANCE

20 years after the towers fell, he still feels the impact

BY DWAYNE WALLS JR.
Special to the News + Record

Editor's note: Starting back in 1981, Dwayne Walls Jr. worked building sets and props in regional theaters and outdoor dramas throughout the Southeast, including five seasons with "The Lost Colony" on North Carolina's coast. In 1998, he moved to New York to build sets and props for television, film and theater, most notably for NBC's "Saturday Night Live." On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, Walls was working as a freelance stagehand at the World Trade Center when the first airplane struck.



Walls

I was in the Wintergarden atrium when the first plane hit.

We were about to start decking the temporary stage inside the barrel-vaulted glass greenhouse when the pink marble floor convulsed and shuddered and threw us up in the air.

I did not so much hear the collision and explosion so much as feel them through my body. There was a high-pitched shrieking over both. Someone told me later that was the sound of the engines echoing off the skyscrapers.

There were three of us: myself, my work partner George, and a young security guard. Everyone called George "Jurassic" George because he was always the oldest guy on the crew. The young security guard wore no name tag on his blue blazer.

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EUGENE DANIEL | SEPT. 18, 1921

A century later, Chatham's last lynching victim to be memorialized

BY BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

One hundred years to the day after his murder, Eugene Daniel will finally get the remembrance he deserves.

Daniel was just a week past his 16th birthday when he was lynched on Sept. 18, 1921, by a group of Chatham County men. On this approaching Sept. 18, a week from Saturday, the Community Remembrance Coalition of Chatham County (CRC-C) remember, honor and memorialize Daniel with two events that will focus on truth, justice and reconciliation — and honor the county's Black history.

The first will be a soil collection ceremony and remembrance at New Hope Baptist Church — where Daniel is buried — beginning at 9 a.m. Later that afternoon, beginning at 2, a celebration of Black history in Chatham, as part of the county's official 250th anniversary observance, will be held and feature a variety of speakers, including most of Chatham County's state and federal legislative delegation.

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Staff photo by Bill Horner III

Mary Nettles brushes debris off the tombstone of Eugene Daniel, the last of Chatham County's six lynching victims, will be remembered on Sept. 18 — the 100th anniversary of his killing.

CHATHAM CHAT | MIKE ZELEK, CCPHD DIRECTOR

The 'hard moments' of the COVID-19 pandemic continue

For the first time in three months, Chatham County residents are again succumbing to COVID-19. As the recent surge of cases continues, Mike Zelek, the director of Chatham County's Public Health Department, responded to more in series of questions from the News + Record about the pandemic, vaccine reluctance, COVID fatigue, masking up, and more.

You've been banging the "get vaccinated" gong for quite a while now. How accurate is it to say that "everyone who wants vaccinated has been vaccinated, and everyone who's not vaccinated isn't going to budge"? Or ... is there wiggle room there among the (still high) percentage of Chatham residents who haven't been fully vaccinated?

We have seen an uptick in demand for vaccinations since late July, likely coinciding with the rise in cases due to the Delta variant and perhaps workplace requirements. We have also recently experienced a number of hospitalizations, as well as deaths, and I think COVID-19 is hitting many

closer to home than it has throughout the pandemic.

These aren't just cases in a specific setting like a nursing home — they are widespread and taking a heavy toll. So, I think many are moving forward with getting the vaccine who were hesitant earlier. I hope that continues, because we all want this pandemic to end and to avoid as much heartbreak and loss as possible until it does. We know that vaccinations are our best way to make that happen.

Among the unvaccinated, we anecdotally hear a lot of this: "I'd rather take my chances with COVID than with the vaccine." They cite some studies showing illnesses and cases that follow the vaccines, as well as the rate (relatively low, as they will describe) chances of getting seriously sick from COVID. Two questions: What do you say to the unvaccinated among that group, and: is what you're saying making any difference with them?

Unfortunately, we are seeing more and more of those who are taking

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Events are subject to change based on closures related to the coronavirus pandemic. Verify with organizers prior to events.

ONGOING

• **Siler City's City Hall** is currently under renovation. The 1st and 2nd floors are closed to the public. The Planning and Community Development Department is located in the basement and can be accessed through the far left door facing E. 3rd St. Parking is available at the 100 block of E. 3rd St.

ON THE AGENDA

• **The Pittsboro Board of Commissioners** will hold its regular meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 13, via Zoom.
 • **The Chatham County Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 13, at the Historic Courthouse in Pittsboro.

OTHER

• **Apply to join the Chatham EDC Board of Directors:** The Chatham EDC serves as the lead economic development agency for Chatham County and is seeking applicants for its board of directors. As a nonprofit corporation, the Chatham EDC is looking for candidates who live or work in Chatham County. People with private sector business backgrounds and who are interested in furthering economic growth in the County are strongly encouraged to apply. The application closes September 10th. <https://airtable.com/shrPTzvUwoM4Glmgu>
 • **Chatham County Public Libraries** has reinstated its pre-COVID hours of operation at all three branch locations.

• **The Chatham Artists Guild** announces the opening of its 2022 Membership Drive. Artists 18 years of age or older, in all mediums, that reside or work in a studio in Chatham County may apply. The deadline for application is October 31st. The application process has been streamlined to make it as easy as possible for entrants to apply. Applicants can visit www.chathamartistsguild.org/membership to begin their application with a small entry fee paid online.
 • **Siler City Parks and Recreation** invites you to start your days off with a few laps at the Indoor Walking Program each weekday morning, from 7 to 9 a.m., at the Ernest Ramsey Gymnasium Indoor Walking Track, 512 East 6th St. The program is free and no pre-registration is required. Operations are subject to COVID-19 guidelines and masks are encouraged. For more information, visit www.silercity.org or contact Siler City Parks and

Recreation at 919-742-2699 or email recreation@silercity.org.

THURSDAY

• **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church** provides a healthy 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.

OTHER UPCOMING

• **Due to the severity of the COVID spread**, the 911 Board has made a decision to cancel the service set for Saturday, September 11, to protect the health of our Citizens and First Responders.
 • **Tri-County Ruritan** will hold their **23rd Annual Flatwoods Festival** on September 10 and 11. The festival will kick off on Friday evening on Raleigh Street in Bennett at 5 p.m. with food vendors set up in front of the Bennett Fire Dept., followed by an old-fashioned country auction at 7 p.m. Well known as one of the largest tractor parades in North Carolina, look for the Flatwoods Parade at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning. Local and state politicians and dignitaries are expected, as well as local school and church floats. Participants wishing to take part in the parade should plan to arrive and register around 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. There is no fee to register. The Festival will begin immediately following the parade on Raleigh Street.
 • **Chatham County community members** of all ages are invited to express their creativity and create a masterpiece at **Chatham 250's Sidewalk Chalk Festival** on Saturday, September 11, (rain date Sept. 12) at The Park at Briar Chapel located at 1015 Andrews Store Road, Pittsboro. All Chatham County artists – amateur and professional alike – are invited to draw their chalk creations inspired by Chatham County. Residents also are invited to spend the morning in the park enjoying the artwork. Check in for sidewalk chalk artists begins at 8:30 a.m., and artists will draw from 9 to 11 a.m. Artists can register online at <https://www.chatham250.com/event-details/sidewalk-chalk-festival>. A tabletop drawing option is available upon request for those who are not able to draw on the ground.
 • **Central Carolina Community College** - Whether you are looking for flexible course choices to meet your personal schedule or starting a new program of study, Central Carolina Community College's 12-week term allows you to find courses that fit your academic and career

goals. The next 12-week classes begin Sept. 14. 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). You can also connect with an Advisor virtually by visiting www.cccc.edu/admissions/contacts/ or visit us in person at any Main Campus. See www.cccc.edu/12and8/ for a list of classes.

• **Chatham County Public Libraries** to Extend Outdoor Story Time Beyond Summer for an additional two months through late October. Outdoor Story Time allows families with young children to enjoy the great outdoors while experiencing the joy of reading. Outdoor Story Time programs will continue through October 28, 2021, with the following weekly schedule: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. – Natural Chef Café, seating area on the Central Carolina Community College Pittsboro Campus, adjacent to the Chatham Community Library, 197 NC Hwy 87 N, Pittsboro, NC 27312; Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. – Washington Avenue Park picnic shelter, 1305 Washington Avenue, Siler City, NC 27344; Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. – Goldston Public Library lawn, 9235 Pittsboro Goldston Rd, Goldston, NC 27252; and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. (beginning September 11) – Natural Chef Café seating area on the Central Carolina Community College Pittsboro Campus, adjacent to the Chatham Community Library, 197 NC Hwy 87 N, Pittsboro, NC 27312. Story time is geared toward children who have not yet entered kindergarten (ages 2-5), but anyone is welcome to join in on the fun. Children will hear stories, sing songs, and enjoy more activities. Story times will be offered rain or shine.

• **Hoppin' John Old-Time and Bluegrass Fiddlers' Convention** Gears Up for 14th Annual Event – Schedule is filled with talented local musicians eager to play in front of a live audience. Known by locals as simply, "Hoppin' John," the 14th annual event will take place September 17 and 18, with an exciting line-up of talented musicians eager to hit the stage. Hoppin' John, the only fiddlers' convention in the Piedmont, offers string band and instrument contests, concerts, workshops and family activities for music lovers of all ages. With the added benefit of on-site camping at this event, jam sessions will be happening around the clock on the campgrounds. Hoppin' John will take place at 1439 Henderson Tanyard Road in Pittsboro. To learn more, view the full schedule and

purchase tickets, visit www.HoppinJohn.org.
 • **Chatham Community Library** Presents Virtual Film Screening: "Don't Tell Anyone" beginning Thursday, September 16 and continuing through Thursday, September 23. This program is free and open to the public. Access to the virtual screening will be available beginning September 16 by visiting <https://www.wmm.com/virtual-screening-room/dont-tell-anyone-watch-page-chatham-community-library>. A password is required at the time of viewing. If interested, contact social.library@chathamlibraries.org to request the password or for additional information.
 • **Chatham Orthodontics Ribbon Cutting and Open House** - join us at from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14 as we celebrate the opening of Chatham Orthodontics at 422 North Holly Avenue, Siler City. The Ribbon Cutting will begin at 11:30 a.m.
 • **Chatham Community Library** will host a series of quarterly discussions highlighting Women Change-makers in Chatham County. The series will address areas of interest to county residents, viewed from the perspective of women engaged in both

traditional and non-traditional careers including agriculture, entrepreneurship, education, the arts, law enforcement, and social activism. Celebrating Women of Chatham Series will begin Saturday, September 18 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This will be a Virtual Program with the first in the series featuring Chatham County women farmers including: Tiffany Cooper, Bee Hoppy Farm, Pittsboro; Emily Boynton, Fiddlehead Farm, Pittsboro; Tenita Solanto, Green Panda Farms, Siler City; Karen Jordan, Brush Creek Swiss Farms, Siler City; Patricia Parker, In Good Heart Farm, Pittsboro; and McKenzie Withington, Lilly Den Farm, Goldston. These panelists will discuss the challenges and rewards of being a woman farmer in Chatham among other aspects. This virtual event is free and open to the public and will be presented via Zoom. Participants should register online to receive the meeting link. Residents may visit the libraries' website, www.chathamlibraries.org, or contact the Library at (919) 545-8084 or rita.vanduijn@chathamlibraries.org for more information.
 • **The Central Carolina Community College Basic**

Law Enforcement Training (BLET) program will soon begin training at the CCCC Chatham Main Campus in Pittsboro. Tuition is free for students who have a sponsorship from a N.C. law enforcement agency. Learn more about the CCCC BLET program at www.cccc.edu/ble/. For more information, contact Neil Ambrose at 919-777-7774 or email to lamb287@ccc.edu.
 • **The Chatham Historical Museum** is open Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. We will be following the governor's directive on occupancy, masks, and social distancing. Adult and kid friendly, no admission fee. Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The Museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the circle. More info: <https://chathamhistory.org>
 • **Second Bloom Thrift Store** is open at the Food Lion Shopping Center. Store hours are Tuesday thru Saturday, 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.



Meet Tonya,

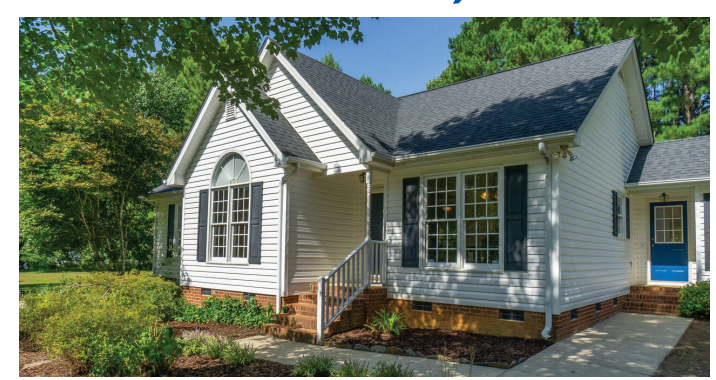
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CHURCH NEWS

MT VERNON SPRINGS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The church yard sale will be held at Mt. Vernon Springs Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 11, from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will be baked goods, crafts, drawing, and lots of other items. Ham biscuits and hot dogs will be available. The church is located at 1225 Mt. Vernon Springs Rd., Siler City.

NEW BEGINNINGS

MINISTRIES

New Beginnings Ministries will have an accessory sale on Saturday, September 11, from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the corner of MLK Blvd. and Hwy. 64, Siler City. All items are new or gently used. Items include baby and toddler clothes, women and men's accessories, and home accessories. Food will also be available for purchase.

HOLLAND CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Free COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing, Monday - Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Holland Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, 360 Burgess Rd., Apex (919-362-7831). Register at WWW.MYSPOTNC.GOV - For more information, contact Pastor Orlando Dowdy at 919-599-5323. The pastor and Holland Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church are partnering with Ottendorf Laboratories to provide free COVID-19 vaccines and testing.

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CAFE

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toast, seasonal quiches and a chicken breast sandwich — won't be going away. For more adventurous customers, however, the Verwoerds and Boyd are planning something big: "Brunch Around the World in 80 Ways," a year-and-a-half-long campaign to feature flavors from every corner of the globe.

"We were throwing around ideas for what new stuff we might do," Lisa said, "and we thought about Jules Vernes' 'Around the World in Eighty Days.' We thought, 'Why not sort of make it around the world in 80 ways?'"

And so the series was born. Boyd — who's worked in kitchens from Dallas to Manhattan, including Pittsboro's nationally acclaimed Fearrington House — quickly generated a list of ideas.

"I've cooked in a lot of different styles at different restaurants," he said. "And so I started thinking, 'Yeah, I can make something from this country, and something from that country,' and it just came together."

The promotion begins Sept. 15 with a Jamaican jerk chicken special



Staff photo by D. Lars Dolder

Most of Small Cafe's ingredients are locally sourced, such as fresh eggs from Madison's Massey Creek Farms.

followed by culinary tours of Turkey and Colombia. Boyd plans to offer each dish for one week. The cafe's website (www.smallcafebandb.com) will promote five weeks' worth of specials at a time. "We have a little gem here that works," Christoffel said. "And now with (Boyd's) help we're going to expand on that and just do some wonderful, creative new things to attract new customers."

The diverse offerings will hopefully establish a reputation that captures an



Staff photo by D. Lars Dolder

The Verwoerds and Boyd say they are committed to maintaining the quirky ambiance loyal customers have come to love about Small Cafe.

untapped customer base, Lisa added, between thousands of new residents moving into Chatham Park and the longtime residents who never discovered Small Cafe.

"We have gotten so many people in here that said, 'I've lived in Pittsboro and I didn't even know you existed,'" she said. "And they're like, 'I found you now, and I'll definitely be coming back,' but I was really surprised at the number of times that I've had people

IMPACT

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We gaped at each other wide-eyed. The echo of the blast faded into eerie silence. As one we said, "That was a bomb!"

"Don't go near it," ordered the security guard. His face went blank, and I could see he was reaching back to remember his training. "It is a crime scene."

"Listen!" said George, holding his hand up in the air.

Then I heard it: a hissing sound rising until it roared like hard rain on a roof. The storm brought its own thunder; a great thudding and clanging and banging mixed with the hissing until it sounded like it was on top of us before abruptly fading as quickly as it had started.

Bewildered, I thought of running, but I was inside a 10-story glass greenhouse; there was nowhere to run.

I still was deciding what to do when the double doors leading to the North Tower flew open and a solid stream of humanity surged down the pink marble stairs toward the exit doors to the North Cove. A woman running fell in front of me. I picked her up and decided the best thing I could do was to hold the exit doors open. Soon the stream slowed to a trickle and stopped, leaving only Jurassic George and me in the greenhouse. The security guard was gone, so George and I went out the doors leading to the North Cove and looked up.

The North tower, on the left in my field of vision, burned far above us. Black smoke plumed into a great black clot shaped like a fist. Bright flames pushed out from the empty windows on the highest floors and smoke billowed out of the stories immediately above them. I could not see two sides of the building; I was too close. It hurt my neck to look that high up. I saw shapes falling. Most of these shapes left little smoke trails.

I did not realize these shapes were people until I recognized arms spinning or legs kicking.

A small crowd gathered behind George and me in the North Cove. When anyone in the North tower fell or jumped, singularly or in groups, our little knot of people cried and groaned as one. So many people fell that our wails became a chorus.

I heard a woman scream, "There's another plane!"

I looked to my right, both seeing and hearing the jet for the first time. It was coming in low and fast over the harbor, engines screaming like a million monkeys. I remember how bright it was, as if it had been painted that day. Its wheels were up. In the last second, the left wing dropped as if to turn and miss everything; instead, it disappeared into the South Tower with a hideous crunch like stomping a beer can.

Every pane of glass in the South Tower exploded.

I saw the building recoil from the impact, whipsawing back and forth as it absorbed the shock waves. One of the jet's engines punched completely through the structure, emerging with its intact turbine fans still turning and flaming as it arched downward. What must have been 10 floors erupted in a massive fireball that blew people and wreckage out into the air.

"RUN!" is what George said at the top of his lungs, but I could not move.

I cannot explain it, but the scale of the destruction froze me to the spot. I saw the debris hanging in the air, getting bigger as it got closer, and I knew I should run, but I just stood there, dumb with incomprehension, until I realized George had turned around and come back for me.

"I'm sorry, George... I can't..."

I was still trying to speak when a wave of glass hit us. We should have died the death of a thousand cuts, but the shards were safety glass from the Trade Center windows, all of it in tiny cubes the size of my little fingernail. The tiny cubes came down in torrents, wave upon wave, floor after floor of safety glass, like some crazy summer sun shower.

Then the big stuff hit. Chunks of concrete and pieces of metal came at us from over the top of the Merrill Lynch Building, bouncing off the tempered glass roof of the Wintergarden and off the side of the American



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Dwayne Walls poses at the 9/11 memorial in Pittsboro. As he left the area of devastation at the World Trade Center on that fateful day, he saw a photographer capturing images of the scene. He later purchased this shot from the photographer.

Express Building, smashing and crashing all around us. With every impact the concrete fractured into smaller pieces that went bouncing or flying or rolling all around us. Most were small and sharp, like sea shells; others larger, like pumpkins or footballs, each with its own comet tail of dust.

I saw two pieces make 20 when they collided in mid-air. Flaming, smoking things landed all over the place. I recognized parts of office furniture: pieces of desks and chairs, or of fabric and wood, all of it charred in one way or another.

But the most frightening pieces of wreckage were made of metal, because instead of fracturing on impact, the metal bounced back into the air. Everything was mangled and bent into unrecognizable shapes. One piece of metal pipe or conduit landed in front of us. It was crudely coiled like a ribbon or a spring and it danced up and down every time it hit the ground, hissing like a snake.

One huge piece that must have been structural steel landed 20 feet in front of us and bounced straight back up into the air, ringing like a turning fork 20 feet long. When it landed again it cartwheeled straight at us, spinning end over end like a majorette's baton. I crashed into George so hard that we both lost our balance and went tumbling into the side of the American Express Building. George said he saw the steel bounce all the way into the Hudson River.

I got up and walked to the spot where we had been standing and looked at the wreckage of the South Tower. I was amazed that the structure took that kind of a body blow without crumbling to dust. I thought it was a miracle the tower was standing at all.

For almost an hour George tried unsuccessfully to coax or cajole me into leaving the North Cove. Only when I saw the South Tower sagging visibly above the impact point did I agree to shoulder my tool bag and start slogging uptown.

We turned the corner of the American Express Building and passed a herd of hundreds of people milling and talking and texting on their cell phones. I put my head down and followed the boots in front of me.

We made it across the West Side Highway before North End Avenue dead ended at Hudson River Park. By this route we moved East through the crowds at a pretty good clip. I was still following Jurassic George when he pulled up short and stopped. I almost walked right over him. We were on the corner of Chambers and Broadway.

"This is good," he said above the screaming sirens, dropping his tool bag onto the sidewalk. "This is far enough."

"Far enough for what?"

"Far enough not to get killed when it comes down," he said.

We were both breathing heavily, and I remember wondering to myself just how old Jurassic George really was.

The corner of Chambers Street and West Broadway was an axial vantage point to see the city in crisis. I saw ambulances, firetrucks, marked and unmarked police cars roll down West Broadway from uptown with their sirens blaring. The noise was deafening. You had to yell to be heard. Looking west on Chambers Street I saw the race

to remove the kids from Stuyvesant High School and PS234. Looking south I could see straight down West Broadway onto a wedge of the North tower. Beyond that, across the Plaza, I saw a tall, narrow slice of the South tower down to Plaza level. A couple of blocks east was City Hall Park; on the other side of the park was the foot of the Brooklyn Bridge.

George and I were in a knot of about a dozen people on the northeast corner of the intersection. We were all looking up at the wrecked, burning buildings. We were still so close that my neck hurt to stare up at the sight for too long.

It was a ghastly sight, and to have seen it is to know the face of cruelty, for high up the North tower a crude face had emerged from the smoke and flames, with two burning eye sockets where the jet's engines had punched through the building. Flaming jet fuel made the beard. A smoking turban topped out this grotesque death's head. It was an evil, dreadful apparition, at once djinn-faced and evil.

One of the men standing in our little knot of people on our street corner was obviously distraught. He pointed at the crude smoking face and said, "Look! The face! The face of God! Look what God did!"

I wanted to punch him for saying that. I lunged for him, but George caught me before I could lay a hand on him, saying, "Stop it, Dwayne!"

George was right; I had lost my temper. I needed to calm down. As my mind cleared I remembered something I had heard in church a long time ago. I looked up to the burning wreckage and said out loud: "Your words are not my words, and your ways are not my ways, so sayeth the Lord."

"Amen, brother," responded a man wearing restaurant kitchen whites, his eyes fixed upward.

"I went to the eye doctor this morning," he said in a distant, unbelieving tone. "I went to the eye doctor in the concourse this morning instead of going straight to work. I work at Windows on the World and now everyone is trapped but me. My God, we had 28 people on the shift this morning." He stared up to the top of the edifice as long as he could, until pain made him wrench away for a few seconds. His eyes always went back to the buildings.

I turned back to the man in the crowd and said as calmly as I could, "I don't see the face of God, I see the face of the Devil! I see the face of a madman named Osama bin Laden!"

The chef in white turned and looked directly at me and asked, "Who?"

"Osama bin Laden. That's who did this." I was sure it was him because I was a hardwired news junkie. My father was an investigative journalist. I grew up reading the newspaper every day. I watched network news religiously every evening on television. I had answered this question to my own satisfaction while I stood with George in the North Cove. If I had not, I might have been standing there still trying to figure it out.

"How do you know? How do you know it's him?" He was looking at me now.

I thought about the 1998 bombings of the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed hundreds. I thought about the bombing of the USS Cole that killed 17 sailors and maimed 39 more. I thought about the murder of the famous freedom fighter, Ahmad Shah Massoud, in Afghanistan only three days earlier.

"You will know him by the trail of dead." He gaped at me, staring and thinking before yelling, "What?"

He looked as surprised as I was at what I just said. Then he demanded, "What?!? What did you just say?"

"You will know him by the trail of dead," I said out loud again, and then I told him what I had read and seen about bin Laden. When he knew what I knew, I speculated, "I think we're under attack. God knows how many more planes are out there."

A middle age woman with a cellphone in her hand heard the two of us talking. She held a cell phone above her head as a proof she was not lying. "My friend said a plane hit the Pentagon."

The chef turned from looking at her to looking at me and asked, "You're telling me you know who did this?" I nodded. "Will you repeat what you said to my boss?" and I nodded again, thinking his boss was in some anonymous, mid-town office wearing a suit and tie. It did not occur to me his boss was in

say that to me since we've been here."

Pandemic volatility poses an ongoing threat to restaurants' financial security, but Small Cafe's owners hope a fresh take on international cuisine will encourage diners to maintain their support.

"The pandemic is scaring people again," Boyd said. "Everybody's down a little bit, especially in the last couple of weeks."

But his kitchen is still running and customers are grateful.

"We've had a lot of people be very kind and wish us a lot of luck and say how excited they are that we're keeping the place open," Lisa said. "They were so worried that they were going to lose it. So we're just happy to be able to say we're here and we're open."

For Small Cafe B and B's full breakfast and lunch menus, and to explore the property's lodging options, visit www.smallcafebandb.com. The restaurant is open for diners from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

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the top of the burning tower in front of me. He produced a flip phone. "My boss has a lot of confused people up there." He said as he tapped the keypad. Putting the phone to his ear, he said, "A lot of my people think God hates them, that they did something to deserve this."

I reached out clumsily for the phone. "Let me talk to him." But he pulled it away from me.

"No!" he said firmly. "You don't know her." He put the phone to his ear and looked at me. "She knows me. She wants to hear it from me. You tell me what you just told me and I'll tell her." He put the phone to his ear and looked at me hard. "You swear you're telling me the truth?"

So I told him again what I knew and he repeated it to his boss over the cellphone. Again in the end I speculated, finishing with, "We're under attack," before saying what had been on my mind since we hiked out of the North Cove.

"We're going to war!" I sounded pathetic, and I immediately felt ashamed of myself. I looked around at the faces of the people with whom we were standing. George was looking at me with that level, see-through gaze he had. But I could not control myself and I said it again.

"We're going to war."

The chef covered up the microphone end of the phone. "Don't say that."

"They've got to find a way down from there," I said more to myself than to anyone. Then to him: "Tell her they've got to find a way down from there."

"She says there's too much smoke."

"Put water on a cloth and breathe through it."

"She says the stairs are blocked and there's no water."

"She HAS to find a way!" I looked back to the fires and said, "That South tower is coming down."

What?"

"That South tower is coming down."

"What makes you say that? How do you know?"

"Before we hiked here, George and I were standing in the North Cove. We saw the steel melting. The South Tower is visibly sagging above the impact point. We could see it sagging."

He repeated what I said into the phone and gave brief description of how we were dressed. The answer from the other end of the phone surprised him.

"She says they saw the two of you standing there in the North Cove. Why didn't you run when the second plane hit? Everybody thought you were going to die."

Before I could think of an answer, George looked at me and pronounced, "Because he's crazy."

"That's great, George," I said. Maybe he was right, but I defended myself, "Where am I going to run? Where am I going to hide? I saw a lot of good people die this morning. Maybe I am crazy, but I am not afraid to join them. I'll be in good company."

George looked at the chef and said again, "He's crazy."

The chef was still on the phone with Windows on the World, and he turned to me and repeated each sentence he heard from the woman at Windows on the World. "She says she's glad you stayed. You gave people hope. When you two left the North Cove, they knew it was over."

In a gush I said, "I wish I could do more. I wish I could say more."

I wanted to say something uplifting or something wise, anything to comfort these doomed people in their hour of trial, but all I could think of was a corny line from an old television show.

"Live long and prosper;" was all I could say. It haunts me to this day.

"He says 'Live long and prosper,'" the chef said into his phone. After a couple of seconds, seconds full of sirens and yelling all around us, he looked at me and said, "She says, 'Thank you, but I fear I shall do neither.'"

I tried to speak but my mouth would not make sounds. My jaw opened and closed and my lips made shapes but I could not make a sound. The chef was looking at me.

"He's speechless."

Then everyone started screaming because the South tower was coming down.

Dwayne Walls Jr. and his wife Elizabeth live in Pittsboro.

VIEWPOINTS

Another ‘absurdly brief’ year has passed. My birthday present is helping add meaning to what’s left.

My birthday present to myself last week was a book entitled “Four Thousand Weeks,” which addresses the absurdly, insultingly brief span of time — 80 years and some change — the average person gets here on Earth.

My 58th birthday came and went without much fanfare, which is just how I prefer it. As I inch closer to 60 — an age which once seemed ancient, but then again 35 seemed ancient for the first 25 years of my life — I’m not lamenting the progression of years so much as how I’m constantly reminded of them, and of the rapidity by which time passes.

I have social media to thank for that. If you’re on Facebook, you’ve no doubt seen the “Memories” pop up — posts from the past that Facebook encourages you to re-post in

recognition of how great your life used to be. “Memories” from five, eight and even 10 years ago seem eerily recent. On Instagram, celebrity birthdays from fan pages show up in my feed, and often my response is either a) I can’t believe they’re that old!, or b) I can’t believe they’re still alive.

I’ve no interest in writing about or expressing the disbelief that goes with getting older; if you’re not there, you will be soon enough, and it’s definitely one of those “you had to be there” experiences. What I am interested in is making the most of those remaining, aforementioned four thousand weeks; 58 years isn’t enough time, for me, at least, to master life.

Hence my birthday present.

My Kindle e-book tells me I’m only 16% through it, but already I’ve highlighted a multitude of passages I want to revisit and learn from. The author, Oliver Burkeman, subtitled the book “Time Management for Mortals.” It’s fitting. He describes time as those hours, weeks and years

being like containers carried on a conveyor belt — containers which we must fill as they pass if we’re to feel like we’re making good use of our time.

“When there are too many activities to fit comfortably into the containers, we feel unpleasantly busy; when there are too few, we feel bored. If we keep pace with the passing containers, we congratulate ourselves for ‘staying on top of things,’ and feel like we’re justifying our existence; if we let too many pass by unfilled, we feel we’ve wasted them.”

There was a time, Burkeman says, when mankind was untroubled by the notion of time “ticking away.”

“Before, time was just the medium in which life unfolded, the stuff that life was made of,” he writes. But that changed with the industrial age and the relatively recent invention of clocks and watches and work that was measured by hours, not the sun and the seasons.

“Afterward, once ‘time’ and ‘life’ had been separated in most people’s minds, time

became a thing that you used — and it’s this shift that serves as the precondition for all the uniquely modern ways in which we struggle with time today,” Burkeman says.

For the modern man in a rat-race world, our self-worth is bound up with how we use time. Time is no longer “the water in which you swim,” as it’s been described, but rather something we feel compelled to dominate or control. Fail in the endeavor, he says, and we feel guilty, panicked or overwhelmed.

We’ve all been there. As I struggle with my to-do list and a calendar that seems to book up weeks ahead, the book’s premise made me curious.

The point of Burkeman’s argument is that most of the trendy productivity systems and tools we use are bound to fail. The only workable alternative in life is not to use time, but to let time use you. To approach life “not as an opportunity to implement your predetermined plans for success, but as a matter of responding to the needs of

your place and your moment in history.”

In other words, to build meaning into life.

The truth, he says, is that attempts to “get on top of everything” always fail, because there’s always more “everything.” Because time is finite, doing *anything* requires sacrifice — the sacrifice of all the *other things* we could have been doing with that stretch of time.

I figure that being 16% through this book and — by Burkeman’s estimation, about 70% through my years — there’s still enough space ahead to get a better grasp on it all.

What I’ve learned so far from the book: there will always be a gap between what I’d like to do and what I can do. Being deliberate about the “what I can do” is a pretty good goal for today.

And today is all we’ll ever have.

Bill Horner III can be reached at bhorner3@chathamnr.com or @billthethird.

No shame in a free lunch

The other day at the playground, I happened to hear a child describe her lunch that day as a “pizza in the shape of a rectangle.”

I caught her parent’s eyes and shared a smile. I remembered that pizza from my childhood!

School cafeterias are open again. After classes went exclusively virtual last spring, federal funds provided counties like Chatham the ability to offer meals on a “grab-and-go” basis in takeout containers. These meals were free to all students. My kids piled into our minivan on several occasions. They loved the hot rolls!

From masks to physical distancing, this school year continues to be different. But cafeterias still have a vital role. About one in four children in Chatham County suffers from food insecurity. Thankfully, schools help to meet their basic nutrition needs.

Free and reduced-price school meals have been an essential aspect of helping children and families for a long time. The National School Lunch Act was established in 1946 by President Harry Truman.

But rather than applying for the federally assisted meals program this year, school lunches are free to all students thanks to The Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021.

Why should this meal program be “universal” for all students?

Sadly, “lunch shaming” is almost as prevalent in schools as that rectangular pizza. Shame can be served by school administrators who refuse to serve students if they owe money.

But more often, shaming comes from fellow students.

Jennifer Anderson is a registered dietitian and founder of Kids Eat in Color, a blog and online resource that “specializes in feeding children and picky eating.” Anderson is also sensitive to socio-economic differences, such as designing weekly meal plans for those with fixed incomes or limited means.

On the Kids Eat in Color Facebook page, Anderson recently cited an example of an 8-year-old saying, “I don’t think school lunches are very healthy.” It is likely that this idea was served to the child at home.

The point is that Anderson disagrees: “School lunches protect millions of children’s brains and bodies from hunger so that they can learn.” Rather than criticizing school lunches, parents can become involved with the PTA and work to include more locally sourced fresh food and vegetables on the menu. But there is no excuse for stigmatizing this essential service. Missing meals can have a negative snowball effect on a child’s health. As Anderson emphasizes, “You have no idea how one comment from an unhungry child to a child at risk of hunger can cause long-term damage.”

But the universal free meal program has come under fire from certain conservative groups. In an editorial in May, the Heritage Foundation declared free meals for all students was “notoriously wasteful.” Yet, the authors failed to cite even a single statistic to support their claim. They have neither facts nor common sense on their side. Even if all meals were free, it stretches the bounds of credulity to assert that all students would participate.

But if the meals were universal, it could very well remove the stigma from those students who truly need the nutrition.

As Diane Pratt-Heavner, spokesperson for the School Nutrition Association, said, “When the meals are all free, there’s no shame in taking one.” Sounds very good to me.

Andrew Taylor-Troutman is the pastor of Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church. His newly-published book is a collection of his columns for the Chatham News + Record titled “Hope Matters: Churchless Sermons.”



This summer’s days went by in a daze

The calendar says Labor Day has come and gone and with it went what many folks refer to as the last weekend of summer.

That, of course, doesn’t mean we’re through with hot summer weather. A quick check of the seven-day forecast, which I have learned to do on computer since I can’t seem to actually catch it on the tube (who says old dogs can’t learn new tricks?), tells us to look for some high 80s and low 90-plus days before we pull out the old snow sled.

I’m not sure how I feel about global warming, but I do know I’m not convinced that exhaust fumes from a herd of cows do more damage to the atmosphere than John Kerry’s jet. It seems to me we’ve had more hot days without rain in the last decade or so than I seem to remember happening when I was a fresh-faced boy of 7 or 8. In those glorious summer days of long ago, I’d be up to bat with the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth in my back yard when a fast-developed thunder boomer would roll by and Mama would holler from the porch to “get in here before you get hit by lightning.”

That kind of adventure seemed to be an almost everyday occurrence then, while today it’s more like a special event. But whatever the weather, the fact remains that summer 2021 is itself now pretty much a memory, and I’m wondering again how come I didn’t get everything done from the vacations to the planned projects.

As far vacations go, I’ve sort of given up on the beach, at least the water part — the getting in it, that is. That wasn’t always the case. In those same fresh-faced boyhood days, I was in it

every time I got the chance, even with the sand in my shorts. Then almost 40 or so years ago I had a vision (figuratively) of why I probably shouldn’t spend too much time in the ocean.

I had bummed a ride to the Outer Banks with some friends for a week of surf fishing, something I’d only heard about but which they did with regularity. Of course, they had no equipment. But they said not to worry, that I could borrow their stuff, ranging from rod and reel to waders so I could “walk out where the big ones are.”

I just hadn’t thought through exactly who the “big ones” might be.

One night around midnight, when the moon made the world was as bright as a Friday night football field, I donned the borrowed waders and struck out to where the rest of the folks were standing in chest-deep water and having what seemed to be the time of their lives fishing for Red Drum.

We said a few words to one another and then turned to the task at hand. I gave my tackle a pretty good toss and flung the bait and weight out front of where I stood and settled in for a record-breaking catch.

At some point, I began developing a case of cold feet. And not because of the water temperature.

It had been years since I’d seen the movie “Jaws” and I hadn’t thought about it in forever. But after finding myself standing about 50 to 60 yards offshore at around one o’clock in the morning, the thought came to me that there is stuff that swims around in four to five feet of water that could eat me if it wanted to. And then I figured out that if by chance I made the wrong move, I could find myself stepping into a ditch on the ocean floor which would then put the top of my waders below the surface of the water and ... well, you know.

The next good idea that came to my mind was that I should move toward the shore as quickly and intelligently

and calmly — and carefully — as possible. My prayer life improved dramatically at that point as I beat my retreat toward firmer ground; I promised the Lord that if I could make it back to shore I’d never do that again or bother Him about helping me with that particular need.

I have kept that promise.

And since that night I have expanded it to include water as deep as seven or eight inches.

So as summer comes to a flying halt, I’m also wondering how come I still haven’t finished cleaning out my study or the storage building out back or laying in next winter’s supply of wood so Shirley won’t have to walk too far to the heater, and so on and so forth. I have studied on that somewhat, however, and I believe it may come down to the reality that if I were actually to complete those projects, I couldn’t fuss at myself for not getting them done.

Life is like that, I suppose. Sometimes things that seem like good ideas really aren’t. Other times some things egg us on and still others remind us that, at least for awhile, we hope, there’s always tomorrow to try again.

At this stage of life, I’m thinking ahead and wondering how summer 2022 will turn out.

I am, however, pretty sure it won’t be about getting into the water at the beach, especially since word is out about a certain 12-foot-long alligator at Oak Island. It’s his world; I don’t need to wade through it.

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.

VIEWPOINTS

Make licensing reform a priority

According to the most-recent ranking I can find, North Carolina requires state-approved licenses in more occupations (nearly 200) than most other states do. North Carolina licenses twice as many occupations as Virginia does, and three times as many as South Carolina.

You cannot be an auctioneer in our state unless you spend dozens of hours and hundreds of dollars to obtain a state permission slip. For some occupations, such as barbers and cosmetologists, the number of hours required runs into the thousands.

“What’s the big deal?” you may ask. Perhaps you think the promised health and safety benefits to consumers are worth the expense. Perhaps you think state policymakers have carefully weighed those benefits and costs.

Alas, you are mistaken. In most cases, occupational licensing comes about because current providers lobby for it. They seek to exclude competitors, so they can charge their customers more, or they seek to deliver the government-required training themselves, so they can collect the revenue.

Economists have produced reams of studies showing the inadvisability of licensing so many occupations. In most cases the policy just jacks up the price of services without conferring any measurable health or safety benefit. Sometimes licensure can actually make the public less safe, by driving some consumers to try to do things themselves, such as home repairs, in order to escape high prices or long waits.

Consider a recent study published in ILR Review. It examined social workers in nursing homes. Because of a quirk in federal law, larger homes must hire licensed social workers while smaller homes have more flexibility. Not surprisingly, the researchers found that the regulation

“works” in the sense that larger nursing homes higher 10% more licensed social workers. But they found “no evidence that the increase in licensure improves patient care quality, patient quality of life, or quality of social services provided.”

In another paper, researchers from Harvard, Stanford, and Boston University used an online platform for home repairs to assess how much consumers value the licensure of contractors. “Our results show that more stringent licensing regulations are associated with less competition and higher prices,” they wrote, “but not with any improvement in customer satisfaction as measured by review ratings or the propensity to use the platform again.”

The adverse consequences of over-regulation are particularly painful during tough economic times. A study in the Journal of Applied Business and Economics examined the relationship between state licensure and joblessness during the Great Recession of 2007-09. It found “higher increases in

unemployment during and after the recession in counties that were in states imposing high licensing burdens.”

My John Locke Foundation colleague Jon Sanders has offered many potential reforms of North Carolina’s occupational-licensing laws. For example, policymakers could turn some licensing requirements into state-sponsored but voluntary certification. If consumers truly see such a certification as a signal of safety or good service, they will tend to buy from certified providers, giving others a financial incentive to obtain the formal training necessary to get certified. No coercion required.

Another alternative to licensure is interstate reciprocity. If workers are licensed in another state and then move to North Carolina, why make them jump through all the hoops again? It’s highly unlikely that doing so will significantly improve the quality of services delivered to consumers.

That’s the key point on occupational licensing, by the way.

Of course would-be providers can be incompetent, irresponsible, or dishonest. Of course government has a legitimate role in policing, deterring, and remedying fraud, which is a violation of the good-faith principles of contract and mutual advantage that sustain a free society. But it does not follow that forcing individuals to obtain government licenses to sell their services is either an effective or necessary way to address the problem. And licensing systems are frequently and flagrantly misused to exclude competitors and gouge consumers.

North Carolina has made significant gains in economic freedom over the past decade. To continue that progress, we must make occupational-licensing reform a higher priority.

John Hood is a John Locke Foundation board member and author of the new novel “Mountain Folk,” a historical fantasy set during the American Revolution (MountainFolk-Book.com).



JOHN HOOD
John Locke Foundation



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

An author asks: why did Amylu commit suicide?

Why? Why? Why?

This question haunts anyone who has lost a family member or friend to suicide. We deal with the question of what could we have done and wonder why it had to happen.

North Carolina’s famed photographer John Rosenthal faced these questions in 1965 when his friend, a former girlfriend, Amylu Danzer, took her life. He deals with them again in a new book, “Searching for Amylu Danzer.”

Rosenthal grew up in New York City and its suburbs but made his way to Wake Forest College. After graduation in 1964 he entered Columbia University for graduate work in English.

On February 25, 1965, his mother called him to let him know that Amylu Danzer was missing. The day before, Amylu and her mother had gone to nearby Jones Beach together. After an argument, Amy had walked away along the beach with a sketchbook. Her mother said Amylu had then disappeared.

Amylu’s mother thought she might have made her way to New York City hoping to visit John, her longtime friend.

John immediately began looking for her. He walked up and down the streets of the West Side of New York near Columbia. With a photographer’s eye John describes the sights and scenes as he walked along the city streets hoping to see Amylu.

“Up and down the avenue pigeons, like plump, nervous dowagers, warbled and fluttered on the cement balustrades of stout whole buildings.

“I stopped and looked through the frosted glass of Zajac’s fish market at a row of silvery redfish stacked on a bed of ice. A thick red hand clutched a fish and tossed it on a scale suspended above the white counter. The scale swung lightly, tilting to the left. The fish head protruded, its mouth open, aghast.”

The city was already losing its face as the old immigrant-run meat shops, eating places, laundries and other city scenes that had been the subjects of Rosenthal’s photographs were disappearing

Not finding Amy, he headed back to Columbia. He writes, “There would be no heroics today, no comfort gallantly bestowed, no phone call to Long Island assuring everyone she’d been found and would be home in a day or two.”

On April 14, The New York Times reported that Amylu’s body had washed ashore in Queens and been identified.

“I decided,” writes Rosenthal, “that Amylu’s suicide had wounded me and I would never recover. I would never be carefree again.”

Throughout the rest of his life, so far, and the rest of the book, Rosenthal wrestles with the puzzles Amylu’s death created for him.

He remembers how, on a trip to the beach with Amylu before her death, he rejected her offering of a piece of driftwood she found on the shore. “It’s so beautiful,” she had said. “It’s a work of art.”

Rosenthal was annoyed. “It’s not a work of art, Amy. It’s a piece of wood. It has nothing to do with art. It’s debris.”

Looking back now, more than 50 years later, Rosenthal wonders “if that moment on the beach was a turning point,” one step on the way to her suicide.

Throughout the rest of his life, he reconnects with Amylu’s parents, her brother, and co-workers at a magazine on the design school’s campus.

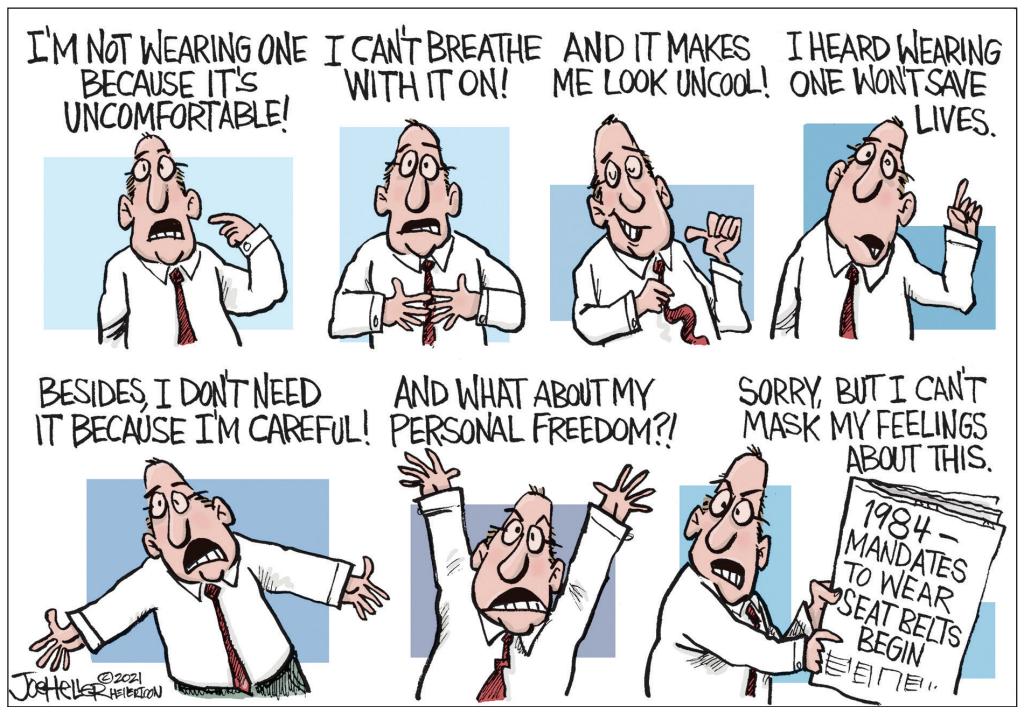
In his darkroom processing his artistic photographs Amylu comes back to him and raises questions about what else he might have done.

The loss of such a friend can be so burdening that the fact sometimes has to be denied or avoided.

Rosenthal sums it up this way.

“The unexpected suicide of a close friend is humiliating: it ruins the present and muddles the past; it refutes everything—the here-and-now, common memories, candor, shared music, remembered laughter. It’s so large a fact that it can’t be taken all at once. Not by half. So one resorts to magical thinking, to an alternative reality. My friend killed herself but not really.”

Why? Why? Why?



Is Round Two of the COVID Recession on the Way?

Just when we thought things were getting better, could they go the other way and get worse?

For most of the year we were optimistic about the economy. Growth was surging, jobs were being added and optimism was lifting. A big reason was the retreat of COVID-19.

But in recent weeks COVID-19 has made a comeback. The Delta variant of COVID-19 is raging across the country with record infection rates.

To give some perspective to the concerns, here’s a summary of where we’ve been with COVID-19 and the economy. Once COVID-19 spread rapidly in early 2020, business shutdowns and stay-at-home orders became common around the country. With normal economic interactions interrupted, the economy tanked in the spring and a deep recession took hold. The national unemployment rate soared to almost 15 percent.

But success in “flattening the curves” of both cases and deaths allowed restrictions to be eased. As a result, the economy grew in the third quarter of 2020 by almost as much as it dropped in the second quarter. Indeed, using the definition that recessions end once the economy resumes expanding, the COVID-19 recession no longer existed in the third quarter.

Growth continued, but at a much slower pace, in the winter as the virus re-surfed. But with vaccinations beginning in early 2021, the virus was significantly curtailed. In fact, by the summer of 2021, aggregate economic production was back to pre-pandemic levels, and aggregate employment had recovered all but four percent of its losses.

Then the COVID-19 Delta variant began spreading in July, and it continues today. Cases have been rising all over North Carolina, and in some areas hospital beds have become scarce.

This situation sounds eerily similar to where we were in early 2020. Will we need to react in the same way and have business lockdowns and stay-at-home orders? And if so, will another serious pandemic recession be the result?

In addressing these questions, we do have the benefit of seeing what’s transpired in other countries that contracted the delta variant before we did. Both the United Kingdom and India had the Delta variant weeks before it came to us. Just as we have experienced, both countries had a rapid run-up in new cases. But — encouragingly — both countries also have had a rapid reduction in new cases after a peak was reached. In India, the new case peak came in early May, and now new cases are back to pre-peak levels. In the U.K., the top in new cases came in July, and although new cases have been declining, they

have still not returned to pre-Delta variant levels.

Medical experts are still trying to determine what has caused the rise and fall of the Delta variant. But the fact the variant did subside in India and the U.K. is encouraging for us.

The immediate future of the economy will depend on two factors — how the Delta variant progresses, and how we react to it. If the Delta variant new cases peak and then subside — for whatever reasons — within the next four to six weeks, then the economy should continue to expand and improve. Growth may be slightly slower than it has been, but no “negative growth” — meaning a recession — will occur.

Conversely, if new cases climb with no obvious end in sight, then a more uncertain outlook is ahead. More communities would institute restrictions, like mask mandates. In-person gatherings would be postponed, and outdoor events could be canceled or controlled.

Furthermore, even without the imposition of public regulations, individuals on their own would curtail activities, like shopping, eating-out and vacationing. Studies of individual behavior during the pandemic have confirmed these reactions.

The result would be a more significant slowdown in the economy. Still, I don’t believe these reactions would be enough to put us back into a recession. Households, businesses and institutions such as education and healthcare learned to cope with the pandemic last year. Households worked remotely, businesses stayed afloat using cyber-buying and delivery, and education and healthcare accessed students and patients via the internet.

The coping mechanisms weren’t perfect and not without costs, but they did soften the economic blow of the pandemic. If the Delta variant puts us into a similar situation, I think the lessons we learned last year will improve our coping techniques and reduce the costs.

Many hoped and maybe expected COVID-19 to be banished this year. Others pointed to the pandemic of a century ago — the Spanish flu of 1918-1919, which killed more Americans than COVID-19 — as reason to be more cautious. That pandemic had several waves, something we’ve now unfortunately experienced with COVID-19.

We’re going through another challenging time with the pandemic. Like everyone, I want COVID-19 to be gone. The virus and the economy are still intertwined. While economic conditions have adapted to the virus, we won’t be able to freely engage in economic interactions until we are free of the virus. Like you, I hope we can someday absolutely decide when that is.

Walden is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor Emeritus at North Carolina State University.

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.

MEMORIAL

Continued from page A1

Organizers from the CRC-C say that remembering Daniel, a Black man who was lynched not long after being kidnapped from the Pittsboro jail a century ago, is an appropriate step.

“Well, George Floyd was lynched before the world on camera,” said Mary Harris, a semi-retired Chatham County Schools teacher and administrator and member of the West Chatham NAACP in Siler City. “Breonna Taylor was killed in 2020 by police in a gun battle that gave the victims no chance to be treated justly. The six lynchings in Chatham County from 1884 to 1921 also denied their victims any justice, and no one was ever indicted, tried, convicted or imprisoned for these murders. It is important to acknowledge that it did happen; we cannot pretend or ignore our past or deny history.”

Acts of terrorism under the color of authority continue in the U.S., Harris said; knowing the history of lynchings and the consequences of those acts is key to knowing the truth of today and applying the remedies of equal justice.

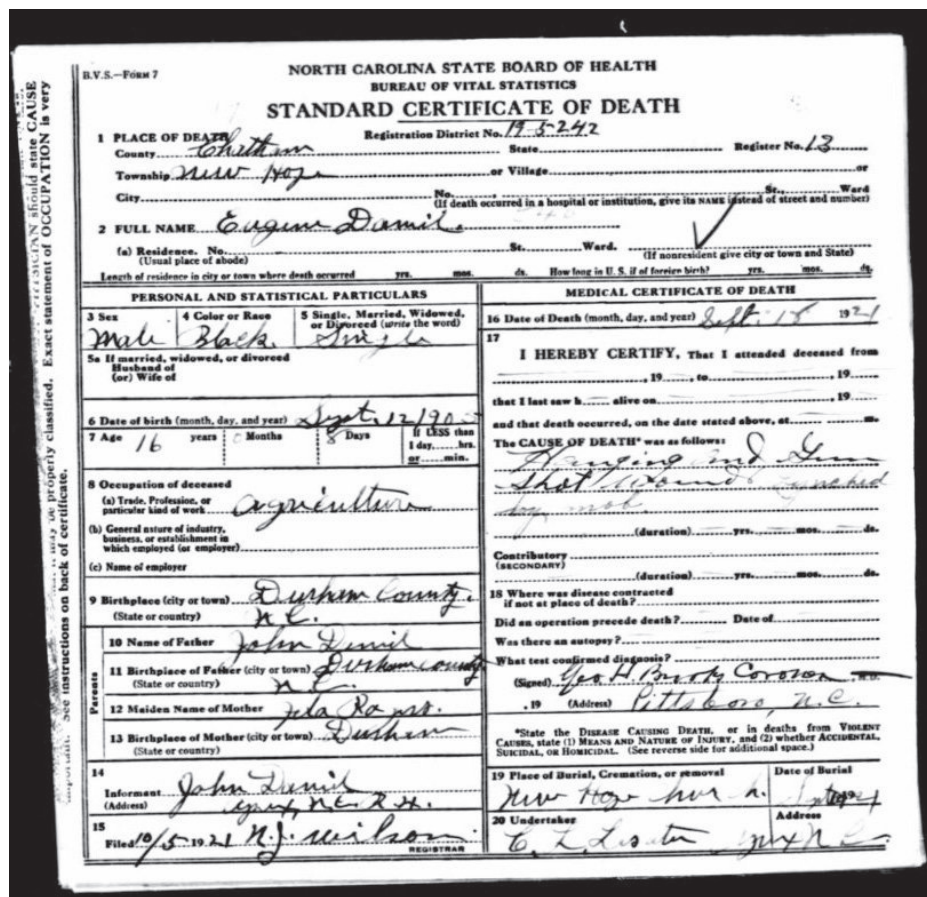
Those elements, and the notion of reconciliation, are a part of the aim of the CRC-C. The group was formed about two years ago to “improve race relations, enhance comity, empathy and understanding across and within Chatham County’s races, faiths and communities,” according to its mission statement. The work of CRC-C encompasses a full accounting of the history of the county, as well as conversations with county leaders “dedicated to furthering community harmony.”

Another goal is to memorialize the lives of the county’s six lynching victims; Daniel, the last of those to die, will be the first to be formally remembered.

The actual site of Daniel’s execution is under water, near the site of the old Moore’s Bridge, east of Pittsboro, where Jordan Lake is now. Organizers collected soil from a nearby site in a recent private ceremony; that soil will be brought to New Hope Baptist Church on Sept. 18 as a part of a morning event that CRC-C President Mary Nettles said would include “singing, prayer and a release of the spirit.”

Some of the soil will be presented to surviving Daniel family members and the rest will be taken to the Equal Justice Initiative’s National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, as a part of EJI’s Community Soil Collection Project. EJI has identified more than 4,400 lynchings of Black people in the U.S. between 1877 and 1950, and staff and community volunteers have worked to gather soil at lynching sites for display in exhibits bearing victims’ names.

The Community Remembrance Coalition is also continuing to work



The death certificate of Eugene Daniel, which lists his cause of death as ‘Hanging and Gun Shot wound - Lynched by mob.’

on memorializing Daniel and the county’s other five lynching victims in some fashion. In Montgomery, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice uses sculpture to contextualize racial terror on a six-acre site; there, a memorial square with 800 six-foot corten steel monuments symbolizes the 800 counties in the U.S. where lynchings occurred, with names of the victims engraved on the columns.

CRC-C co-coordinator Bob Pearson — who first suggested memorializing the lynching victims more than three years ago — said the EJI memorial is designed in part to inspire communities across the nation to confront the truth of racial injustice and their own local histories.

“These events happened here, within a few miles of our homes and towns,” said Pearson, a career diplomat who retired in Chatham County with his wife Maggie in Fearington Village. “Until recently, almost no one in Chatham even knew of these lynchings. They had been wiped from the histories of the county.”

A 200th anniversary book created in 1971 for Chatham County doesn’t mention the lynchings or the victims, Pearson said. There’s no reference to them in local museums.

“This history was not just forgotten, it was submerged and erased,” he said. “It was erased because it was so shameful, erased because these murders deserved official condemnation and received none ... erased because the murderers, many known in the community, walked free for the rest of their lives.”

Those events are a part of Chatham’s history, and a part, former Chatham County Commissioner Dr. Carl Thompson Jr. says, of what formed the life and economy of the county for a century.

“And knowing them will help us understand better the reality of today in Chatham,” said Thompson, the senior pastor of the Word of Life Christian Outreach Center in Siler City and a CRC-C member. “Memo-

rializing the victims with a historical marker will help us see more clearly what is required to go forward and remind us that such things must never be repeated. The marker will be a teachable moment for everyone who sees it.”

In addition, group member Ernest T. Parker said, the group wants to celebrate the many achievements of the Black community, “despite the challenges faced over the years.”

“We want the larger county community to know and appreciate how our fellow Black citizens have contributed to the county’s long history,” said Parker, a recently-retired U.S. Army colonel who moved back home to Chatham County after a 30-year military career. “We want them to know the stories of the families and understand the individual lives of people, largely unknown except within the Black community, who have enriched and elevated the county through the years.”

Moving toward reconciliation

The official invitation for the Sept. 18 events prominently includes the words, “Truth. Justice. Reconciliation.”

“Truth means acknowledgment of all our history, especially the difficult parts, so that we understand the need for change,” Pearson said. “Justice means putting into actual practice in our legal, economic,

educational, and health systems those needed changes. Reconciliation means that as a result of these first two efforts, every one of every color in our community is moving toward the future with a common determination and view.”

Since forming, the CRC-C has been organizing virtual book discussions, presentations of choirs from the Chatham community and more. The group — which includes members from both of the county’s NAACP chapters and other interested citizens, and has about an equal number of whites and persons of color — is also planning a walking tour of Pittsboro and to create a mural celebrating Chatham’s Black history.

Thompson, one of the co-chairpersons of the Chatham 250 committee, said during early deliberations the group came to an awareness that past county celebrations didn’t include recognition of the history or the achievements of people of color in a significant way.

“To the credit and integrity of my colleagues, we all made a commitment to place a major emphasis on the inclusion of the history, cultural significance, and contributions of people of color in Chatham County,” Thompson said.

The Sept. 18 events will cap off those efforts.

“I believe that history, as presented factually, and not as a tool to manipulate the masses, induces a freedom of understanding of each other that can tear down walls of prejudice and

IF YOU’RE GOING

Remembering the 1921 Lynching of Eugene Daniel

When: 9 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 18
Where: New Hope Baptist Church, 581 New Hope Church Road, Apex
On the 100th anniversary of his lynching, Eugene Daniel will be remembered. The soil collection ceremony begins at 9 a.m.; a libation and remembrance ceremony begins at 9:55 a.m., where the story of Eugene Daniel will be shared and surviving Daniel family members will be recognized. (RSVP required if you plan to attend, proper face coverings also required)

Chatham Black History Celebration

When: 2-5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18
Where: Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center, and via Zoom
Speakers will include Chatham County Commissioners Karen Howard and Diana Hales, N.C. Rep. Robert Reives II, N.C. Sen. Valerie Foushee, Congressman David Price, Dr. Charles Johnson and historian Antonio Austin; the final program for the event is still being developed. (RSVP required if you plan to attend, proper face coverings also required)
To attend: RSVP at <https://www.crc-c.org>

For more history

The six lynching victims in the years between 1885 and 1921 in Chatham County were Harriet Finch, Jerry Finch, Lee Tyson, John Pattishall, Henry Jones and Eugene Daniel. For more information from the University of North Carolina about the history of lynching in the state, go to <http://lynching.web.unc.edu/>

hate,” Thompson said. “Our hope is that the more we all embrace the truth, this historical presentation, and future endeavors of this kind, will help to initiate the reconciliation and respect that mankind needs to live in peace and harmony in this world.”

Parker, who had been a toddler in Chatham, with generations of his family having lived here — his parents are graduates of the former Horton High School in Pittsboro — was unaware of the lynchings until getting involved in the CRC-C.

“Like many others in our community, I was familiar with a sanitized version of history,” he said. “One that minimized the contributions of people of color and did not speak truths that many people did not want to hear.”

Moving forward together in Chatham County means having an understanding together, Parker said.

“By reexamining our nation’s past, we can build empathy and understanding that will help improve relations across all communities,” he said. “The truth is that the lynchings in Chatham County, and throughout the South and nationwide, were a weapon of intimidation to subjugate Black Americans. The lynchings in Chatham County,

and throughout the South and nationwide, were a weapon of mass destruction to suppress Black Americans forever.

“It was not possible to have the full protection of the law, the right to vote, to earn enough to build wealth, or to enjoy the same economic benefits available to whites,” he said. “It’s no accident that Black wealth today is about 1/10th that of whites. So we want acknowledgment by everyone of the terrible damage done in order to build the commitment by everyone to make the changes equal justice requires. That would have all of us, of whatever color, moving forward together. That is reconciliation, and that is our goal.”

The CRC-C isn’t set on changing history, Parker said, but rather to shine a light on our collective “hidden history” in order to understand it and learn from it.

“It takes courage, and it’s not easy, but think about what you will feel when you share a powerful truth with someone, and they get it,” he said. “They accept it. Their light bulb goes on. That’s why it is so important to stay rooted in facts and share what you know with others. That is what the events planned for Sept. 18 will help to accomplish.”



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‘A MASS OF MURDERERS’

Filmmaker’s new documentary about Eugene Daniel’s death born out of tragedy, a dream and a desire to share the truth

BY MARK BARROSO
Special to the News + Record

What does a community do when some of its most prominent citizens commit an act of evil or covered one up? That question got under my skin as I investigated the lynching in 1921 of a 16-year old Chatham boy named Eugene Daniel.

You can see it on YouTube by searching “A Mass of Murderers” and my name, or through this link: https://youtu.be/2D_T6rv7nHI

But you probably won’t. Most people want to forget about stuff like that, just like in 1921.

What’s the point? What can be done about it, now? Why are you stirring up trouble?

Because I have a playground sense of justice, as Guy Clark would say. Eugene deserves that people be held accountable, even if it takes 100 years.

Because maybe you should know that things around here haven’t been all “Mayberry,” like you thought it was, at least not for Black folk, so you should stop wishing for it to come back.

Because Eugene visited me in a dream and asked me to tell his story.

I was inspired to look into Eugene’s murder when the confederate-loving White people around here complained that we were erasing their history by taking down their statue at the courthouse. I wanted to do my part to preserve their history.

OK, that’s a little harsh, but I felt like Jack Nicholson screaming at Tom Cruise in the film “A Few Good Men.”

“You can’t handle the truth!,” I wanted to shout.

It seems that’s what my parents and teachers thought when I was a kid. We were fed a steady diet of sepia-toned myths and tales of Southern honor in our coastal Virginia town that made us believe the blood of noble people flowed through our veins. I was special.

Turns out I *could* handle the truth, not only because it’s more interesting, but also because it’s more relevant to navigating my own life. I’m a wiser, more compassionate person for learning history through the lenses of multiple angles, and finding out that our legends wrestled with hypocrisy — just like me.

It takes work to not be a racist jerk, given my childhood, but playground fairness demands that I do it. Same rules for everyone, no exceptions. It shouldn’t matter where you come from, or who’s your daddy, or your shade of skin when it comes to justice, buying seed for your farm or getting a job in town.

For the record, my people are not without sin. My ancestors enslaved at least two people before the Civil War, and probably did unspeakable things during the Jim Crow era.

See that? I said unspeakable. Why is it impolite to speak about these things?

It’s easy for me to say that the good people of Chatham in 1921 should have reported or shamed the prominent people who participated in the lynching, but would I have risked my livelihood and my family’s safety to call them out? If law enforcement wouldn’t investigate, who would I complain to?

That’s always the conundrum, isn’t it? Speaking up or getting along — it



Mark Barroso, in a screen grab from his new short documentary film about the lynching of Eugene Daniel in 1921.

was a harder choice in 1921. Telling the story of Eugene Daniel, or advocating for removal of a confederate statue, was an easy call for me because there was no risk. I’m White and self-employed. If I were Black, living in 1921 Chatham, I probably would have made a different choice. (Or even White, for that matter.)

That’s something to think about when you say, “No one’s complaining except you.” Ask yourself WHY a person might not complain before dismissing their concern outright.

But back to the video: the other reason you probably won’t watch is that life is hard as it is, and you just need funny cat videos, your child’s artwork, or a good Disney movie just to get to the next day.

I’m not critical of you. This stuff isn’t

for everyone. But when you’re ready, I hope you’ll watch.

Before moving to Chatham County 20 years ago, Mark Barroso was an award-winning, investigative television journalist in Tampa, Florida. He went on to produce numerous stories for NBC, ABC, CBS and Dan Rather Reports as a freelancer. Barroso also been active in local politics, advocating for planned growth and concessions from developers. He has also volunteered for CORA, Communities In Schools, Chatham For All, and the Haw River Assembly. Barroso is a founding board member for the Chelsea Theater in Chapel Hill and serves on the Chatham County Board of Elections.

SCORES

Continued from page A1

worse in some of the areas,” she said. “But we also know that the conditions by which they were instructed were extremely different. That to me is the limitation — is that it’s really comparing two different things that are not equal.”

Last year, for example, the majority of CCS students remained in some form of online learning through April. Though elementary students returned to hybrid in-person learning in October, they continued with three days of remote learning through April. Middle schoolers returned to hybrid in-person learning in November; high school-

ers did in February.

The U.S. Dept. of Education and the N.C. General Assembly granted the state waivers from school accountability for last year — meaning the state didn’t give school performance grades — partially in recognition of the unique challenges brought by COVID-19.

Normally, the state uses proficiency scores from those tests to assign a performance grade to each individual school on an A-through-F scale. The scale also factors in student growth, but that makes up only 20% of the accountability score, whereas the proficiency score makes up 80% of that grade. Gov. Roy Cooper signed into law last week legislation that temporarily waives

the school performance grade requirement.

Though students didn’t receive the same waiver for taking their end-of-year and end-of-course tests, fewer students than normal took their tests than in years past — which they were required to take in-person, even as some schools didn’t yet meet in-person. In N.C., 7% of elementary and middle schoolers and 8% of high school students opted out of the exams. In Chatham, the same percentage of K-8 students opted out of taking exams, but fewer than 5% of high schoolers did.

Last year’s scores also varied from prior years in part because some high schoolers took their exams months after completing courses in the fall semester due to COVID-19 safety concerns regarding in-person testing.

“The data reported for the 2020–21 school year is presented for educators and parents to identify where additional support is needed as students begin the 2021–22 school year,” the state Dept. of Public Instruction’s testing website says. “Com-

paring the 2020–21 data with any previous year’s data prior to COVID is cautioned.”

Public school students in North Carolina take end-of-grade tests in reading and math every year from 3rd through 8th grade. High school students take four End-of-Course tests: English 2, Biology, Math 1 and Math 3. During the 2019-20 school year, districts didn’t conduct end-of-year exams due to COVID-19, when all N.C. schools couldn’t offer any form of in-person instruction.

Chatham’s grade-level proficiency and college- and career-readiness scores for reading topped the state average for all grades, and exceeded the state proficiency rate for math in every grade except 8th grade. In addition, the district’s high school score outperformed the state average in English II and Math I.

Still, CCS saw declines in nearly all categories compared to 2018-19 results. The district identified the following areas as ones to focus on in a press release it sent regarding test results last week: 8th-grade science, high

school biology and Math 3 and proficiency levels for academically and intellectually gifted students (who scored the highest in the district in many areas, but fell behind the state in some areas).

Not all areas saw declines, though. Prior to the pandemic, for instance, the grade-level proficiency for English was 62.7%. This year, it was 63.4%.

“The results speak to how we pulled together resources to support our students during an incredibly challenging school year,” said Chatham County Schools Superintendent Anthony Jackson in that release. “The data reflect the dedication of our staff and the perseverance of our students. Having our students excel during the pandemic would not have been possible without the dedication of our district and school-based staff, and the support of multiple community partners who helped learning continue, whether it was remote or in-person.”

Moran said that while the district plans to use state test scores to further address learn-

ing gaps, data collected by individual teachers throughout the year prove more useful for offering tailored instruction to each student.

Additionally, standardized tests aren’t a perfect measurement of learning. Some students, for example, struggle with test-taking, or had personal extenuating circumstances the day they took exams. While test scores offer a valuable measurement of student progress, Moran warned against using any kind of test data to make direct conclusions about what students are learning — pandemic or not.

“Sometimes, this one test might not be a full indicator of what the student is able to do,” she said, “and that’s why we feel so strongly that the assessment we do in the classroom throughout the entire school year that is formative and skill-based and is so critical and important to have in tandem with this type of testing, because then we get the multiple types of data over time for students.”

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.



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OBITUARIES

MARY CATHERINE FOWLER JONES

Mary Catherine Fowler Jones, age 82 of Bynum, died Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at Sanford Health & Rehabilitation.

Mary was born in Chatham County on June 3, 1939, to the late James O.D. Fowler and Callie Howard Fowler. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Claiborne Jones.

Surviving relatives include her son, Danny Jones and wife Patricia of Pittsboro; daughter, Laverne Jones Smith and husband Cal Smith of Graham; one sister, Jean Fowler of Chapel Hill; two grandchildren, Leslie Williams, Emily Norman, and two great-grandchildren, Tanner Williams, and Charlotte Williams.

A graveside service was held Friday, September 3, 2021, at 10 a.m. at Bynum United Methodist Church cemetery with Jim Williams and Rev. Evan Smith presiding.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for memorial contributions to be made in Mary's memory to Bynum United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, P.O. Box 6, Bynum, N.C. 27228.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

PAUL LEONARD TICE

Paul Leonard Tice, 85, of Siler City passed away on Sunday, September 5, 2021 at UNC Hospitals, Chapel Hill.

Mr. Tice was born in Unionville, Pennsylvania, on December 10, 1935, the son of Boyd and Louise Paul Tice. Paul was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving from 1955 to 1961. He spent his working years as a truck driver. Paul loved hunting and working in his garden. Paul was a loving father and grandfather, who adored his family. In addition to his parents, Paul is preceded in death by his wife, Laura Mae Hamilton Tice.

He is survived by his daughters, Robin Holderman and Brenda Davidson, both of Pennsylvania; sons, Donald Holderman and Robert Tice, both of Pennsylvania, and James Tice of Bear Creek; many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Tice family.

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

ROSE ROGERS DANIELS



Rose Rogers Daniels, 59, of Graham, N.C., passed away on Saturday, September 4, 2021, at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

A native of Alamance County, N.C., she was the daughter of the late Carson Murphy Rogers Sr. and Virginia Shue George. Rose was devoted to the Lord and loved her family with all of her heart. She had a special love for poodles and spending time with her sisters; whether they were taking trips to the lake, the beach or

just going shopping, they were always together. Rose retired from University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill with 25 years of service to others. Rose enjoyed scrapbooking and taking pictures, but nothing made her smile like her nieces and nephews. She was a lifelong member of Concord United Methodist Church.

Survivors include her loving husband, Charles "Chuck" Daniels; her sisters, Carolyn Poe and husband Larry, Rita Williams and husband Eugene and Kathy Younger; her many loving nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and all of her other loving family.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Carson M. "Doc" Rogers Jr. and a brother-in-law, Randy Younger.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday September 11, 2021, at Concord United Methodist Church with the Pastor Keith Porter officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Mrs. Daniels will be open to the public for viewing on Friday, September 10, 2021 from 11 a.m. until 8 p.m. at the McClure Funeral Home in Graham. Visit with family at the family residence at other times.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Alamance County at 2213 Edgewood Ave., Burlington, N.C. 27215.

Online condolences may be made at www.mcclurefuneral-service.net.

LARRY DONALD THURMAN

Larry Donald Thurman, 76, of Staley passed away on Monday, September 6, 2021, surrounded by his loved ones at his home in Staley.

Mr. Thurman was born in Chatham County on January 3, 1945, the son of Horace Ancel and Mary Ola Davis Thurman. Larry was of the Baptist faith. He spent his working years operating heavy equipment for the N.C. Dept. of Transportation, and after retirement was employed at the Carolina Stockyard. Larry was a loving family man and enjoyed spoiling all his grandchildren. You would find Larry working on trucks in his free time. He was an amazing mechanic that could fix anything. In addition to his parents, Larry is preceded in death by his brother, Martin Lavoy Thurman.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Diane Bray Thurman; sons, Todd Thurman and wife Sonya and their children, Tara Thurman, and Justice Thurman and wife Katherine, Rodney Thurman and wife Tracy and their children, Noah, Mackenna, Elijah, Grayson and Eva Thurman; daughter, Amanda Thurman Brady and husband Chad, and their children, Courtney, Taylor, and Alex Brady; sisters, Dorothy Purvis and husband Joe of Bennett, and Linda Phillips and husband Robert of Siler City; brothers, Earl Thurman of Sanford, and Jerry Thurman and wife Melinda of Silk Hope; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends Saturday, September 11, 2021, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at Smith & Buckner Funeral Home, 230 North Second Ave., Siler City, N.C. The funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. in the chapel with Rev. Bob Wachs officiating. Burial will be in Chatham Memorial Park, Siler City.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Randolph, 416 Vision Dr., Asheboro, N.C. 27203, www.hospiceofrandolph.org. Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Thurman family.

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

EVELYN MATTHEWS WICKER

Evelyn Matthews Wicker, 84, of Sanford, passed away Saturday, August 28, 2021, at her home.

She was born in Moore County on January 26, 1937, to the late George W. and Thannie Ashburn Matthews. Mrs. Wicker worked as a CNA for a nursing home. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ervin Wicker; one grandson; and several brothers and sisters.

She is survived by a son, Johnny Foster Wicker of Sanford; a daughter, Bonnie Klein of Sanford; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

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

Arrangements by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

WANDA KAY WADE HARRINGTON

Wanda Kay Wade Harrington, 72, passed away on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at Transitions Hospice Care in Raleigh.

A graveside service was held on Monday, September 6, 2021, at 11 a.m. at Shallow Well Church Cemetery with Rev. Robert Thomas officiating.

She was born in Lee County on February 13, 1949, to the late Eirk Edgerton Wade and Lucy Rose Thomas Wade. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Glynn Harrington, and sister, Laverne Wade. Wanda operated an in-home daycare.

Survivors include her daughter, Ashley H. Johnson of Willow Springs; son, Adam W. Harrington of Kansas; four grandchildren; and also a sister, Eddie Wade.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Transitions Life Care, 250 Hospice Circle, Raleigh, N.C. 27607, and/or CARA, 1800 Wicker Street, Sanford, N.C. 27330.

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

GLENN POWERS CRAWFORD JR.

Glenn Powers Crawford, 56, of Bennett, passed away on Thursday, September 2, 2021, at his home.

The graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, September 6, 2021, at Fall Creek Baptist Church.

He was born in Durham County on March 23, 1965, to Carlton Lee Crawford and Florence Jacquelyn Powers Crawford. He was a member of Fall Creek Baptist Church and worked in construction as a forklift driver. He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his children, Cynthia Dawn Stanley of Asheboro, Glenn Powers Crawford II of Climax, and Amanda Beth Oxendine of Bennett; sister, Janice Crawford of Asheboro; brother, Jerry Crawford of Round Hill, Virginia; and seven grandchildren.

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

JEREMY DA'QUAN MCKENDALL

Jeremy Da'Quan "Quan" McKendall, 27, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, August 29, 2021, at his residence.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 5, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home with burial following in Lee Memory Gardens.

PRESTON LEE MCDOUGALD

Preston Lee McDougald, 83, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at Sanford Manor.

Memorial service was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home.

DONALD RAY BRADY

Donald Ray "Don" Brady, 70, of Bennett, died Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 4, 2021, at Beulah Baptist Church with Dr. Neal Jackson and Dr. Curtis Barber officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Don was born in Chatham County and was a graduate of North Moore High School. He was employed by Ingersol Rand as a machine operator and was a master carpenter. He was a member of Beulah Baptist Church. Don was preceded in death by his son, Matthew Clay Brady, his father, Roland Brady, and brothers, George Brady and Jerry Brady.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Cheryl Jones Brady, of the home; daughters, Donna Rae B. Surmont of Siler City, Lea B. Hurley of Seagrove; his mother, Myrtis Maness Brady of Carthage; sisters, Cindy Phillips of Bear Creek, Wanda Brady of Robbins, Rolanda Phillips of Carthage; brother, Brad Brady of Bennett; and five grandchildren.

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

Memorials may be made to Beulah Baptist Church Building Fund or to Ebenezer Christian Children's Home, 500 Crestmont Dr., Siler City, N.C. 27344.

Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service of Ramseur.

ROSETTA CARVER OLDHAM

Rosetta Carver Oldham, 88, of Goldston passed away Thursday, September 2, 2021.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Sunday, September 5, 2021, at Cornerstone Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Arlen Johnson officiating.

Mrs. Oldham was born in Person County on September 9, 1932, the daughter of Willie Dennis and Eva Ragan Carver. Rosetta was a member of the Cornerstone Baptist Church. She retired after working for Townsend Inc. She is preceded in death by her daughter, Linda Lloyd Comer; and sister, Alease Hayes.

She is survived by her husband, Melvin "Buddy" M. Oldham; two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and sisters, Dora Lee Ambrose and Josephine Ella Banks.

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

RANZO MOSES

Ranzo Moses, 78, of Lillington, passed away on Friday, September 3, 2021, at Carolina Rehab Center in Fayetteville.

No services are planned at this time.

He was born in Catawba County on March 31, 1943, to the late Alexander and Gladys Louise Moses. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Hedwig Moses, and a brother, Kenneth Moses. Ranzo served his county in the U.S. Army and Reserves. He worked many years at Sanford Finishing, St. Charles Furniture, and Don's Auto Sales.

He is survived by his son, Paul Moses of the home and a brother Banks Moses of Hickory, N.C.

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

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

TREVELL DAYQUNE STANFORD

Trevell DayQune, 17, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, August 29, 2021, at his residence.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

COY SPENCER HICKS JR.

Coy Spencer Hicks Jr., 90, formerly of Broadway, died Saturday, September 4, 2021, at Tara Plantation in Carthage.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, September 8, 2021, at the Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Garland Smith officiating. Burial followed in the Salem Presbyterian Church Cemetery. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Coy was born on January 21, 1931, son of the late Coy Spencer Hicks Sr. and Martha Jackson Hicks. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and United States Air Force and served during the Korean War. He retired from Boeing and the United States Postal Service. He was a member of Salem Presbyterian Church where he sang in the choir.

Surviving is his wife of 35 years, Brenda Sloan Hicks of Carthage; his children, Catherine Hicks Duran, Rebecca Hicks Edmondson and Robert Hicks, all of Washington state; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Salem Presbyterian Church Building Fund, c/o Debbye Sloan, Treasurer, 8304 Hillcrest Farm Road, Sanford, N.C. 27330.

Online condolences can be made at www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com.

RICHARD LEE HICKMAN

Richard Lee Hickman, 76, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, September 4, 2021, at First Health Moore Regional.

A visitation will be held Thursday, September 9, 2021, from 11:30 a.m. until the funeral hour in the chapel of Bridges-Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. following the visitation at the funeral home with Pastor Charlie Hickman and Rev. Darrell Wood presiding. Burial will follow at Buffalo Cemetery.

Richard was born in Lee County, on January 9, 1945, to Margie Kellam Hickman and Posie Lee Hickman. He worked as a carpenter and served his country in the U.S. Army. Richard was preceded in death by his father, Posie Lee Hickman; sisters, Geraldine Yates, Evelene Brafford and a brother Charles Andrew Hickman.

Surviving relatives include his mother, Margie Kellam Hickman of Sanford; daughter, Amy White of Sanford; and one grandson.

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

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

SANDERS BARNES

Sanders Barnes, 72, of Sanford passed away on Friday, August 27, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, September 4, 2021, at Chapel Hill AME Zion Church, Broadway.

PAUL PERSON

Paul Person, 78, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, August 28, 2021.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, September 4, 2021, at New Zion Baptist Church with burial following at Lee Memory Garden.

GEORGE CARLE (JIMMY) FARROW

Mr. George Carle (Jimmy) Farrow, 82, of Durham passed away on Tuesday, August 31, 2021, at Croasdaile Village Nursing Facility.

Funeral was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church with burial following in the church cemetery.

See **OBITUARIES**, page A9



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News + Record publishes second Spanish print edition of 'La Voz de Chatham,' now a quarterly publication

CN+R Staff Report

SILER CITY — Four months after publishing Chatham County's first Spanish-language community paper, the News + Record's second Spanish print edition of La Voz de Chatham goes to press this week.

La Voz de Chatham — or “the Voice of Chatham,” in English — is a bilingual reporting project the News + Record began last summer to cover the impact of COVID-19 in the county's Hispanic/Latinx community thanks to initial funding from a Facebook Journalism Project grant. News + Record reporter Victoria Johnson leads the project.

“We're super excited to publish this second print edition and continue a really meaningful project for the county's Spanish-speaking community,” Johnson said. “We can't wait for it to 'hit the streets.’”

The first Spanish print edition of La Voz went to press back in April. According to Publisher and Editor Bill Horner III, the News + Record has decided to make the publication quarterly, with another print edition planned for mid-November.

“The overwhelming reception the first edition got, and the demand for more print content in Spanish, made the decision to go with a quarterly publication cycle very easy,” Horner said. “That first edition was planned as a stand-alone, one-time print edition. Readers of our Spanish-language content and advertisers have both asked us for more from La Voz, so we're happy to oblige. The content Victoria is producing has a large audience.”

Chatham Hospital and Mountaire Farms have taken over sponsorship of the project

after the initial Facebook funding was exhausted, Horner said.

This incarnation of La Voz is a bit different than the previous version, Johnson said. Instead of an 18-page broadsheet newspaper, the second print edition of La Voz is a 40-page tabloid newspaper.

The content, too, encompasses a wider variety of stories — and bylines. Beyond La Voz stories produced within the last four months, the tab includes several translated News + Record stories and a six-page sports section with stories written by CN+R Sports Editor Victor Hensley.



“When the April publication first came out, I remember my sister asking me, ‘Are you the only one who works there?’” Johnson said with a laugh. “This time, we've got a bunch of stories from Victor, our news reporter Hannah McClellan and a few community organizations.” Like last time, the News + Record will directly mail La Voz to more than 2,500 Spanish-speaking households in Chatham County this week. The News + Record is also printing an additional 2,500 copies to distribute among the local community, starting with a few hundred at the Hispanic Liaison's COVID-19 Health Fair on Saturday afternoon.

Other free copies will be distributed among local businesses, organizations and schools in Siler City and Pittsboro. A digital version of the publication will be available from the “La Voz” link on the News + Record's website at www.chathamnewsrecord.com.

For more information contact Johnson at victoria@chathamnr.com.

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

INEZ (REAVES) TYSOR

Inez Reaves Tysor, 103, of Goldston passed away on Friday, August 27, 2021.

She was born on July 8, 1918, to the late Berta Headen Reaves and Fisher Reaves.

A private interment was held at Womack Cemetery on Friday, September 3.

MICHELLE ANNETTE ZAPATA WILSON

Michelle Annette Zapata Wilson, 60, of Broadway, passed away on Saturday, September 4, 2021, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

The family received friends on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at Holly Springs Baptist Church. The funeral service followed in the church at 4 p.m. with Rev. Jerry Parsons officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

She was born in Trenton, Michigan, on March 22, 1961, to the late Miguel Antonio Zapata and June Edwards Zapata. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by sister, Jennie Moreno. Michelle worked as an accountant at Pentair.

She leaves behind her husband, Ronnie Lee Wilson; sons Ricky Graham Jr. of Broadway and Steven Graham of Broadway; stepsons, Christopher Wilson and Ronald Wilson, both of Broadway; brothers, Larry Seeley of Arkansas, Gary Seeley of Broadway and David Zapata of Sanford; sister, Judy Fugate of Sanford; seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Condolences may be made at www.bridgescameronfuneralhome.com.

ALEJANDRO ESQUIVEL ESPINO

Mr. Alejandro Esquivel Espino, 45, of Staley, passed away, Thursday, August 26, 2021, at UNC Hospital, Chapel Hill.

Funeral Mass was held at 6 p.m. Friday, September 3, 2021, at Saint Julia Catholic Church.

YEFRI DUVIER INESTROZA OSORIO

Yefri Duvier Inestroza Osorio, 18, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, September 2, 2021, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 12 to 5 p.m., Thursday, September 9, 2021, at Knotts Funeral Home, with burial following in Lee Memory Garden.

HELEN MARIE (BRANDON) PETTY

Mrs. Helen Marie Petty, 94, of Sanford, passed away on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at Westfield Nursing Home.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

WILLIAM EARL MCLAUGHLIN

William Earl McLaughlin, 58 of Sanford passed away on Monday, August 30, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

EARLENE W. JOYCE

Earlene W. Joyce, 75, of Siler City, passed away on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at her home.

Services entrusted to Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

CAROLYN (CHESNEY) SNIPES

Ms. Carolyn Chesney Snipes, 80, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, September 4, 2021, at her residence.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

NORA LEE HORTON

Nora Lee Horton, 65, of Carrboro, passed away, Saturday, September 4, 2021, at UNC Hospital, Hillsborough.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Chapel Hill.



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Local Product Spotlight



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NEWS BRIEFS

Galloway Ridge Chatham County Charitable Fund now accepting applications

PITTSBORO — Galloway Ridge exists to inspire meaningful and engaged lives and to assure each resident a superior quality of life and care. In support of this mission, the Galloway Ridge Chatham County Charitable Fund was established in 2006 to serve the citizens of Chatham County. The fund is now accepting grant applications from Chatham County

501(c)(3) organizations and from Chatham County Public Schools and other Chatham County non-profits. Thanks to the generosity of the Galloway Ridge residents during the 2020 fund drive, \$100,000 is available to support our larger community. The application can be accessed at www.gallowayridge.com. Completed applications are due by 4 p.m. on Oct. 8. For questions regarding the application, please contact Charell Harper at charper@gallowayridge.com or 919-545-2697.

VFW to host 9/11 remembrance

PITTSBORO — Joe Wagner Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7313 will host a 20th anniversary observance of September 11 — also known as Patriots Day — at the post, located at 219 West St. in Pittsboro. The post will be gathering at 8:30 and at 8:46:40 will have a moment of silence. Following the moment of silence, Post Commander Donald Cochran will address the community to remind them

what the day means to veterans and help a veteran in need. In closing, there will be comments regarding the post's mission to unite and serve the veterans and service members not just in Pittsboro but the greater Chatham County, North Carolina, and the nation. After closing the event, attendees will be invited to join post members for a Commander's Coffee. For more information, contact Cochran at 919-903-6620.

—CN+R staff reports

COVID

Continued from page A1

their chances with COVID end up in the hospital. This includes younger people, and the average age of those hospitalized from COVID is much younger than it was before Delta and vaccinations. Getting the vaccine is not taking a chance; it is very safe and hundreds of millions of doses have been given in the US.

Knowing we have an effective vaccine and seeing younger, unvaccinated people end up in the hospital is very difficult. We have faced a lot of hard moments over the past year and a half. I don't think any has been as hard as what we are going through now.

We all have COVID fatigue ... but how much of a factor is the unvaccinated just tired of people (experts, the vaccinated, and all the other related messaging) pressuring them to get vaccinated? Is the over-messaging causing the unvaxxed to dig in their heels?

There is a lot of information (and misinformation) out there, and I know it can be overwhelming at times for all of us. But the core mes-

sage is simple: Vaccines are not new, and they have saved many lives and prevented illness for decades. The COVID-19 vaccine is no different. It is saving many lives and keeping people out of the hospital and off ventilators.

We are all ready for the pandemic to end, and while that can lead to challenging conversations, these conversations between family members and friends are really important to getting us there. I would encourage those who are vaccinated to keep having these conversations and to meet those who aren't vaccinated where they are at by normalizing the vaccine, talking about their experience, and sharing reliable information. While there can be resistance, I don't believe these conversations are to blame for people not getting vaccinated. Without them, misinformation and assumptions go unchecked, and this is much more dangerous.

A question about booster shots — can you update us on what's happening there?

Regarding boosters, it's very important that the review process from the ACIP (CDC) and FDA be allowed to play



Chatham County Public Health Director Mike Zelek hands Alirio Estevez his second-dose appointment slip at a vaccination clinic earlier this year.

Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

out before conclusions are drawn about who should get booster shots and the timing of them. This is important not only to ensure safety and efficacy, but also to weigh benefits versus cost. The vaccines continue to work very well against severe illness and death, and the most important point I can make now is that those who have not yet gotten vaccinated should do so as soon as possible. While boosters may come in the future,

at least for some, we need more people to get their first and second doses now.

Nearly a quarter of COVID cases in Chatham since early July have been among children under the age of 18. They can't get vaccinated yet ... yet that age population is in school now, in classes (albeit masked). What do anticipate — if indeed we can even venture to guess — for the "under-18" population in terms of infections, illness, etc., until there's approval for them to get vaccinated?

Most importantly, we need all who are eligible, including those 12 to 17 years old, to get vaccinated. This will help protect those too young to get vaccinated. Masks continue to be very important for all of us, including children, and I applaud our local schools for making the right decision when it came to universal masking.

But it's typically in the activities and gatherings outside of school where protocols aren't as strict that we see transmission. So, for the health of our children and to maintain in-person learning, it is important that these precautions that we have been talking about for more than a year be taken. This is especially important with the Delta variant.

We are hearing (personally and anecdotally) more than ever now about vaccinated, masked, mostly isolated people contracting COVID — from sources they can't fathom or trace. A lot of "I have no idea where I got it." What does that say to you as a health expert? — and what does that mean for those among us who are vaccinated?

When there is transmission at the levels we are currently seeing, it is often difficult to identify the source. This is what we refer to as community transmission. It is also why we continue to strongly encourage everyone to wear a mask in indoor public spaces, and also be mindful of the environments you are in. Delta is that infectious.

The good news is that vaccines continue to be very effective against severe illness and death, which is what they are designed to do. That said, we are seeing more breakthrough cases, and that is why the FDA and CDC are considering recommendations for booster shots. We

expect to hear more soon about booster shots and will share any updated guidance or recommendations with the Chatham community as they come.

Anything new or different in your advice about getting tested (under what circumstances should people get tested) or isolating after exposure?

Given how widespread COVID is, testing is especially important. If you are unvaccinated and a close contact to someone who is positive, you should get tested and you must quarantine. If you are fully vaccinated and are exposed to COVID, while you do not have to quarantine, you should get tested 3-5 days after exposure, closely monitor for any symptoms (and isolate if you have any), wear a mask when around others, and be mindful of the environments you are in. For example, I would recommend avoiding large gatherings or spaces where it is difficult to maintain distancing, especially indoors if possible.

Chatham County doesn't yet have a mask mandate, but many public places (retailers, etc.) have "masks required" signs as you enter. Even so, you still see many unmasked people in Chatham County not socially distancing. What's your reaction, messaging about that?

Treat every setting as if there is someone there with COVID, which is unfortunately not too far-fetched at the moment. No one wants to become infected and have to isolate, let alone get sick and risk exposing their loved ones to COVID. Masks that are properly worn and well-fitting continue to work well against COVID. Respect our local businesses and neighbors by wearing a mask until this current spike passes.

Chatham recently saw its first deaths related to COVID in many months. As hospitalization and death rates increase, what kind of urgency are you and your department feeling?

After going close to three months without a death from COVID, these recent deaths have hit hard. Given what we are seeing with Delta and hospitalizations, we expect there will be more deaths before the current surge ends. Since Delta began to take hold, we have been feeling a sense

'We have faced a lot of hard moments over the past year and a half. I don't think any has been as hard as what we are going through now.'

MIKE ZELEK, director, Chatham County Public Health Department

of urgency to increase vaccination rates to prevent as many hospitalizations and deaths as possible. We have also been ramping up testing options as demand greatly increased. It is a serious situation, and one none of us want to be in.

"My body, my choice." How do you respond when someone says that about masking?

Like smoking in public, it is a choice that affects others. Take masking in schools, for example. With the updated school guidance, if masks are worn consistently and correctly, students do not have to quarantine for in-school close contacts. So, if I send my child to school with a mask on and he ends up having COVID, the children around him would not miss two weeks of school if they were also masked. However, if he were not masked, even if they were, those children would have to quarantine. That affects the children, their families, and the ability to sustain in-person learning. And, of course, it puts them at higher risk of getting infected.

How is local hospital capacity looking?

... (Chatham Hospital) has been very stretched recently. Regionally, hospital systems are facing long wait times and very difficult situations. It is important to remember that there are other health emergencies beyond COVID, and when beds are filled with patients with COVID, there may not be room for those who need other critical care.

What do you make of these unusual sudden (after two months or so) and hard-to-quantify reductions in cases and transmission rates in some parts of the country and the world?

We are all hoping Delta cases are nearing their peak, but we are far from being out of the woods. There is a lot of uncertainty, especially at the local level. We are also headed into the fall and winter, which is typically when respiratory viruses spike (think last January). Places like the UK saw an initial sharp drop in cases, but cases never returned to baseline and are now rising.

But let's end on some good news: Our behaviors affect the outcome. If we continue to see vaccination rates increase, along with mask wearing and avoiding situations where COVID is known to spread easily, our future will look better. Unlike last fall, we now have a safe and effective vaccine. We just need everyone eligible to get it.

Help Grandkids Prepare for The Future

If you're a grandparent, you don't need Grandparents Day, observed on Sept. 12, to remind you of the joys of having grandchildren. Yet, you might want to use this day as an opportunity to think about ways to help provide for your grandchildren's future.

The type of gift or support you provide will be different at various stages of your grandchildren's lives. Here are a few suggestions:

When they're born...

- **Open a 529 plan.** It's never too early to start saving for college or other types of advanced education. To help your grandchildren meet these costs, you could invest in a 529 education savings plan, which offers potential tax advantages if the money is used for qualified education expenses. If the grandchild for whom you've established the account ends up not using it, you can change the beneficiary to a qualified family member of the original beneficiary. (Be aware, though, that a 529 plan could affect your grandchild's financial aid prospects.) If your grandchild doesn't go to a college or university, a 529 plan can also pay for expenses related to apprenticeship programs offered through trade and vocational schools and registered with the U.S. Department of Labor.
- *When they're children...*
- **Open a savings account.** It's important for your grandchildren to develop good financial habits — and one way you can help is to open a savings account for them and encourage them to contribute to it. You might even offer an incentive, such as matching their contributions, either in whole or in part. Consider shopping around for a high-yield savings account that's free to open and charges no monthly maintenance fees.
- **Establish a custodial account.** You may want to introduce your grandchildren to the world of investing by starting a custodial account (known as UGMA or UTMA) in their name. You can put most

types of investments, such as stocks and mutual funds, inside this account and track their progress along with your grandchildren. Children often enjoy learning about investing — and they may like owning shares of companies that make familiar products and services. The earnings generated by these investments can have tax implications, so you'll want to consult with your tax advisor before opening the custodial account. And you can't hold onto this account forever — once your grandchildren reach the age of majority, they gain control of the account, so they can do what they please with the investments.

When they're young adults...

- **Help with the down payment on a home.** Once your grandchildren are out in the world, they may well want to become homeowners. And, as you know, it can be challenging to come up with a down payment, so, if you can afford it, you may want to help in this area. You'll be doing your grandchildren a big favor, because home ownership is a key element in building wealth.
- **Provide financial guidance.** As your grandchildren join the working world, they could benefit from advice and guidance on various issues, such as setting short- and long-term goals, managing their 401(k) plans and choosing an appropriate investment mix. So, consider making an appointment for them with a financial professional.

By helping your grandchildren at different points on their road through life, you can make their journey more pleasant — and, in the process, you'll gain a lot of satisfaction.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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RESEARCH TRIANGLE 6, CHATHAM CHARTER 3

Knights' challenging non-conference schedule prepares them for competitive postseason



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Chatham Charter senior Ashlyn Hart serves in her singles win over Research Triangle junior Abigail Ulanich, 8-4, on Aug. 31. Hart was one of just two Knights to win a match against the Raptors.

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Early in this young tennis season, the Chatham Charter Knights have already found themselves dealing with plenty of on-court challenges.

Tough opponents, grueling playing schedules and heat-filled battles.

But that's just the way they like it.

Chatham Charter's women's tennis team suffered its second straight loss of the season on Aug. 31, when the visiting Raptors from Research Triangle took down the Knights, 6-3, after winning four of six singles matches and two of three doubles matches.

"I thought we started off a little slow, a little sluggish, because of the heat and everything, but after a little bit, we kind of came back and started being more reserved, attacking the ball a little," Kelly Eldridge, the Knights' head coach, said after the match. "I was pretty pleased overall with how we played against their quality

team."

Research Triangle — which improved to 4-1-1 after defeating the Knights — was led by dominant performances from sophomore Olivia Hankinson (no. 1) and freshman Devna Patel (no. 2), who coasted through matchups with sophomore Elphie Spillman and senior Emery Eldridge, Chatham Charter's no. 1 and no. 2 players, respectively.

Hankinson defeated Spillman, 8-0, in a singles match that she controlled the entire way, hitting jaw-dropping shot after jaw-dropping shot to send Spillman home with her fourth loss of the year.

Instead of getting frustrated and letting it affect her play, however, Spillman responded with a couple of nice rallies and even more sportsmanship, constantly giving props to Hankinson for her impressive shots.

While it might be rare for a player to compliment their opponent, Spillman — and the rest of her team — doesn't shy away from it. Throughout the day, Knights were lauding

Raptors for their play and vice-versa, evidence of the two teams' positive competitive relationship.

"One of our team goals is to kind of stay positive and to encourage each other and not get down on ourselves because it's not going to do you, personally, any good and it's not going to do the team any good," Eldridge said. "But at the same time, Elphie's just like that. She's a very considerate player like that. She's never going to be a mean player."

Patel also downed Emery Eldridge, 8-1, in the second-ranked match, giving the Raptors an early 2-0 advantage over the Knights.

For Spillman and Eldridge, this season's gotten off to a rocky start. But it isn't necessarily their fault.

As the Knights look ahead to regionals on Oct. 22-23 and states on Oct. 29-30, they've got their eyes focused on two things: seeding and competition level.

Hence why Chatham Charter

See **KNIGHTS**, page B4

My top moments from Week 1 of college football

Last week, I wrote about the negative impact that the 2017-18 UCF



VICTOR HENSLEY
Sports Editor

Knights had on my overall college football experience.

In that column, I wrote, among other things, that I doubt I'll ever recover from their eye-opening run that was tainted by the College Football Playoff Selection Committee's Power 5 bias. Until something changes, I said, I can't look at college football the same way again.

But, as Week 1 of the college football season kicked off this past weekend, I watched.

And let me be the first to tell you: It didn't disappoint.

From Wednesday evening to Monday night, it was pretty much wall-to-wall football that included shocking upsets, tear-jerking comebacks, wacky post-game quotes and impressive performances.

It was college football at its finest. And I'm sorry I ever doubted it. (Even though the postseason format remains one of the worst things in American sports. I firmly stand by that.)

If you somehow missed it because you were enjoying your Labor Day weekend being productive or spending time with your family, let me run down a few of my personal favorite moments from the weekend — some good, some bad — in college football's exhilarating return.

1. We need to keep an eye on South Bend

On Sunday night, in the final star-studded matchup of the week, the 9th-ranked Notre Dame Fighting Irish outlasted the unranked Florida State Seminoles with a field goal in overtime, 41-38, after the Seminoles' 18-point fourth-quarter comeback saw them tie it with a 43-yard field goal with 45 seconds left in the game.

However, as great as it was to see Notre Dame's lead crumble, only to save their season at the last second, nothing compares to what happened afterwards.

As Notre Dame Head Coach Brian Kelly was being interviewed on the field by Katie George on ABC after the narrow victory, he had this to say: "I'm in favor of execution. Maybe our entire team needs to be executed after tonight."

See **FOOTBALL**, page B4

FROM LEE TO THE ACC | 'MEMORIES I'LL NEVER FORGET'

As ACC football kicks off, three Sanford natives reflect on their journeys



Submitted photo by Gregg Forwerck/NC State Athletics

Then-N.C. State quarterback Jamie Shaw (14) warms up ahead of a game against Western Carolina at Carter Finley Stadium on September 7, 2019. Shaw has since switched to middle linebacker.

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

SANFORD — Football in the ACC is home to eight national championships, 48 Pro Football Hall of Famers and 95 first-round NFL Draft selections (since 2005).

It's also home to three Lee County athletes, each working to cement their own legacy on different campuses in the Triangle.

For Desmond Evans (North Carolina), Jamie Shaw (N.C. State) and Nate Thompson (Duke), the massive stadiums packed with thousands of screaming fans may be their new reality, but it all started in the much smaller — but still passionate — Lee County.

They haven't always been a Tar Heel, a member of the Wolfpack and a Blue Devil.

At one time, they were a Yellow Jacket, a Titan and a Cavalier.

And deep down, they still are.

"My sophomore year, we were in overtime against Lee County and there was a tipped-ball Hail Mary (and we won), that was great," recalls Thompson with a laugh when asked about his favorite Southern Lee moments. "And also in basketball, my senior year, going all the way to the fourth round. Those are just memories I'll never forget."

From unforgettable plays to career-defining moments to near-championship seasons, their time spent in Lee County — specifically, their hometown of Sanford — acts as the backbone for their football success.



Submitted photo by Grant Halverson/UNC Athletics

North Carolina's Desmond Evans (10) rushes the quarterback in a game against Notre Dame at Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill on Nov. 27, 2020.



Submitted photo by Reagan Lunn/Duke Athletics

Duke safety Nate Thompson (29) points to the stands as the Blue Devils take on the Virginia Tech Hokies at Wallace Wade Stadium in Durham Oct. 3, 2020.

Attracting the nation

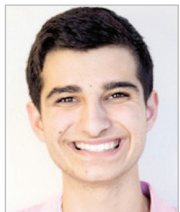
Evans was on the field, under the bright lights, for the 10th-ranked Tar Heels' season-opener in Blacksburg, Virginia, last Friday night against Virginia Tech. The unranked Hokies'

defense was a force to be reckoned with, sacking UNC quarterback and Heisman hopeful Sam Howell six times and forcing three interceptions en route to a 17-10 upset

See **ACC**, page B2

Five questions ahead of Thursday's NFL season opener

The new National Football League season begins Thursday with the defending Super Bowl champion Tampa Bay Buccaneers hosting the Dallas Cowboys. Here are five big questions as another year of pro football kicks off.



MAX BAKER
CN+R Intern

Will the Kansas City Chiefs rebound?

Following one of the most electrifying Super Bowl runs in recent history two years ago, many thought the Chiefs

were likely to repeat in the 2020-21 season. Patrick Mahomes completed more than 2,500 yards of passing to Tyreek Hill and Travis Kelce, and they only lost two regular season games all year. One of those two came in the final week of the regular season when the Chiefs sat their starters. But the Tampa Bay Buccaneers defense and Tom Brady cracked the favorites in the Super Bowl, earning Brady's seventh ring. This year, the Chiefs were pretty quiet in the offseason and did not have a first round draft pick. They selected linebacker Nick Bolton with their first pick and signed a few offensive linemen, including Kyle Long, as part of their rebuilt offensive line. But any team with Patrick Mahomes

at quarterback can score with anybody and they should be the early favorites for a second title in three years.

What will be the effect of an added regular season game?

If you didn't know by now, the NFL added a 17th regular season game and dropped a preseason exhibition this year. The move will generate more revenue for the league, but it's fair to wonder if it will impact how teams utilize their star players down the stretch. Will division leaders rest their players for more than one week at the end of the

See **OPENER**, page B2

OPENER

Continued from page B1

regular season? It's likely teams will calculate the risk of injuries into their game plan with this added game.

Which returning star player will have the biggest impact for their team?

It's hard to calculate the extent to which injuries increased last year, but there's no denying that the loss of a pre-season combined with a COVID-19-impacted year led to an increase in injuries among star players. Early on, Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott, Panthers running back Chris-

tian McCaffery, Browns wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. and Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow were among star players that were lost for most of or all of the season. It's unclear if Prescott will be fully healthy after an ankle injury knocked him out for the majority of last year and we may now have a full year to see Burrow's No. 1 pick potential. Although injuries are an inevitable piece of the sport, the losses seemed greater last year. Now, we'll get to see most of these stars in action again.

How good can the Tennessee Titans be?

For the last two seasons, the Titans have been a darkhorse to make a run

out of the AFC. Derrick Henry has worn down defenses throughout the playoffs and they led by double digits in the conference championship game two years ago. This year, they added future NFL Hall of Famer Julio Jones to their already deep receiving core. Although they are not currently a likely favorite, if Jones and Henry perform like they have in the past, they will be a tough out in the playoffs.

Will Aaron Rodgers return to glory in potentially his final year as a Packer?

After an offseason of confusion, anger or whatever else you want to call it, Aaron Rodgers will be a

Green Bay Packer. For now, at least. The star quarterback posted a "Last Dance" themed Instagram story along with wide receiver Davante Adams, signaling that this could be his final year with the team. Nonetheless, the Packers have similar talent to the team that has made the conference championship in each of the last two seasons. When tackle David Bakhtiari returns later this season, the Packers full potential will be on display. Will Rodgers' tenure in Green Bay end with just one ring or does he have a magical season left in him?

CN+R Intern Max Baker can be reached at max@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@Maxbaker_15](https://twitter.com/Maxbaker_15).

ACC

Continued from page B1

victory.

One of the team's most promising outside linebackers, Evans played 24 snaps against the Hokies, where he totaled four tackles (one solo, three assisted) in a fairly quiet night.

But a few years ago, the noise surrounding Evans was anything but quiet as he emerged as one of the most highly touted football players in the country.

Scouting reports — including that written by 24/7 Sports' Charles Power in Sept. 2018 — praised Evans for his effort, his physicality and his ability to "dominate the competition with his physical tools," wrote Power.

Before committing to UNC in Oct. 2019, ESPN tabbed Evans as the No. 1 player in the state, the No. 1 defensive end in the nation and No. 2 overall player in the nation.

"(Scouts started watching me) when I was young, probably in 9th grade when I was 14 years old, so they've always been around me," Evans told the News + Record. "My dad and my mom just told me to be humble about it and not let it go to my head, so that's what I'm doing right now, being calm, cool and collected."

"He wasn't a real big guy on social media," recalls Steve Burdeau, Lee County's current head coach and Evans' head coach for his final two seasons. "He wasn't worried about what other people were posting on social media or this and that throughout his recruiting process. It was more just about his team and how he could improve, he wasn't necessarily worried about accolades."

While Evans was garnering plenty of hype nationwide — he received offers from powerhouse programs such as Alabama and Clemson, along with UNC — those at Lee County already knew how special he was.

During his four-year varsity career, Evans was one of the primary leaders of a Lee County team that lost just five games in four seasons, amassing a 50-5 record, four playoff appearances and, in his senior season, a state championship game appearance where the Yellow Jackets came up just short of a state title, losing 34-14 to the Weddington Warriors.

"He was fortunate to have the natural abilities that he was blessed with: long arms and long legs," Burdeau said. "He's an explosive, fast-switch type of guy. Really what always impressed me about Des was how hard he's willing to work. Any time you turn it up on him, he can turn it up as well."

Evans announced his commitment to UNC during a homecoming pep rally his senior year, a move that impressed Burdeau because of Evans' willingness to get the entire school involved instead of having a specific ceremony dedicated to himself.

"(One of my favorite memories) was the homecoming when I committed," Evans said. "Everybody came to the gym, I said where I was going to go and everyone went

crazy. That was a good moment right there."

Evans said that UNC's prestigious reputation for education, along with the chance to play under Hall of Fame Head Coach Mack Brown, were two of his biggest reasons for choosing the Tar Heels over the likes of the Crimson Tide and the Tigers.

In his true freshman season last year, Evans racked up 10 tackles (two solo, eight assisted), a sack and a fumble recovery in 10 games.

With some of UNC's top senior linebackers, such as Tomon Fox and Tyrone Hopper, being granted an extra year of eligibility this season by the NCAA due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Evans will likely have his role limited again this year, though increased from last season.

But if he can show both talent and improvement during his 20-30 snaps per game, there's a strong possibility that he could blossom into a star for the Tar Heels.

"I'm just looking forward to my team winning games and me doing my job," Evans said. "If I'm doing my job, we're going to win more games."

Across rivalry lines

Nate Thompson, a redshirt junior safety for the Duke Blue Devils, is one of the other players representing Lee County in the ACC this year.

And this season is poised to be his biggest yet. Thompson's season, however, got off to a rocky start when it was announced by the team that he'd miss the season-opener last Friday night due to COVID-19 protocols — a game in which the Blue Devils desperately needed all the defensive help they could get, dropping a 31-28 contest to the Charlotte 49ers — but that has little effect on his outlook this year.

For the first time in his career, Thompson is set to be a full-time starting safety for Duke.

"The real big difference right now (from last season) is having an actual camp and getting bigger, stronger, faster," Thompson said. "We worked over the offseason to fix our culture and everybody's more bought in, playing as a team and playing for one another instead of just

for themselves. That's a big difference and we're excited for this year."

Prior to arriving in Durham, Thompson — an all-around athlete — was a key member of Southern Lee's football and basketball programs during his four-year career as a Cavalier.

In eight total seasons split between both programs, Thompson missed the playoffs just once, which came during his senior year of football, when the Cavaliers finished 5-6 and were narrowly left out of the postseason.

On the field, he was a three-time all-conference defensive back from the Cape Fear Valley 3A Conference who compiled 205 tackles and 10 interceptions over four seasons. And on the court, he even added a Cape Fear Valley Conference Player of the Year award for his play during his junior season on Southern Lee's basketball team.

"I used to play quarterback in middle school and they tried me there at Southern Lee, but with my size (now 6-foot-3, 200 lbs.), they wanted me at corner and that turned out to my advantage," Thompson said. "I started getting a lot of letters my freshman year from big-time schools and that made me realize that I can do this. So I started grinding harder."

Perhaps one of Thompson's greatest accomplishments, however, is his 3-1 career record against Lee County, including a close, 16-13 win against Evans' team in 2016.

Now, with Thompson playing at Duke and Evans at UNC, the famed Lee County-Southern Lee rivalry has found its way into the historic UNC-Duke rivalry.

"(The UNC-Duke rivalry) is kind of similar because playing Des, who went to Lee County and is now at UNC, brings back those memories," Thompson said. "It's always just a hometown thing." "I look at (the rivalry) as if Duke was Southern Lee," Evans added with a laugh. "Either they take the Bell (Victory Bell trophy) or we take the Bell, and they ain't going to take the Bell this year, that's all I'm saying."

Thompson originally decided on Duke because it made him feel at home

and he had already begun to think of life outside of football, so receiving a Duke education in the process didn't seem like a bad idea.

"It's more of a 40-year decision instead of a four-year decision," Thompson said. "And also my mom's just in love with Duke, so that kind of helped me out too."

After redshirting his freshman season due to a hamstring injury and a deep safety group, he went on to play a combined 21 games in his redshirt freshman and sophomore seasons. Including five starts, racking up 45 tackles, one tackle-for-loss, one interception and one fumble recovery.

Now, as a full-time starter, Thompson's role should be much bigger in a season where Duke will need to rely on their defense to get stops in key moments.

"I realized that the game is way faster than it was in high school, everybody's just bigger, stronger and faster and you actually have to put in the time to get better," Thompson said. "(My role) is just to be the best player I can for my teammates and give it my all, no matter what."

Different strokes

Shaw's situation was a little different than his Lee County counterparts. While he lived in Sanford — and was homeschooled there through middle school before attending an early college for high school — his passion for football caused him to make the 35- to 45-minute drive to Fayetteville each day to play for the Sandhills Titans.

Sandhills deems itself a Christian ministry-based program with its athletes stemming from a variety of area high schools, homeschool programs and early colleges.

It's essentially a high school football team without an actual high school, with their competition consisting of private high schools and some smaller public schools. Shaw compared the team to the size and competition level of 2A public high school team.

When Shaw arrived at Sandhills, he primarily played defense, but after

the starting quarterback left, there was a vacancy at the position and Shaw sought to fill it.

For the next three years, Shaw acted as the team's starting quarterback and would go on to throw for over 6,000 career passing yards, making him Sandhills' all-time leading passer.

"I always did a lot of extra work outside of practice and I felt like that prepared me," Shaw told the News + Record. "I also had good coaches and good players alongside me, so I felt generally well-prepared when I got (to N.C. State)."

Shaw, who's always valued academics and his career after football, decided to attend N.C. State to both major in mechanical engineering and walk onto the football team as a quarterback, following in his father's, Mark Shaw's, footsteps, who was an engineering major and a defensive end for the Wolfpack in the early 1980s.

However, with five quarterbacks ahead of Shaw on the depth chart his freshman season, he decided to redshirt his first year with the idea that he likely wouldn't see the field much, if at all.

And while he enjoyed his time in the quarterback room, learning behind some of the most talented players on the team and helping with signals on the sidelines, before his redshirt freshman season, Head Coach Dave Doeren presented him with the offer to switch back to defense, the position he grew up playing before his sophomore year at Sandhills.

He obliged, switching from quarterback to linebacker in 2020, a position he claims is more similar than people think.

"I kind of missed the

physical aspect of the game because when you get to college as a quarterback, there's no physical aspect unless you're actually on the field playing in the game," Shaw said. "Now I play Mike linebacker, which is essentially the quarterback of the defense, so there are leadership similarities. ... And also, having that quarterback mindset and being able to think from their position, understanding how offenses work to that extent, has really helped me on defense."

Due to his position switch happening so soon before the start of the 2020 season, he decided to sit out for the entire year, learning the position behind a strong group of linebackers.

For his redshirt sophomore season, Shaw is unclear of what his role will be for the Wolfpack, but he appears enthusiastic to help the team in whatever way they'll let him.

"It's hard for me to say at this point because we have the best linebackers in the ACC, in my opinion, and I've seen a lot of analysts that have said the same," Shaw said. "So, honestly, I'm going to support wherever they need it."

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CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

This week's schedule and last week's results

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

It's time to shout out some of Chatham's top teams. After just a couple of weeks, there's already just one remaining unbeaten varsity sports team this season: the Jordan-Matthews Jets men's soccer team (4-0-1). Next to the Jets, the Woods Charter women's volleyball team (5-1) is the team with the second-best winning percentage in the county. And while those are just the cream of the crop (for the moment), there are plenty of impressive teams and individuals throughout Chatham's six high schools, so make sure to catch them playing either in person or via the NFHS Network. I promise you won't want to miss it. Here are this week's schedules and last week's results.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, September 8

Soccer: Chatham Charter men at Hawbridge, 4 p.m.

Tennis: Northwood women vs. Chapel Hill, 4 p.m.

Cross Country: Jordan-Matthews at Southwestern Randolph, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Chatham Central women at Graham, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Jordan-Matthews women at Seaforth, 4:30 p.m.

Soccer: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Bartlett Yancey, 6 p.m.

Soccer: Seaforth men vs. Graham, 6 p.m.

Soccer: Woods Charter men vs. Franklin Academy, 6 p.m.

Thursday, September 9

Golf: Chatham Charter, Woods Charter women at Southern Wake Academy (at Bentwinds Golf Club),

3 p.m.

Tennis: Chatham Charter women at Research Triangle, 4 p.m.

Cross Country: Northwood at Cedar Ridge, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Chatham Central women at Southwestern Randolph, 4:30 p.m.

Tennis: Northwood women at Carrboro, 4:30 p.m.

Volleyball: Chatham Central women vs. Seaforth, 6 p.m.

Volleyball: Chatham Charter women vs. Triangle Math & Science Academy, 6 p.m.

Friday, September 10

Volleyball: Woods Charter women vs. Clover Garden, 6:15 p.m.

Soccer: Woods Charter men at Research Triangle, 6:30 p.m.

Football: Northwood at Southeast Raleigh, 7 p.m.

Football: Chatham Central vs. Wheatmore, 7:30 p.m.

Football: Jordan-Matthews at Trinity, 7:30 p.m.

Cross Country: Northwood, Seaforth at Friday Night Lights Festival in Kernersville, 7:45 p.m.

LAST WEEK

Monday, August 30

Golf: The Northwood women placed third (score of 147) in a 3A Central Conference match at Occoneechee Golf Club in Hillsborough, just behind Western Alamance (140) and Eastern Alamance (145). Also participating was Person (fourth, 163) and Orange (fifth, 173).

Golf: The Seaforth women finished in first place (247) in a conference match alongside the Chatham Central Bears (second, 250) and North Moore Mustangs (255).

Golf: The Chatham Charter women didn't place at the Super Six Match hosted by Research Triangle at Falls

Village Golf Club in Durham with a score of 44. Leading the pack was N.C. School of Science & Math (first, score of 144), Franklin Academy (second, 164) and Raleigh Charter (third, 170).

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women lost to the Raleigh Charter Phoenix, 6-3, for their first loss of the season. The Knights lost all of their singles matches, but the three duos of sophomore Elphie Spillman & senior Emery Eldridge (8-1), senior Ashlyn Hart & senior Lorelei Byrd (8-0) and senior Emily Stecher & junior Rebecca Brookshire (8-4), won their doubles matches, avoiding the match sweep.

Tennis: The Northwood women earned their first win of the season against the Williams Bulldogs in a close match, 5-4.

Tennis: The Seaforth women swept the North Moore Mustangs, 6-0, to remain unbeaten on the young season. Winning their singles matches for the Hawks were sophomore Evelyn Atkins (6-1, 6-2), sophomore Lauren Keeley (6-1, 6-2), sophomore Ellie Cook (6-3, 6-2), freshman Jenna Robi-

nette (6-2, 6-1), freshman Bailey Shadoan (6-0, 6-0) and freshman Caroline Bowman (6-0, 6-1).

Volleyball: The Northwood women earned a victory over the Wakefield Wolverines, 3-1, to improve to 6-2 on the season.

Soccer: The Seaforth men were shut out by the Southern Alamance Patriots, 6-0, to remain winless on the season at 0-3.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women lost their fourth-straight match after a 3-0 defeat to the Asheboro Blue Comets. Leading the Bears on the night were freshman Karaleigh Dodson (6 kills, 50.0 kill %) and senior

Taylor Poe (4 kills, 50.0 kill %).

Volleyball: The Jordan-Matthews women swept the Thomasville Bulldogs, 3-0, for their first win of the season.

Soccer: The Northwood men lost a lopsided game to the Asheboro Blue Comets, 7-1, to fall to 3-5 on the season.

Tuesday, August 31

Golf: The Chatham Central women placed second (163) in a non-conference match against West Stanly (first place, 148) and Southwestern Randolph (third place, 171). Top three golfers for the Bears were senior Chloe Fuquay (51, +16), junior Reagon Mize (53, +18) and senior Reagan Murray (59, +24).

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women dropped their second-straight match in a loss to the Research Triangle Raptors, 6-3. Winning their singles matches for the Knights were senior Ashlyn Hart (8-4) and senior Emily Stecher (8-2), while the duo of Stecher & junior Lillie Jones (9-7) also won its doubles match. See match report in this week's edition.

Soccer: The Chatham Charter men lost to the Bethany Wolves, 8-2, to remain winless on the season. Scoring for the Knights was freshman Will Burris with 2 goals, along with assists from freshman Ryan Jones and junior Cedric Schwartz.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women lost a conference match to the North Moore Mustangs, 3-1. Leading the Bears on the night were freshman Karaleigh Dodson (9 kills, 56.3 kill %) and senior Ivey Tillman (6 kills, 54.5 kill %).

Volleyball: The Northwood women swept the Williams Bulldogs, 3-0, in a strong conference match.

Volleyball: The Seaforth women were swept by the Bartlett Yancey Buccaneers, 3-0, in their first conference match ever.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women swept the Eno River Bobcats, 3-0, as Wolves sophomore Lexi Smollen (24 kills, 53.3 kill %) led the way.

Wednesday, September 1

Tennis: The Chatham Central women defeated the Seaforth Hawks, 6-3. Winning their singles matches for the Bears were junior Olivia Brooks (6-0, 7-5), junior Ellie Phillips (7-5, 6-3), sophomore Rachel Albright (6-0, 6-1) and junior Jaylee Williams (6-2, 7-5), while the duos of Phillips & Brooks (8-3) and Williams & Albright (8-6) also won their doubles matches.

Thursday, September 2

Tennis: The Chatham Charter women defeated the Cornerstone Charter Academy Cardinals, 8-1, with all of the Knights — including sophomore Elphie Spillman (6-2, 7-5), senior Emery Eldridge (6-2, 6-1), senior Ashlyn Hart (6-1, 6-1), senior Lorelei Byrd (7-6 (7-3), 6-0), junior Rebecca Brookshire (6-0, 6-0) and junior Lillie Jones (6-2, 6-1) — winning their singles matches.

Soccer: The Chatham Charter men were blown out by the Cornerstone Charter Cardinals, 10-1. Scoring the lone goal for the Knights was freshman Ryan Jones, assisted by sophomore Aaron Kreiss.

Soccer: The Seaforth men lost to the Lee County Yellow Jackets, 6-2, to remain winless on the season at 0-4.

Volleyball: The Chatham Central women swept the Graham Red Devils, 3-0, to snap their five-match losing streak. Leading the Bears on

the night were freshman Karaleigh Dodson (4 kills, 44.4 kill %) and senior Ivey Tillman (3 kills, 42.9 kill %).

Volleyball: The Chatham Charter women swept the Ascend Leadership Aviators, 3-0.

Volleyball: The Northwood women were swept by the Cedar Ridge Fighting Red Wolves, 3-0, to end their four-game winning streak.

Volleyball: The Woods Charter women earned a win over the Research Triangle Raptors, 3-1, to extend their winning streak to five games. Leading the Wolves on the night was sophomore Lexi Smollen (34 kills, 52.3 kill %).

Friday, September 3

Soccer: The Jordan-Matthews men earned a 2-1 road victory over the Union Pines Vikings to remain undefeated on the season.

Football: The Northwood Chargers (1-2) lost a close home game to the Chapel Hill Tigers (2-0), 36-29, for their second home loss of the season. With the Chargers up 29-28 and having just ran in a TD, the Tigers fought back to score on a 65-yard touchdown run on the following drive with 8:31 remaining, acting as the game-winner. See game report in this week's edition.

Football: The Chatham Central Bears lost to the North Stokes Vikings, 12-0, to fall to 0-2 on the season. See game report in this week's edition.

Football: The Jordan-Matthews Jets were trounced by the Providence Grove Patriots, 54-0. The Jets (0-3) haven't scored a point this season.

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@Frezeal33](https://twitter.com/Frezeal33).

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Tigers' 65-yard TD run puts Chargers on ice in back-and-forth 2nd half



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood seniors Jalen Paige (3) and Braden Meacham (30) celebrate after Paige scores one of his two touchdowns on the night during the Chargers' 36-29 loss to Chapel Hill in Pittsboro on Friday night. Paige was one of two Chargers with a rushing touchdown against the Tigers.

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Northwood Chargers were on the brink of taking down their former conference rivals, but everything can change in the blink of an eye.

In the early moments of the fourth quarter last Friday night, Chargers senior running back Jalen Paige scored on a one-yard touchdown run, which was met with jubilation and relief from him, his teammates and the crowd, giving Northwood a 29-28 advantage over the Chapel Hill Tigers (2-0) and

putting them in excellent position to win if their defense could just close it out.

However, the Chargers' young defense, which allowed 293 total yards to the Tigers on the night (189 rushing yards), capsized on the opening play of the next drive as Chapel Hill's Elijah Ayankoya ran through a massive hole for a 65-yard touchdown that acted as the eventual game-winner. He reached the end zone untouched.

The Tigers went on to defeat their former Big Eight 3A rival — Chapel Hill's since moved up to the 4A classifica-

tion — by a 36-29 score, sending Northwood (1-2) home with a sub-.500 record.

The Chargers, one week removed from a 72-0 thrashing of the Jordan-Matthews Jets, put up great numbers in the loss to the Tigers, amassing 245 total yards (all on the ground) and adding 16 first downs to Chapel Hill's 12.

Leading the Chargers' rushing attack was Paige, who racked up 18 carries for 112 yards and two touchdowns, along with senior running back DaShaun Vines-McSwain (20 carries, 100 yards, two touchdowns).

However, Northwood's glaring issues both on defense and in the passing game, which saw sophomore quarterback Carson Fortunes going 0-for-5 with an interception, are primary culprits for their early season struggles.

The Chargers will look to get back on track next week as they head to Southeast Raleigh (2-1) to take on the Bull dogs this Friday, Sept. 10 at 7 p.m.

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page B1

Yikes. Kelly's quote, he explained in his post-game press conference, was a one-liner from Hall of Fame USC and Tampa Bay Buccaneers coach John McKay, who became famous for his quips, with this one being no different after using it following a Buccaneers loss in the late 1970s.

Social media undoubtedly blew up with everyone having an opinion on Kelly's distasteful quote, but with it being a failed attempt at humor — and clearly nothing to be taken seriously — he gets a pass from me. I uncomfortably chuckled right along with him the first time I heard it.

2. McKenzie Milton's both an awesome quarterback and a true inspiration

Sticking with the Fighting Irish-Seminole contest, while it might have ended with a Notre Dame win, Florida State backup quarterback McKenzie Milton stole the show on Sunday night.

After FSU quarterback

Jordan Travis was knocked out of the game following a hard hit that knocked his helmet off, Milton emerged from the sideline, leading the Seminoles on two drives to end regulation, the first resulting in a touchdown and the second in the game-tying field goal.

The crowd at Doak Campbell Stadium erupted after Milton threw his first pass — a 22-yard strike to Ja'Khi Douglas — in more than 1,000 days.

Milton was the beloved quarterback for those undefeated UCF Knights in both 2017 and 2018, but on Nov. 23, 2018, he suffered a devastating right leg/knee injury against South Florida that would end his UCF career, force him into nearly three years of rehab and threaten to amputate his leg entirely.

Now, Milton is back as a grad transfer for the Seminoles and his resilience, courage and fight to even get to where he could walk again, much less play football, is a Hall-of-Fame-worthy story in itself.

3. Clemson can't run with the big Dawgs

There were few results more

shocking — and, in a way, pathetic — than No. 5 Georgia's 10-3 win over No. 3 Clemson on Saturday in the teams' season-opener.

While the idea of the Bulldogs defeating the Tigers was entirely imaginable, the way it happened wasn't.

Georgia pulled off a defensive masterclass in its performance on Saturday night, holding Clemson to just a field goal and scoring the game's lone touchdown on a 74-yard interception return by Christopher Smith in the first half.

The Bulldogs' dominance didn't end there, however, as the defensive line sacked Tigers quarterback D.J. Uiagalelei seven times and held Clemson to just 2 rushing yards.

You read that right: 2 yards.

In 60 minutes of game time, four whole quarters and 23 attempts, the Tigers were held to single-digit rushing yards in a game that illustrated both Georgia's defensive prowess and Clemson's desperation for a competent run game.

It lends the question: Without Trevor Lawrence, have the Mighty Tigers finally fallen?

4. Tar Heels among few unranked-over-ranked upsets

By the conclusion of last Friday, it wasn't necessarily a great day to be a Tar Heel.

In No. 10 UNC's first game as a preseason top-10 team since being ranked 7th in the preseason in 1997, the Tar Heels mustered just 10 points in a tough game against Virginia Tech in Blacksburg in front of a hostile crowd.

The offense looked sluggish at times, with Heisman hopeful Sam Howell being sacked six times and throwing three interceptions, including the game-sealing pick on a preposterous throwaway attempt on Carolina's final drive.

The Tar Heels' season-opening loss is the first of its kind in the revitalized Mack Brown era, dampening the excitement that came with the season as quickly as it arrived.

UNC was one of three ranked teams — No. 16 LSU, No. 20 Washington — to lose to an unranked team in Week 1.

However, as a fellow Tar Heel myself, it's imperative that I mention that Duke lost,

31-28, to the Charlotte 49ers on Friday, who didn't even have a football program a decade ago. Let's focus on that instead.

5. Kansas finally did it

As a nod to our editor and publisher, Bill Horner III, I felt the need to mention that his Kansas Jayhawks — arguably the worst Power 5 football program in the country — finally won a game.

On Friday night, the Jayhawks downed South Dakota, an FCS team, by a 17-14 score in Head Coach Lance Leipold's first game with the team, resulting in KU's first victory in 22 months (since Oct. 26, 2019).

And yes, despite playing what was clearly an inferior opponent, the students at David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium actually stormed the field after the game to celebrate the victory.

Wins are rare in Kansas football, though, so it's hard to fault students for going a little overboard. I get it.

Congrats, Bill and the residents of Lawrence, Kansas. Enjoy this one.

It might be a while before you can do it again.

KNIGHTS

Continued from page B1

scheduled such a brutal non-conference slate as a way to boost its resume down the line.

In four non-conference matches this season, the Knights have faced off against the likes of perennial powerhouses Union Pines and Raleigh Charter — known as some of the biggest "tennis factories" in the area — along with a couple of solid 2A opponents in Research Triangle and Chatham Central.

Chatham Charter took down both Union Pines (5-4) and Chatham Central (6-2) in their first two matches of the season, along with a strong 9-0 sweep of conference foe Cornerstone Charter Academy, but faltered against Raleigh Charter and, now, Research Triangle, losing both matches, 6-3, on back-to-back days.

"We're trying rally hard to play some really hard teams that just pump us up, especially since I've got seniors that have played four years and they want that competition," Kelly Eldridge said. "They don't like to lose — I don't like to lose — but they don't mind when they're playing a team that's competitive that they know they played their best."

The grueling schedule has led both Spillman and Emery Eldridge to a 2-4 start (4-8 combined) in singles play with them having to play the top-two players on each team's roster.

Doubles play, however, has been a different story.

Through five matches, Spillman & Eldridge are 3-2 on the season with wins against Raleigh Charter, Chatham Central and Cornerstone, along with a hard-fought loss to Research Triangle's Hankinson & Patel last week.

In the fifth game of their doubles matches, Spillman showed a couple of flashes that reiterated why she's the Knights' top-ranked player — including a tough point at the net to seal the game — but ultimately, the Raptors' duo hardly wavered, winning the match, 8-2.

"(They struggled) serving a little bit, especially their second serve," Kelly Eldridge said. "They'd hit their second serve, but just a lot lighter, a lot different than the first, and then Research would just attack it. (Hankinson & Patel) just have these speedy, quick shots and we struggled to get there some of the time."

Two of Chatham Charter's high points came from seniors Ashlyn Hart and Emily Stecher, both of which won their singles matches, while Stecher

also won her doubles match alongside junior Lillie Jones.

Hart, one of the Knights' four starting seniors, defeated Raptors junior Abigail Ulanich, 8-4, in a match where she was ahead from the very start.

She took a 3-0 lead early in the match and used her experience to her advantage, rallying with Ulanich until she found an opportunity to catch her off-balance and win the point.

An example of this came at the end of the sixth game, when Hart sliced the ball down to her right, forcing Ulanich to run over and return it at the last second. Hart received Ulanich's shot at the net and expertly knocked it to the back-left corner of the court, ending the game and giving herself a 5-1 lead.

"I thought she had really good placement, she was really watching for those holes and she was smart with her slices," Eldridge said. "She also had some good groundstrokes and kind of hit it at the opponent's feet. I think that really helped her."

Stecher, Chatham Charter's 6th-ranked player, was the lone Knight with success in both her singles match, an 8-2 victory over Raptors senior Julia Shough, and doubles match, where she and Jones fought hard for a nail-biting win, 9-7, over Ulanich and junior Elizabeth Genier.

Eldridge spoke highly of Stecher and her recent improvement, who she said is coming into her own as one of the team's veterans.

"She'll sometimes hit lighter and softer shots, but I've been working on her to get those harder shots and she's coming around, in doubles even more than singles," Eldridge said. "She's improving every game. And even today, I saw that."

The Knights are 3-2 in their first five matches with plenty of other challenges on the horizon, including rematches with Research Triangle, Chatham Central and Raleigh Charter.

They seem to be ready for whatever the schedule throws at them.

"I'm feeling really good, I'm very positive," Eldridge said. "I was excited coming into this season with this group because I've had a lot of them several times and even those that aren't in the top six have a lot of potential, they're just not getting to play right now because of who's slightly ahead of them. ... (The rest of the season) will be good competition that helps us get ready for regionals and a higher level of play."

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @Frezeal33.



Chatham COA Events & Announcements
September 9th through September 15th

Thursday, September 9th

- [Siler City Immunization Clinic](#) 9:00 AM - Noon (on site at WCSC) 🦋
- [Take Off Pounds Sensibly](#) at 1:00 PM 📶

Friday, September 10th

- [Body Conditioning with Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🦋
- [Getting Active and Fit with Jackie](#) at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🦋 📶
- [Friday Night Dance](#) at 7:00 PM (on site at WCSC - Siler City) 🦋

Monday, September 13th

- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 10:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center (Pittsboro) and on Zoom) 🦋 📶

Wednesday, September 14th

- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 10:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center (Pittsboro) and on Zoom) 🦋 📶
- [Chronic Disease Self-Management](#) at 2:00 PM 📶

🦋 In-person - Pre-registration Required

📶 Programming Hosted On Zoom

💰 Fee Required for Participation

For more information or to register for these and other programs, visit our website: chathamcouncilonaging.org/activities/calendars/

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program - Starting 9/28



Join the Council on Aging's Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program for an evidenced-based program to improve quality of life for those with arthritis. Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 am. For more information, contact Jackie Green at 919-542-4512 or jackie.green@chathamcoa.org

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September 9th (Siler City at WCSC)

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919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center (WCSC)

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Siler City, NC 27344

919-742-3975

THE CLIPBOARD | SCOTT GREEN, WOODS CHARTER VOLLEYBALL

Green credits senior leadership, Smollen's talent for Wolves' scalding hot start

Woods Charter is on pace to have one of its best volleyball seasons in school history. After starting the year with a near-perfect 5-1 record — with the lone loss coming in a five-game match to Eno River, which the Wolves beat, 3-0, in the rematch two weeks later — Woods Charter has already surpassed the win total of the previous three seasons ... combined (4). Behind the staggering offense of sophomore star Lexi Smollen — who earned the MaxPreps Volleyball Player of the Week award (Aug. 23-29) for North Carolina after tallying 54 kills, 6.75 kills per game and 24 digs in eight games played — the Wolves are already priming themselves for the postseason as one of the hottest teams in the 1A classification.

With Woods Charter's season in full swing, the News + Record sat down with Wolves fourth-year head coach Scott Green to discuss his team's fantastic start, his opinion on Smollen's dominance and what it'll take for the Wolves to lock in a playoff spot down the line. The interview has been edited for length and clarity.

The last three years haven't been the best for Woods Charter volleyball in terms of overall record, but this season, your team is 5-1 and looking phenomenal through six matches. What has been the biggest difference from the last three seasons to this season? What's changed?

SCOTT GREEN: Well, we've got a player in Lexi Smollen that can terminate the ball, that can deliver kills both in the front row and in the back row. She's a sophomore, of course last year she played, too, she was a freshman, but in between last year and this year, she played on a junior club team and got some good experience there. So, this year I've found that she's more consistent with her hitting, her serve has improved and she seems to have more

confidence and she doesn't get rattled as much if she makes a mistake. She's just really made an impact on our team.

Another thing is we had the addition of a freshman setter, Maya Sheridan, who, even though she's a freshman, she's been playing club for several years and has a lot of playing experience. She's able to deliver the ball to where Lexi can kill it, so that's one of the main reasons why we're having success. Another reason is we got a core group of six seniors, so we've got a lot of playing experience and leadership on the team from them. I guess it's just a good blend of the youth and the leadership together and it's just all kind of coming together at the same time.

You've spoken highly of Lexi, who's clearly been on a tear with 152 kills in just six matches and has already won a Max-Preps Player of the Week award for North Carolina. What is it that she brings to the table that makes her so good at what she does?

Well, she's tall, she's 6 feet tall. It's hard to block her because she's reaching up so high to hit the ball. She's also constantly calling for the ball, she wants it all the time, so she has a confidence that she can deliver a kill when we need it.

Who are some of the other players on the team that may be flying under the radar that have been keys to the Wolves' success this season?

We have Jana Thompson, who's our senior libero; she's generating a lot of defensive plays, a lot of digs for us. She had a really outstanding game the other night where she had close to 30 digs, maybe high 20s. She's doing that every night out, so that's really helpful in transitioning from the opponent attacking us to attacking the opponent, that's really kind of vital to have that type of defensive play. And we've got some other seniors like Julia Christian and my daughter, Ada Green, along

with Leila Adams, Emma Hobbs and our senior setter, Celine Keles, who will definitely get some playing time. Those six seniors came in as freshmen when I came in, so they've been with me the entire time. I'm just thankful to have them and their leadership.

With your team being 5-1 right now, what's it going to take to sustain that level of success and make it to the playoffs down the road?

We've just completed our non-conference schedule, so now we're about to get into where we're having multiple conference games in a row, so we just need to just sustain the level that we've had over the past several weeks into the conference schedule. I think if we can do that, we're going to be in pretty good shape at the end of the season come conference tournament time.

What are you looking for at the end of the year for this, in your eyes, to be a successful season?

I think it's going to be a successful season if we can just improve every day, just go out and try to get better, be a better team when we leave the gym than when we arrived to the gym. That's the key to success for us. I don't want to really have it all hinged on whether we get a set number of wins or finish somewhere in the standings or a conference championship or something like that. I just want us to be a team that focuses on the process and not on the results. Just improve every day.

For you, who's had to withstand the last few not-so-prosperous seasons, what will it mean to you if your team can make the postseason this year?

I'll just be glad for them because they're the ones that put all the work in and come to all of the practices and do all of the drills and all of that other stuff. It's good for them to finally get some rewards and accolades for all of the work they've put in after the last four years of this journey.

Scott Green

Role: Head Coach, Volleyball
Experience at Woods Charter: 4th season

Record During Tenure: 9-45

From the coach: "Once I got into coaching, I found that I enjoyed the technical aspects, the offenses and defenses and that kind of thing. My dad was a basketball coach and I played for him, but even before that, I remember being a ball boy for his team, so I've been around sports for my entire life. It's just a natural thing for me to be involved in sports. I'm good volleyball, so I enjoyed playing it and then once I found out about more about coaching, one thing led to another."

Notes:
• Attended Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama (Class of 1987), where he fell in love with volleyball during intermural matches that also featured the Gamecocks' head volleyball coach.

• Has spent nearly four decades in volleyball, either as a player or a coach.

• Woods Charter is his first-ever high school varsity head coaching gig, which he pairs with his full-time job in which he's a software engineer in Raleigh.

Woods Charter Wolves

Conference: Central Tar Heel 1A
Record: 5-1 (1-0 in Central Tar Heel)

Upcoming schedule:

• Friday, Sept. 10 vs. Clover Garden (conference)

• Tuesday, Sept. 14 at Chatham Charter (conference)

• Thursday, Sept. 16 vs. Southern Wake (conference)

READ IT ONLINE

NORTH STOKES 12, CHATHAM CENTRAL 0

Poor protection, penalties poke Bears

BY JOHN MCCANN
News + Record
Correspondent

BEAR CREEK — Like Sam Cooke crooned on that classic, look for change to come along Chatham Central's offensive line.

"People got to step up," Chatham Central head football coach Sherman Howze said after the North Stokes Vikings beat his Bears, 12-0, on Friday night. "That was a winnable game."

Penalties seemed like the only way the Bears and the Vikings moved the football.

"A lot of penalties that hurt us, both teams," North Stokes Head Coach Jamie Fortner said after the win.

But North Stokes (2-1) simply managed more production.

With the second quarter fading, North Stokes senior safety Victor Martinez picked off Chatham Central senior quarterback Malachi Moore. The Vikings took over on Chatham Central's 48-yard line and, from there, North Stokes senior quarterback Elijah Cone handled it, finding a seam and sewing yards until he tied them together in the end zone.

That score gave the Vikings a 6-0 lead on the road at halftime — but Fortner still chewed out his players during the intermission.

"We didn't move the ball," Fortner explained.

"We worked real hard on offensive line this week, and they practiced hard and they worked hard. We thought we had the problem solved, and we just didn't move them. I think the trouble with a lot of it was the running backs went outside of their holes some, so we've got to kind of cut down on that."

Fans in the visitors' stands had the same scouting report, hollering at Martinez, also the team's running back, to hit the hole when Cone put the ball in his belly.

Well, with all due respect, Howze said, the Bears were getting after it pretty good on defense.

When Chatham Central had the ball, the Vikings turned Moore into a fugitive, forcing him to go on the run all night. If Fortner's right and North Stokes needs some tweaking on the offensive front, then the Bears are due for an outright overhaul in the trenches, according to Howze.

Moore has a lot of mojo in his legs and used it to extend plays and complete some passes under duress, but the Vikings kept coming in waves.

"Pretty much just straight blitzes," Chatham Central sophomore center Aidan Holton said. "We just couldn't hold on to our blocks [Friday night]. We had a lot of blitzing coming through, and nobody would pick them up."

That has to change,

Howze insisted. It will change — this week, he said.

"We've got to stay on our blocks," Howze said. "We've got to be able to protect the quarterback. We've got to do the necessary stuff to get everything right. Defense kept us in the game. We just couldn't move the ball the way we wanted to."

Howze said some of his players on defense may have to play offense in order for Chatham Central (0-2) to get right before their conference games begin. The Bears have the lungs and legs to do it, the coach said.

"We've just got to play ironman football," Howze said. "We're conditioned enough."

The Bears host Wheatmore on Friday before their first conference game Sept. 17 on the road against Cummings.

Late in the fourth quarter Friday, Cone, from his quarterback position, coolly sprinted 29 yards to put the game on ice with 1:27 left on the clock.

On the last play of the game, Moore was sprinting, too. But he was scrambling, seemingly running for his life. He got nailed. The horn sounded. The Vikings promptly quit wounding the Bears.

"It's a growing process, but we'll get there," Howze said. "We did some good things. But we have to cut down on the penalties and mistakes."

North Stokes' Elijah Cone (2) takes a run up the middle of the field past Chatham Central's Joaquin Gordan (5) and Devin Cheek (44) and into range of Victor Oldham (10) in the first quarter in Bear Creek last Friday. The Bears lost their second game of the season to the Vikings, 12-0.

Staff photo by David Bradley



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POLICE REPORTS

CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On August 25, Roger Steven Clark, 36, of 966 Vernie Phillips Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Olivia Sturdivant for possession of methamphetamine, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 13.

Clark was also arrested by Deputy Olivia Sturdivant for resisting a public officer. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 13.

Clark was also arrested by Deputy Olivia Sturdivant for felony probation violation. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court in Pittsboro on August 26.

On August 25, Glen Todd Smith Jr., 34, of 420 S. 2nd Avenue, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Cody DeViney for domestic violence protective order violation. He was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 15.

On August 26, Carlos Dominguez Moreno, 29, of 514 E. 2nd Street, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Dominique York for failing to register as a sex offender. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 13.

Moreno was also arrested by Deputy Dominique York for multiple failures to appear regarding charges of failure to report new address, driving while impaired, driving while license revoked,

speeding, possession of marijuana up to ½ oz., open container, two felony probation violations, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and a misdemeanor probation violation. He was issued a \$40,800 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on August 30.

On August 26, Carlos Dominguez Moreno, 29, of 514 E. 2nd Street, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for possession of marijuana ½ to 1 ½ ounces, possession of marijuana paraphernalia and sex offender residence violation. He was issued a \$25,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 13.

On August 26, Garron Tafteeq Sparks, 27, of 194 Artesian Spring, Dunn, was arrested by Staff Sgt. Anthony Norton for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. He was issued a \$100,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Wake County District Court in Raleigh on August 27.

On August 26, Jeremy Lee Mahaley, 22, of 632 Clyde Davis Road, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for larceny of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle and contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 13.

On August 29, Stephen Michael Welch, 35, of 38 Lee Street, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy Joshua Sammons for unauthorized possession of a firearm. He was held with no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 13.

On August 27, Robert Anthony Chisholm, 58, of 154 Dan Road, Robbins,

was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for assault on a female and injury to personal property. He was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 28.

On August 27, Danny Ray Atkins, 27, of 312 Randolph Street, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy Grant Carter for assault by strangulation and assault on a female. He was issued a \$2,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 15.

On August 27, Caitlyn Rae Collins, 25, of 312 Randolph Street, Bennett, was arrested by Deputy Grant Carter for simple assault. She was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 22.

On August 27, Jonathan Gray Burke, 27, 1203 S. 2nd Avenue, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for multiple failures to appear relating to charges of trafficking opium or heroin, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, sell/delivery of a Schedule II controlled substance, simple possession of a Schedule II controlled substance and possession drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$50,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court in Pittsboro on August 30. Burke was also arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for multiple failure to appear regarding charges of defrauding a drug/alcohol test, failure to wear a seatbelt, driving with license revoked, driving/allowing a motor vehicle to operate with no registration, operating a vehicle with no insurance, hit and run with failure to stop following property damage and possessing/displaying

an altered/fictitious/revoked driver's license. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 8. Burke was also arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for failure to appear related to charges of felony probation violation. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 9.

On August 28, Robert Martin Perkins, 56, 201 Portsmouth Place, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Alberto Estrada for assault on a female. He was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 15.

On August 28, Tamara Fischer Biondi, 44, of 740 Hills of the Haw Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Alberto Estrada for assault and battery. She was held on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 15.

On August 28, Joshua Martin Queen, 31, 503 Hill Lane, Mebane, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for failure to appear regarding charges of driving with license revoked and failure to stop at a stop sign. He was issued a \$500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on September 23.

On August 29, Yush Kahmyu Smith, 24, of 260 Laura Johnson Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Staff Sgt. Rischetta White for failure to appear. He was issued a \$260.00 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on September 21.

N.C.'S SPENDING PLAN

As General Assembly moves toward finalizing a budget, will Democrats have a say?

BY D. LARS DOLDER
News + Record Staff

RALEIGH — North Carolina's General Assembly and governor appear closer to passing a comprehensive state budget than they've been in four years, but reports of renewed bipartisanship oversimplify the negotiations process, according to Chatham legislators.

The state budget is now more than two months late after the fiscal year renewed in June and the General Assembly's chambers have yet to reach a compromise in their respective budget proposals. But at least two facts make adoption of this year's budget more likely than in years past: the Senate and House of Representatives have agreed on a total spending figure, \$25.7 billion; and each Republican-dominant chamber passed its budget version with enough Democratic support to constitute a supermajority, which could, in theory, override a governor veto.

If the budget becomes law, it would be the first complete spending plan since the 2017 session. In 2019 (state budgets are biennial) Gov. Roy Co-

per vetoed the General Assembly's proposal and the latter had too few votes to override him. Several piecemeal budgets were passed in its stead according to the previous budget's total spending level. As a result, tens of thousands of state employees — including teachers — were not afforded raises, potential tax cuts were deferred and many state construction projects went unfunded.

But politicians on both sides of the aisle have resolved to avoid that workarround this year.

"I think all of us on every side, every part of leadership in both chambers, including the governor, are very hopeful that the budget bill that is sent to him for his signature or veto is a bill that he'll be able to sign," Chatham Rep. Robert Reives II (D-Dist. 54) told the News + Record. "I think we're all very hopeful for that."

Since the budget process began, Republicans in the Senate and House vowed to include their colleagues across the aisle more than in previous sessions.

"There has been an incredible commitment from the majority, in both the Senate and the House leadership, to try to

work in a better manner towards compromise."

But that's not to say Democrats played much role in drafting each chamber's proposal, as some reports have suggested.

"I've read some things that sound like Democrats have had a hand in this from the start," Reives said. "Is it true that (Republicans) have stated that they plan to involve the Governor at an earlier stage? Yes. But is it accurate to say the Democrats have been involved in the crafting of the budget to a greater extent than before? Absolutely not."

Democrats on the Senate floor have felt similarly detached until recently.

"I haven't seen a huge difference in the process compared to past years," Sen. Valerie Foushee (D-Dist. 23), who represents Chatham and Orange counties, told the News + Record.

The general timbre of discussion, however, has been more civil than in previous budget sessions.

"I think what may be feeding into that idea that we've been working together is that it has not been a negative process," Foushee said. "You haven't heard any real bickering. But the Senate passed a budget that only four Democrats voted for, so I don't know why that would appear that there was more Democratic support. And in the House I think nine Democrats voted for that budget, so I don't know what would have anyone to believe that the process was more inclusive."

The final stages of budget development may yield a more bipartisan effort, though, as the House and Senate work to settle on a "conference budget" — the legislature's compromise between each chamber's vision. In the conference stage, committees from both halves of the General Assembly and Gov. Cooper work together to shape a final budget.

The Senate committee

includes four Democrats out of 24 members. The House committee has nine Democrats out of 47 members. They are all the same Democrats who voted in favor of their chambers' original proposals. In the Senate, that includes Sen. Don Davis, Sen. Kirk deViere, Sen. Paul Lowe and Sen. Ben Clark; Democrats on the House conference committee include Rep. Cecil Brockman, Rep. Brian Farkas, Rep. Charles Graham, Rep. Howard Hunter III, Rep. Marvin Lucas, Rep. Garland Pierce, Rep. William Richardson, Rep. Shelly Willingham and Rep. Michael Wray.

"That the conference committees include Democratic members, that is something that did not happen in 2017," Foushee said. "So that is different."

Conference committees and Cooper are in the process of negotiating a final budget, but legislative leadership has suggested they will not

likely finish before the end of September, as first reported by the News + Observer of Raleigh. In the meantime, state employee raises and other legislative policies remain unfunded. But it seems this year the stalemate will desist.

"I think part of what gives all of us hope is that you haven't heard the rancor that you've heard in the past," Foushee said. "You haven't heard or seen lines drawn in the sand that, 'If it doesn't include this it's not going anywhere and we're not going to vote for it.' That has not happened ... Those are the kinds of things that give me hope that we're going to see a different process moving forward and as it relates to negotiations, I am optimistic that we'll see a better final product."

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



This Community ROCKS!

Abundance NC is matching folks in need during this Covid-19 period with volunteers and locals that have time and resources. Here is a recap of what **YOU** have accomplished since the pandemic started:



To DONATE:



For help or to help:



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

Thank YOU!

Much LOVE and BLESSINGS from the families YOU help! This is community resilience! !!

Apply to join the Chatham Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors

The Chatham Economic Development Corporation seeks applicants for its board of directors.

The Chatham EDC serves as the lead economic development agency for Chatham County and is seeking applicants for its board of directors. As a nonprofit corporation, the Chatham EDC is looking for candidates who live or work in Chatham County. People with private sector business backgrounds and who are interested in furthering economic growth in the County strongly encouraged to apply. The deadline to apply is September 10th.

Apply: <https://bit.ly/3lteXcZ>
Learn more: <https://www.chathamcdc.org/news/join-the-board/>



Veto likely for Republican-passed bill limiting school discussions on race

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

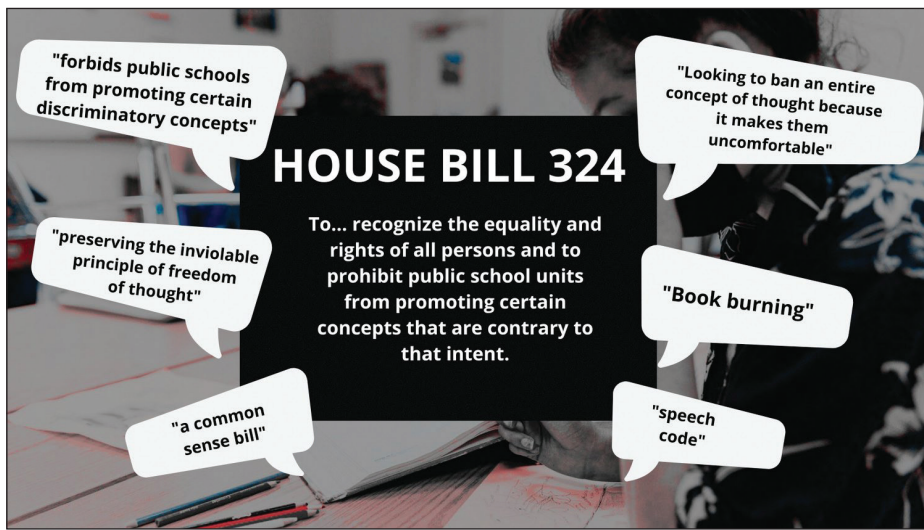
North Carolina Senate Republicans approved House Bill 324, "Ensuring Dignity & Nondiscrimination in Schools," on Aug. 26, which includes new rules for how public schools can teach students about racism.

The bill — approved along party lines — was presented to Gov. Roy Cooper last Friday, after being approved by the House, also along party lines, on Sept. 1. Cooper is very likely to veto the bill; Republicans don't have the numbers to overturn a veto.

"Instead of pushing calculated, conspiracy-laden politics into public education, lawmakers should be focused on supporting teachers, helping students recover lost learning and investing in our public schools," Gov. Roy Cooper spokesman Jordan Monaghan said in an email to WRAL last week. "This legislation does none of that and is only meant for the next political campaign."

House Bill 324 was first filed under a pre-existing bill on charter schools in March amid claims by Republican legislators that some teachers are trying to indoctrinate students using critical race theory.

Though the bill doesn't specifically mention critical race theory, it joins legislation across the country proposed by Republicans to limit discussion of CRT — an academic framework widely criticized and incorrectly or vaguely defined by some vocal conservatives, according to critical



race theory scholars. The concept, more than 40 years old, is wide-ranging, but essentially views racism as systemic and therefore woven into legal systems and policies — including America's.

The vast majority of teachers do not use the term "critical race theory" with students, or teach from the work of scholars who specifically use that framework, CRT scholars say.

Democrats, joined by many educators, worry HB324 could prevent schools from having accurate discussions about the country's history as it pertains to race and sex. Still, Republicans like Senate Leader Phil Berger (R-Dist. 30) say such legislation is necessary to guard against the indoctrination of students.

"Children must learn about our state's racial past and all of its ugliness, including the cruelty of slavery to the 1898 Wilmington massacre to Jim Crow," Berger wrote in a statement in July. "But students must

not be forced to adopt an ideology that is separate and distinct from history; an ideology that attacks 'the very foundations of the liberal order,' and that promotes 'present discrimination' — so long as it's against the right people — as 'antiracist.'"

The bill prohibits the "promotion" of 13 concepts, and defines promoting concepts as "compelling school community members to affirm or profess belief in such concepts," in curriculum, reading lists, workshops or trainings or "contracting with, hiring, or otherwise engaging speakers, consultants, diversity trainers, and other persons for the purpose of advocating" them.

Here are the 13 prohibited concepts:

- One race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex
- An individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive
- An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treat-

ment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex

- An individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex

- An individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex

- Any individual, solely by virtue of his or her race or sex, should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress

- A meritocracy is inherently racist or sexist

- The United States was created by members of a particular race or sex for the purpose of oppressing members of another race or sex

- The United States government should be violently overthrown

- Particular character traits, values, moral or ethical codes, privileges, or beliefs should be ascribed to a race or sex, or to an individual because of the individual's race or sex

The rule of law does not exist, but instead is a series of power relationships and struggles among racial or other groups

- All Americans are not created equal and are not endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

- Governments should deny to any person within the government's jurisdiction the equal protection of the law

Chatham County Schools administrators have not formally addressed the CRT discussion, but several parents expressed opposition to the theory at the board of education's July meeting.

In North Carolina, schools board members are elected in nonpartisan races. Still, across the state, school board discussions have often fallen along partisan lines over the last year, notably related to discussions on teaching history and on masking in response to COVID-19.

Many educators have said the implications of the bill are not clear, calling into question who will be the judge of whether teaching promotes the listed concepts and whether the bill would cause teachers to censor themselves from teaching certain historical facts or events out of fear or uncertainty.

Chatham County School's Amanda Moran previously told the News + Record that the bill could potentially pose challenges in discussing "hard history." While she doesn't think the bill

would prevent the district from moving forward with its current equity work, it could make it more difficult.

"On the surface, when anyone reads the title of the bill, 'Ensuring Dignity & Nondiscrimination in Schools,' I think we would all agree that is something we would all strive to do," said Moran, who is the district's assistant superintendent of academic services and instructional support, in May. "The part that I think has some question marks behind it that we'll continue to watch closely would be the components particularly about being able to teach certain parts of the social studies curriculum."

The bill also requires schools to make information regarding the following actions available to the public at least 30 days before teaching any concepts prohibited in the bill, along with "contracting with or hiring speakers or diversity consultants for the purpose of discussing the prohibited concepts or who have previously advocated for the concepts."

The bill doesn't specify how complaints should be lodged, who will determine if a prohibited concept was indeed promoted or what the punishment for doing so would be.

By the time of publication Tuesday, Cooper hadn't yet acted on the bill.

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.

NEWS BRIEFS

Parks and Rec announces 2nd annual Chatham County Challenge

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County community is invited to step up this fall for the second annual Chatham County Challenge — a virtual walk, run or bike challenge. From Oct. 1-31, bikers are challenged to complete a 100k (62 miles) and runners/walkers are challenged to complete a 50k (31 miles). There is no cost to participate.

Similar to last year's competition, participants will be asked to track their miles through a free mobile app called Map My Fitness and must sign up through the app no later than Sept. 30. The top 20 bikers, 20 runners, and 20

walkers with the most distance logged in the Chatham County Challenge will receive a free T-shirt. The participant with the most miles logged in each category will also receive a \$25 gift card to the local business New Horizons. A weekly leaderboard and end of challenge winners will be announced on the Parks and Recreation website, Facebook and Instagram.

"We are elated to offer a program where people of all ages can get outside at their own convenience and stay fit by biking, running, or walking," said Chatham County Parks and Recreation Director Tracy Burnett. "We had over 100 people participate in last year's Chatham County Challenge, and we hope to increase those numbers this year."

Further instructions for the Chatham County Challenge and other information

from Chatham County Parks and Recreation can be found at chathamcountync.gov/parks-recreation. Individuals with questions may contact Mallory Peterson at the Parks and Recreation Department at 919-545-8553 or mallory.peterson@chathamcountync.gov.

Chatham Artists Guild accepting membership applications

The Chatham Artists Guild announces the opening of its 2022 Membership Drive. Artists 18 years of age or older, in all mediums, who reside or work in a studio in Chatham County may apply. The deadline for application is Oct. 31.

"We have moved up the dates for artists to apply," said Gina Harrison, CAG's president.

"New members selected by jury will join the Guild in January to receive a full year of benefits. We are actively seeking exhibition opportunities year round and want new members to benefit from that effort."

The application process has been streamlined to make it as easy as possible for entrants to apply. Applicants can visit www.chathamartistsguild.org/membership to begin their application with a small entry fee paid online.

CAG was founded on the concept of creating an artists' collective. Members can connect with a supportive community of working artists, participate in local exhibits and shows, and receive alerts about calls for artists, professional development and more. In addition, all members benefit from greater exposure through individual

listings in the Artist Directory and image gallery hosted on the Guild's website. New members may also opt to join the organization's signature event, the Annual Studio Tour.

Held the first two weekends in December, the annual tour of artist studios was the first of its kind in North Carolina and remains instrumental in building community among local artists. The highly respected art venue connects the public with Chatham County artists, providing a rare glimpse into the creative process. New artists receive mentoring and support for the event to ensure their success.

Learn more about the Guild and the application process, member benefits and requirements at www.chathamartistsguild.com.

—CN+R staff reports

Kid Scoop THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
 Find Kid Scoop on Facebook
 © 2017 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 33, No. 42

Thrifty & Fritter Reaching a Goal

Wow! I would really like to be able to buy that cool jacket, Thrifty!

I know how you could get it, Fritter...

TWO MONTHS LATER...
 Thrifty, you were right! Your idea worked! Thank you!

How I Got My Jacket by Fritter
 Number the steps Fritter followed in order.

In all, I repeated the goal of saving \$10 six times. And that's how I saved \$60!

First, I set a goal to save the money to buy it. The jacket I wanted cost \$60.

\$60 seemed like an enormous amount of money. But my pal Thrifty told me to think of the \$60 as a series of smaller goals.

So I made a goal to save just \$10 at first.

After that, I made the goal to save \$10 again.

Put a check next to each job Fritter did to earn \$10 to put in his piggy bank each week. If you check the right boxes, they add up to exactly \$10.

Mowed the lawn: \$3 Took out the trash: \$1 Sold lemonade: \$4
 Fed our neighbor's bird: \$1 Recycled bottles and cans: \$3 Raked leaves: \$2

Which jacket did Fritter choose?
 Fritter's jacket doesn't have a zipper. It has stripes, but not on the sleeves. It has less than seven buttons.

Kid Scoop Together: Funny Fill-in

Ask a family member to give you:
 • 4 nouns
 • 2 adjectives
 • 1 verb
 • 10 plural nouns

Use these words to fill in the blanks in this story. Then, read the silly story you created aloud together for lots of laughs!

Roger is a collector of _____ ADJECTIVE PLURAL NOUN

As you can imagine, such a collection is quite expensive.

To save money, Roger always looks for the best _____ NOUN when shopping. He'll often compare _____ PLURAL NOUN between products to see which one is a better _____ NOUN.

At the grocery store, he doesn't just fill his basket with a lot of _____ PLURAL NOUN. Instead, he writes a _____ NOUN and brings it with him. He clips _____ PLURAL NOUN out of the newspaper to save money. He checks the newspaper's website for special _____ PLURAL NOUN, too.

Roger buys _____ PLURAL NOUN in bulk. He will _____ VERB them with his friends and family if he has extras. He saves money by choosing _____ ADJECTIVE _____ PLURAL NOUN instead of more expensive _____ PLURAL NOUN.

Roger also checks the classified ads for _____ PLURAL NOUN when he needs new ones.

He bought a very reliable car that way that doesn't use a lot of _____ NOUN.

"Thanks to the money I've saved with the newspaper, I am about to start a new collection of rare _____ PLURAL NOUN!" says Roger happily.

You Can Do It! What is a big goal you would like to achieve? Is it saving money, improving how well you play a sport or completing a big homework project?

My Goal: _____

Break your goal into smaller goals:

First:	Second:	Third:	Fourth:
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

It might take more than four steps, or repeating some steps, to reach a bigger goal. Don't give up!

Extra! Extra! The Money Round Up
 Look through the newspaper for five or more numbers that show a price. Cut out each price and glue onto a sheet of paper in order from smallest to largest. Round each number to the nearest 100 and write that number next to each price.

Standards Link: Number Sense: Add sums up to 100.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Without using any of the coins below twice, circle the coins that add up to:

28¢ 29¢ 31¢ 36¢

Standards Link: Math: Students compute money sums.

Double Double Word Search

REMEMBER ENORMOUS THRIFTY ACHIEVE CREDIT MONEY TRASH PIGGY BREAK BANKS THINK GOAL SAFE SAVE JOB

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Write On! Safety Tips

What are three safety tips for kids to remember?

the Y Chatham YMCA

- CHATHAM YMCA SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- YMCA DAY CAMP: PERRY HARRISON SCHOOL

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COVID-19 IN CHATHAM SCHOOLS

Little evidence of community spread in schools here, but wary educators, parents keep close watch

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

A total of 105 people at Chatham County Schools have tested positive for COVID-19 since the district's first day of school on Aug. 23, according to the district's COVID-19 dashboard as of Tuesday evening, including one cluster of nine associated cases at Chatham Central High School documented last week.

With more than 10,500 students and staff members, the number of positive cases since the beginning of the school year makes up nearly 1% of the district's total population. The district tracks all reported positive cases — not just clusters. A cluster is defined as five or more cases that are epidemiologically related, not just five or more cases in the same building.

There is currently scant evidence of community spread of COVID-19 at CCS, likely due in part to the district's mitigation strategies — namely, universal indoor masking. Still, as the more contagious Delta variant continues to spread, some are worried about what such trends could mean for schools.

"I mostly hope that we can stay in school and that we don't have another outbreak or something this winter with the Delta variant," Northwood High School junior Oliver Ewy told the News + Record after CCS's first week of classes. "That's something that does worry me — that we're gonna go back online again. Which, I could deal with that, but I would prefer to stay in school."

In North Carolina, people ages 14 and under make up 11% of total positive COVID-19 cases, according to the state's

COVID-19 dashboard as of Tuesday afternoon; in Chatham, that same age group makes up 9% of total cases. Nationally, children and teen COVID-19 rates are rising to rates not seen since the pandemic's winter surge. For the majority of school-aged children, getting vaccinated is currently not an option; only people 12 and up are currently able to get vaccinated in the U.S.

Since the start of school, a few CCS teachers confidentially expressed concerns to the News + Record regarding concerning COVID-19 trends. Though CCS doesn't currently show much community spread, within the county, cases have drastically increased over the last month. And for the first time in three months, Chatham residents are dying because of COVID-19, the News + Record reported earlier this week.

Some teachers expressed concern with the district's lunch protocol. Students have a 30-minute lunch period, but are strongly encouraged to eat in 15 minutes or less, with no talking while eating inside until masks are back on. That 15-minute window isn't always strictly enforced, those teachers said. The district previously said it's up to the individual discretion of a school principal whether students at that school eat lunch in the cafeteria, classrooms or outside.

As COVID trends have worsened in the last couple months, some parents are also concerned about the safety of in-person learning, even as most desire for their students to learn in person. Following more than a year of COVID-19-related obstacles, there's a strong communal desire to stay in schools — but to do so safely.

A new survey funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and released last week found that from a sample of 1,448 public school parents and guardians showed many parents — especially Black and Hispanic parents — are worried enough about the Delta variant that they'd rather keep their children home to learn remotely, at least part time. The survey was released by the National Parent Teacher Association Sept. 1 and was funded by the CDC through the Atlanta-based nonprofit CDC Foundation.

Only 43% of parents surveyed wanted full-time in-person school for their students, following the CDC's updated guidance on July 27 to account for the Delta variant. Before that guidance, 58% of those surveyed said they wanted their children in a classroom full time this year.

Among Black parents, 41% said they wanted a full-time in-person program after July 27, the survey found, compared with 43% of parents overall. For Hispanic parents, that figure fell to 37 percent.

"It's not just that parents aren't OK," Adam Burns, a partner at Edge Research, who led the nationwide parent survey released last week, told NBC News. "They've been not-OK for about 18 months."

Nationally, some parents are concerned that their district is no longer offering a robust remote-only program, or only offering it to a select group of students. At CCS, the school's virtual academy is open to all students, but requires a semester-long commitment, meaning in theory that the earliest students could move from in-person to

virtual would be next semester. About 210 CCS students are enrolled in the virtual academy, the district previously said, compared to more than 2,000 last year.

In Chatham, CCS officials have stressed that universal indoor masking — done properly, with the right type of mask covering both a person's mouth and nose — will play a huge role in allowing in-person classes and activities to continue.

"We still have the mask mandate for school, and I really appreciate that," Ewy told the News + Record, "I was thinking over the summer, 'Oh, I really hope they keep that in place.' Because I know I wouldn't have felt super safe if they weren't requiring it, so I'm glad they have it."

The district does not have any predetermined threshold of district COVID-19 cases or community spread that would move classes temporarily online, though under state legislation, it has the authority to make such decisions. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Janice Frazier previously told the News + Record a move online would likely only take place if positive cases led the district to be too understaffed to carry out school services.

Are you a student, parent or employee at CCS? Reach out with questions, thoughts or coverage ideas you'd like to see regarding this school year at hannah@chathamnr.com.

Reporter Hannah McClellan can be reached at hannah@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.

Federal unemployment benefits are ending. Now what?

I'm not sure if it was an ironic or suggestive



D. LARS DOLDER
Enterprising Chatham

Labor Day.

About 1 million North Carolinians, roughly one-fifth of the total working population, lost \$300 a week in supplemental income, and many lost their benefits entirely. For the first time ever, gig workers, contractors and the otherwise self-employed had qualified for unemployment assistance under the government's pandemic response programs. Now they're back to fending

for themselves.

So what does that mean for the labor market? Probably less than employers would hope.

"You probably know if you're talking to business leaders, there's nobody applying for any jobs right now," Craig Sullivan, President of Siler City's AD Tubi told me (see my full article on his company in this week's edition). "... It's nearly impossible to move forward with hiring anyone. In my mind, there's no labor available in the surrounding area."

I have talked with many business leaders, as Sullivan suspected, and the consensus matches his perspective — no one has been able to find qualified workers.

"Since we've been in the pandemic, it's really hard to find people to come work for you," Blake Arnett, plant direc-

tor at Pittsboro's 3M, told me last week. "I think everyone is feeling that."

But the numbers would suggest otherwise. Since 2021 began, the unemployment rate has not exceeded 6%. Recent figures are in the low 4s, as good as pre-pandemic levels. So why are businesses understaffed? The apparent disconnect lies in a technicality: the unemployment rate doesn't count people who aren't looking for work. Presumably, there's a population segment of people who worked before the pandemic, and do not work now, but don't contribute to our current unemployment rate. Percentages, therefore, miss the point — total worker volume has decreased in the last year and a half.

"You've got the danger of working with a pandemic still going on,

and that scares people," Greg Lewis told me shortly before opening his new restaurant, The Sycamore, in June. "And then there's the cushion of unemployment payments that are hard for people to break from."

The average unemployment recipient made \$235 a week from the state, according to a Spectrum News report this summer. Add in \$300 a week in federal stimulus, and beneficiaries earned the equivalent of almost \$13.40 an hour at a full-time job — while sitting at home. Many qualified for higher state payments equal to \$15 per hour or higher.

"How can I hire people on with a salary that's competitive with what they can get from the government?" Lewis said.

He couldn't. And neither could most employ-

ers with entry-level jobs. Many politicians expect job vacancies to fill now that unemployment offers less incentive to stay at home. But some economists disagree.

"It will certainly help," Duke Professor of Economics Connel Fullenkamp said in an interview with WRAL. "But it's not going to be the big solution everyone is hoping for. There are many things that are keeping people away from work."

The most obvious deterrent is COVID-19's lingering presence. Low-wage workers might rejoin the labor force to replace their lost benefits, but higher earners were never supplanting their incomes with government funds.

"I'm not sure when we'll see it change," Sullivan said of hiring challenges across industries, "but I hope we can figure out what it is that people are looking for."

Business Journal.

The company, InCommercial Property Group, bought the 1.6-acre property at 1523 East 11th Street for \$5.5 million from Fayetteville-based Family Futures Inc.

Family Futures, formally known as Taco Properties Inc., spent \$6.39 million for the site in 2014.

Walgreens customers are unlikely to notice any change the store's building or operation, a company representative told me.

"We don't change any of the existing buildings normally," Operations Manager Joann Saguto said. "We pretty much just buy leases. We have more than 300 Walgreens, Dollar Generals and stores like that around the country."

InCommercial acts as an owner, financier, manager and broker for properties nationwide, its website says. They include single-tenant properties, shopping centers, office buildings and medical centers.

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

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YARD SALES

CARBONTON COMMUNITY CENTER, Huge yard sale, 6953 Caribton Road, Thursday, September 9, 7a.m. to 7p.m. and Friday, September 10, 7a.m. to 7p.m. Household items, linens, clothes, shoes, toys, furniture, and Christmas items galore! Also featuring homemade baked goods. S9,1tc

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RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, My6,tfnc

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RAINBOW WATER FILTERED VACUUMS, Alice Cox, Cox's Distributing - Rainbow - Cell: 919-548-4314, Sales, Services, Supplies. Serving public for 35 years. Rada Cutlery also available. Au26,tfnc

AUTO BROKERS RECYCLERS - Cash paid for Junk/Wrecked vehicles. Call 919-545-0194. My13,tfnc

JUNK CARS PICKED UP Free of charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no charge. 919-542-2803. A2,tfnc

I PAY IN CASH FOR Junk Cars and trucks. Prompt courteous service. Call 910-464-5434 or Cell: 910-639-5614. God Bless! J9,tfnc

LETT'S TREE SERVICE - tree removal, stump grinding, lot clearing. Visa & Master Card accepted. Timber. Free estimates. 919-258-3594 N9,tfnc

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF PITTSBORO Invites applications for the position of Public Utility Worker I - An Equal Opportunity Employee: Hiring Salary, \$33,842 - \$35,000 Annually; Closing Date: Open until filled; Position Type: Full-Time, (Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm); Department: Public Workers -- Summary:

The Public Utility Worker I is responsible for installation, repair and maintenance of water and sewer utilities. - Essential Job Functions: Performs other related duties as assigned. Receives and responds to customer complaints. Locates and repairs leaks/breaks in main supply lines. Maintains hydrants and valves. Diagnoses electrical problems on control panels and pumps. Monitors lift stations for proper operation. Diagnoses and repairs sewer problems. Assists in traffic control at work sites. Rotation on-call is required. Customer Service to Town Citizens via picking up brush, yard waste etc. -- Knowledge and qualifications: Applicant must have the ability to read and write and perform mathematical calculations at a level commonly associated with the completion of high school or equivalent. Sufficient experience to understand the basic principles relevant to the major duties of the position. Possession of a valid North Carolina Driver's License and a safe driving record. S9,1tc

CHATHAM MONUMENT COMPANY has an immediate opening for a monument installer. Work involves digging monument foundations, mixing cement and installing monuments. Work is generally Monday through Friday, 8 to 4:30 p.m. but some weekend work is necessary. Please apply in person to: Chatham Monument Co. Inc., 227 N 2nd Avenue, Siler City. Jn24,tfnc

HOMECARE SEEKING, Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive weekly pay, CNAs start at \$10.00/hr. & up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call 919-776-0352 or visit 824 South Horner Blvd., Sanford for more info or to apply. A29,tfnc

HELP WANTED - EVENINGS &

WEEKENDS, Please inquire in person: Country Mart, 320 W. Raleigh St., Siler City, NC or Desperados, 602 North Second Avenue, Siler City A29,tfnc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **ANDREW BRENT ELMORE**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 10th day of August, 2021.

Emily Elmore, Administrator of The Estate of Andrew Brent Elmore
1050 Bonlee Carbon-ton Road
Bear Creek, North Carolina 27207
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312

(919) 542-5605
Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 435 All persons having claims against **EDITH ELIZABETH CUMMINS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 19th day of August, 2021.
John Gaylord Searle Cummins, Executor
2500 Lamont Norwood Rd.
Pittsboro, NC 27312
Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY The undersigned, having qualified on the 11th day of August, 2021, as Executor of the Estate of **ABRAHAM EZRA SHALO**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned

on or before the 23rd day of November, 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 19th day of August, 2021.
Sibyl Shalo Wilmont, Executor
Estate of Abraham Ezra Shalo
c/o J Alan Campbell Law
PO Box 850
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 488 The undersigned, having qualified as Ancillary Administrator of the Estate of **PAUL GENE OWEN**, deceased, late of Oreland, Pennsylvania, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned c/o Gunn & Messick, PLLC, P.O. Box 880, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 19th day of November, 2021, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 16th day of August, 2021.
David Wayne Owen
1704 Kriebel Mill

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Line ad deadline Tuesday - Noon
Display ad deadline Monday - 5 p.m.
Rates and payment Minimum charge of \$5 for each classified advertisement of 25 words or less per week. For each additional word, no matter how many insertions, add 20¢ per word. Payable in advance.
Blind ads No information will be given out by this office to the identity of person placing "keyed" or "blind" ads.
Errors In advertisements that run more than one week, we are responsible for errors appearing in the first week only. If you find an error in your ad, report it immediately.

Road
Collegeville, PA
19426



Career Opportunities Available

Visit www.chathamcountync.gov and click Jobs.

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT IN DOWNTOWN SILER CITY
2,175 sq ft



Former Moody, Williams, Roper, and Lee law office at 235 East Raleigh Street. Multiple offices, two half baths, and kitchen area. Parking behind building.

Fisher Properties
919-656-9933

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS

Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.
400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMG.com
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

HIRING CNA's
2ND & 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

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676 Roberts Chapel Rd.
Goldston, NC 27252



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3.63 Acres of land. 592sqft of heated space. Timber has not been cut.
336.674.3210
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Federal Employment Covid Relief payments ending!
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Sapona Yarns, LLC - Human Resources Department (336) 628-5826
or
Apply in person: 2478 Cedar Falls Rd, Franklinville, NC

GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC
Post Office Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina
27312

Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tc

**ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

Having qualified on the 13th day of August, 2021, as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **ED R. SMITH, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent to exhibit the same to the undersigned Administrator on or before the 19th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons,

firms and corporations indebted to the estate should make immediate payment. This the 19th day of August, 2021.

The Estate of Ed R. Smith, Jr. Ed Robert Smith, III, Administrator CTA
2700 Silk Hope Road
Siler City, North Carolina
27344
Attorney for the Estate:
William H. Flowe, Jr.
P.O. Box 1315
Liberty, NC 27298-1315
Phone: (336) 622-2278

Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 328**

All persons having claims

against **DELOIS J. SAMUELS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 19th day of August, 2021.

Jennifer P. Washington, Executor
7268 Cedar Ave.
Jessup, Md 20794

Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 472**

All persons having claims against **JOSE N. LANGAMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 19th day of August, 2021.

Josephus P. Langaman, Administrator
3334 Tracer Dr
Graham, NC 27253

Au19,Au26,S2,S9,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

HAVING QUALIFIED, as Administrator CTA, of the Estate of **SANDY L. MOON, a/k/a SANDRA FAYE MOON-BLOX-SOM** 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 November 30, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 26th day of August, 2021.

Ronald P. Collins, Administrator CTA of the Estate of Sandy L. Moon a/k/a Sandra Faye Moon-Bloxom
117 West Raleigh Street
Siler City, N. C. 273444
(919) 663-2533

Au26,S2,S9,S16,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 231**

All persons having claims against **EDWARD HERMAN SILER aka EDWARD HERMAN SILER, SR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 26th day of August, 2021.

Edward Herman Siler II, Executor
c/o J. Ray Deal, Attorney
Deal Law Firm
3017 South Church Street
Burlington, NC 27215

Au26,S2,S9,S16,4tp

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
21 CVD 509**

Rosa Ester Arita Oliva, Plaintiff, v. Victor Vazquez Navarro, Defendant
TO: Victor Vazquez Navarro, Defendant.
TAKE NOTICE that a Complaint has been filed against you in the civil action described above, for the purpose of obtaining legal custody of your minor child, Indayani Vazquez Arita. You are required to file a written Answer with any Defenses with the CHATHAM County Clerk of Superior Court at 40 E. Chatham Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312. You must also serve copies on the plaintiff's attorney (address below). Your response is due within forty (40) days of the first date of this publication. This publication begins the 26th day of August, 2021.

Signed, Valeria Cesanelli, Attorney for Plaintiff
431 Magdala Place
Apex, NC 27502
Ph. (919) 923-1577

Au26,S2,S9,3tp

**NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS DIVISION
In re: 21 SP 81
To: The Unknown Father of A.D.M**

TAKE NOTICE that a petition seeking relief against you has been filed in the above entitled action by Petitioners, Robin Martin and Darius Martin. The nature of the relief being sought is the entry of an order of adoption. You are required to make a defense to such pleading not later than November 9, 2021 said date being more than thirty (30) days from the first publication of this notice, and upon your failure to do so, the party seeking service against you shall apply to the court for the relief sought. Upon information and belief, A.D.M. was conceived in Chatham County, North Carolina, and the biological mother of A.D.M is Victoria Allyse Martin. Date of conception is believed to be on or about April, 2018. Please further note that any parental rights that you may have will be terminated upon the entry of the order of Adoption. Lillie S. Ashworth, Associate Atty. Marshall & Taylor, PLLC

221 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27603

Au26,S2,S9,3tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 467**

All persons having claims against **ANN RIVES ZAPPA**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of November, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 26th day of August, 2021.

Cynthia Cole, Executrix
281 WB Cheek Dr
Chapel Hill, NC 27517

Au26,S2,S9,S16,4tp

**PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM**

The annual meeting of the North Carolina Volunteer Fire Department Inc. will be held at North Chatham Volunteer Fire Station #1, U.S. 15-501 North, on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing three (3) Directors of the Corporation and of such business as may properly come before the meeting.

All residents of the North Chatham Fire Protection District, eighteen (18) years of age or older are entitled to attend and vote at said meeting. The directors to be elected at said meeting shall be residents of the North Chatham Fire Protection District of Chatham County and shall be fairly representative of the geographic areas and populations served by the corporation. This 30th day of August, 2021. Charles Quinlan, President North Chatham Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

S2,S9,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 439**

All persons having claims against **PRIMROSE ESTELLA EDWARDS SUTTON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of August, 2021.

Richard Anthony Sutton, Administrator
1409 Falling Star Way
Durham, NC 27704 4997

S2,S9,S16,S23,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM**

THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 13th day of August, 2021, as Executor of the ESTATE OF **CAROLEE ROMING**, Deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of December, 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, the 2nd day of September, 2021.

JILL EMERY, EXECUTOR
ESTATE OF CAROLEE ROMING
c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach, Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
Post Office Box 51549
Durham, North Carolina 27717

S2,S9,S16,S23,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

ALL PERSONS, firms and corporations having claims against **DANIEL PHILLIP MOREAU**, deceased, of Chatham County, NC, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before December 3, 2021 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of September, 2021.

Sabrina Moreau, Personal Representative
in c/o Kellie M. Corbett, Attorney at
Carolina Family Estate Planning
201 Commonwealth Court,
Suite 100
Cary, NC 27511

S2,S9,S16,S23,4tc

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 FY 2023 Capital Purchase of Service Community Transportation Program Application to be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Transportation no later than October 8, 2021. The public hearing will be held via Zoom on September 9, 2021 at 5:30 PM before the Chatham County Council on Aging Board of Directors.

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 Krista Westervelt on or before September 6, 2021, at telephone number 919-542-4512 or via email at krista.westervelt@chathamcoa.org 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 Chatham Transit Network. Services are rendered by Chatham Transit Network.

The total estimated amount requested for the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023: NOTE: Local share amount is subject to State funding availability.

Project, Amount	Total Local Share
Administrative \$ (15%)	\$
Operating (5311) \$ (50%)	\$
5310 Capital \$ 31,000 (10%)	\$ 310,000
(Purchase of Service)	
5310 Operating \$ (50%)	\$
Other _____ (%)	\$
TOTAL PROJECT	\$ 310,000

Request Total Funding
This application may be inspected at chathamcoa.org from September 2, 2021. Written comments should be directed to Krista Westervelt before September 8, 2021.

S2,S9,2tc

**PROJECT CHILD FIND
LAUNCHED THROUGHOUT
DISTRICT**

Project Child Find in the Chatham County Schools (CCS) runs from September 13th – 24th to identify youths between the ages of 3 and 21 who have disabilities and require special education and other related services. The local effort is part of a concentrated statewide push to identify young people requiring special education.

Project Child Find informs parents and guardians of such individuals about services available in their local school systems and at other state and community agencies. Project Child Find seeks youths who have been diagnosed or are suspected to have mental, physical or emotional disabilities and are unable to benefit from a regular school program without special assistance. Those aware of such youths who are not in school or not receiving special assistance are encouraged to contact the principal at the school in their area, or they could call the district's Exceptional Children's Department at 919-542-6400. Community support would help the effort a great deal, according to Melvin Diggs, the district's Executive Director for Exceptional Children and AIG. The following organizations have more information:

NC Department of Public Instruction, Exceptional Children Division - (984) 236-2550
Office of Early Learning (for ages 3-5) - (984) 236-2740
NC Department of Health and Human Services - (919) 707-5520
Family Support Network - 1-800-852-0042.

S2,S9,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 456**

All persons having claims against **TOMMY JOE KEITH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 9th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of September, 2021.

Carletta Jo Keith, Executor
c/o Steve Lackey, Attorney
410 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **MARY C. L. PISCITELLO**, 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 Marcus Hudson, Attorney at Law, 641 Rock Creek Road, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, on or before the 10th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment. This 9th day of September, 2021.

WILLIAM M. PISCITELLO, EXECUTOR
ESTATE OF MARY C. L. PISCITELLO
C/O Marcus Hudson, Attorney at Law
641 Rock Creek Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
27514

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **EDITH HAMMOND**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 29th day of August, 2019, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the office of the attorney for the estate on or before the 9th day of December, 2021, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 9th day of September, 2021.

Edith Hammond Holloman, Personal Representative

c/o Catherine L. Wilson, Attorney for the Estate
McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson, & Hinkle, PLLC,
3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400
Durham, NC 27707

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY**

Michael Anatolyevich Gordeev, having qualified as the Executor of the Estate of **VERA M. GORDEEVA**, Deceased, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County on August 31st, 2021, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned attorney of the Personal Representative on or before December 8th, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said Estate please make immediate payment. This the 31st day of August 2021. Payments and claims should be presented to Austin C. Vandever, 50101 Governors Drive, Suite 150, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27517.

This Notice is given pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 28A-14-1. Austin C. Vandever, Attorney of Record
50101 Governors Drive, Suite 150
Chapel Hill, NC, 27517

S9,S16,S23,S30,4tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on Monday, September 20, 2021, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The hearing will be held in the courtroom of the Historic Courthouse in Pittsboro, North Carolina at 9 Hillsboro Street.

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.chatham-countync.gov by selecting the heading County Government, then Commissioner Meetings, then Public Input/Hearing Sign Up. The public hearing may be continued to another date at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners.

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive input, both written and oral, on the issues listed below:
Legislative Request:
1. A second legislative public hearing for a Conditional District Compact Community rezoning request by Herndon Farms One, LLC for an active-adult (55 and older) compact community with 161 residential units, congregate care facility, one-story office/daycare, community gardens, and barn for events on approximately 97.86 (previously 96.86 acres) acres being Parcels 93852, 2752, 18750, 18897, 18896, and 18909, located on US 15-501 N split by Williams and Baldwin townships.

Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discussions.

Notice to people with special needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312.

S9,S16,2tc

TOWN OF SILER CITY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on Sept. 20, 2021, at 6:30 pm in the multipurpose room of the Wren Memorial Library located at 500 N. 2nd Ave. Public hearing and Board discussion will be conducted on the following requests:

Town of Siler City proposes the following text amendments to the UDO: §18 Definitions (cease, discontinue, short term, temporary, vacant) and §117 Abandonment and Discontinuance of Nonconforming Situations (replace a single wide manufactured home located in the R-10 zoning district with a double wide manufactured home).

The proposed item is available for review by contacting the Planning and Community Development Director at jmeadows@silercity.org or 919-742-2323. All persons interested in the outcome of the application are invited to attend the public hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced item. The Planning Board will meet on Sept. 13 @ 6:30 pm to consider a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Nancy Hannah at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue,

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 359
All persons having claims against **LEXTON JACKSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 9th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of September, 2021.
Carlos Jackson, Administrator
500 Smith Level Rd, Apt S-6
Carrboro, NC 27510
S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 359
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Carlos Jackson, Administrator
500 Smith Level Rd, Apt S-6
Carrboro, NC 27510
S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
All persons having claims against **PATSY H. THOMPSON** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 11th day of May, 2021, are notified to present them to Trust Bank, Executor of the Estate of Patsy H. Thompson in c/o David R. Frankstone, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before December 9, 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 Patsy H. Thompson. Those indebted to Patsy H. Thompson are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.
David R. Frankstone
Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A.
1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203
Exchange West at Meadowmont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY
All persons having claims against **VINSON LEON THOMPSON**, aka Vinson L. Thompson [hereinafter "Vinson L. Thompson"] of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 17th day of June, 2021, are notified to present them to Trust Bank, Executor of the Estate of Vinson L. Thompson in c/o David R. Frankstone, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before December 9, 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 Vinson L. Thompson. Those indebted to Vinson L. Thompson are asked to make prompt payment to the Estate.
David R. Frankstone
Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P.A.
1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203
Exchange West at Meadowmont
Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834
S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

CHATHAM COUNTY UTILITIES

DEPT.
..Title: Vote on a request to waive the competitive bid process and award a piggyback bid for the purchase of activated carbon powder, provided in super sacks, for the Chatham County Water Treatment Plant to Calgon Carbon Corporation.
..Abstract: Action Requested: Vote on a request to award a piggyback contract to Calgon Carbon Corporation for the purchase of activated carbon powder, provided in super sacks, for the Chatham County Water Treatment Plant at \$.95 per pound.
Introduction & Background: The Town of Cary conducted a formal bid for water treatment chemicals April 9, 2021. The activated carbon was awarded to Calgon Carbon Corporation by the town counsel on June 22, 2021.
Cary and Chatham County both share responsibilities for maintaining the water quality at Jordan Lake. In years past, Cary and Chatham have used the same activated carbon with good results. Cary's award in June of the April bid was awarded to a new vendor, Calgon Carbon Corporation. Chatham County would save money with the piggyback, as well as continue the same

product as Cary.
Discussion & Analysis: North Carolina General Statute 143-129(g) authorizes local governments to purchase without bidding from a person or entity that has, within the last 12 months, contracted to furnish an item to another public agency.
The Town of Cary solicited for bids in April, 2021. They received seven bids for the Activated Carbon-Super Sack. Calgon Carbon is willing to extend the same pricing to Chatham County, at \$.95 per pound.
Per General Statute 143-129(g) the vendor must be willing to extend the same or better pricing to the County. The piggyback award must take place at a regular scheduled board meeting, and the County must publish the Intent to Award a Piggyback Contract no less than 10 days prior to the scheduled board meeting. The advertisement is scheduled for the Chatham News on Thursday, September 9, 2021.
Recommendation: Motion to award a piggyback contract to Calgon Carbon Corporation for the purchase of activated carbon powder, provided in super sacks, for the Chatham County Water Treatment Plant

at \$.95 per pound. S9,1tc
NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
HAVING QUALIFIED as Executrix of the Estate of **JOHN WALTER ETCHISON**, 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 8th day of December, 2021, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.
This the 3rd day of September, 2021.
Rachel E. Etchison, Executrix of the Estate of John Walter Etchison
60 Mt. Vernon Hickory Mountain Rd
Siler City, North Carolina 27344
Moody, Williams, Atwater & Lee,
Attorneys at Law
PO Box 1806
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
(919) 542-5605
S9,S16,S23,S30,4tp

Pérez-Moreno joins News + Record's 'La Voz' project team

CN+R STAFF REPORTS

SILER CITY — Heidi Pérez-Moreno, a senior journalism student at UNC-Chapel Hill, will join the News + Record's La Voz de Chatham project as a part-time translator and reporter, Publisher Bill Horner III has announced.
She replaces former La Voz reporter and translator

Patsy Montesinos, who graduated from UNC's Hussman School of Media and Journalism in May and has taken a full-time job in the Washington, D.C., area.
"I'm honored to be part of a publication that works to highlight Latino voices and stories," Pérez-Moreno said. "It's a critical asset to our community."
At UNC, Pérez-Moreno is the editorial managing editor of The Daily Tar Heel — UNC's student newspaper — where she oversees the publication's print product and editorial content. Several years ago in Florida, Pérez-Moreno also oversaw Miami Dade College's award-winning newspaper, The Reporter, as editor-in-chief

and social media director. For her work with The Reporter, the Associated Collegiate Press recognized her as its 2020 Reporter of the Year.

This past summer, Pérez-Moreno was a reporting fellow with The Texas Tribune in Austin, where she reported on Texas politics and public policy. Previously, she also served as a Spanish translator at The Carolina Public Press and The California Report, part of KQED, an NPR affiliate station.
A Nicaraguan-American from Miami, Florida, Pérez-Moreno speaks fluent Spanish.
Led by staff reporter Victoria Johnson, La Voz de Chatham is a bilingual project the News + Record began in the summer of 2020 with a Facebook Journalism Project grant to cover COVID-19's impact on Chatham's Hispanic/Latinx community. At that point in time, over half of the county's COVID cases came from the Hispanic community, even though Hispanic residents make up just over 12% of the population.
Since its creation, however, La Voz de Chatham has expanded coverage beyond COVID's impact; to date, La Voz has published more than 100 stories,

and at least half have been community and organization profiles as well as event features.

The project publishes La Voz stories in English in the weekly print edition of the News + Record, plus both English- and Spanish-language stories on the News + Record's website. In April, the project published its first Spanish-language print standalone, which was also the county's first Spanish-language community newspaper.
A second La Voz print publication went to press this week and will be mailed to more than 2,500 Spanish-speaking households in Chatham County. Another 2,500 copies will be distributed via community partners and locally owned businesses.
The La Voz project has attracted national attention; Johnson and Horner have been interviewed for stories by several national media organizations, and the pair will be joined by Pérez-Moreno to make a special presentation to the Pennsylvania Press Association in October.
In her new role, Pérez-Moreno said she hopes to provide the county's Spanish-speaking community with report-

ing that speaks to the issues and trends across the area. She particularly hopes to cover community events as well as analyze how evictions and the pandemic have affected Chatham's Latinx residents.

"There are so many factors that affect the experience of Latinos in North Carolina," she said, "and it's important to dissect how it shapes issues and cultural heritage in the area."
Horner said Pérez-Moreno will be an important asset to the newspaper's newsroom team.
"Just as we were lucky to have someone of Patsy's caliber to get La Voz started, we're very blessed to have Heidi," he said. "As we add additional print editions of La Voz and continue with our coverage of critical issues within the Latinx community, Heidi's insights and experience will add value to our work."
For more information about La Voz de Chatham, contact Victoria Johnson at victoria@chathamnr.com, visit our "La Voz" tab on the newspaper's website or check out La Voz de Chatham on Facebook.

LA VOZ DE CHATHAM BRIEFS

Hispanic Liaison to hold raffle as part of 'Heritage Month' observance

SILER CITY — The Hispanic Liaison will raffle off eight prizes in October to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and raise funds to support its work across the four counties staff serve, including Chatham.
Hispanic Heritage Month begins on Sept. 15. Based in Siler City, the Hispanic Liaison serves Hispanic residents across four counties — Chatham, Lee, Randolph and Alamance.
The Liaison will draw names on Friday, Oct. 15, the last day of Hispanic Heritage Month, at 5 p.m. via Facebook Live. The raffle's eight prizes, beginning with the top prize, include a Nintendo Switch; \$200 in cash; four day passes to the Shakori Hills Music Festival in Silk Hope for May 2022; a Princess House mandolin; a brand new Air Fryer PowerXL 8 qt; a chocoflan cake with 20 servings made by Elena Gonzalez; a cloth hammock hand-crafted by Ana Huevo; and finally, a 3' by 2' Mexican painting and

ceramic pitcher.
Interested residents can purchase tickets — \$10 each — online at bit.ly/3th6L3K or in-person at the Hispanic Liaison, Chatham Rabbit Coffee Shop, Melanie's Bakery or Tienda El Centro in downtown Siler City.
"Only 1,000 tickets (will be) printed," according to the Liaison's news release about the raffle. "You don't need to be present to win!"
For more information, including photos of the prizes, visit www.hispaniclialison.org or the Liaison's Facebook page.

Hispanic Heritage Foundation, other national organizations offer \$5,000 grants to Latinx small business owners

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Chatham's Latinx business owners who showed entrepreneurial innovation and perseverance during the COVID-19 pandemic could receive thousands of dollars in

small business grant money.
In late August, the Washington-based Hispanic Heritage Foundation (HHF) partnered with the social media company TikTok to launch "Creciendo con TikTok," a small business grant program meant to recognize and support Latinx entrepreneurs all over the U.S. while they pivot and recover from the pandemic.
Drawing from a \$150,000 grant fund, the partners will award \$5,000 in cash to 30 Latinx business owners. Beyond TikTok and the HHF, the USHCC (US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce) and Latino Business Action Network (LBAN) will also help select the finalists.
"HHF is thrilled to partner with TikTok in support of Latinx business and entrepreneurship who will continue to play a vital role in America's economic recovery as well as moving our community forward," said Antonio Tijerina, HHF president and CEO, in a press release. "We are also looking forward to working in tandem with USHCC, LBAN and our LOFT Network to identify and award the small

businesses who can use the help in sustaining their vision and hard work as entrepreneurs."
To apply, Latinx business owners can visit bit.ly/381KNxi. Eligible business owners must be 18 years or older, own at least 51% of the business and have been in business prior to Sept. 15, 2020. Owners must also be U.S. citizens or legal residents. All owners will be required to undergo background and credit checks as well.
According to the HHF's application criteria, successful candidates will have shown exceptional perseverance, hard work and commitment to entrepreneurship during the pandemic.
Among other things, the application form asks business owners to explain why they started their companies, what challenges COVID presented to them and their businesses as well as how they would use the grant funds. The deadline to apply is Sept. 30.
For more information, visit the HHF's website at hispanicheritage.org or send an email to info@hispanicheritage.org.

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