

Chatham News + Record

Chatham County, N.C. | JANUARY 13 - 19, 2022 | www.chathamnewsrecord.com | \$1

Chatham County Schools extends universal masking amid Omicron surge

District also updates its quarantine policies to match state's reduced guidelines

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Amid higher COVID-19 cases counts following the holidays and the Omicron surge, the Chatham County Board of Education voted 3-1 to extend universal masking on all CCS campuses during the second day of its mid-year retreat Tuesday, with board member David Hamm again dissenting.
As was also the case at last month's

meeting, Hamm made a motion to remove the requirement for masking among athletic teams. The motion failed to receive a second.
"The only consistent thing we are dealing with here is inconsistency," Hamm said of COVID-mitigation guidelines. "It's very frustrating."
Hamm questioned why the district was still requiring masking when children tend to have milder COVID symptoms, and when the most updated masking guidance recommends N95

or KN95 masks. Board members Del Turner and Jane Allen Wilson both said masking protects others who are more vulnerable during times of increased community spread; Assistant Superintendent for Operations Chris Blice said the Chatham County Public Health Department said 3-ply layered masks the district uses still work in mitigating spread, even if the N95 and KN95 masks work best.
Board member Melissa Hlavac was absent for the Tuesday portion of the

retreat.
Blice presented data to the board that highlighted the rise in COVID trends since the board's December meeting.
There were 17,705 new COVID-19 cases across the state Tuesday, according to state data, following multiple record-setting days of new cases in January. In Chatham, there have been 774 new cases in the last week.
Since September, the board has
See **OMICRON**, page A6



Staff photo by Peyton Sickles

COVID-19 in Chatham

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

As COVID-19 trends continue to reach record highs, the Chatham County Public Health Department is strongly recommending vaccination boosters for all that are eligible, including 12 to 15 year olds.
"While the Omicron variant likely causes less severe illness on average than Delta, many will still get sick given the number of cases we are experiencing," said CCPHD Director Mike Zelek. "This is why our core strategies, including vaccinations, masking, and testing, are still so important. Specifically, the booster shot is providing strong, increased protection against disease from Omicron. This is very good news. The bad news: Hospitalizations from COVID-19 are on the rise, and most who end up in the hospital remain those who are not vaccinated."
You can read more recommendations from the health department on page 8B.

By the numbers:

- 774 new reported cases this week
- 1,039.34 cases per 100k people
- 21.82% positivity rate of tests
- 10 new hospital admissions
- 0 new deaths
- 57% of people with at least one dose of vaccine, per NCDHHS
- 54% of people fully vaccinated, per NCDHHS
- 20.5% of fully vaccinated people with a booster dose

Source: CDC county COVID-19 data tracker on Jan. 11 unless otherwise noted

CARRYING ON A LEGACY

Sons keep fathers' dream alive at Bestfood Cafeteria, Hayley Bales

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Tyler White and Chris Terry have spent the majority of their lives behind the serving line at Bestfood Cafeteria and working in Hayley Bales Steakhouse — starting back in 2003, when their fathers acquired the businesses.
Now, it's just the two of them.
Chris's father, Mike Terry, died in 2018 after a lengthy battle with cancer. And Tyler's father, Art White, died after contracting COVID-19 last August. Now, in the face of grief and loss, Tyler and Chris are carrying on the legacies of their fathers as the faces of two of Siler City's best-known eateries.
"When you look back on it, it gave our dads a lot of stability to know they had two people under them who cared, knew the sacrifice and could do the work," Tyler said.
Bestfood Cafeteria and Hayley Bales Steakhouse — located side by side off U.S. Hwy. 64 — have been a part of the Siler City community for decades. Bestfood (which opened in 1989) operates during lunch and dinner service as a more casual dining option, while Hayley Bales (which opened in 1992) serves a more formal dining experience with dinner-exclusive services.
Tyler was in the 4th grade when his and Chris' father bought the two restaurants. He spent a lot of his late childhood and early adulthood behind the cafeteria line at Bestfood, learning the ins and outs of the restaurant business.



Staff photo by Taylor Heeden

Tyler White (left) and Chris Terry operate Bestfood Cafeteria and Hayley Bales Steakhouse.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Deelette Routh of Asheboro and Faye and Archie Saunders of Pleasant Garden meet up for lunch at Bestfood Cafeteria.

See **BESTFOOD**, page A3

Wren Library's new manager wants to boost collection, programs

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — The new branch manager at Siler City's Wren Memorial Library is a long-time book lover from a small town in Pennsylvania who loves what libraries can offer a community — and she hopes to boost the branch's diverse collection of books and programs.
Tabatha Weaver, 28, began her new role in Siler City on



Tabatha Weaver

Dec. 13. She hails from Hanover, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Clarion University in her home state with a master's degree in Library Sciences in 2016.
Since then, she's worked in various libraries across the country and now brings her expertise to Chatham County.
"I entered the Library Science field as an intern for a small public library in 2016 located in Dover, Pennsylvania," Weaver said. "In 2017, I transitioned to the academic sector as a library assistant in an elementary
See **EMPLOYEE**, page A6

COUNCIL ON AGING

As he prepares for retirement, Dennis Streets reflects on a lifetime spent thinking about aging

BY BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The old adage about age being "an attitude" and not a number is something Dennis Streets learned early.
As a 9-year-old, Streets — now the executive director of the Chatham County Council on Aging — was already thinking about aging. Growing up in St. Petersburg, Florida, he'd often spend time in his fa-



Dennis Streets

ther's medical office just to be around him, working as receptionist and even performing lab tests.
"My dad was in solo practice and many of his patients were older adults," Streets recalled. "While a general practitioner, he was sort of a self-proclaimed geriatrician. I used to joke with him that he had the first senior center, since his patients would come to see him, bring their lunch, stay on after their appointment to play checkers or cards on his covered porch."
At the time, Florida's Pinellas Coun-
See **STREETS**, page A3

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 available at

the 100 block of E. 3rd St.
 • The **Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at Wren Memorial Library's multipurpose room on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at 500 North Second Avenue due to the City Hall Renovation Project. The capacity of the multipurpose room is smaller (38 people) than the courtroom. The town is encouraging those interested to attend via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2980884296>. The library is still open to the public. Please park across the street at Dry Dock and save parking in front for library customers.

OTHER

• The **Central Carolina Community College Small Business Center, Chatham Chamber of Commerce, and Mountaire Farms** have partnered on a new entrepreneur-development program that will introduce prospective and new business owners in Chatham County to the concepts and practices that will lead to business success. The new eight-week Chatham SPARK Program will run from March 1 through May 3 and will assist participants in developing a business plan and gaining insight into financing, legal considerations, marketing, bookkeeping, and taxes. The evening classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. at C.C.C.C. Siler City Center, 400 Progress Blvd. For more information or to register for the program, visit www.chathamcbc.com/spark or call 919-545-8015. The application deadline is Jan. 31, 2022.
 • The **Central Carolina Manufacturing Institute** - Jump-start your career! You can begin

great manufacturing jobs with starting salaries from \$14 an hour and opportunities to grow into high-paid, high-skilled careers. The Central Carolina Manufacturing Institute is holding two information sessions where individuals can learn more about these opportunities. Regional manufacturers will be providing insight into the many types of jobs available, how to get those jobs, and how companies support their team members in building their careers. An in-person information meeting will be held at 9 a.m. Jan. 20 at the Center for Workforce Innovation, 5910 Enterprise Park Drive, Sanford. A virtual information meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. Jan. 24. Join the Zoom meeting at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83996370734>.

• For those individuals interested in manufacturing but who need to develop their core skills, **CCCC has a Manufacturing Technician class** beginning Feb. 21 and the college has scholarship funds to pay for registration and course materials. The Central Carolina Manufacturing Institute is an initiative designed to support local employers with developing their talent pipelines," said Felicia R. Crittenden, CCCC Dean of Continuing Education Operations.

• **Chatham Community Library** presents Celebrating Women of Chatham: Conversations with Women Making a Difference. On Jan. 15, Chatham Community Library continues its series of quarterly discussions highlighting women change-makers in Chatham County. The series addresses 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. **WHAT:** Celebrating Women of Chatham series; **WHEN:** Saturday, Jan. 15 from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; **WHERE:** Virtual Program. 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. Visit the libraries' website, www.chathamlibraries.org, or contact the Library at 919-545-8084 or rita.vanduinen@chathamlibraries.org for more information. Carolyn Miller,

Chatham County's assistant county manager for human resources, will moderate the panel. Panelists will discuss the challenges and rewards of being a businesswoman in Chatham County, among other aspects.
 • Join the **Community Remembrance Coalition** - Chatham & the Chatham County NAACP Branches 5377 and 5378 for a book and panel discussion of The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together By Heather McGhee, January 20, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. NEW YORK TIMES bestseller long listed for the National Book Award. One of today's most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color. Presenters: Mary Harris and Vickie Atkinson, Members of the NAACP, CRC-C. Register for the zoom at <https://www.crc-c.org/>
 • The **Chatham County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)** has scheduled its 2022 quarterly meetings at 10 a.m. and the locations will be announced on the county website at readychatham.org under the LEPC tab. For information concerning hazardous material facilities in Chatham County or the LEPC in general, contact Emergency Management at 919-545-8191. The first scheduled meeting is February 10.
 • **Siler City Parks and Recreation - Coed Youth T-Ball** is offered to participants ages 3-6 (age determined as of May 1, 2022). The **Youth T-Ball** league introduces new and returning players to the game of baseball. The league focuses on teaching and improving fundamentals including hitting, throwing, catching, and baserunning. **Youth Coed Coach Pitch** is offered to participants ages 7-8 (age determined as of May 1, 2022). **Youth Baseball** is offered to participants ages 9-12 (age determined as of May 1, 2022) and **Youth Softball** is offered to participants ages 9-12 (age determined as of August 1, 2022). There are 4 ways interested participants can register. Registration is now available online on the Town of Siler City website at www.silercity.org, in City Hall (311

N 2nd Avenue, Siler City) Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, by mailing the registration form and fee to P.O. Box 769 Siler City, NC 27344, or by dropping the registration form and fee in the drop box located on the exterior of City Hall. Registration is only \$25 and the deadline to register is March 4, 2022 (or until full).--- Siler City Parks and Recreation is actively seeking volunteer coaches for the upcoming season. Volunteer coaches are the backbone to a successful program as they donate their time and knowledge to teach our young participants the values of teamwork, dedication, sportsmanship, and fundamental skills in each sport. Anyone interested in coaching, please contact Siler City Parks and Recreation at (919) 742-2699 or email recreation@silercity.org. All volunteer coaches must submit an application for consideration. For more information, please contact Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at (919) 742-2699, email recreation@silercity.org, or visit the Town Website at www.silercity.org.
 • **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.
 • 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 at <https://chatham-history.org>.
 • **Second Bloom** has begun winter hours, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. We are located at 630 E. St., Pittsboro, in the Food Lion Shopping Center. We are accepting donations of gently used men's and women's clothing and accessories. Credit cards are accepted. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence

and sexual assault and promote community education in collaboration with Chatham County.
 • The **Chatham Arts Council** has put together a relief effort specifically for artists and arts-workers called CAARE: Chatham Artist and Arts-Worker Relief Effort. For more information on CAARE, or to donate, visit ChathamArtsCouncil.org.
 • **JMArts** hosted a **JMACoronaConcert** via Twitter featuring performances submitted by JM students and faculty. Concerts can be viewed on its Twitter account @JMArts and by using the hashtags #JMACoronaConcert performances and #JMACoronaConcert program.
 • **Foster and/or adoptive** information: Give children a safe place to grow. Interested in becoming a Foster and/or Adoptive parent? Call 919-642-6956 to learn more.
 • **Alcoholics Anonymous** — North Carolina District 33, call the Help Line at 866-640-0180 for the meeting schedule for this area.
 • **Motorcycle Association** — The Motorcycle Association for Chatham, Western Wake, Lee, Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com.
 • **Narcotics Anonymous** — For drug problems in the family, Narcotics Anonymous helps. Call 1-800-721-8225 for listing of local meetings.
 • **Al-Anon Meeting** — Pittsboro Serenity Seekers Al-Anon Family Group meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Chatham Community Church, in the lower level of Chatham Mill, Pittsboro.

Scout News

• **Boy Scout Troop 93** in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstroop93.org for more information.
 • **Pack 924** of Siler City First U.M.C. meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays for boys, grades 1 through 5. Come join the Cub Scouts.
 • **Pack 900** in Bear Creek meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Meroney's U.M.C., following the school calendar. See <http://pack900.com> for more information.

NEWS BRIEF

Virtual webinar scheduled for nonprofits interested in applying for United Way funding

A virtual webinar will be held Friday, Jan. 14, from 10-11:30 a.m., for any

nonprofits interested in applying for a grant from the United Way of Chatham County. The webinar will detail the 2022-23 allocations process, components of the funding application, criteria used to evaluate proposals and the online application software. United Way strongly recommends all

human service nonprofits planning to submit a request for funding attend the webinar, which will be held virtually via Zoom. To register, please visit www.UnitedWayofChathamCounty.org/Allocations. Once you have submitted your registration, you will receive an email with a

Zoom link. The 2022-23 application will be accessible beginning Friday, Jan. 14. Applications must be submitted online by Friday, Feb. 28. Contact the United Way office with any questions at 919-542-1110 or katie@unitedwayofchathamcounty.org.

HONORS

BOB JONES UNIVERSITY NAMES HONOR STUDENTS

Reagan Riddell, a Junior Business Administration major from Snow Camp, was among the Bob Jones University students named

to the Fall 2021 President's List, recognizing students who earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average for the semester. Greenville, S.C., is home to Bob Jones University.

DICKINSON STATE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE

Sarah Scott of Bennett, graduated from Dickinson State University in the fall class of 2021. Dickinson State University is located in Dickinson, N.D.

CORRECTION

The Hubert West photo in the story "10 people who made Chatham better; more interesting in 2021" (Jan. 6-12 edition) included the incorrect years that West was UNC's head track and field coach. West, the first Black head coach at UNC, led the program from 1981 to 1983.



Looking for the right school for your child?
NC Public Charter School Fair
 Talk to schools serving K-12 + food, DJ, raffles and fun!
Jan 22, 2022 • 10am - 4pm
Raleigh Convention Center

Students, get your applications in for the 2022 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour!

Each year, Central Electric sponsors two rising high school juniors or seniors on the trip of a lifetime to Washington, D.C in connection with the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. While in D.C., you'll join 1,800 other students from across the country to meet members of Congress and learn more about American history and electric cooperatives.



The 2022 trip is June 18-24 and the deadline for all applications is Jan. 24. Visit CEMCPower.com to apply or to find out more information on this incredible opportunity. Central Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

128 Wilson Rd | SANFORD, NC | CEMCPower.com | 919-774-4900 | 800-446-7752

Chatham News + Record

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

Chatham Media Group LLC

303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, North Carolina 27344
 COPYRIGHT 2022 CHATHAM MEDIA GROUP LLC

CONTACT US

For a vacation hold or to report a delivery problem: 919-663-3232

To place a classified or display ad:

919-663-3232; Fax: 919-663-4042

To submit a news tip or correction:

919-663-3232; email: news@chathamnr.com

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Print + Digital access/annual\$52

Print + Digital access/ monthly\$5.99

Digital access only/ monthly\$3.99

Auto-renew; cancel anytime

NEWSROOM

HANNAH McCLELLAN, Reporter/Web Editor hannah@chathamnr.com
 TAYLOR HEEDEN, Reporter theeden@chathamnr.com
 VICTORIA JOHNSON, Reporter victoria@chathamnr.com
 VICTOR HENSLEY, Sports Editor vhensley@chathamnr.com
 KIM HAWKS, PEYTON SICKLES & SIMON BARBRE, Staff Photographers
 MAX BAKER & HEIDI PEREZ-MORENO, News Interns

NEWSROOM INQUIRIES, PRESS RELEASES AND WEBSITE QUESTIONS news@chathamnr.com

BILL HORNER III, Editor/Publisher

bhorner3@chathamnr.com 919-774-2728

ADVERTISING

JASON JUSTICE jjjustice@chathamnr.com
 GLORIA MOCK, Advertising Specialist advertising@chathamnr.com 919-270-2021

OFFICE

KAREN PYRTLE karen@chathamnr.com
 DORIS BECK doris@chathamnr.com
 FLORENCE TURNER billing@chathamnr.com

The Chatham News + Record (USPS #101-160) is published weekly, 52 weeks a year, by Chatham Media Group LLC, 303 West Raleigh Street, Siler City, N.C. 27344. Subscription rates: 1 year print + digital — \$52; monthly — \$5.99. Digital only — \$3.99 monthly. Periodicals postage paid at the U.S. Post Office in Siler City.

N.C. POSTMASTER:

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

STREETS

Continued from page A1

ty had the highest median age in the country. But it was also what he witnessed within his own family that helped shape the direction of Streets' own career.

A cherished aunt cared for his ailing grandfather, who had worked from age 9 to his retirement at age 65 in Pennsylvania's coal mines and later developed dementia. Later still, Streets' own brother, David, left his job at a community college to take care of their mother and father, as well as the aunt who'd cared for their grandfather.

"And all in their homes," Streets says. "They all died at home — avoiding placement in a facility."

That lifelong awareness of, and attention to, the problems and challenges that come with aging are just the beginning of what drove Streets to learn about, study, and find the best practices to help people age with grace and dignity.

And now, he's moving toward that transition himself: at the end of this month, Streets, 69, will retire from the COA, relinquishing the post he's had since 2014 and ending a professional career marked by stellar leadership and accomplishment in public health and positions related to providing for the aging.

Streets' tenure in Chatham County — the place he's called home for much of that career — has been marked by a significant growth in the scope of service provided by the COA. His agency's staff and volunteers typically provide more than 35,000 meals annually to Chatham residents through its two senior centers and the COA's Meals of Wheels program. The COVID pandemic led to the closure of the centers — although they re-opened, renovation and an Omicron-prompted surge have paused some services again for now — but under normal operation the COA provides more than 25,000 hours of programming Chatham's senior population. Those include exercise classes, specialized interest groups and clubs, social and recreational opportunities and caregiver support, among

many others.

Both of the facilities have been certified by the state of N.C. as "Centers of Excellence," and back in 2019, Chatham County was the recipient of the prestigious Ernest B. Messer Award — given to communities for excellence in the state addressing the needs of its elder citizens and one of the highest honors for a county's commitment to its aging residents.

A multitude of other local, regional and state awards have also been bestowed upon the COA, and Streets himself has been recognized by the N.C. Coalition on Aging, the N.C. Senior Tar Heel Legislature, the N.C. Association on Aging, the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services, and two White House Conferences on Aging — among others — for his work.

"Dennis' exemplary work in the field of aging has spanned decades, and we are so grateful for his leadership, passion, and commitment to serving Chatham County's seniors and their families throughout the past eight years," said Chatham County Manager Dan LaMontagne. "During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dennis and the Council on Aging staff and volunteers made critical adaptations to ensure that the needs of our most vulnerable residents continue to be met, and his impact on our entire community undoubtedly will last for many years."

No coursework at UNC

All that had its roots in Chatham County. Streets' first exposure to his future home was moving here — he lived "in a trailer in the woods" his first two years — as an undergraduate student at UNC-Chapel Hill. His passion was in aging services and gerontology, but there was no related coursework at the time at UNC. Even in grad school, there was but a single sociology course related to the topic in the School of Public Health.

"And so I put a meeting notice in The Daily Tar Heel, the school newspaper, that if anybody was interested in aging, bring your lunch," he said. "And we had five people on that first Wednesday. A year later, we had over 100 people from 20-some different disci-

plines. And those are still some of my best friends in the field today."

Streets performed social research in the role of parish ministries to older people, began promoting the rights of nursing home residents, and attending meetings of hospice organizations to learn even more.

"It was just my passion," he said, "and I've never regretted it."

After his formal education ended, he worked for the Triangle J Council of Governments and the N.C. Division of Social Services before becoming the director of a massive long-term care facility in Guilford County. From there, Streets became coordinator of the UNC School of Social Work's Center for Aging Research, and then left for what became an 18-year career as director of the Division of Aging and Adult Services for the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services — a position that would have served as the capstone for just about anyone's career in the field.

Streets, though, wasn't finished yet.

"I retired at the end of April of 2014," he said. "I tell people that I had about two hours of retirement because I started the next morning as the director of the Chatham County Council on Aging."

He's overseen the COA's operation ever since.

An aging demographic

The Council is technically a nonprofit agency which traces its roots in Chatham County back to 1974. Now, going on a half century later, its work is particularly relevant here: close to a third of Chatham's population is 60 years old or older. Chatham's per capita number of senior citizens is among the highest in North Carolina, and that ration will only increase.

"It's projected that by 2039, more than four and 10 of our residents here in Chatham will be over 60," Streets said.

The nationwide demographic shift toward older — the fastest-growing segment of the population is 85 and above — means the Council's work will continue to increase in relevance.

"So I really think we have to keep in mind the importance of

this large mass of those of us who are older — that we also have talents, we have skills, we have assets, we have knowledge, we have ability to impact this community. And there's plenty of examples of already of how that's happening. But we also have to recognize and appreciate, and enable the Council, to be an even be greater resource, a natural resource for Chatham County."

Streets says the COA's principal mission today, as it has been since it was founded, is "to try to keep our older population healthy, safe and independent as much as possible in the community in their homes."

The county pays Streets' salary, but the COA's programming is funded in numerous other ways — the United Way of Chatham County and other organizations and grants. When he leaves at the end of the month, Lacey Monte, the Council's deputy director/finance officer, will serve as interim director until Streets' replacement is hired; his position will be posted publicly soon.

He'll be missed. "As Chatham County's older population continues to grow, it is vital that we continue to address the needs of our seniors, and Dennis has been instrumental in his forward-thinking vision with the development of the Chatham County Aging Plan," said Chatham County Board of Commissioners Chairperson Karen Howard. "Dennis has left a long-lasting mark on so many of us. He will be sorely missed not only for his accomplishments — but for the kind, generous, and charming person that he is."

His retirement comes just a month after the retirement of Susan Hardy, who led the COA's caregiving efforts for many years and helped expand those offerings to Chatham residents. He plans to stay active: Streets' wife, Dawn, who teaches at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, will continue to work for the foreseeable future. In the meantime, Streets says his personal list of goals and to-dos is "quite long," including possibly writing a screenplay.

And his interest in the field won't retire with him. Caregiving will continue to be a focus

after he leaves — as it should for everyone, he said.

"I remember Rosalyn Carter [former President Jimmy Carter's wife] mentioning that there's four categories of people: you've been a caregiver, you are a caregiver, you're going to be a caregiver, or you're going to need caregiving," he said. "It's one of those four things or some combination. So it's in all of our best interest."

Streets says the agency is in "a great spot" entering 2022, despite the pandemic and his and Hardy's retirements, because the staff believes and is committed to its mission every day — and has a group of dedicated volunteers, great support from its board and county government.

"I'm not naive enough not to know that every day is a challenge, because again, the service needs to continue to grow," he said. "But I'm feeling good about where we are."

And when he looks back, Streets says he's most proud of the fact that the Council on Aging is a part of such a collaborative community.

"I really value, and we all do at the Council, the partnerships that we have," he said. "I couldn't list all the agencies, but you know, we work so closely with the [Chatham County] Public Health Department and Social Services and Emergency Management ... parks and recreation, the cooperative extension services, the libraries, Chatham Hospital ... I could go down the list."

"One thing I've said about my years in working this field is there will never be enough public funds to help us meet the needs. There will never be enough that one agency can do. It really does take a team — not just within the agency, but within the community. It takes all of us to really make the kind of difference for our seniors that they deserve."

To hear the full interview with Dennis Streets, find the episode on the News + Record's podcast, "The Chatcast." It's posted on the newspaper's social media platforms and available through all podcast apps. Dennis Streets will be recognized with a "going away" event at 3 p.m. on Jan. 28, to be held virtually. For more information, go to chathamcouncilonaging.org.

BESTFOOD

Continued from page A1

"As soon as my head was over the drink counter, I'd come in and make drinks every now and again," Tyler remembered.

Chris started working in the restaurants when he was around 14 years old. Even after moving away from Siler City for a couple of years, Chris would come back on weekends and help around the cafeteria. And in 2018, after Chris' father Mike's battle with cancer ended — and Chris returned to the cafeteria, working permanently there for the first time — he said he had a hard time adjusting to being there without his dad around.

"The last three or four years of his life, we spent more time together here than at home or anywhere else," he said. "This place was our time together, so I felt more without him here than I did at home."

But Chris still had one person he could look up to when he had questions: Art.

And in the three years after Mike's death, after Art took on the primary roles in handling the behind-the-scenes work (such as ordering food and handling the restaurants' finances), he and Tyler worked as general managers overseeing employees and day-to-day operations.

Then came the another blow: last August, Art was diagnosed with COVID-19. Tyler — who also had COVID around the same time — ended up having to take his father to the hospital in Chapel Hill for treatment after his condition wors-



Staff photo by Taylor Heeden

Tyler White and Chris Terry have taken over their fathers' businesses to continue their legacy.

ened.

Two weeks later, Art died from COVID complications.

"If I had known that was going to be the last time I saw him, I would have done things differently," Tyler said. "It was just a whirlwind."

Arts' death impacted Chris as well. Now, with Mike and Art both gone, Chris and Tyler were both faced with the new reality that operating and managing Bestfood Cafeteria and Hayley Bales Steakhouse fell totally on their shoulders.

It was a major adjustment, according to Chris. "You know what needs to be done, but you're just not used to being the one who has to make sure it gets done," he said.

Chris and Tyler found themselves doing all the jobs their fathers used to handle — coming into work in the early hours of the morning to prepare for the lunch and dinner service, all the administrative tasks, ordering food, scheduling staff shifts and more. And even though they'd both spent countless hours at Bestfood Cafeteria and Hayley Bales, they found some of the difficulties of the transition over-

whelming.

"I don't know if we really had time to process what happened," Chris said. "It was mayhem around here, and then Art passed in mid-August and October starts our busy season, so we only really had about a month to try and figure a lot of stuff out."

The COVID-19 pandemic, of course, has changed the restaurant business; Bestfood Cafeteria is no exception. Chris and Tyler had to switch their two dine-in style restaurants into take-out exclusive restaurants, for starters.

"We're an eat-in restaurant — we had takeout orders before, but it was never at a surplus," Tyler said. "Most places have a to-go station and a for-here station — we only have one station for both."

The cafeteria and steakhouse were able to stay open during the pandemic and went back to allowing customers to dine-in when Gov. Roy Cooper allowed restaurants to reopen their doors in late May 2020. However, the takeout line at both is still higher than it was before the pandemic, and Chris



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Bestfood Cafeteria in Siler City.

said the restaurant has had to accommodate this change.

"When you've got 200, 250 plates for eat-in on top of all of the new takeout plates, we had to make some adjustments," Terry said.

But boosting take-out service is only one way the two men worked to adapt during the pandemic. Bestfood and Hayley Bales have also had to deal with supply chain issues, something particularly critical in a business where timeliness and fresh ingredients are critical.

They say they've had to wait weeks, or even months, to receive backordered items — ranging from salad crackers to styrofoam containers for to-go orders.

"We get chewed out every single day over a piece of Styrofoam," Tyler said. "Obviously we're ordering this stuff, but if we can't get it, we can't get it."

Despite the shortages brought on by the pandemic, though, Chris and Tyler have found comfort in operating the

cafeteria and steakhouse and being there on a daily basis. Tyler said after his father died in August, coming to the restaurant helped him to focus on something other than the sadness associated with Art's absence.

"It's actually been a relief working here because for a while, I didn't process much of anything," Tyler said. "I worked everyday and I could not even think about it. I could not think about anything other than the task at hand and trying to get things done here."

The support Chris and Tyler say they've received from the Siler City community during the pandemic and during the loss of both of their fathers has been extraordinary. Chris said regular customers tell him on a daily basis how much Mike and Art have meant to them.

"We talk to thousands of people a week here, and most of them knew our dads, and they've all been really supportive," Chris said. "We've been blessed the last 18 years with the business we have."

So what's next for the sons, and for the restaurants?

The Terry-White duo strives to continue their fathers' dreams of serving up Southern cooking to the community that continues to support the cafeteria, the steakhouse and their fathers' dreams.

"Right after Art passed, nobody would ask us directly, but they would ask our employees what we were going to do with the business," Chris said. "We have no intentions of going anywhere, and we want to carry on what our dads left for us."

While Art and Mike may not be around anymore, their sons work hard to ensure their fathers' sacrifices and memories are not forgotten, and they hope to remain a part of Siler City for years to come.

"We're thankful for our position in the community, and we want to carry on our fathers' legacy the best we can," Tyler said.

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com.

VIEWPOINTS

Lining up with Mr. Buckeye for some perspective

Mr. Buckeye slowed as he approached, stopped, glanced around, took a step forward and planted his feet.



BILL HORNER III
Publisher + Editor

I stared at him quizzically. “Are you trying to find the line?” I asked.

“Yes,” he said.

I say “Mr. Buckeye” because he wore an Ohio State hat. He was tall, slim, maybe 70 or 72 years old, clad in Bermuda shorts and a T-shirt, and he had seriously just annoyed me.

It was Saturday morning and my wife and I were in line, too — second in line, in fact — at the priority boarding entrance at Princess Cruises’ docking area at Port Everglades in Ft. Lauderdale in Florida. We queued up early — two hours before the advertised opening of the security doors — to improve our chances of getting aboard the ship early. There were some facets of our thrice-canceled, thrice-re-

scheduled Caribbean cruise that were first-come, first-served, and our willingness to hoof it over to the port early and stand in line eventually paid off later in the day.

But at that point, at that moment, as I eyed Mr. Buckeye, I was thinking “p’d off” of a different kind. There were only six people there: the young couple first in line, who’d taken a red-eye out of Los Angeles the night before; Lee Ann and I, who’d flown down from RDU the morning before; and two 20-something men who arrived in line maybe an hour after we did. We were practicing social-distancing and three of us were seated. Why Mr. Buckeye thought it was acceptable behavior to insert himself where he did was a bit baffling.

“Right there,” I said — gesturing to the men behind us — “is the line.”

“This is all so confusing,” he said. “I wasn’t sure where the line actually was.”

It was obvious to me, but maybe the fact that some of us already there were sitting — and that we were a little spread out — gave him the impression

that this line was a loosey-goosey concept.

“First cruise?” I asked.

“Eleventh,” he said.

He should know better, I thought.

He and Lee Ann chatted for a moment before he sauntered back a few steps to take the 7th spot in line. I used the occasion to text my sister and vent a bit. She and her husband, veteran and frequent cruisers, just got off a ship out of the same port the week before; they knew the first-in-line drill well. My sister eventually called me to get clarification about what transpired and we shared a laugh about Mr. Buckeye and his odd attempt to move from 7th in line to 3rd in line for a ship that, even at half capacity, would soon board about 1,700 souls.

I should have known better, too.

I’ve written here before about my own proclivity for peevishness and occasional lack of patience with others, so in the aftermath, as we stood there, I tried to make sense of my interpretation of the experience. Still, if this was indeed

Mr. Buckeye’s 11th cruise and he took it upon himself to show up an hour before the earliest assigned arrival time, I was finding it hard to cut him much slack.

An hour or so later, after the security doors opened, we queued up again to show our passports, our travel docs, the required proof of vaccination and negative COVID tests. We were first in a group that began filling up one of the pre-boarding lounge areas, and after 10 minutes or so Mr. Buckeye showed up again. He sat near us — by himself, the only unaccompanied, unpartnered person there.

I couldn’t help but ask.

“Are you cruising by yourself?”

“Yes,” he said.

Then he told the story: going on cruises together was one of the great pleasures in life for him and his wife of 53 years. She’d been diagnosed with cancer 18 months ago. Just a week after her first chemotherapy treatment, she had a reaction to the drugs, fell violently ill, and died.

“Just three days before she

passed away, we were walking in the park near our house,” he said. “She was feeling fine.”

Now he was taking his first trip away from his Ohio home since her death. His first tentative trip where they weren’t hand in hand as a married couple.

“I don’t really know what I’m supposed to do without her, but I thought I’d give it a try,” Mr. Buckeye said. “She really loved to go on cruises. So I guess I’m out here for her.”

I felt immediate shame about my earlier judgment of him. But that’s how paradigms work: we don’t always see a full and accurate reflection of reality. Our own attitudes and perceptions serve as the lenses through which we see the world, often clouding it. Dysfunctional paradigms make us blind, or at least very near-sighted.

Some judgments, like buckeye seeds, are poisonous.

But back in Ohio, they say carrying a buckeye brings you good luck. It was our good fortune that Mr. Buckeye chose this cruise. We’ve enjoyed his company.

In defense of childlessness

Typically, I’m a fan of Pope Francis. He wrote a powerful encyclical letter citing the scientific evidence for human-induced climate change and calling upon the international community to repent of environmental degradation and its negative impacts upon the poor.

ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

But last week, the same pope claimed that the “denial of fatherhood or motherhood diminishes us, it takes away our humanity.”

This from a man who has taken a vow of celibacy!

Pope Francis is correct that lower birth rates are a factor in the population decline in certain Western countries. However, it is also true that there are far more people on our planet than ever before and that this population growth contributes to the environmental crisis. As our planet groans with the burden of billions of people, the world’s poorest suffer the worst effects of land, food and water shortages.

What’s more, the pope made an egregious overstep even to imply that a person’s humanity is tied to his or her ability to reproduce. I remember the early years of my marriage when my wife and I struggled with undiagnosed infertility. We had done nothing wrong. Yet, I felt like there was something wrong with me.

How could people unable to have children hear the pope’s words as anything other than inducing shame and guilt?

I also write on behalf of those who willingly choose not to have children. In 2014, Francis predicted that married couples who choose not to have children will experience “old age in solitude, with the bitterness of loneliness.”

Wait a minute — children are not responsible for the mental health of their parents! If you are lonely and bitter, merely having children will not solve your problems. In fact, you may make everyone’s life a little more miserable, including your own.

As the idea of celibate clergy asserts, adults can consciously devote their lives to holy purposes other than procreation. Just as an individual’s humanity should never be tied to that person’s ability to reproduce, the value of marriage should not be limited to merely raising children. A union of two consenting adults can generate all kinds of creativity, goodwill and love in the larger community.

I think of the practice of infant baptism in Protestant and Catholic churches. The entire congregation makes vows to the caregivers to support, nurture and love that child. Whether they have biological children or not, no one who makes these vows is childless. Everyone has the opportunity to willingly and joyfully assume the responsibilities of helping to guide and nurture younger generations.

I wish that Pope Francis, instead of making hurtful judgments, would follow his better lights of inclusion. For instance, during the very sermon in which he leveled these statements against the childless, he had a nun and a layman deliver translations of his remarks — a privilege that had been reserved for ordained priests.

Why could Francis not apply the same spirit of inclusion to the people who heard his remarks as he did to the people who shared them?

I had thought the African proverb, “It takes a village to raise a child,” was used to the point of being a cliché in our culture. But apparently, more religious leaders need to hear it.

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.”



What we say about weather has some application to life

It was Will Rogers, America’s folksy humorist/philosopher of the 1920s and early ‘30s, who said, “Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.” These days, another observation making the rounds says, “If you don’t like the weather in North Carolina, wait 10 minutes and it’ll probably change.”

BOB WACHS
Movin’ Around

Just a few days ago, we saw that played out locally. One day the temperature was 70 degrees and we were wearing shorts. The next day it snowed sideways, and while we weren’t in a “white-out,” we didn’t miss it by much.

The reality of life, however, is that in one way or another through the years folks have been trying to do something about the weather, at least parts of it. For instance, at times of serious drought in the past, well-meaning folks would fire cannons containing “rain seeds” into the air hoping to create clouds and rain. Sometimes there would be rain afterwards; sometimes not. Never was easy to decide if that worked or not.

And, of course, today there’s much talk of “global warming” and what humanity can do to prevent it. I understand weather folks and others like to keep records, and they tell us the earth is two degrees warmer now than in 1492 and that

we should put diapers on cattle so their digestive accidents won’t doom us as those events rush into the atmosphere. But if we’re really having serious episodes of that kind of warming and the temps the day it snowed and last Monday night’s 20s are global warming, I don’t want any more. Makes too big a dent in my firewood supply.

But beyond the obvious about the weather — that it affects us in many ways and that Someone Else is in charge of it — it strikes me that the weather is a lot like life, maybe even a microcosm of it.

For instance, sometimes days are warm and sunny like the summer’s best days. Some days those days are cool and crisp, in spring or fall. And sometimes the temps are downright frigid. Sometimes the weather brings us rain and chilly winds. And sometimes that bright beautiful sunny sky is overcome with dark clouds that blot out the sun.

Now, tell me ... haven’t we all had days of our lives like that? We’ve had those warm sunny days when everything is right with the world. And we’ve had those cool crisp days like spring’s when we’re moving into a situation and those fall days when we’re on the way out. And who hasn’t had a downright cold day or two or three or more when nothing goes right? Add to that the days of rain and chilly winds and there you go.

So, while there are some similarities, there’s also a difference, a ma-

yor one. Will Rogers was right; we can’t do anything about the weather but be prepared. But life? There’s lots we can do.

Attitude has much to do with how we see life. On a bright day or a cloudy one, is our eight-ounce glass with four ounces of sweet tea half-full or half-empty? Do you stop to remember that it’s the sunshine and the rain that make the roses grow? And while we’re at it do you see a rose bush as a bush with beauty that happens to have a few thorns, or a thorn bush with some beauty attached?

We can’t change the weather but we can change how we look at it ... and at life. Reminds me of the drawing I saw of a large three-masted sailing ship of old plowing its way through rough seas. The caption on the picture noted, “It’s not which way the wind blows but how you set your sails.”

As we sail through life, it’s up to us to run up our sails and also to make sure there aren’t any holes, rips or tears in them.

Happy sailing.

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.

What’s on your mind?

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

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

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

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

VIEWPOINTS

School closures were too risky

When the news broke on Jan. 3 that one of North Carolina's largest school districts — Cumberland County — was considering a shift to virtual instruction in response to rising case counts of the Omicron variant, I felt my stomach lurch.

Again, I asked myself: Are we really going to make the same mistake over and over, hoping against all evidence that the outcome will be different this time?

The reassuring answer, at least from school officials in Cumberland, was no. A day later, they decided to resume in-person classes as planned. As far as I know, other North Carolina districts are staying the course, as well, adopting the model that most charter and private schools did last

year: take COVID seriously, take reasonable precautions, but don't shut your doors to those who need your essential services.

There remains plenty of room for debate about various policy responses to the pandemic. I'm a big fan of vaccines, for example, but opposed to federal mandates I view as unconstitutional. I also doubt that even legal state mandates and private requirements are cost-beneficial (they may boost vaccination a bit but at the cost of reinforcing the very conspiracy theories that need rebutting). Still, I'm open to hearing good-faith counterarguments.

Similarly, how much do masks of differing materials reduce the risk of transmission? What's the most efficient way to improve ventilation in closed spaces? Let's talk.

When it comes to school closures, however, the evidence is now overwhelming that they imposed great economic, educational, and social costs on families while having little ef-

fect on COVID hospitalizations or fatalities. Schoolchildren were neither at significant risk of getting seriously ill nor of becoming a major vector of transmission. Indeed, the virus often spread more rapidly outside of schools than inside them.

In May 2020, I wrote that if parents were "comfortable sending their children to school on buses or cars before the COVID-19 pandemic, but now say they are unwilling to send their children back to school — or to gymnastics, band practice, soccer leagues, or swimming pools — until the coronavirus threat is essentially extinguished, I would gently but firmly question whether they have properly assessed the relevant risks."

You need not take my word for any of this, by the way. That school closures were cost-ineffective in containing the pandemic has become the prevailing wisdom among most experts in America and around the world. It's certainly the pre-

vailing sentiment now among parents, and among politicians of both parties who seek to avoid the fate Terry McAuliffe suffered in last fall's gubernatorial election in Virginia.

Just the other day, the New York Times observed that "children face more risk from car rides than COVID."

Precisely. Public policy is about managing risks, not eliminating them entirely. You only get to do that in imaginary worlds, not real ones. In his classic work "Searching for Safety," political scientist Aaron Wildavsky illustrated the point with his "jogger's dilemma." At precisely the moment you're exercising, you raise your risk of a heart attack. But "for the rest of the day, as well as the days in between regular exercise, the body is safer."

Getting the balance right requires a clear conception of the goal and how best to measure it. Here's something else I wrote back in May 2020: "The

initial mandatory closures of our schools, businesses, and other institutions were not sold as eliminating the threat from COVID-19, either to children or to adults. That is not possible. The threat can only be mitigated somewhat until therapies or vaccines are broadly available, and even then a background risk may remain as it does for many other dangerous illnesses."

We are rapidly approaching that stage. Effective vaccines are broadly available. Effective therapies soon will be. Yet the disease isn't going to disappear. Pandemic will become endemic. We'll be far less likely to become seriously ill or die from it, but the risk will never plummet all the way to zero. Reality intrudes.

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

Civil war — our people versus my people?

To live in interesting times, is it a blessing or a curse? To live in the era of Donald Trump would be a blessing, at least a temporary one, for those who are sometimes derisively referred to as Trumpsters.

But for those who think the former president is a continuing and frightening threat to the American democracy, such interesting times would be a curse.

Last week, on the first anniversary of the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, President Joe Biden broke his silence about the former president and came out swinging about the interesting times in which we live.

"At this moment," he said, "we must decide: What kind of nation are we going to be? Are we going to be a nation that accepts political violence as a norm? Are we going to be a nation where we allow partisan election officials to overturn the legally expressed will of the people? Are we going to be a nation that lives not by the light of the truth but in the shadow of lies?"

We might like to stand up and say, "No, no, no. We are not going to be like that."

But the answers to Biden's questions are far from certain.

His confrontation with the former president was a stark reminder of how intensely divided we have become.

Our attitudes about the events of last year's Jan. 6 show the division. One group thinks the effort to overturn the presidential election results, including the attack on the Capitol, is nothing short of treason.

A second group thinks those activities were patriotic efforts to save the country from losing its roots to a group of people who have sold out the American dream.

I count myself in the first group, but I grew up in the second group.

I know these people from growing up in the South at a time when our small world was controlled by white men. Foreigners and Yankees were few and far between, and people of color knew their place. My high school sports teams were called the Rebels, and we proudly waved the Confederate flag to stir up the crowd at football games.

Our world was settled, and our people made up the America that was the focus of our loyalty. I have changed, but I understand that many of those I call our people feel that our world is being stolen from them.

Or that it has already been stolen and the only way to get it back where it belongs is to fight.

So is our country now so divided and passionate that we are headed towards another civil war?

Maybe. In "How Civil Wars Start: And How to Stop Them," Barbara F. Walter, a political scientist at the University of California, San Diego, writes, "I've seen how civil wars start, and I know the signs that people miss. And I can see those signs emerging here at a surprisingly fast rate."

What I call our people, she calls "sons of the soil." Writing about Walter's book in the Jan. 6 edition of The New York Times, Michelle Goldberg explains about the sons of the soil, "Their privileged position was once so unquestioned and pervasive that they simply assume it's their due, and they will take to violence in order to cling to power."

Are we close to civil war with our people of my growing-up years at war with my people of today?

Goldberg is not sure, but she writes, "Warning signs include the rise of intense political polarization based on identity rather than ideology, especially polarization between two factions of roughly equal size, each of which fears being crushed by the other."

Our people of yesterday versus my people of today? I hope not. But I am worried.

D.G. Martin hosted "North Carolina Bookwatch," for more than 20 years.

To view prior programs: <https://video.pbsnc.org/show/nc-bookwatch/episodes/>.



LETTERS

Chatham County addressing the climate breakdown

TO THE EDITOR:

Every week or so we are confronted with new evidence of how rapidly our climate is changing due to human caused global heating. The fire storm in Colorado was a terrifying and devastating example. Humanity is in a perilous place. Fortunately it is not too late to prevent the worst. Hopefully Congress will move forward with climate measures and President Biden is taking executive actions. But regardless of what happens at the federal level, local government has a big role in providing leadership and spurring action.

I am grateful that Chatham County is up to the challenge. We are already acting and more is planned. On Dec. 20th, the Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) addressed the County Commissioners. Co-chairs Charles Cooper and Nita Dukes presented 10 strong recommendations for action to reduce emissions and sequester carbon. CCAC recommends that we find ways to conserve more land and preserve more trees — especially important given the increasing pressures for development in Chatham. They suggest looking at innovative ways to promote sustainable agriculture and landscaping, perhaps by holding a summit and developing demonstration projects to spread actionable ideas.

Since transportation is the

county's biggest source of carbon emissions, they recommend supporting the transition to electric vehicles by encouraging the expansion of charging stations near multifamily housing and replacing county vehicles with EVs. They also highlight the potential that green jobs bring to the county. And perhaps most importantly, CCAC recommends the commissioners take a climate perspective in all decision-making and put in measurements or a scorecard to be sure progress is tracked.

It is reassuring that members of the CCAC recognize the threat the climate emergency poses to Chatham and are making sound recommendations for action. I look forward to hearing how the county commissioners will prioritize these recommendations as they implement the Unified Development Ordinance and make other investments in our wellbeing.

Vickie Atkinson
Chapel Hill

Can we try cooperation instead of confrontation?

TO THE EDITOR:

First, a big thank you to the Chatham News + Record and Ms. Heeden for the informative two-part series about Pittsboro's water (Dec. 22-28, Dec. 29-Jan. 5 editions). Her account of the efforts of Mayor Perry, Commissioner Bonitz, Haw River Assembly Executive Director Chiosso, Pittsboro Town Manager Kennedy, Dr. Platt and microbiologist

Bryant (bet she is a Dr. too) is very encouraging.

As an early member (#155) of Chatham Marketplace, I am very proud that the current leadership installed a reverse osmosis filtration system and a filling station available to all. These are obviously people who place service above self, and they are to be commended by all in our community.

If I understand correctly, the 17-member Pittsboro Water Quality Task Force concluded that there were known sources of contamination in Reidsville, Burlington and Greensboro, and that the "most efficient way to knuckle down on these contaminants was to stop them at the source." I agree completely.

May I be so bold as to suggest a cooperative approach rather than a confrontation?

There is obviously a wealth of talent and expertise on this Task Force. An offer of that talent to whomever is releasing PFAS and 1,4-dioxane into the waste water would be very hard to turn down, especially if it were combined with economic support from the four cities involved. This might create a permanent partnership and prevent future costs for treatment at all four community waste water treatment facilities and make safe drinking water. The Haw River will continue to flow into Jordan Lake.

Save confrontation and legal fees for failure of face-to-face alliance.

Dr. John Dykers
Siler City

Chatham News + Record

www.chathamnewsrecord.com

BILL HORNER III, Publisher & Editor
HANNAH MCCLELLAN, Reporter/Web Editor
TAYLOR HEEDEN, Reporter
VICTORIA JOHNSON, La Voz de Chatham Reporter

VICTOR HENSLEY, Sports Editor
KIM HAWKS, PEYTON SICKLES & SIMON BARBRE, Staff Photographers
MAX BAKER & HEIDI PEREZ-MORENO, News Interns

EMPLOYEE

Continued from page A1

school located in Tucson, Arizona. In 2019, I went to the collegiate level where I served at a private institute's library located in York, Pennsylvania. Then in 2021, I went to a remote role conducting background work with an integrated library system."

Growing up in a small, tight-knit community, Weaver always knew she wanted to help libraries in similar places and create more access to diverse collections of books and resource materials and a range of different programs.

"As someone who loves small towns but also likes taking day trips to the city, Siler City is the ideal location," Weaver said. "Wren Library is exactly the kind of library I always envisioned myself being a part of and advocating

for." Weaver dreamt of being surrounded by books. Her passion started when she was a young girl — making regular trips to her local library to dive deep into the worlds behind prose and poetry.

"I remember struggling to carry my overflowing bag of books home and then challenging myself to read them all in a timely manner," Weaver said. "Since then, I have had an appreciation for the knowledge found through reading and understanding the importance of providing these resources to all."

Weaver is more than just a bookworm — she also plays video games, crochets, bakes and hikes on trails in her spare time. But her goal in Siler City is to advocate for more resources, such as more educational and recreational programming, in libraries like

Wren Memorial.

The new branch manager said she is working to provide a more extensive collection at Siler City's only library, ranging from new novels on the shelves to unique clubs for children and adults alike.

"Wren Library is focusing on growing our collection to include diverse and relevant materials, and staff are planning new and engaging programs for all ages — Lego Club, Game Night and Book Club," Weaver said.

Wren Memorial Library staff are also accepting suggestions for new activities to be offered in Siler City, according to Weaver, and those interested in providing ideas for clubs, programs or books the library should have should contact Weaver by calling her at 919-742-2016 or by emailing her at tabatha.weaver@chathamlibraries.org.

Weaver has loved her time at Wren

Memorial Library so far, and the community has accepted her with open arms. She said she hopes to continue to meet more of the people who come to the library and wants to continue to work towards equitable access to information.

"Wren Library has been most welcoming upon my arrival, and I continue to enjoy getting to know the people utilizing the resources available here," she said. "I look forward to interacting with patrons and the community at large as Wren Library evolves to meet the demands of the current environment."

Wren Memorial Library is open on Monday from noon until 8 p.m., Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com.

OMICRON

Continued from page A1

taken a vote regarding its masking policy each month, in accordance with state law. District administrators and local health officials have long followed public health guidance recommending that mask mandates remain in place until the county's transmission rates fall below the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's suggested levels. The county's three public charter schools all also still have universal indoor masking policies in place.

According to the CDC and the state health department, schools should continue requiring universal masking in counties with higher levels of community transmission.

"I've said from the beginning, this is not a perfect situation," Superintendent Anthony Jackson told the board at its Dec. 13 meeting. "Our primary core work is teaching and learning, so our role and our focus — the only thing we promised at the start of the school year was to provide a regular routine, we tried very hard to do that.

"If I had my way, it'd be over tonight," Jackson said of the mask mandate at the time. "I don't have my way. So, Mr. Chair, it is our recommendation that, consistent with state law, we ask the board to continue the universal masking until our next meeting where you might be able to, at that time, adjust your positioning."

Jackson first hinted at moving toward optional masking at the board's November meeting, but by the next month, Chatham's community spread had increased from substantial to high spread.

At December's meeting, Chatham had 128 cases per 100,000 people and a 6.37% positivity rate, according to CDC data — bringing it up to the highest level of community transmission.

Now, those numbers are up to 1,039.34 cases per 100,000 people and 21.82% positive rate, as of Tuesday, with 10 new hospitalizations in the last week.

CCS administration has long cited masking as the most important tool for keeping students in the classroom by mitigating case transmission within school buildings. There have been 620 cases among students and staff since the first day of school, and just two clusters, according to the district's COVID dashboard on Tuesday.

The district's positive case rate has lingered well under 1% the entire school year, which has consistently been lower than the transmission rate in Chatham as a whole, save first week back at school following the winter break, Jan. 1-9, which saw 174 active cases, or 1.7% of the district's population.

As of Tuesday, there were 72 active cases among students and staff.

Easing of quarantine rules

Last week, state health

officials reduced the length of time students need to quarantine for COVID-19, providing extra flexibility to school districts that require face masks, like CCS. In those districts, unvaccinated and partially vaccinated students who've been exposed to COVID-19 can stay in school as long as they don't test positive.

The N.C. Department of Health and Human Services shortened recommended quarantine times to match those recommended by the CDC in late December, with the state Board of Education approving the shorter quarantine period on Jan. 6.

District officials have previously cited the state's K-12 StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit as its primary guidance. Executive Director of Student Services Tracy Fowler said the district automatically updates its protocol to match the state health toolkit.

The state's new quarantine period policies come as many parents and school administrators alike have raised concerns about the number of school days missed by students who ultimately don't test positive for COVID-19.

The quarantine period used to be as long as 14 days away from school. Since the start of this school year, people exposed to someone who later tests positive for COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if both people were wearing masks.

CCS Assistant Superintendent of Academic Services and Instructional Support Amanda Moran said in December that quarantine requirements accounted for a lot of the district's increased absences — even with the eased policies regarding masking.

In early December, for example, she said about 80 to 100 Siler City students were absent in a single week.

"When they backtracked all those (absences) out, it was only a handful of kids that were out for reasons other than the quarantine piece," she said at the time, adding that the district saw lower attendance rates at its higher poverty schools.

CCS social workers attributed those trends in part due to the barriers that come with getting a negative COVID-19 test — transportation, cost or finding an appointment — which allow students to come back to school before the completion of a 10-day quarantine period. Since November, all district schools have offered free weekly testing to students and staff through Raleigh-based Mako Medical.

Breakdown of all the updated quarantine guidance

For exposed individuals, the day of exposure is considered day zero. For cases, the day of symptom onset is day zero, and for individuals without symptoms, the day a positive test was taken is considered day zero.

• Positive antigen test, no symptoms: If the

person has a negative repeat PCR/molecular test performed within 24-48 hours of their positive antigen test, the positive antigen test can be considered a false positive and the person can immediately return to school; or the person can return to school five days after the date of the positive antigen test, as long as they did not develop symptoms. The person must continue to mask for an additional five days to minimize risk of infecting others.

• Positive PCR/molecular test, no symptoms: Person can return to school five days after the date of their positive test as long as they did not develop symptoms. The person must continue to mask for an additional five days to minimize risk of infecting others.

• COVID-19 symptoms + positive test: Person can return to school when it has been at least five days after the first day of symptoms, or it has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever without using fever-reducing medicine and other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving. The person must continue to wear a mask for 10 days after the first day of symptoms.

• COVID symptoms + no test: The same guidance for symptomatic people with a positive test applies.

• Person exposed in a mask-optional setting: Person must stay home from school for five days after exposure; they can then return if asymptomatic but must continue to wear a mask for an additional five days. They should test on day five, if possible. If symptoms occur, the person should immediately isolate until a test either confirms or rules out COVID-19.

• Symptoms + negative test and no known exposure: The person can return 24 hours after last fever (without using fever-reducing medicine). The same applies to someone with COVID-like symptoms who receives an alternate diagnosis that accounts for the symptoms.

Fully vaccinated and boosted 18-year-olds, or students 5-17 who are fully vaccinated, do not need to stay home from school if they are asymptomatic after close contact with someone who tests positive. The person must continue to wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure and should get tested on day five if possible.

Additionally, someone with close contact doesn't need to quarantine if they had a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 90 days.

Other elements of CCS COVID-19 protocol

• Masking protocol: Universal indoor masking "with fidelity" (the proper type of mask, worn over mouth and nose) is required at all district campuses, regardless of vaccination status. As of now, masks are optional outdoors. Additionally, the district requires 3 feet of social distance.

• Data on district cases:

The district will update its weekly case reports, including any clusters, on its website daily, and post finalized and archived reports every Friday by the end of the business day. Last year, the district reported minimal clusters, suggesting that cases present in school buildings were the result of community spread and not school spread.

CCS's reports will be posted at www.chatham.k12.nc.us/Page/23355.

• Lunches: Last year, students ate lunch in their classrooms to maintain social distance, and were encouraged to eat in a 15-minute period. Students removed masks to eat, and were only allowed to socialize once they put their masks back on. This year school principals may choose whether students eat in the cafeteria, classrooms or outside.

Students have a 30-minute lunch period but are strongly encouraged to eat in 15 minutes or less. If they are eating inside, closer than 6 feet apart, they may not talk until masks are back on.

Additionally, breakfast and lunch are available at

no cost to CCS students for the 2021-22 school year, thanks to a federal extension.

• Bus rides: All schools require passengers and staff to wear masks on buses and other group school transportation. State guidance doesn't require distancing.

• Is there protocol for when the district would move online, in the event of case surges? Short answer: no. Last spring, district officials suggested that CCS might off-ramp from in-person classes should too many staff members get sick with COVID-19 or be forced to quarantine to teach and carry out school functions.

Under state COVID policy, local school boards have the authority to make day-to-day decisions "concerning whether shifting individual schools or individual classrooms that are providing in-person instruction to remote instruction is necessary due to COVID-19 exposures that result in insufficient school personnel or required student quarantines."

Local boards must report any shifts by a school or

classroom from in-person to remote instruction to the N.C. Department of Public Instruction within 72 hours of the shift.

As of now, students cannot enroll for the district's virtual academy until the spring semester, as the academy requires a semester-long commitment.

• Cleaning procedures: Under updated state guidance this year, schools no longer need to do symptom screenings for students and staff at the beginning of a school day. Disinfecting and cleaning processes — formed in conjunction with Chatham County Public Health Department and the district's supplier of custodial supplies — include daily cleaning of touch surfaces, cleaning of buses after morning and afternoon routes as well as frequent cleaning of main offices, reception areas and restrooms in schools.

Reporter Taylor Heeden contributed to this report.

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

Should Inflation Affect Your Investment Moves?

As you know, inflation heated up in 2021, following years of pretty stable — and low — numbers. And now, early in 2022, we're still seeing elevated prices. As a consumer, you may need to adjust your activities somewhat, but as an investor, how should you respond to inflation?

First, it helps to know the causes of this recent inflationary spike. Essentially, it's a case of basic economics — strong demand for goods meeting inadequate supply, caused by material and labor shortages, along with shipping and delivery logjams. In other words, too many dollars chasing too few goods. Once the supply chain issues begin to ease and consumer spending moves from goods to services as the COVID-19 pandemic wanes, it's likely that inflation will moderate, but it may still stay above pre-pandemic levels throughout 2022.

Given this outlook, you may want to review your investment portfolio. First, consider stocks. Generally speaking, stocks can do well in inflationary periods because companies' revenues and earnings may increase along with inflation. But some sectors of the stock market typically do better than others during inflationary times. Companies that can pass along higher costs to consumers due to strong demand for their goods — such as firms that produce building materials or supply steel or other commodities to other businesses — can do well. Conversely, companies that sell nonessential goods and services, such as appliances, athletic apparel and entertainment, may struggle more when prices are rising.

Of course, it's still a good idea to own a variety of stocks from various industries because it can help reduce the impact of market volatility on any one sector. And to help counteract the effects of rising prices, you might also consider investing in companies that have a long track record of paying and raising stock dividends. (Keep

in mind, though, that these companies are not obligated to pay dividends and can reduce or discontinue them at any time.)

Apart from stocks, how can inflation affect other types of investments? Think about bonds. When you invest in a bond, you receive regular interest payments until the bond matures. But these payments stay the same, so, over time, rising inflation can eat into your bond's future income, which may also cause the price of your bond to drop — a concern if you decide to sell the bond before it matures. The impact of inflation is especially sharp on the price of longer-term bonds because of the cumulative loss of purchasing power.

However, Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS) can provide some protection against inflation. The face value, or principal amount, of each TIPS is \$1,000, but this principal is adjusted based on changes in the U.S. Consumer Price Index. So, during periods of inflation, your principal will increase, also increasing your interest payments. When inflation drops, though, your principal and interest payments will decrease, but you'll never receive less than the original principal value when the TIPS mature. Talk to your financial advisor to determine if TIPS may be appropriate for you.

Ultimately, inflation may indeed be something to consider when managing your investments. But other factors — especially your risk tolerance, time horizon and long-term goals — should still be the driving force behind your investment decisions. A solid investment strategy can serve you well, regardless of whether prices move up or down.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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

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

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

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

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

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

Siler City
Laura Clapp, CFP®, AAMS™
301 E Raleigh St
919-663-1051

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

edwardjones.com

Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Former Chatham commissioner charged with DWI

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Former Chatham County Commissioner Jim Crawford has been charged with one count of driving while impaired and failing to maintain lane control after a Dec. 6 wreck.

According to an accident report from the N.C. State Highway Patrol's office, Crawford was traveling northward on Old Graham Road at 8:15

p.m. on Dec. 6 when he lost control of his vehicle. The car — traveling at the posted speed limit of 45 mph — crossed over the center line, ran off the road and struck a ditch. No one else was involved in the accident.

Crawford suffered compression fractures in two of his vertebrae and was transported to Chatham Hospital for treatment.

"I feel lucky that I was not hurt worse than I was," Crawford said in an email to the News + Record. "I am thank-

ful that I didn't hurt anyone else or damage anyone else's property."

The accident occurred during the last weeks of Crawford's tenure as a Chatham County Commissioner. Crawford confirmed his retirement on Dec. 3 to the News + Record, citing health concerns as a motivator to relinquish his seat. Crawford announced his resignation at a commissioners' work session on Dec. 8. His resignation was effective on

Dec. 31.

Crawford told the News + Record he could not comment on the legal aspects of the incident in advance of his court appearance. But he did say he wanted to thank law enforcement and emergency responders for their work in responding to his accident.

"The EMT technicians and responding state Highway Patrol officer did a great job at the scene, and the Chatham Hospital staff treated my injuries

promptly and reassuringly," Crawford said. "Because my case is before the district court, I can not comment further at this time. When court officers have done their job, I will be able to answer questions."

Crawford's court appearance will take place at the Chatham County Courthouse in Pittsboro on Feb. 2.

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com.

Pittsboro Commissioners hold first meeting of the year

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The town's board of commissioners discussed Pittsboro's annual audit and unanimously passed language changes to a unified development ordinance regarding how the town handles rezoning requests during its first meeting of 2022 on Monday.

State law requires the town to submit to an independent audit every year to examine Pittsboro's finances and to ensure no fraud occurred.

Jay Sharpe — who conducted Pittsboro's audit — said his investigation didn't detect any fraud or discrepancies.

"I think you'll see this is all good news for the town," Sharpe said. "Everything looked good, and there were no issues with the audit."

The audit report showed the town's general fund balance — the difference between

financial assets and liabilities in a governmental fund — had more than doubled over 10 years from \$2.5 million to \$5.5 million. The report broke down by percentage how much of the town's 2021 general fund balance was spent on various areas or departments throughout the year.

According to Sharpe, Pittsboro spent 44% of its 2021 general fund in public safety, 20% on general government operations, 14% on cultural and recreational programming, 8% on environmental protection, 6% in transportation, 5% in public works funding and 4% in debt services.

The audit also revealed Pittsboro has seen a steady increase of property tax revenue, with 2021's revenue peaking at \$5.9 million. However, the property tax rate itself has remained unchanged since 2014, according to Sharpe.

"That was the last

year the town had a tax rate increase, but your revenues have gone up over the last decade," Sharpe said. "Your town is financially healthy at the end of 2021."

Commissioner John Bonitz called the audit report very positive overall in terms of Pittsboro's financial position.

"It is a reassuring overall picture," he said.

The board of commissioners also held a public hearing Monday evening regarding an amendment to a Unified Development Ordinance — ZTA 2021-06.

The Pittsboro Planning Board presented amendments to the UDO, which was passed last May. Some of these included changing the maximum development lot coverage allowed to 70%, adding Conditional Rezoning — a formal request for a zoning change — as a requirement for within a parallel conditional

zoning district, altering some uses of light and heavy industrial zoned districts, adding green development incentives, removing the Planning Board recommendation for Special Use permit requests and revise the order of board proceedings.

The Pittsboro Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend these changes to the UDO.

Planning Department Director Theresa Thompson, who presented the changes to the board, said the UDO amendments address the issues planning staff have seen since the ordinance's adoption.

"When we reformatted this, a lot of issues came up that were not a part of the priority list items that we began with, but we knew that it [the UDO] needed to move forward with the reformat," Thompson said. "We wanted to provide an update with what we had done so far, where we are now and what's to come."

Thompson said the "Parking Lot list" of priority items for the town can be adjusted if the board needs to add or remove certain items from the list.

"If there is something we find is more pressing than some of the items we listed tonight, we can always pivot," she said.

The board approved the amendments to the UDO unanimously. Commissioner Kyle Shipp thanked planning staff for their efforts to come up with solutions to issues in the ordinance's original language.

"I appreciate the effort and the continued effort on a better solution," Shipp said. "I think this is good in the meantime."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com.



Janice Giles, who was named principal of North Chatham Elementary by the CCS Board of Education on Monday.

Submitted photo

Janice Giles named principal of North Chatham Elementary

From Chatham County Schools

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Schools Board of Education approved Dr. Janice Giles as the new principal of North Chatham Elementary School during its Monday mid-year retreat.

Giles is in her 16th year as a public school educator — 10 of which she's spent with Chatham County Schools. She has been the assistant principal at Margaret B. Pollard Middle School since 2018. Before joining Pollard's staff, she served as assistant principal at Northwood High School. She also taught math in Durham Public Schools.

Giles earned her doctor of education degree in educational leadership from UNC-Chapel Hill, from which she also received her master of school administration degree. Her undergraduate degree in mathematics is from Malone University.

Giles has been a leader and advocate for digital teaching and learning. She holds a certificate in Advanced Education Technology from the University of

Michigan. She currently serves on the North Carolina Digital Learning Work Group, which is working to update the state's digital learning plan.

Giles said she is looking forward to becoming part of the North Chatham Elementary School family. She is excited to collaborate with teachers, staff and families to nurture a love of learning in each child.

"I am truly honored and feel privileged for the opportunity to serve as North Chatham Elementary School's principal," Giles said. "I am looking forward to getting to know our teachers, staff, students and families as we work together to continue to help our children excel to their fullest."

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson said Giles' experience as a math educator and assistant principal will serve her students and staff well.

"Dr. Giles brings a wealth of experience and a passion for education to her new role," he said. "Those two factors will benefit North Chatham students, families and staff."

TEMPLE THEATRE

Driving Miss Daisy

JANUARY 13-23, 2022

TAKE ME TO THE PIGGLY WIGGLY

919.774.4155
TEMPLESHOWS.ORG

Kids SIGN UP

THE OUTSIDERS

Beauty and the Beast

Aladdin

OUTSTANDING 2020 AWARDS IN THE TRIANGLE

PITTSBORO YOUTH THEATRE .COM

OBITUARIES

CAROL BAILEY HOWIE



Carol Bailey Howie, 74, of Carthage, passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

Carol was born on March 3, 1947, in Eden, N.C., to the late Rawley Bailey and Janie Walker Bailey.

She is survived by her daughter, Anita Howie Harris and her husband Jimmy of Siler City; her son, Dwayne Howie and his wife Sherry of Carthage. She is also survived by her grandchildren; Crystal Howie

Jackson and her husband Jeremy, Amie Howie Arrington and her husband Josh, Jessica Howie Allen and her husband Riley, Braeden Love and one great-granddaughter, Kinsley Allen; her brother, Mike Bailey and his wife Mary of Carthage; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three sisters and one brother.

A graveside service was held on Friday, January 7, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Center United Methodist Church Cemetery.

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

Services entrusted to Miller-Boles Funeral Home of Sanford.

HOWARD A. STALEY



Howard A. Staley, 66, of Moncure, N.C., passed away at 1:39 p.m. Monday, December 27, 2021.

He was born March 23, 1955, in Camden, Camden County, N.J. He was married to Hélène Hinson Staley for nearly 31 years.

In 1977, he graduated from Rutgers University in Camden, N.J., with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. In 1981, he graduated from Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine [now Temple University] in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and moved to North Carolina. He practiced Podiatric Medicine in North Carolina for 40 years.

He operated First Feet P.L.L.C in Sanford, N.C., since 1981, with additional offices in Aberdeen, N.C., until 1990 and Cary, N.C., until 2000. In 1989, Dr. Staley became a Diplomate in both Podiatric Orthopedics and Podiatric Surgery.

Dr. Staley loved traveling, visited Cherokee often for rafting, fishing, hiking, and swimming. Additionally, he enjoyed cooking for his family and friends. He was a candidate for U.S. Senate in 2008.

He is survived by his wife Hélène; his sons Zachary, Nicholas and Benjamin of Moncure, N.C.; his sisters, Louise Gallagher of Medford, N.J., and Diane MacFeeters of Moorestown, N.J.; and brother, Andrew Staley, Ph.D., of Marlborough, Massachusetts.

He was preceded in death by his mother Marie Cecelia "Mae" Euker [1919-1998], father Milton Carlton Staley [1920-1998], sister Lorraine Bernadette Staley [1958-1958], and niece Lenore Strathern [1982-2009] all of Moorestown, N.J.

A wake was held at Donaldson Funeral Home in Pittsboro, N.C., between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, January 7, 2022.

The funeral was held at Pittsboro Presbyterian Church, 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 8, 2022, with the Rev. Evan Harrison officiating. Burial followed at Hanks Chapel U.C.C. Cemetery in Pittsboro, N.C.

JOHN WALTON HAYWOOD



John Walton Haywood, 75, of Chapel Hill, N.C., passed away January 7, 2022, in his home from complications of Lewy Body Dementia.

Walton was born October 21, 1946, growing up in Star, N.C., the son of Earl and Madie (Melton). Walton is survived by his wife of 52 years, Marion (Meyers), daughter Melanie (Ambar Castillo), and two granddaughters, Elena and Vera. He was preceded in death by his parents and several beloved dogs. He was a great

lover of the outdoors, particularly bird watching and identifying every plant along the trail. If you see a walking stick leaning against a tree, know Walton was there.

A celebration of life will be planned for a later date.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the following: Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Road, Lilburn, Georgia 30047 <https://dementiasociety.charityproud.org/donate>; Triangle Land Conservancy, 514 S. Duke St., Durham, N.C. 27701 <https://www.triangleland.org/give/donate>; Chatham Animal Rescue & Education (CARE), P.O. Box 610, Pittsboro, N.C. 27312 <https://www.chathamanimalrescue.org/get-involved/care-wish-list/>.

ROGER THOMAS STONE

Roger Thomas Stone, 70, of Sanford, died Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at his home.

Graveside services were held at 3 p.m. Saturday, January 8, 2022, at Poplar Springs United Methodist Church Cemetery with Rev. Fallon Melvin officiating.

He was born in Lee County on November 21, 1951, son of the late Burnice Lee Stone and Eunice Lee Stone. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Charlene Eddins, Mabel Watson and brothers, Harley Stone, Lee Stone, Charles Stone and Steven Douglas Stone. He was a member of Poplar Springs U.M.C.

Surviving is his wife, Shelby Burton Stone of the home; daughter, Christie Dennis of Broadway; son, Steven Douglas Stone of Sanford; sister, Sylvia Nunnery of Sanford; brothers, William Stone, Harvey Stone and Bennie Stone of Sanford; two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

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

MICHAEL SCOTT THORNE

Michael Scott Thorne, 54, of Sanford, died Monday, January 3, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Funeral service was conducted at 2 p.m. Friday, January 7, 2022 at Holly Springs Baptist Church with Rev. Jerry Parsons officiating, with burial following in the Church Cemetery. The family received friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday evening at the Holly Springs Baptist Church multi-purpose building.

He was born on April 19, 1967, son of the late Amos Maynard Thorne and Mavis McNeill Thorne. He was preceded in death by his parents and his son, Michael Trey Thorne. He was a member of Holly Springs Baptist Church.

Surviving is his wife, Wanda Lemons Thorne of the home; daughters, Taylor J. Thorne of Sanford, and Baylee J. Thorne of the home; sister, Penny T. Howard of Broadway; and two grandsons.

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

RONNY FLOYD SIZEMORE



Ronny Floyd Sizemore, 73, of Bear Creek, passed away surrounded by his family on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at S. Mitchell Mack Hospice House in Mooresville, N.C.

Ronny was born on July 13, 1948, the son of Walter Floyd and Florence Brewer Sizemore. He graduated from Chatham Central High School in 1966. Drafted during the Vietnam War in 1968, he was stationed in Germany for two years, where he served as a forward observer. After leaving,

he went on to get his degree in Auto Body Repair, working on cars until the very end. Ronny was always able to make people laugh by telling a funny joke, making gestures, or being a prankster. He was always generous with his time and hospitality. Ronny was an avid NASCAR and Chevrolet fan. In addition to his parents, Ronny is preceded in death by his brother, Everett Sizemore.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Belinda Riddle Sizemore; son, Garrett Sizemore (Emily) of Mooresville; daughter, Amber Sizemore (Tim) of Cornelius; grandchild, Nathaniel Sizemore; sisters, Betty King and husband Charles of Charlotte, Nancy Williamson and husband Benny of Bear Creek; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at Tyson's Creek Baptist Church, 10891 Siler City-Glendon Road, Bear Creek with Rev. Bob Wachs officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 42040, Oklahoma City, OK 73123, The Veterans Foundation, or the Victory Junction Gang Camp, 4500 Adams Way, Randleman, N.C. 27317.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Sizemore family.

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

KENNETH WAYNE 'SKINSON' HARRINGTON

Kenneth Wayne "Skinson" Harrington, 84, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, January 2, 2022 at Central Carolina Hospital.

A graveside service was held on Friday, January 7, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Poplar Springs UMC Cemetery with Pastor Gary Buffkin officiating.

He was born in Lee County on November 3, 1937, to the late George and Betty Stone Harrington. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, George Vernon Harrington Jr., Gordon "Moe" Harrington and Glen "Frosty" Harrington and sister, Betty Joyce Baxley. Kenneth was retired from Lee Brick.

He leaves behind his wife, Sadie Ruth; children, Sandra, Ninfa, Charles, Bobby, Joyce, Ann and Sarah; brothers Jimmy Harrington, Bobby Harrington and Larry Harrington; sisters, Bonnie Mae Sutton and Patsy Louise Harrington; 20 grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren and nine great-great-grandchildren.

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

TULA MAXINE WILLIAMSON ALBRIGHT

Tula Maxine Williamson Albright, 83, of Seagrove, passed away Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at her home.

The funeral was held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, January 9, 2022, at New Center Christian Church with Pastor Larry May presiding. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Albright was born in Moore County on April 10, 1938, to Pearl Comer and Elbert Williamson. She attended Bethel Church of God and was formerly employed by Luck's Inc.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Carlie Nelson Albright, and brothers, Arnold Williamson, Leon Williamson and Weldon Williamson.

Survivors include her daughters, Brenda Foster, Debbie Randolph, Betsy Barnes and Jean Ann Garner; sister, Carlotta Welch; brothers, Jimmy Williamson, Herbert Williamson, and Roy Williamson; ten grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren.

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

LAMONDA SOPHIA BATTLE

Ms. Lamonda Sophia Battle, 41, of Cameron, N.C., transitioned into eternal rest on Thursday, December 30, 2021, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Friday, January, 2022, at Prevailing Life Ministries with burial following at McQueen Chapel U.M.C. Cemetery.

IRENE BROWN DAVIS

Irene Brown Davis, 81, of Robbins, passed away Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at her home.

The funeral was held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at Joyce-Brady Chapel with Rev. Harold Thomas and Rev. Cameron Dockery presiding. Burial followed in Randolph Memorial Park.

She was born in Randolph County on November 2, 1940, to John W. and Ida Brown. Irene was a member of White Hall Methodist Church, and retired from the textile industry. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by siblings, Pauline Brown Chriscoe, Vera Brown Rollins, Melvin Brown, Raymond Brown, Earl Brown and John Neil Brown.

Surviving is her daughter, Teresa Ann Davis; son, William (Freddie) Davis Jr.; sister, Anna Ruth Bland; and brothers, Russell Brown, Cleo Brown, and J.W. Brown.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Mt. Zion UMC Cemetery Fund, 8616 Curtis Powers Rd., Bennett, NC 27208.

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

JAMES PAUL TYNER

James Paul Tyner, 58, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, January 1, 2022, at his home.

A celebration of life service was held Saturday, January 8, 2022, at 2 p.m. at 104 Glass Drive, Sanford.

James was born on November 17, 1963, to Frances Whitaker Tyner and the late Robert Don Tyner. He worked in metal building construction.

Survivors include his mother, Frances Tyner of Sanford; daughters, Jessica Lynne Tyner and Lindsey Merritt Patterson of Sanford, Cathy Lee Tyner and Cole Barnes of Lillington; son, Stewart James Tyner; brothers, Anthony Glenn Tyner, Gary Neal Tyner, George David Tyner and Robert Don Tyner all of Sanford; and four grandchildren.

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

MARCIA ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

Marcia Elizabeth Williams, 82, of Durham, passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at Duke Regional Hospital.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Chapel Hill.

STEVE ROBERT STONE

Steve Robert Stone, 66, of Sanford, died Monday, January 7, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

A funeral service will be held Friday, January 14, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Pastor Billy Norris officiating. There will be a visitation one and half hours prior to the service at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home. The burial will follow at Haywood Independent Bible Church cemetery in Moncure.

Steve was born in Lee County, on January 11, 1955, to the late William and Dolly Jordan Stone. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by brothers, Tommy and Ray Stone.

He is survived by his wife, Scarlett Russ Stone of the home.

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

JAMES LYNDEN BRADY

James Lynden Brady, 93, of Bennett, died Saturday, January 8, 2022, at home.

The body laid in repose from 1 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, at Joyce-Brady Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at Pleasant Grove Christian Church, with Rev. Don Edwards officiating.

Lynden was born in Randolph County to Ernest and Viola Brady on October 18, 1928. He retired from Ramtux after more than 40 years. Lynden was preceded in death by his wife, Sue Gatlin Brady, his son, Melvin Brady, his sister, Elouise Simmons, and brothers, Wayne Brady and Leon Brady.

He is survived by his daughters, Janette Farrington, Sylvia Ford, Pamela Brady Salisbury, Karen Garner; brothers, Sam, Gilbert, Dwight, Steven, Michael; and his sister, Janice Allen; 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Flowers are acceptable or donations may be made to Pleasant Grove Christian Church Cemetery Fund, 5946 Pleasant Grove Church Rd., Bennett N.C. 27208.

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

Joyce-Brady Chapel of Bennett is honored to serve the Brady family.

DOLORES GONZALES

Dolores Gonzales, 62, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, January 9, 2022, at SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan UNC Hospice House in Pittsboro.

No services are planned.

She was born in Cameron, Texas on December 17, 1959, to the late Antonio and Matilde Pina Gonzales. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by sister, Mary Helen Aguilar.

Dolores is survived by brothers, Ray Gonzales, Joey Gonzales and Ernest Aguilar; sisters, Ninfa Gonzales and Mona Lisa Gonzalez.

Arrangements are with Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

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

PATRICIA ANN BLUE

Patricia Ann Blue, 62, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, December 30, 2021, at Central Carolina Hospital.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 8, 2022, at Knotts Funeral Home.

TERRY CLARK SR.

Terry Lynn Clark Sr., 64, of Cameron, passed away Monday, January 3, 2022, at Central Harnett Hospital in Lillington.

Services will be provided by Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford.

See **OBITUARIES**, page A9

SHOP LOCAL

CHATHAM MONUMENT CO.

Charles Campbell

Greg Campbell

Quality Monuments At Affordable Prices
Phone: 663-3120

Over 50 years experience designing, lettering and erecting monuments in Siler City and surrounding area.
Opposite Smith & Buckner Funeral Home

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

HATTIE MAE (EDWARDS) MOORE

Hattie Mae Moore, 79 of Carrboro, passed away on Saturday, January 8, 2022, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Chapel Hill.

CATHY DORINA LEE

Cathy Dorina Lee, 65, passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at SECU Jim & Betsy UNC Hospice Home.

Professional services provided by Knotts and Son, Siler City.

GWENDOLYN IRENE SILER

Gwendolyn Irene Siler, 82, of Siler City, passed away on Monday, January 3, 2022,

at Clapp's Nursing Center in Pleasant Garden.

Professional services will be provided by Knotts and Son, Siler City.

WILMA ROBINSON

Wilma Robinson, 79, of Siler City, passed away Thursday, January 6, 2022, at her home.

Professional services will be provided by Knotts and Son, Siler City.

CRINFORD LEAK

Crinford "Little" Leak, 86, of Sanford, passed away Monday, January 3, 2022, at First Health Moore Regional in Pinehurst.

Professional services will be provided by Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

LYNDA ANN CURRIE

Lynda Ann Currie, 62, of Carrboro, passed away Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at

UNC Hospice, Pittsboro.

Service entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Chapel Hill.

WILLEATTA DELANE HANNER

Willeatta Delane Hanner, 68, of Siler City passed away Friday, January 07, 2022 at Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro.

Services entrusted to Knotts and Son, Siler City.

How prevalent is the term 'Latinx' in Chatham County? We take a look.

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON

News + Record Staff

Over the past few months, pushback has grown throughout the United States against the use of the term "Latinx," a gender-neutral term referring to people of Latin American descent.

Hispanic congressional representatives, newspapers and organizations have criticized its use. Others, including the country's oldest Latino civil rights organization, The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), have dropped the term from their official communications altogether.

In 2020, the Pews Research Center found that just 3% of surveyed U.S. Hispanic/Latino adults self-identify as "Latinx," while only 23% had heard of the term. The same survey found that its use was most prevalent among young Hispanic adults: 42% of Hispanic adults aged 18 to 29 reported that they'd heard the term, and of that age group, 7% reported using it.

In light of recent pushback, the News + Record spoke with several Latin American immigrants and Hispanic community members in Chatham County about the use and meaning of "Latinx."

Here's what they had to say:

What does the term "Latinx" represent to you, and approximately when did you first hear it?

The word "Latinx" represents to me a disgrace, a disgruntled attempt to influence and change what has been called a beautiful language. I first noticed it in newspaper clippings on or about November of 2021.

— Carlos Simpson, Costa Rican immigrant and member of Siler City's Immigrant Advisory Committee.

Latinx is a term created by a younger Hispanic generation to show inclusion, to indicate that females, males, and LGBTQ+ are accepted and loved by our community. I started hearing

this term about 10 years ago.

— Alirio Estevez, Colombian immigrant, ESL teacher and local advocate for the Latino community.

It was in a professional meeting in 2017 that I first heard the term "Latinx." I understood it to be a nonbinary term that replaces the gender-specific aspects represented by the words "Latino" and "Latina." However, I never really implemented it in my vocabulary, not because I feel particular about it. Outside of the academic context, it is not a very common term or a term people go around using in everyday discourse.

The truth is that there are relatively few older adults from my generation and older (not to give away my age) that have heard of the term Latinx. Its use has undoubtedly generated controversy, but some people have never heard of it. I see Latinx most often being embraced and asserted by younger generations. It appears that older generations pushing back against the use of Latinx are tired of labels or perceive the use of it as an affirmation of a particular ideology.

The term sparks debate because there is always debate when you try to put a name or label to a racial or ethnic group. Regardless of which side people are on, the fact that we are having a debate or conversation about a term in the Spanish language reminds us of the power of words. The discussion around the term Latinx has helped emphasize our identity as individuals and community and increased respect for how others perceive themselves. The term presents an opportunity to be progressive and inclusive about non-gender confor-

mity in our society.

— Jisselle Perdomo, Honduran immigrant and member of Siler City's Immigrant Advisory Committee.

The first time I heard the term Latinx was in 2016 when I was a junior at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Latinx to me represents a protest — a protest against colonialism and the "normal." I see it as a movement toward inclusivity within a very gendered language, which I love. It also represents another term for queer, nonbinary or genderfluid individuals to feel included and seen.

More so I see it as a term that represents me as a Latina growing up in the United States who speaks both Spanish and English, and as someone who considers themselves bi-cultural, being from both Mexico and the United States, but not fully one or the other but both together.

I understand that it defies the linguistic rules of formal Spanish, but that is why I love it so much because it reminds me of that history. It reminds me that I come from Indigenous ancestors that were forced into using the colonizer's language but were yet resilient, that even some of the words we now use in Spanish derived from Indigenous dialects. Similarly, it reminds me of the Spanglish words that have been formed by my community living here in the United States. It's a representation of how our language has morphed into its own identity for those of us living here or who have been here for years.

I see the word Latinx as a movement of defiance of the old with the hope of progress toward change.

— Selina Lopez, Mexican immigrant and the Hispanic Liaison's Or-

gullo Latinx Pride youth program director.

I only heard this term until recently (maybe in the last five years). [For] my entire childhood and until most recently, I understood that anyone of Hispanic/Latino roots was called a "Hispanic" or "Latino." I know that over time, ethnicities will change in how they refer to themselves, and I would like to think that I am progressive-minded, so if this is the accepted term one day, I will most likely be inclined to use it. But as it stands today, I have never used it when referring to myself or anyone else.

More importantly, I honestly cannot tell you what it means exactly. I imagine that it was coined in an attempt to be inclusive. In my opinion, it may have had the opposite effect, as now, it delineates a clear shift from old to new generations of Hispanics/Latinos who are more conscious of using inclusive language (most likely young, college-educated Hispanics).

I also feel that in its attempt to be inclusive, the term Latinx has implications that people who refer to themselves like this have ties to certain political ideals, therefore excluding those of us who do not identify with any particular political belief. If I were to be more honest, I would say that instead of focusing on what we are being called, we have to focus on causes that are directly impacting our lessened quality of life, education, medical access [and] immigration reform. Of course, names are important, they help define us, and it is our presentation card to the world. The change will come whether we like or accept it or not. It is just a sign of the times.

— Norma Hernandez, vice-chairperson of the Siler City Immigrant Advisory Committee.

Latinx is an effort within the USA to be gender-neutral when referring to the Latin American community versus the use of Latino or Latina. I first heard Latinx in the mid-2010s.



Chatham Charter School

Chatham Charter School is now accepting applications for openings in kindergarten and limited openings in first through eleventh grade for the 2022-2023 school year. Kindergarten applicants must be five years of age on or before August 31, 2022. The application period ends on January 28, 2022. Applications may be submitted online (www.chathamcharter.org) under the "Admissions" link, at the school (2200 Hamp Stone Road, Siler City) or by calling (919) 742-4550.

Chatham Charter School is a nonprofit, nondenominational public school providing quality education for children of all races, creeds, handicaps, and national origins.

La Escuela de Chatham Charter

La Escuela de Chatham Charter ahora está tomando aplicaciones para espacios del kinder y algunos espacios desde el primer grado hasta el grado once para el año escolar 2022-2023. Los niños que asistan al kinder deben tener cinco años de edad antes del 31 de agosto, 2022. El periodo de aplicación termina el 28 de enero, 2022. Puede completar una aplicación al Internet (www.chathamcharter.org) al enlace Admissions, a la escuela (2200 Hamp Stone Road, Siler City) o por una llamada (919.742.4550).

La Escuela de Chatham Charter es una escuela pública, multidenominacional, y no lucrativa que provide una educación de la calidad para los niños de todos las razas, los credos, una condición de discapacidad, y los orígenes nacionales.

Small Class Size

Las clases pequeñas

Individual Attention

Atención individualizada

Over 30 middle and high school sports teams offered

Ofrecen Más de 30 equipos de deportes para los grados 6-12



Extra Curricular Activities

Las actividades extracurriculares

College Preparatory

La preparación de universidad

Tuition Free

Enseñanza gratuita

I recall earlier inclusion efforts such as Latin@, during my time in high school in the late 2000s.

— Franklin Gomez Flores, Chatham County commissioner representing District 5.

It does not mean anything to me, just another label. I heard that word about three to four years ago.

— Maria Soto, family advocate for Communities In Schools of Chatham County.

I do not identify with that word; I do not know who would fit under that label. I always identify myself as Hispanic. I heard that word about three to four years ago.

— Veronica Nuñez, family advocate program assistant for CIS-Chatham.

Do you use and/or identify as "Latinx," and why or why not? If not, what term(s) do you prefer to use and prefer that others use as well? Why?

I don't use or identify as "Latinx" because I am comfortable [with] my current identification and usage of "Latin" or "Latino." From a vocabulary standpoint, it's the right thing to do!

I would like to add that because we're not aware of the reasoning behind this attempt to influence what has been called "a beautiful language," we must be cautious not to jump to accept something that could inappropriately crack the language ... think what the language would look like if you put an X on words ending with a consonant.

I urge and implore newspapers, book writers, article writers [and] proofreaders not to use this word because it could have a devastating effect on the language that has been called "a beautiful language."

— Simpson

Since Latinx is a term that refers to a group of people of Hispanic descent, I use Latino to refer to myself since I'm male. When I talk to a Hispanic audience, I'd like to use the term they prefer to be called — either Latino, Latina, Latinos or Latinx.

The discussion regarding whether to use the term Latinx is a minor issue, if any, for our community. Unfortunately, some people with political and selfish interests want to create an artificial division among us. Some people prefer to use the adjective Latino since it has been the tradition for a long time and that is fine by me; young generations tend to use the term Latinx to indicate their commitment to inclusion and that is fine by me, too. I respect the decision taken by each person in how to be called and/or addressed. Their feelings and beliefs are to be valued.

— Estevez

I don't use the term Latinx because I don't typically lean towards labels for people. In our society, especially in the United States, it is common for people to want to know which "group" someone belongs to, but our culture is so diverse that we can't put people inside a box or assign a label. Latino, Latina, Hispanic, and Latinx are very U.S.-centric

terms. I only found the need to identify myself using one of those terms once I started living in the United States. I often identify as a Latina because it makes me feel part of a larger community. However, when I want to tell people about myself, I refer to my nationality and birthplace instead. I think it tells more about me and my cultural background.

— Perdomo

I identify as Latinx, Latina, Mexicana and Xicana because they are all identities that make up who I am and reflect different aspects of my story. I do choose to use Latinx because I resonate with the term in addition to doing my small part to make our language and spaces more inclusive to others. Working with a variety of youth, I want to make sure I am as welcoming as possible and intentional about making safe spaces for them to feel comfortable being themselves with or without labels.

— Lopez

I do not identify at all with that term.

— Hernandez

In general, I use Latin American, not Latinx. In my opinion, Latinx is not specific enough and leaves a gray area of whether some Europeans would be included. I am not a linguist, but if we get into the technicalities, referring to someone/something as Latin infers having roots to Latin or Latin-derived, which includes the romance languages, which includes some of Europe.

I do not identify as Latinx, but I do recognize that when Latinx is used, the user is referring to my community and that I may be included. I believe we all have the freedom of expression. Remember, the English language has no official regulatory authority/body. So if individuals/agencies want to use Latinx or Latin American, in my opinion, that is their freedom of choice.

I, personally, prefer Latin American because it reinforces that we too are Americans and because Latin American is also more specific, in reference to the Americas. It is also gender-neutral.

— Gomez Flores

I do not use it and I do not identify myself as one. The term "Latinx" has been embraced by the Latin LGBTQ+ communities. However, not everyone in the Hispanic/Latino community identifies with that term. [I prefer] Hispanic/Latino because they are more inclusive terms.

I disagree that a very small percentage of Hispanics/Latinos wanted to be called "Latinx" and then everybody decided to call Hispanic/Latinos "Latinx" without asking us if we wanted to be called "Latinx."

— Soto

I do not use it and do not identify myself as a Latinx. By definition it's a word that I do not understand. [I prefer] Hispanic/Latino because that is what I have learned since I was a little girl.

I do not like that people call us "Latinx" without asking us if we want to be called that.

— Nuñez

PLACE YOUR AD HERE FOR \$5 PER WEEK. CALL 919-663-3232

Up to 25 words — additional words 20¢ each

PLUS: Your ad is posted on chathamnewsrecord.com for FREE!

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

LEARN ABOUT LAND - Chatham Land Experts - www.learn-aboutland.com - 919-362-6999. Jy2,tfnc

OFFICE SPACE RENT

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, Approximately 2,000 sq. ft. reception area, conference room, six offices, kitchenette and restrooms. Siler Business Park, 919-930-1650. Jn15,tfnc

RENTAL APARTMENTS

POWELL SPRINGS APTS. Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Mon, Tues & Thurs, 8:30 - 4:30. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD #1-800-735-2962, Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, A2,tfnc

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS now for one bedroom apartments, adults 55 years or older. Water included, appliances furnished, on-site laundry, elevator, keyless entry. Section 8 accepted. \$486/mo., no security deposit. Application fee \$25 per adult. Call Braxton Manor, 919-663-1877. Handicap accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity. A2,tfnc

FOR SALE

TV ANTENNA SALE - Come by MacPage Communications at 102 West Third Avenue, Siler City. 919-227-6698. D30,tfnc

AUCTIONEERS

RICKY ELLINGTON AUCTIONEERS - Equipment, Business, Liquidation, Estates, Land, Houses, Antiques, Personal property, Coins, Furniture, Consignments, Benefits, etc., NCAL #7706, 919-548-3684, 919-663-3556, rickyellingtonauctions@yahoo.com, J6,tfnc

AUCTIONEER SCOTT L. HARRIS at JHA. One Call...We sell it all!!! Real Estate, Personal Property, Estate Settlement, Farms & Land, Business Liquidation. JHA has been conducting auctions in the state of NC since 1989. Fully licensed Real Estate and Auction Firm. NCAL #8420 Firm #8086 www.JerryHarrisAuction.com, 919-498-4077, J6,tfnc

SERVICES

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

LETT'S TREE SERVICE - tree removal, stump grinding, lot clearing. Visa & Master Card accepted. Timber. Free estimates. 919-258-3594 N9,tfnc

HELP WANTED

FULL TIME MAINTENANCE position available for apartment complex in Pittsboro and Siler City. Please contact Patsy at Walnut Grove Apt. in Pittsboro, NC 27312 - 919-542-2669 - or come to the office Mon., Tues. Wed., 7 to 1. J6,13,2tc

STAFF ENGINEER (Asheboro Location) - Randolph Electric Membership Corporation is currently seeking a Staff Engineer. The successful candidate is required to have a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. To apply go to <https://www.randolphemc.com/careers>. Taking applications until the position is filled. Equal Opportunity Employer, including disability/vets.

D16,23,30,J6,13,5tc

DATA ANALYST - Randolph Electric Membership Corporation is currently seeking a Data Analyst. The successful candidate is required to have a bachelor's degree in Computer Science. To apply go to <https://www.randolphemc.com/careers>. Taking applications until the position is filled. Equal Opportunity Employer, including disability/vets. D16,23,30,J6,13,5tc

FOOD SERVICES STAFF - Pittsboro Christian Village is accepting applications for Server, Pantry Cook, and Cook. Apply in person 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday, at 1825 East St. in Pittsboro. O21,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

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
All persons having claims against **EDWARD L. SMITHWICK** aka Edward Lee Smithwick of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 5th day of November, 2021, are notified to present them to Carol Blackman Smithwick, Executrix of the Estate of Edward L. Smithwick aka Edward Lee Smithwick 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 March 29, 2022. Failure to present a claim in timely fashion will result in this Notice being pleaded in bar of recovery against the estate, the Executrix, and the devisees of Edward L. Smithwick aka Edward Lee Smithwick. Those indebted to Edward L. Smithwick aka Edward Lee Smithwick 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 D23,D30,J6,J13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E716
All persons having claims against **TAVIN DANIEL HOWARD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 23rd day of December, 2021. Hollie Anne Howard, Administrator 316 Culvert St., Apt 5 Apex, N.C. 27502 D23,D30,J6,J13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **ANGELA MOSS**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 20th day of December, 2021, 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 25th day of March, 2022, 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 23rd day of December, 2021. Tami Boardman, Executor c/o Holly Martin, Attorney for the Estate McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson, & Hinkle, PLLC 3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400 Durham, NC 27707. D23,D30,J6,J13,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator CTA of the Estate of **MARGIE BRAY PHILLIPS**, 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 31st day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 21st day of December, 2021.

Amanda Oldham, Administrator CTA of The Estate of Margie Bray Phillips 1624 Siler City-Glen-don Road Siler City, North Carolina 27344 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 D30,J6,J13,J20,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E732
All persons having claims against **BETTY MITCHELL JOHNSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit

the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 21st day of December, 2021. Rodney V. Goldston, Administrator 2503 Fernwood Dr Greensboro, NC 27408 D30,J6,J13,J20,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E494
All persons having claims against **ALCA F. OLDHAM**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 30th day of December, 2021. Jeffrey Berry Oldham, Executor 1328 Henry Oldham Rd Bear Creek, N.C. 27207 D30,J6,J13,J20,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 750

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.

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **JOSEPH EARL THOMAS**, late of Chatham County, North

Join the News + Record's Team

HELP WANTED

Delivery Drivers

The Chatham News + Record is seeking part-time drivers to assist in the delivery of newspapers on Wednesday or Thursday mornings. Ability to lift 25lbs, work in various weather conditions and a valid NC drivers license is required.

Please email resume and references to Jason Justice at jjjustice@chathamnr.com

Chatham News + Record

EOE

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@ECCMGMT.com EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES



DRIVERS WANTED Hiring Local Drivers Full & Part Time Available

- Pallet Haul Drivers
- Local Loads – Home Daily
- 200-300 Miles Per Day
- Late Model Trucks
- Good Driving Record/ Clean History Required
- Competitive Pay & Benefits Package Includes: Medical, Dental, Life, STD and LTD Insurance, 401K Plan, Holiday & Vacation Pay



\$5,000 Sign-On Bonus ...come grow with us!
Immediate Openings!

Please Inquire At: Wilson Brothers Main Office 20412 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek, NC 27207 Applications Also Available Online: www.wilsonbrotherstrucking.com

EOE/M/F/V

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



Career Opportunities Available

Visit www.chathamcountync.gov and click Jobs.

HELP WANTED

Chatham Monument Co. has an opening for a monument installer. Work involves working in Siler City and surrounding area installing monuments as part of a 3-person team.

Apply in Person, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 227 N. 2nd Ave. Siler City, NC 27344

Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at his address, 229 Hillsboro Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 30th day of March, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 22nd day of December, 2021.

Joseph Edward Thomas
229 Hillsboro Street
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC
P. O. Box 880
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880
D30,J6,J13,J20,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E715
All persons having claims against **STANLEY REICHARD THOMAS SR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 30th day of December, 2021.
Jeffrey E. Manor, Executor
840 Polks Landing Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
D30,J6,J13,J20,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **ROBERT JAMES BELL**, deceased, of

Chatham County, North Carolina hereby notifies all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the Estate to present such claims to the undersigned at the address below on or before the 30th day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the Estate will please make immediate payment. This the 30th day of December, 2021.
Suzanne A. Bell, Personal Representative
5835 Pittsboro Rd
Henderson, NC 27537
D30,J6,J13,J20,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E364
All persons having claims against **JACQUELINE BOWEN BEZA**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 30th day of March, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 30th day of December, 2021.
LISA DYMENT, Executrix
275 Seven Island Road
Pittsboro, NC 27312
D30,J6,J13,J20,4tp

TOWN OF SILER CITY LEGISLATIVE HEARING NOTICE
The Board of Commissioners will conduct a legislative hearing on Jan. 18, 2022 at 6:30 pm in the multipurpose room of the Wren Memorial Library located at 500 N. 2nd Ave. Legislative hearing and Board discussion will be conducted on the following requests:
1) Esperanza Fernandez proposes to rezone 9.6 acres from Highway-Commercial (H-C)

to Agricultural-Residential (A-R). The subject property is identified as 17885 US 64 W and parcel # 90402.

2) Town of Siler City proposes to rezone 1.71 acres from Light-Industrial (L-I) to Central-Business (C-C). The subject property is identified as 118 W. 2nd St. and parcel # 61343.

3) Town of Siler City proposes the following text amendments to the UDO: §180 Miniparks Required, §182 Usable Open Space (residential developments located within the Downtown Siler City District shall be exempt). The proposed items are 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 items are invited to attend the legislative hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced item. The Planning Board will meet on Jan. 10 @ 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, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or nhannah@silercity.org for accommodations for this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Nancy Hannah al nhannah@silercity.org o 919-726-8625 o e311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud.

J6,J13,2tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
A public hearing will be held by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on **Tuesday,**



DENTAL Insurance

If you've put off dental care, it's easy to get back on track. Call Physicians Mutual Insurance Company now for inexpensive dental insurance. Get help paying for the dental care you need.

Getting back to the dentist couldn't be easier!

CALL TODAY
1-844-496-8601
Dental50Plus.com/ncpress

Get your **FREE** Information Kit

Product not available in all states. Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C2500); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN). Rider kinds: B438, B439 (GA: B439B). 6208-0721

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.

J6,J13,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E737
All persons having claims against **ROBERT H. CHASE, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of April, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 6th day of January, 2022.
Anne Catherine Chase, Executrix
42 Beverly Dr
Durham, NC 27707
J6,J13,J20,J27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E713
All persons having claims against **MELVIN TOTEN aka MELVIN LEE TOTEN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of April, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 6th day of January, 2022.
Sabrina Person, Administrator
401 East 4th Street
Siler City, NC 27344
J6,J13,J20,J27,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21E742
All persons having claims against **THOMAS BABER CALLAHAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of April, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 13th day of January, 2022.
RODGER W. HAMRICK, Executor

2191 Bonlee Bennett Rd
Siler City, NC. 27344
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tp

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NORTH CAROLINA

CHATHAM COUNTY
Special Proceedings No. 19 SP 222
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
Date of Sale: January 25, 2022
Time of Sale: 3:00 p.m.
Place of Sale: Chatham County Courthouse
Description of Property: See Attached Description
Record Owners: Samuel Robinson and Faye Robinson
Address of Property: **1324 Silk Hope Liberty Road**

Siler City, NC 27344
Deed of Trust:
Book : 1339 Page: 767
Dated: May 4, 2007
Grantors: Samuel Robinson and Faye Robinson, Husband and Wife
Original Beneficiary: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as nominee for Encore Credit
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Should the property be purchased by a third party, that person must pay the tax of Forty-five Cents (45¢) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)(1).
This sale is made subject to all unpaid taxes and superior liens or encumbrances of record and assessments, if any, against the said property, and any recorded leases. This sale is also subject to any applicable county land transfer tax, and the successful third party bidder shall be required to make payment for any such county land transfer tax. A cash deposit of 5% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale. Any successful bidder shall be required to tender the full balance of the purchase price so bid in cash or certified check at the time the Substitute Trustee tenders to him a deed for the property or attempts to tender such deed, and should said successful bidder fail to pay the full balance purchase price so bid at that time, he shall remain liable on his bid as provided for in North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.30 (d) and (e). This sale will be held open ten (10) days for upset bids as required by law.
Residential real property with less than 15 rental units, including single-family resi-

Statewide Classified

YOUR AD can be promoted in multiple markets with one easy and affordable ad placement. Your ad will be published in 114 NC newspapers for only \$375. You reach 1.7 million readers with the North Carolina Statewide Classified Ad Network. Call this newspaper's classified department at 919-663-3232 or visit www.ncpress.com.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
6BR-6.5Bath Brick Home in Gated Community-Clemmons! RSVP ONLY! Saturday, January.15th@11AM / LEINBACH AUCTION & REALTY, LLC
(336)4169614/NCAL#5871/ N C R E B L # 1 9 9 9 2 2 / AUCTIONZIP.COM ID#5969

STOP worrying! SilverBills eliminates the stress and hassle of bill payments. All household bills guaranteed to be paid on time, as long as appropriate funds are available. Computer not necessary. Call for a FREE trial or a custom quote today. SilverBills 1-866-530-1374

White-Glove Service from America's Top Movers. Fully insured and bonded. Let us take the stress out of your out of state move. FREE QUOTES! Call: 855-821-2782

Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF + 2 FREE Months! 866-501-1596

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-649-1190

Become a published author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kit. 1-855-658-2057

DONATE YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-855-869-7055

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 877-553-0252 [Stepbacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-866-642-1883

DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-877-920-7405

Prepare for Power Outages & Save Money

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!
| (866) 642-1883

*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.

LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

15% OFF & **10% OFF**
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE
+ **5% OFF** TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY

SENIORS & MILITARY!
WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!
Promo Code: 285
*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE **1-877-649-1190**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. **Offer valid at time of estimate only. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the #1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. Manufactured in Plainville, Michigan and processed at LMV Maier Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSLB# 1035795 DOR# #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 90328 License# 132544 License# 21524 WA LDB# 603-233-977 License# 2102212286 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFNW6222 License# W0569112 License# WC-2998-H17 Nassau HC License# HD1067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# 4909905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 36620913 Registration# 654575 Registration# 373194 Registration# 1310925300 Registration# PA020853 Safford, LLC License# 5222-14 License# 2705169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 0386990 Registration# H-19114

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
866-495-1123

FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

Dental Insurance

Get the dental care you deserve with dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It can help cover the services you're most likely to use -

- Cleanings
- X-rays
- Fillings
- Crowns
- Dentures

- Preventive care starts right away
- Helps cover over 350 services
- Go to any dentist you want - but save more with one in our network
- No deductible, no annual maximum

Call today for all the details.
844-903-1784

Call now to get this **FREE** Information Kit!
dental50plus.com/chatham

Product not available in all states. Includes the Participating Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-888-799-4433 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C2500); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN). Rider kinds B438/B439. 6154-0120

dential real property: an order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee
Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P.
EXHIBIT A - PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
The land referred to in this Commitment is described as follows:
Situating in Siler City, Chatham County, State of North Carolina and being described as follows:
ADJOINING THE LANDS OF PAUL D. FIELDS, J.P. FIELDS AND OTHERS, AND BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE CENTER OF STATE ROAD NO. 1346, PAUL D. FIELDS' LINE OR CORNER, THERE BEING AN IRON STAKE IN THE NORTHERN RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SAID ROAD; AND RUNNING THENCE WITH THE CENTER OF SAID ROAD SOUTH 79 DEGREES EAST 133 FEET TO A POINT IN THE CENTER OF SAID ROAD NO. 1346, THERE BEING AN IRON STAKE IN THE NORTHERN RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE NORTH 4 DEGREES EAST FROM SAID POINT; AN RUNNING THENCE WITH THE LINE OF J.P. FIELDS, NORTH 4 DEGREES WEST 263 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE, FIELDS' CORNER, THENCE NORTH 24 DEGREES 30' WEST 272 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE, J.P. FIELDS' CORNER; THENCE WITH FIELDS' LINE, SOUTH 67 DEGREES WEST 230 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE, PAUL D. FIELDS' LINE; THENCE WITH PAUL D. FIELDS' LINE, SOUTH 29 DEGREES EAST 449 FEET TO THE BEGINNING, CONTAINING 2.18 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, ACCORDING TO A PLAT PREPARED BY ROBERT HANCOCK, SURVEYOR, MAY 1967. BEING THE IDENTICAL REAL ESTATE DESCRIBED IN DEED FROM J. PAUL FIELDS, ET UX, TO KENNETH R. FIELDS, ET US, DATED MAY 22, 1967.

1) FOR CHAIN OF TITLE, SEE DEED BOOK 609, PAGE 1150, CHATHAM COUNTY REGISTRY.
2) THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO ANY RECORDED OR UNRECORDED RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTING.
3) THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO ANY EASEMENTS WHICH MIGHT NOW EXIST IN FAVOR OF ANY PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANY.
4) THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO ANY MATTERS WHICH A RECENT AND ACCURATE SURVEY

MIGHT DISCLOSE.
5) THE PARTY OF THE FIRST PART SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR AND PAY ALL CHATHAM COUNTY AD VALOREM TAXES ON SAID PROPERTY THROUGH THE YEAR 1995; TAXES FOR THE YEAR 1996 SHALL BE PRORATED BETWEEN THE PARTIES HERETO.
6) THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL RESTRICTIVE AND PROTECTIVE COVENANTS OF RECORD.
The above legal description being the same as the last deed of record, no boundary survey having been made at the time of this conveyance. Parcel #0000983 BEING the same property conveyed to Samuel Jerry Robinson, by deed from Deborah Stuart Ingle, dated 6-11-96, recorded 6-12-96, in Book 694 page 577, in the Register of Deeds of Chatham County, NC. This Derivation Clause represents a 24 month Chain of Title.
The above information is to be used for reference purposes only and not to be relied on as evidence of title and/or encumbrances. Accordingly, said information is furnished at a reduced rate, and the Company's liability shall in no event exceed the amount paid for said information.
1324 Silk Hope Liberty Road, Siler City, NC 27344

J13,J20,2tc

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Special Proceedings No. 20 SP 127
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
Date of Sale: **January 25, 2022**
Time of Sale: **3:00 p.m.**
Place of Sale: **Chatham County Courthouse**
Description of Property: See Attached Description
Record Owners: Heirs of Ricky T. Beck
Address of Property: 18831 NC 902 Hwy, Bear Creek, NC 27207
Deed of Trust - Book : 01783
Page: 0212 and modified by that Corrective Affidavit in Book 1801, Page 887
Dated: February 12, 2015
Grantors: Ricky T. Beck
Original Beneficiary: State Employees' Credit Union
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Should the property be purchased by a third party, that person must pay the tax of Forty-five Cents (45¢) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)(1).
This sale is made subject to all unpaid taxes and superior liens or encumbrances of record and assessments, if any, against the said property, and any recorded leases. This sale is also subject to any applicable county land transfer tax, and the successful third party bidder shall be required to make payment for any such county land transfer tax.

A cash deposit of 5% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale. Any successful bidder shall be required to tender the full balance of the purchase price so bid in cash or certified check at the time the Substitute Trustee tenders to him a deed for the property or attempts to tender such deed, and should

said successful bidder fail to pay the full balance purchase price so bid at that time, he shall remain liable on his bid as provided for in North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.30 (d) and (e). This sale will be held open ten (10) days for upset bids as required by law.
Residential real property with less than 15 rental units, including single-family residential real property: an order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.
Dated: 12/28/21
Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee
Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P.
Posted on 12/28/21
Exhibit A - Lying and being in Bear Creek Township, Chatham County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at a stake in the edge of the field, a new corner Earl Beck's Southwest corner of this lot; thence North 5 deg. East 19 poles and 9 links to the center of Highway #902; thence with the center of said Highway North 83 deg. East 14 poles and 6 links to a point in the center of said Highway; thence South 5 deg. West 20 poles to a stake with a pine pointer; thence South 85 deg. West 14 poles and 6 links to the BEGINNING, containing 1.72 acres, more or less.
PIN: 8666-00-65-5935
Property Address: 18831 NC 902 Highway, Bear Creek, NC 2720

J13,J20,2tc

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Special Proceedings No. 20 SP 105
Substitute Trustee: Philip A. Glass
Date of Sale: January 25, 2022
Time of Sale: 3:00 p.m.
Place of Sale: Chatham County Courthouse
Description of Property: See Attached Description
PIN: 8772-00-91-5156
Property Address: 1299 Stage Coach Rd. Siler City, NC 27344
Record Owners: Robey Lee Burke and Melissa M. Burke
Address of Property: 1299 Stage Coach Road, Siler City, NC 27344
Deed of Trust: Book : 01546, Page: 0312, Dated: December 17, 2010
Grantors: Robey Lee Burke and

Melissa M. Burke
Original Beneficiary: State Employees' Credit Union
CONDITIONS OF SALE: Should the property be purchased by a third party, that person must pay the tax of Forty-five Cents (45¢) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) required by N.C.G.S. §7A-308(a)(1).
This sale is made subject to all unpaid taxes and superior liens or encumbrances of record and assessments, if any, against the said property, and any recorded leases. This sale is also subject to any applicable county land transfer tax, and the successful third party bidder shall be required to make payment for any such county land transfer tax.
A cash deposit of 5% of the purchase price will be required at the time of the sale. Any successful bidder shall be required to tender the full balance of the purchase price so bid in cash or certified check at the time the Substitute Trustee tenders to him a deed for the property or attempts to tender such deed, and should said successful bidder fail to pay the full balance purchase price so bid at that time, he shall remain liable on his bid as provided for in North Carolina General Statutes Section 45-21.30 (d) and (e). This sale will be held open ten (10) days for upset bids as required by law.
Residential real property with less than 15 rental units, including single-family residential real property: an order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but not more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.
Dated: 12/28/21
Philip A. Glass, Substitute Trustee
Nodell, Glass & Haskell, L.L.P.
Posted on 12/28/21
EXHIBIT A - BEING ALL THAT 5,000 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS DESCRIBED ON A PLAT ENTITLED "PROPERTY OF DANIEL A. EVERWINE AND WIFE, BLANCHE G. EVERWINE", DATED NOVEMBER 22, 1983, PREPARED BY VAN R. FINCH LAND SURVEYORS AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 37, PAGE 30, CHATHAM COUNTY REGISTRY, TO WHICH PLAT REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE FOR GREATER CERTAINTY OF DESCRIPTION.
PIN: 8772-00-91-5156
Property Address: 1299 Stage Coach Rd. Siler City, NC 27344

J13,J20,2tc

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
TOWN OF PITTSBORO
The Pittsboro Town Board of Commissioners will hold the following Public Hearing on Monday, January 24th, 2022 at 7:00 o'clock via Zoom to consider the following items:
1. Proposed Rezoning: 45 The Whites Way (REZ-2021-07)
Rezoning request for parcel 67905, totaling 5.61 acres, located along US 64 Business East just past the intersection with Chatham Parkway, to change from R-A (Residential Agricultural) to M1-CZ (Light Industrial Conditional Zoning). The purpose of the public hearing is to provide interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the request. The complete records are on file at the Town Planning Department located at 480 Hillsboro Street, Suite 400, and

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 10
All persons having claims against **MARJORIE STAMM REMICK**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of April, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 13th day of January, 2022.
LYNN WEBSTER, Executrix
467 Chatham Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
21 E 748
All persons having claims against **PATRICIA ANNE WILL**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of April, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 13th day of January, 2022.
Theodore J. Will, Administrator
CTA
38 Henrys Hill Lane
Pittsboro, NC 27312
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 16
All persons having claims against **CLIFFORD BRYCE HOLT AKA C. BRYCE HOLT**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of April, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment.
This the 13th day of January, 2022.
George Michael Holt, Co-Executor
1508 Old Coleridge Rd
Siler City, NC 27344
Bobby T. McDaniel, Co-Executor
20 Shetland Rd
Rougemont, NC 27572
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **GEORGE R. RAMSTAD**, late of Chatham County, the undersigned, Paul B. Ramstad, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to Wayne R. Hadler, Attorney for the Estate of George R. Ramstad, Beemer, Hadler, Willett & Lin, P.A. 1829 E. Franklin Street, Suite 800-B, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, on or before April 30, 2022, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the estate are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor.
This the 13th day of January, 2022.
Paul B. Ramstad, Executor of the Estate of George R. Ramstad
Wayne R. Hadler, Esq.
Beemer, Hadler, Willett & Lin, P.A.
1829 E. Franklin Street, Suite 800-B
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
(919) 929-0391
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tc

are available for inspection through e-mail. Substantial changes in the proposed amendment may be made following the public hearing. The meeting will be held via Zoom, a teleconference software. The Zoom link can be found on the Town's website under Agendas & Minutes, then by selecting the Meeting Materials for the January 24th meeting. If you wish to make written comments, please send them to the Town Clerk, Cassie Bullock, PO Box 759, Pittsboro, NC 27312 or via email at Cbullock@pittsboro-nc.gov by 4 p.m. on January 24th, 2022.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **GEORGE R. RAMSTAD**, late of Chatham County, the undersigned, Paul B. Ramstad, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to Wayne R. Hadler, Attorney for the Estate of George R. Ramstad, Beemer, Hadler, Willett & Lin, P.A. 1829 E. Franklin Street, Suite 800-B, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, on or before April 30, 2022, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the estate are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor.
This the 13th day of January, 2022.
Paul B. Ramstad, Executor of the Estate of George R. Ramstad
Wayne R. Hadler, Esq.
Beemer, Hadler, Willett & Lin, P.A.
1829 E. Franklin Street, Suite 800-B
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
(919) 929-0391
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **HUGH C. FRIEL** a/k/a Hugh Charles Friel, late of Chatham County, the undersigned, Nancy Elizabeth Friel Hornik, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to exhibit them to Jenna T. Hornik, Attorney for the Estate of Hugh C. Friel a/k/a Hugh Charles Friel, Beemer, Hadler, Willett & Lin, P.A. 1829 E. Franklin Street, Suite 800-B, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514, on or before April 30, 2022, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the estate are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Executor.
This the 13th day of January, 2021
Nancy Elizabeth Friel Hornik, Executrix of the Estate of Hugh C. Friel a/k/a Hugh Charles Friel
Jenna T. Hornik, Esq.
Beemer, Hadler, Willett & Lin, P.A.
1829 E. Franklin Street, Suite 800-B
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514
(919) 929-0391
J13,J20,J27,F3,4tc

Looking for a bilingual or bi-cultural game night? bmc brewing's got you covered.

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Where typical community breweries might offer trivia nights and live music, one of Pittsboro's newest drinking holes has brewed up an events calendar with a bicultural twist.

The Plant's bmc brewing hosted the first of many *lotería* — or Mexican bingo — nights last Thursday on 213 Lorax Lane with about a dozen participating customers. Owned by master brewer John Rice and his wife Carmen, bmc brewing first opened last September and now sells an assortment of beers, ciders, cookies and — beginning this week — wine.

The idea, according to Rice, came to them from the co-owners of Carolina Cravings, Yeraldyn Martinez and Iliana Escalante-Palacios, who bake the brewery's cookies using their spent grain flour.

"We knew we wanted to do some sort of community game night, and ... the owner there recommended maybe we should do *lotería* because it's a little more fun than American bingo," he told the News + Record. "It's more picture-oriented, the numbers, and so we decided we would do that."

Much like traditional bingo, *lotería* is a game of chance — but instead of numbers, *lotería* uses a deck of cards, each with a different image. Callers (or *cantores*, literally "singers") shuffle the deck, draw cards and read them out while players mark off the corresponding pictures on their 4 by 4 boards



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

One of varias tablas, or boards, used in *lotería* — Mexican bingo — during bmc brewing's first *lotería* Night last Thursday. Much like traditional bingo, *lotería* is a game of chance — but instead of numbers, *lotería* uses a deck of cards, each with a different image.

(known as *tablas*) until they reach a winning pattern, at which point, they'll yell "*lotería*."

Thursday's event at bmc brewing consisted of four games. Woods Charter Spanish teacher Vanessa Costa called out the cards in English and Spanish so that speakers of both languages could participate. The game night also offered prizes for winners and empanadas from Empanadas RD North Carolina food truck.

"We want to do this again — at least once a month, if not twice a month," Rice said. "... So we'd probably just do it the first and third Thursdays of each month."

Beyond *lotería* night, bmc brewing has also partnered with Mexican food truck Ta Contento and Baila Beats Academy to offer Taco Tuesday

and salsa dancing lessons for \$5 every first Tuesday of each month. The next lesson will take place on Feb. 1.

"They may or may not bring the food truck depending on you know, the weather and on how many people we expect to show up," Rice said, "but we'll have lessons from 7 to 8 p.m. and then social dancing from 8 to 9:30 p.m., of course once this particular wave of COVID passes."

For more information about either event, visit bmc brewing's Facebook page or website at bmcbrewing.com.

"It (*lotería*) was a great time," Rice said, "and we hope people come from the community and enjoy themselves."

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



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Vanessa Costa, a Spanish teacher at Woods Charter, leads a Mexican bingo game as the card caller last Thursday inside bmc brewing. After randomly selecting a card, she held it up for all players to see and announced the name in Spanish and English.

'THAT'S A BIG JUMP'

Jets' Fadely nearly quadruples swimming roster, embraces growth in second season



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Jordan-Matthews junior Calvin Conroy slices through the water in one of his freestyle events at a swim meet in Asheboro last Thursday. Conroy placed 7th (3:55.77) and 9th (1:47.29) in the 200-meter freestyle and 100-meter freestyle, respectively.

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

ASHEBORO — A year ago, the entire Jordan-Matthews swim team could comfortably fit inside of a 2021 Honda Civic.

And they'd still have an extra seat leftover.

But in just her second season as the Jets' head swimming coach, Morgan Fadely — a former J-M swimmer herself — has completely revamped the program, increasing participation by nearly 400% as the team continues its exponential growth.

The Jets only had seven of its 14 total swimmers participating in a swim meet alongside five other schools — Asheboro, North Davidson, Providence Grove, Trinity and

Wheatmore — at the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA last Thursday, where J-M finished fourth in the women's scoring (3 points) and sixth (last) in the men's scoring (1 point).

But while the results weren't quite there for the Jets in their most recent meet, the team's uptick in numbers — from three swimmers last season to 14 swimmers this season — is arguably even more exciting than what happens in the water.

"That's a big jump," Fadely said with a smile following Thursday's meet. "Part of it was that my two returning swimmers (senior Emma Wieber and junior Ainsley Canipe) just kept bugging their friends about it and a few of them were students from my class,

so when they found out we had a swim team, they were like, 'I want to try,' and then they tried it and they liked it."

Last season, Fadely's sister, Jennah Fadely, won the state title in the women's 100 breaststroke event with a state-record time of 1:02.11 — and placed second in the women's 200 IM — at the 2021 NCHSAA 1A/2A Swimming State Championships in Cary.

However, with Fadely having graduated and moved on to swim for Kenyon College in Ohio, this year's roster has a tad less swimming experience than Morgan Fadely's used to coaching.

"I only have two returning swimmers, so for the rest of

See **SWIMMING**, page B4

SEAFORTH 70, JORDAN-MATTHEWS 61 (3OT)

Pandemonium in Pittsboro: Jets' comeback falls short as Hawks' Stevenson scores 42 in triple OT thriller



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth sophomore Jarin Stevenson (15) drives to the basket in the Hawks' 70-61 triple-overtime victory over the Jordan-Matthews Jets last Friday in Pittsboro. Stevenson scored a game-high 42 points on the night, racking up 21 rebounds and 8 blocks in the process.

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — If you were anywhere near Seaforth Road in Pittsboro last Friday night, you probably heard the variety of sounds emanating from the gym of Chatham's newest high school late into the evening.

Jaws hitting the freshly constructed floor.

Buzzer after buzzer after buzzer screeching from the scoreboard.

Screams, sighs and "did that just happen?"s pouring from the stands.

Those were the sounds of the men's basketball game between the Seaforth Hawks and the visiting Jordan-Matthews Jets, both entering the contest as two-win teams fighting for relevancy in the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A conference.

Each game-changing moment — of which there were plenty — had its own unique sound, where the divided crowd's half-exuberant, half-despondent undertones could be heard beneath its weight.

And it didn't disappoint.

Nearly two and a half hours after the game's original start time, the Hawks downed the Jets, 70-61, in a triple-overtime thriller complete with inconceivable stat lines, an unlikely comeback and a boatload of fouls.

To open the fourth quarter scoring for Seaforth, sophomore Tyshawn Davenport



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth sophomore Tyshawn Davenport (0) attempts an acrobatic shot over a Jordan-Matthews defender in the Hawks' 70-61 overtime win over the Jets last Friday in Pittsboro.

drove down the baseline, around a J-M defender, and smoothly banked the ball off of the backboard and through the net.

His shot gave the Hawks a 16-point lead, 46-30, with 7:08 to play.

It'd be the last basket from

Seaforth for the next six minutes of game time.

From there, the Jets dug deep and slowly chipped away at the Hawks' lead. At that point, there isn't much else you can do.

See **SEAFORTH**, page B2

Miami Dolphins' firing of Brian Flores is puzzling

The NFL's Black Monday — the day notorious for front-office firings — once again claimed multiple victims this week.

The Chicago Bears fired coach Matt Nagy and general manager

Ryan Pace after back-to-back mediocre seasons. Nagy won Coach of the Year in his first season in 2018, but the Bears struggled to return to form in the following years.

The Denver Broncos said goodbye to Vic Fangio after three seasons in which he

went 19-30, while the Minnesota Vikings moved on from Mike Zimmer after an eight-season tenure where he made the playoffs three times.

However, the most shocking decision came from the Miami Dolphins.

After three seasons, they fired third-year head coach Brian Flores. Flores is no Vince Lombardi, but this move was head-scratching. The Dolphins went 10-6 last season and this year, they began the season 1-7 before winning seven straight and finishing 9-8. Flores never made the playoffs, but he overachieved with a young quarterback and a roster that

had little business competing for a playoff spot.

The team was almost historically bad in his first year. In need of a rebuild, the Dolphins lost both their first two games by more than 40 points and didn't pick up a win until week nine. It was a total rebuild. In 2019, the team's leading rusher was Ryan Fitzpatrick. Yes, the now 39-year-old ran for the most yards. That's not a coaching problem.

But then the Dolphins started to win. They came within one game of the playoffs and finished with a record that would have secured them a spot in many seasons. The rebuild seemed to be ahead of

schedule. This year, the Dolphins looked lost, losing seven of their first eight games. But then, they rattled off a magical seven game win streak and were in a playoff spot heading into Week 17.

When a team fires a head coach, there has to be a better candidate coming in. In this case, that seems highly unlikely. There's a lot to speculate with this move. Did Flores not want Tua Tagovailoa as the team's starting quarterback and want Deshaun Watson or Justin Herbert instead?

The decision to fire many coaches often doesn't have anything to do with their record. It's a game of politics. It's possible that Flores and

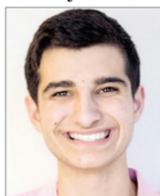
the front office's philosophies didn't align. But from a pure record and on-the-field standpoint, this move was startling.

And firing someone for that reason seems ridiculous.

Fifteen minutes after ESPN's Adam Schefter reported that he was out, he also tweeted that Flores was expected to be a "prime candidate" to get head coaching consideration for another team.

If your now-former coach is immediately a top choice around the league, it's possible you made the wrong decision.

Max Baker can be reached at max@chathamnr.com and @maxbaker_15.



MAX BAKER
CN+R Intern

CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

This week's schedule and last week's results

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

In many of Chatham's schools this week, student-athletes are a little more focused on the books than the court, the mat or the pool as exams take center stage. While Friday is still jam-packed with basketball, swimming and wrestling, the rest of the week is a little more barren. Here's this week's schedule and last week's results.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, January 12

Basketball: Chatham Charter vs. Eno River (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)

Thursday, January 13

Wrestling: Northwood at Eastern Alamance, 6 p.m.

Friday, January 14

Basketball: Woods Charter at Triangle Math & Science (women at 4:30 p.m., men at 6:15 p.m.)

Wrestling: Seaforth vs. Chatham Central, Graham & Voyager Academy, 5 p.m.

Basketball: Chatham Central vs. Bartlett Yancey (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)

Basketball: Chatham Charter vs. Southern Wake (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)

Basketball: Northwood at Eastern Alamance (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)

Basketball: Seaforth at Graham (women at 6 p.m., men at 7:30 p.m.)
Swimming: Northwood at Orange (Williams also participating), 8 p.m.

Saturday, January 15

Wrestling: Seaforth at Riverside (Silver Fox Invitational), time TBA

Basketball: Seaforth men at Arendell Parrott Academy (Brandon Ingram MLK Showcase; played at Kinston), 3 p.m.

LAST WEEK

Monday, January 3

No events scheduled; Winter Break

Tuesday, January 4

Basketball: The Chatham Charter women earned a dominant win over

the Research Triangle Raptors, 68-23, at home. Leading the Knights on the evening were junior Tamaya Walden (27 points, 5 rebounds, 8 assists, 5 steals), sophomore Delana Loflin (16 points, 1 rebound, 5 assists, 9 steals, 2 blocks) and senior Alexis Baldwin (11 points, 5 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 blocks).

Basketball: The Chatham Charter men earned a comfortable win over the Research Triangle Raptors, 65-43, to improve to 14-1 on the season. Leading the Knights on the evening were junior Adam Harvey (16 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, 5 steals, 1 block), freshman Beau Harvey (11 points, 3 rebounds, 9 assists, 6 steals), freshman Brennen Oldham (11 points, 10 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 1 block) and junior Aamir Mapp (10 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 block).

Basketball: The Northwood women crushed the Person Rockets, 68-13, to stay unbeaten in the conference at 4-0. Leading the Chargers on the evening were junior Te'Keyah Bland (17 points, 11 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals, 2 blocks), senior Natalie Bell (17 points, 1 rebound, 5 assists, 4 steals, 1 block) and sophomore Skylar Adams (10 points, 1 rebound, 3 assists, 4 steals, 2 blocks).

Basketball: The Northwood men defeated the Person Rockets on the road, 64-43.

Basketball: The Woods Charter women lost a close game to the Eno River Bobcats, 39-28, for their first loss of the season.

Wednesday, January 5

Basketball: The Jordan-Matthews women suffered a loss to the Graham Red Devils, 62-44, at home. Leading the Jets on the night were senior Eillia Wright (14 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists, 6 steals) and senior Tatyn Siler (12 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 block).

Basketball: The Jordan-Matthews men earned a one-point win over the Graham Red Devils, 55-54, at home.

Basketball: The Northwood women earned a double-digit victory over the Panther Creek Catamounts, 59-47, at home. Leading the Chargers on the night were senior Olivia Porter (24 points, 9 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 2 blocks) and senior Natalie Bell (11 points, 4 rebounds, 5 assists, 2 steals).

Basketball: The Northwood men lost a narrow game to the Panther Creek Catamounts, 56-53, for their second-straight loss by 3 points. Leading the Chargers on the night were sophomore Drake Powell (26 points, 6 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 3 blocks) and sophomore Fred Whitaker Jr. (12 points, 5 rebounds, 5 assists).

Thursday, January 6

Swimming: The Jordan-Matthews Jets competed in a home swim meet against five other schools — Asheboro, North Davidson, Providence Grove, Trinity and Wheatmore — where they had seven swimmers competing in a variety of events, finishing fourth in the women's scoring (3 points) and sixth in the men's scoring (1 point). Top performances for the Jets went to: Ainsley Canipe (8th, girls 100-meter freestyle, 1:34.59; 5th, girls 100-meter backstroke, 1:50.59), Clara Rojas (8th, girls 100-meter backstroke, 2:04.73) and Emma Wieber (5th, girls 100-meter breaststroke, 1:59.01). See meet report in this week's edition.

Friday, January 7

Wrestling: The Northwood Chargers (1st, 188.5 points) and Seaforth Hawks (7th, 70 points) both participated in the Jaguar Invitational, hosted by Carrboro, where they faced off against 8 other schools. Placing in the top three of their respective weight classes for the Chargers were Coltrane Northington (2nd, 120 lbs.), Andrew Kimbrel (2nd, 138 lbs.), Cliff Davis (1st, 170 lbs.), Kayden Payne (3rd, 182 lbs.), Isaac Laccone (3rd, 195 lbs.) and Jake Dunning (2nd, 220 lbs.). Finishing in the top three of their respective matches for the Hawks were Layne Armstrong (1st, 113 lbs.) and Lockard Bowen (3rd, 120 lbs.).

Basketball: The Chatham Central women defeated the Cummings Cavaliers, 48-30, to improve to 3-9 on the season.

Basketball: The Chatham Central men lost handily to the Cummings Cavaliers, 82-60, to fall to 2-6 on the season.

Basketball: The Seaforth women routed the Jordan-Matthews Jets, 71-28, to improve to 6-5 on the season (3-0 in the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A conference). Leading the Hawks

on the night were sophomore Hannah Ajayi (20 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist), freshman Gabby White (16 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 5 steals), freshman Peyton Collins (15 points, 4 rebounds, 8 assists, 8 steals) and freshman Sydney Ballard (11 points, 12 rebounds, 1 assist). Leading the Jets in the loss was senior Eillia Wright (12 points, 9 rebounds, 6 assists, 2 steals). See game recap in this week's edition.

Basketball: The Seaforth men downed the Jordan-Matthews Jets in a triple-overtime thriller, 70-61, in a game that saw the Jets overcome a 16-point deficit in the fourth quarter to send it into OT. Leading the Hawks on the night were sophomore Jarin Stevenson (42 points, 21 rebounds, 6 assists, 3 steals, 8 blocks) and freshman Noah Lewis (11 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 6 steals). Leading the Jets in the loss was senior Rayshaun Alston (29 points). See game recap in this week's edition.

Basketball: The Woods Charter men fell to the Research Triangle Raptors, 65-11, to remain winless at 0-7 on the season.

Saturday, January 8

Track: The Northwood Chargers participated in the HOT New Year indoor track meet at JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, where their runners set 27 personal records and three school records. Some of the Chargers' top performances went to Avery Adams (6th, girls high jump, 4-4), Emma Serrano (6th, girls 1000-meter run, 3:45.88; 6th, girls 1600-meter run, 6:01.10), Rokia Sissoko (8th, girls high jump, 4-2; 9th, girls 500-meter run, 1:35.80), Jacob Acker (8th, boys 500-meter run, 1:17.07), Jackson Adams (6th, boys 1600-meter run, 4:50.69; 6th, boys 1000-meter run, 3:00.46), Christian Glick (4th, boys 1000-meter run, 2:47.32) and Marco Sanchez (2nd, boys 300-meter dash, 37.79; 2nd, boys 500-meter run, 1:10.70).

Basketball: The Northwood women earned a 30-point win over the Seaforth Hawks, 63-33, to improve to 14-1 on the season, while the Hawks fall to 6-6. Leading the Hawks on the night was freshman Gabby White (10 points, 16 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 steals).

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

SEAFORTH

Continued from page B1

“That’s something we talked about at halftime, just getting back to playing J-M basketball,” Rodney Wiley, the Jets’ head coach, said following the loss, “it’s just getting out and guarding and it took us a long time to get going, but starting the fourth quarter, that’s what we did.”

A floater from senior Jacob Carter.

A pair of free throws from senior Rayshaun Alston.

A bucket in the paint from junior Dallas Richardson.

With each passing possession, the Jets patiently whittled down the deficit.

Seaforth freshman Noah Lewis knocked down two free throws to keep the Hawks’ lead at 12 with 4:14 to play, but a little over 30 seconds later, J-M senior Colby Daniel drained a 3-pointer to cut it to single digits.

Davenport hit a free throw to put the Hawks ahead by 10, but shortly after, with less than three minutes left in the game, Alston fought through contact in the paint, drew the attention of the official’s whistle and scored the bucket (and the ensuing free throw).

He was just getting started.

Alston went on to score 10 of the Jets’ final 12 points of regulation, including another and-one basket to tie the game at 49 apiece, followed by a pair of free throws that gave the Jets a 51-49 lead with just 1:07 left.

It was an unbelievable performance to cap off an even more unbelievable comeback as Alston’s free throws were part of a larger 20-3 run by the Jets.

“At the end, we want



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Jordan-Matthews senior Rayshaun Alston (with ball) looks to go up for a shot against Seaforth sophomore Jarin Stevenson in the Jets' triple-overtime loss, 70-61, to the Seaforth Hawks last Friday in Pittsboro. Alston was the Jets' leading scorer on the night with 29 points.

it in his hands,” Wiley said of his senior guard. “That way he can create and then, if they go double, we’ve got guys that can shoot the open shot. So that’s what we want.”

With a little over a minute to play, J-M’s crowd went from tight-lipped to thunderous, while Seaforth’s was understandably stunned. Add head coach Jarod Stevenson to that list.

“I thought we looked good until the last part of the fourth quarter, then things sort of fell apart,” Stevenson said of his team’s late-game collapse. “I don’t know if it was maybe because

we weren’t in shape or if guys just aren’t used to playing with each other for two weeks, so we had a lot of turnovers.”

The ball was inbounded to Seaforth’s sophomore standout Jarin Stevenson, a 6-foot-8 forward that had his way against the Jets, but had been relatively quiet in the fourth quarter.

He promptly drove down the court, forced his way into the paint and scored with ease, tying it at 51 with 56.9 seconds left.

The Jets were unable to muster a basket in the final minute, despite a made jumper

by Carter as the buzzer sounded off of a missed 3-pointer by sophomore Ian McMillan, which the officials waved off, claiming he didn’t get the shot off before the buzzer (video evidence later showed it was the right call).

It was on to overtime.

And, as expected, the overtime periods were just as wacky as the game’s fourth quarter.

There were plenty of turnovers by both teams — 11 in total — chaotic possessions, big shots and moments when each team’s fanbase was sure they had a victory in the bag.

Both the first and second overtimes featured late, clutch shots by Alston, including a floater with 2.4 seconds left in the second overtime period that gave the Jets a 61-60 lead.

However, in what would prove to be a fatal mistake, Carter fouled Stevenson with 0.3 seconds left as he brought the ball up the court. Since both teams were in the double-bonus, Stevenson got two free throws. He hit one of them, keeping Seaforth alive and sending the game into its third and final extra period.

In the third overtime period, it was all Stevenson.

After Alston fouled out early in the period — a big blow to the Jets with Alston having contributed eight of J-M’s 10 points in the first two overtime periods — Stevenson went on a tear, scoring seven of his team’s nine points, including five made free throws to seal the game.

Seaforth outscored J-M, 9-0, in the final overtime, eking out a victory that originally had no business being that close.

“We had a couple of stops on defense and we got some points in transi-

tion,” Jarod Stevenson said when asked about the key to pulling away in the third overtime period. “It’s always about if you can score easy buckets and usually that happens after a good defensive stop or a turnover.”

As impressive as the two teams were — both grinding through an extra quarter and a half of basketball to try and secure the win — this game will be remembered for just how bright the stars shined on both ends of the court.

Stevenson finished the night with an otherworldly stat line, putting up 42 points on 12-of-16 shooting (75%), tacking on 21 rebounds, 6 assists, 3 steals and 8 blocks.

Six of those blocks came in overtime, including three in the final period.

“I thought he played well,” Jarod Stevenson said of Jarin, who’s also his son. “He and Noah (Lewis), they need to try and get the ball more when they see we’re turning the ball over a lot, so I’m trying to get those two guys to have the ball in their hands more, where they’re

making the decisions instead of passing it to the other guys.”

Then there’s Alston, who finished with a team-high 29 points and left everything he had on the court, scoring 18 of the Jets’ final 22 points in the fourth quarter and overtime.

All-in-all, the Friday night barnburner featured 17 lead changes and 131 total points in 44 minutes of game time.

It was the perfect start to what’s sure to be one of the next great in-county and conference rivalries.

“It looks like (it’s the start of a rivalry), it looks like it,” Jarod Stevenson said. “And to be as physical as it was, I think it’ll be a good rivalry.”

With the narrow victory, the Hawks — who had been away from the court for the last couple of weeks due to COVID-19-related quarantines — improved to 3-5 on the season (2-1 conference), while the Jets fell to 2-9 (2-2 conference).

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



Animal Resources

Low Cost Spay / Neuter - Only \$20

Qualified applicants may purchase vouchers to use at participating pet clinics. Submit applications to:

Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center

725 Renaissance Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312
Phone: 919-542-7203 facebook.com/chathamsoar

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 11am-5pm and Saturday 10am-4pm, Closed Sun.

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

NORTHWOOD 59, PANTHER CREEK 47

AL to NC to 2K: Chargers' Porter makes school history, scores 2,000th point in win over Panther Creek

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Entering last Wednesday's game against Panther Creek, Northwood senior Olivia Porter needed just 12 points to hit a milestone that nobody's ever reached in Pittsboro: 2,000 career points on the court.

It didn't take long. With less than six minutes remaining in the second quarter, Porter drained back-to-back 3-pointers that not only put her directly at the milestone — 2,000 points on the dot — but also gave the Chargers a 20-15 lead over one of the best teams in the 4A classification.

The Chargers went on to defeat the Catamounts, 59-47, behind 24 points from Porter, the team's leading scorer this season averaging 19.8 points per game in her first season in a Northwood uniform.

She's been tremendous for the Chargers in the season following a state semifinal exit, leading them to a 14-1 record and a first-place position in the Central 3A conference (4-0) up to this point.

"She just brings that energy, whether it's on defense or whether it's on offense," Kerri Snipes, Northwood's first-year head coach, told the News + Record last month. "She's very composed with the ball, she's a very heads-up player. ... She's been a great help for us. Definitely just a leader, vocally and by her abilities on the floor."

Porter is a senior transfer from Auburn, Alabama, where she led the Auburn High Tigers to the Class 7A state semifinals twice over the last three seasons.

She's played varsity



Submitted photo
Northwood senior Olivia Porter (center) poses for photos at mid-court with her father, Larry Porter (left), and her mother, Sharmane Porter, during the third quarter of the Chargers' 59-47 win over Panther Creek last Wednesday. Porter scored her 2,000th career point in the second quarter, prompting Northwood Athletic Director Cameron Vernon to honor her during a timeout in the second half.

basketball since she was in eighth grade, scoring a total of 1,747 points while with the Tigers.

Last January, her father, Larry Porter — former position coach for the football team at Auburn University — accepted a job under UNC head football coach Mack Brown to become

the team's running backs coach for the second time (his first stint was from 2014-16), as well as the Tar Heels' assistant special teams coordinator, which influenced Porter's decision to transfer to Northwood for her senior year.

But with this being the second time the Porter

family has spent time in the Triangle, Porter said her hitting the 2,000-point mark alongside some of her old friends made it even more special.

"It means everything to have this accomplishment with my friends," Porter told Kyle Morton of HighSchoolOT after the game. "I used to live



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior Olivia Porter shoots a corner 3-pointer in the Chargers' 55-40 win over Southern Alamance in the championship game of the First Bank Charger Classic in December. Porter, the Chargers' leading scorer this season, has been tremendous for them since transferring this fall.

here previously, so just to have this accomplishment and do it with them means everything. It was a great day today."

With 6:45 to go in the third quarter, Porter went to the line to shoot a pair of free throws.

She knocked down the first one, but as she readied herself to shoot another, a timeout was called.

Northwood's athletic director Cameron Vernon stepped onto the floor holding a microphone, calling Porter to mid-court for a photo opportunity.

Out came her parents,

Larry and Sharmane, along with a bouquet of flowers and balloons that wrote out the number 2,000. They smiled as they stood on the Chargers' logo.

Northwood was determined to honor her, even if it came in the middle of a trip to the charity stripe.

"I was a little confused — and then I missed the free throw after that," Porter said with a laugh. "But it was cool, I guess."

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

AT YOUR SERVICE

CROSSROADS BACKHOE SERVICE

- Install and Repair Septic Systems
- Pump Existing Septic Tanks
- All Sorts of Backhoe Work
- Specializing in Bush Hogging
- Ponds, Ditches & Driveways

Call Monty Justice @ (919) 545-4107

Bob Atkinson, GRI, CRS, E-PRO
Homes-Land-Investments
C: 919-362-6999

LearnAboutLand.com

Atkinson Properties Group
bobatkinson321@gmail.com

"We Specialize in all your home improvement needs"

- Door & Window Replacement
- Drywall, Trim
- Deck & Demo
- Roof & Floors
- Carpentry

John Hayes
919-548-0474

D & G PLUMBING

Plumbing Problems?

Commercial and Residential Installation and Service
Located in Siler City

Locally Owned and Operated by Greg and Donna Kennedy
Licensed and Insured
Office: 919-742-4587 Cell: 919-427-2374

Tree Masters

- Brush Chipping
- Tree Climbing • Stump Removal
- Free Estimates

Tommy Dunigan
(919) 775-7408
Cell: (919) 548-3542

JHJ Painting & Power Washing

"We Specialize in All Your Painting & Power Washing Needs"

Deck Washing, Renewal & Repair • Window Washing & Install
Carpentry • Door Install • Other Small Repairs

John Hayes, Jr • 919-548-0474

ASHEBORO TIE YARDS, INC

Beautiful Yards Start Here!

Mushroom Compost • Shredded Hardwood Mulch
Pine Mini Nuggets • Brick Chips • Sand • Top Soil
Black, Brown & Red Mulch • White Pea Gravel • Railroad Ties

205 Hanner Town Rd. Bear Creek
(2 miles South of Bonlee on Old 421)
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7 AM - 4 PM, Fri. 7 AM - 12 PM
(919) 837-2822 • We Deliver!

THIS SPOT CAN BE YOURS!

Call Advertising @ 919-663-3232

FIND THE HELP YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

Chatham News + Record Local Service Directory

SEAFORTH 71, JORDAN-MATTHEWS 28

‘She’s our energy burst’: Hawks’ Ajayi scores 20 as transition game thrives in blowout of Jets

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Whether it’s a movie, a book or a jelly-filled doughnut, the content-rich middle is always the best part.

In sports, it’s no different. Especially if you’re the Seaforth Hawks.

Seaforth’s women’s basketball team hosted the Jordan-Matthews Jets last Friday night, where the Hawks secured a dominant 71-28 victory that featured a lockdown start, an action-packed middle and a nice, comfortable finish.

The script called for a scalding hot start from the Hawks, an opening that saw Seaforth hop out to a 22-4 advantage by the end of the first eight-minute period.

But it’s nearly impossible to stay hot forever.

The Hawks narrowly won the second quarter, 11-9, to take a 20-point lead into the halftime break, thanks to a late 3-pointer by sophomore Hannah Ajayi that salvaged a fairly low-scoring period for Seaforth.

“When I went into the locker room, I told them that ... I wanted us to pick it up to another level,” Charles Byrd, the Hawks’ first-year head coach, said following the win, “and play our basketball and worry about what we need to do.”



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth sophomore Hannah Ajayi (12) goes up for a layup in the Hawks’ 71-28 blowout win over the Jordan-Matthews Jets last Friday in Pittsboro. Ajayi, the team’s leading scorer with 20 points, thrived in the team’s transition game against J-M.

And, as has been the case in many games this season, Seaforth listened and came out scrapping in the third quarter.

The clearly motivated Hawks outscored the Jets, 19-11, in the third period where the Hawks’

owned the transition game, pulled away by nearly 30 points and solidified the victory.

The game’s rising and falling action — a J-M bounce-back followed by a Seaforth shut-down — was undoubtedly the most crucial aspect of the contest’s story. It was the jelly inside of an otherwise bland-tasting blowout.

“I think they just have a sense of urgency in the third quarter,” Byrd said. “I always stress when we come out of the locker room that the first couple of minutes of the third quarter are very important. That’s probably the most important part of the game. ... That’s the time we really need to jump on teams.”

All season long, the Hawks have done just that: attacked teams in the third quarter.

In five of Seaforth’s six wins this season (data wasn’t available for the win vs. South Iredell), the Hawks have outscored their opponents by a whopping 56 combined points, 91-35.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Seaforth freshman Gabby White (3) lays the ball in during the Hawks’ 71-28 blowout win over the Jordan-Matthews Jets last Friday in Pittsboro.

Extending their lead in the third period — or in some cases, storming back to take the lead in the third — has been the Hawk’s bread and butter. It’s the key to all of their wins.

More often than not, if they win the third quarter, they win the game.

If not, they don’t. It’s (sort of) that simple.

Against the Jets, the Hawks’ third period — and second half as a whole — was defined by two things: interceptions and transition layups.

Gabby White, Seaforth’s star freshman guard, was the primary culprit, picking the ball off three times, all of which led to fastbreak layups.

In total, she had 11 of her 16 points in the third, including a deadly 3-pointer that capped off a larger 17-5 run that effectively grounded (and buried) the Jets with no hopes of taking off.

“We definitely practice playing in the passing lanes,” Byrd said. “We like to be really aggressive with our 2-3 zone, but (for Gabby) it’s also just natural instinct. She has

really big hands and she’s a very athletic player.”

The fourth quarter was much of the same, with the Jets turning the ball over 10 times while the Hawks, at times, looked like they were running layup drills mid-game.

Seaforth ran the floor quickly and effortlessly found open receivers down the court.

Even when the Hawks weren’t stepping in front of a pass or picking a ballhandlers’ pocket, they were able to get from coast to coast in the blink of an eye, paving the way for more transition buckets.

At one point, Ajayi — the Hawks’ leading scorer with 20 points on 64% shooting — went on a 6-0 run by herself consisting of nothing but transition layups. She scored 17 of her 20 points in the second half, all but 3 points coming from right underneath the basket.

“Hannah is very important to us, she’s our leader, she’s the oldest player on the team and she lives up to the moment every single game,” Byrd said of the sophomore. “She tries

to be our heartbeat. She works really hard. She’s our energy burst.”

The Jets were led by senior guard Eillia Wright (12 points, 9 rebounds, 6 assists), who was the only J-M player in double figures.

To open up the third period, Wright hit an and-one layup on the Jets’ first possession, but her energizing play was never able to swing the momentum in her team’s favor as the Hawks also forced her into a game-high nine turnovers.

Seaforth had four players in double figures against J-M, including Ajayi, White, freshman Peyton Collins (15 points), who scored nearly all of her points in Seaforth’s first-quarter scoring barrage, along with freshman Sydney Ballard, who posted a double-double in the win with 11 points and 12 rebounds.

Fresh off of two straight losses in the North Iredell Christmas Classic a couple of weeks ago, the Hawks got back on track against the Jets, a win that propelled the team over .500 (6-5) for the first time since Dec. 28.

They’d go on to be routed by Northwood the next day, 63-33, for the second time this season, knocking their record back down to 6-6 as they struggled against the powerhouse Chargers.

But most importantly, Seaforth is 3-0 in the newly created Mid-Carolina 1A/2A conference with wins over Bartlett Yancey, Cummings and J-M.

With the loss, the Jets fell to 4-8 on the season.

“It’s definitely been a learning process,” Byrd said. “But I think we can be one of the better teams in the conference if we stay focused and continue to do the little things we do.”

Due to exams, Seaforth won’t see the court again until Friday, when it faces the Graham Red Devils (3-7), while J-M’s next contest is against the Bartlett Yancey Buccaneers (2-5) on Jan. 18.

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



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Jordan-Matthews senior Eillia Wright (10) drives to the basket in the Jets’ 71-28 blowout loss to the Seaforth Hawks last Friday in Pittsboro. Wright led her team in scoring with 12 points.

SWIMMING

Continued from page B1

them, it’s their first time learning how to swim competitively,” Fadely said. “We started with the basics and then we built them up to where they are today.”

Naturally, with a sport as nuanced as swimming, it takes some time to figure what events you’ll excel in.

Hence why Fadely has allowed her swimmers to try out new events over the course of the season, including Thursday night, to determine where each of them fits.

“We’re just trying out new things before our conference meet to see what would be the best event to put them in,” Fadely said. “They’ve been doing well.”

Chalk the results of this meet — a fourth- and sixth-place finish — up to the team experimenting with new events.

While there weren’t any event winners for the Jets on Thursday, that didn’t stop Fadely from being excited at the thought of improvement from her swimmers.

“So many of them swam new events tonight for the first time,” Fadely said. “I was impressed by them.”

Fadely said two out of the team’s three men — junior Calvin Conroy (7th, men’s 200 freestyle, 3:55.77; 9th, men’s 100 freestyle, 1:47.29) and junior Weldon Thornton (5th, men’s



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Jordan-Matthews sophomore Sarah Dekaney participates in the women’s 100-meter backstroke event at a swim meet in Asheboro last Thursday. She placed 10th in the event with a time of 2:17.01.

400 freestyle, 8:04.62; 8th, men’s 200 freestyle, 4:17.20) — were both trying out new events tonight and that she was “impressed by how hard they worked.”

The same goes for both of the women’s relay teams — women’s 200-meter and 400-meter freestyle relays — consisting of Wieber, sophomore Clara Rojas, sophomore Sarah Dekaney and Canipe, which finished fifth in the 200-meter relay (2:55.53) and sixth in the 400-meter relay (7:19.21).

During the women’s 200-meter freestyle relay, the Jets got off to a tough start on the first leg and found themselves in last place once Canipe dove into the pool.

But with each lap, J-M inched closer and closer to its opponents, snagging sixth place, then fifth from Providence Grove and coming shockingly close to claiming the fourth-place spot from Asheboro after Rojas’ run, but finished just short and came in fifth.

It’s that sort of grit, however, that has Fadely intrigued for what’s to come.

“The girls really stepped up on their relays, so I was proud of them,” Fadely said. “I’m hoping that we’ll do well (in our conference meet), I think it’ll be a pretty even meet for all of the kids involved.”

Canipe had some of the team’s best finishes on the day, placing fifth in the wom-



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Jordan-Matthews senior Emma Wieber, one of the team’s two returning swimmers, races in the women’s 100-meter breaststroke at a swim meet in Asheboro last Thursday. She placed 5th in the event with a time of 1:59.01.

en’s 100-meter backstroke (1:50.59) and eighth in the women’s 100-meter freestyle (1:34.59).

Through five meets this season, Fadely seems satisfied with what her team’s been able to accomplish with so little experience.

The Jets won their lone dual-meet this season against the Ben L. Smith Golden Eagles and have consistently finished in the middle of the pack in some of their larger team meets, like Thursday’s.

But with their new conference, the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A, being a lot smaller this season — consisting of just Seaforth and North Moore — it gives the Jets a path to compete in the conference meet later this

month.

And with the Jets’ youth-filled, ever-growing program, it’s all about gradual improvement and, as cliché as it may sound, enjoying themselves.

“I like having so many people with me,” Fadely said. “It’s great seeing the kids enjoy it, even after a hard practice. I’m always like, ‘I don’t know how they feel about this anymore,’ then they get out of the water and they’re like, ‘I had so much fun!’”

“As long as they’re having fun,” she added, “I’m having fun.”

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



Chatham COA Events & Announcements January 13th through January 19th

Thursday, January 13th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM
- [Take Off Pounds Sensibly](#) at 1:00 PM

Friday, January 14th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM
- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Strong & Fit w/Jackie](#) at 10:00 AM

Monday, January 17th

- [COA Office Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday](#)

Tuesday, January 18th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM
- [Strong & Fit w/Jackie](#) at 10:00 AM

Wednesday, January 19th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM
- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 10:00 AM

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

The COA has temporarily suspended in-person activities and classes through Friday, January 28. All listed programs will be available virtually via the Zoom platform. Registration is available through the Council on Aging's website.

The Chatham COA is Here for You!

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

<p>Eastern Chatham Senior Center (ECSC) 365 NC-87 N Pittsboro, NC 27312 919-542-4512</p>	<p>Western Chatham Senior Center (WCSC) 112 Village Lake Road Siler City, NC 27344 919-742-3975</p>
---	--

CCS board approves \$1,000 COVID training bonuses for more employees

BY HANNAH MCCLELLAN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Schools Board of Education unanimously approved using approximately \$750,000 of its \$12.5 million remaining COVID-relief funds to pay a \$1,000 COVID-19 training bonus to staff who fall outside of the state's employee bonuses program at its mid-year retreat Tuesday.

Under the state's bonus program, public school teachers as of Jan. 1 whose salaries are supported by state funds can receive a one-time \$1,000 bonus for having participated in one or more COVID-19 mitigation trainings between March 2020 and the start of the new year. The funds — received by the district through application to the N.C. Department of Public Instruction — only cover state-funded certified employees.

"To fully recognize the efforts of all employees (federally and locally funded) that have completed required trainings to address the mitigation of COVID-19," the district's agenda item said, "we are requesting authorization to use available ESSER III funds to pay them the \$1,000 bonus."

The approval of the additional \$1,000 bonus comes amid renewed calls by educators to better compensate school staff, particularly among accentuated stress brought by staffing shortages and pandemic

challenges.

The first week of December, the Chatham County Association of Educators (CCAЕ) posted a petition asking the county's BOE to use federal relief dollars to recruit and retain staff during drastic staffing shortages across the state and county. That petition called for an additional \$2,750 bonus to be given to every staff member, on top of any state-funded bonuses — which would total about \$3.3 million of ESSER funds. It also asked for an increase in classified staff wages to more than \$15 per hour, until the state wage levels passed in the new budget take full effect over the next two years.

The petition also asked for a raise in rate for substitute pay to \$130 per day for certified staff with teaching licenses and \$100 per day for non-certified staff — which the district passed at its Dec. 13 meeting. Effective Jan. 1, substitute teachers at CCS will get a 30% daily pay raise — the raise required to satisfy the \$13 per hour minimum pay rate passed in the new state budget for noncertified school employees.

At the new rate, non-certified substitute daily pay rates will be \$104, up from \$80; certified substitute pay rates, also raised 30%, will go from \$103 to \$134. The 30% increase in substitute pay will result in an increase of approximately \$275,000 to the current budget.

At that meeting, the

district will also extend its signing bonus program for newly hired permanent 11- and 12-month employees through the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, and reinstate the signing bonus for other permanent employees with two-year commitments employed for the 2022-23 school year through December 2022 — \$1,500 for classified employees and \$3,500 for certified employees.

Edward Walgate, a petition organizer and Northwood High School teacher, told the board then that more of the district's COVID funding should be reallocated to "rewarding existing staff for their efforts."

"I'll end by saying that we do not lay all of the challenges that face education at the school board's door," Walgate said. "Decades of underfunding at the state and federal level have put us in this difficult situation. But we believe that Chatham County has the ability to improve retention, improve hiring qualified personnel, and improve morale by compensating county staff."

Other retreat business

- The board approved a contract with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services for \$988,647 of COVID-19 funding (pending attorney review) to hire Registered Nurse (RN) school nurses and related clinical school nurse support staff that opt-in to testing programs for the 2021-2022 school year.

- Superintendent Anthony Jackson, who started in the role last July, gave the board an entry report regarding his first months at CCS.

Moving forward, Jackson said the district will emphasize: better communication between district and its stakeholders, prioritizing student health and safety, improving school equity, articulating a clear school vision and aligning opportunities with access and resources as the school system grows.

He also shared that the district will enter into its strategic planning process starting in January for its new plan, "One Chatham," to be completed prior to the 2022-23 school year.

"This is an ambitious timeline," Jackson said on the meeting agenda item, "but we would like to align this process with the accreditation process that will take place that year as well."

A more in-depth report of the district's two-day retreat will be published next week. Reporter Taylor Heeden contributed to this report.

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



HOMESCHOOL RECESS PROGRAM

Are you in need of a place for your kids to burn off energy and rest their brains? Enjoy the Open Homeschool Recess Program (a non-instructional program open for families to play and have fun).

GENERAL INFO

Free program. No registration is required; however, a waiver must be signed at each session. Guardians must supervise their children. This program is not designed to meet official requirements. Basketballs provided.

COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Face coverings are required while inside the gym.



QUESTIONS?

(919) 742-2699 | recreation@silercity.org | www.silercity.org

THURSDAYS 10AM-12PM | PAUL BRAXTON GYM

February-March 2022 | 115 South Third Avenue, Siler City, NC 27344

CHATHAM IS BOLD!



POLICE REPORTS

Chatham County Sheriff's office

On Jan. 4, Steven Ray Urey, 24, of 393 Pea Ridge Rd., New Hill, was arrested by Sgt. Anthony Norton for possession of a firearm by a felon and hunting without a license. He was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 5, Anthony Jukheen Vaughn, 26, of 620 Uwharrie Street Apt G, Asheboro, was arrested by Sgt. Anthony Norton for fleeing to elude arrest with a motor vehicle, driving while license revoked and reckless driving to endanger. He was issued a \$5,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 5, Clifton James Farrell, 31, of 4191 Chatham Church Road, Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Tyler Clark for pretrial release violation. He was issued a \$30,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 6, Jocelyn Teosha McKoy, 28, of 77 Zachero St., Cameron, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for simple assault, assault and battery and injury to personal property. She was placed on a 48-hour domestic violence hold and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Jan. 12.

On Jan. 6, Reggie Jessup Jr., 30, of

6615 Joe Branson Road, Bennett, was arrested by Sgt. Anthony Norton for possession of a controlled substance on jail/prison premises, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a Schedule II controlled substance, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver heroin, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a Schedule III controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine, possession of heroin, simple possession of a Schedule III controlled substance, possession of tobacco by an inmate and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$25,000 secured bond and is due to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 6, Robert Anthony Chisholm, 59, of 1003 Silver Ave., Apt. 1, Greensboro, was arrested by Deputy Olivia Soles for driving while impaired, driving while licensed revoked for impaired driving and failing to maintain lane control. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Jan. 26.

On Jan. 7, Mary Elizabeth McDonald, 22, of 386 Estes Dr. Apt. Q4, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for failure to appear. She was issued a \$2,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on Feb. 9.

McDonald was also arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for failure to appear. She was issued a \$1,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Alamance

County District Court in Graham on Feb. 7.

McDonald was also arrested by Deputy Andrew Gray for failure to appear. She was issued a \$100 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in New Hanover County District Court in Wilmington on Feb. 7.

On Jan. 8, Jeffrey Tyler Sipe, 23, of 3381 Woody Store Rd., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Cody DeViney for assault on a female and injury to personal property. He was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Jan. 25.

On Jan. 9, Bobby Darryl Garner, 55, of 156 Jasper Ln., Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for felony larceny, possession of stolen goods/property, and breaking and entering. He was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 9, Nathan Joe Phillips, 20, of 8794 Siler City Glendon Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Johnny Griffin for pretrial release violation. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 9, Nazjionna Laprincess Nelson, 25, of 156 Coats St., Southern Pines, was arrested by Deputy Johnny Griffin for failure to appear. She was issued a \$1,000 secured bond and is scheduled

to appear in Richmond County District Court in Rockingham on Mar. 3.

On Jan. 10, Shyquayle J-Von Fisher, 26, of 1749 Dobbins Dr., Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for true bill of indictment on charges of robbery with dangerous weapon, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a Schedule VI controlled substance and conspiracy to sell/deliver a Schedule VI controlled substance. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

Fisher was also arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for true bill of indictment on the charge of first degree murder. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

On Jan. 10, Dwayne Lenard Bland, 43, of 93 Lystra Hills Ln., Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Jason Kane for failure to appear related to child support. He was issued a \$200 purge fee and is scheduled to appear in Orange County District Court in Hillsborough on Feb. 4.

On Jan. 10, Tracy Darin White, 55, of 897 Wilson Rd., Goldston, was arrested by Deputy Johnny Griffin for possession of methamphetamine, contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was issued a \$3,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Feb. 14.

Third man sought in connection with Batsche murder now in custody

CN+R Staff Report

BEAR CREEK — The last at-large suspect in a May 2020 murder is finally in custody.

Shyquayle Javon Fisher, 25, suspected as the shooter in the killing of 20-year-old Emerson Batsche, was apprehended in New Jersey and is now in custody at the Chatham County Detention Center in Pittsboro.

In May 2020, members of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office responded to a reported shooting at a residence in Bear Creek, where they found Batsche deceased from an apparent gunshot wound to the chest. Authorities confirmed that Batsche lived at the home on Artis Cotton Road where he was killed.

Kenneth Bass Jr., 18, of Chapel Hill was the first suspect to be captured and taken into custody in connection with the case. Orange County Sheriff's Office deputies located Bass and transferred custody to the Chatham County Detention Center, where he was placed under a \$200,000 bond. Bass has since been indicted on first-degree

murder, aiding and abetting armed robbery, and obstruction of justice related to the shooting.

Soon after, Chatham County deputies charged and arrested Tyree Jermaine Allsbrook, 19, of Apex. Allsbrook is being held under no bond related to charges of first-degree murder, robbery with a dangerous weapon, possession of a firearm with a defaced serial number and both conspiracy to sell/deliver and possession with intent to sell/deliver a schedule VI controlled substance.

Fisher, the third and final suspect, was accused of discharging the fatal shot that killed Batsche. He was also indicted on charges of first-degree murder, robbery with a dangerous weapon, conspiracy to sell/deliver and possession with intent to sell/deliver a Schedule VI controlled substance.

Fisher fled North Carolina immediately after the shooting, prompting the Chatham County Sheriff's Office to request assistance from the United States Marshals Service to identify his whereabouts.

He successfully evaded arrest until earlier this week when officers with the Elizabeth Police Department of New Jersey located him and served the warrant for his arrest. Fisher was subsequently delivered to the Chatham County Detention Center by the North Carolina Public Safety Extradition Team. Fisher is being held under no bond and is due to appear in court on Feb. 14.

"This outcome would not have been possible without the dedication of our top-notch investigations team and the support of an extensive network of law enforcement professionals committed to locating these suspects and bringing them safely into custody," Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson said. "We owe a special thanks to the Orange County Sheriff's Office, Elizabeth Police Department of New Jersey, US Marshals Service, North Carolina Public Safety Extradition Team, and members of other organizations and the public who served as eyes and ears to help locate these men." "We are especially

grateful for the teamwork and coordinated efforts that helped bring the third and final suspect, Shyquayle Fisher, into custody," Chatham County Sheriff's

Office Lieutenant Sara Pack said. "Our hearts go out to the family and friends of the murder victim, Emerson Batsche. We recognize that no arrest

will bring back the life that was lost, but we hope that this news will bring them one step closer to healing and closure as this case progresses."

WELCOME

In 2021, the Rotary Club of Pittsboro inducted 12 new members:

-Evan Drake	-Amanda Newton
-Roger Saunders	-Jimmy Parks
-Tara Copeland	-Ruth Parks
-Eric Wolack	-Will Amend
-Shelley Smith	-Silvia DeGirolamo
-Cindy Carter	-Josh Ebert

Will we welcome YOU in 2022? Come join us for lunch & a meeting, Wednesdays at noon at Postal Fish!

Rotary Club of Pittsboro

True Value

EGO Zero Turn Mower

Wilmington Grills

Flex Tools

SkilSaw

WEEKLY MANAGER SPECIALS

\$19.99

Flexible Flyer
48", Flexible Flyer Plastic
630509

\$19.99

Premium
Fogo, 17.6 lb, premium
259966

\$9.49

Wood Fuel Pellets
40 lb, premium wood
223454

\$11.99

24-Hour Timer
Tru-Guard, Indoor, Heavy Duty,
224273

\$7.99

Silicone
Gorilla Paintable
22947

\$6.99

Mineral Spirits
Qt, mineral spirits in metal
478164

\$6.99

Painter Coveralls
Coveralls help to protect
517797

\$2.99

Drain Opener
Master plumber, 32
197300

Come See Us

-Blake Hogg,
General Manager

Local Product Spotlight

Wilmington Grill

Located in Wilmington, NC the Wilmington Grill Line of grills has one of the industry's best warranties, and a reputation that consistently outperforms the competition.

ENJOY **FREE SHIPPING** TO OUR STORE When you Shop **TRUEVALUE.COM**

HARDWARE GENERAL

Start Right. Start Here.™

Mon.-Sat. 8AM-6PM Sun.-8AM-4PM • 386 East St., Pittsboro, NC • 919-642-3688

CHATHAM SPARK PROGRAM

Application deadline for free entrepreneurial program set for Jan. 31

From Central Carolina Community College



Photo courtesy of CCCC

The new Chatham SPARK Program is an entrepreneur-development program presented by the Central Carolina Community College Small Business Center, Chatham Chamber of Commerce, and Mountaire Farms. Pictured are, from left, CCCC Small Business Center Chatham Coordinator Phillip Pappas, CCCC President Dr. Lisa M. Chapman, CCCC Vice President for Workforce Development Margaret Robertson, Chatham Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Cindy Poindexter, and Mountaire Farms of N.C. Community Relations Manager Sasha Duncan.

have not yet opened a brick-and-mortar location and are interested in opening a new business in Siler City may be

considered for a small business grant assistance package. One business could receive a \$5,000 reimbursable grant

provided for rent, utilities, or renovations (as funds are available), one annual Base Level membership to the Chatham Chamber of Commerce, plus extensive marketing and business support.

“The Chatham Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to engaging with entrepreneurs and partnering with the Chatham Small Business Center of CCCC through the Chatham SPARK program,” said Cindy Poindexter, president/CEO of the Chatham Chamber of Commerce. “We are excited to have the opportunity to assist entrepreneurs and new businesses with the framework needed to be successful in business.”

Phillip Pappas, CCCC Small Business Center coordinator in Chatham County, says that starting a business can be difficult, and managing a successful business is even more challenging.

“Chatham SPARK is truly a grassroots economic improvements venture designed to provide tangible resources to our business community,” Pappas said. “With access to subject

matter experts, real-time assistance developing a professional business plan, and the opportunity to receive a reimbursable grant from Mountaire Farms, Chatham SPARK is poised to become a regional standard in community outreach and small business development.”

Sasha Duncan, community relations manager for Mountaire Farms of North Carolina said, “Mountaire Farms is excited to support the Chatham SPARK grant — through both the Central Carolina Community College Small Business Center and the Chatham Chamber of Commerce, which will help new businesses and foster economic development in the Siler City community.”

Chatham SPARK classes are free, but participants must be pre-registered and approved to be guaranteed a space. Registration is open to anyone interested in starting a business in Chatham County. Class size is limited to 12 individuals.

For more information or to register for the program, visit www.chathamcbc.com/spark or call 919-545-8015. The application deadline is Jan. 31.

Council on Aging to temporarily pause in-person meals, activities

CN+R Staff Report

PITTSBORO — Out of an abundance of caution due to increasing COVID-19 cases, the Chatham County Council on Aging temporarily suspended all in-person activities at the Western Center in Siler City beginning Tuesday, Jan. 11. The pause will remain in effect through at least Friday, Jan. 28, when council leaders plan to reassess the situation.

The suspension covers all in-person activities, including congregating meals, activities and fitness classes. During the pause, some fitness offerings will remain available by transitioning to a

virtual format.

Home-delivered meal service will continue, and congregate attendees disrupted by the pause may have meals delivered by contacting the council.

“This was not an easy decision to make as we know how much people have enjoyed coming together for lunch, fellowship, activities and exercise,” Chatham County Council on Aging Executive Director Dennis Streets said. “However, keeping our participants, volunteers and staff safe remains our top priority. We took this action after seeing the dramatic increase in

COVID-19 cases within our community and in consultation with local public health officials.”

The decision to pause in-person programming was driven by the effects of the Omicron variant at the county and state levels, where it is easily transmissible even among fully vaccinated individuals. Factors that increase the risk of transmission include indoor settings, close proximity to others and the inconsistency of mask wearing.

In Chatham County, cases are at record highs and roughly 17% of COVID-19 tests are returning positive.

That number is nearly twice as high (31%) in North Carolina. Hospitalizations are also steadily increasing across the state.

“We hope this pause will contribute to improved conditions within Chatham County and enable us to reopen our activities for fully vaccinated seniors soon,” Streets added. “I encourage all persons to get vaccinated, including the booster shot.”

For more information on the Council on Aging, call 919-542-4512 or 919-742-3975 or visit the Council’s website at www.chathamcoa.org.



Thank You

to United Way of Chatham County's \$100 by 100 Business Partners!

During the annual 2021 Fall Campaign, United Way challenged 100 Chatham businesses to each make a \$100 donation to collectively impact poverty in our community. The first ever \$100 by 100 campaign saw 39 businesses accept the challenge and raise more than \$5,000 to invest in Chatham’s human service nonprofit programs.

Thank you to the businesses in Chatham that recognize we are always stronger together. The next time you visit any of the following businesses, help us in thanking them for their commitment to United Way and the Chatham community.

\$100 by 100 Business Partners:

501 Pharmacy

Axis Utility

Brown’s Automotive

Cackalacky

Cathy Holt Yoga

Central Dermatology Center

Central Electric Membership Corporation

Chatham Family and Implant Dentistry

Chatham Habitat for Humanity

Chatham News + Record

Chatham Veterinary Service

Cole Park Cleaners

DiProfio Homes

Donaldson Funeral Home & Crematory

Eric Williams - Edward Jones

Fair Game Beverage Company

Fidelity Bank

The Sycamore at Chatham Mills

Katy McReynolds -

Chatham Homes Realty -

CHR Triangle Team

Laura Clapp - Edward Jones

Mark Hewitt Pottery

Mill House Properties

John Crowell - New York Life

NYLife Securities

North Carolina Engraving

O’Mara Landscaping

& Lawn Care, Inc.

Pam Herndon - State Farm

Parkway Family Dentistry

Pittsboro Family Dentistry

Pittsboro Outdoor

Power Equipment

Pittsboro Rotary Club

Renaissance Wellness Services

Reynolds & Associates

Physical Therapy

RH Design

Sanford Contractors, Inc.

Sanford Dermatology

Sara Donaldson - State Farm

Starrlight Mead

Third Street Auto Service



Are you interested in taking the \$100 by 100 challenge? Visit www.UnitedWayofChathamCounty.org/100by100 to find out more!

United Way of Chatham County

Noted photographer, author and commentator to highlight Chatham Literacy's spring event

Rosenthal's photos, stories preserve life as he sees it

John Rosenthal's life's work has included photography (he's been featured in galleries across the nation), books, dozens of commentaries on National Public Radio and time as a college professor. On April 5, he'll be the featured speaker at Chatham Literacy's "Spring for Literacy" event at Governors Club in Chapel Hill.

John Rosenthal

Tickets for the event are \$100, with all proceeds benefitting Chatham Literacy's work in Chatham County. Tickets are on sale Feb. 1; for more information about the event, go to www.chathamliteracy.org.

Rosenthal sat with CN+R Publisher and Editor Bill Horner III for a wide-ranging interview last week. The video of the full conversation can be seen on the News + Record's Facebook page at facebook.com/ChathamNR.

In the transcript from the interview below, Rosenthal discusses his evolution as a photographer and writer. The interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

Tell me about your literary journey...

I think everybody has their own first book, and that (Willard Motley's "Knock on Any Door") was my first book. "Live fast, die young, and leave a good-looking corpse" — that was Motley's motto. And I adopted that at 13!

But anyway, from that point on, reading just became a central fact, and when I was introduced by a teacher to [novelist William] Faulkner, everything changed. Then I realized — and I was older then, I was probably 15 or 16 — I realized that writing was, and could be, an act of deep consciousness. And you could explore what it is to be a human being.

How did your parents respond to your growth and to your reading books like that at that age?

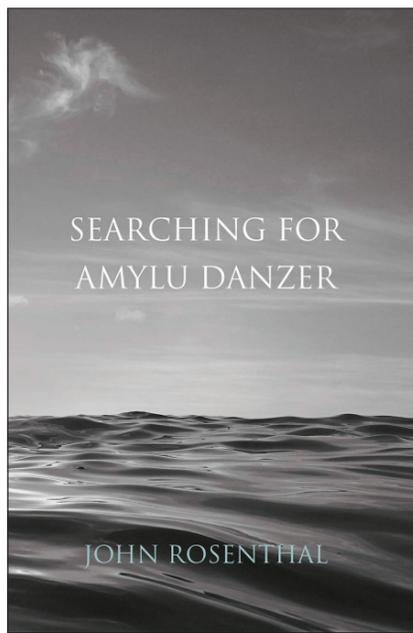
Well, they didn't understand it. They were well-read people, to a certain extent ... I loved reading when I was a kid — books like "Marjorie Morningstar" [a 1955 novel by Herman Wouk], and things like that.

But when I became a more sophisticated reader, my father, in particular, had objections. I remember coming home once and telling him that my favorite poet was Dylan Thomas. And he said he was just a bum. "He died in the streets a bum," he said. "Why would you care about a writer like that? He has probably 45 people who read his work. You should be reading James Michener, who has millions of readers — not to mention that fact that he gave a million dollars to UNICEF."

Now, how do you answer an argument like that? You just simply go on and read the books you need to read. My mother ... she didn't understand the sophisticated stories I was reading in novels, but she always wanted to hear about them. She always encouraged me.

You had this taste for good literature, but you also developed an eye as a photographer. You're noted more for your photography than your writing, so talk about how you got into photography and how your journey behind the lens started ...

I was teaching at UNCG, and I'd been teaching there a couple of years. I met a German professor, Jean Morrison, who



Rosenthal's latest book, 'Searching for Amylu Danzer,' is partly a memoir of his childhood friend and first girlfriend and the mystery of her death in 1965.

was an astonishing intellect ... he was a poet, scholar and activist. And when we met, we talked just about all night long, and he said, "You know what? What you need to do is learn about photography."

And he handed me a book by Robert Frank called "The Americans." And he said, "Look at this." And I looked at it, and I turned the page, and then turned another.

He said, "No, no, you're going too fast! Think of them as poems — they're full of tension, they're full of meaning, they're full of humor."

So you know, thinking about that, and looking at photographs, it wasn't a stretch that when I started to take photographs a couple of years later — not as a photographer, but as somebody who liked photography — I already had a kind of a point of view about photography.

I didn't want to take photographs about finishing lines, or natural landscapes — the kind of pictures that, say, my parents would like. I wanted to take pictures that were existentially rich.

But keep in mind that I was also devoted to literature more than anything. So the idea that a photograph could actually be connected to a story, or to the suggestion of a story, or that a photograph could be suggestive of a metaphor and be a metaphor itself — all those kinds of ideas infiltrated into how it was that I photographed.

And then Morrison said to me, when I went off, he said, "You're not going to take a good photograph for a few years ... It's a discipline, it's a language."

And it's true. And so, over time, when I discovered New York City, I suddenly felt that I was on turf that I could have been raised on. And around the city, I suddenly felt that I was connected to myself. And then I began to take pretty good photographs.

Anyone who has looked at your work recognizes really quickly your sense for framing shots. What have you learned about framing photographs and capturing something with your pictures?

I have one theory. That was just a theory, and I've never heard it expressed before. But I was determined that a photograph had to have three things going on simultaneously.

To me, you look at a mountain, you



Photo courtesy of John Rosenthal

One of John Rosenthal's celebrated photos of Central Park in New York City. A signed copy of the photo will be raffled off at Chatham Literacy's April 5 event.

look at a tree ... you've got one thing going on, maybe two things. But the idea [for me] was how would I pack the visual frame with information? That was the problem.

Of course, the other problem was that I wanted to take photographs like [French photographer Henri] Cartier-Bresson, and I hadn't discovered what it is that I feel needs to be disclosed — because every photographer has to have the thing that's who they are, discovering who you are. So I was always working on that notion of a kind of packed visual field with no dead space at all.

There's a famous quote. I think it might have been Robert Capa, who said it — "If it's not good enough, you're not close enough." And I began to use a wide-angle lens, because a wide-angle lens could pull in sort of the shimmering edge of the world in which my subject existed. And that could add a kind of historical resonance that otherwise would be just a photograph of a person without a world. So I always wanted that world.

And eventually, I sort of stopped taking pictures of people, because I didn't feel that I had the right to do that. And then you start looking at objects that contain latently a story that is, of course, only suggested. Not a story that's told.

And a lot of your work captures a sense of loss. I'm thinking about your Lower 9th Ward photos from New Orleans. Is that intentional? Is that something that just particularly interested you?

Well, that's the richest question you could ask. When I was learning how to take photographs, as I was leaving Chapel Hill — and there was essentially no history in Chapel Hill; there wasn't even a history on the faces of the people you would see — they were all 20 years old, or 17...

And you go to the city [New York] and all of a sudden, you've got history everywhere. You've got history in all these strange faces ... old people, young people; people from different countries who look differently. But you also had a landscape that was always in a state of tension. And this is something that I realized, after about six months, that the city was under siege.

Progress was always the problem. Developers were the problem. And I had an eye from the very beginning of the sort of fragile entities, without

actually putting it into words, I thought that were going to disappear, or that they wouldn't last.

I would take pictures of Ukrainian guys playing backgammon in Tompkins Square. I would take pictures of the windows of Jewish bakeries — these dusty windows. I take pictures of seltzer bottles in the wooden crates on the back of trucks. Or the Italian Seaman's club on Mulberry Street.

And I realized early on that perhaps the richest function that a photograph has is the act of preservation. Because it's the only way — I mean, you know, nothing is left finally. Look at your parents. Look at your picture of your mother, when she was 5. You know, it's the photograph that you've got.

So that was always kind of basic to me, to photograph that which was potentially going to disappear. And I always felt that that tension — there's that little bit of a tension between the present and the future, the past and the present. I've always wanted that in in my work.

And of course, that was the primary function of my photographs in New Orleans, because the Lower 9th Ward and already halfway disappeared, and I went down to archive what was left and what would disappear in a matter of months. Because I never took the photographs in New Orleans without the sound of a dump truck in the background. So it's always just been basic to me.

"Rescue the Perishing" is a hymn that's a beautiful phrase — "rescue the perishing." Photography does that very well. Or as well as it can, which I think is very well.

What will you be sharing when you come speak at the Chatham Literacy's "Spring for Literacy" event in April?

I'll probably focus on what I suppose you could call the joy of literacy. I'll be talking to some extent about the mystery of writing and how I learned how to do it. You just learn something along the way; that's kind of what I'll talk about. I'll also talk about doing radio commentaries — I did probably close to 400 radio commentaries for WUNC and at least 60 for [NPR's] All Things Considered. And learning how to tell stories that reach out into the general public, three-minute stories — and then unlearning all of that to write a book, right?

CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

As COVID-19 cases reach record highs, CCPHD strongly recommends COVID-19 boosters, including for ages 12 to 15

From the Chatham County Public Health Department

PITTSBORO — On Thursday, Jan. 6th, the N.C. Department of Health & Human Services reported 24,292 new cases of COVID-19, with 114 among Chatham County residents, and 3,292 hospitalizations in the state. These figures show the spread of the Omicron variant of SARS-CoV-2.

"While the Omicron variant likely causes less severe illness on average than Delta, many will still get sick given the number of cases we are experiencing," said Mike

Zelek, Chatham County Public Health Director. "This is why our core strategies, including vaccinations, masking, and testing, are still so important. Specifically, the booster shot is providing strong, increased protection against disease from Omicron. This is very good news. The bad news: Hospitalizations from COVID-19 are on the rise, and most who end up in the hospital remain those who are not vaccinated."

More data coming out supports the use of booster doses in providing protection against COVID-19, specifically the Omicron

variant. According to recent data published by the United Kingdom Health Security Agency, getting three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine was associated with a 68% reduced risk of hospitalization and 88% reduced risk of symptomatic infection compared to unvaccinated people. The report about the data can be read here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-variants-identified-in-the-uk>.

Also this week, the Centers for Disease Control recommended, based on the Food and Drug Administration's authorization, three updates to

COVID-19 booster availability and wait times:

- Children 12 and up who received the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at least five months ago can receive the Pfizer booster.
- Children ages 5-11 who are immunocompromised are encouraged to receive a third dose of the Pfizer vaccine.
- The wait time for boosters for anyone who received a Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine has been reduced from six months to five months.

People who received the two doses of the Moderna vaccine should receive their booster in six months.

People who received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine should receive their booster two months after their vaccination.

These changes have been made on the CCPHD's COVID-19 boosters webpage, where residents can learn more about these shots and whether they are eligible. Residents can find COVID-19 vaccination locations in and around Chatham County at www.vaccines.gov. The boosters webpage is at www.chathamcountync.gov/boosters.

Additionally, there are many COVID-19 testing spots around Chatham

County. However, as demand for testing increases due to increased spread, many require or strongly encourage making an appointment ahead of time. To see a full list of COVID-19 testing locations in Chatham, visit www.chathamcountync.gov/coronavirustesting.

To learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine and find other resources, visit www.chathamcountync.gov/coronavirusvaccine. To learn more about the Chatham County Public Health Department, visit www.chathamcountync.gov/publichealth or www.facebook.com/chathamhealth.

CN+R ENTERTAINMENT

VISIT GALLOWAYRIDGE.COM

Great Place To Work. Certified 2021 USA

Wanderlust IS AHEAD

SO WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?

You have done amazing things. You've packed your stuff in a backpack and trekked across Europe. You've volunteered for the Peace Corps and slept in a tent. You have lived in an 800 square foot apartment in the city.

Your adventure doesn't end at retirement.

CALL US AT 919-918-0368

SCAN HERE to take our "Rightsize your life" assessment.

Medical Direction Provided By **UNC HEALTH**

PROUDLY SERVING CHATHAM COUNTY

ENTHUSIASTICALLY SUPPORTING CUSTOMERS AND GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY

CONNIE FENNER

State Farm

WWW.THECONNIEFENNERWAY.COM

919-265-0702

Chowder for Val

In the last year, I've made a wonderful discovery.



DEBBIE MATTHEWS
The Curious Cook

I have many more friends than I thought, and they're the kind of friends I call the "2 a.m. friends." They are the people who you can call in the middle of the night and they will not only answer the phone, they'll get out of bed and quickly be by your side with no complaining.

Or, in my case, help you move, and spend numerous evenings by your side, helping you unpack, hang pictures, put together and arrange furniture.

Val and Jase are two of those friends. I met them while I was out one night walking Crowley. He is not good with strangers and doesn't understand how to play nice with other dogs (although he yearns for friends of the poochy kind). For this reason, when we are out, he always wears a soft plastic muzzle, so that he doesn't get in situations that are dangerous for others and ultimately more dangerous for himself.

We were walking down a street and all of a sudden, out of nowhere, runs a very small (well, small compared to my beast) dog. The dogs began snarling and growling, but since my Akita was wearing the muzzle, there was no real danger.

But it was dark and my black dog was wearing a black muzzle, so the harness was practically invisible.

Seconds later, a young woman runs up, gets between the two furious pups and scoops up the smaller dog. As she backs up, I notice a young man behind her.

We talk for a few minutes, I assure them there had been no real danger. I introduce myself and Crowley and they introduce themselves as Val and Jase.

The next day walking by I see Jase and ask him to relay a message to Val. I tell him that last night was the bravest, dumbest thing I'd ever seen. From this sketchy beginning, we became friends.

We saw each other often when I was out walking the dog and we became friends.

How good of friends I realized when they helped me move into my new place.

The first night they arrived Jase put together furniture while Val helped me unpack. The second time they came to hang pictures and build more furniture, I cooked for them. Val has celiac disease, so I was kind of stressing about the menu, then I decided to make this simple yet delicious chowder. There were tons of leftovers.

I talked them into taking about half of them home with them.

They didn't put up too much of an argument about it.

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

Chicken and Corn Chowder

*Adapted from a recipe on Saltandlavendar.com

- 1-12 ounce package of thick cut bacon cut into small pieces
- 3 large raw chicken breasts cut into small bite-size pieces
- 1/2 medium onion chopped
- 4-5 sticks celery chopped
- 1/3 cup gluten-free 1-1 flour
- 2 cloves garlic minced

Prep your bacon (I find kitchen shears the easiest thing to cut it up with) and add it to a large pot over medium-low heat. Cook until crispy (about 20 minutes).

Meanwhile, prep your onion, celery, chicken and potatoes.

Once the bacon is crispy, take it out of the pot and set it aside. Leave 2-3 tablespoons of bacon grease in the pot.

Add the onion and celery to the pot and sauté for 5 minutes. Add in the garlic. Stir in the flour and cook for about a minute, stirring nearly constantly. Deglaze the pot with the white wine. When it has completely cooked out, add the chicken broth. Give it a good stir to ensure the flour has dissolved and everything is scraped up from the bottom of the pot.

Add in the chicken, corn, cream, potatoes, and 3/4 of the bacon (I save the rest for garnishing the bowls later on). Bring it to a slow simmer and cook until the potatoes and chicken are completely done (about 25-35 minutes). Stir every so often. The soup will get thicker the longer you cook it.

Season the soup with salt & pepper as needed. Garnish with the rest of the bacon and chopped scallions if desired.

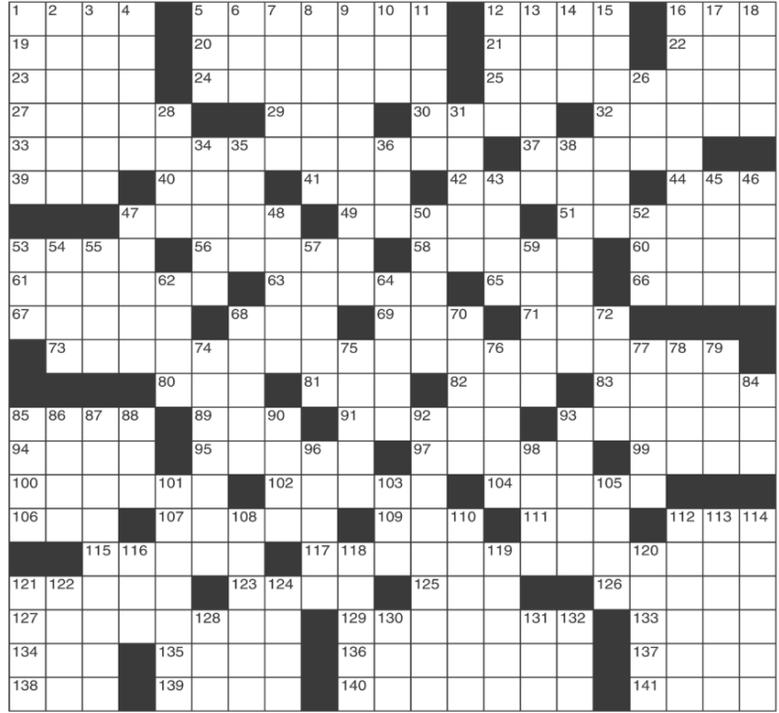
Alongside a salad, serves a hungry crowd. I had a ton of leftovers; it freezes and nukes very well.

- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 4 cups chicken broth or stock
- 2 bags frozen corn (I used a combo of shoepeg and fire-roasted corn)
- 1 1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 3 large Russet potatoes peeled & diced
- Salt & pepper to taste
- Scallions chopped, optional for serving

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

A TO Z REPEATEDLY

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| ACROSS | 1 Dubya or JFK | 5 Horse riders | 12 Bandleader | 16 NBA's Erving, Lawrance | 19 Totally alter | 20 Visibly sulky | 22 Coastal inlet | 23 Monumental | 24 Of very hilly regions | 25 Liveliness | 27 Betray by snitching | 29 Possible answer to "Who is?" | 30 Scottish refusals | 32 Lupe of "Mexican Spitfire" | 33 With 73- and 117-Across, notable fact about this puzzle's solution | 37 Antigen-attacking lymphocyte | 39 Abbr. ending a math proof | 40 Suffix with form | 41 Deer relative | 42 Surgical tool | 44 Put a levy on | 47 Smidge | 49 Des Moines native | 51 Cry to a lifesaver | 53 Move in spasms | 56 "American Pie" actor — William Scott | 58 Visibly awed | 60 Talless cat | 61 Pop's Grande | 63 The Beatles' "Eleanor —" | 65 Gibson liquor | 66 1847 Herman Melville novel | 67 Big name in utility knives | 68 Atty.'s title | 69 18-wheeler | 71 Div. of a hoops game | 73 See | 33-Across | 80 Mine, in Italy | 81 ROY G. — | 82 Albuquerque-to-Denver dir. | 83 Chef's hat | 85 Travel by foot | 89 Cable inits. for old films | 91 Reverend Jackson | 93 Tweak | 94 Ending for buck | 95 "El —" (nickname of a drug lord) | 97 Drink heartily | 99 Acorn trees | 100 "Incredible!" | 102 D-Max pickup maker | 104 Tips, as a hat | 106 Wd. often ending in "ly" | 107 Rho-tau link | 109 Western treaty inits. | 111 U.S. spy gp. | 112 Former Pan Am rival | 115 Decide you will | 117 See | 33-Across | 121 Part of a ship's hull | 123 Cartoon hits | 125 Cool, man | 126 Some Native Americans | 127 Getting a laugh out | 129 Cool guy on "Happy Days" | 133 Years, in Italy | 134 Traffic snarl | 135 Lawn digger | 136 Popular place for a piercing | 137 Give a test to | 138 Log splitter | 139 "— Out of My League" (maybe) | 140 Basic nature | 141 "That's clear" | DOWN | 2 Put new concrete on | 3 Revised copy | 4 Cholesterol-lowering drug | 5 Funny Carrey | 6 Artist Yoko | 7 "Be quiet!" | 8 Univ. about 50 miles west of Topeka | 9 Coating with glossy varnish | 10 Yang partner | 11 Office scribe | 12 Interlaced | 13 Is | 14 Third bk. of the Bible | 15 Roguish behavior | 16 Group of precision marchers | 17 Ceremony | 18 "Run This Town" rapper | 26 Toon frame | 28 Laugh syllable from a Stooze | 31 Plant — (claim some territory, maybe) | 34 Writer Mario Vargas — | 35 Mitigate | 36 "King Kong" studio | 38 Solidifies | 43 "Seminar," for "Marines," e.g.: Abbr. | 45 River in Italy | 46 "Kisses and hugs" symbol | 47 Glide in a rink | 48 Glaring | 50 "That's the — goes" | 52 Med. insurer | 53 NFL's Jaguars, on scoreboards | 54 The "E" of 39-Across | 55 Well-off | 57 Muslim face veil | 59 Arouse | 62 Linguist Chomsky | 64 Mark over a short vowel | 68 Pliocene, e.g. | 70 Big name in infomercial knives | 72 Eligible for Soc. Sec. | 74 Class for an Eng. major | 75 Little jewel | 76 Sam of golf | 77 Judo halls | 78 Blue hue | 79 Walrus tooth | 84 Aliens, briefly | 85 Tot's glassful | 86 Yank who wore #13 | 87 Small amount, as of sales | 88 Jazz saxophonist Dave | 90 Injure greatly | 92 People crushing things | 93 Stick on | 96 Biblical song | 98 Points of convergence | 101 Prizes highly | 103 Animals: Suffix | 105 Kismet | 108 Wolf down | 110 Suppress | 112 Pre-litoff expression | 113 Hot dog | 114 Judicial inquest | 116 Book div. | 118 Lauder of cosmetics | 119 Cereal utensil | 120 Basra citizen | 121 Mexico's — California | 122 Huge-screen film format | 124 In-favor votes | 128 "Stupid me!" | 130 Partakes of | 131 "Grimm" ailer | 132 Wye follower |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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

CHR
Chatham Homes Realty

Your Chatham Real Estate Source

For All Of Your Real Estate Needs We Are Here For You

110 E. Raleigh St. Siler City
919-663-0073

490 West St. Pittsboro, NC
919-545-2333

chathamhomesrealty.com
Please stop in for all of your Real Estate needs

Are your loved ones having this much fun?

Chat with Chatham Ridge about how we can add life to your loved one's years.

CHATHAM RIDGE
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE

www.ChathamRidgeAssistedLiving.com
(919) 918-7872

AMERICA'S BEST STORAGE SPACE

Fall Cleaning

NEED MORE SPACE?
Don't sell it, store it! We can help.

60 Andrews Store Rd., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-968-8705
americasbeststoragespace.com

Family Theater
Spring Season

Kids Join a Cast Now!

"Beauty and the Beast"
"The Outsiders"
"Aladdin"

PITTSBORO YOUTH THEATER

Downtown Siler City

OLD NORTH STATE
INSURANCE SERVICES 919-742-3422

Trusted Choice®
INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS

2022
HAPPY NEW Year

CN+R ENTERTAINMENT



Locally owned and operated

**ONE STOP
INSURANCE AGENCY**
919-930-4780

Cindy Carter at your service!
189 Thompson St.
Pittsboro, NC



- Short-Term Nursing & Rehab
- Long-Term Care
- Secured Memory Care Unit
- Outpatient Therapy
- Respite Care
- Private Rehab Suite

Medicare, Medicaid,
Most Insurances Accepted

72 Chatham Business Dr., Pittsboro
919-302-7862 • laurelsofchatham.com

Serving Families of Siler City
and Surrounding Areas



KNOTT'S AND SON
FUNERAL HOME
1501 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Siler City NC



"Excellent service and quick response. Car looked as if nothing had happened. Would recommend!" -Blake Y. ★★★★★

"We had to do all the coordination over the phone. Meredith stayed on top of the insurance and helped guide us getting her car back on the road." -Carla N. ★★★★★

CARSTAR Auto Body Repair Experts
11744 US Hwy 15 501 N, Chapel Hill • 919-537-0770
1022 Sanford Rd, Pittsboro • 919-542-2334

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6			2		9		
	1			4		6	
		5			8		1
		4	3			2	
	3			9	8		
2					4		6
8			9				5
	6				5		3
		2		1		7	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

MAGIC MAZE ● ROCK BANDS OF THE '70s

S D W A X V S Q N K I F D N A
X V T O Q O M N A V A R A C D
J O H F B C A B L O N D I E Y
W U H **P I N K F L O Y D** E R P
N L J W H K I S S L F P D B Z
X V T R E Q O A E I P M K I H
F D B Z Y H W E R U S H S V T
R Q S E N O T S R A C E H T O
N L F A U S T P K I Y H N F D
C A Z X N I L E P P E Z D E L
W V U D A E D L U F E T A R G

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: THE ROLLING —

- | | | | |
|-------------|---------------|------------|----------|
| Blondie | Genesis | Pink Floyd | The Cars |
| Caravan | Grateful Dead | Rainbow | The Who |
| Deep Purple | Kiss | Rush | Yes |
| Faust | Led Zeppelin | Steely Dan | |

©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.



Smart Cars by Wieland
Expanded & Renovated
Serving the Pittsboro area since 1981

- Easy "ON-THE-LOT FINANCING"
- Experienced onsite mechanic
- 30 day/1,000 mile mechanical protection included
- Free CARFAX REPORTS

471 Hillsboro St. Pittsboro, NC
919-542-1599
www.smartcars1.com

The most convenient, fun, and smartest way for you to purchase your next pre-owned vehicle.

COME SEE OUR NEW ARRIVALS

**SECTIONALS,
SOFAS,
LOVESEATS**

Power Recliner with cup holders and storage



RECLINERS

Over 100 in stock for take home or delivery



BEDROOM SETS

Large Selection

MATTRESS SETS!

Over 16 comfort levels to choose from

Ashley, Best, Hooker, Tempur-Pedic, Sealy, Rowe, Vaughan-Bassett and More



**PROPANE PRICE AS LOW AS
\$2.499/GALLON CALL FOR DETAILS**

ALL OF THE WARMTH. NONE OF THE HASSLE.



Cambridge Hills is the area's premier senior living community

Twin Rivers feels like a cozy neighborhood where residents and staff become family

Great affordable communities, located in picturesque Pittsboro, NC, with a hometown feel and caring staff

Cambridge Hills Assisted Living
140 Brookstone Ln., Pittsboro, NC
919-545-9573

TWIN RIVERS
25 S. Rectory St., Pittsboro, NC
919-545-0149



Downtown Sanford
215 Wicker St. • 4 Building 1/2 Block Showroom
919-775-7237
www.dossenbachs.com

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

Founded 1946

CN+R ENTERTAINMENT

TAKING GREAT PRIDE IN CARING FOR OUR FAMILIES

WORKING TIRELESSLY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A BEAUTIFUL, LASTING TRIBUTE TO YOUR LOVED ONE

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO SERVE YOUR FAMILIES FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

Knotts

FUNERAL HOME

SANFORD
719 WALL ST

CHAPEL HILL
113 N. GRAHAM ST

PITTSBORO
50 MASONIC ST

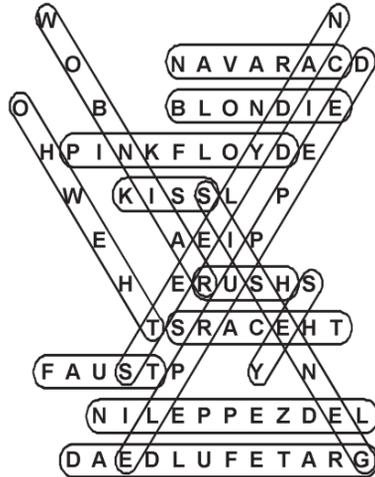
THE TIME TO TRAVEL IS NOW. GO. SEE. DO.

CRUISES | VACATION PLANNING | ESCORTED TOURS
NORTH CAROLINA TRAVEL SERVICE

105 N CHATHAM AVE., SILER CITY, NC

919-742-2839 | MAILTO: APUGH@NORTHCAROLINATRAVEL.NET

ROCK BANDS OF THE '70s



Weekly SUDOKU

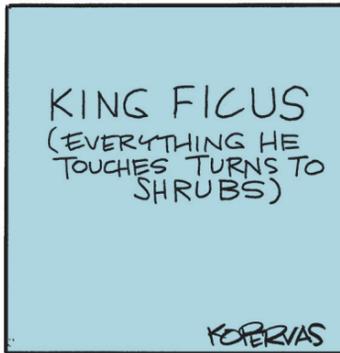
Answer

6	4	3	2	7	1	9	8	5
7	1	8	5	4	9	3	6	2
9	2	5	6	3	8	4	7	1
1	8	4	3	6	7	5	2	9
5	3	6	1	9	2	8	4	7
2	9	7	8	5	4	1	3	6
8	7	1	9	2	3	6	5	4
4	6	9	7	8	5	2	1	3
3	5	2	4	1	6	7	9	8

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas



GRIN and BEAR IT by Wagner

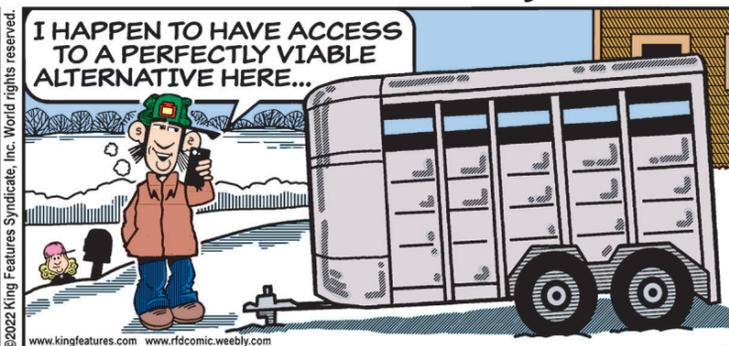


"I've been on time-out ever since the kids left home."

R.F.D.



by Mike Marland



The Spats



by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

LAFF - A - DAY



"Just once I'd like to have a job that wasn't harder to do when he was a boy."



Jay Parker, Gary Phillips, Miranda Parker, Crystal Fisher, Don Basnight, Adam Phillips, Terri Turner, Mary Maloney, Ken Tunnell



We are cooperative, social-minded, curious, inclusive, searching. A niche firm with an environmental ethic.

Reach out to Weaver Street Realty when it's time for a change.

919-929-5658 • info@WeaverStreetRealty.com

WeaverStreetRealty.com



Start off the New Year with a New Job

- On-Site Health Care Center
- 401(k) and Profit Sharing
- Great Pay and Benefits
- Educational Assistance

Call our Recruiters or Stop By our Office to Apply!!

www.mountairejobs.com



JOIN THE MOUNTAIRE FAMILY TODAY!

FAMILY OWNED. FAMILY OPERATED.
WWW.MOUNTAIRE.COM

1100 E THIRD STREET | SILER CITY | NC
 (919) 663-6712