

# Chatham News + Record

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## CHATHAM'S OVERDOSE CRISIS

# First responders and local agencies reflect on increased overdoses

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN  
News + Record Staff

*Editor's note: This is the first part of a two-part series examining drug overdoses in Chatham County.*

Local law enforcement and first responders have been working to address one of the largest health crises in Chatham County's — and the na-

tion's — history: substance use disorder and overdose deaths.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have characterized substance use disorder — commonly known as addiction — as an epidemic in the United States. In the last year, the CDC has reported more than 100,000 deaths across the U.S. due to suspected overdoses, which is an increase of over 28% since 2020.

Chatham County has ex-

**Nationwide, drug overdose deaths have risen 28% in the past year.**

ceeded the increased percentage at the national level in overdose cases, with the number of people who overdosed or died due to one in Chatham County in 2021 doubling since 2020.

The Chatham County Sheriff's Department reported 11

overdoses in 2019 and 21 in 2020 — a number which increased to over 58 overdose calls in 2021 — a 176% increase.

Lt. Sara Pack with the Sheriff's office said not all overdose calls result in death. Rather, an overdose usually refers to a medical event as a result of substance use.

"This categorization helps first responders prioritize and better prepare for each call," she said. "When someone

reports an adverse reaction of unknown origin to 911 — whether it's a minor response like dizziness or nausea or something more serious — that call is typically labeled as an overdose within the emergency system."

Lt. Andrew Freeman, who works within the patrolling sector of the Siler City Police Department, says he and

See **OVERDOSES**, page A6

## ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

# Love Chatham hopes to launch emergency housing initiative in spring

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON  
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — A little over a year after its formation, Chatham's lone homelessness-centric organization, Love Chatham, is gearing up to launch its next big project: an emergency housing initiative offering temporary shelter to those in need.

Since they don't yet have a permanent facility, the initiative would house people temporarily inside participating churches and other facilities on a rotating basis, according to Love Chatham founding member Ben Suggs.

"We are looking at, you know, me being willing to put my church as the guinea pig sort of in short bursts and figuring out what all [a] church would need to do and what all the program would have to have to safely be able to house a certain number of people who need help and have no other option," said Suggs, who pastors Freedom Family Church in Siler City.

With luck, they'll launch the program within the next few months.

"We know that we may have to adjust some of it," Suggs said, "but ... I think we're shooting for the spring."

Formally known as Chatham County NC Homeless Shelters, Love Chatham is a faith-based



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Love Chatham's executive director, Dakota Philbrick (right), stands outside Freedom Family Church in Siler City with the church's pastor, Ben Suggs, who's also a founding member of Love Chatham.

nonprofit bringing together churches, businesses and community members to combat homelessness and serve those less fortunate in the Chatham community. Since its formation in early 2021, the organization has worked with various community nonprofits and volunteers to distribute free food, offer free clothing and finance temporary hotel stays for individuals and families in need.

On top of all that, Love Chatham began to work toward creating a temporary housing program in 2021, with plans to launch it by the end of the year. According to Executive Director Dakota Philbrick, they've already written the program guidelines and even have several willing participants among their network of churches, but sev-

See **LOVE**, page A7

## CHATHAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

# Board votes 4-1 to make masking optional beginning Monday

BY KEITH T. BARBER  
News + Record Correspondent

The Chatham County Board of Education approved a policy change allowing optional masking inside all school buildings beginning March 7 during a special meeting last Thursday.

Board members Melissa Hlavac, Del Turner, Jane Allen Wilson and Gary Leonard each voted in favor of making masks optional inside all county school buildings beginning a week from Monday, while board member David Hamm voted against the measure. Hamm said his only objection to the revised policy was his belief the change should be effective immediately, rather than beginning on March 7.

CCS Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson cited the recent trend in statewide public health metrics related to the COVID-19 pandemic as the rationale behind the administration's recommended change.

According to the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services website, Monday saw fewer than 1,000 newly reported cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina — the lowest number since last July — and the positivity rate in testing has also seen a sharp decline.

"The data is moving in the right direction," Jackson told the board.

Jackson also cited the school system's consultation with the Chatham County Public Health Department and the ABC Science Collaborative as the reason for the administration's recommendation to move to optional masking. The change in masking policy comes one week after N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper encouraged school systems to relax their mask man-

See **MASKING**, page A7

## ELECTIONS '22

# Filing for this year's elections re-opened last Thursday. Here's the latest on who's filed.

CN+R Staff Report

Candidates who filed to seek office after the filing period re-opened last Thursday will give Chatham County contested races in six critical local seats, including Sheriff, two county commissioner seats, one board of education seat and two Siler City commissioner seats. Here's the latest list of candidates who have declared:

### LOCAL CONTESTS

#### Chatham County Board of Commissioners Dist. 3

Currently held by Dem.

Commissioner Diana Hales, who is not running for reelection. Dem. Lewis Hendricks announced a bid for the seat and filed for it on Dec. 6, and Dem. David Delaney filed for the seat on Feb. 24.

Delaney was the first person to file on Thursday morning after filing re-opened following the gerrymandering court cases.

"I'm running to protect and preserve our environment, promote smart development that serves residents and our local economy, and advance equity across our county,

See **ELECTION**, page A6

# Northwood student's CPR training saves dad's life

BY ZENDA DOUGLASS  
News + Record Correspondent

PITTSBORO — Starting a fresh week of school can challenge any student, but on one recent Monday, a 16-year-old Northwood High School student faced the biggest challenge of her life.

And by the time the day was over, Airryn Wharton had a lot to be thankful for — an important class, a special teacher and, most of all, her father's life.

When Airryn went outside to warm up her car that chilly Feb. 7 morning, she noticed her father had returned from



Submitted photo

Airryn Wharton greets her father, Reginald Wharton Jr., after a recent Northwood basketball game. Airryn was recognized as a 'Humble Hero' for using CPR to save her dad's life.

See **TRAINING**, 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.

## ON THE AGENDA

**The Siler City Board of Commissioners** will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 7, in the multi-purpose room of Wren Memorial Library.

**The Chatham County Board of Education** will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 14, at the Chatham County Historic Courthouse.

**The Chatham County Board of Commissioners** will meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 21, at the Chatham County Historic Courthouse.

**The Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors** will meet on Thursday, March 10 at 7 p.m. via teleconference. If you wish to attend, call 919-545-8440 for more information, and to receive the teleconference number.

**The Chatham Clover Creators 4-H Club** is doing a collection for the Chatham County Animal Shelter. We are collecting Kong toys, Purina brand food for dogs, puppies, cats and kittens, laundry detergent and bleach. Donations can be dropped off at the collection box in The Chatham Rabbit Coffee Shop until the end of March. Donations would be appreciated!

**Siler City Parks and Recreation announces Homeschool Recess!** - Enjoy the Open Homeschool Recess Program for families to play and have fun. Free program - no registration is required, however a waiver must be signed at each session. Guardians must super-

vised their children. Program is not designed to meet official Homeschool requirements. Basketballs will be provided. Face coverings required while inside the gym. If you have any questions, call 919-742-2699, recreation@silercity.org, or www.silercity.org. Thursdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Paul Braxton Gym, thru March, 115 South Third Avenue.

**Celebrity Dairy** announces its open barn and tours, in progress now. Currently anticipating over 100 baby goats, we are opening the farm for others to enjoy. Visitors will get a tour of the dairy farm with a chance to frolic with, pet and snuggle with baby goats. For more information, go to www.CelebrityDairy.com or Contact The Inn at Celebrity Dairy at 919-742-5176.

**Siler City Parks & Recreation** launches Tennis & Pickleball Classes, partnering with Tennis Bloc. Classes are now open for enrollment and will be offered to all ages and skill-levels. All classes will be held at the Bray Park Sports Complex, 700 Alston Bridge Rd. **Spring tennis classes** will be offered through May 4. Lessons for ages 8 and younger will be held Mondays 5:30 to 6:30pm (beginner-intermediate), ages 9-10 will be held Mondays 4:40-5:30 p.m. (beginner-intermediate), ages 11-18 will be held Wednesdays 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (beginner-intermediate), and adult beginners will be held Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. -- **Spring pickleball classes** will be offered March 5 - May 7. Lessons for ages 11-18 will be held Saturdays 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., adult beginners will be held Saturdays 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and adult intermediates will be held Saturdays 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Registration is now open with a registration fee of \$85 which covers the entire season. Multi-participant discounts available. To register, please visit tennisbloc.com and search for programs offered in Siler City. Registration will remain open until sessions are full. For more information, email info@

tennisbloc.com or contact the Siler City Parks and Recreation Department at (919) 742-2699, email recreation@silercity.org, or visit the Town Website at www.silercity.org.

**Siler City Parks and Recreation - Coed Youth T-Ball** is offered to participants ages 3-6 (age determined as of May 1). 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). **Youth Baseball** is offered to participants ages 9-12 (age determined as of May 1) and **Youth Softball** is offered to participants ages 9-12 (age determined as of August 1.). There are four 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 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 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 (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, 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://chathamhistory.org>.

**Second Bloom** 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](http://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.

**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.bstroom93.org](http://www.bstroom93.org) for more information.

**Pack 924** of Siler City First U.M.C. meets from 6:30 to 8:00 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.

## How did you LAND here?



**Eric Andrews**  
Accredited Land Consultant

### HAS ERIC SOLD A PROPERTY NEAR YOU LATELY?

## 94 PROPERTIES SOLD IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS!

**LAND (Representing Sellers) 39 Units**

- 0 Lamont Norwood (96.37 Acres)
- 00 Quakenbush Road (46.2 Acres)
- 911 Golfers View (.586 Acres)
- 00 Jim Gilliland Road (35.4 Acres)
- 000 Jim Gilliland Road (18.598 Acres)
- 1431 NC 42 Hwy (23.26 Acres)
- 8457 Pike Road (22.43 Acres)
- 3097 N NC 87 (2.845 Acres)
- 0 Caviness Town Road (7.41 Acres)
- 0 Pleasant Hill Church Road (90.788 Acres)
- 69 Hazelwood (.62 Acres)
- 27 Mt. View Church Road (4.04 Acres)
- 59 Colonial Trail (.476 Acres)
- 0 Diane Street (9.21 Acres)
- 27 Mt. View Church Road (4.04 Acres)
- 3095 N NC 87 (2.269 Acres)
- 2453 Marthas Chapel Road (2.052 Acres)
- 419 Hickory Pond Road (3.208 Acres)
- 435 Hickory Pond Road (2.72 Acres)
- 275 George Brooks Drive (184 Acres)
- 0 NC 42 Highway (10.89 Acres)
- 0 Jim Gilliland Road (64.882 Acres)
- 218 Pete Thomas Road (109.11 Acres)
- 0 Roselle Road (46.2 Acres)
- 323 Patterson Drive (5.46 Acres)
- 106 Caley Wilson Road (2.185 Acres)
- 0 Pete Roberson (61.21 Acres)
- 180 Thompson Street (.30 Acres)
- 1562 Hadley Mill Road (15.489 Acres)
- 0 Stone Street (50.72 Acres)
- 1604 Bonlee School Road (110.49 Acres)
- 720 Hamlets Chapel Road (.69 Acres)
- 1447 Old US 1 (.870 Acres)
- 0 Chicken Bridge Road (10.051 Acres)
- 00 Manns Chapel Road (49.41 Acres)
- 2328 Andrews Store Road (24.385 Acres)
- 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres)
- 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres)
- 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres)

**COMMERCIAL (Representing Sellers) 3 Units**

- 219 East Street (Pittsboro)
- 45 West Street (Pittsboro)
- 175 East Salisbury Street (Pittsboro)

**COMMERCIAL (Representing Buyers) 1 Units**

- 45 West Street (Pittsboro)

**RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 22 Units**

- 168 Culberson Drive (Siler City)
- 570 Abeyance Road (Moncure)
- 2221 Brisbayne Circle (Raleigh)
- 427 Fenton Place (Charlotte)
- 52 Gentle Winds Drive (Pittsboro)
- 1475 Hoyt Scott Road (Bear Creek)
- 550 Calle Lane (Bear Creek)
- 3871 S. Plank Road (Sanford)
- 76 Millbrook Drive (Pittsboro)
- 5144 Rives Chapel Church Road (Siler City)
- 200 Valley View Lane (Pittsboro)
- 1822 Chandellay Drive (Durham)
- 5631 Swanns Station Road (Sanford)
- 4233 NC Highway 902 (Pittsboro)
- 130 Estes Drive (Chapel Hill)
- 117 Foxwood (Sanford)
- 1136 Sanford Road (Pittsboro)
- 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City)
- 1429 Van Thomas Road (Pittsboro)
- 1315 Hoyt Scott Road (Bear Creek)
- 745 Merl McManus Road (Bear Creek)
- 2349 S. Main Street (Goldston)

**LAND (Representing Buyers) 13 Units**

- 00 Quakenbush Road (46.2 Acres)
- 27 Mt. View Church Road (4.04 Acres)
- 0 Hawkins Avenue (9.7 Acres)
- 0 NC 42 Highway (10.89 Acres)
- 27 Mt. View Church Road (4.04 Acres)

**RESIDENTIAL (Representing Buyers) 7 Units**

- 168 Culberson Drive (Siler City)
- 427 Fenton Place (Charlotte)
- 4513 Bumphus Road (Chapel Hill)
- 107 Hawks Spiral Way (Pittsboro)
- 85 Herndon Creek Way (Chapel Hill)
- 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City)
- 6490 Snow Camp Road (Snow Camp)

### PROPERTIES CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT

**LAND (Representing Sellers) 7 Units**

- 13120 Strickland Road (16.25 Acres)
- 0 Hamlets Chapel Road (42.805 Acres)
- 18 Pearleman Teague Road (2 Acres)
- 0 Old Graham Road (161.97 Acres)
- 271 Talon Drive (11.97 Acres)
- 1835 Lewter Shop Road (3.24 Acres)
- 0000 Jim Gilliland Road (57.284 Acres)

**RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 2 Units**

- 488 NC 87 N (Pittsboro)
- 8798 Sylvan Road (Liberty)

**Featured CN+R YouTube Video of the Week**  
<https://youtu.be/YFwelcoh5tY>

**VIDEO TOPIC: 4 Reasons People Sell Land in NC & the 4 Ds of Real Estate**



Email your questions to [eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com](mailto:eric@ericandrewsrealtor.com)

For RWCP Property Management Call **Jennifer 919-545-9405**

RWCP is hiring Sales Agents. Call **919-545-9911**



Submitted photo

## Fireman of the year

The Bennett Fire Department has named Carson Brewer (right) as fireman of the year. Bennett FD board President Ledford Brady poses with Brewer and his award.

## Chatham News + Record

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# Visualizing COVID-19 risks for children

**BY BURNEY WARING**  
Special to the News + Record

*Editor's note: Burney Waring, the president of the local nonprofit Innovate Chatham, is a global consulting engineer who studies trends and data. He shared this look at COVID-19 risks for children with the News + Record.*

Risks are especially difficult for humans to understand for multiple reasons. Let's discuss the challenges, and use some techniques to try to make risk more understandable.

Specifically, let's look at the risk of children not wearing masks in school. The risk will vary for each child, of course. Here we will strictly look at averages, and we will not make a recommendation about masking. We will simply give different ways to consider risk in decision-making.

Daniel Kahneman is a well-known psychologist, and economist who writes accessible, respected books about the psychology of risk. Kahneman finds that we tend to make almost all decisions with our fast gut instinct, and few with our slow thinking mind. It's a good thing too — we could not survive if we

had to stop and think carefully through every decision, every day. But obviously, we should try to do our best thinking about our most important decisions.

Psychologists know that humans have natural, common flaws in how they think, and they call this "bias." For example, we tend to exaggerate the risks of unfamiliar, or rare events (for example, shark attacks) and underestimate common risks (for example, heart disease) to which we have not personally been exposed.

We also have bias about very small and very large numbers. We evolved to understand and use the sorts of numbers that are used in counting and for dividing sets of items into a small number of parts. On the other hand, fractions in the millionths and numbers in the millions are far beyond our gut instincts.

Making decisions about COVID-19 is a perfect storm of bias: unfamiliar, with both tiny numbers and huge numbers, and with limited past experiences to train our individual gut instincts.

Some numbers: 970 children have died with COVID-19 to-date, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), out of a population of 73 million

children in the U.S. That means that the average rate of children dying of COVID was 13 out of every million in the U.S., over the past two years. (Source: Provisional COVID-19 Deaths: Focus on Ages 0-18 Years; Data: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; cdc.gov.)

While our gut instincts are lacking for tiny numbers like 13 in a million, humans do well visualizing fractions. Imagine an image showing the fraction of total U.S. deaths of children with COVID-19 to the total U.S. population of children with a tiny white square in the upper left-hand corner of an otherwise huge black rectangle representing the fraction of 13 out of a million. The simple average rate for 1 year would be half that, or 6.5 deaths per million, which will be useful for comparison.

Those are measured rates. From rates, we can estimate risks. If the same situation exists, the past rate and the future risk are expected to be the same. Because the overall measured death rate is dropping, and children are getting vaccinated, it is likely that the current risk is smaller and will continue to shrink in the future (unless some more dangerous variant arrives).

Another powerful bias: we tend to make decisions not on the risk itself, but by comparing risks. Cutting the risk of shark-bite deaths in half sounds great to our gut instinct. "Half the risk" is a statement of relative risk. But cutting shark-bite deaths in half would be perfectly trivial relative to cutting the risk of heart disease deaths in half, because the average absolute risk of death in the U.S. from a shark bite per year is about 1 in 300 million, while the average absolute risk of death in the U.S. from heart disease per year is 2,000 in a million (1 in 500).

(Source: Yearly Worldwide Shark Attack Summary – International Shark Attack File; ufl.edu; Heart Disease Facts, cdc.gov.)

Absolute risk is the only risk that can hurt you, and it deserves consideration in all decisions. If you decide the absolute risk is not important, then you stop worrying.

If you decide the absolute risk is important, only then should you consider relative risks. Our tendency to focus on comparing risks is a very strong bias. Paraphrasing Kahneman, our thinking brain is lazy whereas our gut feel is always ready

and eager. So we probably tend to use relative risk because we have an instantly-available gut instinct for "half as much," and find it necessary to think carefully about "1 in 300 million."

The CDC recently found that mask wearing indoors reduced the rate of a positive test by 56%. That might mean that removing masks would increase the absolute risk to children from 6.5 to 15 deaths per million, each year. There are about 8,800 children in Chatham County Schools. So, if there is no mask-wearing in school, we would expect the deaths of children in CCS to increase from 0.057 children per year to 0.130 children per year. A different way to express this is that the risk would increase from an average of 1 death every 17 years to 1 death every 8 years.

(Source: Effectiveness of Face Mask or Respirator Use in Indoor Public Settings for Prevention of SARS-CoV-2 Infection — California, February–December 2021, MMWR; cdc.gov. Search for Public School Districts - District Detail for Chatham County Schools; ed.gov.)

If you consider the absolute risk described above to be important, then it may help when

making decisions to consider the relative risk of other, more familiar dangers — for example riding in a vehicle. In 2020, 38,680 people died from vehicular accidents in the U.S., while we drove 2.8 trillion miles. So, the average rate of death for people who rode 10,000 miles was 137 in a million. From this we could conclude that car-riding 10,000 miles has around 20 times the average annual risk of death to a child from COVID-19. If so, it would be sensible to be much more worried about the danger of a child frequently riding in a vehicle than a child catching COVID-19.

A final risk comparison: Compare the rate of COVID deaths of children to those over age 50: about 1 in 140 people over the age of 50 have died over the course of the pandemic.

(Source: COVID-19 Provisional Counts - Weekly Updates by Select Demographic and Geographic Characteristics; cdc.gov.)

A final bias worth mentioning: When shown new information, humans tend to stick to their prior belief. That is called confirmation bias. If this analysis changed your mind about risks, that would be extraordinary.

## CHURCH NEWS

### THE FATHER'S HOUSE CLOSET

There will be an Easter Blessing Give Away on from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 12, at the Father's House Closet.

There will be free Easter baskets, an egg hunt, free food, a gospel singing, silent auction, yard sale and vendor sale.

The event will be held at the Father's House Closet,

536 Bascom Chapel Road, Robbins. All are welcome.

### NEW SALEM CHURCH

There will be a Gospel Singing at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 13, at New Salem Church. Join us and invite a friend to come with you.

The church is located at 5030 Old Graham Rd., Pittsboro. <http://www.viwitnewsalem.com>



## A sign of spring

**Daffodils mean spring is close by. These flowers were captured on film by the News + Record's Kim Hawks.**

Staff photo by Kim Hawks

## CARD OF THANKS

We want to express our appreciation for all the calls, visits, cards, and most of all your prayers during our recent

bereavement. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. The family of Ronny Sizemore

## TRAINING

Continued from page A1

driving her younger sister to school. But when she came back outside to leave for school herself, his car was still there — in the same spot.

That was unusual, Airryn thought.

Normally, her dad would have already left for work. When Airryn investigated, she found him inside the car, his head against the window — unconscious.

Airryn immediately ran to get her mother and brother, who were inside, and then called 911. The car doors were locked, but the window was down and the family managed to open the door, pull Reginald Aaron Wharton Jr. from his vehicle and lay him down flat upon the driveway.

The sound her dad made sounded like snoring to Airryn. But she knew — thanks to a class she took at Northwood — that it wasn't.

Airryn proceeded to perform CPR on her father and continued chest compressions for about six minutes until help arrived. That sustained him until a police officer and Emergency Medical Technicians arrived; an ambulance then whisked her dad to UNC Hospitals, where he remained until late afternoon before being released.

The scare involved a previously undiagnosed health condition.

"In the moment, I definitely didn't think of how big of a deal this is," Airryn said. "I'm very glad now that CPR is something I could do to save his life. I just want to make sure that people know that CPR and safety training are so important — and can save a life."

### She is my angel. I am very proud of her. It's a reminder that we have an obligation to take care of ourselves for our children.

**REGINALD WHARTON JR.,** whose daughter, Airryn, used CPR to resuscitate him

On the way to the hospital, Airryn sent a text message to Sherri Stubbs, one of her teachers at Northwood — the very teacher who taught Airryn the value and skill of CPR during her sophomore year.

"I know Airryn from my Health Science class and as a cheerleader," said Stubbs, who also serves as the school's cheerleading coach. "Airryn is a very even-keeled person, quiet and calm. The paramedics told Airryn's mom that without her daughter's efforts, there might have been a very different outcome. I call her the humble hero."

Stubbs organized a formal moment of recognition for Airryn as a "humble hero" at a Northwood basketball game the following night.

Stubbs teaches Health Science I, a course in Northwood's Health Science Pathways within its Career and Technical Education Program. In Health Science I, students learn about bodily systems, including skeletal, muscular, lymphatic and others; the circulatory and respiratory systems are covered in Health Science II. First aid and safety, as well as basic (or Heart-Saver) CPR, are covered in Health Science I.

Students can be certified in first aid after studying CPR, use of EpiPens, snake/spider bites, insect stings, drowning, anaphylactic shock, tourniquets and other stop-the-bleed techniques. Stubbs also teaches bio-technology which focuses more on technology, research

and forensics.

Students who study through Health Science I and II and on to Nursing Fundamentals can obtain CNA certification. These courses provide students opportunities to see if there is serious interest in a health care or bio-medical field. Northwood teachers enhance learning by bringing in guest speakers from among medical professionals.

After working in radiology for 23 years, Stubbs became a health physicist for the State of North Carolina.

"I then decided that I wanted to teach and bring real-life perspective to the classroom," Stubbs said.

One of the bulletin boards in her classroom is decorated to read, "The chapter you are learning today is the chapter that is going to save someone's life tomorrow, so pay attention."

"It's really good to see students take lessons from the classroom and utilize them in day-to-day life," said Vernon Cameron, Northwood's Athletic Director. Some of his sports medicine classes also have correlation with health science classes.

"This is an example of teachers having a really big impact," Cameron said, referring to Airryn's life-saving actions.

CPR instruction is fairly easy to access within Chatham County and surrounding communities. The American Heart Association offers classes as does American Red Cross. Several other organizations and

private businesses offer CPR and related classes in the area, and those interested may also choose to pursue their CPR instruction online. Central Carolina Community College offers numerous health care classes, all of which include CPR training. Lay persons will learn a hands-only "Heart-Saver" method while those pursuing career options as health care providers will learn Basic Life Support methods. More than compressions only, BLS CPR involves breathing into a patient's mouth or using rescue breather equipment and/or using different techniques for infants and children.

"Either way, you're trying to massage the heart and get it back into its proper rhythm," Stubbs said. "Every patient is different. With cardiac arrest or heart attack, there are many different scenarios and survival rates with CPR vary significantly."

"Emergency dispatchers can lead 911 callers through instructions so they can start with CPR until EMS arrives with defibrillator equipment," said Susan Macklin, who designs EMS-related courses as the EMS program director at CCCC. "If CPR along with an external defibrillator (either automated or manual) is used within six minutes of a cardiac event, there is an 80% increase in the likelihood for survival."

"I would prefer that everyone learn CPR because it would save so many lives," added Macklin, saying she hoped to bring a bilingual instructor on board to better accommodate the Spanish-speaking population.

"By training students in hands-only CPR, we are equipping the next generation of lifesavers," says Anne Miller, executive director of American Heart Association (Triangle & Eastern NC). "CPR, if



Submitted photo

**Airryn Wharton and her father, Reginald Wharton Jr., pose during a homecoming event at Northwood High School.**

performed immediately, can double or triple a person's chance of survival. It's heart-warming to learn that Airryn was prepared to act quickly in a cardiac emergency, saving her father's life."

No one is more grateful and proud of Airryn Wharton than her dad.

"I am so appreciative that she was home and getting ready to go to school and saw me," Wharton said. "She is my angel. I am very proud of her. It's a reminder that we have an obligation to take care of ourselves for our children."

Wharton said he didn't know what Airryn had done for him until his wife told him in the hospital.

"I didn't remember anything after arriving back home from driving my younger daughter," he said.

Airryn says she's thankful for her dad and her family — and thankful that she didn't have a first-period class and for the class where she learned CPR.

"When it's someone you know and CPR has been applied, it hits home how important it is," says Stubbs.

# VIEWPOINTS

## Goodbye, and thank you

When I started at the News + Record some 599 days ago, I was fresh out of college and — like everyone else — also newly navigating what it meant to live in a pandemic.

**HANNAH MCCLELLAN**  
Elevating Voices

For the most part, I met commissioners, county staff and school administrators and teachers by phone. When I did meet folks in person, it was masked and accompanied by the awkward but obligatory elbow bump.

Much of my reporting included COVID-19, even as I tried to write about other things. School COVID protocol and county vaccination rates needed to be written about, but I believed other things deserved attention, too — stories highlighting Hubert West, UNC's first Black head coach, for example, or how Chatham County Schools was working toward serving its Hispanic students, who make up nearly 32% of the district's population.

Still, the pandemic remained present. Writing about the district's increased mental health efforts, for example, couldn't be written about accurately without talking about how remote learning — and the stress of living through a pandemic — negatively impacted many students. Nor could writing about staffing shortages, proposed budgets or the community

efforts led by Chatham's Black and Latino churches.

Now, a little more than one year and six months after I started at the News + Record, I'm leaving. Unfortunately, the pandemic isn't.

Despite meaningful gains like vaccines and treatments, COVID is still with us. Though cases have dropped significantly since the peak of Omicron in January, they're still about as high as during Delta. Even so, most N.C. governments and school districts have dropped indoor mask mandates — many ahead of updates to health masking mandates, and sometimes, still in conflict with them.

As many COVID disagreements as I've seen and reported on, one thing is certain: we're all tired of COVID.

This week, I start at EducationNC, a nonprofit news outlet which aims to improve N.C. public education. I'll be covering community colleges, postsecondary access and faith at EdNC. (Hopefully, I won't cover much about masks.)

As excited as I am to get started, I'm also sad to leave. Because as much as the pandemic shaped my time here — as much as it impacted yours — the last two years were defined by much more than just COVID.

As a reporter, I spoke with countless students who inspired me. Students like Jordan-Matthews 2021 graduate Jacqueline Marroquin Tobar, who learned English after moving from Guatemala in

9th grade, started the school's first Water Bottle Recycling Project and was named as one of Chapel Hill nonprofit LatinxEd's "20 under 20" 2020 recipients. Students like Tiana Brooks, whose mixed-media piece memorializing Black women killed by police was one of 35 pieces featured in last year's virtual Emerging Artists Invitational, or Northwood alum Caroline Puckett, who co-organized a Pittsboro Pride Day in June 2020.

These students — and many more — demonstrated great tenacity, compassion and generosity even as they struggled.

I also spoke with myriad teachers and school administrators who worked overtime (more than normal, that is) and learned new teaching methods to serve their students. I talked to parents who — on either side of COVID discussions or masking debates — displayed a deep commitment to and love for their children.

I'd be remiss to not point out that I also spoke with some people who disagreed with my coverage. Most of the time, these disagreements reflected a difference in the designation of facts, but a few times, the disagreements reflected errors on my end. I am grateful the people who corrected me did so gently and with the benefit of the doubt.

All that to say that, though I encountered a few angry and unkind readers, the people of Chatham were for the most part, very good to me.

That's a story worth telling,

isn't it?

In spite of all the hardships and injustices from the last years, the people of Chatham are good. Of course, that's not a fact I could technically verify as a journalist. Instead, I tried to highlight the stories in Chatham that make it the place it is — interesting, special, good.

At the end of the day, I think such stories are one of the best gifts of journalism. Of course, a newspaper should provide coverage of board meetings, new developments, cyber incidents and COVID clusters — and while I'd never claim the News + Record is perfect (no organization is), I'll always claim it does a dang good job providing such information week in and out.

When journalism is done right, it highlights the good in the bad, or the complicated. A story about staffing shortages then, should explain the systemic challenges in recruiting and retaining school employees while also highlighting the valiant efforts made by staff and community members. A story about barriers to Hispanic business ownership should also celebrate business owners who are successful in spite of the odds.

Every story is more than just one thing.

I believe the News + Record approaches reporting with such a reality in mind. As local newspapers across the country vanish, there aren't any fewer important stories — just less people telling them.

It's been a privilege to work at the Chatham News + Record, learning from my editor, Bill Horner III, my talented colleagues, and of course, all of you.

This paper is one of the finest examples of community journalism in North Carolina, and not just because it's won more news awards than any other paper its size the last two years. The News + Record features a variety of in-depth, local stories every week in spite of a small staff and endless stories to cover. Not everyone will like what the paper writes all the time. I hope that you'll support the News + Record's commitment to local news anyways. After all, a paper is nothing without the community it covers, partners with and must answer to if it does mess up.

I'm excited to keep writing and reporting in a new capacity at EdNC, and I hope some of you will keep up with my work there. But I'm also excited to keep up with all of you, the people of Chatham, through the paper of Chatham.

I'm no longer a storyteller at the News + Record, but I'm excited to read the paper's future stories. Not only because I trust the guidance and vision of my former boss, Bill, but because I trust all of you: the people who make Chatham the place it is, and who so graciously share your perspectives, ideas and stories.

Thank you.  
Former reporter Hannah McClellan is on Twitter at @HannerMcClellan.

## 'Dust to dust'

Throughout the year, there are constant reminders of human mortality in the larger culture: Wars and rumors of wars overseas. COVID death counts and hospitalization rates. But the constant news cycle can blur words and images into a meaningless hum. Social media can dull our senses as we scroll through posts, each one forgotten even as it is read. It's not that we think we will live forever as much as we do not pause to think.

**ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN**  
Hope Matters

Lent gives us time to reflect on our mortality. The 40-day observance of Lent is a solemn time for Christians to ponder Jesus' crucifixion before celebrating his resurrection on Easter morning. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent when worshippers receive the sign of the cross in ashes on their foreheads while being told, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return."

These words are taken from the Book of Genesis when God formed the first human from the ground. They also reflect the scientific fact that our bodies will decay into carbon, nitrogen and a few other elements. Dust to dust.

With the poignant reminder of the reality of death pressed into the skin of our foreheads comes the stripping away of pretensions. Like our bodies, our possessions and accomplishments shall be reduced to dust and ashes. Yet, ironically, our reflection upon this truth of eventual loss can cause us to gain something else — perspective. "Humility" is from the same lexical root as humus, that is, dirt. All of us came into this world carrying nothing, and we will leave taking nothing with us. Dust to dust.

Ash Wednesday is a cue to slow down: How are we to live out our days? How are we to live this day? This moment?

Before he died, my friend Brian Doyle wrote a poem about Ash Wednesday and a mother who stepped before her priest to receive the ashy sign on her forehead. Except the baby in her arms squirmed into the exact flight path of the priest's thumb and caught the ashes right in her little eye! There was a moment of shock, then it looked as if the child's face might crumple into tears. But instead, the little one began to laugh! This caused the priest to chuckle and the mother to giggle. Pretty soon, laughter rang like bells pealing throughout the sanctuary! The poem concludes, "Let us use that which makes dark things quail."

Lent is traditionally a time when Christians fast or give something up like wine or chocolate or Facebook. Such fasts can be helpful. But this year, I've resolved to "use that which makes dark things quail." I want to look more intentionally and more faithfully for the laugh. Not at someone else's expense. But to pay attention to the hilarity that often dances around the edges of experience.

Lent gives us time to reflect on our mortality to inspire our living.

Just the other day, I returned home from work to find my puppy and my daughter with paws and hands digging in the backyard. Upon seeing me, both of them leaped into my arms, causing us all to tumble softly into the grass in a pile of legs and fur and shrieks and smiles. It was the kind of moment that made me grateful to be alive.

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."



## Putting the pieces together in a post-COVID world

Now that COVID is fading — at least seemingly and officially — we can step back and look at some of its effects as we move into the future. No doubt its residuals will be here for a loooong time.

**BOB WACHS**  
Movin' Around

First of all, obviously, are the hundreds and thousands of people who died because of and during the pandemic. Some died from the virus, some from virus-related conditions and others, if you believe stories some folks told, of other issues but because they tested positive while in a hospital or facility, many death certificates were filled out "cause of death — COVID."

Then there's the effect on our once robust economy, still not terrible but worse than it was. It's living with inflation and flirting with other not-so-good characteristics. Many businesses closed, some permanently, because there wasn't enough staff to go around; that's still with us in many places. "Help wanted" signs are everywhere but the incentive to work for many has been killed by stay-at-home pay. And our "heroes" and "essential workers" — nurses and truckers, to name but two — of a year or so ago are now villains.

Schools suffered a terrible fate and tremendous burden as computer classes took over. While the knowledge and facts may be the same as that of in-person learning, the absence of learning social skills is producing an effect that may never leave the lives of

certain ages of children, carrying into adulthood. Teachers left and right are distressed that a lack of basic society behavior skills — kindness, patience and good behavior, to name just a few — are in shorter supply and leading to stress and violence in the form of school fights.

There are other concerns; you can name your own. One of the most significant is further loss of confidence in our government and its leaders and spokespersons. When you've got three people saying four different things, it doesn't exactly inspire confidence. And when on Monday, it's "A" but by Friday, it's "B" — and from the same individual — you can't help but wonder, even with understanding that additional facts and information can come onto the scene. And when multiple media outlets look at the same situation and draw entirely different conclusions, what are you going to believe?

But to me, there's one overarching issue, one that affects all the others. And it's a concern that isn't new to COVID but was magnified many times during its worst days.

I speak of isolation. People stayed home from work. From school. From play. From the store. From the bedside of dying relatives. The first few days, with the exception of losing family members, was going to be a long weekend vacation; then reality set in: this isn't going to be good.

So here's where we are today: how do we move into the future? And here's where, I believe, we've got to go the extra mile — of hearing other folks tell their stories, of taking them where we find them,

of being slow to judge, of being kind. And when I think of that, I'm reminded of something I came across years ago while a seminary student.

The question was asked: where do we find such a place that does all that, that accepts folks as they are? I thought of Waffle House, one of my favorite places, but the guy asking the question said, "Nope, not it." So I asked him, "Where, then?"

"Your neighborhood tavern or bar," he told me.

Now I'm no expert on either of those but I followed his point. And I'm not suggesting by any stretch of the imagination we all take up bar-hopping, but I am saying that in this new day and age of isolation, depression, adjustment and what have you that the local church could learn something here.

Obviously, the goal is different. The bar just wants folks to keep coming back; the church and its faith should be intent on not just meeting folks where they are but pointing them to a better way. That's how the One (I always use capital letters) Christians follow did things — meeting folks where they were before pointing them to a better way. Now seems like a good time to try it again.

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

# VIEWPOINTS

## Managing trade will never work

Hundreds of thousands of North Carolinians work in companies that sell goods and services all around the world. They'll prosper, as will our state, to the extent we knock down barriers to our exports.

Few disagree with that goal. Differences of opinion arise when we get specific. Consider the recent news that the United States ran a trade deficit of \$859 billion last year. In dollar terms, that's the largest such deficit in the country's history. It's also a 27% increase over the trade deficit for 2020.

At the risk of sparking the first big disagreement, I should say at the outset that I don't think the trade deficit is itself an issue of critical importance. It doesn't signify, for example,

that our exporters took in on the chin. In fact, goods exports shot up 23% last year to \$1.8 trillion, also a record amount, as economies around the world began to recover from the COVID crisis and their consumers gobbled up American-made products.

Of course, American consumers also gobbled up goods imported from abroad. And America's service industries didn't have as good a year, in part because of continued weakness in education and tourism (if foreigners come to the U.S. to study or travel, their expenditures constitute exports).

So, the net result was a trade deficit — but that hardly made it a crisis. American consumers got products they highly valued, and our service sector will likely bounce back more strongly in 2022 as COVID-induced fears and restrictions fade. More fundamentally, because America remains one of the best places to invest

money, we are going to run trade deficits of some size for the foreseeable future. It's an inescapable fact of accounting: if we run a capital-account surplus, we must run a current-account deficit, the vast majority of which will be a trade deficit.

Now, let's talk about China. America's \$355 billion trade deficit with that country represented 41% of the total. Again, exports to China rose but imports from China rose much more.

Remember the deal former President Trump negotiated with the Chinese regime two years ago? It required the Chinese to purchase an additional \$200 billion in American imports by the end of 2021.

The deal didn't stick. Chinese imports from American firms turned out to be only 57% of the "required" figure. Moreover, since the 2020 agreement came after the former president initiated a trade war, setting off cycles of retaliatory tariffs, the real point of com-

parison would be exports to China now vs. exports to China before the tariff escalation. By that metric, the policy has been an abject failure. Our exports to China haven't yet returned to the pre-trade-war baseline.

I'm not arguing that the Trump administration bungled the execution of the agreement during its last year, or that the Biden administration bungled it during 2021. I'm rejecting the entire premise that the way to help American industries sell more overseas is to negotiate sales quotas with national governments. Exports to China went up last year, but exports to our other trading partners, especially in Europe, went up more. The latter didn't happen because a bunch of politicians set sales quotas.

We need to stop trying to manage trade and focus instead on slashing taxes (tariffs) and increasing our economy's productive capacity.

With regard to the first goal, the best way to encourage the

governments of our trading partners to lower tariffs and other barriers to accessing their markets is to offer reductions in our existing barriers to their goods and services — not to raise tariffs first and seek negotiation later. As recent experience has shown, that tends to provoke retaliatory tariffs, not productive discussion leading to net reductions in trade barriers.

And with regard to productive capacity, North Carolina leaders and their counterparts in Washington have full power to act on their own. Reforming our systems of taxation, regulation, education and infrastructure would help all our businesses, including exporters, to grow and thrive.

*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).*

## 'Balcony reserved for white spectators'

The tributes that rolled in when North Carolina lawyer Walter Dellinger died Feb. 16 were testimony that he was one of the nation's great lawyers of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. He was 80.

In an Associated Press article, North Carolina native Jonathan Drew wrote that Dellinger's career "marked him as one of the legal giants of our era. Many remembered — and justly celebrated — him as a brilliant and prolific scholar, a titan of the Supreme Court bar, an inspiring teacher and mentor to generations of bright proteges now in elected office, federal and state government, and on the bench.

"He was also a government lawyer whose advice was important to both Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. Key officials in the Biden White House sought his advice almost literally until the day he died."

His son, Hampton, recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate as an assistant attorney general in the Biden administration's Justice Department, gave this tribute to his dad, "Walter lived a wonderful and extraordinary life. He had many loves, first among them his wife Anne but also the State and University of North Carolina, the law and the rule of law, and American democracy."

Several years ago I talked to Dellinger for a short North Carolina Bookwatch program recorded at Carolina Meadows in Chapel Hill, where he was living. He was working on a chapter of a memoir to be titled "Balcony Reserved for White Spectators."

He explained his early awareness of the unfairness of the social system in his hometown Charlotte. In the late 1950s, he was working on a construction site "where only whites could be carpenters and the black men were all laborers paid \$1 an hour. As I was a temporary kid, I was assigned as a laborer. I was like the token white labor on this crew.

"What was interesting and dramatic for me was that the best carpenter by far was one of the African American men who was a laborer. He got paid as a laborer no matter what he was doing. So whenever there was a very difficult challenge to the carpentry, the on-site supervisor would ask David to take on the challenge.

"But if anybody from company headquarters arrived on the scene, I was sometimes a lookout, David had to put down his carpentry tools. He could be an expert but couldn't be caught breaking the rigid rules. That gives you a sense of how rigid the system was."

Dellinger remembered his love of Black music and listening to WGIV, the Black radio station in Charlotte. "I listened to the gospel hour faithfully. They had a contest to see who could first identify a gospel song, and I knew immediately from the first three bars it was 'Ride on King Jesus.'

"The prize was a one-year subscription to Ebony magazine, which in the segregated South was a whole different world, particularly the advertisements where no people of color were ever in mainstream media."

Dellinger's love of music led him to try to attend the Black concerts and dances at Park Center in downtown Charlotte. There he encountered the sign.

He explained, "In Charlotte dances that were for African Americans had a balcony reserved for white spectators, so it's sort of both literal and metaphorical the notion that I was only a spectator from the balcony on what was happening with race in the South, watching what was happening in the Black community."

After four years at UNC-Chapel Hill, three years at Yale Law School, and two years teaching at the University of Mississippi Law School, Dellinger was never "only a spectator" again.

He lived and died in the middle of our country's struggle to eliminate the unfairness the carpenter David experienced and the legacy of the customs that put Dellinger in the balcony at Park Center dances.

*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

#### Thanks to Chatham Parks & Recreation

I would like to thank and acknowledge the Chatham County Parks & Recreation staff (particularly Andrew Harrison and Tracy Teague) for their incredible hard work and patience regarding the recently completed county youth basketball season.

I served as a first-time coach this year and admittedly had doubts and concerns regarding the ability to have almost 700 young people safely participate, given the challenges related to the pandemic. As the season progressed and I got to know my players, I became acutely aware of the importance of having this activity — more so than ever as not only a physical activity but a social one during an unprecedented time of isolation for many of them and their families.

The logistics of safely completing a season with eight leagues spread over the entire county, during a pandemic, with two weather-related weekend cancellations is no small feat. Andrew especially is to be commended for his diligence and willingness to be flexible. If you are not aware of the many activities and facilities supported by Chatham County Parks & Recreation, I encourage you to visit their page on the [chathamcountync.gov](http://chathamcountync.gov) website. We are fortunate in Chatham County to have these activities and resources, and Tracy Burnett and her staff are certainly worthy of recognition.

Go Fever! (Girls' 13U Chatham Grove team).

**Memory Dossenbach**  
Pittsboro

#### Putin is a war criminal — not a 'genius'

I fear that by the time this letter

is in print Ukraine will have fallen under the complete domination of Russia and thousands of Ukrainians will have been killed, injured, or displaced.

Ironically, Putin claims he is seeking to eliminate a neo-Nazi regime when in truth that is what he represents. While Ukrainian President Zelensky is Jewish and democratically elected, Putin is a former Soviet intelligence officer who has held power since 1999. Putin is responsible for the torture and death of anyone who dares to oppose his authoritarian rule. Even those brave Russian citizens who take to the streets to protest the ruthless actions waged against Ukraine face arrest and uncertain future.

Does this sound like a "genius" and someone who should be admired? Yet former President Trump has also used such terms as "very talented, gifted statesman, smart, very savvy" to describe Putin — whom he has praised over the years. And Trump's own Secretary of State added we should respect that Putin "knows how to use power."

I would not heap praise on or show respect to a madman who threatens world order and has committed crimes against humanity. Instead, I will continue to honor our veterans and others who serve to protect democracy. As Europe feels the threat of Putin's ruthlessness, I remember especially those who fought and died in World War II battling the tyranny of Hitler.

While today our nation is afflicted by polarization and political gamesmanship and division, this is a time we must be unified in standing for democratic values and the people of Ukraine, and in opposition to despots.

**Dennis W. Streets**  
Pittsboro

#### Stand for environmental justice

Some notable petrochemical, tobacco and other corporate polluters stand to profit from weakening American democracy and environmental-climate change policy. From 2015 to 2020, 11 corporations, termed by Daniel Faber as "polluter-industrial complex" (Altria/ Phillip Morris, RAI Services/ Reynolds American, Koch Industries, Dominion Energy, American Electric Power, Exelon Corp, Marathon Petroleum, Exxon Mobil, Chevron, General Motors, and Waste Management) donated \$2.8 million to state lawmakers supporting voter suppression bills aided by entrenched conspiracy theories of voter fraud regarding the validity of the 2020 presidential election results.

Despite repeated election audits and judicial reviews discrediting the incidence of voter fraud, rising voter suppression legislation has emerged across the country aimed at black, brown, indigenous, student and some low-income white communities. Accordingly, these communities are disproportionately at risk for environmental harms like air pollution, water contamination, radiation, extreme weather events of climate change resulting in higher economic vulnerabilities and health effects.

Dr. Robert Bullard, often described as the father of environmental justice, states: "America is segregated, and so is pollution. The same racist and undemocratic forces that allow communities of color to be disproportionately poisoned are also implicated in disproportionately suppressing ... voters and subverting our democracy."

Defeat voter suppression! Stand for environmental justice!

**Minta Phillips**  
Julian

### Chatham News + Record

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# OVERDOSES

Continued from page A1

his fellow officers have been responding to more and more overdose calls — including a surprising number of repeat cases.

“I know of one girl we’ve brought back at least five times,” Freeman said. “In the last three years, I would say cases have drastically picked up.”

At a November meeting of Siler City’s board of commissioners, Police Chief Mike Wagner told commissioners that in 2020 his officers responded to 14 drug overdose calls — one of which resulted in death. That number climbed to 25 calls in 2021, four of which resulted in death.

“One is one too many, but four?” Wagner said. “It gets our attention.”

## What’s the cause?

Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson believes the drastic uptick in overdose calls correlates with the pandemic and quarantines. The isolation associated with COVID-19, he says, has led to more people becoming susceptible to overdosing on various substances.

“The lockdowns and isolation we experienced during the early stages of the pandemic had unfortunate consequences on many within our community,” Roberson said. “The separation and loss of physical touch, the sudden change in routines, financial strains and fear of illness ... It was a lot to handle, and some folks are still dealing with the fallout.”

The drug responsible for most of the overdoses and

death, according to Lt. Jason Boyd of the Siler City PD, is fentanyl — a powerful opioid that has also been responsible for the significant increase in drug overdoses nationally. The national overdose death rate increased by 256% between 2000 and 2019, according to the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics, and then another 30% from 2019 to 2020, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Opioid-related deaths jumped 38% between 2019 and 2020.

Fentanyl, Boyd says, works differently than other drugs. For starters, it’s 80 to 100 times stronger than morphine, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Typically, users mix fentanyl with other “street drugs,” such as heroin or cocaine. Because of its high potency, it’s more likely to kill first-time users because it suppresses all of the body’s systems, including the respiratory system.

“We had a death earlier in 2021 that was actually from cocaine mixed with fentanyl, but they thought they were using cocaine only,” Boyd said. “We do have overdoses that are heroin or cocaine only, but most of the time I would say always, it’s fentanyl.”

Some who overdose on fentanyl don’t know they’re taking the drug, according to the Sheriff’s Office’s Pack. Many overdose victims don’t know the cocaine, heroin or other opioids they’re taking have been mixed with the deadly substance.

“An individual may purchase what they believe is a dose of a familiar substance, one they’ve used before — only

to realize something is off once it’s already in their system,” Pack said. “In many cases, individuals are chasing a high as a form of escapism, hoping to take a break from their problems. They don’t want to become addicted, and they don’t want to die, but both can happen.”

## The toll of overdoses

Siler City’s department has faced diminishing resources over the last two years, including staffing shortages. Because of this, every call takes more officers and other assets away from the department

“Not every overdose results in a fatality, but you still have the same amount of people responding,” Wagner said. “It’s a two-officer response. It’s not a five-minute call; we spend the amount of time needed to make sure the situation is resolved.”

Once local officers respond to the overdose call, they transport some victims to Chatham Hospital. Keith Stinson, Chatham Hospital’s emergency department nursing director, said the combination of an increase in COVID-19 patients over the last year and an uptick in drug overdoses have strained the hospital’s resources.

“Ultimately, there’s a strain on emergency departments as is with the influx of COVID patients,” he said. “When you compound that with a critical patient that comes in as an overdose that needs immediate attention, it does make things more challenging with availability and resource allocation.”

Because of the overall in-

crease in patients, Stinson said the hospital has experienced prolonged waiting times for emergency room patients, as well as extended wait times for those waiting to be admitted into a hospital room.

“Patients who are waiting for an inpatient bed remain in the emergency department in a patient care room, which decreases our ability to then move ER patients through,” he said.

Not only do overdose cases in the hospital take a physical toll on the emergency room staff, but it’s also emotionally draining for nurses treating overdose victims.

“There’s an emotional element that happens with the department as well as the physical piece that there’s another added element that needs to be addressed immediately,” Stinson said. “Ultimately, it’s frustrating to see an individual who may have made a decision that negatively impacts themselves and they wrap others around them in by either intentionally or unintentionally being an overdose patient.”

## Mental health in substance use disorder

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, or DSM, classifies Substance use disorder as a medical condition since the manual’s inception.

But in 1980, third edition of the DSM classified substance use disorders as having a mental health component. According to the DSM-V, the most recent iteration of the DSM, two differing disorders relate to drug addiction: substance use disorder and substance-induced disorder.

Substance use disorder is

associated with the symptoms associated with routinely taking certain drugs or alcohol, while substance-induced disorders are the symptoms displayed with what the drugs can cause, such as intoxication and withdrawal symptoms once the substance leaves one’s system.

Pack said she believes people stigmatize both mental health and addiction. Because of this, she said the community needs to be willing to help and support addicts — not judge them.

“Addiction is an illness, and individuals with substance abuse disorders may already struggle with shame or self-loathing,” she said. “We want to help replace those feelings with love, proper resources and healthy reinforcement.”

Wagner said he believes mental health plays a huge role in drug abuse and addiction. If there were no stigma around drug addiction, he said, maybe those who suffer from substance abuse would be more willing to seek treatment.

“I think there are several underlying factors that are a part of this increase, but I think that mental health is definitely a major consideration at least in our cases, and I am sure countywide,” Wagner said. “As a community, I think there are programs in place to help, but it is not enough because we have to change the mindset around addiction.”

*In part two, we’ll look at how local organizations fight to combat overdoses and overdose deaths.*

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at [theeden@chathamnr.com](mailto:theeden@chathamnr.com).

# ELECTION

Continued from page A1

from health and education to broadband access, technology education, and economic opportunity,” Delaney told the News + Record on Thursday.

## Chatham County Board of Commissioners Dist. 4

Currently held by Dem. Commissioner Jim Crawford, who resigned from the board due to health reasons, effective Dec. 31. On Dec. 6, two Democratic candidates filed for the seat: Albert Reddick and Katie Kenlan. On Dec. 7, Democrat Travis Patterson also filed for the office.

## Chatham County Board of Commissioners Dist. 5

Currently held by Dem. Commissioner Franklin Gomez Flores, who filed for the seat Dec. 6.

## Chatham County Clerk of Superior Court

Democratic Incumbent Dana Hackney filed for the office on Dec. 6.

## Chatham County Sheriff

Currently held by Dem. Sheriff Mike Roberson,



Roberson



Globuschutz

Globuschutz officially filed to run on Feb. 25. He is a registered Republican.

## Board of Education Dist. 3

Currently held by Vice-Chairperson Del

Turner, who filed on Dec. 7. Turner, who has come under fire from anti-masking parents, faces competition from parent Jessica Winger, who announced at the board’s Feb. 14 meeting she planned to seek Turner’s seat.

“In the past year and a half, I’ve witnessed the disconnect in out-of-touch views of the board members, and I’ve heard parents and students’ voices marginalized,” she said at that meeting. “Our community is filled with many different views, but you wouldn’t know that from listening to a board meeting. So, when are families going to be fairly represented?”

Winger said she would be the families’ voices at future board meetings.

“I will represent the diverse views,” she said. “I will listen to you and try to bring those voices to these meetings instead of marginalizing them. This is not about a parent takeover, but we need a voice in this conversation.”

## Board of Education Dist. 4

Currently held by board member Jane Allen Wilson, who filed for the seat on Dec. 8 and will also not be listed on the ballot in the primary.

## Board of Education Dist. 5

Currently held by Chairperson Gary Leonard.

## DELAYED MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Municipal Elections filing was scheduled for Jan. 3, 2022, noon through Jan. 7, 2022, noon, but was delayed due to the halt on filing in North Carolina. The filing resumed on Feb. 24, and elections will take place during the primaries.

## Town of Cary Town Council At-Large

Ken George and Ed Yerha filed Dec. 6.

## Town of Siler City Mayor

Siler City Commissioner Chip Price announced at a Dec. 6 town meeting that he would run for mayor in Siler City’s municipal election in March. Price officially filed for the office of mayor on Feb. 24 when candidate filing reopened.

## Town of Siler City Town Commissioner At-Large

Price has served as at-large commissioner for 10 years. If he were to win his election bid for mayor, the seat would be open. Siler City Commissioner Cindy Bray filed for the seat on Feb. 24, and James Underwood filed for the seat on Monday.

## Town of Siler City Town Commissioner Dist. 1

Commissioner Tony Siler announced he would not seek reelection this year, meaning the Dist. 1 seat will be open.

Albert Alston filed for Siler’s seat on Feb. 25.

## Town of Siler City Town Commissioner Dist. 5

Lewis Fadely holds the seat, and he filed to run again on Feb. 24. Rayetta Fox of Siler City filed on Thursday, making the District 5 race contested.

## STATE CONTESTS

### State Senate 20

Chatham is currently represented in the state Senate by Rep. Valerie Foushee (Dem.), who has announced a bid for Congress. Following redistricting, Sen. Natalie Murdock (Dem.) is the incumbent for Chatham’s 2022 voting district. She filed for the office Dec. 8.

Alvin Reed (Rep.) filed for the seat on Monday.

### House District 54

Currently held by Dem. Rep. Robert Reives II, who is running again. He filed for the office on Dec. 8, before filing was

## Chatham Elections '22

IMPORTANT LOCAL ELECTIONS THIS YEAR

### Chatham News + Record

#### Siler City Municipal Elections (May 17)

- Siler City Mayor:** seat vacant; Commissioner Chip Price has filed
- Siler City Commissioner at-large:** Incumbent Commissioner Cindy Bray and newcomer James Underwood have filed for the seat
- Commissioner Dist. 1:** Albert Alston has filed; incumbent Tony Siler is not seeking re-election.
- Commissioner Dist. 5:** Incumbent Lewis Fadely has filed; Rayetta Fox has also filed, making this a contested race.

#### Cary Municipal Elections

- Town Council member at-large:** Incumbents Ed Yerha and Lori Bush have filed, as has Ken George

#### Elections decided in November

- Chatham County Sheriff:** Incumbent Mike Roberson and challenger Marcus Globuschutz have filed
- County Commissioner Dist. 3: Dem.** Lewis Hendricks and David Delaney have filed; incumbent Diana Hales not seeking re-election
- County Commissioner Dist. 4:** Albert Reddick, Katie Kenlan and Travis Patterson have filed; Jim Crawford resigned from seat in December.
- County Commissioner Dist. 5:** Incumbent commissioner Franklin Gomez Flores has filed
- Board of Education Dist. 3, 4 and 5:** Del Turner has re-filed for Dist. 3. She faces Jessica Winger. Jane Allen Wilson filed to keep her seat in Dist. 4. Dist. 5 is currently held by Gary Leonard, who has not yet filed.

Graphic by Taylor Heeden

suspended.

On Feb. 24 when filing resumed, former Republican county commissioner Walter Petty filed to run for Reives’s seat in the North Carolina State House of Representatives.

## N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 03

Dem. Lucy Inman and Rep. Richard Dietz both filed Dec. 6.

## N.C. Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 05

Republicans April Wood and Trey Allen filed for the seat on Dec. 6, so did Dem. Sam Ervin IV.

## N.C. Court of Appeals Judge - Seats 08, 09, 10, 11

Republican Julee Tate Flood filed for Seat 8

on Dec. 6. Republicans Beth Freshwater Smith and Donna Stroud filed for Seat 9 on Dec. 6. Dem. Brad Salmon joined the race on Feb. 24.

Dem. Gale Murray Adams and Rep. John Tyson also filed for Seat 10 on Dec. 6; Dem. Darren Jackson and Rep. Michael Stading filed for Seat 11 that day as well.

## N.C. Superior Court Judge District 15B Seat 1 and 2

Dem. Alyson Grine filed for Seat 1 on Wednesday and Dem. Allen Baddour filed for Seat 2 on Tuesday.

## N.C. District Court Judge District 15B Seat 1

No one filed for this office during the brief filing period.

## District Attorney District 18

Dem. Kayley Taber filed Dec. 7. Jeff Nieman, a registered Democrat, is announced his campaign last year in March. He officially filed to run for the seat on Thursday.

## FEDERAL CONTESTS

### U.S. House of Representatives District 09

Chatham County has been placed in a new congressional district after the gerrymandering law suits and legal proceedings. The candidates for District 09 include Republican Francisco Rios of Charlotte (Dec. 8), Republican Richard Hudson, Jr. (Feb. 25) and Republican Jen Bucardo (Feb. 28).

Dem. Ben Clark also filed on Monday, making him the only Democrat on the ballot for District 09.

# LOVE

Continued from page A1

eral factors have pushed back the program's full-blown launch.

First, they have to finish up a mobile hygiene trailer for participating churches and other facilities without showers.

"They can give the room, but they don't necessarily have access to that facility [showers]," said Philbrick, who became Love Chatham's executive director in November. "So, our organization has purchased an emergency hygiene trailer, and it's near completion, but it's going to require a little bit more work."

Suggs and Philbrick predict that the hygiene trailer should be done within a month. They've received the necessary supplies and now have a working design despite a few early hiccups.

"It's something that we were having to design, and they were not just considerations for functionality, but also safety, and the weight distribution of the trailer," Philbrick said. "There were some other things that we had to be concerned with. But as we peel back the onion, so to speak, each layer, we see a new layer that we have to kind of consider, so it's a little bit tougher than we thought."

Other considerations have also stayed the program's launch. Beyond finishing the hygiene trailer, they've got to figure out transportation to and from participating churches, as well as how to run the program overnight.

"We got a couple people that have verbally said, 'Oh, you can use our church van,'" Suggs said, "so we're gonna have to

## IN 2021, LOVE CHATHAM HAS...



... GIVEN 96¢ OF EVERY DOLLAR THEY'VE RECEIVED BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.



... SERVED 491 HOTEL ROOMS TO HOUSE 1,145 PEOPLE.



... DISTRIBUTED FOOD TO 439 FAMILIES, OR 1,375 PEOPLE TOTAL.



... PROVIDED 2,046 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER WORK.

Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

**Love Chatham maintains a food pantry inside Freedom Family Church in Siler City to distribute free food to those in need every first and third Saturday of the month. Basic pantry items include rice, beans, soup, pasta and chips, among others.**

that temporary load." "We're at a critical stage where it's about trust, and the most important component that I can think of is the reciprocated relationship that we have with the community," Philbrick said. "In order for us to support the community, the community has to support us. The more support we get from the community, the more we're able to support the community, through volunteers, through financial donations, through clothing, donations, through furniture donations."

Those looking to learn more or get involved with Love Chatham can visit [chathamhomeless.org](http://chathamhomeless.org) or call 919-726-9976. The organization holds a food pantry and clothing closet distribution every first and third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Freedom Family Church in Siler City.

People may also attend Love Chatham's monthly meetings held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month. The meeting place often rotates between the nonprofit's participating churches; the next meeting will take place at Plainfield Friends Church on Monday, March 14. Love Chatham also holds a meeting for volunteers at 6 p.m. every Tuesday after the Monday meetings inside Freedom Family Church.

"[Monday meetings are] a public forum for prayer, for conversation; it also gives the general community access to myself and the board, so it's a way that we stay engaged with the community," Philbrick said. "... The Tuesday meeting is more engaged with what our volunteers are up to."

The nonprofit also welcomes monetary, food and clothing donations, as well as volunteers. People can give or sign up to volunteer by visiting Love Chatham's website or social media.

"The goal is to be able to impact a life," Philbrick said, adding: "This problem isn't going away. ... Unless we do something different in this community, we're going to continue to see the problem and people are going to continue to suffer because of it. That's not acceptable to me."

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at [victoria@chathamnr.com](mailto:victoria@chathamnr.com).

call them to the mat and say, 'All right, well, I need it from this time to this time.'"

Participating churches and facilities have expressed concerns about overnight safety, he added, so Love Chatham would likely need to provide paid or volunteer staff to stay overnight at participating churches to protect the facilities and attend to guests' needs or concerns. That way, a participating church's leadership or staff wouldn't need to stay themselves.

"[We're] trying to take away all the potential obstacles for use of people's buildings to make it as feasible as possible for any church to [participate]," Suggs said. "And the numbers may vary, you know. One church may be able to handle 20 people; one church might

be able to only handle 10. It just depends on the situation, but we want to house as many as we can."

So far, they've managed to take the program for a couple of test runs at Freedom Family Church, offering emergency shelter to a mother and her son in early 2021 as well as another individual just a few weeks ago. Both, Suggs said, had "an end in sight" and only required a temporary bridge to hold them over.

"There was a single mom and her son who were escaping some domestic abuse and didn't really have a lot of options ... and so we gave her a place to stay and had a couple of our people work with her to get some things in place to get the benefits that she needed," Suggs said.

"We ended up finding her an apartment, and it was a really great success story and happy ending for her."

The idea behind the initiative isn't anything new, Philbrick said.

"But it's new to this area," he added, "and the idea of doing it seems to be new to this area. This is actually a very common approach up north in the New York and Pennsylvania area."

Other organizations across North Carolina also employ a similar approach, including, for instance, the Family Promise Program in neighboring Sanford and Room in the Inn program in Charlotte.

Since Chatham County doesn't have a permanent homeless shelter, most nonprofits have been putting people up temporarily in hotels, Philbrick said — and that's why Love Chatham seeks to bring the rotational housing model to the county.

"It is not a sustainable solution," Philbrick said. "It's too expensive to keep somebody in a hotel, and that should not be our fallback shelter for Siler City, period. ... Chatham County needs to have a better, more permanent solution."

Ideally, they'd like to offer temporary housing in addition to case management and other resource support to attack the root causes behind homelessness, Philbrick said, though that's quite a ways off until they gather more community support

and funding.

"We have to realize that the people that are experiencing homelessness may have other barriers," he said. "... On average, a person experiences up to four co-occurring issues at one time — physical health, mental health, traumatic experiences and some other challenges. So, unless we are aware of that, unless we start to address those issues, then even having affordable housing in place still doesn't solve this."

Things have been going slower than they'd like, Philbrick added, but that's in part by design. They realize other organizations in the past have tried and failed to do something similar to their mission now, he said, and so, building up community trust is top priority — and so is maintaining that trust.

"We want to be very careful with our partners and stuff and make sure that everybody that's involved knows that they're not going to get left hanging out to dry, and that we're here for the long haul," Suggs said. "Especially with the history of a couple different homeless charities being up and down and flashes in the pan, I think people are already weary because of some stigma that comes with homelessness."

One of the biggest needs Suggs sees right now, he said, is recruiting more churches and volunteers to spearhead the emergency housing initiative and "spread

# please help find me!



## I'm Penny!

I was lost on Monday, Feb. 21, on Kimberly Lane and Siler City Glendon Road, just past Oakley Baptist Church.

I'm red with white color; I have a pink collar. I'm shy and scare easily!

Please call 919-616-8092 anytime if you have any information!

## MASKING

Continued from page A1

dates for teachers, students and staff members, also beginning March 7.

Nearly all of the state's school districts have moved toward making masks optional.

Turner, who has been one of the most vocal masking mandate proponents, commented on the current metrics during a 15-minute discussion on the question, while expressing her concern about the cyclical nature of the global pandemic. Turner stated another wave of COVID-19 infections could very well hit Chatham County in the weeks and months ahead.

"Just as these numbers are going down, they will go back up again," she said.

Wilson said she was dismayed by the fact the vaccination rate among school-aged children in Chatham has shown very little improvement in recent months. She then inquired about accommodations for immunocompromised teachers, staff and students.

Jackson said accommodations would be made for anyone who needs or requests them, and the school system would continue to work closely with the county health department to monitor COVID-19 metrics. If a change in the pandemic were to occur, the board would revisit masking protocols, he said.

The board's 4-1 vote on CCS's masking policy was on language which read, in part, "Due to a continual decline in COVID-19 cases over the last several weeks, the availability of vaccines, and the county's low positivity rate, the administration recommends removing the mask mandate district wide effective March 7, 2022, shifting the risk

from district mitigation to individual responsibility. This decision aligns with Governor Cooper's recommendation of encouraging schools and local governments to end their mask mandates and is supported by the Chatham County Public Health Department."

Under state law, school boards are required to vote once a month on their masking policies, regardless of whether they plan to revise the policy or not. The superintendent assured board members the language of the revised masking policy gives the school system complete flexibility to reimpose a mandate at its discretion.

Because of a federal mandate, face coverings will still be required on school buses.

At its previous regular meeting, on Feb. 14, the board approved a framework for transitioning to optional masking inside school buildings — and permitted optional masking inside school buildings for student-athletes, coaches and athletic event spectators beginning Feb. 15. Jackson characterized that transition as a smooth one for teachers, staff and students.

In a statement made following the meeting, CCS said "(s)taff and families wishing to get vaccinated or needing to get a booster are strongly encouraged to do so. Vaccines are readily available throughout the community."

"For those families who have been asking for this, we are pleased that we have reached this milestone," Jackson said in the statement. "For faculty, staff or students wishing to continue wearing masks, you are welcome to. We will continue working with our local health department to monitor local trends and reserve the right to revisit these protocols if metrics deem appropriate to do so in the future."

# Six CCS students move on to State Science Fair

From Chatham County Schools

PITTSBORO — Six Chatham County Schools students have advanced to the State Science Fair.

In the Elementary Division, Elias Koshy of Chatham Grove and Anna Barsalio of Pittsboro received an exemplary rating.

For the Middle School Division, Jacob Hoopes of Margaret B. Pollard placed second in Biological Science A. Madelyn Trunell, also a Margaret B. Pollard student, placed second in Chemistry.

In the High School Senior Division, the Chatham School of Science and Engineering's Nicholas Maness placed first in Engineering, and

Kyle Hickey placed first in physics.

In addition to the six moving on to the State Science Fair competition, several other CCS students competed with note at the regional level:

Elementary Division:  
• Jaycey Buck, Waelynn Hardee and Olivia Sussman, Perry Harrison students, received an honorable mention

• Tyler Wolfe of North Chatham received an honorable mention

High School/Senior Division:

• Sara Turner, Kaleb Wilcon, Kathryn Zucker of the Chatham School for Science and Engineering, received an honorable mention in Biological B

• Gabriel Sylvia, also of CSSE, took third place

in Biological B

• CSSE's Mykalah Pettitt and Kaylee Watt received an honorable mention in Earth and Environmental

• James Cameron, Noah Emery and Jack Trigrilanos of CSSE placed third in technology

"We are so proud of all of our students who participated," said Middle School Instructional Program Facilitator for Chatham County Schools Sherri Homan. "How well they did reflects the district's strong science curriculum and the creativity and work ethic our students possess. Congratulations to all who took part in this year's Science Fair."

The State Science Fair will be held March 25 and 26.

# CCS schools select 2022-23 'Teachers of the Year'

From Chatham County Schools

PITTSBORO — Each of the schools in the Chatham County Schools district has chosen the 2022-23 Teacher of the Year.

The following were selected:

- Bennett School — Sarah Parsons
- Bonlee School — Janelle Tally
- Chatham Central High School — Cassadi Walden
- Chatham Grove Elementary — Brandy Varner
- Chatham Middle School — Michelle Maxfield
- Chatham School for Science and Engineering — Anna Blackwell
- George Moses Horton Middle School — Johnna Canipe
- J. S. Waters School — Stephanie Nipper
- Jordan-Matthews High School — Robert Palmer
- Margaret B. Pollard Middle School — Christine Bryant
- Moncure School — Brenton Winston
- North Chatham Elementary — Sarah Fisher
- Northwood High School — Edward Walgate
- Perry Harrison Elementary — Ellen Earixson

- Pittsboro Elementary School — Karen Jeremiah
- Seaforth High School — Heather Algieri
- Siler City Elementary School — Tracy Troxler
- Silk Hope School — Zachary Campbell
- Virginia Cross Elementary School — Jarrett Corder

Their selections are part of the Burroughs Wellcome Fund North Carolina Teacher of the Year program.

The program strives to recognize and honor teachers who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and excellence in teaching, according to the N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction. Among other goals, it seeks to model best practices in teaching.

"We believe it is extremely important to spotlight the excellence in education taking place in Chatham County Schools," said Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson. "We appreciate the dedication and innovation our educators bring to the classroom every day. These 19 teachers should be extremely proud of what they have accomplished, and I am thrilled to be able to publicly recognize them and their contributions to high-quality education."

# Pittsboro creates Fair Housing discrimination complaint tool

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro has established a method for residents to voice their complaints if they feel they've been denied housing because of discrimination.

Town Manager Chris Kennedy and Town Planner Steve Schlauch worked with town staff to develop a complaint form — residing on the town's website — for residents who feel they have been discriminated against when searching for a home in Pittsboro.

This federal Fair Housing Act, which became law in 1968, "protects people from discrimination when they are renting or purchasing a home, applying for a mortgage, seeking housing assistance, or engaging in other housing-related matters."

In North Carolina, the Fair Housing Act specifically protects individuals against discriminatory actions on the basis of "race, skin color, sex, familial status, national origin, religion, and disability."

Residents who make complaints will be referred by the town to agencies which can best address them, according to Kennedy.

"It might be us working with DPS [the state Department of Public Safety], the police department, the Realtors' board — if there's any discrimination there, we may report someone who is licensed as a Realtor to the licensing agency," he said.

Kennedy and Schlauch began work on the project after Pittsboro received a \$300,000 Community Development Block Grant. The grant required Pittsboro to promote fair housing.

"There are things you could do just to check off the box to stay in compliance with federal requirements, but we really wanted to steer into this because if we're going to do this, we're going to do it right and do something meaningful," Kennedy said.

The Fair Housing discrimination complaint portal is located under the "Residents" section on the Pittsboro website's homepage at [pittsboronc.gov](http://pittsboronc.gov). Under the "Residents" tab, a subsection labeled "Fair Housing Standards" provides a link to a .pdf complaint form, along with other Fair Housing information. The two-page form asks a few questions

about what prompted the complaint; residents are instructed to bring completed forms to Pittsboro's town hall.

Schlauch said he wants this part of the town's website to serve as a resource to residents who feel they're victims of discrimination from their landlords or Realtors, but aren't sure.

"People have been discriminated against in a multitude of ways, and a lot of the time these issues are rarely addressed if they are even addressed at all," he said. "We know this could stem from a lack of trust in authority to do anything, as well as a lack of direction on how to exactly bring a complaint."

Fair housing has always been an issue, and though Pittsboro's had no formal complaints yet, it's not uncommon, according to Schlauch.

One example of housing discrimination he cited occurred in December in Marin County, California. A Black couple had their home valued by an appraiser; the value was much lower than they anticipated, particularly after extensive renovations they'd done.

When they got a second opinion, the couple asked a white friend stand in as the homeowner, taking down all family photos in the process. The new appraisal came back at \$1.4 million, almost double the original appraisal.

Schlauch said the new complaint form is a way for the town to address these forms of discrimination, which he says has been a part of the housing market for a long time.

"This is an acknowledgment that Fair Housing issues, along with all the other systemic injustices, that have plagued this country for many years," he

said. "The town wants to address all of these realities by starting from the beginning and then moving forward, and so we will continue the work we are doing right now and work on finding even better tactics moving forward."

Housing discrimination is an issue Kennedy says he anticipates will only become more common as the market in Pittsboro continues to grow more competitive.

"The ability for someone to discriminate goes up the more competitive a market is because you can pick winners and losers, and that is concerning to us," he said. "We want to make sure the discrimination is not veiled just because we say it's a 'hot market' where every home on the market has got like 20 offers on it."

The town is also working toward making the complaint form more accessible to all residents by translating the form into multiple languages, as well as working on making it a submittable form online.

"It's not as simple as it was 10 years ago when we could say, 'We have an English form, and we have a Spanish form,'" Kennedy said. "We need to have it in other languages because this area is growing more and more diverse, so having it in five, six, 15 different languages, knowing that level of discrimination does not just effect one or two subsets of ethnicities."

Schlauch and Kennedy are also working on partnering with other organizations not affiliated with the town. They said some local resources may have more access to the right tools to address certain complaints regarding discrimination.

"Depending on the type

of discrimination, there may be other agencies or organizations that focus on certain justice areas that may have proper attorneys or representation, so that is one thing we will gladly take recommendations on," Schlauch said. "Yeah, a complaint can be submitted, but we want communication to continue and we want comfort, care and a commutative relationship with the individual."

Kennedy and Schlauch want residents to know

if they have experienced discrimination when searching for housing or access to affordable housing, they can depend on their town to "have their back."

"Knowing that you can complain to somebody if you're discriminated against as individual going into one of these units, that's where the town steps in and we act as a conduit to these other agencies," Kennedy said.

"Hopefully, the new iteration of the com-

plaint procedure is presented in a way that makes whoever is filing a complaint comfortable with being able to provide as much information as they can without forgetting anything or without fear or hesitancy and things like that," Schlauch said. "We're hoping that whoever fills out this form, they will feel supported by their town."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at [theeden@chathamnr.com](mailto:theeden@chathamnr.com).

## True Value



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# OBITUARIES

## SYLVIA LORRAINE STEVENS WILLIAMS



Sylvia Lorraine Stevens Williams, 78, of Siler City, passed away peacefully at her home on Thursday, February 24, 2022.

Sylvia was born on July 1, 1943, the daughter of Lester Eugene Stevens Sr. and Luva Lorraine Trulock Stevens. Ms. Williams was a member of the Siler City Presbyterian Church. She spent her working years as a Records Manager for GlaxoSmith-Kline, and served on the Board of the Chatham Cares Pharmacy.

Sylvia loved traveling internationally, visiting 35 countries. She enjoyed goat farming, photography, reading historical biographies, and murder mysteries in her spare time. Sylvia was an avid watcher of the UK television channel BBC and Acorn TV. In addition to her parents, Sylvia is preceded in death by her husband Maurice Williams, son Dale Williams, and grand-daughters Tiana and Ariana.

She is survived by her daughters, Tracy Pakornsawat (Rakfa) of Siler City, and Veda Williams of Carrboro; step-daughter, Alta Williams of Colorado; brother, Lester Eugene Stevens Jr. of Colorado; stepdaughter, Sarah Williams of Siler City; granddaughter, Zoey Williams; and the Larios and Perez families of Siler City.

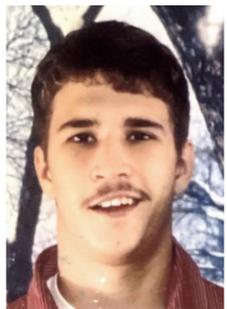
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Doctors Without Borders, <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/> or Chatham Cares Pharmacy, <http://www.chathamcares.com/>

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at the Siler City Presbyterian Church, 720 W. 3rd Street, Siler City, with Rev. Richard LaDew officiating.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Williams family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

## BURKETT DILLION-RAY PHILLIPS



Burkett Dillion-Ray Phillips, 29, of Siler City, passed away on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at UNC Chapel Hill.

Dillion was born on March 5, 1992, in Lee County. He is survived by his mother, Jackie Johnson Phillips and fiancé Danny of Siler City; father, Burkett Russell "Rusty" Phillips and wife Angie of Bennett; sister, Merinda P. Hollyfield and husband Matthew of Asheboro; nephew, Brentley Phillips; sisters, Kelsey Justice and

Sage Gurley, both of Siler City; step-sister, Mia Phillips of Bennett; step-brother, Ryan Pittman of Siler City; step-sister, Allison Pittman of Siler City; maternal grandmother, Betty Talley of Siler City; paternal grandmother, Olga Phillips of Siler City; and step-grandmother, Sharon Johnson Isley of Snow Camp; and longtime significant other, Annette Phillips Kidd and her children, Bryant and Dawson.

Dillion attended Tyson's Creek Baptist Church and went to Chatham Central High School. His love was riding motorcycles, four wheelers, and dirt bikes. He had a big heart and loved his family, sisters and friends, always meeting them with his sideways grin. Dillion was always known to tinker with things and enjoyed his guns and working on them.

A memorial service for Dillion will be held on his birthday, Saturday, March 5, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at Tyson's Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Willard Pickard and Rev. Andy Clapp officiating. The family will receive friends after the service in the church fellowship hall. At other times, the family will receive friends at the home of his father in Bennett, and at the home of his mother's fiancé, Danny, in Siler City.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made on behalf of the family to Smith and Buckner Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

Smith and Buckner Funeral Home is serving the Phillips family.

## PATRICIA MCLEAN MORRISON

Patricia Eloise McLean Morrison, 63, of Broadway, died Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville.

Services will be held at a later date.

She was born on June 10, 1958, daughter of the late Edgar Leon and Myrtle Lanier McLean. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Hoyt Leon McLean.

Surviving is her husband, Jesse Morrison of the home; a sister, Janet F. McLean of Lillington; and brother, Marshall McLean of Lillington.

Online condolences can be made at [www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com](http://www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com).

Arrangements are by the Smith Funeral Home of Broadway.

## NORMAN L. SEHEN

Norman L. Sehen, 60, of Carthage, passed away on Monday, February 21, 2022, at his home.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, February 27, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mike Bass officiating.

Norman was born in Lee County on April 5, 1961, to Marilyn Beal Sehen and the late Frederick Blaine Sehen. He served in the U.S. Navy retiring in 2002. After retirement, he worked for Honda Suzuki and most recently for the ABC system.

He is survived by his mother, Marilyn of Sanford; son, Derrick Sehen of Jacksonville; sisters, Angela Bruening of Ocala, Florida, Joyce Bass of Carthage; and one grandson.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com).

## EDNA PEARL SHOEMAKE MCELVEEN

Edna Pearl Shoemake McElveen, 81, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at her home.

The funeral service was held in the chapel of Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home with Rev. Billy Crabtree officiating. Burial followed in Lee Memory Gardens.

Edna was born in Hartsville, S.C., on February 10, 1941, to the late Melvin and Mollie Perdue Shoemake. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, George Elvin McElveen; son, George Ricky McElveen; three brothers and two sisters. Edna worked in the food service industry.

She is survived by her daughters, Molly McElveen, Cissy McElveen, Sandy McElveen and Pam McElveen, all of Sanford and Liz Norris of Deltona, Florida; sister, Joyce Faye Thompson of Rock Hill, S.C.; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com).

## JOHN TIM 'JT' GRIFFIN

John Tim "JT" Griffin, 86, of Bear Creek, died Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at the SECU Jim & Betsy Bryan UNC Hospice House.

A graveside service was held Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Sandy Branch Baptist Church with Pastor Jimmy Brown presiding.

JT was born in Chatham County, on September 26, 1935, to the late Tim and Ollie Fields Griffin. He was also preceded in death by two sisters, Mariel McNeill, and Ruth Jones.

Surviving relatives include his wife, Patricia Johnson Griffin; one son, David Griffin of Bear Creek; daughters, Dawn Griffin Williams and Jamie Ellis of Bear Creek, Janet Swepson of Pittsboro, Amy Griffin of Bear Creek; eight grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in JT's memory to Sandy Branch Baptist Church, 715 Sandy Branch Church Road, Bear Creek, NC 27207; or St. Jude's Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

Condolences may be made at [www.donaldsonfunerals.com](http://www.donaldsonfunerals.com).

## RHONDA MARIE URIG TOSTE

Rhonda Marie Urig Toste, 57, passed away at her home in Cameron, on Monday, February 14, 2022.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Barbara Jean Symanski, father, Leroy Urig, and brothers, Randy Urig and Ronald Urig. Rhonda enjoyed working with family at The Sweet Shop, and her church family at New Hope Baptist Church.

Survivors include her son, James Brewer of Sanford; three grandchildren; her siblings; Ellyn Fowler, Noma Urig and Connie Surface in Florida, sister, Deborah Hobson in Tennessee, and a brother, Mark Urig of N.C.

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com).

## MONICA LACHELLE MILLER

Monica Lachelle Miller, 35, of Siler City, passed away on Monday, February 14, 2022, at her home.

Funeral service was held at 12 noon, Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at Knotts Funeral Home in Pittsboro.

## BONNIE MOORE DAVIS

Bonnie Moore Davis, 75, of Siler City, passed away on Wednesday, February 23, 2022.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Bonnie was born in Harnett County on March 5, 1946, the daughter of Douglas and Florence Virginia Lucas Moore. She ran an in-home daycare for many years. In addition to her parents, Bonnie was preceded in death by her brother, Lee Moore, and her husband, Elbert Ray "Pete" Davis.

She is survived by her daughters, Beth Kinlaw of Aberdeen and Jan Poe of Bear Creek; five grandchildren and numerous step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and sisters: Annie M. Warner of Sneedville, Tennessee and Linda Langley of Sanford.

Online condolences may be made at [www.pughfuneral-home.com](http://www.pughfuneral-home.com).

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Davis Family.

## WANDA JOYCE JAMES

Wanda Joyce James, 64, of Sanford passed away at home on Thursday, February 17, 2021.

She was born in Coral Gables, Florida, on May 4, 1957, to the late Timothy and Mary (Liz) James. She worked as an Auto Parts Driver.

She is survived by her daughter, Melinda Barre-ras; four grandchildren, one great-granddaughter; a brother, Danny James; and sister, Barbara Dazza.

Arrangements are by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

Condolences may be made at [www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com](http://www.bridgescameronfuneral-home.com).

## EDMOND ALEXANDER CLARK SR.

Edmond Alexander Clark Sr., 81, of Ramseur, died Saturday, February 26, 2022, at his residence.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 4, 2022, at Loves Creek Baptist Church, Siler City, with Rev. Kenny Black, Rev. Tim Strider and Pastor Ethan Clark officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 3, at the funeral home,

Alex was a native of Chatham County, a retired truck driver for Estes Express Lines, and a member of the Loves Creek Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Ruth Craven Clark, and his parents, John Clay and Sarah Joye Clark.

Survivors include his daughter, Pamela C. Bonk of Forest Oaks; sons, Timothy Clark of Stephens City, Virginia, Bill Clark of Greensboro, Eddie Clark of Seagrove; sister, Ann Pinson of Bear Creek; brothers, Roger Clark of Shallotte, Clyde Clark of Siler City; 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be made online at [www.loflinfuneralservice.com](http://www.loflinfuneralservice.com).

Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Ramseur.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tennessee 38105.

## VERNELL (NELL) SMITH

Vernell (Nell) Smith, 95, of Robbins, passed away on Saturday, February 26, 2022, at the First Health Hospice Center in Pinehurst.

Graveside funeral service was conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Pinerest Cemetery with Rev. Sammy McNeill officiating.

She was born on May 22, 1926, daughter of the late Iverson Payne and Sarah Elizabeth Stephenson Smith. She was preceded in death by her parents, eleven brothers and sisters and her husband, William Swanson Maness.

Survivors include daughters, Joyce Tyner of N.C., Barbara Smith of S.C., Lisa Hendrickson of Georgia; son, Larry Gross of Georgia; sisters, Helen Hicks and Irene Pridgen of Florida; brother, Gene Smith of Florida; 11 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and eight step-grandchildren.

Online condolences can be made at [www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com](http://www.smithfuneral-homebroadway.com).

## BOBBY JEAN HOWARD

Bobby Jean Howard, 83, of Robbins, passed away Monday, February 28, 2022, at his home.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at Pleasant Hill U.M.C. Cemetery with Rev. Darrell Williams presiding.

Bobby was born in Moore County May 15, 1938, to Theodore Lennings Howard and Montie Lee Maness Howard. A U.S. Army Veteran, he served during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He was later self-employed in flooring sales, as well as farming. In addition to his parents, Bobby was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Irene Cheek Howard; sister, Lillian Cockman and brothers, Charles and Winford Howard.

He is survived by sons, Bobby Lynn Howard and Jamie Lee Howard, both of Robbins; sister, Jackie Anderson of Norwood; and two grandchildren.

Condolences may be offered online at [www.joycebrady-chapel.com](http://www.joycebrady-chapel.com).

Joyce-Brady Chapel is honored to serve the Howard Family.

## THOMAS FRANCIS HARPER

Thomas Francis Harper, 92, of Bennett, passed away Saturday, February 26, 2022, at his residence.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at Fall Creek Baptist Church with Rev. George Townsend and Rev. Edwin Moore officiating.

Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Francis was a native of Chatham County, a veteran of the U.S. Army, and a member of Fall Creek Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his parents, William E. and Annie Myrick Harper, and a brother, Gayle Harper.

Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Betty Phillips Harper of the home; daughter, Gaylene Wilson; son, Lee Harper, and brother, J.C. Harper, all of Bennett; two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Fall Creek Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, 1745 Fall Creek Church Rd., Bennett, NC 27208.

Condolences may be made online at [www.loflinfuneralservice.com](http://www.loflinfuneralservice.com).

Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Ramseur.

## DEACON EDWARD HOOKER JR.

Deacon Edward Hooker Jr., 89, of Huntersville, passed away on Sunday, February 13, 2022, at Novant Health.

The funeral service was held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 26, 2022, at Tempting Congregational Church, with burial following in the church cemetery.

## DERRY EDWARD MATTHEWS

Derry Edward Matthews, 93, of Sanford passed away on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at Sanford Health and Rehabilitation.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, February 28, 2022, at St. Paul AME Zion Church, with burial following in the church cemetery.

## EDITH MAE COX

Ms. Edith Mae Cox, 86, of Cameron passed away on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst.

Services were held at 3 p.m. at Fair Promise AME Zion Church. Burial followed in Johnsonville Community Cemetery.

## BILLIE RUTH MCNEIL

Billie Ruth McNeil, 81, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, February 19, 2022, at her residence.

A private service will be held.

Services will be handled by Knotts Funeral Home.

## MARCO ANTONIO ILLANES CASTRO

Marco Antonio Illanes Castro, 44, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, February 14, 2022, at his home.

Services are entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

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CHATHAM CHAT | PROTECTORS OF THE HAW RIVER (FIRST OF TWO PARTS)

# Sutton, Bryant are fighting for the Haw — and better water everywhere

Pollutants in the Haw River have made headlines across the state in the past year, but nowhere is the impact of those pollutants greater than in Chatham County.

This week, we speak with two of the leading voices fighting for a cleaner Haw River — Emily Sutton of the Haw River Assembly and Katie Bryant of Clean Haw River. The discussion below is a follow-up to a recent edition of The Chatcast, the podcast of the News + Record, which can be heard at this link:

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/707235/10023234>.

Sutton joined the staff of Haw River Assembly in 2016, managing citizen science projects to be a watchdog against sediment pollution and monitor the tributaries and main stem of the Haw River. As Riverkeeper, she is now leading the fight against pollution in the Haw River on many fronts, including emerging contaminants, Jordan Lake nutrients, and sediment pollution. She grew up paddling rivers in the Midwest, and received a degree in Sustainable Development from Appalachian State University, where she also studied agro-ecology, watershed ecology and outdoor education. She lives near Jordan Lake in Chatham County.

Bryant moved to Pittsboro in the summer of 2011. She is a microbiologist and clean water activist dedicated to combating America's water crisis.

Her background includes biomedical research and development, and pharmaceutical and personal care quality assurance. She also has experience in academic research on post-industrial waste clean up assessments of streams and tributaries. She hopes to bring her love for science, passion to do good, and her ability to conduct root cause analysis of current water treatment systems and how they are failing us. Her mission is to use this knowledge to exact change at the local, state and federal levels. She and her family live just outside Pittsboro. First of two parts.

**Many of us take water for granted — we turn the handle and there it is. But of course the journey from source to our homes isn't that simple. With the Haw River serving as the water source for so many homes in Pittsboro, why is it important to understand the legacy and history of industry and industrial toxins in the Haw?**

EMILY SUTTON: It's important to know how far we've come from where we started. This year is the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act; before this legislation passed, it was common practice to use our rivers and streams as disposal systems for all kinds of waste. Rivers caught fire, fish were toxic, and even here the Haw ran the color of the dye used in textile industries upstream.

Our watershed is still an industrial one. Reidsville, Greensboro and Burlington each have dozens of industrial facilities producing all kinds of textiles, plastics and various types of manufactured goods. That also means those chemicals used in manufacturing are being discharged into our streams and need to be carefully regulated.

KATIE BRYANT: It's important for many rea-



Courtesy of Clean Haw River

**Katie Bryant of Clean Haw River.**

sons: when we know how our water is made, we are more likely to appreciate it and protect it — and we need more people to join in this fight. Unfortunately, this must be a grassroots effort to exact change. I feel our local municipal governments and state agencies will not move forward with major changes until our voices get loud.

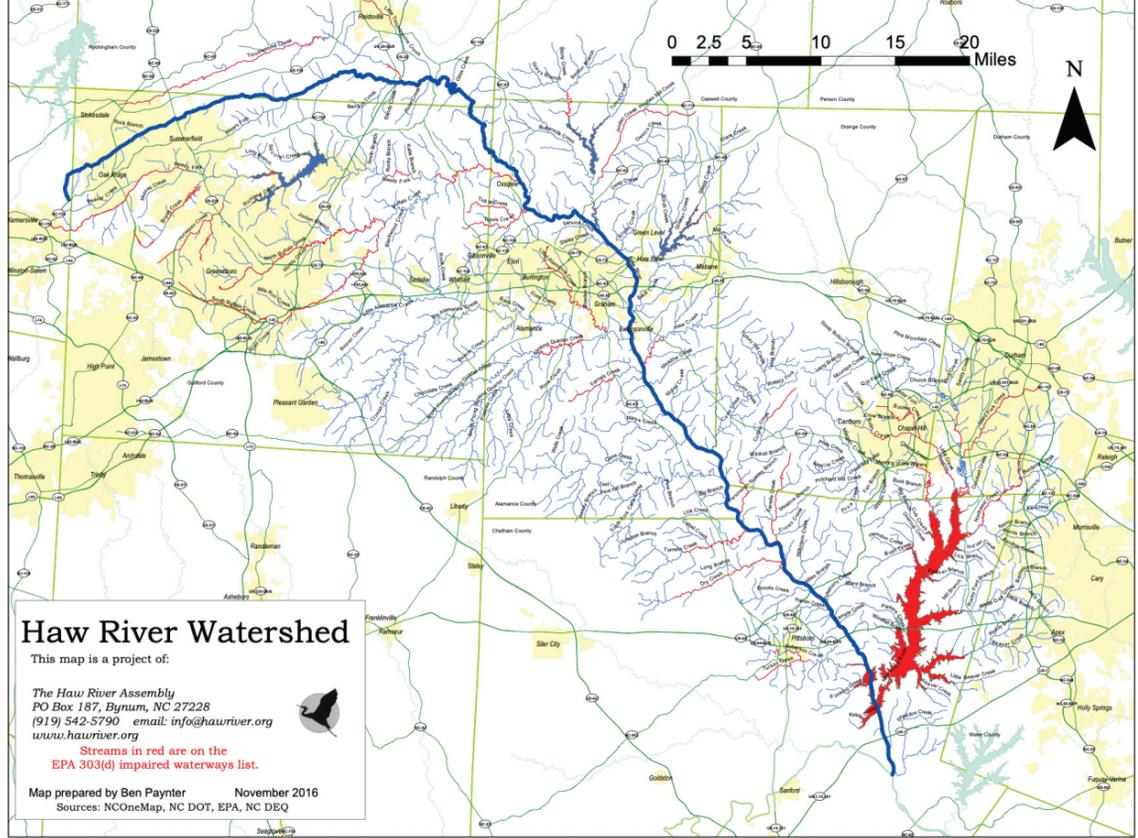
Additionally, I feel it's critical for water users to understand the contaminants coming downstream to safeguard themselves and their loved ones. These compounds are in the river and subsequently in our drinking water as the result of industry using chemicals in their manufacturing processes, putting them in their wastewater, the wastewater treatment facility not having the technology to remove the contaminant and then the contaminant passing downstream to Pittsboro's drinking water plant, which is ill-equipped at removing these volatile organic compounds, and they pass right into the pipes of a Pittsboro home.

The root cause? We don't use The Precautionary Principle (requiring chemical manufacturers to provide 10 years of data proving the safety of a chemical before use in manufacturing), and we don't require industry to remove these chemicals out of their waste before sending wastewater to the municipal treatment plant.

I highly encourage everyone throughout the state of North Carolina to get to know their source water and how it's processed. We need more involvement statewide to protect our natural resources and water users need a voice — the only way this is going to happen is by educating each other and making sure water stays on local and national agendas.

I also want to point out that drinking water from public utilities falls under EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] regulatory standards (whereas bottled water falls under FDA [Food and Drug Administration] standards). This is important to note because achieving better water regulations has turned into a political game — and it starts from the top with how the EPA operates.

The head of the EPA is an appointed position and not a public servant position where you're chosen by experts in the field. When people are appointed to positions,



Courtesy of the Haw River Assembly

**This map shows the Haw River Watershed and its flow through Chatham County.**

they run the risk of being let go at any point — so this prevents them from having a voice.

And in my opinion, our political system is highly flawed when it silences experts in any field. North Carolina is not immune to this either — for decades water concerns have been ignored or downplayed and protections have been given to industry and water abusers upstream from Pittsboro. Our state has failed to protect the people and the environment time and time again; they still haven't revealed the industries responsible for contaminating the Haw and water users have never been issued any guidance from the state regarding our contamination. This should make all of us sit up straight regardless of our political affiliations.

**For those who don't follow the news about the Haw's pollution issues closely, can you address the presence of PFAS, 1,4-Dioxane and other pollutants there, and the impact they have on the river?**

BRYANT: Pittsboro has a history of problems with several contaminants: Trihalomethanes, Bromides, 1,4-Dioxane and PFAS.

Trihalomethanes and Bromides are byproducts of the disinfection process and present in higher concentrations due to the organic matter present within the river. Simply put, when the river water is treated with chlorine, it reacts with organic matter in the river and these byproducts are formed. We don't hear much about these two contaminants because Pittsboro water utilities have been working to keep these under control due to the EPA disinfection byproduct rule.

1,4-Dioxane is a solvent used in textile processes and PFAS is used in fire retardants, oil, and water repellents, furniture, waterproof clothes, take-out containers, and non-stick cookware. 1,4-Dioxane and PFAS are referred to as emerging contaminants because they aren't required to be monitored by public utilities. In our case, we found out about the spikes of these contaminants from Dr. Dettlef Knappe at N.C. State when his lab sampled our drinking water and presented their findings to the local government, concerned for the health of Pittsboro water users.

It's critical to note, both 1,4-Dioxane and PFAS are

persistent and bioaccumulate, which means they don't break down easily and gradually increase in concentration within organisms, which is achieved through consuming other contaminated organisms.

Research is showing these contaminants stay within the urban water cycle — as a result it stays within our drinking water, our bodies of water, the air, the rain, and travels into the root system of locally grown foods when watering crops with contaminated water.

The river has an impact on animal species it supports. The fish, the birds, and small and large mammals alike are all at risk of having these contaminants bioaccumulate within them. This has led some states, like Michigan, who are further ahead in their fight against PFAS, to have already started monitoring PFAS in wildlife and issuing "do not eat" warnings.

SUTTON: PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane are industrial contaminants that are known as "forever chemicals." They are carcinogenic to humans and have been linked to serious health issues, and are not removed in traditional drinking water systems. They are chemically manufactured to never break down. PFAS compounds are found in fire resistant, stain resistant, water resistant, non-stick products. 1,4-Dioxane is a

solvent used in industrial manufacturing. We began sampling for these compounds about five years ago, and found that Burlington's wastewater treatment plant was a primary source of PFAS in the Haw. The wastewater treatment plant accepts industrial waste from users without fully knowing what that wastewater contains. There were no requirements to test for these compounds, so they were not removed.

From our testing, we also discovered that Greensboro was a primary source of 1,4-Dioxane. These compounds are being discharged in high levels from both of these wastewater treatment plants, and our state agencies were doing nothing to regulate the industries and protect communities downstream. We worked with Southern Environmental Law Center to file a Notice of Intent to sue the City of Burlington over their PFAS discharges, and challenged a consent order that would have allowed Greensboro to continue to discharge 1,4-dioxane. Both of those actions have resulted in increased sampling, source tracking, and will lead to minimizing or eliminating the levels of contamination.

**And what direct impact does that have on drinking water?**

SUTTON: The Town of Pittsboro pulls its drinking water directly from the Haw, so these

toxins are in that raw source water. Pittsboro has committed to upgrading its water treatment facilities to minimize PFAS levels in their drinking water, but that has not happened yet. These compounds are also found in high levels in land applied biosolids sourced from the wastewater treatment plants, and have a high risk of contaminating groundwater near those application fields.

BRYANT: Research on Pittsboro water users conducted by Duke University revealed a trend with PFAS. It showed if the contaminant is high in the river, it's high in the sampled population. This is powerful in that it shows how our blood concentrations are directly linked to our drinking water — and drinking these contaminants seems to pose the biggest risk when compared to other routes of exposure.

The health complications associated with the contaminants are shocking: they are linked to cancer risks (prostate, bladder, colon and rectal), rare cancers, endocrine disruption (auto immune disorders), reproductive effects (stillbirths, miscarriages, infertility), and developmental delays, liver and kidney damage, respiratory impairment. The impacts are far and wide, and I highly encourage anyone drinking the water to look into a reverse osmosis system for their kitchen sink.

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**

## *Meet Shelley Smith*



- Outreach Coordinator for United Way of Chatham County
- Married her high school sweetheart
- North Carolina native
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- Loves all things outdoors, especially hiking
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F24,M3,10,17,4tp

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

## HELP WANTED

**PART TIME HELP ON LAYER FARM** - Call 919-742-6114, Leave message if no answer. M3,10,2tp

**CHATHAM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION is soliciting applications** for an organization to be designated as the County's Youth Football Provider. For more information please visit the Parks and Recreation website at: <https://www.chatham-countync.gov/government/departments-programs-i-z/parks-recreation>. Please submit applications to Chatham County Parks and Recreation, PO Box 1783, Pittsboro NC 27312 - Attention J. Stamey or drop off the application at 964 East St, Suite 100, Pittsboro NC 27312. Application deadline: March 14, 2022. M3,M10,2tc

**TOWN OF SILER CITY, STREET MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR** - Performs difficult skilled trades work participating in and supervising work crews engaged in the repair, maintenance, replacement and installation of streets, storm drainage, right-of-way maintenance, trash and yard waste removal, and other public works activities.

**Required Education and Experience Qualifications:** High school diploma or high school equivalency. Considerable experience in street construction, the construction and/or maintenance and repair of asphalt or drainage structures and heavy equipment operation. Considerable supervisory experience. Possession of a valid NC driver's license. Possession of a NC Class B commercial driver's license upon hire. Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications: Ornamental and Turf Pesticide license upon hire. Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. Additional Employment Requirements, Must obtain Ornamental and Turf Pesticide license within one year of hire. All required certifications and licensures must be maintained with no lapse during the course of employment. Annual Hiring Salary, \$35,262.--- **STREET MAINTENANCE WORKER** - Performs semi-skilled work installing, repairing, and maintaining streets, sidewalks, driveways, drainage ways, and related facilities; operates a variety of motorized equipment. Required Education and Experience Qualifications, High school diploma or high school equivalency. Experience in construction, maintenance, and repair, and/or operating heavy equipment. Possession of a valid NC driver's license. Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications, Possession of a NC Class B commercial driver's license upon hire. Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. Additional Employment Requirements; Must obtain a NC Class B commercial driver's license within six months of hire. All required certifications and licensures must be maintained with no lapse during the course of employment. Annual Hiring Salary: \$31,984.--- **UTILITY MAINTENANCE WORKER** - Performs intermediate skilled and semi-skilled work in the installation, replacement,

repair, and maintenance of water and sewer lines. Required Education and Experience Qualifications, High school diploma or high school equivalency. Experience in construction-related utility work. Possession of a valid NC driver's license. Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications: Possession of a NC Class B commercial driver's license upon hire. Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. Additional Employment Requirements: Must obtain a NC Class B commercial driver's license within six months of hire. All required certifications and licensures must be maintained with no lapse during the course of employment. Annual Hiring Salary: \$31,984.--- **PARKS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN (PART-TIME)** - The individual in this position will be responsible for day-to-day maintenance of park facilities and grounds. The individual must be sufficiently skilled to perform a wide variety of maintenance tasks without supervision. Required Education and Experience Qualifications: 18 years of age. High school diploma or high school equivalency. Possession of a valid North Carolina driver's license. Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications, Previous landscaping or grounds keeping experience. NC Pesticide Operator's License. Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. Additional Employment Requirements: All required certifications and licensures must be maintained with no lapse during the course of employment. Hiring Salary \$11.00/hour.--- **ATHLETIC SITE SUPERVISOR (Part-time)** - The individual in this position will be responsible for supervising youth sports leagues, special events, and athletic and facility rentals. They will be responsible for overall site supervision at practice and game locations. Required Education and Experience Qualifications: 16 years of age. Ability to read, write, and measure. Must have knowledge of the rules of the games played. Must be able to work a flexible schedule that includes nights and weekends. Preferred Education and Experience Qualifications: 18 years of age. High school diploma or high school equivalency. CPR Certification. First Aid training. Experience working with the public. Bilingual in both written and spoken English and Spanish. Hiring Salary \$11.00/hour.--- Please refer to our website for full job descriptions. To Apply: This posting is open until filled. A completed Town of Siler City application is required and may be found on our website at [www.silercity.org](http://www.silercity.org) or picked up at City Hall. The application may be mailed or delivered to City Hall, 311 N. Second Ave., PO Box 769, Siler City, NC 27344 or submitted via email to [dritter@silercity.org](mailto:dritter@silercity.org). Pre-employment drug testing, DMV check, and background checks are required upon job offer. EOE. The Town of Siler City is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Town of Siler City's applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, disability, or other legally protected status. The Town 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 necessary 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](mailto: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](mailto:nhannah@silercity.org) o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Sec-

ond Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. M3,1tc

**WE ARE A TEAM!** Come join us @ Quality Life Home Care, Inc. Updated pay rates! Hiring CNAs and PCAs. Please contact us at 919-547-2027. M3,10,2tc

**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

## MISCELLANEOUS

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN!** - The heir's property of Earnest & Lula Roseboro of 429 East 9th St. in Siler City, N.C. is up for sale. Please contact Donnie Roseboro Brooks in Siler City, N.C. at telephone # (919) 548-1207 or P.O. Box 496, Siler City, N.C. 27344 if you are one of the children of Earnest and Lula Roseboro. Please do this by March 17, 2022. Thank you kindly! F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

## LEGALS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 60**

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **RICKY LEE AUSTIN**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at her address, 85B Rocky Knolls, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27516, on or before the 12th day of May, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 2nd day of February, 2022. Luana Ludwig Austin, Executrix 85B Rocky Knolls Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516

**GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC** P.O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 57**

All persons having claims against **SARA H. BURGESS** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of February, 2022. James Clinton Burgess, Executor 710 Buttonwood Dr Hillsborough, NC 27298 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 731**

All persons having claims against **ELAINE KNIGHT** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of February, 2022. Christopher Knight, Administrator 220F Windsor Place Circe Randleman, N.C. 27317 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS OF KARIAMU WELSH, DECEASED 22 E 35 NORTH CAROLINA**

## CHATHAM COUNTY

All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **KARIAMU WELSH**, Deceased, are notified to exhibit them to **MOLEFI K. ASANTI, ADMINISTRATOR** for the decedent's estate on or before the 11th day of May 2022, at the office of **LOCKAMY LAW FIRM, P.A., Attorneys**, 3130 Hope Valley Road, Durham, North Carolina 27707, Attention: **MOLEFI K. ASANTI**, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named estate c/o **MOLEFI K. ASANTI, ADMINISTRATOR**. **MOLEFI K. ASANTI, ADMINISTRATOR** of **KARIAMU WELSH**, Deceased **P. RYAN LOCKAMY, Attorney** **LOCKAMY LAW FIRM, P.A.** 3130 Hope Valley Road Durham, North Carolina 27707 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 465**

All persons having claims against **PEARL MATTIE CORLEY** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of February, 2022. Marc Andrew Lockley, Executor 624 Tidewater Dr Sanford, NC 27330 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

All persons having claims against **JUDITH GRAYSON LOHMAN** of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 17th day of December, 2021, are notified to present them to John G. Lohman, Executor of the Estate of Judith Grayson Lohman in c/o Dean P. Broz, Attorney for the Estate, at Higgins, Frankstone, Graves & Morris, P. A., 1414 Raleigh Road, Suite 203, Exchange West at Meadowmont, Chapel Hill, NC 27517-8834 on or before May 19, 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 Alan Wayne Bandy aka Alan W. Bandy. Those indebted to Alan Wayne Bandy aka Alan W. Bandy 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 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF MAURICE DUANE HEIDEL NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **MAURICE DUANE HEIDEL** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms, and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 100 Europa Drive, Suite 271, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517, on or before the 11th day of May 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 10th day of February, 2022. Richard Adamson, Executor of the Estate of Maurice Duane Heidel Dori J. Dixon Schell Bray PLLC Attorney for the Estate 100 Europa Drive, Suite 271 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

All persons having claims against **ALAN WAYNE BANDY**

## 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.

aka Alan W. Bandy of Chatham County, North Carolina, who died on the 18th day of November, 2021, are notified to present them to Wanda B. Bandy, Executrix of the Estate of Alan Wayne Bandy aka Alan W. Bandy 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 May 19, 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 Alan Wayne Bandy aka Alan W. Bandy. Those indebted to Alan Wayne Bandy aka Alan W. Bandy 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 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY**

Christine Wehner, having qualified as the Administrator of the Estate of **JEFFREY EDMUND WEHNER**, Deceased, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County on October 6, 2019, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the Estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned attorney of the Personal Representative on or before June 1, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said Estate please make immediate payment. This the 7th day of February 2022. Payments and claims should be presented to Austin C. Vandever, 101 Conner Drive, Suite 402, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514. This Notice is given pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 28A-14-1. Austin C. Vandever, Attorney of Record 101 Conner Drive, Suite 402, Chapel Hill, NC, 27514 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 654**

All persons having claims against **GERALDINE WILLIAMS POLLARD** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of February, 2022. Lisa Patricia Pollard, Executrix 153 Evergreen Drive Pittsboro, NC 27312 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA**



**Career Opportunities Available**

Visit [www.chathamcountync.gov](http://www.chathamcountync.gov) and click Jobs.

**PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS**

Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.

400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-542-5410  
TDD 1-800-735-2962  
Email: [pittsborovillage@ECCMG.T.com](mailto:pittsborovillage@ECCMG.T.com)

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

**HIRING CNA's 2ND & 3RD SHIFT**

**CALL: 919-542-3151**

Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm for appointment to complete application and interview.

**Pittsboro Christian Village**  
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

**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

**CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 56** All persons having claims against **JOHN ANDREW KULASH** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of February, 2022. **WALTER MICHAEL KULASH**, Administrator PO Box 252 32 Blands Knob Road Little Switzerland, NC 28749 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 735** All persons having claims against **JUANITA BOWMAN** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 10th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 10th day of February, 2022. **Johnny Bowman**, Administrator 179 Papou Lane Siler City, N.C. 27344 c/o Lewis Fadelly, Attorney 119 N Fir Avenue Siler City, NC 27344 F10,F17,F24,M3,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 63** All persons having claims against **BILLIE M. HAMKE** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Dean A. Hamke**, Executor 304 Mattera Dr Clayton, NC 27527 c/o Brady/Cobin Law Group, PLLC 4141 Parklake Avenue, Suite 130 Raleigh, NC 27612 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **JOHN BRUCE BAIRD**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, are hereby notified to present them to **William Benjamin Baird**, Executor of the decedent's estate, on or before May 17, 2022 in the care of the undersigned or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment. This 17th day of February, 2022. **William Benjamin Baird**, Executor Estate of John Bruce Baird Wilson Reives & Silverman, PLLC Post Office Box 1653 Sanford, NC 27331 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 759** All persons having claims against **WASIM QUDOOS CHAUDHRY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Rabia Ibrahim**, Administrator 481 Pine Lake Drive Siler City, NC 27344 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 631** All persons having claims against **DANIEL JOSEPH FLYNN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Kathleen A. Flynn**, Ancillary Executrix 48 Rolling Hills Rd Burlington, NC 27217 c/o Brown Estate Planning P.O. Box 920 Graham, NC 27253 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of **AUBREY BARRETT VICKERS**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, on the 11th day of February, 2022, 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 19th day of May, 2022, or this Notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 17th day of February 2022. **Richard Vickers**, Personal Representative, c/o Larry H. Rocamora, Attorney for the Estate, McPherson, Rocamora, Nicholson, Wilson, & Hinkle, PLLC, 3211 Shannon Road, Suite 400 Durham, NC 27707 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 83** All persons having claims against **NOAH MIAH MATHEWS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Micah Noel Matthews**, Executor 4101 Five Oaks Drive, Unit 31 Durham, NC 27707 c/o Bagwell Holt Smith, P.A. 111 Cloister Ct., STE 200 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 88** All persons having claims against **HELEN COUNCILMAN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 17th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Harold Councilman**, Administrator 1806 Ronald Scott Rd. Bear Creek, N.C. 27207 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS PAZ ABRAHAM BONILLA COUNTY OF CHATHAM NORTH CAROLINA 22 E 71** All persons, firms and corporations having claims against **PAZ ABRAHAM BONILLA** deceased, are notified to exhibit them to **Evi Griselda Bonilla**, Executor of the decedent's estate on or before May 20, 2022, c/o Katherine T. Merritt, Attorney for the Estate, at P.O. Drawer 1529, Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278, or be forever barred from their recovery, Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above named Executor. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Evi Griselda Bonilla**, Executor of the Estate of Paz Abraham Bonilla Coleman, Gledhill, Hargrave, Merritt & Rainsford, P.C. Katherine T. Merritt, Attorney for Estate P.O. Drawer 1529 Hillsborough, NC 27278 (919) 732-2196 F17,F24,M3,M10,4tp

**AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE 21 SP 40 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed by **Brandon Ashley Powell** and

**Jayne C. Powell a/k/a Jayne S. Powell** to **Paul S. Messick, Jr., Trustee(s)**, which was dated April 11, 2013 and recorded on April 12, 2013 in Book 01679 at Page 0662, Chatham County Registry, North Carolina. Default having been made of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC, having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, and the holder of the note evidencing said default having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door of the county courthouse where the property is located, or the usual and customary location at the county courthouse for conducting the sale on **March 7, 2022 at 1:00 PM**, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property situated in Chatham County, North Carolina, to wit: Adjoining the land of Brooks Estate, W.D. Taylor, and SR 1006, and BEGINNING at an iron pin in Brooks' line, same being South 08 degrees 23 minutes West 112.13 feet from a stone in W. D. Taylor's corner and running thence with the line of Brooks' Estate South 08 degrees 23 minutes West 1281.24 feet to an iron stake just north of SR 1006, the original corner of W. D. Taylor's land; thence North 54 degrees 04 minutes West 215.44 feet to a nail and cap in the center line of SR 1006; thence with the center line of SR 1006 North 44 degrees 10 minutes West 179.73 feet to a nail and cap in the center of SR 1006; thence a new line with W. D. Taylor North 25 degrees 40 minutes East 1123.06 feet to the beginning, and containing 4.984 acres, according to a survey made by **Roger Clarence Cagle**, Registered land surveyor, December 27, 1974. Save and except any releases, deeds of release or prior conveyances of record. Said property is commonly known as **11803 Siler City Glendon Road, Bear Creek, NC 27207**. A certified check only (no personal checks) of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts are immediately due and owing. **THIRD PARTY PURCHASERS MUST PAY THE EXCISE TAX AND THE RECORDING COSTS FOR THEIR DEED**. Said property to be offered pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS WHERE IS." There are no representations of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at, or relating to the property being offered for sale. This sale is made subject to all prior liens, unpaid taxes, any unpaid land transfer taxes, special assessments, easements, rights of way, deeds of release, and any other encumbrances or exceptions of record. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owner(s) of the property is/ are **Brandon Ashley Powell** and wife, **Jayne S. Powell**. 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 the notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination [NCGS § 45-21.16A(b)(2)]. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination. If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy. Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC Substitute Trustee Brock & Scott, PLLC Attorneys for Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC 5431 Oleander Drive Suite 200 Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (910) 392-4988 FAX: (910) 392-8587 File No.: 20-03525-FC01 F24,M3,2tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 90** The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **DAVID E. CLARK**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at her address, 1318 Old Sanford Road, Moncure, North Carolina, 27559, on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Lisa S. Long Moncure**, North Carolina 27559 **GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC** P.O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 204** All persons having claims against **WILLIAM W. BEAVERS, SR.** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 24th day of February, 2022. **Betty Beavers** 2341 Vander Oldham Rd. Bear Creek, NC 27207 **William W. Beavers, Jr.** 2693 Vander Oldham Rd. Bear Creek, NC 27207 **Pamela B. Haga** 1329 Front Ave; Unit 309 Columbus, GA 31901 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 740** All persons having claims against **ALICE OLENE MOON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 24th day of February, 2022. **Brenda Brower**, Co-Administrator 2004 Flint Ridge Rd Siler City, NC 27344 **Faye Kinton**, Co-Administrator 2253 Flint Ridge Rd Siler City, NC 27344 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 735** All persons having claims against **WILLIAM BATTY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 24th day of February, 2022. **Susan B. Long**, Executor 27 Grove Point Pittsboro, NC 27312 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 740** The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **COLLEEN F. BOONE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at their address, 6181 US Highway 15-501N, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 21st day of February, 2022. **Linda Gail Ellis**, Co-Executor **Ronald Ellis**, Co-Executor 6181 US Highway 15-501 N Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 **GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC** P.O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 882** The undersigned, **Rochelle Bryarley**, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **BRANDON WADE BRYARLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 18th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 17th day of February, 2022. **Rochelle Bryarley**, Administrator c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds, Attorney for the Estate Hopper Cummings, PLLC

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 735** All persons having claims against **WILLIAM BATTY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 24th day of February, 2022. **Susan B. Long**, Executor 27 Grove Point Pittsboro, NC 27312 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of **COLLEEN F. BOONE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at their address, 6181 US Highway 15-501N, Pittsboro, North Carolina, 27312, on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 21st day of February, 2022. **Linda Gail Ellis**, Co-Executor **Ronald Ellis**, Co-Executor 6181 US Highway 15-501 N Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 **GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC** P.O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **LISA**

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6208-0721

**ANNE DOROTHY LAWSON**, deceased of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons, firms, corporations, and other entities having claims against the said decedent to present them to the undersigned on or before the 24th day of May, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery of any such claims. All debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 24th day of February, 2022. Christian Emde Lawson, Administrator c/o Ethan C. Timmins Patrick Law, PLLC 3805 University Drive, Suite A Durham, NC 27707 F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1288 BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION** In the Matter of Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC, for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct Approximately 1.3 Miles of New 230 kV Transmission Line in Chatham County, North Carolina. **PUBLIC NOTICE** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 7, 2022, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP or Applicant) filed with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity to construct approximately 1.3 miles of new 230 kV transmission line in Chatham County, North Carolina. The preferred route's southern endpoint is a proposed tap of DEP's existing Harris Plant - Siler City 230 kV transmission line, approximately 200 feet southeast of the Bynum Tap 230 kV transmission line. From the southern endpoint, the line is proposed to travel north, paralleling DEP's existing Bynum Tap 230 kV transmission line for approximately 1.1 miles. The proposed line then continues northeast for approximately 0.25 miles into the northern endpoint, the planned substation site, south of Hanks Chapel Road. Anyone wishing to view DEP's application and the detailed maps concerning this project may do so on the Commission's web site, www.ncuc.net (search for Docket No. E-2 Sub 1288). These materials may also be reviewed at the following DEP location: 410 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, by contacting Michael Sykes at 919-546-6848 prior to the visit. The Commission has scheduled the application for a public witness hearing at 7:00 p.m., on June 7, 2022, at the Historic Chatham County Courthouse, 9 Hillsboro Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina. This hearing may be canceled if no significant protests are received on or before May 18, 2022. Persons desiring to intervene as formal parties of record should file a verified petition under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-103(b) and Commission Rules R1-5, R1-19, and R8-62(i) no later than Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Such a petition should be filed with the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. Intervenor's shall also file the direct testimony and exhibits of expert witness with the Commission on or before May 18, 2022. Persons desiring to send written statements to inform the Commission of their position in the matter should address their statements to the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300 and reference Docket No. E-2, Sub 1288. Such written statements will be included in the Commission's official files. If the public hearing is not canceled, however, such written statements cannot be considered competent evidence unless those persons submitting statements appear at a public witness hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements. The Public Staff of the Utilities Commission, through its Executive Director, is authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to: Mr. Chris Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. The Attorney General is also authorized to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to: The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General of North Carolina, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-9001. Written statements may be emailed to utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov. ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION. This the 21st day of February, 2022. NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION Erica N. Green Deputy Clerk F24,M3,M10,M17,4tc

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY** **21 SP 126** Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed by Frank D. Norris and Sally W. Norris, in the original amount of \$79,300.00, payable to First Fidelity Mortgage Corporation, dated June 29, 1994 and recorded on June 29, 1994 in Book 645, Page 771, re-recorded on March 10, 1995 in Book 662, Page 183, modified by Loan Modification recorded on January 5, 2012 in Book 01600, Page 0320, Chatham County Registry. Default having been made in the payment of the note there secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned,

Anchor Trustee Services, LLC having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust by an instrument duly recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Chatham County, North Carolina, and the holder of the note evidencing said indebtedness having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the courthouse door or other usual place of sale in Chatham County, North Carolina, at 2:00 PM on March 15, 2022, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property, to wit: Being all of that **1.532 acre tract shown as Lot 3, Forest Creek Estates**, on a plat recorded in Plat Cabinet 87, Slide 400, Chatham County Registry. Together with improvements located hereon; said property being located at **380 Andrews Store Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312**. Tax ID: 0065226 Third party purchasers must pay the recording costs of the trustee's deed, any land transfer taxes, the excise tax, pursuant North Carolina General Statutes §105-228.30, in the amount of One Dollar (\$1.00) per each Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or fractional part thereof, and the Clerk of Courts fee, pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes §7A-308, in the amount of Forty-five Cents (0.45) per each One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or fractional part thereof with a maximum amount of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). A deposit of five percent (5%) of the bid or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale and must be tendered in the form of certified funds. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts will be immediately due and owing. Said property to be offered pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance AS IS WHERE IS. There are no representations of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at, or relating to the property being offered for sale. This sale is made subject to all prior liens, unpaid taxes, special assessments, land transfer taxes, if any, and encumbrances of record. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owners of the property are Heirs/Devises of Sally W. Norris a/k/a Sally Maria Williams Norris. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: An order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes §45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession of 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 the notice of sale, terminate the

rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days, after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination (North Carolina General Statutes §45-21.16A(b)(2)). Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of termination. If the Trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the Substitute Trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy. Anchor Trustee Services, LLC Substitute Trustee By: /s/ January N. Taylor, Bar #33512 McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC Attorney for Anchor Trustee Services, LLC 3550 Engineering Drive, Suite 260 Peachtree Corners, GA 30092 404-474-7149 (phone) 404-745-8121 (fax) jtaylor@mtglaw.com M3,M10,2tc

decedent to exhibit them to the attorney designated below on or before the 3rd day of June, 2022 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payments to the undersigned. Payments and claims should be presented to: Robert B. Gilleland, Attorney P.O. Box 1045 Sanford, NC 27331-1045 M3,M10,M17,M24,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 112** The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of **DOROTHY S. BRAXTON**, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned at his address, 4136 Cary Oaks Drive, Apex, North Carolina, 27539, on or before the 3rd day of June, 2022, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 24th day of February, 2022. Vernon Walter Braxton 4136 Cary Oaks Drive Apex, North Carolina 27539 GUNN & MESSICK, PLLC P. O. Box 880 Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312-0880 M3,M10,M17,M24,4tc

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 96** All persons having claims against **ROBERT S. SCOTT**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of June, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of March, 2022. Kimberly A. Lazaro, Executrix 13212 Creedmoor Rd Wake Forest, NC 27587 M3,M10,M17,M24,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 634** All persons having claims against **DANIEL JOHN STACEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of June, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of March, 2022. Nora Regina Stacey, Administrator PO Box 344 1004 Park Drive Siler City, NC 27344 M3,M10,M17,M24,4tp

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ANNEXATION ORDINANCE** Please take notice that pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 4A, Part 1 of the North Carolina General Statutes, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Pittsboro has adopted an ordinance approving a voluntary annexation request. The Board of Commissioners adopted said ordinance on February 28, 2022, which annexed the territory described below. The annexation is effective as of February 28, 2022. The annexed territory is further described as follows: Property Owner: Chatham Park Investors, LLC Location: US Highway 64 Business Parcel ID: 87175 & 7339 Zoning: PDD Acreage: 14.92 acres M3,1tc

**JIMMY PRICE DBA PTL AUTO INC. 1006 East 3rd Street, Siler City, NC 27344** **FILE NO: 22 SP 24 NOTICE OF SALE** The petitioner will be selling the 2012 Buick, 5GAKVDED-2CJ349108, Under Lien, REGISTERED TO LAURA RYALS LOFTIN on Wednesday, 03/23/2022 at 11:00 a.m. at 1006 East 3rd Street, Siler City, NC 27344 M3,M10,2tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 72** All persons having claims against **JAMES LYNDEN BRADY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of June, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of March, 2022. Sylvia Brady Ford, Executrix 5653 Stigall Rd Kernersville, NC 27284 M3,M10,M17,M24,4tp

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 111** All persons having claims against **DAVID C. EVERETTE AKA DAVID CURTIS EVERETTE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of June, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of March, 2022. Debora Jean Lawrence, Co-Executrix 232 Goathouse Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 Steve Everette, Co-Executrix 312 Double N Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 M3,M10,M17,M24,4tp

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Chatham County roadway improvements in the works**

More than a dozen miles of roads in Chatham County will soon be improved through a contract awarded by the state Transportation Department. Milling, resurfacing and shoulder reconstruction work along nearly 15 miles of roads in the county can begin as early as July and is set for final completion by summer 2023. The locations to be improved consist of one section of U.S. 421 and 24 sections of second-

ary roads. Boggs Contracting Inc. of Monroe was awarded the contract with the low bid of \$4.46 million. Drivers should be mindful of crews that will be working close to travel lanes and expect the possibility of brief delays where lane closures are needed.

**ITA appointments now available**

Appointments for Chatham County residents are currently being taken for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), which runs through April 16. Sponsored by the Chatham

County Council on Aging, this free program is a service of the IRS, where IRS-trained volunteers assist with income tax preparation at no cost to the taxpayer. With changes in tax rules, taxpayers may be eligible for a refund even if their income falls below reporting requirements. Persons and families of all ages with low-to-middle income are eligible for the VITA program, and eligibility questions will be asked when making an appointment. To schedule an appointment, call the Council on Aging at 919-542-4512, extension 225.

**Regional Creek Week is coming to Chatham County**

The Clean Water Education Partnership is sponsoring a Regional Creek Week March 12-19 and Chatham County is proud to be a partner in that endeavor. The CWEP Regional Creek Week will celebrate the four rivers and numerous creeks that provide the water for our lives and the lives of the animals and plants that live here in Chatham County as well as the waterways in surrounding counties of the Piedmont. Creek Week offers the opportunity for the public to interact with the waters of our County

through a variety of river-oriented activities. There are programs where you can visit the rivers, hike along creeks, explore the world of aquatic insects, learn about plants that are good for streams, and participate in river clean-ups. You can also participate in the Stormwater Runoff 5K and a regional Biothon during Creek Week. Programs will take place in person and some are available via Zoom, Strava or iNaturalist. To learn more about the programs being offered during Creek Week, or to register for those programs, visit <https://nc-cleanwater.com/2022-events/> and find out how you can get involved. — CN+R staff reports

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## 'I'M VERY PROUD'

# Chargers bury Trojans by 40 in 2nd round behind Frazier's 26-point coming out party

BY VICTOR HENSLEY  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Over the last few years, Northwood's been a program chock-full of stars.

From Aaron Ross and Dedric "Deuce" Powell of the 2019-2020 state semifinal team to the sterling freshman trio of Jarin Stevenson, Drake Powell and Fred Whitaker Jr. of last year's state runner-up squad, the Chargers are no strangers to incredible individual talent.

Yet, as important as the stars are, it's the players who often fall under the radar — those who constantly improve, game after game — that are crucial in building a team fit to win a state title.

And after last Thursday's 80-40 stomping of the 11th-seeded West Brunswick Trojans in the second round of the NCHSAA 3A state playoffs it's safe to say this may be the 6th-seeded Chargers' best shot at a ring yet.

The Northwood blowout was primarily led by junior Max Frazier, who dropped 26 points — including 10 of the Chargers' 12 points in the second quarter — in a career game that acted as a showcase for his length, size and explosiveness.

For context, he averaged 7.9 points going into the game.

"I felt like he was a lot more aggressive tonight on the boards, as well as on offense, and it's something that we haven't seen out of Max since the

Seaforth game," Matt Brown, Northwood's head coach, said after the win, referring to the season-opener against Seaforth, where Frazier scored 16 points. "We've been trying to get that out of him this year, but he's coming around at the right time."

At times, it felt like the 6-foot-8 junior was nearly unstoppable.

In the second quarter, Frazier scored the last four field goals for the Chargers, including a seemingly effortless putback dunk that electrified the bench and the pro-Northwood crowd.

While the Trojans were knocking down 3-pointers, Frazier continued to pile it on down low, exploiting West

Brunswick's height disadvantage and rendering their sharp shooting meaningless.

"I felt like I was being more aggressive out there," Frazier said. "I feel like now, since it's the playoffs, I need to get more serious so we can win."

"If he keeps playing like that," Brown added, "I like our chances."

Frazier was joined in double figures by a few players, one of whom was junior Kenan Parrish (12 points), who Brown credits as one of his most improved players this season as he continues to add elements to his game, including hook shots and short jumpers.

Standing at 6-foot-11, Parrish See **CHARGERS**, page B3



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Northwood junior Max Frazier (34) uses his length to put the ball in the basket in the Chargers' 80-40 win over the West Brunswick Trojans in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs last Thursday. Frazier had a career-high 26 points on the night, drawing praise from his head coach, Matt Brown, for his aggressive play.**

## A POSTSEASON SHELLACKING

# Chargers stun Patriots in offensive onslaught, seal 53-point 2nd round win

BY DAN E. WAY  
News + Record Correspondent

PITTSBORO — "We got beat by a good team," a stunned West Carteret Head Coach Lindsey Howell said in what might qualify as the understatement of the NCHSAA 3A women's basketball playoffs.

Northwood left the Patriots dazed and confused in a 67-14 Sweet 16 blitzkrieg last Saturday.

No. 2 seed Northwood put a pasting of the No. 7 West Carteret women from start to finish, setting the tone early and often with an unbelievable 35-0 run.

The Chargers will face the No. 14 Williams Bulldogs of Burlington on Tuesday in the East region semifinal game.

"We never expected the score to be that lopsided. We usually play a lot tougher than that," said Howell, whose team started 6-6 but was on a 15-game win streak. "They were a lot quicker than the teams we usually play and ... our defense wasn't shifting quickly enough, and so some of the tactics that we usually bring to the game just wasn't there."

"We're playing really hard. The intensity was there on defense throughout, which I'm really proud of," said Northwood Head Coach Kerri Snipes. "Even though we were switching back and forth between different defenses, they kept that energy and that aggression."

The Chargers' superior speed was evident and potent. They intercepted passes, stole balls in mid-dribble and yanked down rebounds. They beat their opponents to loose balls, ran a fast break scheme that wobbled the Patriots and implemented an overpowering press.

Northwood entered the game giving up a meager 29.5 points per game on average, then held West Carteret to less than half of that.

Three Chargers scored as many or more points than the entire Patriots team, which was held scoreless in two quarters.

Olivia Porter led all scorers with 18. Natalie Bell and Te'Keyah Bland pumped in 14 each. The entire Northwood roster got onto the floor during the game, and even the subs contained the West Carteret offense.

"We took care of the ball a lot better than we

See **WOMEN**, page B4

## CHATHAM CHARTER 60, NORTHWEST HALIFAX 56

# Top-seeded Knights nearly lose lead late, squeak out win over Vikings in 2nd round

BY DAN E. WAY  
News + Record Correspondent

SILER CITY — Chatham Charter freshman Brennan Oldham was large and in charge under the basket, maneuvering his 6-foot-6 frame to clog lanes, swat away shots, haul in rebounds and pump in some baskets.

Visiting Northwest Halifax had no recourse but to shoot from outside.

And boy, did they ever.

The Vikings rained in 11 3-pointers from every which direction in a back-and-forth nail-biter on Thursday before the Knights squeaked out a 60-56 last-second victory.

With the win, No. 1 seed Chatham Charter advanced to the Sweet 16 of the NCHSAA 1A state playoffs against Neuse Charter, where they crushed the Cougars, 68-36.

Against the Vikings, Chatham Charter appeared to be comfortably on the way to a win, leading 30-22 at the half. But the momentum swung to the Vikings in the third quarter with an 18-11 comeback that left the Knights clinging to a 1-point lead.

The visitors relentlessly nipped at the Knights' heels the rest of the game.

Vikings junior Marjah Davis scored a game-high 29 points for Northwest Halifax, and was an absolute defensive menace on the other side of the ball to keep his team in the game.

He hit a 3-pointer to close the gap to 52-49 with 1:49 left in the game, created a lane where none existed at 1:03 to further cut the lead to 53-51, then stole the ball from Knights junior Adam Harvey and drove to the basket to knot the score, 53-53, with 35 seconds left to play.

A quick layup on a press break by

See **KNIGHTS**, page B2



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Chatham Charter junior Aamir Mapp (24) maneuvers around a defender in mid-air to shoot a layup in the Knights' 68-36 win over the Neuse Charter Cougars in the 3rd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs last Saturday. Mapp was second on the team in scoring with 18 points.**

# It's the most wonderful time of the year

As I'm writing this, the future of baseball looks bleak.



MAX BAKER  
CN+R Intern

There's no sign of a deal coming into place and even the potential options aren't intriguing. A 12- or even 14-team playoff has been put onto the table. The 162-game season, one that makes baseball so unique, will suddenly lose its meaning.

But I'm not here to write about that nonsense. Today, I want to write about March.

I love March. It's the greatest sports month of the year. The NHL and NBA head down the final stretch of the regular season while the smell of baseball is

usually on the horizon. But most of all, March equals Madness.

If you want to know how excited I get for March Madness, look no further than my freshman year of college. Worried that someone might try to steal the dorm lounge television before the ball was tipped, I slept on the lounge couch like a Cameron Crazie sleeping in a tent before a UNC-Duke rivalry game.

When March Madness was canceled because of COVID-19 two years ago, I improvised.

Devastated that I was missing out on Selection Sunday, I created my own bracket.

This time of famous Jewish Celebrities.

I had play-in games, potential upset matchups and a shocking omission. Poor Jerry Seinfeld. Wildly, it went

viral, gaining more than 500,000 impressions. Rapper Lil Dicky, CNN's Jake Tapper and even college basketball analyst Andy Katz chimed in on Twitter.

I even went all the way through the bracket, playing out the games through a fan vote. Ruth Bader-Ginsburg knocked off Moses to win the National Championship.

I'm not a major bracket maker. I'll usually make three: a serious, an upset and a heart bracket.

That Thursday and Friday slate of games is my favorite day of the year. It's something about the thrill of a 40-minute game and college athletes playing for their school and a dream of winning a National Championship.

In high school, I remember racing home from school to catch the early

games and even skipping one day to watch the BIG 10 tournament. I've woken people (Jordan Poole's shot against Houston), watched my friends knock over furniture (R.J. Hunter's shot vs. Baylor) and had my heart broken (Mizzou losing to 15 seed Norfolk State).

For the next two weeks, I'll be unnecessarily checking bracketology and watching too many conference tournament games.

This year doesn't feel any more special than any other season. None of the schools that I'm connected with (Mizzou, SLU, Michigan) are playing fairly well. But that's OK. Bill Raftery will still be yelling "with a kiss" and that's all that matters.

Max Baker can be reached at max@chathamnr.com and @maxbaker\_15.

CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

# This week's schedule and last week's results

**BY VICTOR HENSLEY**  
News + Record Staff

This week, we've got three local basketball teams in the Elite 8 of their respective NCHSAA tournaments, including the top-seeded Chatham Charter men (1A East, 31-1), second-seeded Northwood women (3A East, 28-1) and sixth-seeded Northwood men (3A East, 24-3). All three of those teams are just two wins away from making it to the state title game on March 12.

The hardcourt aside, this week also marks the start of a boatload of spring sports, which coincides perfectly with the warm(er) weather we're getting. Those sports include baseball, lacrosse (men and women), soccer (women), softball, track & field (men and women) and tennis (men). Make sure you get out in the sun this week and take advantage of the beginning of some of the best sports seasons Chatham schools have to offer!

Here's this week's schedule and last week's results.

**THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday, March 1 (games happening after News + Record's press deadline)**

- Golf: Chatham Charter, Woods Charter men at Southern Wake, 3 p.m.
- Soccer: Woods Charter at Franklin Academy, 4 p.m.
- Tennis: Chatham Charter men vs. Cornerstone Charter, 4 p.m.
- Tennis: Northwood men vs. Carrboro, 4 p.m.
- Baseball: Chatham Charter at Thomasville, 4:30 p.m.
- Tennis: Jordan-Matthews men vs. Asheboro, 4:30 p.m.
- Basketball: No. 2 Northwood women vs. No. 14 Williams (4th round of NCHSAA playoffs), 6 p.m.
- Basketball: No. 6 Northwood men at No. 2 West Carteret (4th round of NCHSAA playoffs), 6 p.m.
- Softball: Northwood vs. Wakefield, 6 p.m.
- Lacrosse: Northwood men vs. Apex, 6 p.m.
- Lacrosse: Northwood women at Apex, 6 p.m.

- Baseball: Chatham Central at Asheboro, 7 p.m.
- Baseball: Northwood at Lee County, 7 p.m.
- Basketball: No. 1 Chatham Charter vs. No. 12 KIPP Pride (4th round of NCHSAA playoffs), 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 2**

- Softball: Jordan-Matthews at Apex Friendship, 4 p.m.
- Tennis: Northwood men vs. Cedar Ridge, 4 p.m.
- Track & Field: Woods Charter at Franklinton, 3:30 p.m.
- Tennis: Jordan-Matthews vs. Chatham Central, 4:30 p.m.
- Baseball: Seaforth vs. River Mill, 6 p.m.
- Lacrosse: Seaforth men vs. Carrboro, 6 p.m.
- Soccer: Jordan-Matthews women at Asheboro, 6 p.m.
- Soccer: Northwood women vs. Chapel Hill, 6:30 p.m.
- Baseball: Jordan-Matthews vs. Hillside, 7 p.m.

**Thursday, March 3**

- Track: Northwood at Person (with Cedar Ridge, Orange also participating), 4 p.m.
- Tennis: Seaforth men at Carrboro, 4:30 p.m.
- Softball: Chatham Charter at Bethany Community, 5 p.m.
- Lacrosse: Northwood women vs. Athens Drive, 6 p.m.
- Soccer: Jordan-Matthews women at Woods Charter, 6 p.m.

**Friday, March 4**

- Baseball: Jordan-Matthews at Providence Grove, 4:30 p.m.
- Soccer: Chatham Charter women at Cornerstone Charter, 4:30 p.m.
- Tennis: Seaforth men vs. Southern Wake, 4:30 p.m.
- Softball: Chatham Charter vs. Gray Stone Day, 5 p.m.
- Baseball: Seaforth vs. North Carolina School of Science & Math, 6 p.m.
- Lacrosse: Seaforth men at Western Alamance, 6 p.m.
- Soccer: Seaforth vs. Southern, 6 p.m.
- Softball: Chatham Central at Southern Lee, 6 p.m.
- Softball: Jordan-Matthews at Providence Grove, 6 p.m.
- Softball: Northwood vs. Charles E. Jordan, 6 p.m.
- Baseball: Chatham Central at Union Pines, 7 p.m.

- Baseball: Chatham Charter vs. Greystone, 7 p.m.
- Baseball: Jordan-Matthews at Providence Grove, 7 p.m.
- Baseball: Northwood vs. Lee County, 7 p.m.

**Saturday, March 5**

- Soccer: Northwood women at Pine Forest, 12 p.m.
- Basketball: Chatham Charter, Northwood men at NCHSAA Regional Final (depending on Tuesday's results), time TBA
- Basketball: Northwood women at NCHSAA Regional Final (depending on Tuesday's results), time TBA

**LAST WEEK**

**Monday, February 21**

No events scheduled.

**Tuesday, February 22**

- Basketball: The No. 17 Woods Charter women upset the No. 16 Southside Seahawks, 80-62, on the road in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.
- Basketball: The No. 10 Chatham Central men fell to the No. 23 Bertie Falcons, 62-57, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs, putting a premature end to the Bears' season.
- Basketball: The No. 5 Chatham Charter women trounced the No. 28 Warren County Eagles, 71-11, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs. Leading the Knights on the evening were senior Alexis Baldwin (23 points, 8 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 1 block), junior Tamaya Walden (18 points, 4 rebounds, 5 assists, 5 steals, 1 block) and sophomore Meah Brooks (12 points, 5 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steals, 2 blocks).
- Basketball: The No. 2 Northwood women crushed the No. 31 Swansboro Pirates, 64-7, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs. Leading the Chargers in the win were senior Natalie Bell (11 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal) and four players with 9 points (junior Gianna Mcmanaman, junior Te'Keyah Bland, sophomore Skylar Adams and senior Olivia Porter).
- Basketball: The No. 9 Seaforth women earned their first playoff victory in school history against the No. 24 Kinston

- Vikings, 55-39, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 2A playoffs.
- Basketball: The No. 27 Seaforth men were bounced by the No. 6 Goldsboro Cougars, 63-35, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 2A playoffs.

- Basketball: The No. 9 Chatham Central women downed the No. 24 Voyager Vikings, 53-34, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.

- Basketball: The No. 1 Chatham Charter men held on to defeat the No. 32 Gates County Red Barons, 63-40, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs. Leading the Knights on the evening were junior Adam Harvey (18 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal), junior Aamir Mapp (10 points, 7 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals, 2 blocks) and freshman Beau Harvey (10 points, 1 rebound, 6 assists, 4 steals).

- Basketball: The No. 6 Northwood men won a comfortable game against the No. 27 Havelock Rams, 68-32, in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs.

**Wednesday, February 23**

No events scheduled.

**Thursday, February 24**

- Basketball: The No. 9 Chatham Central women upset the No. 8 Ocracoke Dolphins on the road, 44-34, in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.
- Basketball: The No. 5 Chatham Charter women were upset by the No. 12 Clover Garden Grizzlies, 53-47, in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs. Leading the Knights on the evening were junior Tamaya Walden (31 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 block).
- Basketball: The No. 2 Northwood women soundly beat the No. 18 Triton Hawks, 67-44, in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs. Leading the Chargers on the night were senior Olivia Porter (24 points, 11 rebounds, 3 assists, 7 steals) and junior Te'Keyah Bland (13 points, 12 rebounds, 1 steal, 4 blocks).
- Basketball: The No. 9 Seaforth women fell to the No. 8 Whiteville Wolfpack, 44-39, on the road in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 2A playoffs.
- Basketball: The No. 17 Woods

Charter women were trounced by the No. 1 Bertie Falcons, 77-31, in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.

Basketball: The No. 1 Chatham Charter men eked out a win against the No. 17 Northwest Halifax Vikings, 60-56, in the 2nd round of NCHSAA 1A playoffs. Leading the Knights on the evening were junior Adam Harvey (28 points, 10 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 block) and junior Aamir Mapp (10 points, 9 rebounds, 6 assists, 1 steal).

Basketball: The No. 6 Northwood men stomped the No. 11 West Brunswick Trojans, 80-40, in the 2nd round of NCHSAA 3A playoffs. Leading the Chargers on the night were junior Max Frazier (26 points), sophomore Fred Whitaker Jr. (17 points), sophomore Drake Powell (15 points) and junior Kenan Parrish (12 points).

**Friday, February 25**

No events scheduled.

**Saturday, February 26**

Basketball: The No. 2 Northwood women trounced the No. 7 West Carteret Patriots, 67-14, in the 3rd round of NCHSAA 3A playoffs. Leading the Chargers on the night were senior Olivia Porter (18 points), senior Natalie Bell (14 points) and sophomore Te'Keyah Bland (14 points).

Basketball: The No. 1 Chatham Charter men thrashed the No. 8 Neuse Charter Cougars, 68-36, in the 3rd round of NCHSAA 1A playoffs. Leading the Knights on the evening were junior Adam Harvey (23 points, 8 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals) and junior Aamir Mapp (18 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 5 steals, 3 blocks).

Basketball: The No. 9 Chatham Central women fell to the No. 1 Bertie Falcons, 51-38, in the 3rd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs.

Basketball: The No. 6 Northwood men crushed the No. 3 First Flight Nighthawks on the road, 74-38, in the 3rd round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs.

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

## KNIGHTS

Continued from page B1

Harvey gave the Knights a 55-53 lead, followed by a pair of clutch free throws from freshman Beau Harvey after a Vikings turnover, pushing their lead to 57-53.

Vikings senior Kanye Silver drained a 3-pointer to put the Vikings within 1 point with five seconds left, igniting support from his teammates on the bench, but Adam Harvey hit one of two free throws on the ensuing possession to make it 58-56.

Then, for one frozen moment that brought the partisan home crowd to a gasp and near silence, a long, 3-point Northwest Halifax shot ripped the nets in what would have given them a 59-58 lead with two seconds remaining.

But the refs whistled the play dead, ruling the shooter had stepped out of bounds.

Harvey was fouled on the ensuing inbounds pass, sank a pair of free throws and a wild celebration erupted at mid-court.

Harvey, who averaged 15.3 points per game coming into the contest, nearly matched Davis' offensive output, scoring a team-high 28 points and tying his season-high set in the first game of the season against Vandalia Christian.

"I really just attacked the middle, attacked the rim," Harvey said. "My teammates were passing the ball well and we just brought a lot of energy."

Going deep in the playoffs is not new for Harvey. His freshman year, the team made it to the regional finals before



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Chatham Charter junior Adam Harvey (with ball) shoots one from deep in the Knights' 68-36 win over the Neuse Charter Cougars in the 3rd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs last Saturday. Harvey led the team in scoring with 23 points.**

bowing out. He said this year's team is hoping to go even deeper. "I think they're ready," he said. "They really want to make a run in the playoffs. We gotta keep going, we gotta keep the energy up. We can't get tired."

Harvey admitted to being nervous before the game. And he said the tension grew as the pesky Northwest Halifax team refused to give up.

"They really wanted the game. They came in and fought, but we just kept pounding on them," Harvey said. "They were knocking down their

threes. They're a good team."

In response, the Knights tried to protect the lead by holding the ball, drawing fouls and knocking down free



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

**Chatham Charter junior Jackson Brown (14) goes up for a layup in the Knights' 68-36 win over the Neuse Charter Cougars in the 3rd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs last Saturday.**

throws. "We just wanted to contest them and not foul," Harvey said.

"They're heading into the third round right now so they're pumped up. They're excited," Chatham Charter Head Coach Jason Messier said of his young team, which has no seniors.

"The big thing for us was they (Northwest Halifax) had that momentum and we didn't slow up" after the third quarter, he said. "We mentally kept fighting.

Our leaders stepped up and made some baskets down there, made some big free throws down the stretch, so that's a good win for us."

The Knights are now 31-1 and on a 23-game win streak.

Northwest Halifax, the No. 8 seed, exited the playoffs at 14-10, having been outscored overall by opponents during the season.

"Any time you get into playoff basketball, records and all that stuff go out the door," Messier said. "We were able to fight a good, well-coached team out here in Northwest Halifax."

When not looping in long 3-pointers, the Vikings were playing a fierce half-court press on defense.

"Teams like that, the way they play and that style, they feed off that energy and momentum," Messier said. "We started dribbling a little too much and got uncomfortable with the things that we were doing that were

successful for us in the first half. ... Adam Harvey started bringing the ball up and he attacked the basket and got some good shots at that point."

Messier gave a tip of the hat to Davis.

"Obviously he is their man, just as Adam is our man. The nice thing is we had some other guys" step up, he said.

Amir Mapp had 10 points, and Beau Harvey had 9.

"Beau has continued to handle that pressure and he's had success doing that all year long," Messier continued. "You have to realize (he) is a freshman and my big boy (Oldham) is a freshman as well. So this is their first experience in playoff basketball, and they've grown leaps and bounds these last two games."

The top-seeded Knights will host 12th-seeded KIPP Pride on Tuesday night in the Elite Eight of the 1A men's bracket, which will take place after the News + Record's press deadline.

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CLOVER GARDEN 53, CHATHAM CHARTER 47

# Fourth time's (not) the charm: Grizzlies end Knights' playoff run in teams' 4th matchup this season

BY DAN E. WAY

News + Record Correspondent

SILER CITY — Foul trouble and a feisty Clover Garden team combined to knock the Chatham Charter women out of the NCHSAA 1A state basketball playoffs last Thursday.

The Knights had a 19-15 lead at the half in the second-round matchup, but watched their lead trickle away like grains of sand in an hourglass before eventually losing 53-47 in front of a supportive, in standing-room-only crowd in their home gymnasium.

"We knew it was going to be a battle," Chatham Charter Head Coach Jeff Patterson said following the loss.

The two teams had played three times already this season, but the Grizzlies evened the series 2-2 with the victory.

"I'm proud of the girls. They fought," Patterson said. "Overall, we had a great season. We finished (Central Tar Heel 1A) co-conference champions and the conference tournament champions.

And, like I told the girls, they can't take that away from you. You've got nothing to hold your heads down about. Now, you've got to get ready for the summer and go back to work."

Tamaya Walden led the Knights with a game-high 31 points, but the Grizzlies had an answer in senior Jaclyn Faucette, who poured in 30 to eclipse her 22.2 points per game average. Clover Garden's Lexie Roberts was the only other player in double figures with 11.

"Clover Garden's got a great team and they've got four seniors, and they've got the girl Jaclyn. She leads everything for them," said Patterson, whose team has just two seniors.

"My girls just didn't seem like we came out ready to play the second half, and let them get away from us," Patterson said. The visitors outscored their hosts, 38-28, in the second half.

"And then we picked up these tick-tacky fouls, reaching and going on, and then we get in foul trouble, and now we're on the bench," Patterson said. Starters Delana Loflin, Mackenzie Brooks and Meah Brooks, and sixth-man Lillian Jones each fouled out.

Clover Garden got the better of the Knights on rebounds and second shots, which stifled a fourth-quarter comeback bid.

"You've got to rebound the basketball, something we preach on every day," Patterson said. "But sometimes

the ladies think the ball is going to bounce to them. I try to tell them rebounding is an attitude. You've got to want to go to the rebound. You can't just be out there going, 'Oh, I'm a magnet. It's just going to fall into my hands.'"

Prior to the game, Patterson instructed his team that there would "be no gimmicks or gadgets" in the game.

"The team that does the little things the best is going to win the ball game, and give credit to Clover Garden. They did the little things that they needed to do to win the ball game," Patterson said. "So hats off to them and good luck to them on Saturday."

The Grizzlies went on to fall to the No. 4 Northside-Pinetown Panthers in the third round on Saturday.

While acknowledging the sting of a loss to a team they beat twice this year, Patterson is already looking ahead to next season.

"I've got my main core, my three guards coming back. That's great to have, knowing that you've got three veteran guards coming back to handle the ball," Patterson said. "Now we've got to work on getting some post-play down inside."



Staff photo by Lee Moody

**Chatham Charter senior Alexis Baldwin (15) pushes her way into the paint against a Clover Garden defender in the Knights' 53-47 loss to the Grizzlies in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 1A women's basketball playoffs last Thursday. Baldwin had 9 points and 8 rebounds against the Grizzlies.**

## CHARGERS

Continued from page B1

has already been nightmare for opposing shooters and defenders alike — expanding his skillset only makes that statement truer.

"It's just getting in the gym and working every day," Parrish said. "I like my right hook and I go to that a lot, so I just get in there early morning and work on that all of the time. ... I do work on my jumpshot. I love shooting, I think I'm a pretty good shooter, but I do like to get inside mainly, because that's where I'm strongest."

Frazier and Parrish are near-perfect complements to the Chargers star sophomore guards Whitaker (16 points) and Drake Powell (15 points), each of whom bring the leadership, energy and swagger to the court in just their second season with the team.

It didn't take long for the

Chargers' savvy sophomores to bring the heat on Thursday.

To open the game, Powell knocked down his lone 3-pointer and slammed home a dunk that sent shock waves through the gym, with the loudest cheers coming from Northwood's student section, nicknamed "The Nuthouse," which has consistently shown out for the streaking Chargers this season.

When a Charger slams one down — as was the case multiple times against the Trojans from Powell, Frazier and Parrish — it even gives Brown a reason to smile and awe at his players.

"I get excited for those guys whenever they do something really cool or really fun," Brown said. "Some of the things that they're doing now as sophomores and juniors is incredible. It really is. They're so young and doing some of these things, it's pretty neat to see."

To start the second quarter,

the Chargers led 26-10 following a 14-4 run to end the opening period.

The Chargers led off the second with a bucket in the paint from Frazier, followed by another score from Parrish to give them a 30-10 lead as they looked to be cruising.

Then came the Frazier put-back dunk, burying the gym with energy-filled screams from the stands.

But 3-pointers from Trojans sophomore Martavious Stanley and junior Kevon Daniels (who led the team with 15 points) kept them afloat, fighting off Northwood's attempt to end this one early.

Whitaker came alive in the third quarter, however, draining one of his two 3-pointers in the quarter on one of the Chargers' first possessions — following up a Parrish dunk — to put his team ahead by 20.

In total, he had 7 points in the third period alone, while Powell added 8 and Frazier had 7 of his own in what was a

masterful 25-point quarter for Northwood.

Late in the period, the Trojans were in deep foul trouble, allowing the Chargers to shoot eight free throws in the final 1:27, of which Northwood made seven.

When the buzzer finally rang, the Chargers had a 63-33 lead and there was little doubt that they'd be moving on to the next round.

In what looked to be a fun-filled fourth quarter, the Chargers obliterated their opponents, 17-7, to finish off the 40-point victory and advance to the third round of the NCHSAA 3A state playoffs.

"It's fun to watch, it's fun to coach, it's fun to come to practice every day," Brown said of the tight-knit group he has with this team. "They love each other."

The 40-point win is Northwood's largest since its 79-35 win over Eastern Alamance on Feb. 8 and just its third victory

by 40-plus points in the last three seasons.

And it happened to come in the playoffs, of all places.

Northwood is in the midst of a deep playoff run for its fourth season in a row, having locked in a Sweet 16 spot each year since 2018-19.

"I'm very, very proud of them," Brown said. "They just have fun and go out and play hard."

The Chargers went on to face No. 3 First Flight in Kill Devil Hills last Saturday, crushing the Nighthawks in the Sweet 16 of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs, 74-38.

Northwood will head to Morehead City to face the No. 2 West Carteret Patriots in the tournament's Elite Eight on Tuesday, March 1, which will take place after the News + Record's press deadline.

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

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# Chatham News + Record Local Service Directory



Submitted photo

## Bearing down

The Chatham Central women's basketball team poses for a photo after upsetting the 8th-seeded Ocracoke Dolphins on the road, 44-34, in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs last Thursday. Chatham Central ended up making it to the 3rd round, where they bowed out to the top-seeded Bertie Falcons last Saturday, 58-31.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central senior Ivey Tillman (40) gets through a crowd of Voyager Academy defenders for a layup early in the third quarter of the Bears' 53-34 win over the Vikings in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs on Feb. 22.



Staff photo by David Bradley

Chatham Central freshman Reid Albright (34) shoots a long jumper as Bertie's Aiden Felton (5) closes in on him in the Bears' 62-57 loss to the Bertie Falcons in the 1st round of the NCHSAA 1A playoffs on Feb. 22.

## WOMEN

Continued from page B1

have recently," Snipes said. "They were looking up the floor for each other. Even in the half-court we were swinging the ball and moving it, trying to get those great shots off, which I thought we did a really good job of tonight."

So how does Snipes keep her players from getting overconfident after a shellacking like that?

"We're just trying to be more disciplined and have some composure to us because we know there's some tough teams that are left that we are going to be facing," Snipes said. "So we're just trying to prepare for them as much as we could."

"They're not always guaranteed to get to play. I think they're beginning to understand that, that you've got to fight it out," he continued. "So we kind of came out with that aggression from the tip tonight."

Senior guard Natalie Bell was reveling in the moment, but sober in her assessment of the blowout.

"I was shocked because I thought it was going to be a back-to-back game. I thought the third round was going to be really, really hard," Bell said. "We're not selfish with the ball. We share the ball, and I thought we did good both defensively and offensively."

That, she said, is the fruit of hard practice, watching the scouting films and sticking with the game plan coaches devise.

"It feels good to be in the Elite Eight," Bell said. "I knew we were going to get this far because we're a really good team offensively and defensively. So to be a senior and to be in the Elite Eight is really good. I would like to be in the state championship."

Bell, who has been talking to some colleges about continuing her basketball career, struggled more seeking an adjective to describe the team's mood than she did running plays and tossing in baskets on the court.

Happy, excited, humble — those sum it up, she said.

The Chargers had to be happy with their astonishing bombardment to start.

Porter opened the game with a 3-pointer, and Bell closed the first quarter with a 3-pointer of her own to cap a 33-0 onslaught.

Bland scored 12 of her points in the quarter, 9 of them on a run all her own, featuring layups and a turnaround jumper.

Porter tallied 11 of her total in the first eight minutes, grabbing a rebound and sinking a basket, driving for a score, stealing the ball and taking it to the rim and dishing it off for others to score.

West Carteret found the second period to be just as bleak. Bell opened the quarter with a steal inside the paint on the Patriots' side of the court and took it all the way back to push the lead to 35-0.

The Patriots' Kasey McCourey followed with a 3-pointer, ending a scoring drought that stretched over nine and a



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood sophomore Skylar Adams (22) shoots a jumper in the Chargers' 67-44 win over the Triton Hawks in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs last Thursday.

half agonizing minutes. But it would be another 4:10 before they scored again.

In between, the Chargers kept up the swarming defense and offensive barrage, extending the lead to 53-5.

The Chargers seized a 56-point lead, their largest of the game, at 4:41 of the third quarter. Porter opened the frame with a steal and basket, and followed with a 3-pointer. Bland hit a layup on a fast break pass and the scoreboard read 61-5.

Snipes began liberally substituting players and the scoring curtailed, especially in the fourth quarter as the clock ran continuously under the mercy rule.

The Chargers host the 14th-seeded Williams Bulldogs in the Elite Eight of the 3A women's bracket on Tuesday at 6 p.m., after the News + Record's press deadline.



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior Natalie Bell shoots a corner 3-pointer in the Chargers' 67-44 win over the Triton Hawks in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs last Thursday.



## Chatham COA Events & Announcements

March 3rd through March 9th

### Thursday, March 3rd

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:15 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Senior Games and SilverArts - Let's Get Involved](#) at 10:30 AM 📶
- [Geri-Fit w/Olivia](#) at 2:00 PM (Aerobic Room, WCSC) 🧘🏻‍♀️

### Friday, March 4th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:15 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM 🧘🏻‍♀️
- [Strong & Fit w/Jackie](#) at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Friday Night Dance](#) at 7:00 PM (on site at WCSC - Siler City) 💰

### Monday, March 7th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:15 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM 🧘🏻‍♀️
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 9:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Strong & Fit w/Jackie](#) at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Geri-Fit w/Olivia](#) at 2:00 PM (Aerobic Room, WCSC) 🧘🏻‍♀️

### Tuesday, March 8th

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:15 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶

### Wednesday, March 9th

- [Strong & Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM 🧘🏻‍♀️
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 9:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘🏻‍♀️📶
- [Diabetes Discussion Group](#) at 10:30 AM 📶

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

🧘🏻‍♀️ **In-person - Pre-registration Required**

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The free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program will run through April 16 in Pittsboro and Siler City. For more information and to schedule an appointment, call the Council at 919-542-4212, extension 225.

## The Chatham COA is Here for You!

For more information on our ongoing programs & services visit our website at [chathamcoa.org](https://chathamcoa.org) or call our centers, Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

**Eastern Chatham Senior Center (ECSC)**

365 NC-87 N  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-542-4512

**Western Chatham Senior Center (WCSC)**

112 Village Lake Road  
Siler City, NC 27344  
919-742-3975



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior Olivia Porter (with ball) draws contact from a Triton defender in the Chargers' 67-44 win over the Hawks in the 2nd round of the NCHSAA 3A playoffs last Thursday. The second-seeded Chargers have won three games this postseason by a combined 198-65 score.

## Bulldogs, Monarchs, Tornados, oh my!



Submitted photo

With the spring sports season rolling around, that means it's also a prime time for college commitments. Last week, three Chatham athletes from Siler City and Pittsboro signed letters of intent to play at the next level. Here, Northwood senior Robbie Delgado (bottom center, in blue) poses for a photo after signing his letter of intent to play football for the Bulldogs at Barton College in Wilson. Delgado spent most of his career as a center for the Chargers, holding down their offensive line.



Submitted photo

Jordan-Matthews senior Rayshaun Alston (center, bottom row) poses for photos alongside family members and J-M staff after signing his letter of intent to play basketball for the Monarchs at Methodist University in Fayetteville. Alston was one of the leaders for the Jets' men's basketball team, acting as their top scorer this past season.



Submitted photo

Jordan-Matthews senior Carson Whitehead (center, in white) poses for photos alongside family and J-M staff after signing his letter of intent to play baseball for the Tornados of Brevard College next season.

### SEAFORTH 55, KINSTON 39

# Hawks' balanced scoring attack fends off late Vikings comeback to earn 1st playoff win in program history

BY DAN E. WAY  
News + Record  
Correspondent

PITTSBORO — After a wild first half that saw four lead changes, the Kinston women's basketball team shaved Seaforth's lead to a single point 2 ½ minutes into the final quarter.

But, as a response, the Hawks blew the lid off of their home gym with a nonstop scoring spree to win their first NCHSAA state playoff game in program history on Feb. 22, downing No. 24 Kinston, 55-39.

Seaforth unleashed a balanced scoring attack all game long, dominated the boards and had four starters into double digits to advance to the second round of the 2A playoffs.

"There was a little scare. There's always a scare," said freshman guard Gabby White, who tossed in a team-high 15 points. "But I knew my team would pull through. I was pretty confident in what we would do to win the game."

The secret to the spirit-crushing, final-period pummeling was ball movement and defense. White scored all but one of her points in the first half, then shifted to a greater role on defense,



Submitted photo

The Seaforth women's basketball team poses for photos at midcourt following their loss to the Whiteville Wolfpack, 44-39, in the second round of the NCHSAA 2A playoffs last Thursday. The Hawks had previously won their first playoff game in program history on Feb. 22, when they took down the Kinston Vikings, 55-39.

ball-handling and play-making in the second half.

"I had to make sure nothing crazy happened so we could secure the win," White said. "I think when we communicate, that's what helps us. Stop the ball and then transition into offense, move the ball, get a good shot."

"I wouldn't use the word 'worried,' but it was close. It was close," Seaforth Head Coach Charles

Byrd said of the Kinston comeback, in which the Vikings outscored the Hawks 14-9 in the third period to narrow the gap to 34-33.

"We've been in a couple of close games throughout the course of the year, especially early on in the year, we were tested a ton," Byrd said, so he had confidence his players' game wouldn't

fracture. "I felt like we were going to put ourselves in the best position to still win the game. We were able to keep our poise and stay disciplined there at the end to pull it out."

That required some adjustments.

"We really honed in coming into the fourth quarter on our defense. We said we've got to get a little bit better on our

rotations," Byrd said. "So we just started bending on the flight of the ball. We were there on the catch. We started extending our back line a little bit higher because their guards were trying to drive, so we extended our back line a little bit higher so we could sit on that action they were trying to do."

Seaforth also assembled a balanced scoring attack.

Aside from White, freshman Sydney Ballard knocked down 13 points, while sophomore Hannah Ajayi and freshman Peyton Collins had 11 each.

Spreading the scoring attack around "opens it up for us because traditionally we like to play the mid-range," Byrd said. "So teams would try to sometimes sit in the paint on us. But when we're hitting the three, it opens it up so we can attack from all three levels."

White had a pair of 3-pointers; Collins had three.

The Hawks' Towers of Power — 5-foot-11 Sofia Ramirez and 6-foot-3 Sydney Ballard, both freshman forwards — loomed large under the boards and clogged the lanes, yanking down rebounds and slapping away shots. And they got

a lot of looks underneath, frequently from White dishing it off.

"That's just how I play. Usually, in the fourth quarter, the teams start double-teaming, packing in the lane, so I know that when I drive, I'll have someone open, and it happens to be the big girls all the time," White said. "It gives them great opportunities, and it's a way to destroy the defense in their tracks. I think that helps a lot, if the three isn't open I can drive and then kick the ball."

"She is a very special talent," Byrd said of White. "She's athletic, and she also just has the knack for finding the basketball."

On Tuesday, she was everywhere.

With time running out in the first quarter, she snatched a turnover, drove towards the basket, then dished off to Collins, who missed a 3-pointer. But there was White with the rebound and quick shot to record the second lead change for a 10-8 Seaforth advance.

With 10 seconds remaining before halftime, she drove to the basket in heavy traffic, mystified a defender with a great fake and popped it in for a 25-19 Seaforth lead.

At the 2:34 mark of the third quarter, she blocked a shot by Kinston's Saniyah White Wooten, otherwise the Vikings could have taken the lead at the end of the period instead of trailing, 34-33.

Leading by three points in the fourth period, Seaforth went on a 9-point run to go up 49-37 with 2:20 remaining and blow the game wide open. Kinston's Zy-Niyah Perry stopped the bleeding with a fast break basket at 1:16. Perry led all scorers with 18 points.

After starting the season with a 6-7 record, Seaforth steadily improved and was on a 13-game win streak, which saw the team sweep the Mid-Carolina 1A/2A conference, before falling to the No. 8 Whiteville Wolfpack, 44-39, in the second round of the NCHSAA 2A playoffs last Thursday.

"We work extremely hard," Byrd said. "We have girls coming in at 6 a.m. to work out, we have girls staying after practice, so I think it's a testament to them how hard they've worked. They've put in a ton of extra time outside of our regular practice time to get better."

CHATHAM IS **BOLD!**



# CIS' Lopez joins Chatham Middle School as first bilingual student support specialist

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON  
News + Record Staff



Staff photo by Victoria Johnson

**Ilsen Lopez, 25, is CIS-Chatham's first bilingual student support specialist at Chatham Middle School. She started at the organization in February.**

SILER CITY — While growing up in Siler City, Ilsen Lopez wanted to become an FBI agent — and when that didn't work out, she moved on to the next best thing: helping children.

On Feb. 1, she took up a position in Chatham Middle School as Communities In Schools' first bilingual student support specialist, a role in which she said she hopes to offer students the support she wished she'd had when she was in school.

"I want to be that person that I didn't have growing up," said Lopez, 25. "I didn't have many role models growing up, so my hope is to be one of them for somebody, you know. I know that I can't be a role model for everybody. It doesn't work like that. But I do want to make a difference in somebody's life."

In her position as student support specialist, Lopez will provide individualized support to students and their families in English and Spanish, empowering Chatham Middle students to overcome issues related to attendance, behavior and coursework. She'll also be working with school administration to help them supply students with the best environment.

"It's pretty much just helping them [students] succeed," she said. "That's the number one goal."

She'll be working with 50 students ranging from 6th to 8th grade, many of them Hispanic. Chatham Middle's student body is over 74% Hispanic, according to the school system's January ethnic enrollment report.

Since starting, she's been undergoing a whole lot of training under CIS program director Jazmin Mendoza Sosa, getting to know the ins and outs of her role. Lopez has also introduced herself to her students to begin developing trust and establishing a foundation from which she can support each of them — be that offering a few words of encouragement or providing a

safe space for classwork. She'll be meeting teachers this week and families in the weeks to come.

"Everybody welcomed me with open arms," she said, "and that's where I learned English because coming here, I didn't know a bit of English."

She was fluent in English by 5th grade, but acquiring the language, of course, came with a few hiccups at first.

"The struggle was that I felt like nobody understood me," she said. "I had an accent. I felt like people were making fun of it, making fun of my accent, or how I spoke."

She also had to interpret and translate for her mother, who doesn't speak English.

"It was really hard knowing both languages because my mom expected me to know everything," Lopez said. "So growing up, it was like, 'Can you translate this?' So, I would try it every time I have a phrase and think, 'OK, how can I put this in a sentence where she would understand?'"

She added with a laugh: "I was afraid she'd say, 'You're supposed to know this.'"

From Siler City Elementary, she went to Chatham Middle and Jordan-Matthews High School, from which she graduated in 2015. She then left Siler City and spent about a year traveling throughout the northern U.S. — including cities like New York, Washington, D.C., Boston and Baltimore.

She returned to the area in 2017. "I got a job and I just didn't think of school, and I thought, 'Like, you know, I'm not 18,'" she said. "Just the thought of going to school back then was just, like, a little scary."

She worked first as an administrative coordinator at a daycare center for about a year, before taking another role as a machine operator at Brisco Apparel in Ramseur. Then, in February of 2020, everything changed — and not because of COVID-19.

Her daughter Scarlett came into the world.

"I had her ... just before everything went crazy," she said.

"I remember like it was yesterday, when I was in the hospital, you know, my family could still be there. Then I stayed there for a couple of days, and then, two weeks later, everything was shut down. I was very lucky."

Upon returning to work, she moved into a sales role — "an amazing experience," she said, where she met many great friends and truly learned to communicate with others. Last year, however, after just over three years at Brisco Apparel, she decided it was time to do something different.

"I'm like, 'I have to do something with my life,'" Lopez said with a laugh. "You know, I gotta do something for this child — not just for her, but for me, too."

As of right now, Lopez wants to go back to school part-time and ultimately study something related to education or psychology. So, when she stumbled upon an opening for a Chatham Middle student support specialist late last year, everything seemed to click into place.

"It's definitely a great place to start," she said, "and I kind of want to feel the environment to see if that's really what I want, because I know a lot of people just go for it, and they don't end up loving it. I want to love what I do."

She applied for the Siler City position late last year, and after a series of interviews, she received an offer in January to start the following month — much to her surprise.

"At first, you know, it was just like, 'I'm gonna give it a go,' but I didn't really think it was gonna go anywhere if I'm honest with you," she said, laughing. "I'm like, OK, and then everything got real when Tych [Cowdin, CIS's executive director] contacted me."

The role stood out to her both for its location and purpose.

First, Lopez knew Chatham Middle as a former student, and second, when she attended the school, she didn't have the

support she needed to succeed. At the time, she recalled, the school didn't have any such student support specialists — only a guidance counselor "who told us what we already knew." Lopez graduated in 2011.

"Well, they could have helped somebody else, but me personally, it was just stuff that I already knew," she said. "Like, 'You have to do good in school, you know? I'm not the type of person who talks about my feelings. I hate talking about my feelings just because I don't want people to feel pity.'"

This new role, then, presented an opportunity to provide the next generation of students the help she wished she'd had as a middle school student.

"I thought, 'Wow, like, who wouldn't want to do that, right? Who wouldn't want to do that? Who wouldn't want to be there for a kid?'" she said. "You know, now that I have a kid of my own, I'm like, 'I'm gonna do that for her too.'"

About a month into the job, Lopez said she has done quite a bit of learning — and she hopes to do even more. She'll fully assume the reins of her role in early March.

Ultimately, Lopez seeks to show Chatham Middle students that someone's listening to them and will be there for them whatever they need.

"I'm here for this reason," Lopez said she wants her students know. "I'm gonna be here these days, you know. I'm here to support you."

For her part, Lopez's supervisor, Mendoza Sosa, looks forward to seeing where she takes the role.

"Ilsen is always willing to learn, and she asks questions and wants to understand her role well so she can be the best student support specialist she can be," Mendoza Sosa said. "[She] brings new ideas, and I can't wait to see her bloom in this role."

Reporter Victoria Johnson can be reached at [victoria@chathamnr.com](mailto:victoria@chathamnr.com).



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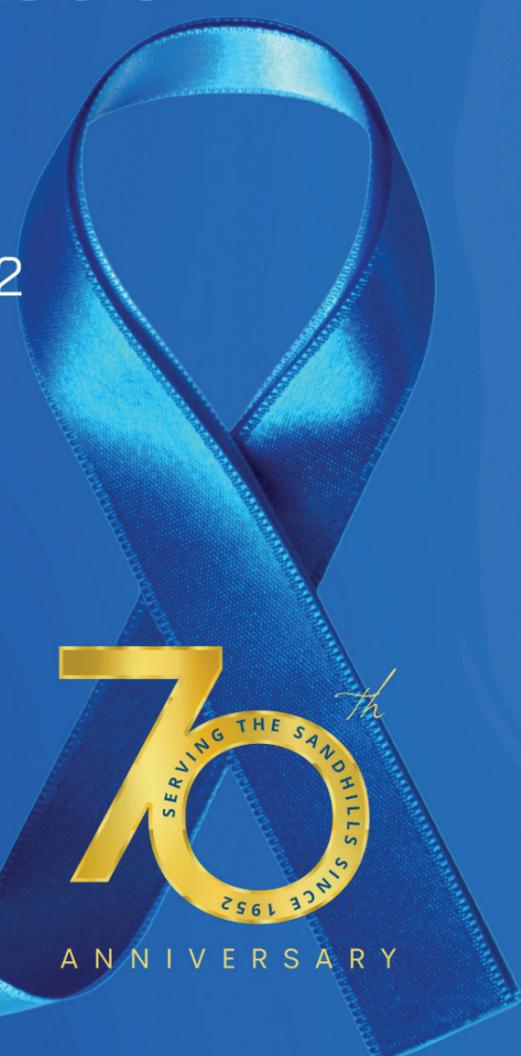
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ANNIVERSARY

# Education Foundation announces \$10K in grants for CCS

From the Chatham Education Foundation

The Chatham Education Foundation's mission is to engage our community as public school advocates and to raise funds and resources to support innovation and education excellence in the Chatham County Schools.

In our continued efforts to accomplish our mission, we are pleased to announce that we awarded almost \$10,000 in Creative Teaching Grants to the teachers and staff of the Chatham County Schools.

The Chatham Education Foundation believes teacher success provides opportunities for sustainable, strong and consistent classrooms. This, in turn, will help student engagement and success. Creative Teaching Grants are awarded to teachers or principals who seek to bring innovative ideas to their classroom, outside of their typical annual budget. These teachers are going above

and beyond to bring innovative, enriching and engaging activities to their students.

CEF awarded a wide variety of grants, including increasing equitable literature within the libraries and classrooms, a media center makeover, a disc golf course, ukuleles for a music classroom, purchasing classroom iPods to help turn nature and the community into a research station, and creating a rain garden.

In an effort to support Chatham County's Equity & Excellence for Everyone initiative, Ms. Craig and Ms. Streets, along with the other teachers of Margaret B. Pollard Middle School, have professional development goals related to equity. The Social Studies and ELA departments applied for a Creative Teaching Grant to expand their diverse literature. The departments will work together to engage all students in a cross-curricular learning opportunity that will put great books in the hands of students,

foster curiosity and provide an extra opportunity for all students to gain a broader perspective from voices that are often unheard.

"The learning activities incorporated in this project will intentionally promote empathy and compassion, critical thinking and problem solving, and skill/content building for high school and beyond," Craig and Streets said. "These learning objectives are not easily achieved. This innovative approach to interdisciplinary engagement with high-interest texts will engage students at an exceptionally high level."

Ms. Vaughn of the Chatham School of Science and Engineering was awarded a CTG to create a rain garden.

"This is an entire unit based on learning about rain gardens, cisterns, rain barrels and critical area replants," she said. "Within this unit, students will learn how to measure different types of water flow from storms, calculate

the area of both impervious and pervious surfaces, and complete soil infiltration tests. They will then work on designing a critical area replant for the chosen area by choosing plants, determining where to plant them based on soil infiltration tests. Students will work with the art club to design a space for the whole school to use. The goal of this project is to bring real-world applications to the classroom and to build on this interest working outside with land and soil. This project will enable students to better understand the processes that occur while building a rain garden or completing a critical area replant and actually changing an area at our school for outdoor use."

Ms. Galloway, of Chatham Grove Elementary, was excited to be awarded a CTG to purchase ukuleles for her music classroom.

"My goal is to implement a ukulele program at our elementary school, which will positively

impact all students," she said. "Introducing ukuleles at an elementary age has proven to be highly effective in teaching young students a variety of musical concepts. Ukuleles can be used across all K-5 grade levels, and the instrument introduces a wide range of concepts to all learners. The instrument offers the opportunity for students to compose and create music, in addition to developing both a student's theoretical and aural skills in music by experiencing chords and tuning an instrument. Students will also benefit from learning a new instrument from another culture."

The Chatham Education Foundation is grateful for the support of our corporate, foundation and individual donors. Without our donors, these innovative projects and resources would not be available to the students of the Chatham County Schools.

Please contact Jaime Detzi for additional information at [jaime@cefmail.org](mailto:jaime@cefmail.org).

# Council on Aging in-person activities resumes

From the Chatham Council on Aging

PITTSBORO — Following a continued decline in COVID-19 cases across Chatham County and the state of North Carolina, the Chatham County Council on Aging lifted the suspension of its in-person activities at the Western Chatham Senior Center in Siler City effective Tuesday, March 1.

The resumption covered all-in person activities, including congregate meals,

activities and fitness classes. Many offerings made available virtually during the suspension will continue in that format to supplement the Council's in-person programming. As was the case prior to the pause, all congregate participants must be fully vaccinated to come to the center.

Masking inside the Western Center will remain in effect for congregate clients through at least the month of March.

This decision, reached after in-person Council activities were suspended Jan. 7 due to the prevalence of the Omicron variant, is made possible after consultation with local health officials. According to the N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Services, case rates are now around 100 cases per 100,000 residents, down from a peak in January of over 1,400. The percentage of tests coming back positive is now below 8%, down from a high in January of over 20%.

"It is with great pleasure that we are able to take this welcomed step and invite our valued seniors back into the Western Center," COA Interim Director Lacey Monte said. "While this decision may seem a long time in coming, it is through our deliberate approach that we have arrived at this day."

For more information on the Council on Aging, phone 919-542-4512 or 919-742-3975 or visit the Council's website at [www.chathamcoa.org](http://www.chathamcoa.org).

## COLLEGE HONORS

### CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY DEAN'S LIST

Brent Whitley of

Moncure has been named to the Cedarville University Fall 2021

### Dean's List.

The campus is located in southwest Ohio.

### UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Isabelle Moore of Siler City has been named to the University of Mississippi Fall 2021 Dean's Honor Roll.

The campus is located in Oxford, Mississippi.

### WIDENER UNIVERSITY

Emma Wilcock of Pittsboro has been named to the

Fall 2021 semester Dean's List at Widener University.

Wilcock is studying Biology. Widener University is located in Chester, Pennsylvania.

## Women may need financial 'catch-up'

It's unfortunate but true: If you're a woman, you face more obstacles than men in achieving financial security. And that means you may well need to put in some extra effort.

Just how serious is your challenge? For one thing, women still face a gender pay gap - based on median incomes, women earn about 82 cents for every dollar a man makes, according to the Census Bureau. This pay gap amounts to a nearly \$470,000 difference in lifetime earnings, according to an Edward Jones/Age Wave study. Furthermore, when factoring in the career disruptions women face because of caring for children and elderly parents, that \$470,000 becomes a \$1.1 million lifetime earnings gap, according to the study. Finally, women tend to live longer than men, meaning their lifetime earnings must last longer.

Everyone's situation is different, but these figures at least point to the challenges many women encounter. To help yourself, consider these moves:

- Pay yourself first. You always have to pay your bills - but, at the same time, pay yourself by moving money automatically from your checking account each month into a low-risk, liquid vehicle, such as a money market account or some type of cash management account connected with your investment portfolio. This move can help give you a "bucket" of money to use for any reason, such as the need to step away from your job to care for children or aging parents.

- Increase your 401(k) contributions each year. If you have a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, take full advantage of it. At a minimum, contribute enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered, and increase your contributions every year, or every time

your salary increases.

- Fully fund your IRA. Even if you contribute to a 401(k), you may still be eligible to invest in an IRA - and you should. You can put in up to \$6,000 per year to a traditional or Roth IRA, or \$7,000 if you're 50 or older. (However, a Roth IRA does have income limitations that may prevent you from contributing the full amount.)

- Learn about Social Security options. Because Social Security provides a lifetime income stream that includes cost-of-living increases, it can help mitigate two key risks you face in retirement: longer life expectancies and inflation. You can start taking Social Security as early as age 62, but your monthly checks will be significantly larger if you wait until your "full" retirement age, which will likely be between 66 and 67. If you delay taking benefits beyond your full retirement age, your payments will increase by 8% per year, until age 70, when your benefits max out. You'll also want to learn about spousal and survivor benefits, which can affect how much you'll receive.
- Get some help. You may be able to benefit from working with a financial professional, who can evaluate your situation, make investment recommendations, and help answer questions you may have, such as, "What moves can I make so I can afford to become a caregiver for an elderly parent?" Hopefully, there will be a day when women won't have to play financial catch-up. For now, though, use all the means at your disposal to help yourself.

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

*Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

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**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

## PITTSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Board approves preliminary plans for subdivision

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN  
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Pittsboro's board of commissioners unanimously approved a preliminary set of plans for a new subdivision development in Chatham Park on Monday.

The subdivision would be located in Chatham Park west of Chatham Park Way and south of Wendover Parkway. The residential plot would be over 24 acres and would include 55 lots. Each of the lots will contain single-family detached homes, and the subdivision will be connected to public sewer and water.

"The preliminary plat was reviewed by the planning board on Feb. 7," Pittsboro Senior Planner Victoria Bailiff said on Monday. "Upon review by staff, there were some outstanding items noted by staff prior to the planning board, and we did not wish to add an additional month to the review process, so the applicant was allowed to proceed to the planning board as they agreed to address the remaining items."

Town planning staff told Chatham Park Investors they had to address five items on its preliminary plan to move on with the approval process. Fixes included creating sidewalks on both sides of Beacon Drive, adding additional buffers between the sidewalks and the road, and adding roadway cross-sections.

Once Chatham Park Investors made these changes to the plans, the changes went to commissioners for approval. But before approving the plans, some board members expressed concerns with the new development's entrances and exits design.

Commissioner Pamela Baldwin said she wanted to see two exit and entry points in the new subdivision, something she said the board asked for long ago when they voted to change an ordinance requiring subdivisions to have two access points.

"That is something we really worked hard for," she said. "Whatever the wish-

es of the board (are), I will go with, but I just wanted to remind everyone that was something we really wanted."

Mayor Cindy Perry echoed similar concerns, saying she believed having multiple entrances and exits to the subdivision would be crucial to the safety of the neighborhood.

"We struggled with that on the county planning board for years, and it is unilaterally important for the safety of the subdivision," Perry said. "This becomes an issue for school buses, sanitary collection, and if a great, big tree falls across the entrance way, it certainly is a major safety issue."

One exception to the ordinance allows the county's fire marshal to weigh in on whether two entrances or exits are necessary. In the case of this subdivision, the fire marshal said one access point would be acceptable.

Commissioner Jay Farrell agreed with Perry and Baldwin regarding the two entrances and exits, but also noted he trusts the opinion of William Judson, the fire marshal.

"I was in support of this years ago when we discussed this, but I have to say I have a lot of trust in our fire marshal and our chief," he said. "I'm not too crazy about this because I know the situations we have been in, but hopefully we can speak with them [Chatham Park] down the road and see if we can work this out."

Commissioner Kyle Shipp also said he wants to rely on the fire marshal's opinion on the safe number of entrance ways and exits in the new development.

"Ultimately, I think our goal was to give the fire marshal more of an ability to have a say in these situations with this ordinance," Shipp said. "I would defer to him in this case."

The board went on to approve the preliminary plans. The next step will be considering the final plans, which will be brought to the planning board before coming to the town for approval.

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at [theeden@chathamnr.com](mailto:theeden@chathamnr.com).

# POLICE REPORTS

## CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On Feb. 14, Blaine Ivey Rhodes, 26, of 15 Weldon Dr. N, Chapel Hill, was arrested by SSgt. Anthony Norton for felony probation violation and felony probation violation out of county. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County Superior Court on Mar. 10.

On Feb. 15, Brian Julius Blackwell, 20, of 1062 Morris Rd., Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Reggie Griffin for assault by pointing a gun and simple assault. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 2.

On Feb. 15, Timothy Edward Dixon, 43, of 609 Rauhut St., Burlington, was arrested by Deputy Justina Knox for misdemeanor probation violation. He was issued a \$1,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 10.

On Feb. 16, Tamia Tiona Fox,

24, of 4331 Lee Ave., Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for two counts of failure to appear. She was issued a \$4,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Lee County District Court in Sanford on Mar. 3.

On Feb. 17, Dylan McCray Martin, 26, of 3612 Carl Allred Rd., Franklinville, was arrested by SSgt. Anthony Norton for Domestic Violence protection order violation. He was issued no bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 23.

On Feb. 17, Carlos Dominguez Moreno, 29, of 1011 S. Chatham Ave., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. He was issued a \$1,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on Feb. 23.

On Feb. 17, Kay Frances Spears, 61, of 274 Andrews Store Rd., Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for larceny by an em-

ployee. She was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 21.

On Feb. 17, Kevin Alexander Cifuentes, 26, of 312 S. 3rd Ave., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Reid Kirkman for failure to appear. He was issued a \$3,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 3.

On Feb. 17, Myracle Gathue Tyson, 25, of 3190 W. Third St., Siler City, was arrested by Cpl. David Nixon for cyberstalking. She was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Guilford County District Court in Greensboro on Mar. 2.

On Feb. 18, Nicole Elizabeth Powers, 25, of 1000 N. Duke St., Apt. 7, Durham, was arrested by Deputy Brooke Roberts for larceny by an employee. She was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 21.

On Feb. 19, Jeffrey Lamont

Burnette, 43, of 594 A Cedar Lake Rd., Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Rischetta White for misdemeanor stalking. He was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 2.

On Feb. 20, Zada Shanta Scotton, 24, of 401 W. Sixth St., Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Rischetta White for felony to appear related to felony probation violation. She was issued a \$20,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Robeson County Court in Lumberton on Mar. 9.

On Feb. 20, Jose Salvador Solorzano, 30, of 3108 Lemon Springs Rd., Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for communicating threats. He was placed on a 48-hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 23.

On Feb. 20, Emmanuel Charles Lyles, 27, of 8333 Meadow Green Rd., Browns Summit, was arrested by

Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill/inflct serious injury, possession of a firearm by a felon, possessing/selling/buying a gun with an altered serial number, and discharging a firearm in the city. He was issued a \$250,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 21.

On Feb. 21, Kendrick Maurice McLean, 31, of 611 North Horner Blvd., Sanford, was arrested by Deputy Marcus Hart for possession of stolen goods/property and carrying a concealed gun. He was issued a written promise to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 22.

On Feb. 21, Nicholas Paul Mellis, 19, of 700 Chancellors Way, Greenville, was arrested by Deputy Reggie Griffin for simple possession of a Schedule II controlled substance. He was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on Mar. 2.

## Student musicians take top prizes in JMArts's 4th annual 'Sing and Play'

From JMArts

SILER CITY — Four local students took top prizes last Thursday in "Sing and Play '22," the 4th annual student music competition at Jordan-Matthews High School.

From auditions through the showcase concert, the event is designed as an educational experience for young musicians and a benefit concert for JMArts, the Jordan-Matthews Arts Foundation.

Audience members voted Jojo Chen of Woods Charter School as best performance in the elementary division for her vocal rendition of "Lost Boy," a song written and recorded by Ruth B.

Zachary Klingel of Margaret B. Pollard Middle School topped an exceptionally strong middle school competition with his vocal and guitar performance of "Old Church Choir," a song written and recorded by Zach Williams.

And in the high school competition, Buck and Maggie Thornton of Jordan-Matthews High School took the prize for their vocal duet with guitar of "April Come She Will," a song written by Paul Simon and recorded by Simon and Garfunkel.

"Sing and Play" is open to instrumental and vocal acts. While most sang to prerecorded accompaniment tracks, there were instrumental performances on five different instruments as well as vocalists who accompanied themselves on piano and guitar. The winner of each division received a \$50 prize.

Rose Pate, president of JMArts, said she loves how everyone supports all of the performers.

"It's great to see how the community responds to the students," she said. "It's awfully hard to walk out on that stage in the bright lights, but the audience cheers for every kid like they're their own."

All money raised by the competition is used by JMArts to expand opportunity for high school artists, including those participating in the annual New York Arts Adventure. That trip scheduled over spring break gives upperclass musicians, actors and visual artists an opportunity to explore



JMArts photo by Chip Pate

**JMArts' 'Sing & Play' co-hosts Wilson Ramos Meza and Litzzy Garcia pose with Elementary Division winner Jojo Chen. Sing & Play is a student music competition where the audience selects winners in each grade division. The competition was held last Thursday.**

one of the world's great cities, experience the very best in the arts, and gain new perspectives and experiences that will influence their lives and work.

Students this year will have the opportunity to learn from Broadway actor, theater producer and director Jessie Austrian of Fiasco Theater; Washington Post theater critic Peter Marks and a notable graffiti writer working in the city. Other opportunities to interact with world-class artists are still being arranged.

Musicians from Chatham County and across the state were eligible for "Sing and Play." Contestants in the showcase

concert were selected by judges Greg Burriss, Matt Fry and Joseph Walden during auditions held in early February.

Pate expects "Sing and Play" to return next year with registration for auditions opening sometime around Dec. 1. JMArts is already looking at possible dates for next year's competition, which is likely to be held once again in mid- to late-February.

More information about "Sing and Play" and other arts events scheduled this season is available at [jmartarts.org](http://jmartarts.org). Photos from this year's showcase concert are online at [facebook.com/JMHSArts](http://facebook.com/JMHSArts).



JMArts photo by Chip Pate

**Middle School Division winner Zachary Klingel poses with co-hosts Wilson Ramos Ramos (left) and Litzzy Garcia at Sing and Play '22.**

### STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH DOCKET NO. E-2, SUB 1288

#### BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC, for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Convenience and Necessity to Construct Approximately 1.3 Miles of New 230 kV Transmission Line in Chatham County, North Carolina

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on February 7, 2022, Duke Energy Progress, LLC (DEP or Applicant) filed with the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) an application for a certificate of environmental compatibility and public convenience and necessity to construct approximately 1.3 miles of new 230 kV transmission line in Chatham County, North Carolina.**

The preferred route's southern endpoint is a proposed tap of DEP's existing Harris Plant - Siler City 230 kV transmission line, approximately 200 feet southeast of the Bynum Tap 230 kV transmission line. From the southern endpoint, the line is proposed to travel north, paralleling DEP's existing Bynum Tap 230 kV transmission line for approximately 1.1 miles. The proposed line then continues northeast for approximately 0.25 miles into the northern endpoint, the planned substation site, south of Hanks Chapel Road.

Anyone wishing to view DEP's application and the detailed maps concerning this project may do so on the Commission's web site, [www.ncuc.net](http://www.ncuc.net) (search for Docket No. E-2 Sub 1288). These materials may also be reviewed at the following DEP location: 410 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, by contacting Michael Sykes at 919-546-6848 prior to the visit.

The Commission has scheduled the application for a public witness hearing at 7:00 p.m., on June 7, 2022, at the Historic Chatham County Courthouse, 9 Hillsboro Street, Pittsboro, North Carolina. This hearing may be canceled if no significant protests are received on or before May 18, 2022.

Persons desiring to intervene as formal parties of record should file a verified petition under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 62-103(b) and Commission Rules R1-5, R1-19, and R8-62(i) no later than Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Such a petition should be filed with the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300. Intervenor shall also file the direct testimony and exhibits of expert witnesses with the Commission on or before May 18, 2022.

Persons desiring to send written statements to inform the Commission of their position in the matter should address their statements to the North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300 and reference Docket No. E-2, Sub 1288. Such written statements will be included in the Commission's official files. If the public hearing is not canceled, however, such written statements cannot be considered competent evidence unless those persons submitting statements appear at a public witness hearing and testify concerning the information contained in their written statements.

The Public Staff of the Utilities Commission, through its Executive Director, is authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Executive Director should be addressed to: Mr. Chris Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300.

The Attorney General is also authorized to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to: The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General of North Carolina, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-9001. Written statements may be emailed to [utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov](mailto:utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov).

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.  
This the 21st day of February, 2022.  
NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION  
Erica N. Green Deputy Clerk  
F24,M3,M10,M17,4tp

## County Mulch Sale

Solid Waste & Recycling Division  
28 County Services Road, Pittsboro

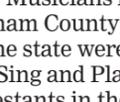
### Sales Begin Saturday, March 5

7:30 am to 12:00 noon  
\$5 per scoop (~1 cubic yard)  
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dump trucks (~3 cubic yards)

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LETTER FROM KYIV

# Waking up to war

*'People were shaken out of deep sleep by the harsh realization that the enemy army of 190,000 soldiers is striking our land'*

**BY MAIA MIKHALUK**  
Exclusive to the News + Record

KYIV, Ukraine — Imagine, before the crack of dawn, you are pulled out of your sleep by multiple explosions outside.

You wake up hoping you just dreamed it up because the last month your nerves have been strained by daily reminders that Russian attack is imminent. So at first you think your dream just repeated your fears, but then you clearly hear another explosion.

You run to your computer to check on the news. You see the face of the Russian president distorted with hatred; he is almost hyperventilating with rage spitting into the camera the words about going into Ukraine with military operation to punish those who are guilty of persecuting Russian-speakers (the lie that Putin regularly repeats for many years now).

So your mind quickly accepts the fact that the big invasion has started, though you ask yourself: how are they already bombing our home, Kyiv, capital of Ukraine?! Now you need to quickly wake up your kids and take them to a bomb shelter. You stand by the bedside of your sleeping children and you can't bring yourself to wake them up; you can't come up with words that you will have to say to them that will announce war in their lives. Your heart is racing, your mind is overloaded



Photo by Maia Mikhaluk

**Morning in Kyiv. This view is from the Mikhaluk's apartment.**

**The destruction was heartbreaking. I kept thinking how it is possible that this is happening in an ancient European capital of a European country in the heart of Europe, how Russia is being allowed to go in and start bombing Ukrainian cities.**

**MAIA MIKHALUK, resident of Kyiv, Ukraine**

and everything seems surreal.

That was our morning last Thursday when at 5 a.m. Russian warplanes and rockets bombed simultaneously many cities in Ukraine. People were shaken out of deep sleep by the harsh realization that the enemy army of 190,000 soldiers is striking our land.

From multiple directions Russian tanks broke borders and started advancing. Our army continues to fight

them bravely. Many of those tanks are bursting in flames. On that first day of war seven Russian bomb carrier planes were shot, too. But Russian invaders did take over part of the Chernobyl nuclear power station 80 miles away from Kyiv. Now they are bringing a lot of artillery into Chernobyl zone knowing that they can shoot from there and nobody will try to shut them up — who would fire in the direction of a nuclear plant?!



Photo by Maia Mikhaluk

**The damage from a Russian attack on an apartment building in Kyiv, just seven minutes from where Maia Mikhaluk and her family live.**



Photo by Maia Mikhaluk

**Fire from an explosion in Kyiv, Ukraine.**

Last Friday morning for our family started at 4:20 a.m. when our windows shook from an explosion that seemed very close. The sky seemed lit up by orange flames. We rushed to our improvised bomb shelter — a narrow corridor between our apartment and apartment of our daughter and son-in-law. We do have a bomb shelter in the basement of our 12-story building, but it's very small and there is nothing there — no water, nothing to sit on, no restroom.

With our daughter at the end of 38th week of pregnancy, running down seven flights of stairs to stay for hours in a place like that was not an option. So every time sirens signal air raid we gather in our small corridor and pray to God there is no direct hit on our building.

On this day, as I write this, we've lost count of air raids. When it got quiet for a few hours my husband and I went to see the building that was hit — the explosion we woke up to. This building is a few minutes' walk from our home; it's between a kindergarten and a school where our kids used to study.

A Russian missile was shot by our air defense; the debris fell on two buildings. The destruction was heartbreaking. I kept thinking how it is possible that this is happening in an ancient European capital of a European country in the heart of Europe, how Russia is being allowed to go in and start bombing Ukrainian cities. Everybody knows it's outrageously wrong, but the world just stands by and watches this rape!

Europe should not hope that Putin will be satisfied with taking over Ukraine. He already claimed that he wants the world to go back to the time before the Soviet Union collapsed. He wants to restore the Soviet Union and its control over Eastern Europe. When this "beast" eats up Ukraine, it will be hungry for more. Why? Because he can — and because everybody will be just "deeply concerned" again and keep hoping that their own turn to



Photo by Maia Mikhaluk

**Maia Mikhaluk's husband, Nic (left) and her son-in-law Nikita and daughter Sasha in the space they use for a 'bomb shelter' in their apartment in Kyiv.**

face the "beast" will never come.

As I am writing we are going into the second night of war. We don't know how early we will have to jump out of our beds tonight, but we know bombing will continue. We also know that our army is heroically holding off hordes of Russian tanks along a 2,000-kilometer border between Ukraine and Russia/Belarus. But Russian tanks are already in the suburbs of Kyiv. If our army will not destroy the enemy that is several times larger, Ukraine will cease to exist as an independent democratic country.

Our men are motivated; they have their homes and families to protect. We keep asking — what motivates Russians to fight to death to steal a neighbor's land? Against all odds we hope to win this war as David killed Goliath. God is just! He destroys evil empires time and again! We pray and hope that this is one of those times.

*Mikhaluk has been posting multiple updates daily from her Facebook page:*

<https://www.facebook.com/maia.mikhaluk>

*The CN+R's Bill Horner III and his wife made four trips to Ukraine between 2016 and 2019 through a Christian ministry called International Partnerships-Ukraine, which is based in Boone. Prior to the COVID pandemic, they and other members of their church worked with native Ukrainian students and professionals, helping to teach English, lead workshops and develop relationships with ministry teams in Odessa, Lviv and Kyiv.*

*Maia Mikhaluk and her husband, Nic, direct the work of IP-Ukraine and its team of full-time faith leaders from their home in Kyiv. The Mikhaluks, who make annual trips to N.C. and have been guests in the home of the Horners on several occasions, are sheltering in their apartment in Kyiv.*

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# Scenes from Pittsboro's 'Mardi Gras' Pub Crawl



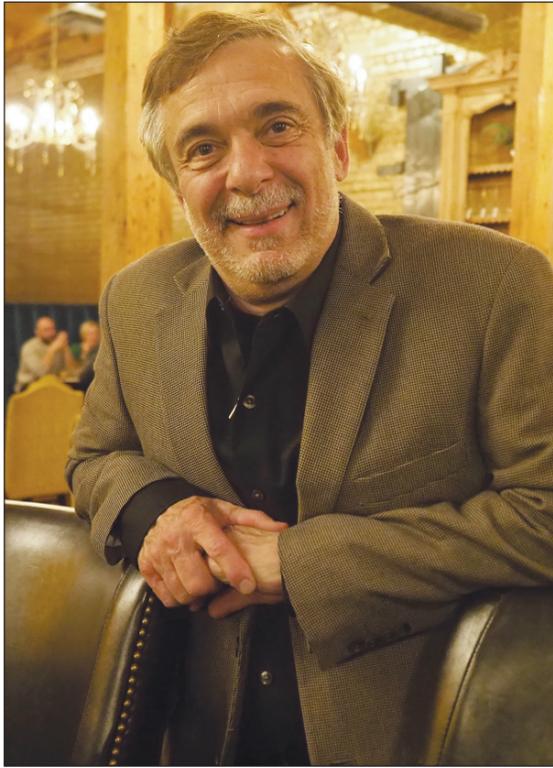
Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Postal Restaurant proprietor and Chef Bill Hartley said of last Saturday's Pub Crawl celebration in Pittsboro, 'Tonight is the way it used to be before COVID.' Customers there dined on fresh fish and seafood with Mardi Gras-themed drinks while watching basketball.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Friends and Chatham County locals Maggie Lee and Babbs Eesley celebrate Mardi Gras at bmc (Bite My Cookies) Brewing Co. at The Plant on Lorax Lane in Pittsboro.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Chef-owner Greg Lewis at The Sycamore, one of the Pub Crawl stops, creates seasonal menus based on availability of food offered by local organic farmers in Chatham County. He and partner Maria Parker-Lewis also provide meals for food-insecure families in Chatham County and catering services for special events.



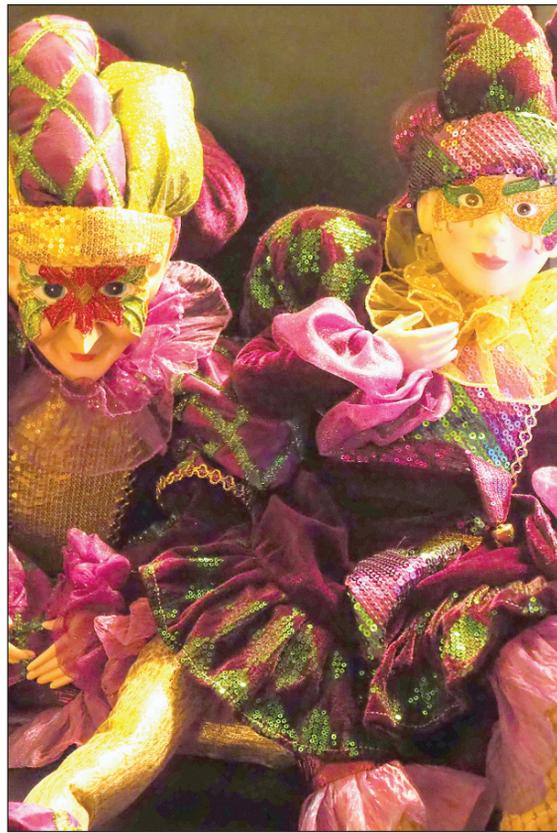
Staff photo by Kim Hawks

This party bus may look white but it runs green. Mardi Gras in Pittsboro — also known as the Pittsboro Pub Crawl — offered a free bus ride to a variety of restaurants and bars from 6 p.m. to midnight last Saturday.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Kim Hawks' self-portrait from the Pub Crawl.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Happy Mardi Gras!



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Fresh steamed oysters ready for feasting at Postal Fish Company Restaurant. Jason Thomas prepared entrées by shucking the oysters for restaurant guests.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Soil and Water Conservation District announces resource conservation workshop

PITTSBORO — The Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District is accepting applications for the Resource Conservation Workshop scheduled for June 26 to July 1, at N.C. State.

The Resource Conservation Workshop is a weeklong workshop that involves study and hands-on participation in a wide range of conservation topics. Students are housed at N.C. State campus dormitories under the guidance of live-in counselors. Students will learn about natural resources and their management in today's

global environment. Awards and scholarships can be won and are presented to students under several awards programs.

The Resource Conservation Workshop is designed to accommodate up to 104 students. The Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District will sponsor at least one student to attend. Eligible students include rising sophomores, juniors, and seniors in high school who have demonstrated an interest in natural resource conservation. Applications can be found online at <https://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/documents/APPLICATIONFORM.pdf> or by contacting Brandy Oldham, Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District Education Coordinator,

at 919-545-8440 or [brandy.oldham@chathamcountync.gov](mailto:brandy.oldham@chathamcountync.gov).

Applications must be submitted no later than April 1. Applications should be mailed to 1192 U.S. 64 W. Business, Suite 200, Pittsboro, or emailed to Oldham.

The Resource Conservation Workshop is sponsored by the N.C. Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in conjunction with the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation, N.C. State Crop and Soil Science Department, and the Soil and Water Conservation Society Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter. More information about the workshop can be found at <https://www.ncagr.gov/SWC/educational/RCW.html>.

—CN+R staff reports

## ANNUAL GOSPEL SING at New Salem Church, Sunday, March 13th at 6:30pm

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## Jack Tar and Club Whatnot

It was getting ever louder, but in a seemingly orchestrated moment — the kind of moment that happens in movies but never actually in real life — the restaurant went quiet.

Out of the silence came a full-throated, fully Southern, drunk-girl voice: "Potato skins!"

Club Whatnot does not, nor do I think that they have ever, served potato skins.



**DEBBIE MATTHEWS**  
The Curious Cook

pered the window with a message about 80 feet high and 50 or 60 feet across: **WE WANT OPRAH!** I guess they did.

Over the years, no matter how run down, how neglected the building became, it stayed up, and so did the gargantuan, handwritten supplication to The Divine Ms. O.

Then downtown started getting interest. The economy was better, people were tired of malls and chain stores, and things started happening.

One of the things was that the Jack Tar hotel, that blue turquoise Oprah building, was getting a new owner and a new life as a cool, trendy boutique hotel, *Unscripted*

When people find out I am a food writer, after muttering something about "Gee, they do let anybody with a mouth and a laptop ..." they ask me what my favorite restaurant is.

That's like asking me to choose my favorite pair of boots, or 1980s big hair band — it's hard to choose.

I may have mentioned before that The Kid and I bring nerdiness to a whole new level. In the before times, we attended yearly — let's call them "Out There" — conventions in Raleigh. If it came from outer space, the future, or your nightmares, we were all over it.

We approached each year like a couple of battle-hardened field generals. The first year we realized we needed a breather from the packed building and packed lunches. We walked a couple of blocks from the convention hall and discovered this bright, cheerful, art deco space on the corner of Martin and La Salle streets in Raleigh. It's called "Capital Club 16," but we just got into the habit of calling it Club Whatnot.

It instantly became our favorite brunch spot.

It's honest, simple food cooked very well. There is a German influence with lots of sausage, nutty cheeses, and root veggies.

This Raleigh spot is really special to me because it comes with some wonderful memories and delicious food.

Back in the '90s, before it had its renaissance, downtown Durham was a blight. Smack dab in the middle of downtown, right around the corner from the main past office, was a old '70s hotel building that looked like the kind of place the Brady Bunch might have stayed in its heyday.

One day we noticed someone had pa-

Down the road a bit there was news that there would be a restaurant on the ground floor which would be helmed by respected local chef Gray Brooks.

When Jack Tar opened I attended an event to introduce to the world Chef Gray's vision of the Platonic ideal of an American diner.

It wasn't like any Jersey diner I'd ever been to, but with bone marrow butter, mussels, made to order crullers and brightly colored, sweet, and really strong cocktails. It was 100% a quirky, witty, food-forward Durham diner.

Hidden behind this lovely, bright, thoughtful diner is a noir little secret. It's a cool mid-century modern bar that serves off the same menu as out front, but only has about 17 or 18 seats.

It feels like a speakeasy, but it also feels like Frankie and Dino might come swinging in at any minute.

Every bite in the place is delicious, but they do one thing probably better than any other establishment in history.

Regardless if you've been over to the DPAC for some chamber music, checked out the reopened main library, recently had your heart broken, or just crawled your way through the Bull City's pub scene, the very best indulgent final bite is the poutine followed by Jack Tar's mystical, memorable silk pie.

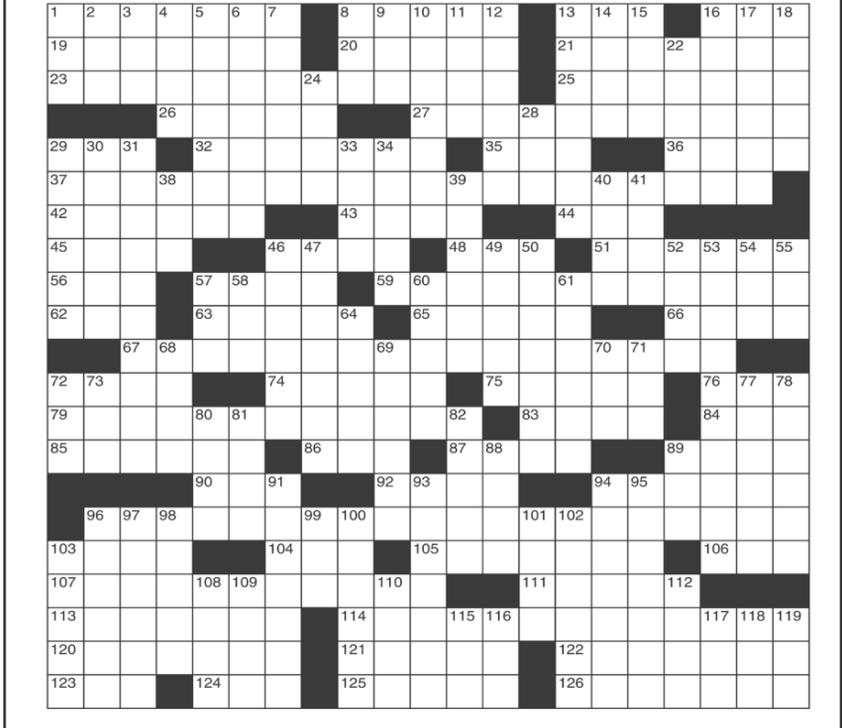
I defy you to give me a situation that will not be made miles better by the inclusion of poutine and silk pie.

Next week is the historic return of my green chili — with photos and the recipe.

Thanks for your time.  
Contact me at [dm@bullcity.com](mailto:dm@bullcity.com)

### PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

<b>ACROSS</b>	43 Lima locale	86 — Leppard	<b>DOWN</b>	33 Jr., last year	82 "You Be —"
1 Combination spear and battle-ax	44 "Rapa —" (1994 film)	87 Some PC readouts	1 Use an ax on	34 Spirited horse	(1986 hit for Run-D.M.C.)
8 Provo native	45 Like even scores	89 Kicked out of the game, for short	2 One "A" of NCAA: Abbr.	38 Eye coverer	
13 Dawn deity	46 Feel sore	90 Radio spots	3 Chou En- —	39 Takeoff strip	88 Jargon
16 Some fast autos	48 Refusals	92 Bruins' sch.	4 Nest dweller	40 Often-pickled veggie	89 Women's patriotic gp.
19 Virtual merchant	51 She sang "Constant Craving"	94 Major shock	5 "If I Can't Have You" singer	41 Pirate	91 Secondary field of study
20 Strong cordage fiber	56 Rocker Brian	96 Query after someone is told they look like Iranian money?	6 Says again	46 From scratch	93 George who played Danny Ocean
21 Performs a charade of	57 Facts, in brief	103 German auto	7 Rive — (Paris' Right Bank)	47 Compelled	94 Mosaic tile
23 Thai money used to buy a Jacuzzi?	59 Gobble up Iraqi money?	104 Tampa Bay NFLer	9 Bistro bill	49 In the lead	95 Long rodent feature
25 Height when upright	62 Gal entering society	105 Over browned bread	8 E-address	50 Squelched	96 Most suitable
26 Protest at which people lie on the ground	63 Jazz's Chick	106 Houston-to-Madison dir.	9 Bistrot bill	52 Cat that roars	97 Assess again
27 Bright red Indian money?	66 Cognizant of	107 Whack some Mexican money?	10 Unpaid player	53 "The Piano" Oscar winner	98 Skip over in speech
29 "Madam" counterpart	67 School where students learn about Swedish money?	111 Rapper — Rhymes	11 Classic cracker brand	54 Cable TV's — Geo	99 Chalice, e.g.
32 "The Dance" painter Henri	72 Norway's capital	113 More intoxicating	12 Tennis-playing guy	55 Miracle —	100 Nailed the test
35 Biceps locale	74 — facias (certain writ)	114 Refuse to contribute	13 Kodak founder	57 Here, in Lyon	101 Desert of Mongolia
36 Powerful auto engine	75 Used skillfully	120 Getty of TV	14 Prefix with -genarian	58 Election mo.	102 Some purple shades
37 "You missed your chance for folding over that Korean money?"	76 "— favor, señor"	121 French river	15 Pentagonam	59 Very angry	103 Milo of films for short
42 Already-included tips, e.g.	79 Forms Ghanaian money into a cylinder shape?	122 Asmara's nation	16 Reach as high as	60 Elected (to)	108 Piper's wear
	83 Brain tests, for short	123 Gobbled up	17 Large, deep serving dish	61 Virginia Tech team name	109 Twisty fish
	84 Suffix with meth-	124 Airport agcy.	18 Painter Jan	62 Cold —	110 Average
	85 Venture out on one's own	125 Played (with)	22 Attending to the matter	64 Cold — (frigid)	112 Comic Johnson
		126 Label on a bargain item	28 Certain Wall St. trader	68 Court plea, for short	115 Uno plus due
			29 Said	69 More than loads up (on)	116 H.S. proficiency test
			30 Antiseptic element	70 Rule, in brief	117 Gallery work
			31 Bucking bovines	71 More than loads up (on)	118 Teachers' gp.
				72 Assoc.	119 Ham marsjköld once of the U.N.
				73 Great Lakes' — Canals	
				77 Like a single-guy band	
				78 Traditional Irish brew	
				80 Make laugh uproariously	
				81 Hoopla	



Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

V	E	T	H	U	N	H	S	P	I	T	E	S	B	J	O	R	N			
E	G	O	M	A	N	I	A	U	R	S	U	L	A	F	E	D	O	N		
N	A	G	U	R	S	K	I	R	O	L	L	I	N	L	A	I	N	E		
I	N	A	S	P	O	O	F	O	F	C	A	S	A	B	L	A	N	C	A	
P	A	N	A	C	E	A	E	L	O	I	N	U	S	A	L	M	S			
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S	A	N	I	P	E	I	R	E	D											
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G	U	L	A	G	E	R	M	I	N	E	D	I	S	S	U	A	D	E		
O	M	A	N	I	R	E	P	E	A	T	I	N	T	E	R	C	O	M		
D	E	N	T	S	S	N	A	R	L	S	I	G	O	R	E	L	I			



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X O V T R P N L E G J H H F D  
B Y I (COOLANT) X O V T R  
R P O T M I D A S K S S I G E  
E S P M A L H D B T E E Z X T  
W U T R I C S Q O K L S S N L  
L J I G E H I G A F D E C U I  
A Y H R O A Y R E T T A B X F  
W T I C V N B T B S R P O N R  
S T K L S G U L P U E N U T I  
K S J I R E T L I F L I O G A

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: SPARK —

- |            |            |             |             |
|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Air filter | Coolant    | Lamps       | Shocks      |
| Battery    | Fuses      | Lubrication | Tire change |
| Belts      | Headlights | Oil change  | Tuneup      |
| Brakes     | Hoses      | Oil filter  |             |

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		9		4		2	
3					1		6
	6		8		7		3
8		5			4	1	
		7	3				2
	2			9			4
	5				2		9
9				8			7
		8	1			3	6

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!

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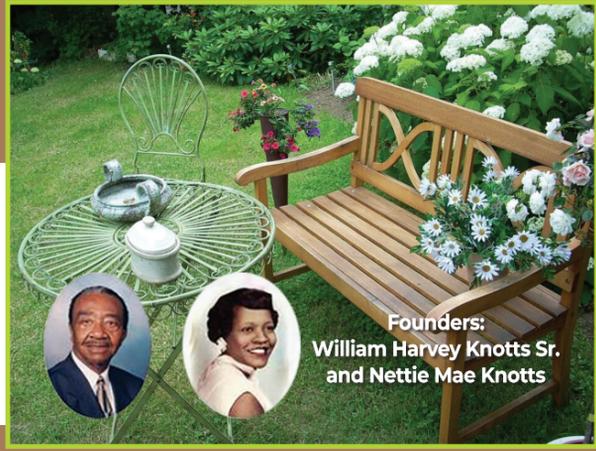
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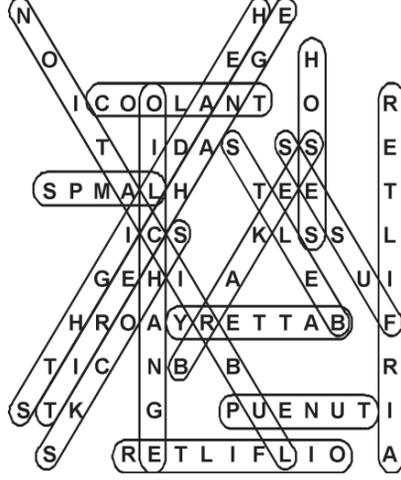
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DIY AUTO MECHANIC



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

5	7	9	6	4	3	2	1	8
3	8	4	9	2	1	7	5	6
1	6	2	8	5	7	9	3	4
8	3	5	2	6	4	1	7	9
4	9	7	3	1	5	6	8	2
6	2	1	7	9	8	5	4	3
7	5	6	4	3	2	8	9	1
9	1	3	5	8	6	4	2	7
2	4	8	1	7	9	3	6	5

Amber Waves

WOW, IT IS REALLY COLD THIS MORNING.

THIS IS INTOLERABLE. I CAN'T STOP SHIVERING!

HMM, I GUESS THAT WOULD MAKE YOU A "MILKSHAKE."

HILARIOUS... I GUESS THAT MAKES YOU A "COLD CUT."

by Dave T. Phipps

SHOULD PROBL'Y GO UP THERE AND SHOVEL THAT DARN SNOW OFF THE ROOF.

SHOULD PROBL'Y GO SEE IF I CAN TALK MY BROTHER INTO DOIN' IT FOR \$25.

by Mike Marland

**GRIN and BEAR IT**

"You're off the hot dog team, Figby! You tested positive for hamburgers!"

The Spats

I JUST SOLD OUR VACUUM CLEANER.

WHY?

IT WAS ONLY GATHERING DUST.

by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb

ANOTHER BIRTHDAY... ANOTHER YEAR OLDER... I'M STARTING TO FEEL PRETTY ANCIENT.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAD!! WE GOT YOU A COOL NEW WATCH!!!

IT'S A FOSSIL.

by Gary Kopervas

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# USDA announces conservation reserve

CN+R Staff Report

Agricultural producers and landowners are now signing up for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), a cornerstone conservation program offered by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. The General CRP signup runs through March 11.

Producers and landowners enrolled 2.1 million acres into the General CRP signup in 2021. There are currently 22.1 million acres enrolled, and FSA is aiming to reach the 25.5-million-acre cap statutorily set for fiscal year 2022.

General CRP helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Please keep in mind that to be eligible for CRP, the cropland must have a cropping history in four of the six years 2012-2017.

Landowners and producers interested in CRP should contact the Chatham County FSA Office at 919-542-2244, ext. 2, to learn more or schedule an appointment to apply for the program before the March 11 deadline.

Due to the pandemic, the Chatham County FSA Office is open to visitors by appointment only. FSA office staff continues to work with agricultural producers via phone, email, and online. Additionally, fact sheets and other resources are available at [fsa.usda.gov/crp](http://fsa.usda.gov/crp).

To better target the program toward climate outcomes, USDA invested \$10 million last year in the CRP Monitoring, Assessment and Evaluation program to measure and monitor the soil carbon and climate resilience impacts of conservation practices over the life of new CRP contracts. This will enable the agency to further refine the program and practices to provide producers tools for increased climate resilience.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits.

## Chatham Charter students place in state DECA competition

Forty students from the Chatham Charter School chapter of DECA, an organization of marketing students, competed with other high school students from across the state in events during the 2022 North Carolina DECA Career Development Conference Feb. 24-26 in Greensboro.

The conference featured general sessions with speakers and award recognitions in addition to the written and role play competitive events. Senior Mackenzie Brooks won a \$1,000 Sonya W. Dismuke scholarship on Thursday. Students recognized for outstanding achievement in competitive events for top test scores, top role play, or both:

- Lily Byrd and Addyson Foushee, 2nd place overall, Business Services Operations
  - Silas Christenbury, 3rd place overall, Integrated Marketing Communications Event
  - Hayley Rakes, top test score, Apparel & Accessories Marketing
  - Landon Hussey, top role play, Business Services Marketing
  - Alexis Hayes, top role play, Quick Serve Restaurant Management
  - Molly Wilson, top role play, Quick Serve Restaurant Management
  - Brooke Garner, top role play, Restaurant and Food Service Management
  - Elphie Spillman, top test score, Retail Merchandising
- State scores allowed Byrd, Foushee and Christenbury to qualify for DECA's International Career Development Conference (ICDC) that will be held April 22-26 in Atlanta. In addition, Spillman and Ariana

## NEWS BRIEFS



Submitted photo

**Addyson Foushee (left) and Lily Byrd of Chatham Charter, who placed second overall in the state DECA Business Services Operations event.**

Rivera-Romo had already qualified for ICDC as part of the School-Based Enterprise Gold Recertification Team.

Chatham Charter's DECA chapter advisers are Larisa Spillman and Ashley Wood.

## La Fiesta Latin Jazz Sextet performs free public concert on March 11

SILER CITY — Gregg Gelb and La Fiesta Latin Jazz Sextet will perform a free public concert at Jordan-Matthews High School at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 11, as part of a Latin Jazz clinic for middle and high school students.

The concert was originally scheduled in late January to conclude the clinic, but had to be postponed because of weather advisories for evening travel.

Gelb is a professional saxophonist, clarinetist, jazz composer and jazz band leader who leads The Heart of Carolina Jazz Orchestra and has performed with many different groups, including the North Carolina Symphony. He currently directs the award-winning Triangle Youth Jazz Ensemble,

which has been selected five times for the finals of Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington competition and festival, and has served as an interim assistant professor of jazz at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C. State University and UNC Greensboro.

La Fiesta Latin Jazz Sextet includes musicians from North Carolina, one of whom is originally from the Dominican Republic. The ensemble teaches jazz history, the improvisation process and performs at events all across the state — drawing for its repertoire on music by jazz greats Louis Armstrong, Tito Puente, Mongo Santamaria, Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, Chick Corea and Horace Silver.

Scheduled to perform in the 75-minute concert are Steve Anderson on piano, Andy Kleindienst on bass, Beverly Botsford on percussion, Ramon Ortiz on drums, Andrew Sanchez on trumpet and Gregg Gelb on saxophone. Some of the group's featured tunes are "Cape Verdean Blues," "Oye Como Va," "Mambo Inn" and "Son de la Loma."

Though Chatham County Schools policy could change based on future pandemic

conditions in our community, beginning on March 7, masks will be optional while in the school building and attending this concert.

Kaleb Moffitt, a percussionist who heard the sextet perform in January as the clinic opened, thought the music was amazing and suggested that everyone come to hear the magic. "I thought it was beautiful; I got a little teary watching them," he said. "I would pay to see them again. Anybody who likes music should come to this concert."

Both the concert and jazz clinic are supported by the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. The 2021 Grassroots Arts Grant for \$1,550 covers half of the program cost; the rest will be matched by JMArts through member contributions and fundraising projects like the sale of JMArts greeting and holiday cards.

More information about JMArts, including a schedule of all upcoming arts events and information on membership, is available online at [JMArts.org](http://JMArts.org).

## 4-H club seeks donations for animal shelter

The Chatham Clover Creators 4-H Club has launched a collection effort for the Chatham County Animal Shelter.

Club members are collecting Kong toys, Purina brand food for dogs, puppies, cats and kittens, laundry detergent and bleach.

Donations can be dropped off at the collection box in The Chatham Rabbit Coffee Shop now to the end of March.

All donations would be greatly appreciated.

—CN+R staff reports



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