

Chatham News + Record

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As General Assembly debates medical marijuana, Chatham hemp advocates reflect on potential legalization

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

Sam Brownfield has lived with the stress of not knowing whether his business, Rocky River Hemp, will be around for the long haul.

As a hemp farmer and the company's co-owner, he and others working in North Carolina's hemp industry, which is expected to be worth around \$25 billion by 2025, have been working under a cloud of impermanence. The law that made growing hemp legal in 2015 was approved on a temporary basis, meaning any change could put him — and the state's 1,500 other growers — out of business.

"We were really worried not just about our business being able to be viable here,"

Brownfield said, "but also, all the customers that are actually living better lives because of the products, and I'd hate for that to disappear from them."

But with the General Assembly's vote on Wednesday to make hemp production and selling permanently legal, those fears are gone.

Brownfield started the business with his father, Rick, in 2018 — around the time when North Carolina placed an exception allowing for farmers and businesses to grow and distribute hemp products containing 0.3% or less of Delta 9 THC, the psychoactive compound found in cannabis.

At first, Brownfield said he and his dad founded Rocky River Hemp as a way to spend more time together and have fun. These days, Brownfield says they've found a passion

together helping people find ways to manage their pain or chronic conditions with their products.

"I got an email last week from a guy who's been living with brain cancer for 12 years, and he said the only thing out of all the pharmaceuticals they put them on, our gummies are what helps him sleep and help him be pain-free," Brownfield said. "It's so rewarding, even beyond seeing the business grow, but just seeing the help it does is insanely rewarding."

Prior to last week, Brownfield would worry about whether his business would be forced to close if the hemp exception were to be overturned. It became even more worrisome as the deadline for the exemption to expire loomed closer.

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Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Rocky River Hemp, one of the regulars at the Pittsboro Farmers Market, is a family business in Chatham County offering a variety of hemp-based products. Co-owner Sam Brownfield spoke with a customer at last week's market.

'TOO FUNNY'

'Chicken Soup' writer's stories find humorous home

Chatham's Erika Hoffman has provided tales for book series for a dozen years



Staff photo by Bill Horner III



Courtesy of Erika Hoffman

Erika Hoffman's story, 'You Smell That?', is featured in the 'Chicken Soup for the Soul: Too Funny' book, published in April.

Chatham author Erika Hoffman reads one of her stories to three of her eight grandchildren. Hoffman, a retired educator, has contributed 17 stories to the 'Chicken Soup for the Soul' book series.

BY BILL HORNER III
News + Record Staff

Erika Hoffman became a bit concerned about her own state of mind after reading a series of articles about dementia, a memory-loss condition which afflicted her late father, and decided to take action.

What happened next was downright laughable.

A story Hoffman wrote — entitled, "You Smell That?" — leads off the second chapter of the recently-published "Chicken Soup for the Soul: Too Funny!" book, in a section called "I Can't Believe I Did That."

The story in the long-running "Chicken Soup" book series recounts a daily habit she developed during the COVID-19 pandemic of testing her sense of smell with cologne. Not normally a perfume wearer, she writes, she'd

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NEWS + RECORD ANALYSIS

Who voted and didn't vote in Siler City's May elections

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Despite the unconventional nature of this year's Siler City municipal elections, from its even-year timing to its three-way races, municipal voter turnout was all too usual.

Siler City's first even-year municipal election drew just under 25% of registered voters to the polls, according to the Chatham County Board of Elections' voting statistics — a slight 0.7% increase from 2019, and a 2% decrease from 2017.

Held on May 17 and certified 10 days later, the town election saw 845 out of 3,393 registered voters participate, up from 758 in 2019, but down from 870 in 2017. Not all 845 cast ballots for mayor or at-large town commissioner either: the 2022 election results record 826 and 825 votes for the mayor and at-large commissioner races respectively.

The News + Record compared this year's municipal voter history data, courtesy of the Chatham Board of Elections, with that of years past, as well against that of this year's pool of possible voters. Here's what we found:

2022 voters by precinct and district
Of Siler City's 845 municipal voters, 300 live

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'SOUNDTRACK BACK TO HAPPINESS'

Mosaic summer concert series brings the joy of live music to Pittsboro

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — When John Wilson takes the Mosaic stage next Friday night, June 17, there will likely be tears in his eyes before he plays the first note. His band, Big Time Shine, is performing its first gig since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020.

The Pittsboro band has been around since it was created by Wilson's father, Johnny, in 2003. But like many during the pandemic, Big Time Shine was forced to take time off.

"This band is standing on the shoul-



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

John Wilson of Big Time Shine stands in front of the Tommy Edwards Stage at Mosaic in Chatham Park. His band will perform on that stage for the first time since March 2020 on June 17.

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THE CN+R Q&A | THE UVALDE SCHOOL SHOOTING

A decade after Sandy Hook, author reflects on Texas school tragedy

Two weeks ago, the News + Record interviewed New York Times feature writer Elizabeth Williamson about her book, "Sandy Hook: An American Tragedy and the Battle for Truth." The book is a compelling account about the aftermath of the 2012 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School and how conspiracy theorists portrayed it as a "false flag" event, using actors and designed to promote gun control measures.

After the May 24 shooting at another elementary school in Uvalde, Texas, the CN+R reached out to Williamson again with follow-up questions. Here's that conversation:

Since we last spoke, we've seen a number of mass shootings — including the Uvalde, Texas, school shooting (21 dead, including 19 students) and the Tulsa, Oklahoma, shooting at a medical building (five dead). How has the discussion — particularly online discourse involving conspiracy theories after these shootings — compared to the aftermath of Sandy Hook?

Within hours, people were online saying the shooting was a Biden administration "false flag" operation, a pretext for gun control. Tony Mead, a house mover in Florida who since Sandy Hook has reinvented himself as

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

ON THE AGENDA

The Pittsboro Board of Commissioners will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 13, at the Chatham County Agricultural & Conference Center. The meeting will be live-streamed onto the town's YouTube channel and on Zoom.

OTHER

The Siler City Lions Club will have a blood drive, June 25 at Loves Creek Baptist Church from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Mt. Vernon Masonic Lodge #143 has its Stated Communication on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (June 21), with supper at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30. All Master Masons are welcome. 185 Bonlee/Bennett Road., Bonlee.

Chatham Community Library is offering free classes on Internet Basics in June. Class descriptions and a registration link can be found by clicking on class titles below or by visiting www.chathamcountync.gov/ComputerClasses.

Internet Basics, Part 1: June 15, Wednesday, 3 p.m. This class is designed for beginners. Learn how to use a web

browser, follow links, use a search engine, print from a website, and more. Participants should have prior basic computer experience.

Internet Basics, Part 2: June 22, Wednesday, 3 p.m. Build on the concepts learned in Part 1. Work with browser tabs, bookmark favorite websites, view and delete browsing history, download files, find driving directions, and more. Participants should have prior basic internet experience.

Chatham Community Library will host a virtual film screening of "All We've Got" (2019). This virtual program is free and open to the public. Thursday, June 16 - Thursday, June 23. Access to the virtual screening will be available beginning Thursday, June 16, by visiting: <https://www.wmm.com/virtual-screening-room/all-we-ve-got-watch-page-chatham-community-library>. A password is required at the time of viewing. Those who are interested may contact social.library@chathamlibraries.org to request the password or for additional information. The library has purchased a hard copy of the film if residents who wish to see the film miss the virtual screening window. Residents may also visit the libraries' website www.chathamlibraries.org, or contact the Library at 919-545-8084 or [rita.vanduinen@](mailto:rita.vanduinen@chathamlibraries.org)

chathamlibraries.org for more information on this and other events and programs.

The Goldston Public Library announces the return of its Book Club for Adults, 18 and up. Meetings will be held in the E.M. Harris Jr. Conference Room at the Library. For complete information, call the library at 919-898-4522 or email juana.gomez@chathamlibraries.org. The library is located at 9235 Pittsboro-Goldston Road, Goldston.

Chatham Community Library announces the return of the Chess Club and Clinic, Saturdays from June 11 through July 9, from 1 to 3 p.m., meeting in the Lakritz Storytime Room, for teens and adults, 12 and up.

ONGOING

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

The Silk Hope Ruritans host a Benefit Bingo on the first, third, and fifth Thursday of each month. Next on the schedule is June 16 at the Silk Hope Community Center.

Horton High School Alumni Association Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for

2022-2023 HHSAA Scholarship. Descendants of any Horton High School alumnus or attendee may apply online, at hortonhighalumni.com; then click on "scholarship." Applications must be accepted by August 1, 2022.

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 are 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

at 630 East St., Pittsboro, in the Food Lion Shopping Center. We are accepting donations of gently used men's and women's spring clothing and accessories. Credit cards are accepted. All proceeds provide support for survivors of domestic violence, 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.

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, Or-

ange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com.

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

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

SCOUT NEWS

Boy Scout Troop 93 in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCO. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstrop93.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.

SUMMER INTERN AT NEWS + RECORD

Photographer Tanner Bubeck joins CN+R staff as intern

CN+R Staff Report

Tanner Bubeck has joined the staff of the News + Record as a summer intern and will work as a photographer and help with the newspaper's social media platforms.



Tanner Bubeck

Bubeck, 21, is a resident of Pittsboro and a May graduate of the University of Missouri's School of Journalism. She's the school's third intern to work for the News + Record, following previous graduates Caroline Watkins and another 2022 graduate, Max Baker, who will continue to work on occasion for the newspaper throughout the summer.

"I am excited to be back for the summer, representing my local community of Chatham County, who I hope I can make proud with the work that I do," Bubeck said. "I am looking forward to helping produce high-level content and beautiful imagery for Chatham County residents to enjoy."

A native of San Diego, Bubeck spent her childhood moving around

from state to state, thanks to her father, Craig Bubeck's, military career.

"I've jumped from California to Virginia, Texas, Missouri, and have recently found myself back on the East Coast here in Pittsboro, where my family finally settled down three years ago and developed a beautiful farm," she said. "I come from a decently big family, with one older and two younger siblings, and I am currently reunited with my family as I stay with them over the course of this internship."

The Bubeck family, run by parents Amy and Craig, currently resides in western Pittsboro, where both of her younger siblings attend school at Horton Middle School and Northwood High School.

"It's wonderful to have a 'local' intern," News + Record Publisher and Editor Bill Horner III said. "We've had a great relationship with the University of Missouri, and to have another of the journalism school's grads work here, and live here, is a real bonus. Tanner is an exceptionally skilled photographer and she'll add to the quality of our work this summer."

At Mizzou, Bubeck

worked as the visual editor for the university's student-run paper, The Maneater, before becoming a staff photographer and editor at The Columbia Missourian, the town's local newspaper. She volunteered with the College Photographer of the Year (CPOY) competition, worked as a higher education reporter for The Missourian, and briefly worked at Lenovo in Morrisville as a global communication and marketing intern.

Bubeck can be reached at tanner@chathamnr.com. Follow her on Instagram at [@tbubeck_photo](https://www.instagram.com/tbubeck_photo) and on Twitter at [@tbubecktanner](https://twitter.com/tbubecktanner).

FISH DAY!

It's Time To Stock Your Pond!
DELIVERY WILL BE:

Saturday, June 18

- Carthage 11:5-2:00 @ Carthage Farm Supply
- Sanford 3:00-3:45 @ Carolina Town & Country

Wednesday, June 22

- Graham 11:30-12:15 @ Graham Feed
- Chapel Hill 3:15-4:00 @ Piedmont Feed

Thursday, June 23

- Pittsboro 8:00-8:45 @ Pittsboro Feed
- Siler City 9:15-10:00 @ Southern States
- Asheboro 10:45-11:30 @ Southern States

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<p>LAND (Representing Buyers) 9 Units</p> <p>0 NC 42 Highway (10.89 Acres) 388 Wade Bright Road (10 Acres) 0 Roselle Road (46.204 Acres) 720 Hamlets Chapel Road (.69 Acres) 685 Revmont (3.893 Acres) 0 Mays Chapel Road (365 Acres) 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres) 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres) 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres)</p>	<p>RESIDENTIAL (Representing Buyers) 6 Units</p> <p>427 Fenton Place (Charlotte) 4513 Bumphus Road (Chapel Hill) 107 Hawks Spiral Way (Pittsboro) 85 Herndon Creek Way (Chapel Hill) 729 Hope Hills Drive (Slier City) 6490 Snow Camp Road (Snow Camp)</p>

PROPERTIES CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT

<p>(Representing Sellers) 5 Units</p> <p>13120 Strickland Road (16.25 Acres) 0 Hamlets Chapel Road (42.805 Acres) 00 Alston Chapel Road (176 Acres) 1475 Lewter Shop Road (4.445 Acres) 1456 Hadley Mill Road (28.353 Acres)</p>	<p>RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 2 Units</p> <p>138 Oakwood Lane (Pittsboro) 218A Poplar Street (Chapel Hill)</p>
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Featured CN+R YouTube Video of the Week
NEW URL: <https://youtu.be/PiA79jQOW6U>

NEW TOPIC: 4 Reasons Timber Companies Decide if they will Sell or Hold their Land

The Andrews Team is proudly introducing Broker and Buyer Agent **Andy McPherson**. Andy's career covers four decades of real estate expertise. He will focus on Andrews Team listings and assisting buyers to find suitable properties.

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TRAGEDY

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an “investigative journalist” who picks apart media coverage for “anomalies” that he says “proves” most major mass shootings never happened, was on Facebook the day of the Uvalde shooting, calling it a hoax. I profiled Mead in my book.

After Sandy Hook, Mead ran a private Facebook group called “Sandy Hook Hoax,” where hundreds of people would gather every night, building each other up by sharing false theories about the shooting. Lenny Pozner, the father of Noah, the youngest Sandy Hook victim, spent time with Mead’s group, showing them proof that Noah was murdered, including Noah’s birth certificate and his post-mortem report. They rejected all that, and kicked him out of the group. Today, Lenny’s non-profit, HONR Network, works to defend the victims of online abuse in part by getting hoax material taken down from social media. He got the Sandy Hook Hoax group removed from Facebook, but it took nearly five years. Now here was Mead again, denying Uvalde on Facebook, and it took the company nearly a day to take down his posts.

What’s different today compared to a decade ago when it comes to what you’ve personally seen on social media about these shootings? Is the conversation more fact-based? Kinder?

The conspiracy theories spring up almost immediately, as they did after Sandy Hook. But this phenomenon is no longer confined to the fringe, to Alex Jones and the audience for his Infowars radio and online broadcast. These false theories are being spread by some members of Congress opposed to new gun legislation. And it’s not just denial of the shooting or false theories about the shooter, it’s unconstructive



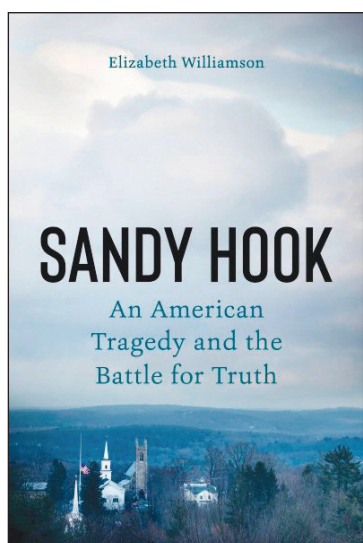
Photo by Beowulf Sheehan

Elizabeth Williamson, feature writer for the New York Times, and author of ‘Sandy Hook: An American Tragedy and the Battle for Truth.’

arguments that muddy the public discourse and prevent Americans from having a useful debate about what to do. The more time people spend online challenging Sen. Ted Cruz’s (R-Texas) argument that every school should have one door, or the NRA’s argument that every one of our more than 110,000 schools should have an armed guard of some kind, the less time they have for logical, quiet debate that is crucial for finding solutions.

And as we know the nation’s attention soon wanes, so by occupying those first days after a shooting with unworkable arguments, people opposed to any change are running out the clock. By the way, that armed guards in schools argument, and the “good guy with a gun” slogan, was first advanced by the NRA’s Wayne LaPierre several days after Sandy Hook. At the time it was derided by law enforcement officers, educators and politicians across the political spectrum as unworkable, even “delusional.” Now it’s embraced by some prominent Republicans, including former President Donald Trump, who, following his base, has moved further to the right on the gun issue.

A story you just wrote for The New York Times addressed the subject of whether the release and publication of photographs taken at the scenes of mass shootings might be a tipping point ... that showing those graphic



images might “jolt the nation’s gridlocked leadership into action.” What conclusions did you draw from your interviews and discussions, and why might that be a good (or bad) idea?

I think it should be a victim’s family members’ individual choice.

The Sandy Hook family members I spoke with and whose comments and media interviews I read after Uvalde were very much opposed to the idea of releasing these photos. They are being asked to do so, or being asked to convince the Uvalde families to do so, and they find this traumatizing, even cruel. It places a burden on the shoulders of people who are already struggling, and who have paid the highest price for our lack of solutions.

In my book I describe how Lenny Pozner and Veronique De La Rosa, parents of Noah Pozner, led then-Connecticut Governor Dan Malloy to Noah’s open casket. The grievous wounds to his face were covered, but as Veronique said, the governor was still seeing a dead child, lost to gun violence. Today Lenny Pozner told me he thinks releasing the photos wouldn’t work — he predicted that mass shooting deniers would dispute the veracity of the photos or weaponize them, using them to further torment the victims’ families.

It’s been two weeks since Uvalde. In the modern “news ecosystem” with short news cycles, two weeks can seem like an eternity. We’re also desensitized simply because of the number of mass shootings we experience in the U.S. — nearly 700 last year in the U.S., and more than 230 so far this year. Throw in our political polarization, the shouting, and the distraction of social media, and fact-based reporting on tragic events and substantive discussions on solutions get lost. As someone who’s written about the most elementary school shooting in U.S. history and about misinformation and disinformation, what do you recommend people do who really want to navigate all the information about the school shootings, mass shootings and solutions?

My advice is to not get bogged down in fighting online with people who deny that these events happened, or reject the evidence. As I document in my book, people who gather in groups to deny major mass shootings are not likely to be convinced. They derive entirely new identities, a sense of community and immense psychic income from doing this. Likewise, ignore unhelpful or outlandish statements masquerading as proposals.

Whatever your views on new gun legislation, you should be making your elected representatives aware of them and of your intention to hold them accountable for representing you on this issue. If you are in favor of additional legislation, there are national groups working at the local level and lobbying in Washington for that. Using our democratic system to express your views is a more effective and productive way of responding to these mass shootings than arguing on social media about them.

You’ve spoken to some of your Sandy Hook contacts in the last two weeks. Do you find that they re-live their experiences with each new school shooting?

Yes. Neil Heslin, whose son

Jesse Lewis died at Sandy Hook, referred to Uvalde as an “instant replay” of the shooting that killed his son. Scarlett Lewis, Jesse’s mom, who advocates for teaching empathy and social learning in schools, noted that the gunman was bullied, and is angry about the lack of attention to those issues, which she feels could prevent a child from turning to violence. Robbie Parker, whose daughter Emilie died at Sandy Hook, described a feeling of despair, and a desire to reach out to the Uvalde families, and physically be with them. These are families who for 10 years have walked the terrible road the Uvalde families are just embarking upon, and they want to help them when the time is right.

How would you recommend consumers of information navigate news organizations’ (include print, TV and digital media) coverage of the debate over gun measures?

Read as much as you can, and not just from commentators that tend to reflect your point of view. Lawmakers from both parties are engaged in talks over the issue right now, and it’s important to understand what is being proposed, and to weigh in with your elected representative. This is a highly emotional issue, but it would help the discussion if we collectively can keep an open mind and listen to the ideas of all.

If you’re inclined to re-search the issue, seek data from reliable sources. The Gun Violence Archive, for example, is a nonpartisan organization that collects data on shootings from more than 7,500 sources, including local and state police, media and government, and then independently verifies it. Many universities conduct studies on gun violence and policy, and convene researchers to discuss their findings. Our quest for solutions — not to mention our democracy — relies on a calm, fact-based exchange of ideas among honest, well-meaning people.

MEDICAL

Continued from page A1

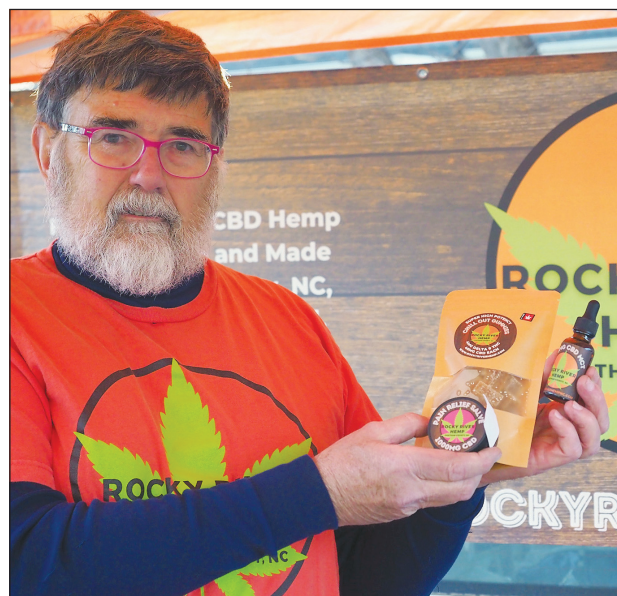
The Brownfields started campaigning N.C. representatives to at least extend the hemp exemption before the July 1 deadline.

“We sent a lot of emails, and also, a lot of phone calls,” Brownfield said. “We’ve poured a lot of our time and effort into building a thing here, and it was about to go away.”

The Brownfields got the answer they wanted when the state Senate voted unanimously last Tuesday to legalize hemp and the N.C. House passed it with a 86-25 vote a day later.

One aspect of their business’ future, though, still lay in the hands of politicians: medical marijuana legalization.

The state Senate proposed Senate Bill 711 last spring, which would legalize the growing and distribution of marijuana to help treat several



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Rick Brownfield displays Rocky River Hemp products at his business’ booth at the Pittsboro Farmers Market.

diseases, such as cancer, post-traumatic stress disorder, epilepsy and more. But most North Carolina hemp business owners and farmers may be left out of this opportunity, according to Brownfield.

“It costs \$50,000 to apply (for a license) —

that’s non refundable, and we don’t have \$50,000 in cash to just gamble,” he said. “You have to have five years in medical cannabis, which is impossible for any North Carolinian, so (they’re) just cutting everyone out of the program and giving it all to big multi state

operators.”

Brownfield isn’t alone in his concern about SB 711.

Corbie Hill, a Pittsboro resident, is a former cannabis user. He was diagnosed with chronic leukemia at 35 and with the diagnosis, he faced various strenuous treatments and severe anxiety. Hill disclosed his anxiety symptoms to his doctor, he said the doctor immediately said he needed to go on anti-depressants, something Hill wasn’t comfortable with.

“I told him, I’m not depressed — I’m anxious, I’m frightened, but I’m not depressed,” Hill said. “He didn’t listen ... this is a doctor who had done some good things for me, but in this instance, he wasn’t hearing me ... I was really scared.”

Hill decided he was going to use marijuana to help alleviate some of the anxiety, and it worked. He said he was able to “be” while self-medicating, and he believes it should be something available to others who want to use marijuana. Not only would people be able to use marijuana to help treat chronic conditions, but researchers could study the substance more directly to see how the plant helps alleviate symptoms.

“It’s not the looming specter on the edge of society, but that’s an important step into understanding what it does, how it works, why it works and then it can really be prescribed accurately,” Hill said.

Hill, though, maintains SB 711’s language isn’t extensive enough in regard to the conditions people need to have to qualify for a medical marijuana prescription.

“It’s ludicrous that someone with generalized anxiety disorder that it (marijuana) is off the table for them,” Hill said. “If you have the choice between something that’s just made of side effects, and that is known to be addictive, versus something that is significantly

What is the difference between hemp and marijuana?

Both hemp and marijuana come from the cannabis plant, but there are differences in the chemical make up of the two.

Marijuana refers to cannabis products containing the chemical compound tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which is what makes a user feel “high.”

Hemp, on the other hand, is not the same as marijuana in North Carolina. Hemp has 0.3% or less of its weight in THC, which is not enough to make people feel the high associated with marijuana.

Can you grow marijuana in North Carolina?

No — growing marijuana in North Carolina is a felony, regardless of the amount. Possession is also a crime, but small amounts of marijuana only results in a misdemeanor charge.

Is medical marijuana legal in North Carolina?

No, but the N.C. Senate voted Monday to approve the Compassionate Care Act, also known as SB 711, which would legalize marijuana for medicinal purposes.

What conditions would qualify me for medical marijuana if SB 711 is passed?

Individuals who are diagnosed with a “debilitating condition” would qualify for a medical marijuana prescription under SB 711. The list of diagnoses include cancer, epilepsy, HIV, AIDS, ALS, Crohn’s disease, sickle cell anemia, Parkinson’s disease, PTSD, Multiple sclerosis, Cachexia, persistent nausea due to end-of-life or hospice care or bedridden individuals, terminal illness if the life expectancy is less than six months, a condition resulting in hospice care and any other condition added to the list by the Compassionate Use Advisory Board, which will be established if the bill is passed.

less so, if not, free of side effects at all ... it just seems unethical to not offer that at all.”

SB 711 earned passage in the state Senate just this week — on Monday night — and now faces its next challenge in the House. Hill said he hopes debates and discussion regarding medical marijuana legalization will spark conversation into what cannabis can do for North Carolinians.

“Your neighbors do this, your friends do this — it’s so widespread, and so many readers know that but don’t say it out loud,” he said. “It’s been romanticized and blown up by both sides into something that it isn’t — I think that it’s far more innocuous and boring than it seems ... by thinking that it’s so much more, we’re beating ourselves up over it and imprisoning so many people over it by not

understanding how just everyday it is.”

For Brownfield, he said he’s grateful he can continue to grow his business. He hopes people can continue to learn more about hemp and how it benefits not just the people who use the products, but how it benefits the local and state economies.

“We want to put more people to work and be able to keep the work here in Chatham County and in North Carolina, which we think is really important,” Brownfield said. “We’re very happy that we can still continue to build a brand here and a business that can benefit all of us in terms of how the products help, but also just the tax base and being able to grow that.”

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@HeedenTaylor](https://twitter.com/HeedenTaylor).

STRATEGY & SERVICE



Members of your local Pittsboro Rotary Club spent a sunny Saturday planning for the upcoming year & cleaning a 2-mile stretch of local roadway. We are a dedicated group of professionals who enjoy one another’s company & believe, through collaboration, we can contribute to the enhancement of our community. Our service projects help offset college expenses for local graduates, put food on tables, fill backpacks & classrooms with school supplies, place books in the hands of elementary students, create a healthier environment for the residents of our town, and so much more.

Interested about our club? Join us for a weekly Wednesday meeting (noon @ Postal Fish Company) or find us on Facebook!

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VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | ALIRIO ESTEVEZ

Dolor en Uvalde (Grief in Uvalde)

Amerie Jo Garza woke up early, just as she did everyday. She got dressed and prepared her belongings to go to school: Homework ready, notebooks ready, folders ready. Before leaving, she kissed her little brother, Zayne, whom she adored and protected. She had made plans to play with him later that day.

She was excited because that morning she would receive another academic distinction award. She felt proud because she made her family proud. After receiving the Honor Roll award, she eagerly counted down the hours till she returned to her parents' arms and glowingly presented them

with the certificate. Sadly, she was never able to return home ... alive.

An AR-15, in the hands of an 18-year-old, murdered Amerie, 18 of her peers and two of her educators. The "good guys with guns" waited an eternity in the hallway. They did not stop the bad guy and his killing machine until he had perpetrated his evil deed.

Parents, families and the whole community in Uvalde (pronounced oo-val-deh) cried in agony. They are still grieving. They have lost their precious children and teachers. Their earthly angels had flown to become angels in heaven all too soon. Nothing will heal

their emotional wounds. Even time can not heal this kind of ache.

As a teacher, I feel shocked, saddened, enraged. It shouldn't be like this. This type of malignant acts should not happen as they often happen here in our country. I believe in thoughts and prayers, but it is not enough. Thoughts and prayers must be accompanied by action. Anything other than the call to action is indifference to life and to our children. Many politicians refuse to take any reasonable measures. They have either sold their souls to Mephisto Smith-Wesson or Beelzebub

Remington, or they don't care about children's lives and are cowards incapable of facing an evil organization that does *Not Respect American* lives.

This massacre has affected me deeply. I am emotional. I have cried after Red Lake, after Sandy Hook, after Marysville, after Parkland, after and after. This latest tragedy was even closer to me. Many of these students looked like the students I see every day. Many of them shared either my students' first and last names: Layla, Rojelio, Maite, Jose, Salazar, Flores, Garcia, Torres. I cry when I read their stories, when I hear their parents and friends. Why? It shouldn't have

been like this.

I hope that an event like that never occurs in my school and our county. However, the simple thought that this has a chance to happen makes my body tremble, my heart break, and my eyes water. Why? It shouldn't be like this.

Our children are invaluable. Our children must be treasured. We must value our children more than guns. We must treasure our children more than guns.

Alirio Estevez is an ESL teacher in Chatham County and an advocate for the Latino community.

#Curate: Can Twitter create a community of care?

I recently joined Twitter. I told my pastor colleague and friend, who has been on Twitter since 2008, I was interested in how the platform might "inform my ministry." She replied that her goal on Twitter is "to curate a community."



ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

"Curate" is derived from the Latin "to take care of," and the modern usage generally refers to the management of a museum or art gallery. But in the Middle Ages, it applied to a spiritual guide, typically a parish priest — a curator of spiritual welfare is someone

who takes care of souls. My idea of curating spiritually was expressed by the 13th-century Muslim mystic known as Rumi: "Raise your words, not your voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder."

I confess my skepticism about curating a community on Twitter or the internet. When I couldn't gather with friends, family or church during the pandemic, I deeply missed the face-to-face conversations — words that nourished my soul like gentle rain.

It is also true that viral tweets often evoke thunderous outrage. In our public discourse, we attack our opponents and even speak of "destroying" or "obliterating" them. On many social media platforms, someone can post words that the user likely wouldn't say to someone's face. In just a short time, I've read numerous crass and cruel tweets.

But I have also witnessed deep and abiding care.

My initial foray into Twitter coincided with the breaking news of sexual abuse in the Southern Baptist Convention. A seven-month investigation into the top leaders of the country's largest Protestant group revealed abuses such as rape and pedophilia. Top officials were not only aware of these predator pastors, they actively denied the truth of the allegations as well as denigrated victims.

Plenty of pastors angrily tweeted and decried the abuse. Others claimed the allegations were untrue and defended the Baptist leaders. There was a lot of shouting back and forth, a great deal of thunder.

There was also a trending hashtag — #SBC-too. In reference to the first-person testimonials of the #MeToo movement, #SBCtoo collected stories by survivors of sexual assault by Baptist clergy. Many victims were young teenagers at the time of the abuse by older pastors — men who preyed upon them rather than prayed for them. There are horrifying stories.

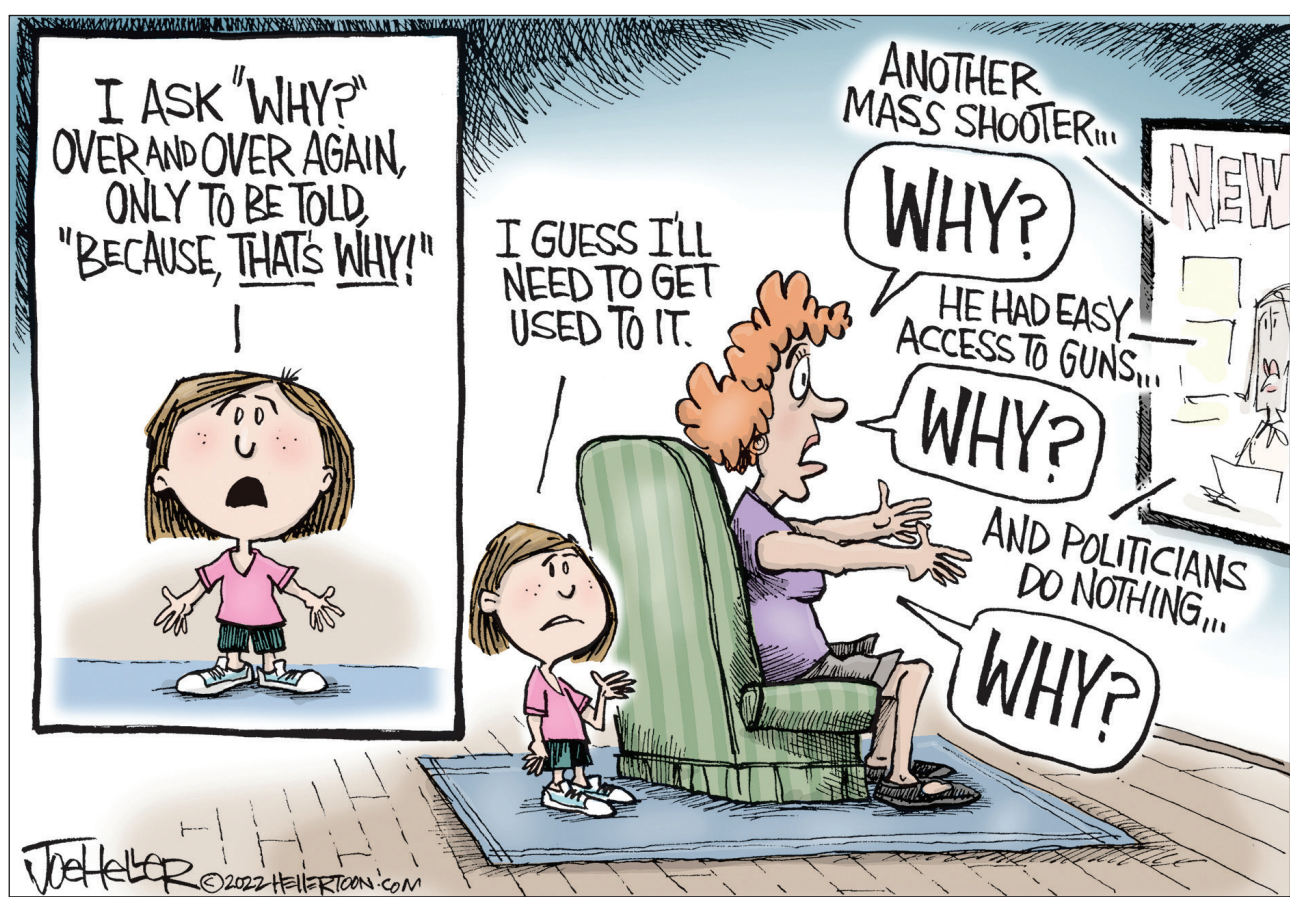
Yet, there was also an outpouring of support in the Twitter feeds. Person after person commented about the victims' bravery in coming forward with the truth and expressed hope for healing as well as justice.

We often hear the expression "thoughts and prayers" in response to tragedies. I understand that this sentiment can feel glib, even justifying inaction. Members of the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention were even offering thoughts and prayers as they denied their culpability in these atrocities.

But I saw how tweets of support curated a community of care. There was something sacred about seeing the words, from individuals who had never met, drawn together in the same place. It reminded me of the mystical idea of "the great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1).

In his book "Care of the Soul," Thomas Moore claimed, "It is only through mystery and madness that the soul is revealed." There is plenty of "madness" on the internet; perhaps the mystery is that Twitter can also rain words of love.

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."



Be careful what we get accustomed to

A few days ago, a longtime friend and I found ourselves standing outside for several moments in the ongoing visit of Mr. Hot Weather.



BOB WACHS
Movin' Around

While I'm a little bigger than he is, neither one of us would qualify to shop in the petite side of the clothing store. And

so, as we sweated in the heat and humidity — welcome to North Carolina in the summer — we began to reminisce about what it was like before air conditioners came along. I mentioned how hard the heat is on a big ol' boy like me; he agreed — and not just about me being a big ol' boy — but, as he said, about himself, "Me, too; I guess we're spoiled," or something like that. And then he went on to say before anyone had AC, we didn't know any different.

And that simple statement found a home in my mind and I've been thinking about how it applies to heat and humidity but also to other parts of life. For the first several years I was around, we operated like most other folks — throw up the windows and hope for the best, especially at night. That wasn't all that bad, partly because I didn't know any different and partly because with the windows up I could hear the frogs at Wallace Farrell's pond, just across our yard and into his pasture. In time, my folks reasoned that one or two big box fans could be

placed in the windows, turned to bring in air or pull hot out, and clicked onto "high." There was many a night I went to sleep to the hum of the fan accompanying WPTF's "Our Best to You."

It was somewhere around the 10th year of my little life that Mama and Daddy got our first air conditioner. It was a big ol' model about the size of a Volkswagen that they stuck in the dining room window, right behind the table.

That, of course, made that seat at the table a prime one when Mama put out the fried chicken and fried okra. Although my two brothers were pretty well gone from home, off at college and such, when they came home they seemed to think they had some sort of right as older and oldest to claim what was usually and normally my seat. Most of the time I could whine and whimper enough to keep my accustomed place but not always.

Anyway, later on my folks found a smaller model which they put in a back-bedroom window so as to create a cross cool. It was at about that time I migrated to that bedroom, which previously had belonged to my brothers.

Today, our little abode is blessed with central air and I have come to that point my friend mentioned earlier. I have found myself turning into my late father-in-law who, every time he came into our house whether it was cold as whiz or hotter than a two-dollar pistol, would say "Feels good in here" about the time he got past the front door. Part of this pondering I've been

doing lately about all this does include the heat and our dependence on Mr. Carrier's invention. But it also links up with our tendencies as human beans to get used to things over a period of time. Some of that is good. I've gotten used to at least three meals a day, although they may vary in time and content. My boyish figure bears that out.

But sometimes it can be a not-so-good thing, something we need to pay attention to and work on. A key one of those is found in the first few words of the Psalms in the Book. It says folks are blessed who don't "walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way (meaning 'to be like') of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers."

I confess to you I had read those words many times through the years but it wasn't until not so long ago that I realized there was a progression there. If we aren't careful, we can start walking (living) a certain way and before long we'll find ourselves standing around it and then pretty soon we've taken a seat and are hip deep.

So, here's to opportunities to avoid the heat, both to the weather and to the lifestyle. Stay cool . . .

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.

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VIEWPOINTS

Senate race is far from settled

Two polls taken of North Carolina voters right after the May 17 primary showed Republican Ted Budd leading Democrat Cheri Beasley in the pivotal 2022 race for U.S. Senate. They also show it's too soon to count Beasley out.

East Carolina University's latest survey, concluded three days after the primary, had Budd leading Beasley by eight points, 47% to 39%. The John Locke Foundation's latest Civitas Poll, conducted a couple of days later, showed a narrower race with Budd at 44% and Beasley at 42%.

The first thing to say about these findings is that given the sample sizes of the two polls (635 for ECU and 600 for Locke), the variance between the two findings might be attributable

to sampling error.

The second thing to say is that the two samples differ in a key respect: ECU surveys registered voters as a whole while Locke's polling vendor Cygnal seeks to exclude registered voters who are unlikely to vote. Screening for likely voters is both fraught with peril and necessary if you're trying to depict how an election might turn out if it were held at the moment the poll is being taken.

How might screening for likely voters explain Budd's smaller, statistically insignificant edge in the Locke poll? To answer that question, let's look at another question common to both surveys: the generic-ballot test.

ECU asked it this way: "If the November 2022 midterm elections for U.S. Congress were held today, would you vote for the Democratic Party's candidate or the Republican Party's candidate for Congress in your district?" Respondents picked the Republican 47% of the time and the Democrat

44%.

The Locke poll placed its congressional question after a similar question about state legislature, which found a six-point advantage for the GOP. The next question read like this: "And regardless of how you would vote at the state level, if the general election for U.S. Congress were held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?" Precisely 50% of respondents picked the Republican, with 43% picking the Democrat.

In other words, the ECU poll showed Budd matching generic support for Republican candidates (47%) but Beasley trailing a generic Democrat by five points. Meanwhile, the Locke poll showed Beasley nearly matching generic support for Democrats but Budd trailing a generic Republican by six points.

Assuming these contrasting patterns are more than just statistical noise, I think Locke's screen for likely voters may

be the explanation. Although Budd won the GOP primary by a comfortable margin, it was a contentious race in which 41% picked a different candidate. Voters in primaries tend also to vote in the fall, as well, so screening for likely voters may have had the effect of removing from the sample some "soft" Republicans, independents, and conservative Democrats who recognize Budd's name (because of months of advertising) but aren't necessarily going to cast general election ballots. That served to magnify the slice of likely GOP voters who picked Pat McCrory or Mark Walker and weren't yet ready to switch their allegiances to Budd.

As for Beasley, because she didn't have a competitive primary, many Democrats may not yet recognize her name (yes, I know she's run statewide as a judicial candidate, but that doesn't mean she's well-known). A poll of registered voters would include these "soft" Democrats and

Democratic-leaning independents while a poll of likely voters would exclude some of them.

Given everything else we know about the 2022 cycle — such as President Joe Biden's manifest unpopularity in our state and overall Republican advantages in enthusiasm and fundraising — Budd is clearly in a better position than Beasley to win the U.S. Senate race. It's no sure thing, however.

Some small but potentially decisive share of Republican-leaning likely voters aren't yet in Budd's column. Because former Supreme Court Justice Beasley isn't some hard-edged partisan with lots of preexisting negatives, Budd can't assume this will happen automatically. He needs to bring these voters actively into the fold.

John Hood is a John Locke Foundation board member and author of the novel "Mountain Folk," a historical fantasy set during the American Revolution (MountainFolkBook.com).

Roy Cooper for president?

Some people are asking if North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper might be the Democrats' best presidential candidate in 2024.

Not likely, you say; Joe Biden is president. And every first-term Democratic president in modern times has run for reelection.

There have been no serious challenges for Democratic incumbents seeking their party nomination, with one exception. In 1980 Ted Kennedy challenged Jimmy Carter. There has been no other serious intraparty challenge to a sitting Democratic president for the nomination.

Although Biden has not announced his candidacy, it would be fair to assume that he will run and will be the Democratic nominee.

Even so, people are talking about other possibilities.

In an article titled "There Has to Be a Backup Plan" in the June 5 edition of New York magazine, Gabriel Debenedetti wrote about a gathering of the national Democratic Establishment held in North Carolina at Pinehurst in April. He called the attendees an "unsettled cross section of the Democratic Establishment."

Debenedetti explained, "The lobbyists, donors, staffers, and elected officials were gathering for the spring policy meeting of the Democratic Governors Association, and the scheduled sessions concerned such topics as health care and diversity in governance."

But there was also talk about politics, including worried conversations about the midterm elections in November.

Conversations shifted from "grim-the midterms-to grimmer." The grim refers to the prospects for this fall's elections. The "grimmer" for them was "the state of the party's planning for 2024, when Biden will stand for reelection on the eve of his 82nd birthday."

Although there was no serious question raised about Biden's intention to be a candidate for reelection in 2024, some of those gathered in Pinehurst were "calculating contingencies: If Biden's health turned, or if his polling truly collapsed, which of the party's governors might step up and save them from electoral ruin-and the nightmare of a Trump comeback?"

"Roy Cooper — the conference's host, who had twice won North Carolina in the

same years the swing state was carried by Donald Trump — was the most frequent topic of shadow-campaign chatter," wrote Debenedetti.

Other governors were mentioned, too: Phil Murphy, from New Jersey; J. B. Pritzker, Illinois; Jared Polis, Colorado; Gavin Newsom, California; and Gretchen Whitmer, Michigan.

Bernie Sanders sent word that he also might be available for another run. And there are plenty more including Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, Senators Amy Klobuchar, Corey Booker, Elizabeth Warren and California Rep. Ro Khanna.

Many more are in the wings.

But Cooper has something the other possible contenders lack.

He is a Southerner. And Democrats will remember that beginning with Harry Truman, and until Barack Obama, every winning Democratic presidential candidate, except John Kennedy, had a Southern connection: Harry Truman (1948), Lyndon Johnson (1964), Jimmy Carter (1976), and Bill Clinton (1992). Include Al Gore if you count his popular vote victory in 2000.

How do you explain their success? First, they learned to respond to the challenges in their states with pragmatic rather than doctrinaire solutions that did not frighten conservatives. Second, they learned to gain the support of Black voters and open doors with opportunities for them.

Democratic governors of southern states are a vanishing breed.

Two other Southern governors, John Bel Edwards of Louisiana and Andrew Beshear of Kentucky, join Cooper in this small group.

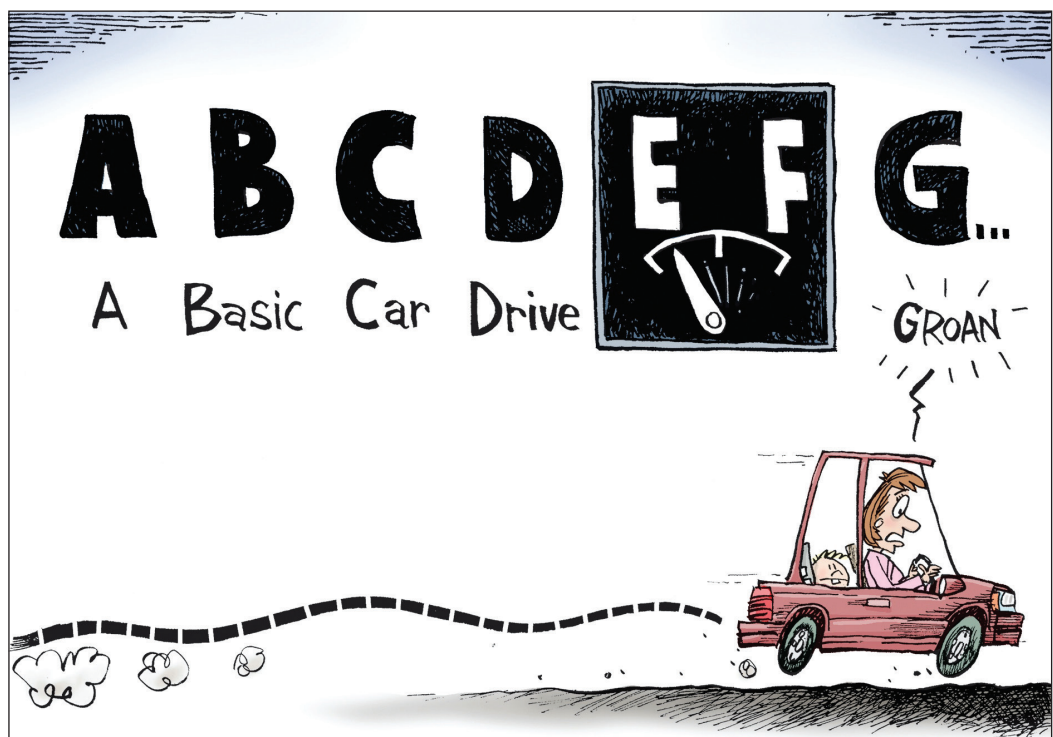
Like Cooper, they must work with Republican dominated legislatures. Edwards has a progressive record, but because he signed a very restrictive abortion law he probably would lose the support of many Democrats.

Andy Beshear is up for a tough reelection battle in Kentucky in 2023, one that will almost certainly preclude his preparing for a presidential run.

Thus, if Biden is not a candidate for reelection in 2024 and the Democrats want to try their winning Southern governor formula again, they have one choice.

Roy Cooper.

D.G. Martin, a lawyer, served as UNC-System's Vice President for Public Affairs and hosted PBS-NC's North Carolina Bookwatch for 20 years.



LETTERS

On the proposal to build athletic amenities on district property at Northwood High School

TO THE EDITOR:

Recent false information has been circulating in the community about a proposed project at one of our high schools that I would like to clarify.

- The land adjacent to Northwood High School where a Lowes Food, Zaxby's and car wash are being built is not owned by Chatham County Schools; it is owned by Chatham Park investors.

- Recently, Chatham Park approached Chatham County Schools with a proposal to build athletic amenities on the school system's property at Northwood High School. Chatham County Schools staff delivered the proposal to the Board of Education so that the board could review it and determine if they wanted to continue the conversation.

- There seems to be some confusion related to the current area being cleared near the front of the school. The land cleared near Northwood, again, is not school property and is unrelated to the proposal Chatham Park brought to the district.

- THE BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS TAKEN NO ACTION on the proposal. There are no imminent plans to move forward at this time. The first steps in this process, or with any other such proposal, are to inform our board and seek direction on whether members want to move forward or not. In addition, please know that prior to moving forward with any project of this magnitude, engagement and dialogue with town officials, community partners, school stakeholders and other supporters would be both essential and necessary.

We appreciate the concerns that have been raised and brought to the attention of the Board of Education and staff on this important issue related to potential environmental and program impacts that such a proposal might have and felt it was important to make sure our families and community members had accurate information.

Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson
Pittsboro

Correcting our focus

TO THE EDITOR:

My heart mourns for those who lost their lives in Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas.

Every school should have an armed security guard to check everyone who enters a school. All school doors should have an easy exit and remain locked to everyone outside. There are a lot of alternatives for protecting our children, but someone or some group is so determined to disarm Americans that they are turning the focus from searching through all the alternatives for protecting our children. We should also focus on protecting ALL children, including those who are kidnapped, raped, and murdered due to human trafficking — and a good start for this would be to close our borders.

As for disarming Americans, JUST HOW EASY WAS IT TO FORGET 9/11 AND THE TWIN TOWERS??? American weapons have been given to Ukraine. There is no way to learn how many countries have American weapons. If someone or some group is successful in defunding the U.S. police and disarming Americans, what should Americans fear the most? U.S. drones armed with bombs and bullets, foreign countries armed with American weapons and planning terrorism, or U.S. criminals, plus the criminals who invaded our border with illegals???

Carol Gene Good
Conover

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BOOK

Continued from page A1

spritz some onto her arm during her seclusion at home and if she could detect the scent, she'd jubilantly announce to herself (and the family's dachshunds), "Another day COVID-free!"

Hoffman eventually puts the cologne away after she's vaccinated. But many months later, after reading a series of stories about dementia, she retrieves the bottle — a birthday gift given to her by friend Margaret de St. Aubin — out of concern that loss of smell is an early sign of memory loss and impaired judgment. After her father Henry's experience with the condition, and reflecting on the subject of aging and brain function, Hoffman decides to test her olfactory abilities again with de St. Aubin's gift.

The rest of the tale involves a magnifying glass, a bit of Italian, some fine print and a startling revelation about what she thought was "the nicest perfume I'd ever been given."

The story is the 17th Hoffman has had published over the last dozen years in the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" book series, which began in 1993 and now includes more than 250 titles. A new book is added to that list each month; more than 100 million books have been sold in the series so far and been translated into more than 40 languages. Nearly 30 years after the first "Chicken Soup" book was sold, the brand now includes a podcast, education programs, a line of pet food and films.

"Chicken Soup for the Soul: Too Funny!" is the third humor collection in the series and contains 101 true stories — written by people like Hoffman who lived through the experiences they've written about. The stories are described by the book's publisher as "embarrassing, hilarious, and truly relatable." Readers have given the book, which was published in April, a 4.9 (out of 5) star rating on Amazon.com, with reviewers describing it as "soul healing," "hilarious" and "so funny and



Courtesy of Erika Hoffman

'Chicken Soup' series publisher Amy Newmark, left, poses with Hoffman during a 2018 meeting they had in New York City.

heartwarming."

A retired educator, now a writer

Hoffman and her husband, Byron, were married in 1977. They moved to Chatham County when he took a job here as an internist at the old Chatham Hospital. The couple was featured in a story in the April 12, 1979, edition of The Chatham News, just prior to their arrival in Siler City.

"I recall how welcoming the community was," Hoffman said. "Byron and I had been living in Atlanta, where he attended medical school at Emory, and also did his residency in Atlanta."

She said her husband's family moved from Pennsylvania to Alamance County in the 1700s, so returning to this part of North Carolina was sort of a homecoming for him. He's still practicing at the "new" Chatham Hospital, serving as co-medical director at UNC Primary Care's facility in Siler City.

Hoffman was raised in New Jersey and met Byron while both were students at Duke University. After their marriage and move to Chatham, she taught English and first-year French at Jordan-Matthews High School and in other Chatham schools for about 10

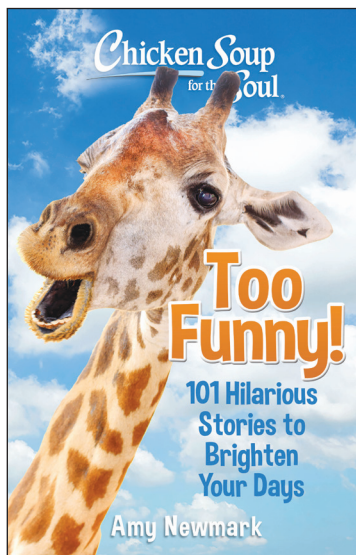
years. Each of the four Hoffman children which followed were born in the old Chatham Hospital — where Byron worked — and attended school here.

She writes stories and essays while not entertaining some of her eight grandchildren. She began contributing during a transitional period at home — it was just before the last of her children moved out of the family's home and about the time her father, who was struggling with memory issues, moved in.

"Because dad had dementia, I became house-bound caring for him," she recalled. "Being confined, I started writing."

Hoffman wrote what she knew. The first story she authored that was accepted appeared in a Chicken Soup anthology called "A Cup of Comfort for Families Touched by Alzheimer's," and her second was about children leaving for college.

These days, as a part of the "Chicken Soup" family, Hoffman keeps an eye on the Chicken Soup website — chickensoup.com — which lists upcoming book titles and deadlines. (Soon-to-publish editions will feature subjects such as "How stepping outside my comfort zone changed me," "The advice that changed my life," and "Crazy, eccentric, wacky, lovable, fun families.")



Courtesy of Chicken Soup for the Soul LLC

The cover of the 'Too Funny' edition — one of the latest in the 'Chicken Soup' series.

"Usually, I have a personal story about whatever subject they suggest," Hoffman said.

She sticks to the book series' guidelines for submissions: "First, it must be true," she said. "Secondly, it must be your story, not someone else's. Of course, it must have a beginning, middle, and end that satisfies, and it must create some emotion in the reader, even if it's just curiosity."

Authors whose stories are published — stories are generally under 1,200 words — are paid \$200 and get 10 free copies of the book in which their accepted story appears. Chicken Soup's publisher has non-exclusive rights to the stories accepted, meaning that authors retain ownership of the story — but it can be used again in any future Chicken Soup book title or related product.

"Sometimes, I get feedback from my 'Chicken Soup' stories," Hoffman said. "Once a man from Saudi Arabia wrote telling me he enjoyed my essay. More often, though, I get feedback from stories of mine that have been viewed on an ezine where the reader can leave a comment."

All told, more than 400 of Hoffman's works have been published in various forms — in regional magazines, inspirational venues, or ezines on the

craft of writing.

"I've also penned travel pieces that have appeared in magazines like 'Northwest' or in ezines like 'Raleigh and Co.,'" she said. "Sometimes, I'm assigned an article by 'The Old Schoolhouse Magazine, which is a periodical for homeschooling parents."

The Chicken Soup website receives hundreds of story submissions each day, so Hoffman considers herself a "prolific" author for the series. She typically submits one story, sometimes more, for most of the new titles the company announces. Only about one in 50 stories submitted is accepted for publication; she tends to focus on humorous stories saying she's not as skilled at sadder tales, even though she has experienced her share of sadness.

"Editors have said they like my humor," she said. "They like my humorous, conversational-style pieces. I have more trouble writing things that are poignant."

She'll share stories orally with friends, sharing anecdotes and experiences.

"And if they laugh at it, I think it might be something that I could write up," Hoffman said.

Writing doesn't take long — maybe 30 minutes, maybe 90. Editing takes more time, but she tries not to overthink or overanalyze the finished product. She doesn't write daily, but takes pen to paper when the notion strikes.

Right now, she's waiting to hear about a few stories she's submitted for upcoming "Chicken Soup" editions.

And her advice for aspiring writers who envision joining her as a "Chicken Soup" author?

"I would tell them not to be afraid of writing down a true story," Hoffman said. "And just do it. Submit it without mulling it over too much. Don't let anxiety squash your hopes. If you don't succeed, just try, try again."

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



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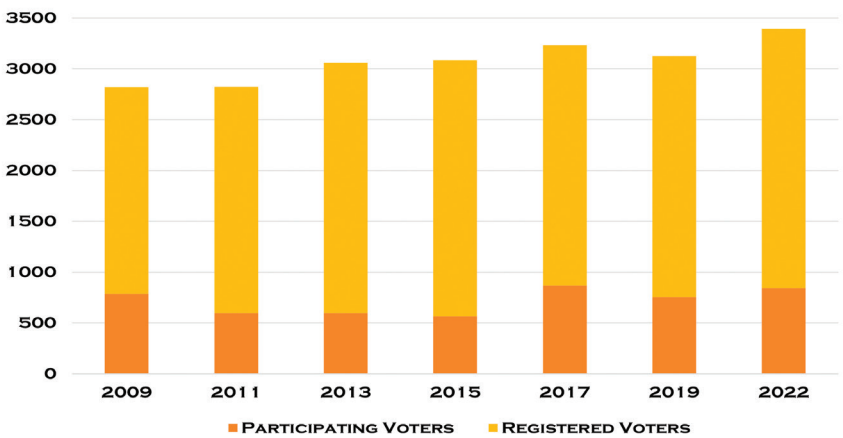
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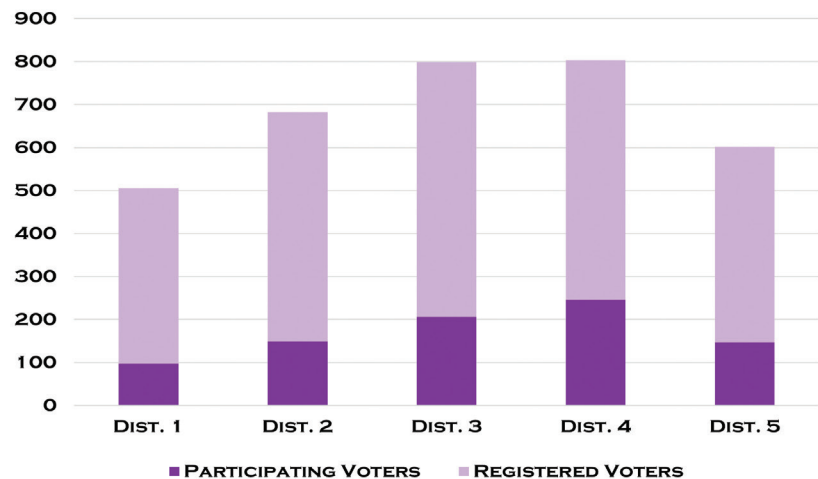
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SILER CITY VOTER TURNOUT IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 2009 TO 2022



Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

2022 SILER CITY MUNICIPAL VOTERS BY DISTRICT

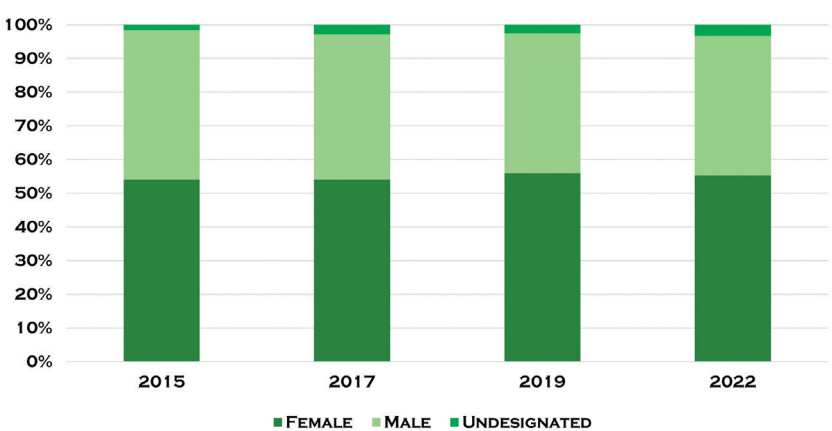


Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

Siler City's first even-year municipal election drew just under 25% of registered voters to the polls, according to the Chatham County Board of Elections' voting statistics — a slight increase from 2019 but a slight decrease from 2017.

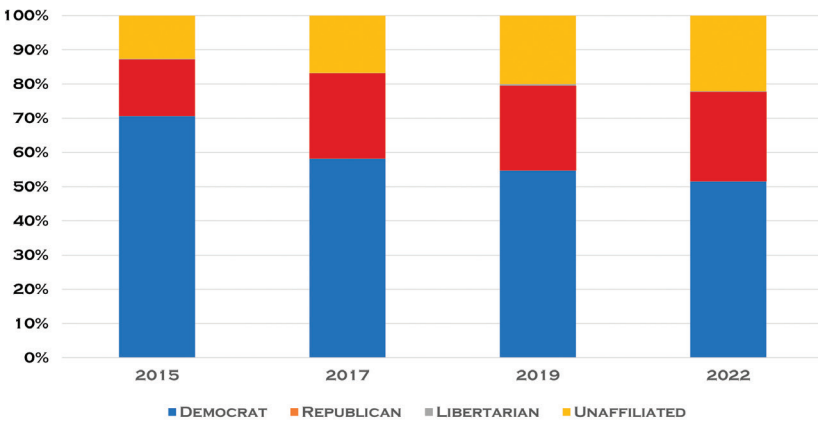
A larger percentage of eligible District 3 and 4 town voters cast ballots in the 2022 municipal elections, even though they could only vote for a mayor and one of two of the town's at-large commissioners.

SILER CITY MUNICIPAL VOTERS BY GENDER, 2015 TO 2022



Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

SILER CITY MUNICIPAL VOTERS BY POLITICAL PARTY, 2015 - 2022



Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

In May, 55.3% of 2022 voters identified as women, 41.4% identified as men and a remaining 3.3% didn't specify gender in their voter registration.

Much like in the 2015, 2017 and 2019 elections, most 2022 town voters were registered Democrats, but the percentage again decreased — accounting for 51.5%, down from 55% in 2019.

ELECTION

Continued from page A1

within the West Siler City precinct, while 545 fall within the boundaries of the East Siler City precinct.

Just under 100 District 1 voters out of the 506 registered cast their ballots on May 17 — and of those 97 participating voters, six didn't vote in their district's commissioner race. Likewise, 147 District 5 voters came out to the polls out of 602 eligible residents, and all but two cast ballots for their district commissioner.

Fewer District 2 voters cast ballots for Commissioner Norma Boone, who ran uncontested for an unexpired seat: election results recorded 128 votes for Boone, yet 149 participating District 2 voters; 683 District 2 residents in total had been registered to vote by the time of the election.

Ironically, a larger percentage of eligible District 3 and 4 town voters cast ballots in the municipal elections — even though they could only vote for a mayor and one of two of the town's at-large commissioners. About 25.8% of District 3 voters (206 out of 799 registered) turned out,

while 30.6% (246 out of 803 registered) of eligible District 4 voters participated in the 2022 town election.

So, who voted in 2022? The usual suspects.

In the 2015, 2017 and 2019 Siler City municipal elections, white residents, women and/or registered Democrats consistently turned out in higher numbers than other races, men and political parties. This year's participating voters largely reflect and continue those trends.

According to county voter history statistics, more women voted than men in Siler City town elections from 2015 to 2019, though not by a large margin — often less than 10%. In May, 55.3% of voters identified as women, 41.4% identified as men and a remaining 3.3% didn't specify gender in their voter registration.

Likewise, most voters — 60.9% — in the 2022 town elections identified as white, matching prior voter demographics in the 2015, 2017 and 2019 town elections. Just under 30% of voters identified as Black, up from 26% in 2019. Voters identifying as Asian, Native American, multiracial or "other" counted for about

3%, or 28, combined, while 50 additional voters didn't designate their race in their registration.

Fifty-four voters identified as Hispanic/Latino, while 630, or just under 75%, of 2022 town voters did not; 161 voters didn't specify ethnicity.

Much like in the 2015, 2017 and 2019 elections, most 2022 town voters were registered Democrats, but the percentage again decreased — accounting for 51.5%, down from 55% in 2019. Republican voters increased a percentage point to 26%, and the share of unaffiliated voters (22%) rose again, this time by two percentage points.

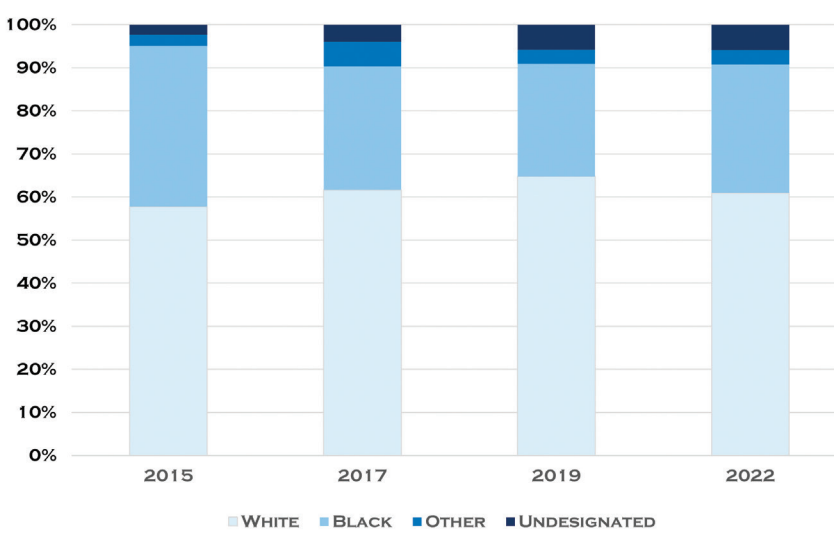
In 2015, only 13% of participating Siler City voters had been unaffiliated.

So, who didn't vote?

On May 17, 3,393 voters, active and inactive, could have voted in Siler City's town elections. Only 845, however, chose to participate — and the electorate those voters presented didn't always align with the municipal electorate on the voting rolls.

About 42% of registered voters by May 17, for instance, identified as white, compared to the 60% who cast ballots in 2022. Black voters, at 28.4% of Siler City's municipal electorate, made up a slightly

SILER CITY MUNICIPAL VOTERS BY RACE, 2015 TO 2022



Staff graphic by Victoria Johnson

Most voters — 60.9% — in the 2022 town elections identified as white, matching prior voter demographics in the 2015, 2017 and 2019 town elections.

larger share of voters in the 2022 town elections (29.8%), while those identifying as "other" (10%) and those who didn't specify race (17.3%) underperformed at 3.3% and 5.9% respectively relative to the share of each group on the town's voter rolls.

When it comes to party, the share of registered Democrats who cast ballots in 2022 largely reflected the Democratic share of the Siler City town electorate as of May 17: 50.9%. At 18.5%, registered Republicans

are the smallest portion of Siler City's municipal electorate by political party after Libertarians, but accounted for 26% of 2022 town voters.

Relative to their share of registered town voters, however, unaffiliated voters underperformed at 22%; about 30% of municipal voters identified as unaffiliated by May 17.

By gender, participating 2022 town voters by and large aligned with those on the rolls: 52.3% identify as women, 40.6% as male and 7.1% didn't

specify.

By ethnicity, however, the picture's a bit more lopsided. About 19% of Siler City registered voters identified as "Hispanic/Latino" by May 17, while 52.7% identified as "Not Latino" and a further 28.2% didn't specify ethnicity. Only 8.3% of eligible Hispanic voters cast ballots in the 2022 town election, accounting for 6.4% of participating voters.

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

MOSAIC

Continued from page A1

ders of a long legacy," Wilson said. "This band is a family business, and I would never want all that hard work to go away. I just can't ever let that go."

The pandemic prompted changes within the band, he said. Several members didn't return and the style of music has changed. The band had been suffering burnout prior to the pandemic, and the forced pause made Wilson grow his relationship with his faith — which he's attempting to incorporate into the music the band creates.

"My faith mixed with the pandemic made me realize we need to be in the company of other humans in spaces like this," Wilson said. "This [these concerts] is a soundtrack back to happiness after these few years. Getting to be part of that soundtrack is a blessing."

Big Time Shine is just one of a string of bands that will be performing at the newly constructed stage at Mosaic in Chatham Park, located off U.S. Hwy. 15-501 north of downtown Pittsboro. Every Friday during the summer, excluding July, free concerts and movies will be offered to the community.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Concertgoers gather on the Phil Kohl Family Commons at Mosaic in Chatham Park last Thursday for a concert by local band Liquid Pleasure.

The series kicked off last Thursday at the Phil Kohl Mosaic Family Commons with regional band, Liquid Pleasure.

Last Thursday's opening concert to the summer series saw more than 200 attendees, despite the sweltering heat. Local volunteers from the community, including Chatham Education Foundation and local Boys & Girls Clubs drove concertgoers in golf carts to the stage. Families brought picnic blankets and camping chairs as children ran around the lawn.

The event also featured a plethora of food trucks, includ-

ing bmc Brewing, Not Just the Fry Guy, Red Moose Brewing Company, Ta Contento and Waves Shave Ice.

Mosaic Property Manager Adriane Karlinski said each of the Friday night events will feature local food and beverage options in an effort to support the town of Pittsboro. The goal of the events is to show off the growth of Chatham Park and welcome the community into the new space.

"This is our gift to the community in a way," Karlinski said. "Our main goal is to bring the community together. We

want the community to enjoy it and be able to see the space."

Mosaic held kick-off events for the lawn and stage space in the fall, prior to the completion of the Tommy Edwards stage. Karlinski said those were successful, but she expects a much greater turnout for the summer events.

"The planning for this has been really intense, especially because we have been trying to make this as locally oriented as possible," Karlinski said. "But it's worth it to go through that to show the appreciation to the community for the support we have received thus far."

Another goal of these concerts is to bring community members to the space to see the development. While the lawn and stage are completed and open to the public, much of the Mosaic development remains under construction. Karlinski said she believes people will be excited to see the growth over time as they attend the concerts.

Attendees at last Thursday's Liquid Pleasure show agreed with Karlinski. Liquid Pleasure performed with construction equipment and dirt as the backdrop to their show. Many guests said this was exciting including former Pittsboro resident John Poteat said was exciting.

"It's amazing and so good to

see Pittsboro out here," Poteat said. "It makes me want to move back to Pittsboro seeing all this here. This space was needed because we didn't have a space like this."

Poteat was the former public works director for the town of Pittsboro, and he said seeing the event was exciting for the future of the community.

Karlinski said she hopes these events will bring money into the local economy. People attend from inside and outside the county, eat at Pittsboro restaurants, buy from Pittsboro shops and get to see a free event in this new space. One such visitor was Apex resident Chris Faughnan.

"I've wanted to see this new stage; this whole thing is very impressive," Faughnan said. "There is a buzz out there about this area. This is a hit spot."

Wilson said he and Big Time Shine hope to keep making the new Mosaic park a hit for the summer months to come. For a full schedule of Mosaic events, including band lineups, movies and food options, visit mosaiccatchatham.com/news/2022-events-at-mosaic.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport.

OBITUARIES

JOHN LEONARD WHITE



December 30, 1947 ~ May 31, 2022
John Leonard White, 74, of Goldston, went to his heavenly home surrounded by his wife and children on Tuesday, May 31, 2022.

Mr. White was born in Chatham County on December 30, 1947, the son of John Ray and Sara Leonard White. He was US Army Veteran serving in the Vietnam War. John retired as a truck driver for Dean Brook Trucking. He was a member of Cornerstone Baptist Church, the Senior Adult Sunday School Class, and served as a Deacon. John enjoyed playing solitaire on the computer, and doing word searches, as well as fishing at the beach. He loved getting to take his grandchildren to the Stockyards. In addition to his parents, John is preceded in death by his brother Randy White, and his infant brother.

John is survived by his wife of 53 years, Ann Hancock White; daughters, Leslie Witt and husband Jimmy of Broadway, Wendy Perrell and husband Donald of Sanford, Shelby Vedder and husband Ryan of New Hill, Dianna Ritter and husband Chris of Ramseur; brother, Jerry White and wife Barbara of Siler City; seven grandchildren, five step-grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

The family received friends on Friday, June 3, 2022, from 1:30-3 p.m. at Cornerstone Baptist Church, 396 N.C. Hwy. 42, Goldston, N.C. 27252, and other times at the family home.

A funeral service was held at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 3, 2022, at Cornerstone Baptist Church with Brother Arlen Johnson, and Brother Larry Henderson officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the White family.

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

POLLY PASCHAL BROOKS



April 6, 1923 ~ May 31, 2022
Polly Paschal Brooks, 99, of Siler City, passed away on Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at Genesis, Siler City Center.

Polly was born in Chatham County on April 6, 1923 to Dave and Decie White Paschal. She was the oldest living member of Bonlee Baptist Church. She was a homemaker, excellent seamstress and wonderful cook.

She is survived by her sons, Dennis Brooks and wife Linda, and Tim Brooks; grandsons, David Brooks and

wife Leslie, Keith Brooks and wife Ellen, Jon Reid Brooks and wife Diana, and Zach Brooks and wife Lisa; great grandchildren, Savannah, Ashlynn, Dawson, Dylan, Aubrey, Mason and Finlee; sister, Jo Ann Allred; and many loving nieces and nephews.

Polly was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ralph Jenkins Brooks; sister, Ruth; and brothers, Bill and Bryce; and daughter-in-law, Terry Brooks.

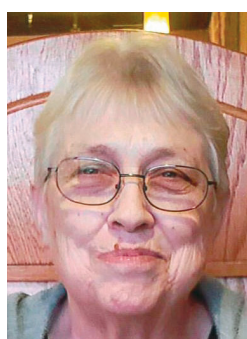
The family would like to thank her caregivers at Genesis, Siler City Center, Coventry House, and Community Home Care and Hospice. They would also like to thank Bonlee Baptist Church for their hospitality.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 3, 2022, at Hope Cemetery in Bonlee, with Rev. Darrell Williams officiating.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Brooks family.

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

SHERON KAY BROWN



Sheron Kay Brown, 66, of Siler City, died Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro.

Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 11, 2022, at Loflin Funeral Home Chapel, Ramseur, with Rev. Michael Crosby officiating.

Burial be held at Gilmore Memorial Park at a later date.

Sheron was a native of Randolph County and a longtime resident of Liberty. She was employed by Genesis

Health Care as a dietary worker. Sheron was preceded in death by her parents, Hobart and Ollie Ruth Swaney Ferguson.

Survivors include her husband, Pat Brown of the home, daughter, Angela Beth Brown of Staley; sister, Sue Garrison and husband Deryl of Grays Chapel; brother, Larry Ferguson and wife Marsha; several aunts, uncles and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Ramseur.

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

Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Ramseur.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

TRACY LORRAINE SHANER FARRELL

February 6, 1964 ~ June 4, 2022
Tracy Lorraine Shaner Farrell, 58, of Apex, died Saturday, June 4, 2022, at home.

Tracy was born in Chatham County on February 6, 1964, to the late John Richard "Jack" Shaner and Dorothy Ingram Shaner.

Surviving relatives include her husband, Craig Farrell; daughter, Courtney Farrell of Apex; son, Christian Farrell of Apex; two sisters, Jeri Cadiz, and husband Romey of Chapel Hill, Shelly Joyce of Bear Creek; one brother, John Shaner and wife Natalie of Pittsboro; and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

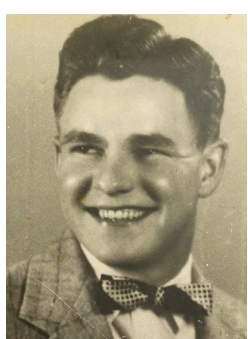
A memorial service will be held, Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Merritt's Chapel U.M.C. with Rev. Bob Wachs presiding. The family will receive friends immediately following the memorial service in the fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in Tracy's memory to the Autism Society of North Carolina (Camp Royal) Attn: Donations Coordinator, 5121 Kingdom Way, Suite 100, Raleigh, N.C. 27607.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

WELFORD DALTON HARRIS



August 22, 1933 ~ June 3, 2022

Welford Dalton Harris, 88, of Pittsboro went to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday June 3, 2022. He went peacefully surrounded by his family.

Welford was born on August 22, 1933, the son of Paul Dalton and Mallie Straughn Harris. Welford was a native of Chatham County, where he grew up on his family farm raising cattle and hunting dogs, and sometimes hunting rabbits to sell at the train depot on his way to school. He quickly embraced the principles of hard work and found a knack for turning a nickel into a quarter.

After attending Bonlee High School, Welford enlisted in the United States Army and was stationed in Natick, Massachusetts. There, he met Patricia Moore on one of many intentional trips to the water fountain across from her desk. She quickly became the love of his life and soon his wife of 67 years. At the insistence of his new wife, Welford became a lifelong Boston Red Sox fan.

After moving back to North Carolina in 1955, Welford's love for motor vehicles came to life as he went into the car business and eventually started Welford Harris Inc. in 1964. The business remains a central part of the Chatham County community to this day. Welford was active in his community where he was a member of the Goldston United Methodist Church for over 50 years, serving on numerous committees. He was also a member of the Kiwanis Club of Pittsboro, involved with Central Carolina Community College, and a member of the Inaugural Advisory Committee for the Chatham County Small Business Center.

Welford cherished his time with his family and friends. He was an avid fan of Duke basketball and loved cheering on the Blue Devils at Cameron Indoor Stadium. Later in life, he was often seen driving the streets of downtown Pittsboro on his golf cart with his dog Jackson and sometimes two or three of his chickens in tow. Welford lived the American Dream and leaves behind family and friends who are grateful to have been a part of his life.

Welford is preceded in death by his parents, Mallie Straughn and Paul Dalton Harris; sisters, Linda Humphrey, Nancy Laird, Betty Lambert, Mildred Sheffield; and brothers, Herbert Harris and L. Reid Harris.

Welford is survived by his wife, Patricia Moore Harris of the home; daughter, Deborah Harris Bondurant of Pittsboro; son, Welford David Harris and wife Valerie of Siler City; grandchildren, Welford Dalton Harris II and wife Julia of Houston, Texas, Alexandra Grace Evans and husband Bailey of Hampstead, N.C., and Avery Elizabeth Harris of Siler City; two great-grandchildren, Welford Dalton "Ford" Harris III and Robert Bailey Evans V; brother, Wayne Harris and wife Pat of Pittsboro; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who felt like family, including lifelong friends Lucille and LaVerne Thornton.

The family received friends on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Goldston United Methodist Church, 185 Hillcrest Ave., Goldston, N.C. 27252 prior to the funeral service at 3 p.m. with Rev. Lucas Nelson officiating. Burial will follow at Meroney United Methodist Cemetery, 10568 NC Hwy 902, Bear Creek, N.C.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Goldston United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 99, Goldston, N.C. 27252, or to Meroney United Methodist Church, 10568 N.C. Hwy. 902, Bear Creek, N.C. 27207.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Harris family.

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

AMANDA MARIE TILLMAN



Amanda Marie Tillman, 41, of Goldston, passed away surrounded by her loved ones on Monday, June 6, 2022.

Ms. Tillman was born in Guilford County on March 31, 1981, the daughter of Robert and Irene Brewer Tillman.

Amanda was a member of Bonlee Baptist Church. She loved coloring and spending time outside doing landscaping work. Amanda loved her family and her sons meant the

world to her. She is preceded in death by her brother, Andrew Tillman.

She is survived by her sons, Cameron Tillman of Goldston, and Andon Jones of Snow Camp; parents, Robert and Irene Tillman of Goldston; sister, Jenny Tillman of Goldston; brother, Shannon Tillman of Goldston; nieces and nephews, Shanna, Jasmine and Hayden Tillman, and Albani Hooker; and cousin, Lori Rodriguez.

Memorials may be made to the Cancer Research Charity of your choice.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 4 p.m. followed by a funeral service at 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at Bonlee Baptist Church, 25 Al Davis Rd., Bear Creek, N.C. 27207 with Aaron Williams and Rev. Bob Lovette officiating. Burial will follow at Hope Cemetery.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Tillman family.

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

PARRISH L. BYRD. SR.

August 16, 1973 ~ May 24, 2022

Parrish L. Byrd Sr. of Sanford passed away on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at his home.

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 3, 2022, at Blandonia Presbyterian Church.

MARK 'TONY' ANTHONY DIAZ

February 12, 2001 ~ May 30, 2022

Mark "Tony" Anthony Diaz, 21, of Staley, passed away Monday, May 30, 2022.

Services for the family provided by Knotts and Son Funeral Home.

MARY LEE (KELLY) CHALMERS

November 18, 1935 ~ May 26, 2022

Mary Lee Chalmers, 86, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at Works for Christ Christian Center, with burial following at Alston Chapel UCC (Haw Branch).

JEROME LASTER

June 2, 1968 ~ May 29, 2022

Jerome Laster, 53, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, May 29, 2022.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

KENNEY HARRISON HUSSEY

June 11, 1934 ~ June 2, 2022
Kenney Harrison Hussey, 87, of Bennett, passed away on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at his home.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 2022, at Highfalls Wesleyan Church with Rev. Roger Riffe presiding. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Kenney was born to Duffie and Minnie Brady Hussey. He was a member of Highfalls Wesleyan Church and worked for Perdue as a mechanic for trucks and loaders. He was preceded in death by his son, Kinney Lee Hussey; brothers, Landis, Burlin and Otis Hussey and sisters, Omie Lou Upchurch and Ometa Brooks.

Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Shelby Jean Frye Hussey of the home; step-children, Karen Garner of Charleston, S.C., Burma Cardwell of Carthage, Lisa Akers of Elon and Eddie Garner of Highfalls; eleven grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

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

RONALD CECIL MORGAN

April 2, 1951 ~ February 3, 2022

Ronald Cecil Morgan, 70, passed away on February 3, 2022 at his home in Safford, Arizona.

A graveside memorial service will be held on June 11, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Pleasant Grove Christian Church with Rev. David Hicks officiating.

Ronald was born in Randolph County to Cecil and Lucille Murray Morgan. He was a member of Pleasant Grove Christian Church. He attended UNC for accounting. Ron was employed by Liberty and Siler City Police Departments for many years, participating in the Big Brother Program and Police Cadets.

Surviving are his sister, Vickie Morgan Dixon; brother, James Scott; sisters, Nellie Scott Wilson and Mae Scott Hill.

Memorials may be made to Pleasant Grove Christian Church Cemetery Fund, 5946 Pleasant Grove Church Rd., Bennett, N.C. 27208.

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

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

DORIS WOMACK REEVES

December 13, 1933 ~ June 5, 2022.

Doris Womack Reeves, 87, of Sanford, passed away on Sunday, June 5, 2022, at her home.

The funeral service was conducted at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Smith Funeral Home Chapel in Broadway with Rev. James Estes officiating. Burial followed in the Southside Baptist Church Cemetery.

She was the daughter of the late Arch Womack and Lillian Dickens Womack. She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Floyd Fuquay; sisters Cora Thomas, Naomi Thomas, Bertha Cordevant, Gerline Womack and a grandson, Jamie Williams.

Surviving are her husband, Ronald L. Reeves of the home; daughter, Debra Hutchins of Broadway; a son, Ricky Williams of Broadway; two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorial gifts are made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

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

RUSSELL FIELDS

July 6, 1948 ~ May 31, 2022

Russell Fields, 73, of Wallace, passed away on Tuesday, May 31, 2022.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 5, 2022, at Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery, with Rev. Doug Griffith officiating.

Russell was the son of James and Mary Carter Fields. He is preceded in death by his parents and his twin brother, Royce Fields.

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

See **OBITUARIES**, page A9

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A8

IRMA GOSERT KING

Irma (Gosert) King of Cameron, passed away on May 31, 2022.

She was born in 1933 in Buhlenburg, Germany, to Rudolf and Lina Gosert. Her parents, brother Kurt Gosert and sister Else Zimmermann all predeceased her.

Survivors include three sons, Lance, Troy and Vincent; four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Her life will be remembered and celebrated by her family.

JEAN LEE (CAMERON) JONES

April 24, 1950 ~ June 3, 2022
Jean Lee (Cameron) Jones, 72, of Cameron, passed away Friday, June 3, 2022, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home in Sanford.

BARBARA BRANDEIS ALOTIS

Barbara Brandeis Alotis, 88, of Pittsboro passed away on Sunday, May 29, 2022.

The Cremation Society of the Carolinas in Raleigh is providing services for the family.

WALLACE CUPP

Wallace Cupp, 98, of North Carolina after living 96 years in Lexington, Massachusetts.

A memorial mass at St. Brigid's Church in Lexington will be celebrated at a later date.

Wallace was a World War II veteran and member of the 113th Red Horse Mechanized Reconnaissance Calvary Group out of Iowa, who participated in invasion of France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. A member of the Lexington Fire Department, a former member of Fire Chiefs Association and International Municipal Signalmans Association, he was a licensed electrician and retired president of Cupp Associates, and a member of the D.A.V. He was predeceased by brothers John, Andrew, Paul Cupp, a sister Anna Richardson; and his wife Paula Cupp.

Surviving are his children, Marie Clark, Dr. Ann Curley, Wallace Cupp, Philip Cupp, and John Cupp; a brother, Stephen Cupp; 14 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made in Wallace's memory to St. Brigid's Church, 2001 Massachusetts Ave., Lexington, Mass. 02421.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

RICHARD ODELL MURRAY

February 9, 1938 ~ June 5, 2022

Richard Odell Murray, 84, of Bennett, passed away on Sunday, June 5, 2022, at Coventry House of Siler City.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m., Thursday, June 9, 2022, at Beulah Baptist Church in the old Sanctuary, with Dr. Neal Jackson, and Rev. Robert Kidd officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery. The body will lie in repose at the church from 2 to 2:45 p.m.

Richard was born to the late Walter and Oppie Tillman Murray. Richard was a member of Beulah Baptist Church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Phillips Murray, parents Walter and Oppie Tillman Murray, sister, Winnie Mae McDuffie, sister, Lounette Murray Ingold, and brother, Alvin Murray.

Survivors include sons Shawn Murray and Jonathan Murray, both of Bennett; daughter, Aedrin Murray Albright of Bear Creek; six grandchildren; a twin brother, Robert Lindell Murray and another brother, Kenneth Harold Murray, all of Bennett.

In lieu of flowers, Richard requested memorials or donations be made to the Food Bank of Beulah Baptist Church.

Condolences may be offered

online at www.joycebrady-chapel.com.

Joyce-Brady Chapel is honored to serve the Murray family.

ERONUS MCNEILL, SR.

January 27, 1953 ~ June 3, 2022

Eronus McNeill Sr., 69, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, June 3, 2022, at his residence.

The memorial gathering will be held from 11 a.m. to noon on Thursday, June 9, at Knotts Funeral Home.

ASHLEIGH DENISE JACKSON

June 6, 1998 ~ May 28, 2022

Ashleigh Denise Jackson, 23, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, May 28, 2022.

Professional services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home

ELWOOD ALONZA MITCHELL

October 12, 1956 ~ May 26, 2022

Elwood Alonza Mitchell, 65, of Sanford, passed away on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at Betty Johnson Hospital in Dunn.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

BARON DALE WHITE

October 2, 1961 ~ May 31, 2022

Baron Dale White, 60, of Siler City passed away Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Services are being provided by Knotts and Son.

GARY STEPHAN MCNEIL

August 12, 1957 ~ June 2, 2022

Gary Stephan McNeil, 64, of Siler City passed away on Thursday, June 2, 2022, at the UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.

Services entrusted to Knotts & Son Funeral Home.

PATTIE VIRGINIA (HEADEN) WATSON

November 13, 1942 ~ June 4, 2022

Pattie Virginia Headen Watson, 79, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, June 4, 2022, at Duke University Hospital in Durham.

The funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 9, 2022, at Knotts Funeral Home, with burial following in Lee Memory Gardens.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

CHATHAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

School board hears community concerns about Northwood forest

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — At its final scheduled meeting of the 2021-2022 school year, the Chatham County Board of Education on Monday honored student-athletes, scholastic teams and school staff who made the year special.

The multipurpose room of George Moses Horton Middle School was filled with state champions, outstanding artists and Quiz Bowl winners, each of whom were honored by the board.

Recognized student-athletes included women's cross country state champion and Northwood senior Caroline Murrell and MVP women's runner of the conference, Seaforth freshman Gabrielle White. Winning track teams were also recognized, including the Northwood men's 4x800 meter relay team, which won first at regionals and third in state competition; the Seaforth men's tennis team, which won its conference title; and the Jordan-Matthews women's soccer team, which won its conference for the first time in school history.

The board also honored

outstanding performances in scholastic competitions including Quiz Bowl, SkillsUSA, DECA, and science fair winners. This included the Jordan-Matthews Quiz Bowl team, which won the NCASA Winter Virtual Quiz Bowl League; the Bennett Beta Club, which won second place for engineering at the state competition; and the Chatham Central SkillsUSA team, which won first place at the state competition. A full list of honored students can be found at bit.ly/3GZpHuw.

Equity Champions for April, May and June were also highlighted Monday night. The recipients included Alirio Estevez, an ESL teacher at Siler City Elementary; Allyson Betot, an ESL teacher at Pittsboro Elementary; and Jennifer Ruff, a pre-K teacher at Chatham Grove Elementary.

In the wake of the tragic school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, May 24, the board gave special recognition to Chatham's school resource officers (SROs). All 11 SROs were given certificates for their service.

"These individuals become a valued part of their school's culture, and serve as informal counselors and educators," said Assistant

Superintendent for Operations Chris Blice. "And of course, in these times of increased tension and unrest, these folks are our first line of defense in the areas of school safety and security."

Northwood trail

After the awards recognition, the spotlight Monday turned to continued discussion over the future of the Ronald Horton Cross Country Trail at Northwood High School. The 40-acre plot was recently shown in a Preston Development proposal to the board of education about potential soccer fields and a Miracle League sports complex.

The fields are currently in the designing stage and have yet to be approved by any county, municipal or school administrative body. Despite the lack of formal changes, the land has been the subject of increased conversation on community listservs and Facebook pages.

CCS owns the property in front of Northwood between Northwood School Road and Charger Boulevard, which is why Chatham Park developers approached the administrative staff with plans. Chatham

Park Investors own the adjacent parcel. According to Nancy Wykle, CCS public information officer, no trees have been removed on the property belonging to CCS. The only trees that have been felled are on Chatham Park property — near the Northwood sign, on the same site where a Lowes Foods grocery store and Zaxby's restaurant will be built.

Prior to public comment, Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson submitted a letter to the editor to the Chatham Journal, which has on multiple occasions published misleading information about the site and encouraged its readers to lodge complaints with school board members.

"The land adjacent to Northwood High School where a Lowes Food, Zaxby's and car wash are being built is not owned by Chatham County Schools; it is owned by Chatham Park investors," wrote Jackson in the letter, which is also published in this edition of the News + Record. "The Board of Education has taken no action on the proposal. There are no imminent plans to move forward at this time. The first steps in this process or with any other such proposal is to inform our board and seek direction on whether members want to move forward or no. In addition, please know that prior to moving forward with any project of this magnitude, engagement and dialogue with town officials, community partners, school stakeholders and other supporters would be both essential and necessary."

Jackson repeated the statement in the multipurpose room before public comment Monday night. He said there was no plan to move forward with construction at this time.

Vanessa Jenkins, the executive vice president of Preston Development, who attended the meeting, has stressed the importance of accurate information about the parcels being shared.

Some of the misinformation has been shared on social media sites and published by the Chatham Chatlist and the Chatham Journal — both of which are published by Gene Galin.

Jenkins told the News + Record there's still no formal drawing of the current site conditions. She said while all of the property discussed for the soccer and Miracle League

fields is indeed property of Chatham County Schools, both Chatham Park and CCS administration have emphasized no plans have been formalized or approved.

Jenkins said conversations continue to be in preliminary stages and Preston Development has not yet contacted the town of Pittsboro or the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for further discussion.

Four members of the public came to Monday's meeting to speak on the matter and urged the board to not tear down the forest. All had some connection to Northwood as parents, teachers or students of the high school.

"This is a place I met lifelong friends, it taught me how to make lifelong connections, it taught me the importance of hardwork," said Eric Williams, a former Northwood cross country runner. "A place that shaped my young teenage mind enough to inspire me to want to come back to this community to make Chatham County better."

Williams said he was upset the trail was recently described as "unused" land. He said this trail was integral to both runners and the community at-large. Other speakers echoed Williams' concerns saying the trail was useful for things like lab experiments for students and as a nature buffer to pollution from the adjacent U.S. Hwy. 15-501.

After the meeting, Jackson issued an updated statement to the News + Record.

"We want to make sure our families and community have clear, accurate information about what is taking place near Northwood and the status of the unrelated proposed project for the Northwood property," Jackson said. "At this time there are no plans to move forward. We appreciate the concerns that have been raised and want to ensure our families and community have accurate information about the proposal and the land around Northwood."

Other agenda items

Following comments on the trail, the board also heard from members of the Hispanic Liaison and unanimously passed several agenda items.

Students from Seaforth High School's Hispanic Liaison program, Orgullo Latinx Pride, shared

their stories of gratitude for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CCS. Students said the program helped them grow academically and learn more about their culture. The MOU between Hispanic Liaison and CCS was recently extended for another year, following its success in the 2021-2022 school year.

The board also approved a new Alternative Accountability Plan for SAGE Academy. The alternative accountability model is a supplement to School Performance Grades. Three options of potential plans for accountability were presented to the board: continuing to use School Performance Grades, using Alternative Schools Progress Model or developing its own accountability system. The board decided on the second option following recommendations from presenters. Under the new plan, SAGE Academy will receive a designation of Progressing, Maintaining or Declining, based on a comparison between test scores from the previous school year and the current school year.

Other approved agenda items include an updated Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) plan. The plan aims to improve equity in the AIG program through increased focus on student recruitment strategies. New AIG tools and strategies, which the district said were purchased using Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds, aim to improve equity through targeted recruitment at students of different socioeconomic and linguistic backgrounds.

The final approved item was an updated Health Policy. The updates included further privacy measures for students receiving free and reduced lunch and ensuring future goals for school health policy are time-sensitive, as outlined by the school health advisory committee.

The next CCS Board of Education general meeting will be the first of the 2022-2023 school year. It's set for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 18, at the Historic Courthouse in Pittsboro. For more information visit the CCS website at chatham.k12.nc.us.

Reporter Ben Rappaport can be reached at brappaport@chathamnr.com or on Twitter @b_rappaport

JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATING FREEDOM AND BLACK EXCELLENCE
SATURDAY JUNE 18, 2022
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: POET DASAN AHANU

LIVE PERFORMANCE BY NBOTB

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

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191 FAIRGROUNDS RD
PITTSBORO NC

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corenc.org
Art by: Alex Perez

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CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

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

OFFICE SPACE RENT

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

RENTAL APARTMENTS

POWELL SPRINGS APTS. Evergreen Construction introduces its newest independent living community for adults 55 years or older, 1 and 2 bedroom applications now being accepted. Office hours: Tues & Thurs, 9 to 4 p.m. Call 919-533-6319 for more information, TDD #1-800-735-2962. Equal housing opportunity, Handicapped accessible, A2,tfnc

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

FOR SALE

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

GARAGE SALE, June 11, 8a.m. to 2p.m., Electronics, tools and other household goods. 1010 Candlewood Circle, Siler City. Jn2,9,2tp

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE, Friday and Saturday, 8 am to 1 pm. A little bit of everything. 901 East 3rd St., Siler City in the What-A-Wash Parking Lot. Jn9,1tc

YARD SALE, 217 College St, Friday, 9 to 7, Saturday, 7 to 1 p.m. - Clothes, shoes, Queen Comforter. Curtains, Household, lots more! Window Awning, Jn9,1tp

AUCTIONEERS

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

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

SERVICES

CASH PAID FOR JUNK CARS and pickups. Call 336-581-3423, My12-Jn30,8tp

RAINBOW WATER FILTERED VACUUMS, Alice Cox, Cox's Distributing - Rainbow - Cell: 919-548-4314, Sales, Services, Supplies. Serving public for 35 years. Rada Cutlery also available. Au26,tfnc

AUTO BROKERS RECYCLERS - Cash paid for Junk/Wrecked vehicles. Call 919-545-0194. My13,tfnc

JUNK CARS PICKED UP Free of charge. Due to many months of low steel prices and unstable steel markets, we cannot pay for cars at this time. Cars, trucks, and machinery will be transported and environmentally correctly recycled at no charge. 919-542-2803. A2,tfnc

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

HELP WANTED

HELP NEEDED, Landscape

Maintenance worker. Must have Drivers License, be experienced with outdoor equipment. Be reliable and willing to work 40 hour week from 8 to 5. Starting pay \$15.00 hour based on previous experience. Shop is located in Carthage. Contact Jack at 910-690-1550. Jn9,16,2tp

HOMECARE SEEKING, Now hiring for immediate positions in Pittsboro/Siler City: Certified Nurse Aides - Competitive weekly pay, CNAs start at \$10.00/hr. & up for extra care cases - Total LifeCare, Call 919-776-0352 or visit 824 South Horner Blvd., Sanford for more info or to apply. A29,tfnc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22-E-244

All persons having claims against **DOUGLAS JOHN SEDLAK**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 19th day of May, 2022. Drew-Anne Carson Sedlak, Administrator c/o Hemphill Gelder, PC PO Box 31205 Raleigh, NC 27622 My19,My26,Jn2,Jn9,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 227

All persons having claims against **GREGORY ALEXANDER HUBBARD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 19th day of May, 2022. Alicia Hubbard, Administrator 263 Clover Thatch Pittsboro, NC 27312 My19,M26,Jn2,Jn9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 21 E 294

All persons having claims against **ROBERT EDWARD JACKSON JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 19th day of May, 2022. Judith Ann Jackson, Executrix 126 Ellis Creek Dr Pittsboro, NC 27312 My19,M26,Jn2,Jn9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 267

All persons having claims against **JOANNE SROCZYNSKI**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 19th day of May, 2022. Harold Sroczyński, Executrix 1714 Mitchells Chapel Rd Pittsboro, NC 27312 My19,M26,Jn2,Jn9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 274

All persons having claims against **THOMAS MARTIN JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 19th day of May, 2022. Cornelia Doretha Martin, Executrix 198 Chatham Business Drive, Apt. 101

Pittsboro, NC 27312 My19,M26,Jn2,Jn9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

File No: 22-E-199
ON ESTATE OF: Donna Marie Peoples
NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
ALL persons, firms and corporations having claims against **DONNA MARIE PEOPLES**, deceased are notified to exhibit them to Tiera Sellars, c/o Kenneth M. Johnson, P.A. 701 E. Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27401, Administrator for decedent's Estate, on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or be barred from their recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment to the above-named Administrator. This 19th day of May, 2022. Tiera Sellars, Administrator c/o Kenneth M. Johnson 701 E Market Street Greensboro, NC 27401 Kenneth M. Johnson Attorney at Law PO Box 21247 Greensboro, NC 27420 (336) 272-8273 My19,My26,Jn2,Jn9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 248

All persons having claims against **MARVIN W. HEDGEPEETH aka MARVIN WILLIAM HEDGEPEETH**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 19th day of May, 2022. Michelle Hedgepeth-Smith, Executrix 1208 Chowan Ave. Durham, NC 27713 My19,M26,Jn2,Jn9,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY

Tatiana Beane, having qualified as the Administrator of the Estate of **DONALD LEWIS BEANE, JR.**, Deceased, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County on May 17, 2022, 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 August 24, 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 17th day of May 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 My26,Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 277

All persons having claims against **ANNIE KATHERINE NETTLES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 26th day of May, 2022. John Norris Nettles, Administrator 94 Horace Goldston Rd Siler City, NC 27344 M26,Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 155

All persons having claims against **WILLIAM ROBERT MEEHAN II**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of

August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 26th day of May, 2022. Thomas Gene Fowler, Jr., Executor 462 Hollyglen Rd, Pittsboro, NC 27312 M26,Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 46

All persons having claims against **VIRGINIA CLARA BELANGER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of August, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 26th day of May, 2022. Jeffrey L. Belanger, Executor 563 Eastern Ave. Augusta, Me. 04330 M26,Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 221

All persons having claims against **BRYAN JOHNSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of September, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This 2nd day of June, 2022. Hunter Johnson, Administrator 149 Pleasant Cross Rd Asheboro, NC 27203 Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,J23,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 299

All persons having claims against **BETTY K. BALDWIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of September, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of June, 2022. Garry E. Wilkie, Executor 568 John Horton Rd Apex, NC 27523 Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,J23,4tp

REQUEST FOR BIDS CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY ACTION, INC (CPCA) is opening its bid for HVAC, Electrical, and Plumbing contractors in Anson, Chatham, Orange, and Richmond counties. Bids will be received May 15, 2022, through June 15, 2022, at 5:30pm. RFP will also be available on our website through Sep 15, 2022 at 5:30pm. If you are interested in becoming a contractor for Central Piedmont Community Action in any of our counties, please contact Doug Dixon at (919) 742-2277 ext. 105 M-TH 7am to 4:30pm or via email at dougd@cpcanc.org. Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,3tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 295

All persons having claims against **MOLLY C. SANDERS** deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of September, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 2nd day of June, 2022. Keith Castellio Low, Executor 227 Old Lystra Road Chapel Hill, NC 27517 Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,J23,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY HAVING QUALIFIED as Administrator of the Estate of **CHANDRAKANT SHIVABHAI PATEL** late of Chatham County, North Carolina, this is to notify

all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of September, 2022, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 31st day of May, 2022. Asmitaben Chandrakant Patel, Administrator The Estate of Chandrakant Shivabhai Patel 567 Covered Bridge

Trail Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517 MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE ATTORNEYS AT LAW BOX 1806 PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312 (919) 542-5605 Jn2,Jn9,Jn16,Jn23,4tc

TOWN OF SILER CITY LEGISLATIVE HEARING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners will conduct a legislative hearing on June 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm in the multipurpose room of the Wren Memorial Library located at 500 N. 2nd Ave. Legislative hearing and Board discussion will be conducted on the following requests: Hardik Raval/ Raval Realty LLC proposes to rezone 99.73 acres from Agricultural-Residential (A-R) to Residential-3-Conditional (R-3-C). The proposed use is major subdivision (preliminary plat) that includes 147 single family residential lots (detached) and 67 multifamily townhome lots. The subject property is identified as 893 & 909 Harold Andrews Road. and parcel # 13728 & 13732. The proposed items are available for review by contacting the Planning and Community Development Director at jmeadows@silercity.org or 919-742-2323. All persons interested in the outcome of the items are invited to attend the legislative hearing and present comments, testimony, and exhibits on the above referenced item. The Planning Board will meet on June 13 @ 6:30 pm to consider a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners. The Town of Siler City as an Equal Opportunity Employer, invites the submission of proposals from minority and women-owned firms and certified Section 3 business concerns if the contract is over \$100,000 for non-construction contracts. The Town of Siler City will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that disabled persons are provided other accommodations, such arrangements may include, but are not limited to, providing interpreters for the deaf, providing taped cassettes of materials for the blind, or assuring a barrier-free location for the proceedings. This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Nancy Hannah at 919-726-8625, 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344, or nhannah@silercity.org for accommodations for this request. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Nancy Hannah al nhannah@silercity.org o 919-726-8625 o en 311 North Second Avenue, Siler City, North Carolina 27344 de alojamiento para esta solicitud. Jn9,Jn16,2tc

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 SP 56

Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that cer-

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.

tain Deed of Trust executed by Dennis B. Gilmore to William R. Echols, Trustee(s), which was dated September 30, 2011 and recorded on October 3, 2011 in Book 1584 at Page 1110, 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 **June 21, 2022 at 01:00 PM**, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property situated in Chatham County, North Carolina, to wit: TRACT ONE: BEGINNING at an iron stake on South side of Mrs. Lillie C. Markham Drive in an old road in Robert Phillips line and running thence with Lillie C. Markham line South 89 degrees East with said Markham line 200 feet to iron stake, said Markham corner; thence with said Markham line North 2 degrees 30 minutes West 200 feet to iron stake in Billy Joe Phillips line; thence with his line North 89 degrees West 200 feet to iron stake center line old road his corner; thence with Robert Phillips line, South 2 degrees, 30 minutes East 200 feet to the beginning station, and containing ninety one hundredths (0.91) of an acre, according to survey made October, 1968, by R. H. Hancock, Surveyor. TRACT TWO: ADJOINING the lands of Billy Joe Phillips, Tony Tucker and Myrtle Potts and BEGINNING at a point on the east side of SR 1006, same being Billy Joe Phillips corner; and running South 80 degrees East 229 feet to an iron stake in Tony Tucker's line; thence with Tucker's line South 2 degrees East 200 feet to an iron stake in the Northern line of Markham's drive; thence North 89 degrees West crossing to the South side of Markham's drive 234 feet to an iron stake in the East side of SR 1006; thence with the eastern line of said road North 1 degree 30 minutes East 220 feet to the BEGINNING containing 1.11 acres, more or less. Save and except any releases, deeds of release or prior conveyances of record.

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The grand re-opening of 'The Plant' focuses on its local regenerative economy

The Plant in Pittsboro is a diverse 17-acre eco-industrial park located on the east side of downtown which, since 2004, has been envisioned as a "sustainable industrial plant" — and a host location for epic events, the promotion of local resilience and the home for native plant species, fuel, food, beverages and more.

This week, we speak with Tami Schwerin about The Plant's grand re-opening — a celebration set for 5 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 15. Schwerin has been creating things in Chatham County for almost 30 years. Her fellow workers at Abundance NC describe her as a person with an "utterly contagious" vibrancy, as well as "a fearless visionary, community builder, and cartographer of the impossible," and someone who sees "in pure potential." The Plant is located at 220 Lorax Lane in Pittsboro.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Tami Schwerin

play, for weddings and birthdays to happen.

So what will this particular event feature?

On June 15 we are celebrating this intense project. It will be a showpiece for this area and Mayor Cindy Perry is coming to cut the ribbon, the Paperhand Puppets will parade, DJ OS will be spinning tunes and we'll give out a few awards to our amazing contractors and team. We hope everyone will come ready to dance, celebrate and we'll also have Lilly Den Food truck open for

their amazing food.

You're known for hosting an eclectic array of events year-round. What's your event lineup looking like these days?

We have so many fun things happening ... let the revelry begin! A 5-star dinner to discuss the purple martin birds on site, PepperFest is in the works, and of course Death Faire in November. We have a lot of small and large events such as laughing yoga, memorial services, weddings, graduations and lots of local music. This is the fun stuff.



Staff photo by Kim Hawks

Members of the Gingrich family of Apex are regular customers at the Pittsboro Farmers Market, now being hosted at The Plant.

We've visited a lot over the years about changes at The Plant, many of those built around new businesses there. Tell us about a few "secrets" about The Plant and The Beverage District that folks who haven't been there in a while might learn about?

Our common theme here at The Plant is local regenerative economy. Our mix of tenants are committed to using local food and products, to keeping the dollars in the community and providing the highest quality drinks and food possible. We are now becoming a food hub with Copeland Springs Farm (farm to fork food), Lilly Den Farm Meats and Eats, Metal Brixx cafe and Fair Game Beverage Kitchen.

There is also local coffee, jewelry, hemp products, men's hemp

clothing, an art gallery and of course our wonderful beverage folks: Fair Game, bmc brewing, Starrlight Mead and Chatham Cider Works. We kind of have it all. What's beautiful is watching everyone collaborate and work together.

Another new "thing" is the Farmers Market. Is that up and going?

The Pittsboro Farmers Market started meeting here last Thursday. We are thrilled to host them!

Lots has happened since the pandemic started two-plus years ago. Where do you see The Plant in two years?

COVID gave us an advantage because we took that time to build and create our dream place. We will keep going and keep refining the customer

experience so people who come feel welcome, safe, connected and maybe learn a little about nature, art or culture. Food will have a much bigger role here — events, celebrations, the sky's the limit! We are just getting started!

And finally ... what's the story behind the hat that your Plant partner Lyle Estill wears?

Years ago, Lyle's hair was in an awkward state, and he went into the kid's dress up box and grabbed a felt top hat to keep the hair out of his eyes ... he never took it off and it has accidentally become his signature. It fits him to a tee!

For more information, search for "Steel Toes to Stiletos Grand Re-Opening" on Facebook.

SILER CITY COMMISSIONERS

Board expresses frustration over delayed city hall project

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — A newly-constituted board of commissioners on Monday vented to contractors and architects about delays in the city hall renovation project.

"Let's suffice it to say that there's not a lot of tolerance left on the board's patience for this project," newly-elected Mayor Chip Price said during the meeting.

Taylor Hobbs of Hobbs Architects in Pittsboro and Isaac Ellington of Ellington Contracting in Siler City provided an update to the board about the renovation, which began in January 2020. The project was originally slated to be completed nearly four months ago — Feb. 12 was the

original deadline — but delays in receiving equipment and materials have since pushed the date to July 18.

Hobbs said the construction team identified water leaks during recent heavy rains which need resolved.

"We think that the gutters were full and they have a way to actually water get in behind that wood soffit, get into the wall cavity itself and run all the way down to the basement," Hobbs told commissioners.

Commissioner Lewis Fadely, who won reelection to his seat on May 17, expressed concern over the wall cavity leaks and expressed worry the damage was worse than it appears. Hobbs indicated the structural engineer on the project didn't believe the leak caused structural damage.

Commissioners also expressed concern about the lack of updates they'd received throughout the project's duration. Price said on some of his visits, no construction workers were on site.

"So someone needs to explain," he said.

Ellington and Hobbs cited wait times for equipment and materials for the renovations, particularly with its HVAC systems.

"Why wasn't it done right the first time, and why did it take so long to have to redo what should have been done right the first time?" Fadely asked. "You're in charge of the project, and you have notice of what the requirements are supposed to be."

The delay in the project wasn't the only unexpected

news the board got. Siler City Finance Director Tina Stroupe said the project would exceed its \$717,000 budget and would instead cost around \$1 million.

Commissioners were irked at the increase, but even more upset they weren't told about the overruns before Monday.

"I don't recall ever hearing before today that it was just going to be pushing a million dollar project," Fadely said.

Newly-appointed Mayor Pro Tem Bill Haiges said he believed a lot of the frustration wouldn't have happened had the board received more frequent updates about the project's status.

"Everybody is anxious to get this done," Haiges said, "Had we gotten regular updates, we wouldn't be sitting here having to have this conversation."

Fadely echoed Haiges, saying he felt the board needed to enforce communication if the town manager or town staff needed to make a change that would impact the cost and duration of the rest of the renovations.

"It's extremely frustrating that this is the hub of our town, and we get hit with questions, and we can't give the public answers," Fadely said.

"We got these great big smiles on our faces last summer when it was presented; we approved it. We loved it ... We had a budget, we could work and we had a plan. Now, we're all extremely frustrated."

Reporter Taylor Heeden can be reached at theeden@chathamnr.com and on Twitter at @HeedenTaylor.

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2021-22 JETTIES

Jordan-Matthews rolls out red carpet for first-ever 'Jetties' awards show

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — While it's typically a rewarding experience, participating in high school sports can often be a grueling task for student-athletes.

With all of the off-season workouts, mid-week practices and lengthy games that can extend late into weeknights, it's hard to find time to take a break — or even get homework assignments completed on time.

In all, it's a much less glamorous life than student-athletes at large universities or those playing sports professionally.

That's why Josh Harris, the athletic director at Jordan-Matthews High School, decided to roll out a literal red

carpet for his student-athletes at the school's first end-of-year awards banquet since 2019.

On May 31, J-M hosted its first-ever athletic awards show, titled "The Jetties," which turned a typical awards banquet into an Oscars-style spectacle, equipped with Grammy-esque trophies, an actual red carpet an emcee that livened up the ceremony.

"Going to school here, playing here and coaching here, as well, it gets a little monotonous doing the same thing every year," Harris said. "I was like, 'Hey, what can we do to mix it up, make it different and make it more fun and it not last four hours?' So that was what spurred the idea of an awards show."

The Jetties also featured

a voting system, which saw coaches and students selecting winners of each category from a pool of nominees, nominated by coaches, via a Google Form. The votes were then tallied — with the coaches' votes carrying "the most weight," Harris said — and put into envelopes that were read out on awards night.

In total, there were 16 awards handed out, including Male and Female Athlete of the Year for each of the three sports seasons, along with an Overall Male/Female Athlete of the Year.

Winners of the Overall Athletes of the Year awards were senior Calvin Schwartz (Male Athlete of the Year; football

See **AWARDS**, page B3



Staff photo by Tanner Bubeck

Jordan-Matthews men's soccer head coach Paul Cuadros (left) fist bumps Lamont Piggie, the women's basketball and track & field head coach, during The Jetties ceremony on May 31. Piggie took home the award for Coach of the Year.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP | CHRIST THE KING 3, WOODS CHARTER 0

'Next year starts now': Wolves drop 1A title game, suffer first loss of season to Crusaders

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

CARY — In its 19 wins this season, the Woods Charter's women's soccer team hadn't seen an opponent quite like this one.

Christ the King — the West's No. 3 seed out of Huntersville — was speedy, fierce and composed with a lock-down defense to boot.

When the Wolves (19-1-2) stepped onto the field at WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary last Saturday for the NCHSAA 1A Women's Soccer State Championship, it was as if they were looking in the mirror, staring at a carbon copy of what they'd been all season.

And in taking a page out of the Wolves' playbook, the Crusaders (18-2) proceeded to wear the East's top seed down until the final buzzer, coming away with a dominant 3-0 victory and their first state title in program history.

"Congratulations to them," Graeme Stewart, the Wolves' longtime head coach, said of his opponents after the loss. "They're a good team, they've earned it. Overall, they deserved it today, but my girls were outstanding."

The Crusaders, coming off of a 3-0 upset win over the West's top seed in the Union Academy Cardinals (22-1) in the 1A West Regional, clearly weren't afraid of road trips, unbeaten records or the Wolves' high seeding.

Just like Woods Charter, Christ the King had been a defensive force



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

A few members of Woods Charter's women's soccer team (from left: head coach Graeme Stewart, sophomore Leyla Noronha, junior Chloe Richard, junior Lucy Miller, senior Jana Matthews) pose with the 1A runner-up trophy after the Wolves' 3-0 loss to the Christ the King Crusaders in the 1A state title game last Saturday in Cary.

throughout the postseason, allowing just one goal in its previous five games, part of a 7-1 thrashing of Highlands in the third round.

The Wolves would be the Crusaders' latest — and final — victims.

For the first time since its season-opener against Franklin Academy, Woods Charter was not only held scoreless through the title game's 80

minutes, but also shotless, being out-shot by Christ the King, 12-0.

It was unfamiliar territory for the Wolves, who had spent the entire post-season playing keepaway from their opponents, dominating possession at every turn.

Instead, on the biggest stage, the Crusaders kept the ball out of their possession for most of the contest. And

even when they didn't, the Wolves were unable to manufacture any tactile scoring chances thanks to Christ the King's quickness, spacing and ball-seeking ability.

"We knew what we were coming into, we had a plan," Stewart said, "and then we started to get into the game a little bit and it just came down to fine margins. They had a lot of possession and pressure, but to be honest with you, they didn't create an awful lot. They did a little more in the second half when we got a bit tired, but we just needed to have a little bit more composure on the ball."

While the Wolves' offense was practically nonexistent for most of the game, their defense — the team's bread and butter all season — came to play.

Jana Matthews, one of Woods Charter's two seniors, was back for her second straight game as the Wolves' starting goalkeeper after missing the opening few rounds, putting on a masterful performance that single-handedly kept her team in the game.

Early in the first half with both teams scoreless, Matthews found herself needing to react quickly when Crusaders senior Bella Perry had the ball right in front of the net off of a deflected crossing pass. Perry forced a shot immediately after it hit her foot, which Matthews saved with her shin as she fell to the ground, knocking it right back to Perry. Off of the rebound,

See **TITLE**, page B4

2022 SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

Local schools set to host more than 30 youth sports summer camps in June/July

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

If you're looking for a way to keep your children busy this summer — and have some fun playing their favorite sports in the process — then local schools have you covered.

Throughout the months of June and July, students ranging from rising 1st graders to rising college freshmen can participate in a selection of sports camps hosted by Chatham-area schools, including baseball, basketball, cheerleading, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball.

Schools like Central Carolina Community College (Sanford), Chatham Central High School (Bear Creek), Chatham Charter School (Siler City), Jordan-Matthews High School (Siler City), Northwood High School (Pittsboro) and Seaforth High School (Pittsboro) are

hosting a total of 30 camps to choose from.

With nearly three dozen camps to sift through, finding the info for each individual school can be difficult and time consuming, which is why the News + Record has put together this 2022 Summer Sports Camp Guide to make it a tad easier to find which camp(s) are right for you.

Camps are organized by school and listed in chronological order.

Central Carolina Community College (CCCC)

High schools aren't the only ones offering youth summer camps over the next couple of months. CCCC is right there in the mix.

For all camp questions, contact Jonathan Hockaday via email at jhockaday@cccc.edu.

• **When:** June 27-30, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

• **Who:** Rising 9th graders to rising college freshmen

• **Cost:** \$75 per camper (includes t-shirt)

• **Register:** <https://bit.ly/3x-cIHBy>

• **Volleyball Camp**

• **When:** July 11-15, 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

• **Who:** Rising 6th to 8th graders

• **Cost:** \$75 per camper (includes t-shirt)

• **Register:** <https://bit.ly/3t-kFJtD>

• **Volleyball Training Workouts**

• **When:** July 11-15, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

• **Who:** Rising 9th graders to rising college freshmen

• **Cost:** \$75 per camper (includes t-shirt)

• **Register:** <https://bit.ly/3t-kFJtD>

• **Middle School Basketball**

• **When:** July 25-28, 5 p.m. to

8:30 p.m.

• **Who:** Rising 6th-8th graders

• **Cost:** \$100 per camper (includes t-shirt)

• **Register:** <https://bit.ly/3m-11pSr>

• **Chatham Central**

Chatham Central, the baseball and softball capital of the county this year, is hosting a camp for each of the sports on the diamond.

• **Softball**

• **When:** June 13-15, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

• **Who:** Rising 1st through 9th graders

• **Cost:** \$40 per camper (includes t-shirt)

• **Registration:** <https://bit.ly/cchs-camp>

• **Contacts:** Drew Hackney via phone at (919) 548-1226 or email at dhackney8@hotmail.com;

John Warf via phone at (919) 548-3689 or email at jrwarf@gmail.com

• **Baseball**

• **When:** June 27-29, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

• **Who:** Ages 6 and up

• **Cost:** \$50 per camper

• **Location:** Chatham Central Baseball Field

• **Contact:** Brett Walden via email at bwalden@chatham.k12.nc.us

• **Register:** <https://bit.ly/3x-cqjJL>

• **Chatham Charter**

While Chatham Charter has already seen some of its camps pass — including basketball and soccer — there are still a few left to join.

The Knights are hosting three camps in the final three weeks of June, the first of which, tennis, starts next Monday.

• **Tennis (Smashers Tennis Camp)**

• **When:** June 13-17, 8 a.m. to

See **CAMPS**, page B4

CHATHAM COUNTY ATHLETICS RUNDOWN

This week's schedule and last week's results

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

Last week, the Woods Charter women's soccer team fell one win shy of the 1A state title — but a near-perfect season (19-1-2), the 1A East Regional title and a state championship appearance marks the best season in program history. With the Wolves' season coming to an end last Saturday, the 2021-22 athletic year — one that featured moments like Northwood's women's basketball 3A state title win — is officially over, making room for summer vacations,

workouts and camps (see story in this week's edition for latest info on school-hosted summer camps). Here's this week's schedule and last week's results.

THIS WEEK
No events scheduled; Summer Break.

LAST WEEK

Monday, May 30
No events scheduled.

Tuesday, May 31
Soccer: The No. 1 Woods Charter

women crushed the No. 7 Hobbton Wildcats, 5-0, in the 1A East Regional at WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary. Scoring for the Wolves were sophomore Leyla Noronha (2 goals), sophomore Chloe Haswell (2 goals) and junior Lucy Miller (1 goal). With the win, the Wolves advanced to the first 1A state title game in program history.

Wednesday, June 1
No events scheduled.

Thursday, June 2
No events scheduled.

Friday, June 3
No events scheduled.

Saturday, June 4
Soccer: The No. 1 Woods Charter women fell to the No. 3 Christ the King Crusaders, 3-0, in the NCHSAA 1A State Championship. The loss marks the Wolves' first of the season. They end the year with a 19-1-2 overall record (8-0 in Central Tar Heel 1A conference) after making their first-ever championship appearance.

Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamncr.com or on Twitter at [@Freezeal33](https://twitter.com/Freezeal33).

Here are Chatham County's 2021-22 spring all-conference athletes

BY VICTOR HENSLEY
News + Record Staff

With the 2021-22 NCHSAA spring sports season coming to an end, a number of Chatham County athletes have been selected to all-conference teams in baseball, men's golf, lacrosse, softball, women's soccer, men's tennis and track & field.

The Central Tar Heel 1A, Mid-Carolina 1A/2A and Central 3A conferences have announced all-conference teams for the spring, with more than 150 Chatham student-athletes recognized for being the top athletes in their respective conferences. In addition, 4 coaches were named Coach of the Year and 12 student-athletes were named Player of the Year — or a variation of that — for their accomplishments.

The athletes and coaches that earned all-conference honors are as follows.

Baseball

- Central Tar Heel 1A**
- Zach Cartrette, Freshman, Chatham Charter
 - Aidan Allred, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
 - Colton Nixon, Senior, Chatham Charter
 - Landon Hussey, Senior, Chatham Charter
 - Luke Johnson, Freshman, Chatham Charter
- Pitcher of the Year:** Zach Cartrette, Freshman, Chatham Charter
- Honorable Mention:** Cameron Turner, Chatham Charter
- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Hasten Paige, Junior, Chatham Central
 - Collin Lagenor, Senior, Chatham Central
 - Matthew Murchison, Freshman, Chatham Central

- Anthony Lopossay, Sophomore, Chatham Central
- Wesley Clewis, Sophomore, Chatham Central
- Carson Whitehead, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Brenden Rivers, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
- Conner Martin, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Kelton Fuquay, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
- Ian McMillan, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
- Dane O'Neill, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Griff Burk, Freshman, Seaforth

- Team Sportsmanship Award:** Seaforth Hawks
- Honorable Mention:** Nick Jourdan, Chatham Central; Jackson Headen, Jordan-Matthews; Daniel White, Seaforth; Cade Elmore, Seaforth
- Central 3A**
- Zach Barnes, Junior, Northwood
 - Seth Davis, Junior, Northwood

Men's Golf

- Central Tar Heel 1A**
- Seph Trageser, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
 - Luke Smollen, Senior, Woods Charter
- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Corbin Allen, Junior, Chatham Central
 - Noah Snyder, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Brian Johnson, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Griffin Ching, Freshman, Seaforth



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Northwood senior Pierce Cook (14) and junior Will Smith (2) look toward the official during the Chargers' 17-3 blowout win over the Seaforth Hawks on April 8.

- Gray Stewart, Freshman, Seaforth
- Player of the Year:** Griffin Ching, Freshman, Seaforth
- Co-Coach of the Year:** Cory Martin, Jordan-Matthews
- Central 3A**
- Jake Conklin, Senior, Northwood
 - Cole Wolfgang, Junior, Northwood
- Player of the Year:** Jake Conklin, Senior, Northwood

Men's Lacrosse

- Central 3A**
- Taylor Laberge, Junior, Northwood
 - Will Smith, Junior, Northwood
 - Pierce Cook, Senior, Northwood
 - Will Johnson, Junior, Northwood
 - Taylor Zelhof, Junior, Northwood
 - Layne Armstrong, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Cameron Exley, Freshman, Seaforth
- Defensive Player of the Year:** Will Johnson, Junior, Northwood

Women's Lacrosse

- DAC 7**
- Grazi Costa, Junior, Northwood
 - Mia Collins, Junior, Northwood
 - Kendall Laberge, Senior, Northwood
 - Julia Colen, Senior, Northwood
 - Ryan Tinervin, Sophomore, Northwood

Softball

- Central Tar Heel 1A**
- Taylor Jones, Senior, Chatham Charter
 - Hailie Edmondson, Junior, Chatham Charter
 - Olivia Cheek, Senior, Chatham Charter
 - Taylor Brewer, Senior, Chatham Charter
 - Ella Ingle, Freshman, Chatham Charter
- Honorable Mention:** Chelsie Hardister, Chatham Charter; Delana Loflin, Chatham Charter
- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Jaylee Williams, Sophomore, Chatham Central
 - Taylor Poe, Senior, Chatham Central
 - Mary Gaines, Junior, Chatham Central
 - Gracie Gaines, Senior, Chatham Central
 - Lindsey Johnson, Senior, Chatham Central
 - Cassie McKeithan, Sophomore, Chatham Central
 - Sophia Murchison, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews
 - Marcy Clark, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews

- Korbyn Kirchner, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Macy Beavers, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Reagan Smith, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
- Pitcher of the Year:** Mary Gaines, Junior, Chatham Central
- Player of the Year:** Jaylee Williams, Junior, Chatham Central
- Coach of the Year:** Drew Hackney, Chatham Central
- Team Sportsmanship Award:** Jordan-Matthews Jets
- Honorable Mention:** Ashley Roberts, Chatham Central; Katherine Gaines, Chatham Central; Riley Gibson, Jordan-Matthews; Auburn Campbell, Jordan-Matthews

Women's Soccer

- Central Tar Heel 1A**
- Alina Borchmann, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
 - Tabitha Felch, Junior, Chatham Charter
 - Emerson Clark, Junior, Chatham Charter
 - Maddie Sparrow, Junior, Woods Charter
 - Leyla Noronha, Sophomore, Woods Charter
 - Lucy Miller, Junior, Woods Charter
 - Chloe Richard, Junior, Woods Charter
 - Megan Nowack, Junior, Woods Charter
 - Cate Czyzewski, Sophomore, Woods Charter
- Defensive Player of the Year:** Maddie Sparrow, Junior, Woods Charter
- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Jessica Parroquin Vallejo, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews
 - Michelle Parroquin Vallejo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Maricarmen Landa, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Janyera Guerrero Jaimes, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Iris Sibrian Zetino, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Estefani De Paz Rodriguez, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Sage Coykendall, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Maggie Thornton, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Caitlin Erman, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Chloe Price, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Sam Tucker, Sophomore, Seaforth
 - Claire McClintock,

- Freshman, Seaforth
- Morgan York, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Jadah Carroll, Sophomore, Seaforth
 - Tillie Wilson, Freshman, Seaforth
- Offensive Player of the Year:** Jessica Parroquin Vallejo, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews
- Defensive Player of the Year:** Michelle Parroquin Vallejo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
- Co-Coach of the Year:** Josh Harris, Jordan-Matthews
- Central 3A**
- Ava Arias, Sophomore, Northwood
 - Sydney Cox, Junior, Northwood
 - Sarah Emrich, Junior, Northwood

Men's Tennis

- Central Tar Heel 1A**
- Colton Todd, Sophomore, Chatham Charter
- Team Sportsmanship:** Chatham Charter Knights
- Honorable Mention:** Silas Christenbury, Chatham Charter
- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Jacob Gilliland, Sophomore, Chatham Central
 - Landon Hackney, Senior, Chatham Central
 - Paul Lujan, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Buck Thornton, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Ben Dekaney, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Dawson Clark, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Walker Magrinat, Sophomore, Seaforth
 - Felton Burleigh, Sophomore, Seaforth
 - Broden Jones, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Matthew Bowser, Freshman, Seaforth
- Player of the Year:** Walker Magrinat, Sophomore, Seaforth
- Central 3A**
- Tate Clark, Senior, Northwood
 - Jio Sumogod, Junior, Northwood

Men's Track & Field

- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Jacorey Coats, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Aiden Harrison, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Carlos Rojas, Senior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Pedro Artilles, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Walter Entrekin, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Jack Anstrom, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Will Cuicchi, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Chris Scanlon, Sophomore, Seaforth
 - Nathan Smith, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Alex Hinchman, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Sebastian Calderon, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Gunnar Smith, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Jason Antley, Freshman, Seaforth
- Central 3A**
- Christian Glick, Junior, Northwood (800-meter run; 4x400-meter relay)
 - Ethan Wilson, Junior, Northwood (110-meter hurdles)
 - Jack Spatz, Senior, Northwood (4x400-meter relay)
 - Noah Nielson, Sophomore, Northwood (4x400-meter relay; 4x800-meter relay)

- Marco Sanchez, Senior, Northwood (4x400-meter relay)
 - Colin Henry, Senior, Northwood (4x800-meter relay)
 - Trey Hudson, Freshman, Northwood (4x800-meter relay)
 - Jackson Adams, Junior, Northwood (4x800-meter relay)
 - Nathan Andros, Senior, Northwood (pole vault)
 - Jack Nicholson, Junior, Northwood (triple jump; discus throw)
 - Cameron Stevenson Jr., Junior, Northwood (shot put; discus throw)
- Field Athlete of the Year:** Jack Nicholson, Junior, Northwood

Women's Track & Field

- Mid-Carolina 1A/2A**
- Carleigh Gentry, Senior, Chatham Central
 - Kailey Green, Junior, Chatham Central
 - Mattie Caviness, Sophomore, Chatham Central
 - Samantha Scott, Sophomore, Chatham Central
 - Madelyn Eubanks, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Damisela Rivera, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - America Cuanalo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Sophia Kopela, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews
 - Anna Vicente, Sophomore, Jordan-Matthews
 - Cassidy Deshazo, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Rachel Woods, Freshman, Jordan-Matthews
 - Jaylyn Baldwin, Junior, Jordan-Matthews
 - Sadessa Green, Fresh-

- man, Jordan-Matthews
 - Malana Mclean, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Gabrielle White, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Claire Morgan, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Katie Johnson, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Juliette VanOlinda, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Lily McFall, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Sydney Ballard, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Charlie Ann George, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Anavi Smith, Freshman, Seaforth
 - Zuzanna Mikolajec, Freshman, Seaforth
- Central 3A**
- Rokia Sissoko, Sophomore, Northwood (400-meter dash; 4x800-meter relay)
 - Caroline Murrell, Senior, Northwood (800-meter run; 1,600-meter run; 3,200-meter run; 4x800-meter relay)
 - Emma Serrano, Senior, Northwood (3,200-meter run; 4x800-meter relay)
 - Avery Adams, Freshman, Northwood (4x800-meter relay)
 - Skylar Adams, Sophomore, Northwood (triple jump)
 - Kennedy Poston, Senior, Northwood (shot put)
 - Bentley Brooks, Senior, Northwood (discus throw)
- Runner of the Year:** Caroline Murrell, Senior, Northwood
- Coach of the Year:** Cameron Isenhour, Northwood
- Reporter Victor Hensley can be reached at vhensley@chathamncr.com or on Twitter at [@Freezeal33](https://twitter.com/Freezeal33).

Household Hazardous Waste Events 2022

Saturday, June 18

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

28 County Services Road
(6 miles west of Pittsboro, off Hwy 64)



Chatham County residents can bring household hazardous items such as

- chemicals • cleaners • solvents • paint
- pesticides • gasoline • antifreeze • electronics

For a complete list of items visit www.chathamcountync.gov/hhw

Future HHW events will be held the third Saturday of each month, through November.



No trash or empty containers. No business waste. No decal required. Must show proof of address.

Questions? Call (919) 542-5516



Low Cost Spay / Neuter - Only \$20

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

Sheriff's Office Animal Resource Center

725 Renaissance Drive, Pittsboro, NC 27312

Phone: 919-542-7203 [facebook.com/chathamsoar](https://www.facebook.com/chathamsoar)

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



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



'I LIKE BATTLE SCARS'

Wolves' unbeaten reign continues into 1A state title game with 5-0 blanking of Wildcats

BY DAN E. WAY
News + Record
Correspondent

This story was previously published on the News + Record's website following Woods Charter's 1A East Regional win over Hobpton.

CARY — You could say Jana Matthews doesn't play nice with others. The Woods Charter senior goalkeeper didn't let the high-riding Hobpton Wildcats score even one goal as she kept the Wolves' playoff shutout streak alive and helped her teammates advance to the NCHSAA 1A women's soccer state championship for the first time in school history.

On the strength of that dominant 5-0 victory, the Wolves (19-0-2) will now face the Christ the King Crusaders (17-2) from Mecklenburg County in the title game.

"This is our first time to the championship game, and I'm really proud of these girls to just keep playing, keep going and just keep believing," said Woods Charter Head Coach Graeme Stewart.

When the momentum shifted in the middle of the first half with his team desperately clinging to a 1-0 lead, they could have collapsed, Stewart said, "but they wouldn't let that happen. They have too much belief in themselves, and they turned it around, and that's what I really like."

Matthews made sure the lead didn't change hands.

"I think this has definitely been my best game this whole season. I think my punts were on point today, and in general leading the team from the back was helpful. I think the intensity made it easy to do what I had to do," Matthews said.

"One more game and then I'm done. I think that would be my best reward, to win the championship," she added.

Matthews now has 11 shutouts on the season. That prowess is all the more impressive considering she had not played in the net since middle



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Woods Charter junior Lucy Miller (18) knocks the ball away from Hobpton freshman McKayla Harris (11) during the Wolves' 5-0 win over the Wildcats in the 1A East Regional last Tuesday in Cary.

school, switching to goalie from defender this year.

"So far, so good," she said in understatement.

On Tuesday, at WakeMed Soccer Park, she stymied a Hobpton team (19-2-2) that had outscored opponents 124-20, and had breezed through the playoffs with a 20-2 scoring edge.

"They were definitely scary (on offense)," Matthews said. "It was just really exciting. I had a good time."

While Matthews was snagging line drives, smothering kicks or rushing out of the box to challenge oncoming opponents one-on-one to thwart a score, junior midfielder Lucy Miller was using her head, both figuratively and literally.

Miller scored the Wolves' second goal of the game, banging in a header off of a corner kick by sophomore midfielder Cate Czynewski late in the first half that froze the Hobpton goalie.

"I love working corners. I think I'm better in the air, so I like to try to get in the air," where her height gives her a distinct advantage, Miller said. "Headers are something I really wanted to work on this

season, so it was exciting to get one in" after struggling in recent games when her attempts sailed over the crossbars.

It appeared she had a second goal earlier in the half when she banged one in from in front of the net, but the referee ruled she made contact with the goalie while she was holding the ball, forcing a fumble. Had it been a score, the game could have taken a dramatic shift in the Wolves' favor, Stewart said.

"The way it looked to us was it was a perfectly good goal," Stewart said, and the ball slipped out of the goalie's hands without any contact. "That's the ref's decision. It is what it is."

Stewart said Miller has been a huge part of the team's success.

"She's great on both sides of the ball. She's great with the ball, she's great winning it back. She's just a presence defensively, clearing their corners. On our corners she's a threat," Stewart said.

Until Miller scored, the game was very much up in the air. Stewart credited the Hobpton players, who "were appropriately physical. They were tough, and that's what I expect-

ed in the semifinals ... They've got some good runners."

For about 15 minutes in the first half, the Wildcats threatened repeatedly, pushing into Woods Charter territory, keeping the pressure on and the play on the other side of midfield. Stewart said his players gave the ball away too much, and when they gained possession, didn't make good decisions.

"That's what we talked about at halftime. We needed to get the ball wider more often than what we were doing, and that's what we did in the second half," Stewart said. "I think overall, over the 80 minutes, we were the better team. We were the stronger team. We overall dominated possession."

Sophomore Chloe Haswell was a vital part of the second-half surge, pumping in a pair of goals and working the field hard.

"It was wild, honestly. It was really hectic. I just tried to body my way through those defenders, use my body to push through," Haswell said. That was no easy feat, as she explained. "I am the smallest. I'm 4-foot-11. It was really hard to get those goals. I'm proud of myself."

Haswell has played most of the season at left wing, but Stewart had a hunch and played it, moving her up top for the game in what turned out to be a bit of generalship genius.

"I think it's one of the biggest games of my life for sure," Haswell said. "Honestly, my last couple of games weren't that good. I was just trying to do as much as I could for this team. I really am grateful for them. They really have given me their all this season, and I just wanted to give something back to them. I just wanted to score as much as I could if I had the chance."

She sealed the deal for the Wolves, driving in the last two goals to put the game out of reach. She scored off of a penalty kick by junior midfielder Chloe Richard, and on a corner kick by Czynewski.

"I basically got in front of defenders. I like to go behind them and trick them, and then go in front of them in the last second to get in their way, and to manipulate that and to score off of those," Haswell said.

"I'm really proud of the way Chloe played in that second half," Stewart said. "Scoring two good goals in a big game, that's all a striker can do. She was just, for them, being really annoying. She was all over the place. She was trying to find it, and that's good."

Sophomore forward Leyla Noronha, the Wolves' leading scorer with 50 goals, also had a pair of scores. Earlier in the season, she said she believed the team could make a deep run in the playoffs, but tempered her expectations with a prediction they would make the state title game next year.

"I am so happy about it. We're making history here, and I think it's absolutely crazy. I really, really want to win the state championship now. So I hope we're also going to destroy the next team," Noronha said.

She was pulled from the game late in the second half, limping slightly off the field. She caught a knee to the thigh in a tight scrum off a corner kick and developed a charley horse.

"Before I got hit I was doing really well, and I think I was playing as best as I could," Noronha said. "It's OK. I like battle scars."

She said she was especially pleased to break the ice with the game's first goal. She had a few touches, beat two defenders in the box and created space to rifle it in.

"It was like, 'I'm this close. I'm not going to shank it. I'm going to put it in the back of the net,' and that's what I did," Noronha said.

She said her second goal, expanding the lead to 3-0, "made me really happy. I made a girl fall, I hit it with my left foot and shot it in the right corner, and then the crowd goes wild."



Takin' Home the Trophies

A group of Chatham Central senior athletes (from left to right: Colby Williamson, Collin Lagenor, Lindsey Johnson and Carleigh Gentry) pose for photos following the school's end-of-year awards banquet last week. Lagenor and Johnson took home the awards for Male and Female Athlete of the Year, respectively, while Williamson and Gentry won the school's sportsmanship awards.

Submitted photo

AWARDS

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and track & field) and senior Ellia Wright (Female Athlete of the Year; women's basketball).

In addition to the typical awards you'd see at an annual banquet, the Jets also handed out awards such as "Jet of Valor," for the senior student-athlete that was "the best representation of Jordan-Matthews both on and off the field" — won by Colby Daniel — and the Randy Gaines Award, named after a longtime Jets football volunteer, for the athlete that "promoted the most service-based attitude throughout the year," Harris said, taken home by senior Ben Dekaney.

Just as you might see at the ESPYs, The Jetties featured another unique award called "Performance of the Season," for the fall, winter and spring sports seasons, which highlighted the best moment of a particular season.



Staff photo by Tanner Bubeck

A close-up of the Jettie for Fall Female Athlete of the Year, won by Lia Carter (volleyball), ahead of The Jetties awards show at Jordan-Matthews on May 31.

handed out to senior Alexis Ibarra (men's soccer, fall), senior Ellia Wright (women's basketball, winter) and freshman Jessica Parroquin Vallejo (women's soccer, spring), some for individual moments — like Ibarra's overtime goal against N.C. School of Science and Math in the third round of the playoffs — or career-defining ones, like Wright crossing the 1,000-point mark in women's basketball.

By all accounts, the first installment of The Jetties was a success, with students already jazzed up about suggesting award ideas for next year, when Harris said he'll be more likely to throw a few more lighthearted awards into the pool.

"It was a really cool atmosphere, I think the energy was pretty great," Harris said. "I don't think the kids really knew what to expect, nor did anyone else. But from what I've heard, most everybody enjoyed it. ... It's the first

year, so we kind of try not to get in the paralysis-by-analysis mode, where we overthink things and don't do it. So I was kind of like, 'Well, let's jump in and see how we screw it up, then fix it from there.'

"We've definitely got some pieces we're going to tweak next year," Harris continued with a laugh. "I'm already so excited for next year."

The full list of Jetties winners is as follows:

Fall Male Athlete of the Year: Zander Ocampo, men's soccer

• Other nominees: Calvin Schwartz, Jacorey Coats

Fall Female Athlete of the Year: Lia Carter, volleyball

• Other nominees: Logan Gunter, Hannia Martinez

Winter Male Athlete of the Year: Rayshawn Alston, men's basketball

• Other nominees: Calvin Conroy, Jacob Carter

Winter Female Athlete of the Year: Ellia Wright, women's basketball

• Other nominee: Emma Wieber

Spring Male Athlete of the Year: Buck Thornton, men's tennis

• Other nominees: Kelton Fuquay, Calvin Schwartz

Spring Female Athlete of the Year: Jessica Parroquin Vallejo, women's soccer

• Other nominees: Sophia Murchison, Rachel Woods

Male Overall Athlete of the Year: Calvin Schwartz, football and track & field

• Other nominees: Ian McMillan, Zander Ocampo

Female Overall Athlete of the Year: Ellia Wright, women's basketball

• Other nominees: Lia Carter, Sophia Murchison

Randy Gaines Award: Ben Dekaney

• Other nominees: Auburn Campbell, Hector Chanchavac, Sophia Murchison, Kameron Gooch

Coach of the Year: Lamont Piggie, women's basketball and track & field

• Other nominees: Ryan Johnson, Paul Cuadros

Jet of Valor: Colby Daniel

• Other nominees: Emma Wieber, Alexis

Ibarra

Spirit Award: Caroline Matthews

• Other nominees: Brenden Rivers, Brooklin Queen, Geneva Woolford, Almetwakel Abdo Ali

Performance of the Fall: Alexis Ibarra (overtime goal vs. N.C. School of Science and Math)

• Other nominee: Calvin Schwartz

Performance of the Winter: Ellia Wright (1,000th point in women's basketball)

• Other nominee: Rayshawn Alston (31 points in men's basketball game at Seaforth)

Performance of the Spring: Jessica Parroquin Vallejo (multiple 4-goal games in women's soccer)

• Other nominee: Paul Lujan (men's tennis conference tournament)

Team of the Year: Men's Soccer

• Other nominees: Men's Tennis, Women's Soccer, Women's Track & Field

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

TITLE

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Perry fired off another quick shot toward a downed Matthews, who slapped it away with her right hand to keep the game knotted at 0-0 with a double-save.

“Today, she showed what she was capable of. She’s confident, and she’s not actually a goalkeeper,” Stewart said, referencing Matthews’ transition to goalkeeper last offseason. “She was outstanding. She kept us in the game a little bit. ... I’m really proud of what she did today.”

In total, Matthews racked up 9 saves on the day, acting mostly as a brick wall in net despite all of the shots that came her way.

Both defenses held strong for most of the first half, including the Wolves with their bend-but-don’t-break strategy, keeping the game 0-0 for the game’s first 30 minutes.

“I think (it motivated me) to see my team work so hard in the field in front of me, so when it got to me, I had to help reset the field,” Matthews said after the loss. “After that first (penalty kick) on me, we made it a big deal to not have any more goals go in. I think that got me through.”

With 9:25 left on the first-half clock, Wolves junior Megan Nowack was called for a controversial handball inside of the Crusaders’ penalty area — a call met with disapproval from both Nowack and the hundreds of Woods Charter supporters in the stands — leading to the game’s lone



Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Woods Charter senior Jana Matthews boots the ball down the field during the Wolves’ 3-0 loss to the Christ the King Crusaders in the 1A state title game last Saturday in Cary. Matthews was one of two seniors on a relatively youthful Wolves team.

penalty kick.

Christ the King’s Riley Milligan, who would later be named the title game’s Most Valuable Player, opted to take the kick, lining up one-on-one against Matthews. And Milligan wasted no time trotting up to the ball and slotting it toward the top-right corner of the net before Matthews had a chance to react. The Crusaders had officially snapped the Wolves’ playoff shutout streak, securing a 1-0 lead that they’d take with them into the halftime break.

The second half would be much of the same, with the Crusaders continuing to stifle the Wolves’ attack while they were unable to get into position to score their own goals.

Through the first 14 minutes of the second half, the lone

shot from Christ the King came on a deep free kick after a Wolves’ yellow card, which was ultimately saved by Matthews.

But in the 54th minute, Crusaders junior Elle Gorman lofted a pass from the right side of the penalty area, leading senior Daniela Evans toward the net. Matthews jumped up in an attempt to snatch the ball out of the air before Evans could get to it, but Evans’ head connected with the ball mere milliseconds before Matthews’ hands, sending the ball bouncing into the back of the net and giving her team a 2-0 lead on the first non-penalty-related goal of the game.

With the way the Wolves’ offense was playing up to that point, a two-goal deficit felt insurmountable. But that didn’t stop them from trying.

Woods Charter sophomore Leyla Noronha, the team’s leading scorer on the season, spent most of the second half trying to get into open space. Stewart has often cited how dangerous she is with her feet, making defenders miss with her footwork and speed, which complements her superb shot-making ability.

There were multiple times throughout the half where she’d get a through-pass leading her toward the Crusaders’ goal, only to be swarmed by blue jerseys that would bump her, trip her up and force her to lose possession.

It was a frustrating afternoon for Noronha, whose 50 goals on the season were well over the goal count of Christ The King’s scoring leader, junior Anna Bowman, who had 18.

“When we had the space up until the semifinal, we used it really well. What we’ve now got to do is transition to when there’s no space and there’s ultimate pressure,” Stewart said. “It’s just that belief in quick touches. ... They’re at an elite level, they’ve got players who play on an elite level and you can see that in the way they move the ball and they cross the ball. So you’ve got to learn to play at that level.”

In the 67th minute, Perry took a shot at the net from the top of the penalty area, which was saved by Matthews. But instead of being able to catch the ball and hold onto it, it hit her torso as she dove to the ground, where junior Abby Olean was waiting to bang in the rebound for a 3-0 lead, finishing off the game’s scoring

and sealing the Crusaders’ title-clinching victory.

When it was all said and done and the award ceremony had concluded, with Milligan getting the MVP award and the Crusaders taking photos with the 2021-22 1A State Champions banner, Stewart spoke with his team near its bench before the players exited the field for the final time this season.

His message was clear: this isn’t over.

“Learn from what we’re seeing and decide what we want to do about it,” Stewart said. “We didn’t quite get there today, but next year is a new challenge. We’ve got to get back here and do the same thing, but we’re going to get to the absolute top of the mountain.”

This year, Woods Charter had the best season in program history, starting with its near-unbeaten record (19-1-2) and continuing with its No. 1 seed in the East, 1A East Regional title and the state championship game appearance. And it did it all with a group of nine sophomores leading the way.

“Aside from losing two seniors, we’re going to be stronger next year. We’ve got some players coming up, we’ve got a junior class that is going to be a year older,” he said. “I told them to go play club, go learn from other coaches and get more experience. Start tomorrow. ... Find a way to keep playing, don’t wait until January. Next year starts now.”

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

CAMPS

Continued from page B1

11 a.m.

- Who:** Children aged 8-14
- Cost:** \$90 per camper (or family discount of 2 kids for \$175; \$5 off) — includes t-shirt and more
- Location:** Chatham Charter Tennis Courts
- Contact:** Kelly Eldridge via phone at 919-548-1877 or via email at sweetteartworks@gmail.com or keldridge@chathamcharter.org
- Register:** <https://bit.ly/3NovkVJ>
- Volleyball**
- When:** June 20-22, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 3rd through 8th graders
- Cost:** \$45 per camper (includes t-shirt)
- Location:** Chatham Charter Main Gym
- Contact:** Dawn Rains via email at dawn_rains@hotmail.com
- Register:** <https://bit.ly/3zkkuvc>
- Softball**
- When:** June 27-29, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 3rd through 8th graders
- Cost:** \$60 per camper (includes t-shirt)
- Location:** Chatham Charter Softball Field
- Contact:** Brittany Smith via email at bsmith@chathamcharter.org
- Register:** <https://bit.ly/3NovkVJ>

Jordan-Matthews

All of Jordan-Matthews’ summer camps will take place on that sport’s respective court/field. Any questions can be directed to Athletic Director Josh Harris, who can be reached via email at jpharris@chatham.k12.nc.us. Registration/more info can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3xc88Tz>

Payment will be accepted on first day of camp. Make checks payable to J-M Booster Club.

- Soccer**
- When:** June 27-30, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st graders through rising 9th graders
- Cost:** \$80 per camper
- Football**
- When:** June 27-30, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st graders through rising 9th graders
- Cost:** \$80 per camper
- Basketball**
- When:** July 18-21, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st grad-

- ers through rising 9th graders
- Cost:** \$80 per camper
- Baseball/Softball**
- When:** July 25-28, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st graders through rising 9th graders
- Cost:** \$80 per camper
- Cheerleading**
- When:** July 25-28, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st graders through rising 9th graders
- Cost:** \$80 per camper
- Tennis**
- When:** July 25-28, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st graders through rising 9th graders
- Cost:** \$80 per camper

Northwood

Northwood is hosting five camps this summer, nearly all of which are in the month of June. For most camps, contact Athletic Director Cameron Vernon for more info via email at cvernon@chatham.k12.nc.us, unless otherwise noted.

Prices/age groups vary depending on the camp.

- Baseball**
- When:** June 13-16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Who:** Children aged 6 through rising 8th graders
- Cost:** \$100 per camper (includes t-shirt)
- More info:** <https://bit.ly/3GTAMHc>
- Registration:** <https://bit.ly/3Npmb7>
- Contact:** David Miller for questions via phone at (919) 418-3258 or email at dmiller@chatham.k12.nc.us
- Men’s Lacrosse**
- When:** June 27-30, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 9th to 12th graders
- Cost:** \$200 (includes t-shirt)
- Location:** Northwood HS Lower Level Field (Soccer Field)
- Register:** <https://bit.ly/3NnS1Jr>
- Contact:** Randy Cox via email at coxr@hpw.com
- NOTE:** Northwood is looking for lacrosse coaches for next season. Contact Randy Cox (email above) for more info.
- Soccer**
- When:** July 18-19, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st through 8th graders
- Cost:** \$70 per camper (includes t-shirt)
- Location:** Northwood HS Practice Field
- Register:** <https://bit.ly/3tiSftw>

Football & Basketball (Sports Camp)

- When:** June 20-23, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Who:** Kindergarten through 8th graders
- Location:** Northwood HS Main Gym
- Cost of Football Only:** \$60 per camper
- Cost of Basketball Only:** \$100 per camper
- Cost of Football/Basketball:** \$100 per camper
- Register:** <https://bit.ly/3Mq5q2x>

Seaforth

Despite coming off of its inaugural athletics season, Seaforth is wasting no time in offering the largest selection of sports camps for any high school in Chatham County.

In total, Seaforth is offering 12 camps that range in length, price and subject matter.

For all camp questions, contact Athletic Director Jason Amy via email at jasonamy@chatham.k12.nc.us

To register for each camp, visit: <https://bit.ly/3awcM7x>

To pay online, visit: <https://bit.ly/3NT00TG>

- Baseball**
- When:** June 20-22 for 2nd through 5th graders, June 20-23 for 6th through 8th graders; 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 2nd through 8th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Baseball Field
- Cost:** \$75 per camper (2nd through 5th graders), \$100 per camper (6th through 8th graders)
- Cheerleading**
- When:** June 20-23, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st through 8th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Main Gym
- Cost:** \$65 per camper
- Lacrosse**
- When:** June 20-23, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Who:** All ages
- Location:** Seaforth Main Field
- Cost:** \$150 per camper
- Soccer**
- When:** June 20-24, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 4th, 5th and 6th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Main Field
- Cost:** \$100 per camper
- Softball**
- When:** June 20-23, 2:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 3rd through 8th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Softball Field
- Cost:** \$100 per camper
- Volleyball**
- When:** June 20-23, 8:30

a.m. to 12 p.m.

- Who:** Rising 3rd through 8th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Main Gym
- Cost:** \$100 per camper
- Women’s Basketball**
- When:** June 27-July 1, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 1st through 8th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Main Gym
- Cost:** \$149 per camper
- Note:** Sold out, join waitlist here: <https://bit.ly/3xki275>
- Soccer**

- When:** June 27-July 1, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Who:** Rising 7th-9th graders
- Location:** Seaforth Main Field
- Cost:** \$100 per camper
- Men’s Basketball Plyometric Training**
- When:** July 25-29, 8:25 a.m. to 9:25 a.m.
- Who:** Rising 3rd graders and above
- Location:** Seaforth Main Gym
- Cost:** \$25 per camper
- Men’s Basketball**
- When:** July 25-29, 9:30

a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Who:** Rising 3rd graders and above
- Location:** Seaforth Main Gym
- Cost:** \$125 per camper
- Football**
- When:** July 28-29, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Who:** Co-ed ages 8-14
- Location:** Seaforth Main Field
- Cost:** \$50 per camper

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



Chatham COA Events & Announcements

June 13th through June 17th

Monday, June 13

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🧘
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 9:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center and on Zoom) 🧘📶
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program w/Jackie](#) at 10:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills and on Zoom) 🧘📶
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program w/Olivia](#) at 2:00 PM (Aerobic Room, WCSC) 🧘
- [Caregiver Support Group](#) at 6:00 PM (Chatham Community Library) 🧘

Tuesday, June 14

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🧘
- [Lunch Bunch](#) at 11:30 AM (The MOD, Pittsboro - RSVP to Jackie, Faye or Olivia by June 6) 💰

Wednesday, June 15

- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 PM (Aerobic Room, WCSC) 🧘
- [Chair Yoga w/Liz](#) at 9:00 AM (at Chatham Grove Community Center and on Zoom) 🧘📶
- [Strong and Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM (at WCSC) 🧘

Thursday, June 16

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🧘
- [Strong and Fit w/Olivia](#) at 9:00 AM (at WCSC) 🧘
- [Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program w/Olivia](#) at 2:00 PM (Aerobic Room, WCSC) 🧘

Friday, June 17

- [Body Conditioning w/Jackie](#) at 8:00 AM (at Forest Hall at Chatham Mills) 🧘
- [Arthritis Foundation Aquatic Exercise Program w/Jackie](#) at 9:30 AM (at Bray Park Pool, Siler City) 🧘
- [Friday Night Dance](#) at 7:00 PM (at WCSC) 💰

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

- 🧘 **In-person - Pre-registration Required**
- 📶 **Programming Hosted On Zoom**
- 💰 **Fee Required for Participation**

The Chatham COA is Here for You!

For more information on our ongoing programs & services visit our website at chathamcoa.org or call our centers, Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm.

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Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-4512

Western Chatham Senior Center (WCSC)

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

House Democrats unveil budget priorities for short session

From House Democratic Leader Robert Reives

RALEIGH — House Democrats hosted a press conference last Thursday to discuss House Bill 1136: NC Working Families Act, which represents House Democrats' priorities for the Short Session budget.

"Many caucus members had input into this bill," House Democratic Leader Robert Reives II said. "The people of North Carolina deserve to have us making smart, long-term investments in our state."

Rep. Rosa Gill spoke about investments in public education. "As a retired principal and educator, I believe public education is the

most important thing we do. Strong public schools give every child an opportunity to learn," Gill said. "They give every community an opportunity to grow good jobs."

The NC Working Families Act includes a pay raise of at least 7.5% for teachers, an increase above the 5% already scheduled under last year's budget. This proposal also includes similar pay raises for principals and assistant principals, and ensures non-certified personnel will receive a pay raise of 5% or an increase to \$15 an hour — whichever is higher.

Rep. Carla Cunningham shared the investments in health care in this budget.

"We want to help North

The NC Working Families Act includes a pay raise of at least 7.5% for teachers, an increase above the 5% already scheduled under last year's budget.

Carolinians lead healthier lives and to help them deal with rising medical costs," Cunningham said.

The proposed budget includes \$39 million to reduce the Innovations Waiver wait list by 5,000 slots, meaning individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families will be able to receive long-term care and support in their home, not

institutions.

It also includes \$19 million for state substance abuse centers, ensuring more resources for people who struggle with substance abuse. Finally, it would provide \$10 million in competitive grants to local law enforcement to fund permanent or contract mental health positions.

Rep. John Autry spoke about the need to protect and preserve North Carolina's environment.

"Clean water, clean energy, making North Carolina more resilient and taking steps forward on climate change are the hallmarks of our budget proposal," Autry said. "All of these needs are urgent — they cannot wait — and they should

not wait when the state has the money available right now."

The budget proposal includes \$1.5 billion in funding to upgrade schools with clean energy technology and \$500 million to begin transitioning school bus fleets into electric vehicles — school buses that will be made right here in North Carolina, creating jobs and saving schools money on fuel and energy costs.

Clean water is another top priority, which is why this budget provides \$27 million in new funding for the Land and Water Trust Fund to improve water quality, including military buffer restoration, improving stormwater treatment and stream restoration.

The budget also provides funding to address emerging compounds and to help the N.C. Dept. of Environmental Quality better enforce existing clean water laws.

Finally, the budget includes \$24 million for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund for state and local parks, and \$10 million for bike and pedestrian transportation improvements.

Rep. Brandon Lofton concluded the press conference highlighting the need for investments in the state's workforce.

"Public workers provide critical services to all of us," Lofton said, "yet too many state budgets in recent years have done very little to invest in our workforce. With this bill, we propose to double the scheduled pay raise from 2.5% to 5%."

The pay raises include almost all state employees and state-funded local employees, and includes workers at community colleges and UNC system schools. There is also an additional 2.5% pay raise included for law enforcement officers and state health care professionals.

For retirees on fixed incomes, the budget proposes a recurring 3% cost of living increase. For the past decade, retirees have received very few COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) increases and our state has been outpaced by South Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia.

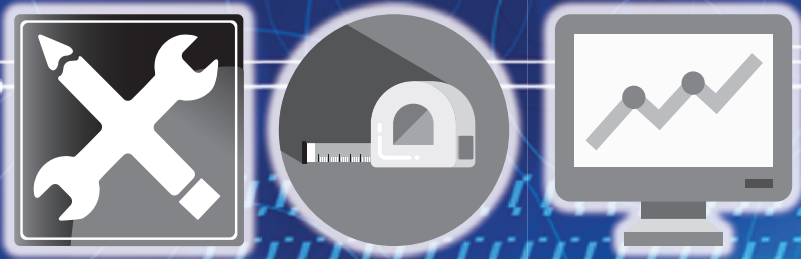
And finally, the budget provides for 12 weeks of paid family leave for state workers so that parents can take time off to spend with their families. This will help us attract and retain good people to work in public service, not to mention it is the right thing to do.

Read the full budget proposal at www.ncleg.gov/BillLookUp/2021/H1136 and watch the video from Thursday's press conference at bit.ly/3NUjqTu.

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POLICE REPORTS

FROM CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

On May 24, William Callice Cooper III, 35, of 2903 NC Highway 54, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Staff Sergeant Anthony Norton for larceny of a motor vehicle and felony larceny. He was issued a \$10,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Alamance County District Court in Graham on June 1.

On May 25, Demaury Jamil Headen, 19, of 118 College Street, Siler City, was arrested by Staff Sergeant Anthony Norton for larceny from the person, assault by strangulation, possession of stolen goods/property, assault on a female, misdemeanor child abuse and

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 June 6.

On May 25, Charles Winfred Smith, 55, of 1113 Meadowland Drive, Asheboro, was arrested by Staff Sergeant Ashely Ellington for possession of a controlled substance. He was issued a written promise and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 6.

On May 27, Jerrod Marquis Nolan, 36, of 319 W Sixth Street, Siler City, was arrested by Staff Sergeant Anthony Norton for obtaining property under false pretense, financial card fraud and

attempting to obtain property under false pretense. He was issued a \$12,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 7.

On May 27, Connie Angelea Lynn Brewer, 30, of 260 Laura Johnson Road, Pittsboro, was arrested by Deputy Rami Amer for violation of court order. She was issued a \$1,500 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 28.

On May 27, Juan Hernandez Breonis, 31, of 12 Echo Street Unit 97, Chapel Hill, was arrested by Deputy Joseph Scott for assault on a female. He was placed on a 48

hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 8.

On May 27, Michael Duane Johnson, 56, homeless, was arrested by Deputy Brandal Harrington for failure to appear. He was issued a \$8,000 secured bond and is scheduled to appear in Randolph County District Court in Asheboro on June 6.

On May 27, Haley Nicole Bowman, 28, of 190 Cricket Ridge Drive, Siler City, was arrested by Deputy Matthew Mitchell for assault and battery.

She was placed on a 48 hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 28.

On May 28, Lacy Allen Nall, 35, of 946 St. Luke Church Road, Bear Creek, was arrested by Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for simple assault. He was given a written promise to appear in Moore County District Court in Carthage on June 1.

On May 31, Adam Daniel Webster, 36, homeless, was arrested by Deputy Vincent E. Iorio for Domestic Violence Protec-

tion Order violation. He was placed on a 48 hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 28.

On May 31, Charles Raymond Hart Jr., 53, of 8238 Pittsboro Goldston Road, Goldston, was arrested by Deputy Mackenzie Abbott for injury to real property and domestic criminal trespass. He was placed on a 48 hour Domestic Violence hold and is scheduled to appear in Chatham County District Court in Pittsboro on June 29.

Chatham's health department refocuses maternal care services to meet county residents' needs

From Chatham County Public Health Department

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Public Health Department (CCPHD) is transitioning from providing traditional maternal care services at its Siler City clinic, shifting to community-based services which complement local prenatal care providers.

This shift allows the agency the flexibility and capacity to initiate and expand several services which have a specific focus on improving equitable birth outcomes.

At its May 23 meeting, the Chatham County Board of Health approved the transition plan. Before moving forward with this transition, the CCPHD reached out to local providers to assure that maternal care services will remain accessible to the Chatham community. The CCPHD will have a formal agreement with Piedmont Health Services, a federally qualified health center (FQHC) with clinics in Siler City and Moncure, to assure individuals needing these services, including those who are uninsured, can access them.

"We are grateful to Piedmont Health Services for their partnership as a leading provider of primary care services for the Chatham community," said Chatham County Public Health Director Mike Zelek. "This transition allows us to focus on needed community-based services, like newborn home visits, as well as core public health services."

The CCPHD will continue to offer services for mothers and babies in Chatham County to meet community needs. The CCPHD clinic will

Acceptance of new clients for maternal care at the CCPHD clinic was paused in April 2021 due to staff transition and the demands of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign — therefore, no clients are losing access to care due to this transition.

continue to offer family planning services, including pregnancy tests, referrals for services, and contraception, as well as immunizations, nutrition counseling, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP), and sexually transmitted infection prevention and treatment.

The department has already restarted its Newborn-Postpartum Home Visiting program, where a CCPHD nurse will conduct a home visit with a new mother and baby to ensure they are in good health. The department is also in the process of developing Maternal Care Skilled Nurse Home Visit and Childbirth Education Services programs. Finally, the department will maintain a list of maternal care providers in the community for anyone who contacts the CCPHD looking for services and work to link them to care.

This decision is part of the CCPHD's years-long shift in focus toward community-based services as the availability of local primary care services has increased through other health care providers. Piedmont's Siler City clinic is located next door to the CCPHD clinic and works in close partnership with the new Maternity Care Center at Chatham Hospital.

"We are fortunate to have robust prenatal care services offered through multiple community partners in Chatham County," said Dr. Michaela McCuddy,

medical director at the CCPHD. "One of these partners, Piedmont Health Services, is located right next door to our health department. The PHS clinic is home to a growing residency program with numerous providers that offer prenatal care, including providers trained in high-risk obstetrics. These strong partnerships have allowed us to transition into a community-based role where we can fill large gaps in our health care system, including offering home-based clinical services."

Acceptance of new clients for maternal care at the CCPHD clinic was paused in April 2021 due to staff transition and the demands of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign — therefore, no clients are losing access to care due to this transition.

To learn more about the Chatham County Public Health Department, visit www.chathamcountync.gov/publichealth or www.facebook.com/chathamhealth.

To learn more about Piedmont Health Services' Siler City clinic, visit piedmonthealth.org/siler-city-location.

A BIG WELCOME

The News + Record's spring interns Macy, Emma, and Sarah — are distributing Chatham 411 La Voz. If you see them in town, please say hello!



Macy Beavers
Macy is a junior at Jordan-Matthews High School, where she plays volleyball and softball. She is an active member of the DECA Association of Marketing Students club. She's also a Dual Language student, and a host at Haley Bales Steakhouse. Macy loves photography and experiencing new places.



Sarah Shireman (left)
Sarah recently graduated from Chatham Charter School. She works at Jersey Mike's in Mosaic and does elder care as well. In her free time you can find her hiking in the woods.

Emma Hart (right)
Emma is a junior at Chatham Central. She's a member of the FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) and HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) clubs. She also volunteers at the Goldston Park. In the summer she loves going to the beach.

Chatham News + Record

NEWS BRIEF

NC By Train discounts available for kids this summer

RALEIGH — Families looking for fun summer adventures can enjoy one \$5 kids fare special to travel the rails on NC By Train.

Through Aug. 31, customers can book travel at NCByTrain.org and take advantage of the one-way \$5 fare for one child age 2-12 with the purchase of a regularly priced adult ticket. Terms and conditions apply.

Passengers can stop at a number of cities when traveling NC By Train, including Charlotte, Salisbury, High Point, Durham, Raleigh, Wilson and others.

Discount fare valid for one child with each paying adult on the Piedmont and Carolinian trains. One-day advance purchase is required. Cannot be combined with other adult discounts such as seniors, state employees or veterans. For more information visit ncbytrain.org or call 1-800-BY-TRAIN.

—CN+R staff reports

On behalf of the Wren Family Boys & Girls Club in Siler City, The Milholen Family and the hundreds of kids we serve, THANK YOU for supporting our 2nd Annual Bill Milholen Golf Tournament.

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Council on Aging volunteers celebrated at annual luncheon

From the Chatham County Council on Aging



Submitted photo

Council on Aging volunteer and board member Marylou Mackintosh, left, sits with longtime volunteer Christine Degraffenreidt during the Council's annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon last Wednesday at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro.

director Ashlyn Martin said. "The work of the Council on Aging would not be possible without each of you, and so today's event is all about taking time to relax and have fun."

While volunteers, new and seasoned alike, combined to donate 9,921 hours of service since July 2021, 95-year-old Christine Degraffenreidt celebrated her birthday June 1 and has been active in Council volunteer activities for some 17

years.

In recognizing Degraffenreidt, COA board member Marylou Mackintosh praised her foresight in returning to Chatham County from New York following retirement.

"I personally have received a lot of satisfaction from helping others," Mackintosh said. "And I hope you have too, and continue it. It doesn't matter how old you get."

Since July 2021, a total of 13,215 meals have been delivered as part of the Meals on Wheels program.

Alan Russo, Nutrition Site Manager & Programs Specialist at the Eastern Center, recently oversaw the construction of a raised bed for planting at the Western Center in Siler City. A noted handyman around the Council, Russo received immeasurable assistance from the volunteer pool.

"I know that my position, I wouldn't be able to do my job without volunteers," Russo said. "Before (COVID-19) happened two years ago, when we had meals at the Eastern Center, basically I was the only person in my department. There was no way for me to do all the things that needed to be done without volunteers. That included checking people in, helping in the kitchen,

getting the Meals on Wheels prepared, serving the seniors and cleaning up everything."

In 2021, the Council's Minor Home Repair team completed 32 jobs, accounting for 460 hours of service. The work performed by the team includes, but is not limited to, shower grab bar installation and wheelchair ramp construction.

"The man hours and the money they have saved is immeasurable," Minor Home Repair coordinator Wynne Fields said. "If you tried to hire a carpenter or a handyman or anyone to get a job done, small or big, you know how hard it is."

The 2022 installment of Chatham County Senior Games resulted in 341 volunteer hours and produced the largest participant turnout in the event's history, while 1,808 hours were devoted to the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

"I think there's a lot of people that lose their zest for life because they don't feel like they have a purpose," Eastern Center Activities Specialist Jackie Green said. "We couldn't do everything we do at the Council on Aging to reach all of the seniors that we reach without having all of you that help us."

CCS educators express high satisfaction with district in state-conducted Teacher Working Conditions survey

From Chatham County Schools

PITTSBORO — The results of the recent state-wide Teacher Working Conditions Survey were released last week, with Chatham County Schools educators expressing a high degree of satisfaction with the school district and the respective schools at which they teach.

Chatham County Schools outpaced the state in every category in which educators were surveyed.

"We want to ensure our

teachers feel appreciated and heard," said Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson. "We've faced extremely challenging times over the past two years, and we see the survey results as reinforcement that our teachers recognize that the Board of Education listens and responds to the needs of staff to ensure Chatham County Schools is one of the best places in the state to work as an educator."

The survey covered a variety of topics, including retention, school safety, community support

and professional learning opportunities. School Improvement Teams will use the data from the survey to identify areas in which their school can make changes to improve working conditions.

Among the specific findings:

- Overall satisfaction — CCS rated 83% (tied for first place in our region), state and region averages were 78%.

- Use of time — CCS rated 73% (second highest in region), state and region averages were 65%.

- Facilities and resources — CCS rated 89% (tied

for second highest in region), state average was 85%.

- Community support and involvement — CCS rated 85% (third highest in region), state average was 79%.

- Managing student conduct — CCS rated 78% (tied for third highest in region), state average was 75%.

- Teacher leadership — CCS rated 86% (tied for first in region), state average was 80%.

- School leadership — CCS rated 84% (second highest in region), state average was 79%.

- Professional learning opportunities — CCS rated 76% (tied for second highest in region), state average was 73%.

- Instructional practices and support — CCS rated 81% (tied for second highest in region), state average was 78%.

- Retention — CCS rated 81% (highest in region), state average was 74%.

- Equity — CCS rated 84% (tied for second in region), state average was 82%.

- Safety — CCS rated 86% (highest in region), state average was 82%.

Chatham County Schools had an excellent participation rate in the survey. State-wide, 112,529 educators responded to the survey, for a 91.96% response rate. Chatham County Schools had 779 educators respond, for a response rate of 95.94%.

"This demonstrates the passion our educators have for their profession," Jackson said. "It also, through the individual questions in each category, points to real strengths within

our district where our educators know they are appreciated and that their contributions are valued. We are fortunate to have a community that supports and invests in public education, and educators who are happy here and want to make Chatham County Schools their lifelong professional home."

Breakdowns for individual schools and responses to questions in each category can be found at <https://www.nctwcs.org/>.

The survey is conducted every two years, with all teachers, school administrators, and licensed school-based educators asked to participate. It is administered by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in partnership with the Academic Development Institute.

What Investors Can - And Can't - Control

As an investor, you can easily feel frustrated to see short-term drops in your investment statements. But while you cannot control the market, you may find it helpful to review the factors you can control.

Many forces affect the financial markets, including geopolitical events, corporate profits and interest rate movements — forces beyond the control of most individual investors.

In any case, it's important to focus on the things you can control, such as these:

- *Your ability to define your goals* — One area in which you have total control is your ability to define your goals. Like most people, you probably have short-term goals — such as saving for a new car or a dream vacation — and long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. Once you identify your goals and estimate how much they will cost, you can create an investment strategy to help achieve them. Over time, some of your personal circumstances will likely change, so you'll want to review your time horizon and risk tolerance on a regular basis, adjusting your strategy when appropriate. And the same is true for your goals — they may evolve over time, requiring new responses from you in how you invest.

- *Your response to market downturns* — When the market drops and the value of your investments declines, you might be tempted to take immediate action in an effort to stop the losses. This is understandable — after all, your investment results can have a big impact on your future. However, acting hastily could work against you — for example, you could sell investments that still have solid fundamentals and are still appropriate for your needs. If you can avoid decisions based on

short-term events, you may help yourself in the long run.

- *Your commitment to investing* — The financial markets are almost always in flux, and their movements are hard to predict. If you can continue investing in all markets — good, bad or sideways — you will likely make much better progress toward your goals than if you periodically were to take a "time out." Many people head to the investment sidelines when the market tumbles, only to miss out on the beginnings of the next rally. And by steadily investing, you will increase the number of shares you own in your investments — and the larger your ownership stake, the greater your opportunities for building wealth.

- *Your portfolio's level of diversification* — While diversification itself can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help greatly reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. Just how you diversify your investments depends on several factors, but the general principle of maintaining a diversified portfolio should govern your approach to investing. It's a good idea to periodically review your portfolio to ensure it's still properly diversified.

The world will always be filled with unpredictable, uncontrollable events, and many of them will affect the financial markets to one degree or another. But within your own investment world, you always have a great deal of control — and with it, you have the power to keep moving toward all your important financial objectives.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

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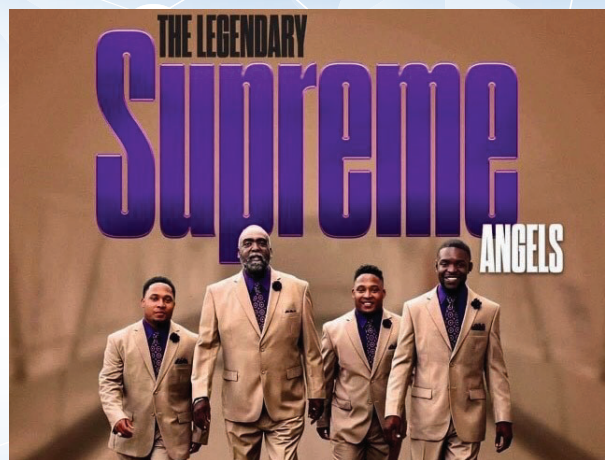
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Chatham commissioners discuss UDO, Moncure megasite updates

BY VICTORIA JOHNSON
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Board of Commissioners received an update about the county’s Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) project during its Monday work session and provided input on several key topics to jumpstart the drafting process.

At the center of Monday’s talks? Agricultural preservation, and how the UDO should balance development and population increase with the county’s rural character, productive soils and agricultural economy, particularly in western Chatham.

To introduce the topic to commissioners, Tyson Smith of White & Smith LLC, a land-use planning and law group, began by quoting a paragraph in the county’s most recent land-use code audit that recommended the UDO project — known as “Recode Chatham” — consider whether to reduce residential density in agricultural areas to protect farmland and the agricultural economy, or maintain or increase allowable density “to protect farm owners’ future rights to develop or sell their land.”

“That really sets you up on that spectrum of making sure that folks in the western part of the county have sufficient use of their land, economic use of the land, but also protecting what is really the jewel of Chatham County,” Smith said.

Launched last year, “Recode Chatham” seeks to develop a UDO for Chatham County to modernize and simplify the county’s existing zoning, subdivision and other development-related regulations.

In creating a UDO, the county hopes to lay out clear, user-friendly development standards, establish a predictable review process and provide a roadmap for implementing its 25-year Comprehensive Plan — which prioritizes preservation of agricultural lands, responsible economic development and investment in sustainable infrastructure and affordable housing, among other goals.

The county brought in White & Smith LLC and others last year to help its planning department develop the UDO in a four-stage, two-year process. Based on input from county staff, advisory boards and commissioners, the White & Smith-led consultant team began drawing up a county land-use code audit intended to guide the UDO drafting process.

The team presented the initial draft to the board in early April and finalized it soon after in late May. Now, as Smith told the board, the project is just about ready to advance to the third stage — drafting the UDO — which the project’s website, www.recodechathamnc.org/home, estimates may take six to 23 months.

“We are embarking on the drafting piece of the first module of this project, and having some feedback from you, even in very general terms is really, really helpful,” Smith told commissioners. “... Just hearing as the leaders of this community how you view particularly Western Chatham County in the future and how we implement the comprehensive plan objectives there is super helpful for us as we started to draft.”

The team also created a draft outline of the UDO, bringing together various components of land-use regulations, including zoning, planning, as well as watershed and flood protection.

In asking for board direction for the UDO drafting process, Smith asked commissioners to review agricultural areas in Western Chatham through the lens of three “high-level aspects” of a rural planning project — area character, capacity and economy — as well as three tools UDO drafters could use to achieve commissioners’ visions for all three aspects. These include density, subdivision and land use.

“The question you’re grappling with is that you got a comp plan that says low density in agriculture, etc., and you’ve got a zoning map that says one to one, which is pretty low density if you were in an urban environment, but it might be kind of a high density for an ag environment,” Smith told the board, referring to Plan Chatham’s future land-use map and zoning map. “So that’s what we’ll try to reconcile as we go through the UDO process and start that conversation today.”

Commissioners by and large hesitated to impose a cap on the maximum number of units on county lands or specify subdivision requirements, owing to water and sewer limitations, as well as potential growth, in western extraterritorial jurisdictions and unincorporated areas.

“If we address the number of units per acre ... we have to consider the infrastructure,” Commissioner Robert Logan said. “We’re a rural county with a history of agribusiness in our county — a very long-lived history of that. I think all of us want to preserve that. Still, it’s just not wise to allow growth to outrun your infrastructure.”

Beyond infrastructure limitations, Chairperson Karen Howard said she’d like to see the UDO incorporate land-use policies encouraging responsible,

environmentally friendly development rather than a “Wild West concept of you can do whatever you want, wherever you want.”

“I think it would be irresponsible to say, ‘Let’s approve a Briar Chapel or, you know, Amberly in the West,’ knowing that it’s not really feasible, but I also don’t know that I would want to develop policies that prevented it should there be some major industrial growth in the West,” Howard said.

“That would, I would rather see higher density with intentionally preserved greenspace than vast, you know, four- and five- and one- (and) two-acre tracts — I think that will pockmark the land more to me. I think that will diminish the jewel-like quality of the west.”

The UDO must take into account everything that comes with development, she said, including roads, traffic, schools and even development-related pollution. Though uninterested in capping residential units in the east or west or creating tight, inflexible limitations on all future land use, Howard advocated for developing ordinances controlling, prescribing or incentivizing responsible development.

“It’s more than ‘what do I do with my piece of land?’” she said. “It’s ‘How do we responsibly develop policies that allow for the value of your land to be retained, but the value of the community to be preserved?’”

VinFast and the Moncure Area Plan

After receiving board input on the UDO, Smith also provided an update about the TIP East Moncure megasite assessment and area plan, a planning effort the county chose to embark upon following the VinFast announcement in March to assess the project’s county-wide impacts and prepare a plan to address them.

This effort also seeks to create an area plan for county-owned lands that staff expect the megasite development project will likely impact. To achieve all this, Smith said, White & Smith, plus other consultants, have put together a two-phase process encompassing planning and execution.

“What we have found is in the last 60 days is that this development, the announcement of VinFast, has really taken our attention from the UDO, so we feel like we need to free up some time to really think about what the county’s response to this announcement will be, its official planning process,” he said. “A lot of things that kind of come to mind quickly — we need to think about roads, we need to think about schools, but we need to now really drill down on that, and you know, what’s been decided already, what will be open for decision and that sort of thing.”

Smith told the board he expects the first phase of the project — planning and project assessment — to last through the summer, they’d then nail down the proposed scope of work for the county-wide assessment and Moncure area plan. The team has already kickstarted the first phase of the project, gathering information and opening communication with the N.C. Dept. of Transportation and Dept. of Environmental Quality, VinFast, and the Chatham Economic Development Corporation.

“We’ve identified some of the obvious things that we think are (of) county interest, so to speak,” Smith said. “We will come back to you with our first meeting on this and talk to you about these things and have some ideas for you to consider. We can say that we know this will impact housing, it’s going to increase demand, but what does that really mean for you is the county and what can you do about it?”

According to County Manager Dan LaMontagne, VinFast hopes to “turn the first soil on July 1” and hold an official groundbreaking ceremony on Sept. 22.

“I had a meeting last week — or week before, can’t remember — with DEQ, all of DEQ. They have air quality permits; they have 401/404 permits with DOT and the site, erosion control permits that are going through the state,” he said. “Of course, stormwater will come through the county. The rezoning is in play for a public hearing at our next meeting for the two properties they’re adding.”

Once Smith finished his presentation, Commissioner Diana Hales requested that the project incorporate a hydrologic examination, a state-completed Chatham County Geological Survey, and outreach to Moncure’s older minority community.

“The older minority community in Moncure is very reticent about change that may be perceived as detrimental to their health, and I think there needs to be outreach within the Moncure area, and there’s low-income areas, as well as, you know, not low-income areas,” she said. “... I think that’s important. They should not be forgotten, and they should be involved.”

The Board of Commissioners will next meet on 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, at inside the Historic Courthouse Courtroom.

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



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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

WELL, NO BITES SO FAR, BUT NO WORRIES...
A TRUE FISHERMAN HAS PLENTY OF PATIENCE.
SO WHY DON'T YOU EVER GO ANTIQUING WITH MOM?
WELL... BECAUSE I'M A FISHERMAN, NOT A SAINT.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas

ALTERNATE NAMES FOR POPULAR TV SHOWS
BETTER CALL SAUL...
BETTER TEXT TYRESSE...
BETTER FAX TEX...
BETTER PING, STING...
BETTER DM DENNIS...

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

I'M TRYIN' TO DECIDE IF I WANNA GET SOME CHICKENS.
YOU COULD BORROW A FEW OF MINE... USE 'EM AS A TRIAL RUN TO SEE IF IT'S REALLY SOMETHING YOU WANNA DO, TINKER.
OH, I'M ALREADY DOIN' THAT, SIM.
WOW, UM... OKAY, BUT WOULDN'T YOU RATHER TRY IT WITH REAL CHICKENS INSTEAD OF THESE RUBBER ONES.

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

JEFFY, I ONCE GAVE UP MY SEAT ON THE BUS TO A BLIND PERSON.
THAT'S HOW HE LOST HIS JOB AS A BUS DRIVER.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

HOW IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE? WE HAVE 400 CHANNELS AND 5 STREAMING APPS AND CAN'T FIND ANYTHING GOOD TO WATCH.
GRIM BEAR IT.
"It didn't get along with its previous owner, but I think it likes you."

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

SOLVING DA PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Theater district
7 Butcher's cleaver
14 Winter melon variety
20 Replacing, with "of"
21 Privy person
22 Ill-willed sorts
23 Arranged cheddar brands in order of sharpness?
25 Arctic jacket
26 Capitol fig.
27 Collectible toon frame
28 Per each unit
29 Set to move forward, as a car
30 Boldly courageous after
34 Second shoot of a scene
37 Nevertheless
38 "— -daisy!"
39 Paleolithic period
41 Letter-shaped track in metalworking
43 Attach, as to a lapel

48 Pre-TiVo machine
49 — Lanka
50 Comparable in humility to one particular sorority member?
53 Quick glance
55 Not durable
57 Groups of four
58 Underscore
61 Law school beginner
62 Think up
64 Big Steinway played by your father's father?
69 Condo policy about animals
70 Dime, e.g.
71 Passover feasts
73 Canonized seventh-cen. pope
76 Hotel bar
78 Tug sharply
79 Wrapping a wound on the noggin?
82 Sit-up targets
85 Chou En-
86 2003 #1 hit for OutKast
87 Artist's stand

88 Raconteur's offering
90 "... and — it all over again!"
91 Young boy
93 Complained petulantly
94 Lion's hunting recollections?
102 River in central Jersey
103 Certain shade provider
104 Certain shade provider
105 Chinese chairman
108 More asinine
109 Reversible fabric used during operations?
113 Rich, filled pastry
114 Daughter on "Bewitched"
115 And others, to Caesar
116 Rages
117 — & Gamble
118 Confirm officially

3 Ladd or Alda
4 Pot cover
5 Petit four and Sally Lunn
6 Piercing spot, often
7 Prefix with air
8 Coop up
9 Fireplace receptacle
10 Secure with string, say
11 Skilled
12 Ballot marks
13 Afore
14 Lon of old horror films
15 Classic root beer brand
16 Raconteur's offering
17 Eagle's nest
18 Cry to a prima donna
19 Interrogator
24 Part of REO
29 Put into office
30 Ex-veep
31 Quayle
32 Island dance
33 Heroic poetry
34 Answers an evite, e.g.
35 "And so on and so on": Abbr.

41 High-voltage transformer
42 Cloudland
43 Peppermint — (York treat)
44 "Bring it on!"
45 Nuggets' org.
46 Unusual
47 "Stillmatic" rapper
50 Prized Chinese vases
51 The "E" of FEMA: Abbr.
52 Big jumps
54 Eisenhower's successor
56 Politico Trent
59 Floor-scrubbing robot brand
60 Old photo tint
62 Carding at a club, e.g.
63 "Well, shoot!"
65 Held back
66 Adjective
67 Comedian Kevin
68 Very fancy
72 Did the slopes
73 "Quit talking!"
74 No-frills shirt
36 Bullfight hero
40 PC image file
75 Set (down)

76 Bigger than med.
77 Suffix with Ecuador
80 Groove for receiving the end of a board
81 Not worth — (valueless)
83 Perplex
84 Structured frameworks
88 Big fuss
89 Bellite, informally
90 Ill-fated fier of myth
91 Actor Joseph Gordon-
92 "Cocoon" co-star Don
94 Bluenoses
95 Charged toward
96 Poet's Muse
97 Casual eatery
98 Best players
99 — Croatian
100 Sorcery
101 Family mem.
105 African nation
106 "Not likely!"
107 Thumbs-up
109 Motor oil additive brand
110 Nasser's fed.
111 River of Bern
112 Yoga surface

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Solution for the puzzle in last week's edition.

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T J G D D W O A X U R O L J G
 D A Y S I A D Y S P U X V S P
 N K I F C F E A O X E V S Q O
 L J H E C F A R X Y I T V T R
 P E N L **F L A G** B K F U J H F
 D B V E Y E W E A R L N Y X A
 V T R I T I P E S E E H C B O
 M K I D L R G E D J S G B B Z
 X W E U T O R Q O N L U N J I
 G C F D C N R E T S B O L I A
 I Y X W V G G E S O R D E R G

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: **Self-Portrait With Your Phone**

- | | | | |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| Bubba | Eyewear | Jerky | Upsy Daisy |
| Cheese | Flag | Lobster | Waffle Iron |
| Doughnut | Gingerbread | Olive | Yo-Yo |
| Egg | Iced Tea | Red Rose | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	1		2		4		9	
5			9				1	
		4		8				2
		9	6					4
7				2				5
	8				3	2		
2				6				3
	9		7				5	
		8			9			7

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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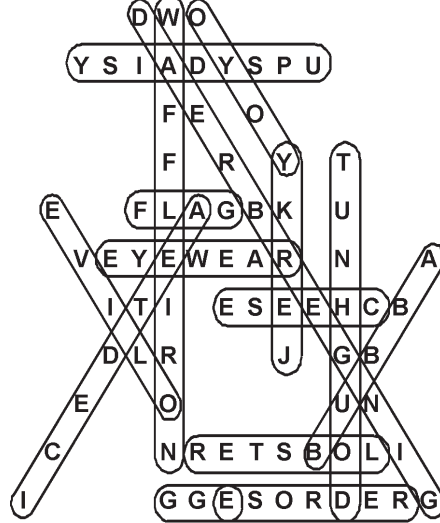
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NATIONAL — DAY : JUNE



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	1	7	2	5	4	3	9	6
5	6	2	9	3	7	1	8	4
9	3	4	1	8	6	7	5	2
1	2	9	6	7	5	8	4	3
7	4	3	8	2	1	9	6	5
6	8	5	4	9	3	2	7	1
2	7	1	5	6	8	4	3	9
3	9	6	7	4	2	5	1	8
4	5	8	3	1	9	6	2	7

Low carb and loving it?

This week's columns were inspired by two things: time and friendship.

In the last 18 months, there have been numerous Brobdingnagian changes to my life. Pretty much everything that could change, did.

One transformation has been the way I cook and eat.

I went from having the luxury of limitless time to create any meal or food that piqued my interest or palate to working 40, 50, or 60 hours a week and trying to cram something into my gob before I fell asleep into my plate.

So, meals on my working days have to be quick and easy.

Although I've occasionally gotten take out or picked up a prepared meal at a grocery store, it's a rare event; maybe once or twice a month.

Years ago, before I had the skill or interest in feeding my family homemade food, I used a lot of prefab boxes, cans, and frozen food.

But the problems with that stuff are many.

It's much more expensive. It always cost more to buy things that are already prepared. For an example, go to the produce section. A head of lettuce is way less expensive than chopped, washed and bagged. A head of broccoli costs less than half of what a bag of florets go for. You are paying for the prep work.

It's usually full of salt, sugar, and unknown and unpronounceable ingredients. From creating a meal completely from scratch, ingesting a bunch of factory fresh chemicals doesn't make me feel good — mentally or physically. And friendship.

Forty-three years ago this summer I met a five-foot-nothing dynamo in a brown tank suit. Bo was a loud, funny, unpretentious force of nature. Although she scared the nickels, dimes, and pinball tokens out of me that first day, we have been friends ever since.

Forty-three years have passed, and we are both older, and sometimes wiser.

Getting older brings with it a host of door prizes. Our hair has grayed and our skin bears the unforgiving effects of gravity. Age also brings unique health challenges; I have mine, and Bo has hers.

A few years ago, my friend was diagnosed with diabetes.

Everybody knows that diabetics need to limit their sugar, but what many don't know is that our bodies turn carbohydrates into glucose. This means that folks with diabetes have to be careful.

Bo once asked me to do a column for people who have to severely limit carbs. I did one for her with some carb-light pretend kind of food that were light on carbs, but also uninteresting and unsatisfying.

Purely by chance I noticed that a number of the "fast" foods I have discovered are also very low in carbs.

Three of them are from Trader Joe's, which also has an added benefit. Most of the items they sell are their own house brand. Which means they are a lot less expensive.

So, Bo, this one's for you (and for anybody else who likes quick food that's tasty and made from actual food).

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



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Some samples of quick food that's tasty — and made from actual food.

Hearts of Palm Pasta

This is a new one. It's analogous to spaghetti squash, and as such has a fibrous texture and mild flavor. It can be boiled or nuked. I suggest a sauce with a strong flavor. Lemon, garlic, lots of herbs, or a thick clingy marinara.

Cauliflower pancakes

I love these things. At first, Trader Joe's had these as a seasonal offering; during the Hanukkah season. But due to popular demand, it is available all the time, which makes me very happy. They're great with scrambled eggs or as a side dish. I cook them in a skillet with butter for about five minutes on each side and then top with sour cream and caramelized onion. If you try nothing else on this list, try these.

Cauliflower Puffs (they also come as Broccoli Puffs)

They're tator tots but made with cauliflower. Throw them in the oven, flip them halfway through baking, and they're done. Then eat them alone, or with a quick refrigerator sauce. It's an easy way to get a large serving of veggies that eat like spuds.

Another way to serve them is to make a loaded cauli tot casserole. Pour the frozen puffs into a casserole dish and cover with shredded cheese. Top with crispy bacon shards and chives or thinly sliced scallions. Bake on 425 for 15-20 minutes and when you take it off the oven, dollop with sour cream.

Cauliflower Gnocchi

Gnocchi is a pillowy dumpling. The best thing to do is to poach them, then cook them in a little butter to give them a buttery crust for another texture.

After you get the outside toasted and caramelized, add the juice of a lemon and then top with a big handful of fresh herbs. Toss with some thawed and warmed frozen peas.

Add some shredded chicken and you have a quick and easy one-pot meal.



Adam Phillips, Miranda Parker, Mary Maloney, Gary Phillips, Jay Parker, Don Basnight, Ken Tunnell, Terri Turner, Crystal Fisher



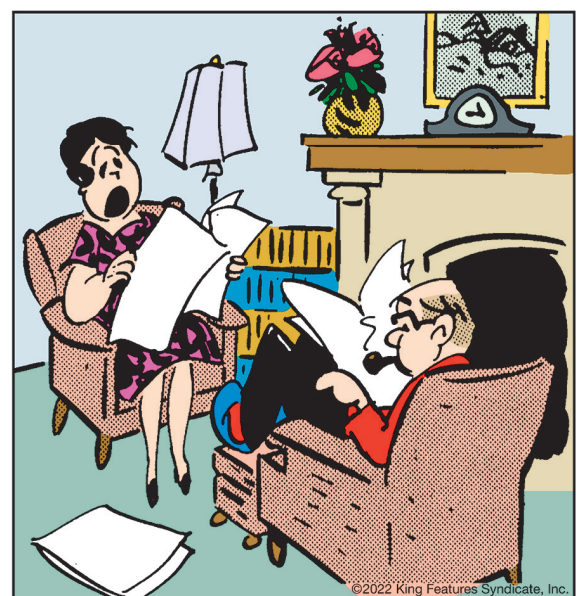
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