

Chatham News + Record

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NEW HOPE VALLEY'S HALLOWEEN EXPRESS

Ghostly train enchants visitors with a ride through wicked woods

BY **BEN RAPPAPORT**
News + Record Staff

BONSAL — Flying monkeys, witches brewing potions and Dracula emerging from his grave are all part of the Track or Treat ride at New Hope Valley's Halloween Express.

More than a thousand people from across the state ventured to Bonsal for the eight-mile trek into the wicked woods on Saturday. The haunted train was part of an annual tradition for the historic train museum.

As night fell upon the old rail yard, train cars filled with skeletons, singing pumpkins and mummies became illuminated. Families in costumes of all kinds wandered their way toward the creepy caboose.

Jack Skellington himself stood on the loading platform and gave the final "all aboard," waved goodbye to the poor souls on the track, and then the train was off into the night. It rushed past giant snakes, aliens and a dragon. The ride concluded with a ghost brakeman, which mysteriously appeared right next to the haunted rail line.

"It was the best thing ever," said Athena Sevier, 7, as she jumped up and down from excitement after the ride. "I'm a big fan of Halloween and all spooky things and I definitely want to come back every single day."

Sevier said her favorite part was when the gravedigger was chased by Dracula. Her family is just one of the hundreds who experienced the New Hope Valley Halloween Express Saturday night.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Decorations for the New Hope Valley Halloween Express featured a bloody skeleton bride and groom bidding adieu to attendees as they exited the museum.

Preserving N.C. rail history

New Hope Valley is a historic train museum that has been in Bonsal, located between Moncure and New Hill, since 1983 with a mission to preserve and share with the public North Carolina's railroad history. The museum hosts rides on a monthly basis, with events like the Halloween Express and its Christmas activities bringing in most of the museum's revenue.

Saturday marked the 27th annual Halloween Express, and the 27th time tickets for the event have sold out. The train ran five times throughout the day, with each

trip carrying more than 250 passengers.

What is now the ride into the wicked woods used to be part of an important connector between Chatham County and Durham as part of the Durham & South Carolina Railroad throughout the 1900s. It was originally the only railroad to the American Tobacco factory in Durham.

The line was formally abandoned in 1979 due to degrading track conditions and the fact that many of the train cars were at risk of being scrapped. In 1983, though, a group of train-enthused indi-

See **HALLOWEEN**, page A8

ELECTIONS 2022

Chatham's early turnout tops N.C.

CN+R Staff Report

Early voting for the Nov. 8 statewide general election ends Saturday, and already, about 17,000 Chatham residents — more than 31% eligible voters — have been to the polls.

Voter turnout in Chatham frequently tops across North Carolina.

"I am very pleased with the way early voting is going in Chatham County, and so far, we haven't had any major incidents," Pandora Paschal, the director of Chatham's Board of Elections said. "Everyone involved in the process has conducted themselves in a respectful way and I hope that will continue through Election Day."

Paschal said the county's "very dedicated election officials" have helped make the process smooth.

"I think we have a great team here in Chatham County," she said. "The fact that we have the highest voting percentage during early voting in the state is the proof."

Early voting ends Saturday

Voters can cast ballots at any of five one-stop voting loca-

See **TURNOUT**, page A9

ELECTIONS 2022 | DIST. 54 RACE

Balance of power at stake in N.C. House

BY **MAYDHA DEVARAJAN**
News + Record Staff



Petty **Reives**

As North Carolina's midterm season winds down, stakes remain high in this year's election with the balance of power in the state legislature up for grabs.

N.C. Republicans need to win two more seats in the Senate and three in the House in order to gain a three-fifths "supermajority" in both chambers, meaning they can override Gov. Roy Cooper's veto. The results from Nov. 8 will undoubtedly impact North Carolinians for years to come, shaping state policy on issues like abortion access, Medicaid expansion and tax cuts.

In Chatham County, incumbent Rep. Robert Reives II, who serves as the House minority leader, is facing Republican challenger and former County Commissioner Walter Petty

in the race for House District 54.

Reives, an attorney with Sanford law firm Wilson, Reives, Silverman & Doran, has served in the House of Representatives since 2014. Petty began a long stretch of service as commissioner beginning in 2010, stepping down in the middle of a four-year term in his Dist. 5 board seat in April 2019 due to demands of his growing business, Atlantic Power Solutions — a generator sales and

See **RACE**, page A6

FAST FOOD STAPLE EXPANDS

Cook Out plans July opening in Siler City

BY **MAYDHA DEVARAJAN**
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — There's only one place North Carolinians go where banana pudding and watermelon-flavored milkshakes are on the same menu, and it's coming to Siler City.

Cook Out, a fast food restaurant chain with more than 200 locations across the Southeast, has purchased a 1.65-acre lot on 1513 E. 11th St. — in front of Days Inn, and between Walgreens and Sonic Drive-In — and has a target opening date of July 13, 2023, according to the Triangle Business Journal, which first reported the news on Oct. 26.

The property sold for \$620,000, according to the land deed filed Oct. 24, and was formerly a BP gas station. The excise tax on the deed is \$1,240 — excise taxes are paid on all real estate transactions at a

See **EXPAND**, page A3



Staff photo by Bill Horner III

Sanford's Cook Out location has been a popular stop for burgers and shakes for years. Siler City's Cook Out is anticipated to open next summer.

IN THE KNOW

Increase in Siler City water bills may be software error. **PAGE A15**

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Representative **Robert Reives**
NC HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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of Rural
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- ✓ Upgrading our water systems

EARLY VOTING:
October 20 - November 5
ELECTION DAY:
November 8

ReivesforHouse.com
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Paid for by the Committee To Elect Robert T. Reives II.

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 **Chatham County Board of Commissioners** will meet at 2 p.m. Monday, Nov. 7, at the Chatham Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro. The regular session will begin at 6 p.m.
- The **Town of Siler City** will meet on at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 7 at Wren Memorial Library's multipurpose room.
- The **Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors** will meet on Thursday, November 10, at 7 p.m. at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center, 1192 U.S. 64 West Business, Pittsboro (west side entrance) in the conference room. All meetings are open to the public. To be added to the agenda or for more information, please call 919-545-8440.

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: 100 block of E. 3rd St.

• **Wren Memorial Library in Siler City** invites community members to join its Friends of the Library group. The library will host a Friends of Wren Memorial Library meeting on Tuesday, November 15, at 5:30 p.m. - The Friends of Wren Memorial Library participates in activities such as creating and conducting book sales, and promoting library events and programs in the community. Friends of Wren especially needs community members to serve in the group's leadership roles. Those interested in supporting Wren Memorial Library are welcome to attend the Friends of Wren meeting. Attendees can learn about library updates, input their thoughts, and help the Friends of Wren Memorial Library grow. - The library is located at 500 North 2nd Avenue, Siler City. For more information about Wren Memorial Library, individuals may contact wren@chathamlibraries.org or (919) 742-2016. Information about all Chatham County Library branches can be found at www.chathamlibraries.org.

• On Sunday, November 6, the **Pittsboro Business Association's monthly First Sunday street fair** will be featuring arts and crafts vendors, other businesses and civic organizations, music, food, and children's activities. Many downtown businesses will also be open, along with the Historical Museum. Come enjoy this family-friendly event from 12-4 p.m.! More information is available on our Pittsboro Business Association Facebook page, at www.shoppittsboro.com, and via email to the event coordinator at pittsborofirstsunday@gmail.com.

• The **League of Women Voters** of North Carolina announces the availability of VOTE411.org for the 2022 Midterm Election. The League's nonpartisan on line election resource offers voters a "one-stop shop" for all things election related as they prepare to cast their ballots. Early voting runs from Thursday, October 20 to Saturday, November 5. Election Day is Tuesday, November 8, 2022. VOTE411.org is a comprehensive resource on voting information where citizens can learn about the policy positions of candidates on their ballot, get detailed instructions on registering to vote, find an early voting location, confirm their election day polling place, and take the guesswork out of the absentee-by-mail process.

• **Chatham Community Library** is offering free classes on basic computer skills in November. Class descriptions and a registration link can be found at www.chathamcountync.gov/ComputerClasses. Call 919-545-8086 or email reference@chathamlibraries.org for more information. - Computer Basics, Part 1: November 10, Thursday, 3 p.m. Not familiar with or comfortable using a computer? This class is designed for the absolute beginner! Learn the basics of how computers work, identify parts of the

computer, learn how to use a mouse, and much more. -- Computer Basics, Part 2: November 17, Thursday, 3 p.m. Build on the concepts learned in Part 1. Work with files and folders, search your computer, use the recycling bin, learn basic computer maintenance, and more.

• The **Chatham County Council on Aging** will bring back its popular Senior Education Conference on Friday, November 18, at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center located at 1192 US 64 Business West, Pittsboro. - From 9 a.m. through 3 p.m., residents from Chatham County and surrounding areas can enjoy a day-long program of educational sessions on a range of topics. There is no cost to attend, and a light lunch will be provided. While the sessions will be geared toward older adults and their caregivers, anyone with an interest in senior-related topics may attend. Each session will be roughly 45 minutes in duration. - Confirmed session titles include, but are not limited to, "Make Your Home Senior Friendly," "Staying Fit," "Fraud and Scam Awareness," and "Food Safety in The Kitchen." Chatham County leadership will be in attendance to hold its own 45-minute session entitled, "Ask The County Executive," where attendees will receive a macro-level view of county government and have the opportunity to ask questions of county managers. - Dr. Tiffany Long, Clinical Instructor at UNC School of Medicine and Advanced Clinical Fellow in the Division of Geriatrics, will be the keynote speaker at 2:15 p.m. in the main exhibit hall of the center. - To register for the conference, contact Jimmy Lewis, Council on Aging Grants and Communications Specialist, at 919-542-4512 or email jimmy.lewis@chathamcountync.gov.

• The **Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District** announces its 2022-2023 conservation poster, essay, and public speaking contests. The theme for this year is "Water...The Cycle of Life." - All contests are open to public, private, charter, and home school students. The poster contest is open to students in grades 3, 4, and 5. Essay and public speaking contests are open to grades 6, 7, 8, and 9-12. Entries are judged by grade level, with the exception of grades 9-12. Grades 9-12 will be judged together for each contest. - Poster and essay contest entries are due to the Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 1192 US 64 W Business, Pittsboro, NC, 27312 by February 28, 2023. Those who wish to compete in the public speaking contest will need to contact Education Coordinator, Brandy Oldham, by January 16, 2023. -- For complete details, rules, study materials, and NC curriculum standards correlation information, individuals may contact Ms. Oldham at (919) 545-8440 or brandy.oldham@chathamcountync.gov. Information also can be found by visiting the Chatham Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Contests web page under the Education Programs link, www.chathamcountync.gov/swcd.

• **Chatham Community Library** is designated as an ecoEXPLORE Loan Spot, a location where those participants can use their library card to check out equipment to aid in their observation of the natural world. Any Chatham County Public Libraries card holder will be able to check out a Discovery Pack from the Chatham Community Library. Discovery Packs have been provided by ecoEXPLORE, and contain kid-friendly binoculars, bug net, a birdcall, a trail camera and more. Kid scientists are encouraged to record their natural discoveries and submit them via the ecoEXPLORE website. In addition to lending Discovery Packs, Chatham Community Library will host programs presented by ecoEXPLORE science educators. Families with children in grades K-8 are invited to join the library for an Intro to ecoEXPLORE on Saturday, November 12, at 2 p.m. in the Chatham Community Library Holmes Meeting Room. Program facilitators will give an overview of what it means to be a citizen scientist, how to participate in ecoEXPLORE, and then head outside to practice making a scientific observation. For more information, contact Youth

Services at youth.services@chathamlibraries.org.

• The **Silk Hope Ruritans** host a Benefit Bingo on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of each month. The November events will be held November 3 and 17. All are welcome.

• **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 directives. Adult and kid friendly; no admission fee. Our permanent exhibits cover all aspects of Chatham's unique history. The museum is located in the historic Chatham County Courthouse in the Circle. More info at <https://chatham-history.org>.

• **Second Bloom** hours are 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at 630 East St., Pittsboro. 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, Orange and Alamance counties meets in Pittsboro and is open to all riders. For information, call 919-392-3939 or visit www.chathamCBA.com.

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

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

SCOUT NEWS

- **Boy Scout Troop 93** in Pittsboro meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Harold Boone Scout Park on Hwy 64W, just past CCCC. Open to boys, ages 11-17. Visit www.bstroop93.org for more information.
- **Pack 924** of Siler City First U.M.C. meets from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays for boys, grades 1 through 5. Come join the Cub Scouts.
- **Pack 900** in Bear Creek meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Meroney's U.M.C., following the school calendar. See <http://pack900.com> for more information.

How did you LAND here?



HAS ERIC SOLD A PROPERTY NEAR YOU LATELY?

65 PROPERTIES SOLD IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS!

<p>LAND (Representing Sellers) 20 units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1604 Bonlee School Road (110.49 Acres) 1447 Old US 1 (.870 Acres) 0 Chicken Bridge Road (10.051 Acres) 00 Manns Chapel Road (49.41 Acres) 2328 Andrews Store Road (24.385 Acres) 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres) 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres) 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres) 271 Talon Drive (11.97 Acres) 1835 Lewter Shop Road (3.24 Acres) 0000 Jim Gilliland Road (57.284 Acres) 18 Pearleman Teague Road (2 Acres) 4831 Old Graham Road (2.774 Acres) 1571 Lydia Perry Road (3.007 Acres) 208 Stonewall Road (3.810 Acres) 1456 Hadley Mill Road (28.353 Acres) 1475 Lewter Shop Road (4.445 Acres) 00 Moons Chapel Road (86.599 Acres) 0 Alston Chapel Road (10.23 Acres) 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres) 	<p>COMMERCIAL (Representing Buyers) 1 Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 210 N. Chatham Avenue (Siler City)
<p>LAND (Representing Buyers) 3 Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 Pearleman Teague (23.1 Acres) 00 Roberts Chapel Road (123.87 Acres) 45 The Whites Way (5.61 Acres) 	<p>RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 23 Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5631 Swanns Station Road (Sanford) 4233 NC Highway 902 (Pittsboro) 130 Estes Drive (Chapel Hill) 1136 Sanford Road (Pittsboro) 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City) 1429 Van Thomas Road (Pittsboro) 1315 Hoyt Scott Road (Bear Creek) 745 Mert McManus Road (Bear Creek) 2349 S. Main Street (Goldston) 206 Olympia Street (Siler City) 8798 Sylvan Road (Liberty) 488 NC 87 N (Pittsboro) 76 Fox Chapel Lane (Pittsboro) 354 A Mountain View (Pittsboro) 138 Oakwood Lane (Pittsboro) 218 A Poplar Street (Chapel Hill) 58 Lily McCoy Lane (Pittsboro) 1637 Briar Chapel Parkway (Chapel Hill) 9849 Twisted Oak Trail (Snow Camp) 5470 US 15 501 Hwy (Pittsboro) 5472 US 15 501 Hwy (Pittsboro) 390 New Salem Church Road (Pittsboro) 211/298 C D Thomas Road (Siler City)
<p>COMMERCIAL (Representing Sellers) 5 Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Village Lake Drive (Siler City) 2 Village Lake Drive (Siler City) 3 Village Lake Drive (Siler City) 4 Village Lake Drive (Siler City) 7 Village Lake Drive (Siler City) 	<p>RESIDENTIAL (Representing Buyers) 7 Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 107 Hawks Spiral Way (Pittsboro) 85 Herndon Creek Way (Chapel Hill) 729 Hope Hills Drive (Siler City) 6490 Snow Camp Road (Snow Camp) 94 Pine Cone Loop (Pittsboro) 903 Woodland Drive (Siler City) 34 Carriage Court (Pittsboro)

PROPERTIES CURRENTLY UNDER CONTRACT

<p>LAND (Representing Sellers) 5 Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 Hamlets Chapel Road (42.805 Acres) 10681 E US 64 Hwy (3.97 Acres) 0 Olives Chapel Road (75.43 Acres) 12190 E US 64 Hwy (15.158 Acres) 0 US 64 Hwy W (11.396 Acres) 	<p>RESIDENTIAL (Representing Sellers) 1 Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 650 Half Dollar Road (Chapel Hill)
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Visit & Subscribe to Eric's YouTube channel for a variety of fun & informational videos



Pittsboro Halloween in 2022-- Where to Trick or Treat
<https://www.youtube.com/c/ericandrewsrealtor>



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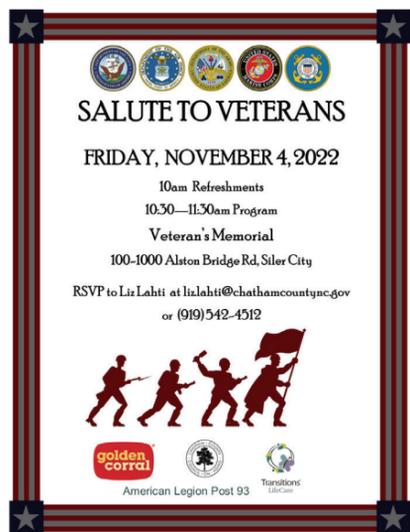
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Council on Aging to hold ‘Salute to Veterans’ on Friday



From the Chatham County Council on Aging

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Council on Aging will hold its annual “Salute to Veterans” event at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 4, at West Chatham Veterans Memorial, 100-1000 Alston Bridge Rd., Siler City. Several speakers will give

remarks, including COA Director Ashlyn Martin. Chief Mike Wagner of the Siler City Police Department and Chatham County Veterans Services Officer Michael Daniels will also speak.

Music will be performed by the Council on Aging Gospel Choir. The Chatham County Sheriff’s Office Honor Guard will present

the colors, while Beverly Goldston of the CCSO is scheduled to perform the national anthem.

“This marks the fifth year the Council on Aging has been holding a Salute to Veterans event,” COA Eastern Center Manager Liz Lahti said. “It is such a special time to honor our heroes who served our country. Our hope is that

veterans will be able to feel the pride and admiration we have for them.”

Refreshments will be served beginning at 10 a.m., including coffee and sausage biscuits from Golden Corral. Veterans from all branches of service are encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Lahti at 919-542-4512, ext. 228.

EXPAND

Continued from page A1

rate of \$1 per every \$500 sold, according to North Carolina law.

Jack Meadows, Siler City’s planning and community development director, said the county had preliminary discussions with Summey Engineering Associates, an engineering firm based in Asheboro, about a possible Cook Out opening in town back in spring 2021.

“And that’s really all that happened, was just answering questions about building setbacks, permitting process,” he said. “But no formal application was made, no pre-development meeting application, new site plan or zoning permit application for the project, so it was more about information gathering.”

The last his department communicated with Summey about the new restaurant was back in January, when the engineering firm said it had been put on hold with the project. Meadows said he hadn’t heard any updates until TBJ reported the news of the new property.

Cook Out CEO Jeremy Reaves did not respond to multiple messages at the time of publication, but given the reported timeline of when the property is expected to open, Meadows said he anticipates

the town will want to get started with site development and construction quickly and staff is ready to process a formal application. The current property has been vacant for some time, Meadows said, but it has several utilities already set up to serve a new business well.

“So one of the things that gets the town staff and the town excited about these projects is redeveloping that site,” he said. “Now it can be put back in use, because it’s been vacant for some time now. Redeveloping vacant, underutilized spots are really good for us because the road access is there, water and sewer infrastructure is in that area, power and all the infrastructure you need to get a business — it’s already there.”

For some Chatham County residents, the news is welcome, and even unsurprising, Meadows said.

“I know that the word got out in the community,” Meadows said. “The community was pretty excited about a Cook Out [coming to town].”

Similarly, Siler City Mayor Chip Price said for a year, he’s been fielding questions from people in town asking about the progress of a Cook Out potentially coming to the area.

“They [residents] were asking a long time ago,” Price said with a laugh. “They wanted a

Cook Out.”

Wendy Black, a Siler City resident, said she was happy to hear Cook Out was on the way. Black, 54, said as a single mother, she would often take her kids to the restaurant when they were growing up in Winston-Salem, where they could get combo plates for low prices.

Cook Out, which was founded in 1989 in Greensboro, is most known for its signature menu offering more than 40 milkshake flavors; the chain also serves char-grilled hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, cajun fries, quesadillas and more.

Now, with her children all grown up, Black takes her five grandchildren to Cook Out.

Black is looking forward to seeing more food options come to the county — the customer service representative said when she and her husband moved to Siler City from Pittsboro in 2019, they “blew through” all the restaurants in town in just a few months.

“I want this side of Chatham County to start growing and expanding,” Black said. “I mean, because they’re doing all that in Pittsboro with Chatham Park, and since they put the chicken plant here, I’d like to see a lot more variants of restaurants — not just fast food, but sit-down options too.”

Price said he believed the

new location will add more variety to the other fast food chains currently in town. Another benefit he hopes the Siler City restaurant will bring is greater appeal among young people, saying he’s noticed the Cook Out restaurant in Asheboro drawing in large crowds, especially after local sporting events.

“But we need something,” he said. “It’s good to have something that the young people want to participate in here in our town for a change.”

Meadows said he anticipates additional businesses will continue to locate along U.S. Hwy. 64, a highway commercial corridor with high traffic, as the county and Siler City evolve and new megasites coming to the area get under way.

Elijah Mears, digital branding director for Express Lane Strategies, lives in Greensboro, but on drives to visit his parents and his husband’s parents in western Wake County, said he’d bypass traffic on I-40 by taking U.S. Hwy 421 and Hwy. 64 through Chatham. Those drives led Mears to jokingly dub Chatham County a “Cook Out desert.”

“And a lot of the times, with just when we’d leave, it would happen that we’d get hungry while we were in Chatham County,” Mears said. “And so we’d noticed that there was not a Cook Out in Chatham, which

is one of our favorite places to stop on the road.”

As someone with an interest in mapping and who took GIS courses in college, Mears pulled locations from the chain’s website and created maps displaying all the Cook Outs in North Carolina — including the gaping “Cook Out Hole” in Chatham. Mears posted the maps to Twitter in October 2020 because he thought others might be interested, too, and the tweet ended up getting close to 100 likes.

Though Mears and his husband don’t eat Cook Out as often as they used to, they still make the drive through Chatham frequently, he said.

“But once it’s open, I’m sure we’ll probably stop by just on the principle of the matter,” Mears said.

Most Cook Outs are drive-through or have walk-up windows only, but newer locations — like the recently opened Chapel Hill Cook Out on 450 South Elliott Road — have dine-in seating as well. Meadows said he doesn’t yet know what the Siler City location will look like, but that the zoning district for the property allows dine-in and outdoor seating, as well as a drive-through.

Reporter Maydha Devarajan can be reached at mdevarajan@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @maydhadevarajan.



We appreciate the opportunity to represent all people in Chatham County, not just specific groups.



VOTE for CHANGE on November 8th

As Business professionals, **Tom, Joe, and Peyton** know how to manage budgets, provide important infrastructure, provide important education and training, and protect our rural character and natural resources in Chatham County.

We believe in conservative, Republican principles.

The future of Chatham County is important to all three candidates. We plan to focus on the core functions of government for ALL people. Tom, Joe, and Peyton believe in equal opportunities in school, the workplace, and the law.

- **Manage Budgets:** Make sure that **tax dollars** are not wasted on non-essentials. **Government growth** should be minimal. **Inflation** is affecting all citizens. **Review re-valuation** for effects to taxpayers.
- **Infrastructure:** Engage with experts to find the best solution for **wastewater treatment**, work with the BOE and BPI to assess **school capacity** and provide solutions, address the **housing shortage**, and work with the state and local companies to provide **broadband** throughout the county.
- **Education and Training:** Prioritize **safety** and fund **SRO’s** for EVERY school, provide **training** to prepare students to enter the workforce as businesses come to Chatham County, fund **expanded tutoring** to improve test scores.
- **Natural Resources and Rural Character:** Protect our **natural resources** from contamination. Include **green space** in EVERY development. Protect **farmland** from more zoning regulations. Represent **ALL** people.

VIEWPOINTS

CHATHAM SCENE | BEN RAPPAPORT

Learning to look beyond the numbers on Wolfspeed and VinFast



BEN RAPPAPORT
Columnist

VinFast is bringing \$4 billion investment and 7,500 jobs. Wolfspeed is bringing \$5 billion and 1,800 jobs.

Those numbers are nothing to scoff at, certainly, but it strikes me just how frequently many officials and residents will lean on those numbers like some kind of crutch when they don't have the proper answers to questions about the uncertain future of our county.

I, too, am a victim of this.

Last Friday I spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh about VinFast and my experiences in Vietnam. The members there asked sharp questions that I didn't have the answers for.

"What's the environmental impact of this project like?"

"What kind of financial structure will they be using to pay employees?"

"Will the cars actually be sold in North Carolina or will they just ship them to California in the near future?"

Each of these are good and valid questions that I did not know or have the numbers to answer. My response to many of their insightful questions was something along the lines of, "Well \$4 billion and 7,500 jobs, it's definitely going to

make a big impact on the state and county, we just don't know what that impact is yet."

And you may say answering these questions and providing the necessary numbers behind them is part of my job as a reporter; I would agree. Frankly, though, there are still lots of unknowns; I hope to find out the answers to many of these questions soon, but for now, all I have is the crutch of the big numbers.

Last Thursday, I attended a presentation for investors of Chatham's Economic Development Corporation (EDC) meant to show off the successes of development projects in Chatham. The presentation was given by one of the men who did the most work to land those projects, EDC President Michael Smith.

He touted the 9,000 jobs and \$9 billion in economic development promised to the county so far in 2022 and praised the county for being supportive.

Those two big numbers were the heart of his presentation. There was other information provided — site clearance updates, potential construction timelines and updates on other neighboring county investments — but most of the conversation circled back to \$9 billion and 9,000 jobs.

This is in a room with many key stakeholders and smart folks with intimate knowledge of these projects. The few dozen attendees hailed from Chatham Hospital, Atkinson Properties, Chatham County Government, etc., yet focus kept coming back to the



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Chatham Economic Development Corporation invited investors to a special update regarding Wolfspeed, VinFast and other development projects in the area.

eye-popping figures.

The problem with getting hung up there is it misses a big part of the story. There are people behind those numbers, and not all of them are beneficiaries of economic development. There will be casualties — homes displaced, and environmental costs that come with large-scale industrial development — all natural consequences of bringing that many new jobs to a rural area.

I've been accused before, and likely will be again, of only focusing on the negatives in my reporting. But I think that's because I have a hard time accepting things on the surface. That's the case here. The big nines are great, but they also come at a cost and with lots of unknowns.

These projects also likely aren't the last big announcements we'll see in Chatham. Wolfspeed, for example, is only occupying 350 acres of the 1,800 acres of the Chatham Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) mega site in Siler City. Smith also said there are about 280 acres adjacent to that site also primed for development.

"So if you think about it as CAM and its prepared neighbors, you're looking at more than 2,000 acres that could still be developed here in Chatham," Smith said.

Needless to say, there's more on the way. And Smith said those announcements may come sooner than expected. He also explained this window for huge development is likely to stay open for an extended

period as the state and federal governments hope to incentivize shovel-ready projects to spur in the economy in the aftermath of COVID-19.

"When the window like this is open, you have to go through it," Smith said.

These future projects could help VinFast and Wolfspeed by providing housing to potential employees, or bolstering industry in the area with another company. Smith said the two hottest industries in economic development circles at the moment are electric vehicles and chip manufacturing — both on the way to Chatham — meaning this area has the potential to become a hotbed for future technologies and growth.

The future of Chatham is bright and may be brighter in the near future. But to ensure it stays that way, we can't get hung up on the big numbers. There is more to the story than \$9 billion and 9,000 jobs. At the same time, Chatham has major infrastructure needs, rising housing costs, environmental challenges and a myriad of other issues that need to be addressed if we're to grow to potential.

It's an exciting time to be in Chatham, and we should want to sail into the future with open arms. But let's also make sure we're not rushing forward on the wave of huge, impressive numbers — we should hope the rising tides of development float everyone's boats.

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

A special organ recital



ANDREW TAYLOR-TROUTMAN
Hope Matters

I am a Presbyterian pastor, which means I work with lay leaders elected from the congregation called elders. More often than not, these elders are actually my elders, although I would not call them "elderly" because, as one wise man once said to me, "Age is a state of mind."

Recently, I sat outside on a gorgeous fall afternoon with three such elders. One

of them had just celebrated a college reunion. Chuckling, he admitted that, whereas the guys once talked about UNC basketball, they'd spent most of the weekend complaining about their illnesses and surgeries. A wise woman, glint in her eyes, responded that such talk among elders about their aches and pains was an "organ recital." How we laughed!

When I was a younger pastor, I admit that I did not fully appreciate such recitals. Truth be told, I often wished for something stronger than the decaf coffee my elders always served as refreshment.

But I've come to cherish, even delight in these conversations. Not simply because I have a few aches of my own.

It's about a common state of mind.

In his new book, "Inciting Joy," Ross Gay writes, "My hunch is that joy, emerging from our common sorrow ... might draw us together." No one has the exact same sorrows, yet we all sorrow regardless of our age. This can bring about "solidarity," Gay claims, that "might depolarize us and de-atomize us enough that we can consider what, in common, we love."

Such solidarity looms in importance in light of next week's midterm elections. A New York Times poll found that 70% of Americans fear for the future of our democracy. This anxiety spans different age groups. I know that previous generations have endured trials, but never before in my lifetime has our society seemed on the brink of widespread violence. We need solidarity.

Perhaps the way to common ground is by sharing our sorrows, both physical and emotional. As the wise elder poet Mary Oliver wrote, "Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine." It's about sharing vulnerabilities and admitting our shared humanity. Such solidarity can overcome despair by leading to acts of love.

I love my elders, including those three on that particular afternoon. For all of our differences in age and life experience — and sometimes politics — we enjoy each other's company. It wasn't all talk about aches and pains. The organ recital eventually ended!

Our conversation turned to future vacations.

MAGIC 8 BALL



Joetta 2022
HEBERTOON.COM

Please, just let me hide!



JAN HUTTON
This Being Human Thing

their life stories by the time we reached our appointed floor or the checkout cashier. I can still remember shrinking deep within myself, saying nothing, looking intently at the floor, pretending I wasn't there. (No, no, I don't know her! Really! Get me out of here!) How could she be so nosy, so intrusive of someone else's personal space?!

Fast forward a few hundred years and I've morphed into the same elevator, cashier line yakker as my mother. With the hindsight of an adult (well, mostly), I realize the behavior that so mortified me as a child was really a conscious, heart-centered decision by my

mother to see, acknowledge, and lift people up on the fly, in simple ways.

Why bother to acknowledge people or let them know another human being "sees" them? Haven't we got enough to do? Life is busy. We live in a go-go-go culture. "I'm late, I'm late, I'm late!"

Whoa! Taking a step back from this cultural miasma... Deep breath. Let's try another tack. What if: "I think our job is to see and to let ourselves be seen."

"I think our job is to love the world."
— Kate DiCamillo, American children's fiction author

How do we "love the world" on the fly? How do we "love the world" across the vast array of ALL our differences?

Let's return to the art my mother perfected so many years ago. Connecting with others in what appear to be piddling ways. Sharing the light of our attention, often for only seconds, with another person. The other feels seen and suffused with our recognition, simple though it is. Examples, to wit:

"Hey, that's a fabulous color on you" (Of course, you hear "Hey" and know you're in conversation with a Southerner.)

"I love your hair!"

"Is the picture on your desk from your wedding day? You both look so happy."

"Hey, it's wet out there. Please stay dry!"

Easy-peasy. Just be curious or observant. Doesn't take long. Just long enough for the other person to feel seen, a form of caring, a form of loving. I have absolutely no idea what the other's belief system might be, but in that moment we've connected across any differences we may have.

Go forth and love the world with these simple and quick connections. And, mom, although you're long gone, the seed you planted finally grew.

Jan Hutton is a retired hospice/hospital social worker who believes in living life with heart and humor. She has happily lived in Chatham for 20 years.

VIEWPOINTS

GUEST COLUMN | BOB PEARSON

This is no time to waver on Ukraine

Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered

Ukraine's war is far from over. Though Russia is clearly not winning, Putin shows no sign of understanding that fact. Given Russia's resources, even fighting badly, Putin can prolong this war for some time. The war is entering a darkest moment. Ukraine's hardest fighting may lie ahead — urban warfare in the west and open terrain in the east. Europe is facing its hardest winter in years. The Americans may be wobbling; the American

election on Nov. 8 may result in cutting off vital aid to Ukraine and a retreat from leadership by the United States. Now I have seen political candidates and even campaign ads attacking U.S. aid to Ukraine. More than ever we should value Thomas Paine's famous pamphlet in December 1776 recognizing the crisis for democracy and condemning the cowardly summer soldiers and sunshine patriots. These are indeed the times that try men's souls, he said, noting that "Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered." If we waver now, all that has been gained will be lost. Without American aid, it is quite possible that the Ukrainian

effort will falter. If you think that the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan shook confidence in the United States, imagine what would result from a withdrawal from Ukraine. If we make it impossible that Ukraine could win, no state on earth will believe that democracies will fight for their values — or their friends. Without the backing of American resolve, Europe may well not be able to hold the strong line it has taken. Russia will be enormously encouraged to pressure the crescent of NATO's eastern European democracies to submit to a new reality of expanded Russian power. China would claim that its date of global

dominance over the United States is obviously drawing closer. Beijing would certainly accelerate its preparations for a possible war over Taiwan. Given Putin's actions and clear ambitions, there can be no doubt that the contest between Ukraine and Russia presents an existential question for Americans, for Europeans, and for millions of others who don't want a world based on dictatorship and political brutality. We have been in existential moments before — in the Revolution, in the Civil War, in WWI and in WWII. It seems to me that every time we have actually understood what we needed to do and did it, we

have succeeded. This is one of those times. This time that tries men's souls is also the time to see what is at stake and do what must be done.

W. Robert Pearson was an innovative diplomat, leader and crisis manager at the top levels of the U.S. government. He was U.S. ambassador to Turkey and completed a 30-year career in 2006 with the Department of State as director general of the Foreign Service. He lives in Fearrington Village with his wife, Maggie, who also worked as a diplomat and served as a senior foreign service public diplomacy officer from 2000 to 2006 period.

North Carolina's most interesting political figure



D.G. MARTIN
One on One

Who is the most interesting political figure in North Carolina today?

Hint: he or she is not on the ballot for this month's election.

So it might be an officeholder. Maybe state Treasurer Dale Folwell or state Attorney General Josh Stein?

Or Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson?
All three are likely candidates for governor in 2024.

Nothing against either Folwell or Stein, but Robinson has them beat on the question of who is the most interesting.

In an August 22 article published by WRAL News, Bryan Anderson wrote about Robinson and his new book, "We Are the Majority: The Life and Passions of a Patriot."

Until 2018, when he gave a fiery speech about gun rights at a meeting of the Greensboro City Council, Robinson was a political unknown. He had been planning to buy a rifle at an upcoming gun show in Greensboro until he learned that the council was planning to cancel the show.

Reacting to the killing of 17 students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, the council was meeting to consider possible responses.

"I was upset," Robinson explains in his book. "No, I was furious. What did the action of a depraved shooter three states away have to do with me wanting to buy a rifle? Nothing! I had by this time become a proud defender of our Constitution, including the Second Amendment, our right to bear arms. I was a law-abiding man who was looking forward to purchasing a rifle at a gun show."

When Robinson attended the council meeting, he became upset with the anti-gun remarks and signed up to speak. "I had no idea what I was going to say. I had my beliefs, but I had planned nothing. I stepped up to the podium. What had I gotten myself into?"

Robinson confesses that he was not prepared, "but in a greater sense, I knew exactly what I was doing I was speaking up for everyone who just wanted to be a law-abiding citizen of the United States. Everyone who wished to enjoy their God-given rights and be left alone to do it. I stepped to the microphone — and made the speech that changed my life."

In his book Robinson recounts his early life, growing up poor and Black on Logan Street in Greensboro. His memoir would be instructive and moving, even if Robinson had not become an important political figure, the lieutenant governor of North Carolina and likely candidate for governor in 2024.

In his review of "We Are the Majority," Anderson makes several important points that could have an impact of North Carolina's political future, including:

1. Robinson is really preparing to run for governor, including developing lists of fundraising prospects.
 2. He would support eliminating the State Board of Education, stop teaching history, science and social sciences in the 5th grade and below.
 3. He is critical of government financial assistance because he thinks it leads to dependence. He advocates making abortion illegal, calling it murder, even though he and his then-girlfriend (now wife) decided to terminate her pregnancy in 1989.
 4. His relationships with women are strained. "They love to be able to talk a man into submission. And with me, it never happens. They can't do it."
 5. He mocks gay pride parades and "takes frequent aim at transgender people, labeling them as mentally and physically unfit to serve in the military."
 6. He "pushes back" on the idea of systemic racism which he writes turns the Black experience into a "tale of woe."
- As the 2022 election season comes to a close, we are going to hear more and more about Robinson.
- Like it or not.

D.G. Martin, a lawyer, served as UNC-System's vice president for public affairs and hosted PBS-NC's North Carolina Bookwatch.

Who will win in November's elections?



TOM CAMPBELL
N.C. Spin

chambers.

That becomes important because it will determine whether the dominant Republican caucuses can pass just about anything they want without being stopped. Currently, the Governor can veto legislation and unless lawmakers can get 60 percent of their respective members to vote to overrule the veto it will be sustained. Republicans now hold 28 of the 50 Senate seats and to reach a supermajority they would need 30. In the House, the GOP has 69 of the 120 seats. To reach a supermajority they would need 72. A few seats changing in favor of Republicans in each chamber could further tilt the balance of power in our state.

As an unaffiliated moderate, I hope that supermajority won't be attained. My reasoning has nothing to do with whether I favor Democrats or Republicans. It supports the founders' concept that there be checks and balances within our government. Here is how the principle works: the legislature can make a law, but the Governor can veto that law. Check. With enough votes the legislature can override that veto. Counter check. But even should the legislature pass a law and the governor not veto it the courts can declare the law unconstitutional. Final check. This framework was designed so that both the parties and the branches themselves should cooperate more closely together. However, if that cooperation doesn't materialize, the checks should prevent one branch of government from becoming too powerful.

This takes on added importance when you recognize that in recent history very few of the bills passed had significant bipartisan support. Republicans vote in lockstep with their chamber's leadership and Democrats do the same. Independence within the caucus is not only frowned upon, it is punished. While Republicans are now in charge, the same was true when Democrats controlled the legislature for almost 100 years.

This segues our focus to our courts, especially the appellate courts. Even their partisanship is evident. Recent decisions demonstrate lockstep votes along party lines. The courts have become

not just arbiters, but partisan arbiters and some accuse (and perhaps rightly) that judges are legislating from the bench.

There are two major contests for control of the N.C. Supreme Court. One seat is being vacated by a Democrat who will reach the mandatory retirement age shortly after the election. Another Democratic incumbent justice is running to retain his seat on the court. I expect Democrats will lose their current 4-3 plurality on the high court. My question is whether Democrats will suffer the loss of one seat or two. Either way, Republicans will have ultimate control on the court of last resort.

With legislation next year expected on abortion, race, sex, election laws and what can and can't be taught in our schools, these Supreme Court votes will take on more importance and could further impact checks and balances in our state. We also have four important Court of Appeals judges seats to be determined.

All the polls have shown the U.S. Senate contest swinging back and forth between Democrat Cheri Beasley and Republican Ted Budd. Unless the polls are badly mistaken, the Senate outcome will be close. It has great importance, not only in our state, but also could determine which party controls the U.S. Senate. That body that determines future Supreme Court justice confirmations, as well as key administrative positions and ultimately whether a bill becomes law.

The partisan makeup of our 14 seats in Congress is uncertain. The courts declared the initial districts drawn by the legislature were unconstitutional and substituted their own maps, instructing that new maps be drawn after the midterm elections. Prior to redistricting we had a 10-3 Republican plurality in our congressional delegation. Our 2020 census increased our number of seats to 14 and the court-drawn maps appear to favor a more even split. We expect an 8-6 spread between Republicans and Democrats, but nobody knows for certain.

Ohio Congressman Tim Ryan described the electorate as "exhausted majorities." We are not just exhausted, but disgusted with the ugly, hate-filled rhetoric, ads and shenanigans. A recent AP/NORC poll reveals 71 percent believe the very future of our country is at stake in November; 63 percent say election outcomes will have a big stake in determining our economy and 62 percent say it will determine abortion policy.

As we've said before, we're in a bad mood and need to get out of it. Ryan said this should be "us versus China, not us versus other Americans."

Would that we could wave a magic wand and make it so.



What's on your mind?

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

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

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

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

RECITAL

Continued from page A4

Like many folks, they had suspended travel plans due to the pandemic. Now they were fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19 and were itching to leave. Each one was getting ready to leave for a different place far from home.

When it was my turn, I said that I was just happy my kids were in school so I could enjoy a few quiet moments

in my home! We laughed again.

With the same gleam in her eyes, the elder replied, "One day, you'll travel." She added, "Your time will come."

That's music to my ears.

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."

RSV cases in Chatham climbing

Virus can be be serious for some

CN+R Staff Report

New data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show cases of RSV have tripled in the last two months, overwhelming hospitals in some areas of the U.S.

RSV — respiratory syncytial virus — is a common respiratory virus that typically causes mild, cold-like symptoms.

In Chatham County, case numbers are also increasing. Johnsie Hubble, the infection preventionist and employee health director at Chatham Hospital in Siler City, said most people with RSV recover in a week or two. But RSV can be serious, especially for infants and older adults.

“In the past several weeks, there has been a large increase in the number of RSV infections statewide and locally,” Hubble told the News + Record.

UNC Medical Center at Chapel Hill reported the number of lab-confirmed RSV cases jumped to 193 week before last, up from 42 during the last week of August, she said — a rapid increase in cases occurring earlier this year than traditionally seen.

“The pediatric intensive care units in the area, such as UNC, Duke and Wake Med, have been full or nearly full, causing those facilities to have to try to find a different hospital to care for those patients,” she said. “Chatham Hospital has also seen a large increase in RSV infections

in patients coming to the Emergency Department; in the past two weeks cases have doubled.”

Symptoms of RSV typically appear four to six days after exposure, and include runny nose, coughing, sneezing, fever, wheezing, diminished appetite, irritability, decreased activity and breathing difficulties in very young infants.

These symptoms appear in stages, and usually not all at once, Hubble said.

Most children will have had an RSV infection by age 2. RSV is a virus, so there’s no specific treatment.

There’s also no vaccine, but Pfizer announced Tuesday its maternal RSV vaccine, given during pregnancy, protected infants from developing severe symptoms during the first six months after birth.

The Washington Post reported Pfizer plans to apply for approval of the vaccine by year’s end.

RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis (inflammation of the small airways in the lung) and pneumonia (infection of the lungs) in children younger than 1 year of age in the United States, according to the CDC. Each year in the United States RSV is estimated to cause 58,000 hospitalizations in children younger than 5 years old; 177,000 hospitalizations in adults 65 years and older; 100-300 deaths in children younger than 5 years old; and 14,000 deaths in adults 65 years and older.

Hubble advised those infected with the RSV virus to treat it like any fever, drink plenty

of fluids, and see a medical provider for any breathing difficulties.

“Parents should seek also medical attention for those children not drinking enough fluids, or experiencing worsening symptoms,” she said. “Infants and older adults may need to be hospitalized with need a for fluids, oxygen and/or breathing support.”

Mike Zelek, the director of the Chatham County Public Health Department, emphasized “non-pharmaceutical interventions” as the best and most common ways to slow the spread of RSV or any other respiratory viruses.

“Hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, cleaning, and, my favorite, staying home if you’re sick,” he said. “Also, it is a good reminder for infants and young children especially to stay up to date on vaccines, including getting a flu shot. We now have them available at our clinic and will bill insurance but are able to offer free of charge for those without insurance as well.”

According to the CDC, RSV can spread when:

- An infected person coughs or sneezes
 - You get virus droplets from a cough or sneeze in your eyes, nose, or mouth
 - You touch a surface that has the virus on it, like a doorknob, and then touch your face before washing your hands
 - You have direct contact with the virus, like kissing the face of a child with RSV
- Most persons infected with RSV are contagious for about three to eight days and should

Keeping our kids RSV-free this winter

What is RSV?

Short for respiratory syncytial virus, RSV is a common respiratory virus that usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms. While most people recover in a week or two, RSV can be serious in infants and older adults. Virtually all children get an RSV infection by the time they are 2.

What are symptoms of RSV?

- Runny nose
- Decrease in appetite
- Fever
- Wheezing
- Coughing
- Sneezing

In infants less than 6 months old, the only symptoms may be irritability, decreased activity, decreased appetite, and pauses while breathing.

How to prevent RSV from spreading



Clean and disinfect high-contact surfaces frequently



Wash your hands frequently, scrubbing with soap for at least 20 seconds



Encourage caregivers to keep children home if they are sick



If children over 2 years old are sick, encourage them to wear a face mask if they are able.

If you have any questions, please contact: Miranda Lanning, Child Care Health Consultant, miranda.lanning@chathamcountync.gov, 919-579-2814

Courtesy of Chatham County Public Health Department

work to avoid contact with children under age 2.

“In most of the United States, and in North Carolina, RSV infections occur during fall, winter and spring,” Hubble said. “So there is no way to know how long the current trend of increasing cases will last. There is concern

about overlapping infections with RSV, Influenza, and COVID-19, and the burden that may place on families and hospitals. Therefore, if you have not already, get an influenza vaccine (ages 6 months and older) or an updated COVID-19 booster (ages 5 and over).”

RACE

Continued from page A1

service company.

The News + Record spoke with political experts about the competitiveness of the race, where a well-known, incumbent candidate is up for re-election in what some have called a “countrypolitian county.” Here’s what’s at stake:

‘Countrypolitian’ county

Until 2018, the Republicans held a supermajority in North Carolina — which they had maintained for much of the decade before. Regaining a supermajority would mean a clearer path to passing partisan bills and a return to the ability to override the gubernatorial veto.

Gov. Cooper has vetoed 75 bills since he was elected to office, the highest number of any other governor in the state; North Carolina governors only gained veto power in 1997.

When it comes to the mid-term elections in N.C., gaining a supermajority is “the key thing” Republicans are trying to achieve and Democrats are trying to avoid, as opposed to the likelihood of Democrats gaining a majority, says Chris Cooper, a political scientist and professor at Western Carolina University.

Ultimately, it’ll come down to a few key races, and though Cooper said Dist. 54 leans Democratic, if Petty was able to clinch the seat, it would spell a clear sign Republicans will gain the supermajority they’re looking for.

“So if (Reives) were to lose, that would be a pretty big statement for where the people of Chatham County want to see their government moving, if they would sacrifice the power of having a minority leader, but still a leader, for somebody who’s going to at least enter with less power,” Cooper said.

When it comes to the defining factors of swing districts across the state, Cooper said partisanship plays a major role. In Chatham County, 55% of residents voted for President Joe Biden in the 2020 election.

“I think it’s kind of a boring answer, but it’s a real one — it’s just partisanship in this kind of nationalized, polarized political environment,” he said. “Sure, issues and candidates make a difference at the margins. But it’s only at the margins. The major factor here is voting power of each party and voting history of each party.”

Steven Greene, a researcher and professor of political science at N.C. State University, echoed this analysis, also saying the incumbency advantage is perhaps not what it used to be even 20 years ago. It’s notable that Reives’ challenger is a former county commissioner, Greene said, saying strong challengers tend to run in races where they think they have a chance of winning.

“Just the sense that Walter Petty is somebody who has the profile of a strong challenger is telling you that this is more likely than not going to be a district that’s having a competitive race,” Greene said.

Though Chatham’s unaffiliated voters now outnumber registered Democrats and Republicans in the county — mirroring a statewide trend — Greene also cautioned against placing too much emphasis on their registration. He said many unaffiliated voters still have partisan inclinations they tend to follow in elections.

“So the idea that unaffiliated voters are this kind of large swing block that can really move elections one way or the other is a pretty dramatic oversimplification,” he said. “Among those people who really are politically up for grabs, of course a disproportionate number of them are unaffiliated, but I would say the more important part is, even among unaffiliated voters, most of those people have pretty strong Republican or Democratic inclinations that they are going to typically follow when they vote.”

Chatham is on the precipice of significant change, with major corporations in the process of establishing megasites in Moncure and Siler City promising thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in investment. Still, according to a N.C. Dept. of Commerce county profile from May 2021, Chatham urban-rural divide leans rural, with 65.9% of the population being classified as such.

Mac McCorkle, professor of practice at Duke’s Sanford School of Public Policy, said he sees competitiveness in state races in fringe, metropolitan areas he has dubbed “countrypolitian,” like Chatham County.

“I call them countrypolitian counties, because they have strong country roots, strong rural roots, but have gotten big enough in terms of commuting into the cities and such that they’re also considered technically metropolitan,” McCorkle

said.

He also said Dist. 54’s recent redistricting, which has lost part of Durham County — an area that skews Democrat — and gained a portion of Randolph County — which leans Republican — could influence the competitiveness of the race.

McCorkle said he anticipates the race will result in a Democratic win, but seconded Cooper’s analysis that an upset would be a clear sign Republicans are gaining seats in more hotly contested races across the state.

Abortion access and other policy issues

In North Carolina, abortion is currently legal up to 20 weeks of pregnancy, meaning the state has become a haven among the Southeast for those seeking access. Republicans, including leaders like Phil Berger and Tim Moore, have said they would seek bans that significantly cut back access.

“The truth is if Republicans have a supermajority, they will almost surely pass a law that dramatically restricts things, compared to the current status quo,” Greene said. “And if Republicans do not have a supermajority, anything they tried to pass would be vetoed, almost surely successfully upheld by Governor Cooper.”

Before the Supreme Court’s *Dobbs v. Jackson* ruling, which eliminated the constitutional right to abortion, McCorkle said Democrats were almost “defenseless to the usual midterm problems” with an incumbent president. Typically, the sitting president’s party loses votes in midterm elections. The question in this year’s midterms is how much *Dobbs* will be a voting issue, McCorkle said.

“So that’s what would be interesting,” McCorkle said. “If you see some real big vote coming out in Chatham for Reives, especially among women, you would think, ‘Yeah, *Dobbs* really had an effect.’”

Petty did not respond to requests for comment for this story, but in his candidate questionnaire, said there “may be times abortion is necessary when a mother’s life is at risk.”

In contrast, Reives has stated he supports codifying the reproductive rights previously protected for nearly 50 years under *Roe v. Wade*.

“The right to choose is under attack in North Carolina, but Democrats in the General Assembly currently hold enough

seats to uphold any vetoes by Governor Cooper,” Reives said. “We cannot go down the same path as other states that are outlawing medical procedures and criminalizing women and doctors.”

Reives’ goals for office include expanding Medicaid, pushing for legislation to raise the age limit for the purchase of handguns and assault rifles, ban bumper stocks and high capacity magazines, and expand background checks for the purchase of a firearm, and supporting the establishment of a nonpartisan redistricting commission. He has also outlined priorities to expand investment in public education and protect natural resources in the state.

In a conversation with the News + Record, Reives said he believes his previous eight years in office are a reflection of how he’ll continue to serve voters, citing factors like the performance growth of the county’s schools, his advocacy to keep fracking out of the county, and the economic development coming to Chatham. Reives also emphasized his history of working across the aisle with other legislators, saying he wants to be a “voice for all.”

“My job is to make sure that we get the best result for North Carolinians,” Reives said. “And the best result for North Carolinians will never have anything to do with somebody’s political party and will always have to do with what’s the best way to keep us moving forward. And every single day that you’re in government, you should be moving the state and your community forward.”

Petty, who prioritized his experiences of growing up in the district and his background in both business and government as a former county commissioner, previously told the News + Record he aims to support and enhance education while mandating greater accountability in performance, “along with a parent’s bill of rights and increased school security.” His priorities will also focus on supporting public service agencies such as law enforcement, EMS and fire and rescue departments.

If elected, Petty wants to target what he described as issues in education, saying the school system is being converted into “an indoctrination system for the WOKE,” limiting parents’ ability to speak out.

Petty also noted that Chatham’s growing industrial base will require much more

infrastructure — including water and wastewater capacity — than currently available, which will necessitate funding. He previously told the News + Record he’d support Medicaid expansion in N.C., but with some reform.

“Having been on hospital board and knowing the amount of uninsured or underinsured people that come through, knowing the amount of people that need care, and knowing how much expenses hospitals have to write off because they don’t get compensation, there’s got to be a better way then when you parallel that with the supply issues and the people that are not getting services needed and others getting more than they need and not being dished out proportionately,” Petty, who served on the Chatham Hospital Board of Trustees, said.

Participating in local elections

Chatham County often has record high voter turnout in elections, among the highest in the state.

In considering voter participation, Greene said localized political issues don’t often receive the same attention of national political debates, despite the significant impacts they can have on a person’s life.

“Most of the policy that affects us happens at the state level and the local level,” Greene said.

When it comes to engaging in the electoral process, Cooper also noted the impact that state elections have on voters.

“All the critical issues of the day really are decided at the state level, and the question of whether the Republican Party has a supermajority is going to be critical to all of them,” Cooper said. “So people looking for a way to exercise a voice that matters — this is a lot more efficient place to do it than in a presidential election, where you’re going to be drowned out amongst tens of millions of votes.”

To read more about the candidates’ platforms and view their full responses to candidate questionnaires visit chathamnewsrecord.com/elections. The general midterm elections will be on Nov. 8, and early voting runs through Nov. 5. To find your polling location, visit vt.ncsbe.gov/PPLkup/.

Reporter Maydha Devarajan can be reached at mdevarajan@chathamnr.com and on Twitter @maydhadevarajan.

VOTE
NOV 8



Committed to
Chatham's Future

Katie Kenlan

Chatham County
Commissioner

“

As a lifelong Chatham resident I've witnessed the fast paced growth taking place. I pledge to focus on the long term health of families, the community and the environment. I value the diversity that makes Chatham a great place to live, work and build a truly resilient and equitable Community. I know what we need to protect.

”

My Priorities

- Smart Growth
- A Sustainable Future
- Affordable Housing
- Protect Natural Resources
- Strong Schools
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Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Singing pumpkins, spiderwebs and mummies were all part of the decorations set out by the volunteer crew at the New Hope Valley Halloween Express in Bonsal on Saturday.

HALLOWEEN

Continued from page A1

Individuals were able to purchase a portion of the line to preserve and allow its future operation as a historic railroad. This included the property and rail yard in Bonsal and a little over four miles of the track to New Hill.

An all-volunteer effort

The museum has grown over the years by purchasing new equipment and locomotives, but it still runs on an all-volunteer effort. To make the Halloween Express the smash hit that it is requires more than 30 volunteers, including train dispatchers, parking attendants, box office vendors and actors.

Marco Zarati is one of those volunteers. He's helped with NHV for two years and he says events like the haunted train are important because they help educate people of all ages about the history of trains in N.C.

"Even though all these cabooses and cars are covered in spiderwebs and skeletons today, it's still part of the history of railroads in North Carolina," Zarati said.

Volunteers with NHV take on all sorts of roles. Zarati said one month he may be dressed up as a character to entertain the kids, the next he is working as a dispatcher and talking with the engineers about track conditions.

Many of the volunteers at the track have a deep knowledge and passion for train history in the state, which is why they return year after year.

"Just seeing the looks on the kids' faces when they come off that train keeps me coming back," said Victor Varney, an NHV volunteer. "And yes, that's why I volunteer, but it's also because this Halloween train is one of our biggest fundraisers for the year."

As Varney explains his passion for NHV, he temporarily pauses to talk with the conductor. He was on dispatch duty Saturday night. The Halloween Express began running at 2 p.m., with the final departure at 7:15 p.m. Varney said helping the train run smoothly involved a 13-hour day with many volunteers arriving early in the morning and leaving long after the last passenger had departed.

Staying on track

The annual budget for the NHV averages about \$250,000, but not a cent of that goes to the volunteers. Maintaining the old rail line is incredibly expensive, with constant needs for inspections, equipment upgrades and mechanical work. All of the funding comes from ticket sales for train rides and fundraising campaigns.

Volunteer members of NHV also engage in other historic preservation efforts. Recently, members began a fundraising campaign to "Save the Ten." Ten railcars were left at Harris Nuclear Plant in New Hill and in danger of being scrapped, but NHV pooled the money to bring those cars to the museum where they now await restoration. That project raised an additional \$150,000 in donations and saw \$50,000 of state money help the museum's efforts.

"Giving people the opportunity to ride a train doesn't seem like it would be an important thing," Varney said. "But when you see little kids and their parents experience it, and learn the historic pieces of it all, it makes them see the value in the history."

John Morck is the vice president of NHV and has been involved with the museum since 1993. He said it's been exciting to watch the museum grow over time and loves the community's reactions to the train rides.

"It represents what short-line rail used to be like many years ago," Morck said. "It's a way to experience railroad history. Trains used to be a critical part of daily life for many North Carolinians. It's how they got their goods, moved from place to place, so experiencing that is important to preserve."

Families depart the Halloween Express squealing with delight and big smiles as Skellington welcomes them back safely to the station. Each spooky prop and eerie actor on the ride is a labor of love, meticulously placed along the historic track. It's New Hope Valley's trick at getting people to come enjoy the treat of N.C. rail history.

For more information about NHV, including tickets for their upcoming Santa's Reindeer Roundup Rides visit triangletrain.com.

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



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

The grand finale of the Halloween Express was the ghost train operated by the headless brakeman. It featured a display of skeletons and mummies as passengers alongside attendees of the New Hope Valley Halloween Express.

Vote **Nov 8**

KENLAN

DELANEY

GOMEZ FLORES

Elect

CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



<p>David Delaney ★</p> <p>District 3</p> <p>f DelaneyForChatham</p>	<p>Katie Kenlan ★</p> <p>District 4</p> <p>KatieKenlan.com</p>	<p>Franklin Gomez Flores ★</p> <p>District 5</p> <p>f FranklinForCommissioner</p>
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ELECT DEMOCRATS FOR CHATHAM'S FUTURE

On **November 8** three seats are up for election on the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, and the people in Chatham County have a choice: Pursue **smart growth**, improve **education** for our children, prioritize **clean water** and **good jobs** in our county by electing **Franklin Gomez Flores, David Delaney** and **Katie Kenlan**. We must ensure a livable future for our children. Our team is committed!



- SMART GROWTH:** Champion responsible growth, preserving rural character and natural resources, and investing in affordable housing.
- EDUCATION:** Promote great public K-12 schools and competitive teacher salaries.
- INTERNET FOR ALL:** Expand high-speed broadband access and use across the county.
- CLEAN WATER:** Ensure clean drinking water and environmentally safe wastewater treatment across the county.
- JOB AND BUSINESS:** Create new job opportunities, support growth of small businesses and nonprofits, and reduce racial and disability barriers.

Please VOTE on November 8!

EARLY VOTING
OCTOBER 20 - NOVEMBER 5



Paid for by: Committee to Elect David Delaney
 Franklin for Commissioner
 Katie Kenlan for Commissioner



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EARLY VOTING:

October 20 - November 5

ELECTION DAY:

November 8

ReivesforHouse.com

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 [ElectReives](https://twitter.com/ElectReives)

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT ROBERT T. REIVES II.

TURNOUT

Continued from page A1

tions, which will be open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. through Friday, Nov. 4, and from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

- Early voting locations:
- Goldston Town Hall, 40A Coral Ave., Goldston
 - Paul Braxton Gym, 115 S. 3rd Ave., Siler City
 - Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center, 1192 U.S. 64 Business, Pittsboro
 - CCCC Health Science Building, 75 Ballentrae Ct., Pittsboro
 - New Hope Baptist Church, 581 New Hope Church Rd., Apex

Polls will be open on Election Day, Tuesday, from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday was the last day to request an absentee ballot

The News + Record will post elections returns throughout election night at www.chathamnewsrecord.com.

Chatham County's ballot this mid-term election is lengthy, with six major county-wide seats, two state legislative seats and the sheriff's post among those being contested.

Key races on this year's ballot include:

- N.C. Senate, Dist. 20: Incumbent Natalie Murdock of Durham, a Democrat newly representing Chatham County after redistricting, faces Republican Alvin Reed of Sanford. Murdock won office in 2020 to the seat of resigning Sen. Mickey Michaux, becoming the first Black woman under the age of 40 to serve in the state Senate. Reed, a software writer, describes himself as the author of "The Theory of Biblical Patterns," which he says proves that a higher intelligence wrote Genesis 1:1.

Murdock's campaign has focused on fighting for full access to safe and legal abortions, birth control and reproductive rights, and advocating for environmental justice issues. The former deputy communications director for the N.C. Dept. of Justice and Attorney General Josh Stein also hopes to see certain reforms within the justice system, including the legalization and decriminalization of cannabis, and the increase in the quantity and quality of affordable housing as economic development continues in Chatham.

Reed, who previously unsuccessfully ran for the N.C. House Dist. 54 seat, losing against long-time Rep. Joe Hackney in 2006, hopes to further the conservative majority in the state senate. His campaign goals include increasing access to school vouchers and reducing crime in North Carolina, specifically with regard to fentanyl use. Citing his religion, Reed has said he would "fight for the life of the unborn" and would not support the legalization of medical marijuana in N.C.

- N.C. House, Dist. 54: This race pits veteran legislator Robert Reives II of Goldston, who's held the seat since 2014, against Republican challenger Walter Petty of Siler City.

Reives is the House minority leader in the N.C. General Assembly and has been re-elected four times. Petty, a long-time Chatham County commissioner first elected in 2010, resigned that seat in April 2019, citing the pressing time demands of his business, Atlantic Power Solutions, at the time. The business has since expanded into a new location near Goldston.

Reives' campaign goals include supporting the establishment of a nonpartisan redistricting commission; pushing for legislation to raise the age limit for the pur-

chase of handguns and assault rifles, banning bumper stocks and high capacity magazines and expanding background checks to purchase a firearm; and pushing to revisit Medicaid expansion in North Carolina. Reives hopes to utilize his experience collaborating with legislators "across the aisle" in bringing "Chatham County values to Raleigh" if re-elected.

Petty plans to prioritize supporting and enhancing education while mandating accountability in performance, along with "a parent's bill of rights and increased school security." Other areas of focus of his campaign include supporting public service agencies such as law enforcement, EMS and fire and rescue departments. If elected, he says his previous experience working in both business and government, and his years of experience as a county commissioner, will serve him well in office.

- Chatham County Board of Commissioners, Dist. 3: This seat, being vacated by Democrat Diana Hales, will be contested between Democrat David Delaney, the vice president and assistant general counsel for cybersecurity and privacy for Truist Bank, and Republican Tom Glendinning, a former U.S. Marine who lost to Valerie Foushee in the 2020 race for state senate.

Despite being a political newcomer, Delaney touts his community connections as reasons why he is the right choice to bring equity and unity to Chatham. Meanwhile, Glendinning's platform centers the local economy with hopes of lowering taxes and helping older residents.

- Chatham County Board of Commissioners, Dist. 4: This seat is held now by Robert Logan, who once was the superintendent of Chatham County Schools. Logan was appointed to fill the term of former Commissioner Jim Crawford, who resigned the seat in December. On the ballot are native Chatham Countians Katie Kenlan, an educator, and Republican Joe Godfrey, a service operations supervisor at Siemens Industry.

Godfrey says the ruling Democratic Party has had too much staying power in Chatham, and the county is failing as a result. He believes the county needs to focus on the problems of today to help it prepare for the future. On the other side, Kenlan's focus is on wastewater and climate issues to make sure proper infrastructure is in place as growth comes to Chatham.

- Chatham County Board of Commissioners, Dist. 5: Incumbent Democrat Franklin Gomez Flores faces Republican Peyton Moody. Gomez Flores beat Republican Andy Wilkie for the seat in 2020; Wilkie had been appointed to fill Petty's unexpired seat.

Gomez Flores wants to improve on the policies he help put in place in his first term as commissioner, and he says his experience and ability to connect with all demographics is an asset. Moody, though, echoes Godfrey's complaints about how commissioners have governed and believes it's time to shake things up in Chatham through lowering taxes and operating the county more like a business.

- Chatham County Sheriff: Incumbent Sheriff Mike Roberson, a Democrat, faces challenger Marcus Globuschutz, a Republican.

Roberson was appointed to the position in May 2016, replacing the retiring Richard Webster, then won re-election in 2018. Globuschutz, a probation/parole officer

in Randolph County, has worked for a number of law enforcement agencies.

Globuschutz has taken to social media and the internet to attack Roberson's record and credibility, claiming the sheriff isn't dedicated to the office and has failed to provide strong law enforcement or response to the county's drug trade. Roberson cites Chatham's low crime rates and his officers' visibility and community policing program as effective tools, saying he'd continue to work to serve county residents by treating them respectfully.

- Chatham County Board of Education, Dist. 3: Incumbent Democrat Del Turner, who's held the seat since 2010, faces challenger Jessica Winger of Pittsboro. Winger, who has four children at Chatham County Schools, has been a vocal proponent of an optional school masking policy and actively advocated for a return to in-person learning while CCS was in a hybrid or remote learning schedule.

The race has brought social issues like Critical Race Theory and COVID-19 learning loss to the forefront, with Winger saying the current board lacks transparency and advocating for further parent input. Turner says the board has made tremendous progress in her decade in office and she wants to continue to build on that success in an equitable way.

- Chatham County Board of Education, Dist. 4: Incumbent Jane Allen Wilson doesn't face opposition on the ballot.

- Chatham County Board of Education, Dist. 5: Incumbent Gary Leonard, who is the board's chairperson, faces Timothy Moore. Leonard, a former athletic director and coach at Chatham Central High School, was first elected in 2010. Moore, a Texas native and U.S. Army veteran, has joined Winger on campaigning for a "parents-first" approach to board policy-making, and says falling student performance hasn't been adequately addressed by the board.

Moore says poor test scores are a sign of a failing school board. Leonard says those dips are temporary, and that CCS has made adequate recoveries from the pandemic and that he wants to continue helping children on the board.

- U.S. Senate: Republican Congressman Ted Budd faces former N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, a Democrat, and Libertarian candidate Shannon Bray, for the Senate seat being vacated by Republican Richard Burr. Budd first won the 13th Congressional seat in 2017.

- U.S. House of Representatives, Dist. 9: Incumbent Richard Hudson Jr., a Republican, faces Democrat Ben Clark. Hudson, first elected to the Dist. 8 seat in 2013, is seeking North Carolina's 9th congressional district seat after the 2020 census required the state to redraw its electoral districts and maps. Four of the counties Hudson represents moved into the 9th district, which now includes Chatham.

The board of education seats are nonpartisan; there were no primaries for these seats in May.

Other seats on the general election ballot include two on the N.C. Supreme Court, four on the N.C. Court of Appeals, one on the N.C. Superior Court, and the uncontested District Attorney and Chatham County Clerk of Superior Court seats, as well as the Chatham County Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor.

OBITUARIES

TIFFANY LAUREN BRADY

January 21, 1992 ~ October 21, 2022



Tiffany Lauren Brady, 30, of Bennett, N.C., passed away on Friday, October 21, 2022, in Benson.

She was born on January 21, 1992, in Randolph County, N.C., to Thomas Leon Brady Jr. and Tammy Corene Thompson Brady. She was a graduate of North Moore High School's Class of 2010 and she attended Sandhills Community College.

Tiffany worked several years for both city and county Emergency Services as a telecommunicator for Southern Pines Police Department, Chatham County Emergency Services and Moore County Emergency Service. She, her mother and sister, Ashley, co-owned and operated Charmed Salon in Southern Pines. Tiffany had a big love for animals and animal rescue. She leaves behind her very cherished fur babies, Brooke and Rocky. Tiffany enjoyed spending time at the beach.

In addition to her parents, Tiffany is survived by her two sisters, Ashley Gore and her husband Stephen of Jackson Springs, N.C., and Jamie Kirkman of Liberty, N.C.; a niece, Kirsten Stovall and two nephews, Jackson and Easton Kirkman; and her maternal grandmother, Ruby Thompson of Denton, N.C. She was preceded in death by her maternal grandfather, Ray Thompson and her paternal grandparents, Thomas Leon Brady and Esther Rich Brady.

Visitation was held on Thursday, October 27, 2022, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Boles Funeral Home in Southern Pines. The funeral service was held on Friday, October 28, 2022, at 1 p.m. at Pleasant Grove Christian Church, 5946 Pleasant Grove Road, Bennett. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, Tiffany requested that memorial contributions be made to Unchaining Moore Dogs, 3252 Murdocksville Road, West End, N.C. 27376.

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

Services entrusted to Boles Funeral Home of Southern Pines.

PHILLIP RADER ANDREW

February 24, 1933 ~ October 27, 2022



SILK HOPE — In God's grace and timing, Phillip Rader Andrew passed away on October 27, 2022. He was born on February 24, 1933, the third son of James Harvey Andrew and Mary Blanche Lindley Andrew, deceased. He was also preceded in death by brothers, Murray M. Andrew and Keith Andrew; sisters-in-law, Barbara Andrew and Rebecca Andrew; brother-in-law, Joe Bill Lindley; and sons-in-law, John F. Clayton and Russell Thomas.

Phillip is survived by his wife of 67 years, Pauline, and children Judy Cobb (Roger), Carmen Woody (Charles), Carol Thomas, Paula Davis (Gary), Lori Brewer (Jack) and Bryan Andrew; eight grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother, Blake L. Andrew, and a sister, Jane A. Lindley, and sister-in-law, Jane H. Andrew, along with many nieces and nephews.

Phillip graduated from Silk Hope High School. He served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves, 1953-1961, primarily in the 52nd MP Company at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. Phillip was a poultry farmer and later sold tractors and farm equipment, most recently for the Gaston Sealey Company. Phillip enjoyed travel, country music, and NASCAR racing. He was instrumental in bringing the sport of tractor pulling to North Carolina.

A funeral service was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at South Fork Friends Church, with Daniel Thames and Andrew Needham officiating. Burial with military honors will follow in the church cemetery. The family received visitors following the service, in the church fellowship hall, and other times at the home of Carmen Woody.

Memorials may be made to South Fork Friends Cemetery Association, 359 South Fork Bethel Church Road, Snow Camp, N.C. 27349.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Andrew family.

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

GOLDA BATTEN STEELE

October 8, 1937 ~ October 26, 2022



Golda Batten Steele, 85, went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, October 26, 2022.

A service was held Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 2 p.m. at Montlawn Funeral Home, Raleigh, N.C.

Golda was born October 8, 1937, in Micro, N.C., to J.H. and Agnes Batten. She is survived by brother, Harold Batten (Pat); and sisters Janice Horne (Willie); Evelyn Martin (Jimmy);

and Joy Allen (Mac), and their children and grandchildren. Also her aunt, Harlene Sasser, has been a friend and sister through the years.

A doer and helper since childhood, she was an excellent cook from a young age when she started cooking with her granny, and she came to know Jesus as her Savior at a young age. She was active at Johnson Homes Community Church during her youth.

After graduating from Goldsboro High School, she married Tommy Steele Jr. August 14, 1955. She worked alongside Tommy for nearly 65 years in pastoral ministry at Cove City Baptist Church, Cove City, N.C.; Merry Oaks Baptist Church, Moncure, N.C.; Northside Gospel Chapel, Victoria, Virginia; and Siler City Chapel, Siler City, N.C. Her hymn solos, encouragement, and friendship are well remembered by the many friends she made along the way. If someone was sick, or just needed a lift, her pound cake and soup were legendary.

She was a loving and ever-present mother to daughters Karen Hood and Jennifer Greeson and their husbands Glenn Hood and David Greeson. She was a joy and delight to grandsons Brent and Bryan Hood and Jonathan and Matthew Greeson, who called her "Mema." She used her creativity with sewing, crocheting, and flower arranging to bring beauty to her home and also to family and friends.

While raising her family, she also for 40 years did administrative work for Your Daily Devotional Program, making tapes for Tommy Steele Sr.'s and Jr.'s gospel messages which went out to radio stations weekly; typing the devotional newsletter; and managing correspondence.

Tommy called her "Sweetheart" and praised the Lord for "the love of my dear beautiful wife, the most precious one to me, other than Jesus, in her beauty, devotion, and love, the lovely Golda Mae."

When she came into a room, she brought joy with her and a sense that everything would be all right. "Your Momma never worries," Tommy always told his daughters. "And if she went to Hong Kong, China, she would still be at home." That is because to all who loved her, she was home.

She is now home in heaven, and all who know Him will see her in heaven and hear her beautiful voice. She is there with her husband and other family members, where we "know and are known," and everything is all right.

Underlined in her Bible: Titus 2: 13,14: Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us...

JOSEPH ANDREW BARBER SR.

Joseph Andrew Barber Sr., 54, died Saturday, October 22, 2022, at his home in Apex.

There are no services planned at this time.

He was the son of the late Dewey Barber and Evelyn Holleman Reaves. "Andy," as he was known, graduated from Chatham Central High School.

He is survived by his son, A.J. Barber; a stepson, Jeremy Davis; and two grandchildren.

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

WILLIAM 'BILL' ROGER GRIFFITH

March 25, 1952 ~ October 28, 2022

William "Bill" Roger Griffith, 70, of Sanford, passed away on

Friday, October 28, 2022, at his home.

He was born in Lee County to Roger Griffith and the late Gladys Kelly Griffith. In addition to his mother, he was preceded in death by a grandmother, Emma Kelly. Bill was retired from Honeywell and Lee County Schools and he served his country in the U.S. Army which included a tour of duty in Vietnam. He was a member of Caribton United Methodist Church family.

In addition to his father, Bill is survived by his wife of 40 years, Sue; step-daughters, Traci Willett of Goldston and Carrie Morris of Sanford; sister, Linda Sloan of Sanford; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Arrangements by Bridges-Cameron Funeral Home.

GLENN RAY MURPHY

August 21, 1957 ~ October 30, 2022

Glenn Ray Murphy, 65, of Siler City, passed away on Sunday, October 30, 2022, at his home.

He was born in Chatham County on August 21, 1957, the son of Jesse and Irene Moody Murphy. Glenn was of the Baptist Faith. Glenn retired from being a forklift operator. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his brother, Billy Wayne Murphy.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Donna Bolinger Murphy.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Murphy family.

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

DOROTHY LOIS SEXTON THOMAS

Dorothy Lois Sexton Thomas, 83, passed away at the Siler City Center on Sunday, October 30, 2022.

The memorial service will be held Thursday, November 3, 2022, at Merritt's Chapel United Methodist Church at 11 a.m. with Rev. Ian Bailey presiding.

Thomas was the daughter of the late Lonnie Sexton Sr. and Ruby Chambers Sexton of Apex. She was born in Chatham County and was a lifelong member of Merritt's Chapel United Methodist Church. Dorothy was a huge contributor to the written history of the church.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Richard "Dick" Thomas of almost 60 years; daughter, Tracy Ann Thomas of Apex; brother, Lonnie Sexton Jr.; and sister, Lillie Ferguson.

Condolences may be made at www.donaldsonfunerals.com.

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

THEODORE PAUL WILKINSON

Theodore Paul Wilkinson, 82, passed away on Sunday, October 23, 2022, in Pittsboro.

A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, November 5, 2022, at Riverview Cemetery in Baldwinsville, N.Y.

LORENA MARTIN GOINS

Lorena Martin Goins, 83, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

The funeral service was held at 3 p.m. Saturday, October 29, 2022, at Try Jesus Ministries, with burial following at Lee Memory Garden.

DESSIE MAE CAMERON MURCHISON

Dessie Mae Cameron Murchison, 91, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, October 22, 2022, at Cape Fear Valley Medical in Fayetteville.

The funeral was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 29, 2022, at the True Gospel United Church of God. Burial followed at Lee Memory Garden.

GEORGE BAILEY GARRIS

George Bailey Garris, 74, of Moncure, passed away on Tuesday, October 18, 2022.

The funeral service was held Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 1 p.m. at Liberty Chapel Church, with burial following in the church cemetery.

PAULINE FAY BYRD WHITMAN

October 16, 1942 ~ October 21, 2022

Pauline Fay Byrd Whitman, 80, of Sanford, passed away on Friday, October 21, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

Her memorial service was held Friday, October 28, 2022, at 4 p.m. at Knotts Funeral Home.

JOHNNY ELVIS RAGLAND

April 4, 1957 ~ October 21, 2022

Johnny Elvis Ragland, 65 of Sanford, passed away on Friday, October 21, 2022, at his residence.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Friday, October 28, 2022, at Prince Chapel CME Church with burial following in the church cemetery.

MARY LOUISE JOHNS

Mary Louise Johns, 69, of Sanford, passed away Saturday, October 22, 2022, at Central Carolina Hospital.

The funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Thursday, October 27, 2022, at Knotts Funeral Home.

See **OBITS**, page A11



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Chatham County establishes Agricultural Preservation & Development Trust Fund

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — The Chatham County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously Oct. 17 to establish the first-ever county-based trust fund aimed at supporting agricultural preservation and development within Chatham County. This

critical support will help fund a local working lands protection program as well as implement an ag economic development program, based on recommendations from the Farmland Preservation Plan.

The Chatham Agricultural Preservation & Development Trust Fund will be established and

funded annually with Article 46 tax revenue. On Nov. 18, 2019, the Board of Commissioners approved a resolution that, pending the passing of the Article 46 tax referendum, the resulting revenue was to be used for education, parks and recreation, agriculture preservation and enhancement, and affordable housing. Chatham County voters took to the polls in March 2020 to vote on this referendum. The referendum was approved, and the tax was levied in April 2020.

The aim of this initiative is to protect Chatham County farms and working lands while also addressing the need to help farmers stay in business, both now and for future generations. A presentation to the Board by Susannah Goldston, Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District director, and Dr. Ginger Cunningham, Chatham County Cooperative extension director, requested funding to establish this

trust fund using Article 46 tax revenue funds.

Addressing ever-increasing developmental pressures and the need to preserve remaining farms and working lands in Chatham, this trust fund will help to combat the irreversible loss of Chatham's finite resource of productive, arable land. In a recent report, North Carolina ranked second in the nation in the potential agricultural land lost by the year 2040. In Chatham County alone, a moderate projection model states the estimated farmland loss in the next 20 years could total nearly 15,000 acres. State and county statistics can be accessed through an interactive tool.

"We are so excited for this opportunity to develop meaningful and impactful farmland preservation programs for the county at this crucial moment," Goldston said. "These dollars will have long-lasting effects of securing productive working

lands while supporting and enhancing our local agriculture system — a benefit to every county resident."

Agriculture, forestry and agribusiness industries account for a significant portion of Chatham County's total income each year, averaging \$125 million in cash receipts and almost \$300 million in additional gains from forestry sector output. From farms of all sizes to forestry, not only does agriculture bring income for the county, but it also provides jobs. Agriculture contributes to Chatham County's beloved green spaces and rural character, provides access to local food and serves as a foundation for natural resource conservation. With more than 1,100 farms across the county, 98% identify as family farms, and over one-third of the over 1,700 ag producers identify as female. Chatham County ranks second in the state for beef cattle production, second for sheep and

goat production, third in equine population, ninth in hay production, 15th in dairy cattle population and 17th in broiler production.

"To have this kind of perpetual support in place, on behalf of the County, speaks volumes to the prominent role that ag plays here in Chatham," Cunningham said. "Our hope to safeguard our resources of today for the coming generations has been made a much more realistic venture with this critical financial backing."

Through the dedication and commitment of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, the Agriculture Advisory Board, the NC Cooperative Extension Chatham County Center staff and advisory council and the Chatham Soil & Water Conservation District staff and Board of Supervisors, the Chatham Agricultural Preservation & Development Trust Fund should be in place by the end of 2022.

SWEET 16 Happy Birthday
MARCY November 5th
 We Love You! Mom, Dad and Holly

Piney Grove United Methodist Church
Annual Harvest Sale
Saturday, November 5th
 Dinner begins at 4:30 PM
BBQ, Hotdogs, Fries, Desserts
 Auction begins at 6 PM
 2343 Piney Grove Ch. Rd. • Siler City

Mount Pleasant Methodist Church
 269 Manns Chapel Road
BBQ SALE
Saturday, November 12, 2022
 Take Out/Drive Through Only
12:30-2:00pm
\$12.00 per pound

OBITS

Continued from page A10

LANDRIE FAITH SCOTT



Landrie Faith Scott, the daughter of Taylor and Kelsey Hayes Scott, went to her heavenly home while laying peacefully in her parents arms on October 26, 2022.

Landrie is survived by her parents; her brother, Lawson Scott; paternal grandparents, Scotty Scott and wife Kathy of Bear Creek; maternal grandparents, John

Hayes Jr. of Bear Creek and Brandi Hayes of Bear Creek; paternal great grandparents, Rachel Scott of Bear Creek, Lester Scott of Siler City, and Betty Pollock of Bear Creek; maternal great-grandparents, Mary Hayes of Siler City, John Hayes Sr. of Liberty, Donna Fields of Sanford, and Blaine Fields of Siler City; aunts, Amy Phillips and husband Travis, and Brooke Hayes and fiancé Aaron; and cousin, Ty Phillips. A graveside service was held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 30, 2022, at Bear Creek Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Bob Wachs officiating.

Memorials may be made to Abel Speaks Organization, 7616 LBJ Freeway, Suite 730, Dallas, TX 75251.

Smith & Buckner Funeral Home is assisting the Scott family.

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

PEGGY ANN WEST

Peggy Ann West, 58, of Sanford, passed away at her home on October 27, 2022.

Graveside service was held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at Lee Memory Garden.

HESTER DORSETT

Hester Dorsett, 81, of Queens Village, N.Y., formerly of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in Queens, NY.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

BRENDA SUE WALKER KING

Brenda Sue Walker King, 58, of Sanford, passed away on Monday, October 24, 2022, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

WANDA LEE PARKER

Wanda Lee Parker, 61, of Sanford, away on Monday, October 31, 2022, at her residence.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

JOY MICHELLE PADGETT

Joy Michelle Padgett, 54, of Sanford, passed away on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, in Albermarle.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home.

ANNIE BEATRICE 'CHERRY' PEREZ

Annie Beatrice "Cherry" Perez, 89, of Vass, passed away on Friday, October 28, 2022, at UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill.

Services entrusted to Knotts Funeral Home, Sanford.

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NATALIE MURDOCK
 NC SENATE

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**READY TO LEAD,
 READY TO SERVE**
 ON DAY ONE.

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PAID FOR BY NATALIE FOR NC SENATE

Bynum Bridge Jack-o'-lanterns



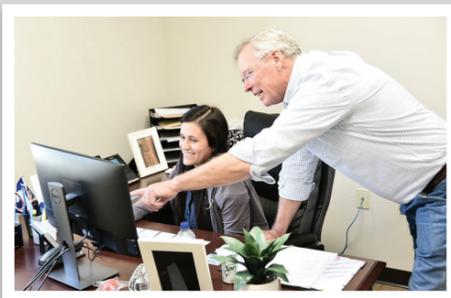
Staff photo by Simon Barbre

Halloween at Bynum Bridge always features a dazzling Jack-o'-lantern display. Photographer Simon Barbre was there on Monday night and captured these images.

WALTER PETTY WILL PUT THE **ECONOMY FIRST**

With record high inflation and prices continuing to rise, **Chatham County can count on Walter Petty** to cut taxes so families can keep more of their hard-earned money.

Petty will also work to eliminate burdensome regulations that are slowing down our state's supply chain.



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Benefits we can align on:

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- \$2,000* FLEX Allowance per year for Dental, Vision, Hearing, Acupuncture & Chiropractic
- Part D Drug Coverage
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- Free Transportation
- Worldwide Coverage
- Over-The-Counter Spending Allowance

Let's get together

11/23 —10:00 am
The Chatham Rabbit
223 N. Chatham Avenue
Siler City

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ELECTIONS 2022

CN+R candidate forums showcase platforms ahead of Election Day

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — The second News + Record candidate forum was held last Wednesday, with the two events — one Oct. 20 at the Chatham Ag Center, and the other at Central Carolina Community College’s Pittsboro campus — giving voters a chance to hear candidates share thoughts about a number of issues.

Here’s a summary from the two forums:

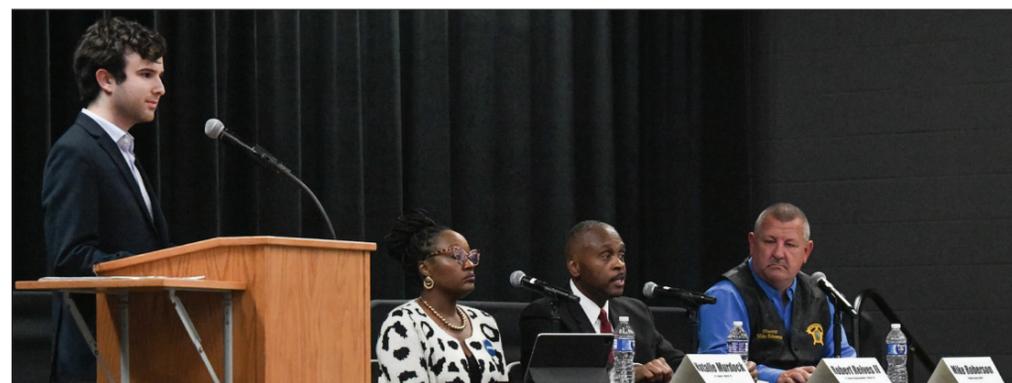
Oct. 20 forum: Legislative, Sheriff races

The first forum took place on Oct. 20 and featured the N.C. Senate Dist. 20, N.C. House Dist. 54 and Chatham County’s Sheriff races. Democratic candidates Sen. Natalie Murdock, Rep. Robert Reives II and Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson spoke for about two hours on a myriad of topics, including Chatham’s growth, affordable housing, what distinguished them from their opponents, reforming N.C.’s marijuana laws and more. Republican candidates seeking those seats — Alvin Reed, Walter Petty and Marcus Globuschutz — chose not to participate in the forum.

One of the primary topics the three candidates were asked about was Chatham’s growth.

Roberson, who’s seeking his second full term as sheriff, said his department needs additional funds from the county to prepare for the inevitable influx of an estimated 20,000 people.

“What we’re gonna need is more deputies, and the reason we’re gonna need more deputies is we keep building in unincorporated areas ... they’re



Courtesy of Greg Stewart

News + Record reporter Ben Rappaport asked questions of incumbent candidates Sen. Natalie Murdock (D - Dist. 20), Rep. Robert Reives II (D - Dist. 54) and Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson answered questions at the Oct. 20 candidate forum at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center.

not paying town taxes, but they want town services,” Roberson said. “We’re going to have to start funding the sheriff’s office to be able to have more deputies on the road to be able to answer these calls.”

Reives said the key to preparing for growth is providing affordable housing options for new and current residents. He said growth should be “controlled,” ensuring the small-town charm of Chatham remains.

“We’re able to plant growth, and so, I’ve been able to work with Chatham Park and some of the folks in Pittsboro and Pittsboro town commissioners to go ahead and set highways so that they’re bypassing the downtown,” he said.

Murdock reiterated both Roberson’s and Reives’s points and added growth needed to be “environmentally friendly.” She wants life-long residents not to be pushed out of their homes and communities, which has happened in other regions across the state.

“So many folks are multi-generational, born and raised in Chatham County, and

they shouldn’t be pushed out because of that growth,” she said. “As we shared this evening, (we) just want to make sure we do it in a way that doesn’t leave folks behind.”

Candidates were also asked for their stances on drug policy and enforcement regarding marijuana.

The N.C. Senate voted to legalize the medicinal use of marijuana in August, and the bill currently sits in the N.C. House. Reives said he wants to see the bill pass, since he believes marijuana policies haven’t been consistent in the way they’re enforced.

“I think the decriminalization of marijuana is something that we have to address, mostly because I’ve seen what it can do for people who are in chronic pain and PTSD. It saves them,” Reives said.

Roberson said in his role as sheriff, he doesn’t make laws — but he has to enforce them. He said if only legalized for certain uses, it would complicate what his deputies have to enforce.

“If we’re going to do it anyway, I would treat it like

alcohol, and have it be regulated,” he said. “I want to know where it comes from, know the quality of it, know who sells it and know where the tax is going when it’s sold.”

In discussing the topic of political partisanship, all three candidates at the forum agreed if elected, they wouldn’t just represent their party — they would represent all of Chatham.

“It really is our duty as legislators to do we serve and represent all people,” Murdock said. “These are not partisan issues — we may disagree on how to do it — but no matter what, the goal really should be the same, even if we have different paths to get there.”

Oct. 26: Chatham Commissioners

Five of the six candidates for county commissioner — Democrat David Delaney and Republican Tom Glendinning in Dist. 3, Republican Joe Godfrey and Democrat Katie Kenlan in Dist. 4 and Democrat Franklin Gomez Flores in Dist. 5 — were present for the Oct. 26 forum.

Republican Peyton Moody, seeking to unseat Gomez Flores in Dist. 5, was traveling and unable to attend.

Growth was also the main topic of conversation among these candidates. When asked how to make a more populous Chatham County a better Chatham, Gomez Flores said growth has pros and cons evaluated during the planning process.

“I’ve been pushing the board ... every single board meeting during my commissioners report that we need to sit down and really identify all the needs in Chatham County,” he said. “We need to identify and plan these property taxes that we’re estimating to collect from these economic opportunities [Wolf-speed and VinFast] to address major one-time investments.”

Godfrey said he believes Chatham commissioners need to focus on addressing infrastructure shortcomings, including roads, wastewater treatment, utilities and more.

“We’re two to three years behind on the infrastructure as it stands right now — we need to do something about it,” he said. “We’re going to need new schools, we’re going to need wastewater treatment in some form ... We need to make sure that we’re being responsible for the tax money, all of us are being affected by inflation right now ... So we need to make sure that we’re using tax money from the people efficiently.”

Kenlan, Godfrey’s opponent, said she wants to make sure the environment and green spaces for residents are among the top priorities when commissioners are planning growth.

“We really need to take in and evaluate what are our

See **PLATFORM**, page A15



Tim Moore Chatham County Board of Education

The current Board of Education has lost their focus. Lost in the political quagmire of our time they have forgotten what their purpose is-to EDUCATE. The Board of Education should set guidelines to prepare children to become successful adults, not to teach them what to think, but how to think. We, in Chatham County need to focus on reading comprehension, writing and math. Only a little over 50% of our county graduates are able to achieve grade level in these three areas.

MY PRIORITIES

- Refocus our educational priorities with a goal that all high school graduates achieve grade proficiency at 85% across all schools and all racial and ethnic groups.
- Provide tutoring for all students receiving below average results.
- Design educational trade channels that allow students who are not college focused to be trained in skilled trades while in high school by partnering with companies to setup apprenticeship programs.
- Strengthen the Mental Health network in our schools to help teachers identify, and students deal with drug abuse, self-abuse, and suicide.
- Lastly, Chatham County parents have entrusted their most sacred possession, their children to the education system and it has failed them. My goal is to right this wrong, to give parents a voice, to bring transparency to Chatham County’s education system, remove the politics and put **CHILDREN FIRST!**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TIM MOORE

SILER CITY WATER DEBACLE

Increase in bills may be a software error

BY TAYLOR HEEDEN
News + Record Staff

SILER CITY — Town Manager Hank Raper says a software issue may have contributed to recent spikes in some Siler City residents' water bills.

An error in the communication process from the meters to the billing software is likely the culprit, he told the News + Record.

"It looks like what's happening though is that some months it's not recording at all," Raper said. "Some residents got a minimum bill for two months, and then they got billed 10,000 gallons at one time because that's finally transferred over."

The town's water billing department was audited after residents complained about higher-than-average water bills — two or three times higher than normal — for September. Raper said utilities department staff was sent to review

water usage across town by comparing the meters manually and digitally.

"It was showing that we are actually under-billing people," he said. "The manual read is actually a little higher, not significantly higher, but a little higher."

This led to staff looking at the back end of the billing software, which is developed by Harris Software, and the meters, built by Badger Meter. Raper said it seems there were months where water usage wouldn't be documented on the billing site, so customers would only be charged the minimum usage fee.

Then, the next month, they would be charged for both months of usage at once.

"That's still unacceptable," Raper said. "We are working to get that corrected as soon as possible."

Raper said the town would work with customers on a case by case basis to

amend billing discrepancies.

Raper and his staff met with representatives from Harris Software and Badger Meter for more than three hours last Friday to figure out the root cause.

It's very unlikely town staff were "fudging the numbers," Raper said.

"We were able to pretty quickly determine that was not the case," he added.

An internal review of the software will be done, Raper said; billing issues may go back beyond September.

"This doesn't look like it's going to be an issue that just happened in the last couple of months — I think this is going to go back a couple years," he said. "[It goes] back to when the software package was rolled out in the town."

Raper believes there was an error in transferring data when the town switched software providers. There hasn't been a definite cause named because the third party contractors will also conduct reviews.

"I think that's where we're going to find — that the issue was that conversion of data," he said. "So we're going to have to go back and internally audit to identify with each account where there might be an issue."

If customers are having issues with their water bill, Raper said he wants the billing and utility staff to know about it.

"We're working on addressing it as information comes in," he said. "That's why we encourage people if you've got questions about your bill, let us know. We want to work with our customers."

If Siler City customers suspect they're experiencing water billing errors, contact the Siler City Billing Department at 919-742-4732 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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

PLATFORM

Continued from page A14

current green spaces ... and protecting and preserving strategic areas in our county," she said. "People are moving here for a reason. Chatham is incredibly beautiful, and we have a lot of character here that we want to protect."

Glendinning advocated for subdivisions to be separate from the affordable units, making a separate neighborhood for just affordable homes.

"Affordable housing can be attained outside in its own subdivision and not cause a blighted area within a nice subdivision like Briar Chapel," he said. "The expectations and the disparity in income have caused a real difficulty for the people who are actually the ones we're thinking about and working toward it."

For Delaney, he said he wants to focus on ensuring all Chatham residents can benefit from the incoming growth, by focusing on equity.

"There is gross inequity in the way that our students of color, our students of lower socioeconomic statuses or disability status, are treated in this county," he said. "We can do a much better job in terms of investing in those places where we see signs of inequity, to make sure that everyone has a better starting point."

Board of Education

Three of the five board of education candidates were also featured on Thursday's panel. Dist. 3 incumbent Del Turner and her challenger Jessica Winger shared the stage along with Dist. 5 candidate Tim Moore. Moore's opponent, incumbent and board Chairperson Gary Leonard, was ill on the day of the forum and did not participate. Incumbent Jane Allen Wilson, in Dist. 4, is uncontested in her race, she attended the forum but wasn't included as a participant.

Both Moore and Winger discussed their "parents first" approach to the board of education — giving parents more

input when it comes to school policies and curriculum.

Winger criticized the transparency of the current board, saying she felt the board failed to effectively communicate with parents regarding their children's education.

"Instead of getting clarity, and collaboration, I saw that parent voices were pushed aside," Winger said. "There was a distinct disconnect from what was talked about in the meetings and decisions that were being made, and what was actually happening in the homes of these families in our community."

Turner disagreed with Winger, citing the board's willingness to talk to parents through surveys, special meetings and more.

"In terms of communicating with parents, we always communicate with our parents by survey, by email, and by telephone call every Friday night or no later than Sunday afternoon," she said. "I don't understand people saying that I'm communicating and that we're not responsive to them. I don't know what else we can do."

"Parents first" rhetoric has also accused Chatham County Schools of teaching critical race theory, a collegiate-level concept that observes how institutions, policies and other organized systems are shaped through the lens of race. The academic theory draws from the work of several prominent Black voices throughout American history, including Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass and W. E. B. Du Bois.

During the forum, Winger said that she believes "CRT is teaching racism" and "does not acknowledge any progress that we have made in the past and in history."

At this point, a few audience members held up signs saying "FACT CHECK" and made vocal exclamations as Winger continued speaking. Eventually, audience members stopped shouting when they were told they would be forced to leave the event if the disruption continued.

Moore said he wants the schools to "go back to the basics," and focus on elevating

test scores and performance in each grade level.

"Reading, writing, and arithmetic ... are the most critical elements," he said. "We have all these employers that are coming looking for sharp young employees, and we have a large amount of our students that can't read, write or add. So that's my major focus."

Turner, the only person of color currently on the board, reiterated statements she's made that CRT is not being taught in Chatham County schools.

"Critical race theory is not a pre-K through 12 conversation — it is a college conversation," she said. "We've had a lot of teachers come to us and say, 'We don't really know how to discuss issues of race to the children, Black children and white children.' So they're just getting professional training in having conversations that don't turn out to be offensive or violent or anything like that. I don't see anything wrong with that."

CN+R Publisher and Editor Bill Horner III served as forum moderator.

VOTE



Gary Leonard



Del Turner



Jane Allen Wilson

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for our **CHILDREN** and **YOU!**

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NOV 8
POLLING
LOCATIONS

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OCTOBER 20 – NOVEMBER 5

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Chatham County School Board

Keep ★ Sheriff

MIKE ROBERSON



About Mike:

Mike Roberson is a Chatham County native. He met his wife in the 1st grade; they've now been married for 36 years and have two grown children!

Mike has 32 active years in Law Enforcement with an shining record as:

- NC Sheriff's Association 2nd Vice President,
- NAACP Humanitarian Award Recipient,
- Humane Law Enforcement Award Recipient,
- Special Olympics NC Sheriff of the Year,
- Specialized Law Enforcement Instructor & Agency Training Officer,
- Assistant Emergency Manager, Chief Deputy of Chatham County,
- Major of Field Operations, Jail Administrator, SRO Supervisor,
- Community Outreach Officer, Juvenile Officer & Investigator,
- Police Officer / Firefighter / EMT



VOTE NOVEMBER 8TH

(Early Voting Ends on November 5th)



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KEEP DIVERSITY & EMPATHY behind the badge

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SPORTS NEWS & ENTERTAINMENT

NOVEMBER 3 - 9, 2022 | chathamnewsrecord.com/sports | SECTION B

CROSS COUNTRY

Anstrom, Peeler win regional races; both Seaforth teams, Woods' girls qualify for states



Staff photo by James Kiefer

Woods Charter sophomore Anna Peeler won the 1A Mideast girls regional in a time of 20:57.52 at WakeMed Soccer Complex on Saturday.

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

Chatham County cross country runners had a strong overall showing at regionals this past weekend, with two winning their individual races and two schools qualifying for this upcoming weekend's state championships.

At the WakeMed Soccer Complex in Cary on Saturday, Seaforth sophomore Jack Anstrom won the 2A Mideast boys regional with a time of 16:22.10, besting N.C. Science & Math senior Andrew Parker, who finished in second with a time of 16:29.23.

The win was revenge of sorts for Anstrom, who finished second to Parker at last year's regional race. Despite a slow start, the sophomore eventually broke

to the front of the pack and paced the entire field.

"The race started out a little slower than expected," Anstrom said. "Me and Andrew were very far back within the first 400 meters, but we worked our way through, got into the clear, got over that first hill, and that's when the race really started."

Anstrom has plenty of motivation heading into this weekend's 2A state championship race. Last year, as a freshman, Anstrom finished second overall at the 2A state meet with a time of 16:24.09. He knows there is still plenty of time to shave off his time, as his personal best time — which he set back in September — for a 5,000-meter race is 15:34.7.

"I come into this race with a lot of confidence," Anstrom said. "I think

See **WIN**, page B2



BOYS SOCCER

4 Chatham teams make playoffs

BY JEREMY VERNON

News + Record Sports Editor

After a highly-competitive regular season, four Chatham County boys soccer teams made their respective state playoffs this fall.

Three of the four schools played Monday night in the first round. Jordan-Matthews' first-round matchup against Southwest Onslow was pushed to Tuesday because of inclement weather and ended after press time.

The only Chatham County team claiming a win Monday was Woods Charter, which took down Gates County, 2-0, at home to advance to the second round. The Wolves (8-11-2) face No. 1 seed Rosewood in the second round on the road Thursday at 7 p.m..

Entering the playoffs, two Woods Charter players had at least 10 goals — senior Vanner Weakley and junior Motasem Mamoun. The pair have combined for 28 goals and seven assists so far this season.

Also in action Monday night was Seaforth, which fell to No. 2 seed James Kenan, 8-0, in the first round of the 2A tournament.

Seaforth, which entered the playoffs as the No. 31 seed in the east, finished the year 8-9 overall after a 6-4 mark in Mid-Carolina Conference play. The top scorers for the Hawks this season were juniors Walker Magrinat and Cris Cervantes, who each had five goals this season. Magrinat also had five assists to lead the team.

Despite the loss in the first round, the 2021 season was an encouraging one

See **PLAYOFFS**, page B3

GIRLS TENNIS

Brooks, Phillips win 1A doubles title, leading Bears in dual team playoffs

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

Chatham Central seniors Olivia Brooks and Ellie Phillips had already been here before.

O.K. Well maybe not exactly here.

After battling to a 6-6 deadlock in the first set of the 1A doubles state championship match Saturday at Cary Tennis Park, the seniors dropped the first three points of their tie-breaker against Bishop McGuinness' Isabella Ross and Nina Holton.

Down 3-0, the pair could have crumbled under the pressure. But the two Bears were already playing with house money, of sorts. As juniors in 2021, Brooks and Phillips also made it to the 1A state championship final, losing in straight sets to Mount Airy's Carrie Marion and Ella Brant (6-2, 6-2). Knowing they had already played in this environment before, Chatham Central's two seniors locked in and started turning the tide.

Still, every moment was nerve-wracking.

"It was really tense," Phillips said. "Nobody was talking. We just had to play every point like it was our last."

That mindset paid off in spades for Phillips and Brooks, who won the next



Photo courtesy of Chatham Central

Chatham Central seniors Olivia Brooks (left) and Ellie Phillips (right) won the 1A doubles state title on Saturday over Bishop McGuinness' Isabella Ross and Nina Holton.

seven points to take the tie-breaker and the first set. With all the momentum on their side after an exhaustive opening comeback, the pair dominated the second set, winning, 6-3, to capture the 1A state doubles title.

"Our experience being there last year I think really helped get us and got our nerves out a little bit," Brooks said. "I really, honestly didn't expect to win (a state title). It was always a possibility, but I never thought it was a given."

It was a far cry from how the two Bears started the 1A tournament. In the first round, Brooks and Phillips dropped their first set, 6-0, to East Wilkes' Ava Danell and Savannah Sparks. After shaking off some early-tournament rust, though, the pair rallied to win the next two sets, 6-2 and 6-1.

The second round was a less dramatic affair, with Phillips and Brooks defeating Kate Flinton and Cara Freiburger of Voyager Academy in straight sets,

6-4 and 6-2. Heading into Saturday's state finals, the pair had plenty of confidence.

"Last year, we had to fight for every single point," Phillips said. "We went to three sets in the first and second round before losing in the state championship. This year was much easier because there was no pressure. We already made it there once."

The Chatham Central

See **TENNIS**, page B4

FOOTBALL

County teams close regular season; Central makes 1A playoffs

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

The 2022 high school football season ended with something of a whimper last Friday night, with Northwood, Seaforth and Chatham Central each losing their season finales.

The Chargers, Hawks and Bears were outscored by a combined margin of 164-24. When you include Jordan-Matthews, the total record of the four Chatham County schools this season was 7-33 overall. The only local school to make the state playoffs is 1-9 Chatham Central, which faces Rosewood on the road Friday in the first round of the 1A tournament.

Here's a breakdown of the action in Week 12:

Western Alamance 61, Northwood 12
The Northwood football team needed a win

on the road in Week 12 to possibly make the state playoffs, but the Chargers were run over by Western Alamance, 61-12, last Friday. Head coach Chris Kenan said Northwood dressed only 23 players in the loss.

The Chargers (4-6, 2-4 Conf.) could not contain the Western Alamance rushing attack. The Warriors ran for 348 yards and five touchdowns on 23 carries (15.1 yards per carry), adding another 68 yards and two touchdowns through the air.

Western Alamance was also a force on defense, racking up eight sacks and scoring two touchdowns, one on an interception return by freshman Jayden Jones, and one on a fumble recovery return by senior Elijah Wade. The Chargers' touchdowns were scored on a run by

See **FOOTBALL**, page B4



Staff photo by Nikki Witt

Seaforth sophomore Jackson Powell (10) carries the ball against Bartlett Yancey on Friday night.

SCORES AND SCHEDULES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25	Boys soccer Woods Charter 3, Cristo Rey Research Triangle 2 River Mill 5, Chatham Charter 0	Bartlett Yancey 54, Seaforth 6 North Moore 49, Chatham Central 6	Chatham Central vs. Chatham Charter (continuation from Monday; third round of state playoffs)
Girls tennis Chatham Charter 9, Riverside-Martin 0 Chatham Central 7, Roxboro Community 2	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27	MONDAY, OCTOBER 31	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3
Boys soccer Jordan-Matthews 4, Heide Trask 1	Boys soccer Northwood 1, Riverside-Durham 1	Boys soccer James Kenan 8, Seaforth 0 Swansboro 3, Northwood 0 Woods Charter 2, Gates County 0	Boys soccer Second round of state playoffs
Volleyball Woods Charter 3, East Columbus 0	Volleyball Falls Lake 3, Woods Charter 0	TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1	SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28	Boys soccer Jordan-Matthews vs. Southwest Onslow (6 p.m.)	Cross country State championships (all day)
Football Western Alamance 61, Northwood 12	Boys soccer Third round of state playoffs		MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Don't forget about Brittney Griner



JEREMY VERNON
Sports Editor

It's now been 260 days since Brittney Griner was detained in Russia for possessing cannabis oil. And I'm worried we're starting to forget about her.

I know some people aren't. That was clear by the response a few weeks ago on Oct. 18, Griner's 32nd birthday. It was nice to see the various NBA, WNBA and other basketball personalities honor her with pregame ceremonies and speak about the need to bring her home. But I feel nervous about how seriously people with more political clout are taking her imprisonment.

The last we heard of any movement toward bringing Griner back to the United States was in late July. On July 27, multiple reports came out that the Biden administration had offered "a substantial deal" to bring Griner home along with Paul Whelan, another American currently being held captive in Russia.

Biden reportedly agreed to the swap, which would have sent Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout — who is currently serving a 25-year sen-

tence — back to his home country, but negotiations have been at a standstill for the last three months.

Last week, the Kremlin said a possible swap was still on the table, but reiterated negotiations be kept confidential. Coming from a regime with a storied past of undermining U.S. political systems, it's hard to take anything they say at face value.

Bringing Griner — and Whelan — home is a necessity, and something President Biden and his administration need to be reminded of every day. The longer this charade carries on, and the longer Griner spends time in a Russian facility, the more risk there is of her name falling from the public spotlight. If there's no public pressure for her release, it will only hamper our efforts to bring her home.

So let's keep Griner's name on our minds, as long as she's incarcerated. Let's remember how much of an impact she's made on and off the court. She broke out as a freshman for the Baylor women's basketball team, averaging 18.4 points and 8.5 rebounds per game while setting the NCAA record for blocks in a season with 223.

From there, she went on to earn first-team All-America honors twice. She was also named the Big 12 Player of the Year for three straight seasons, and she

was recognized as the Associated Press' national player of the year in 2012 while leading the Bears to a 40-0 record and a national championship. She also graduated as the NCAA leader for both men or women in career blocks with 748.

Her college career was just the jumping off point for Griner. At 6-foot-9, Griner was an absolute dominant force in the post offensively and defensively. She led the league with 3.0 blocks per game as a rookie in 2013. Two years later, in 2015, she set the WNBA record with 4.0 blocks per game and had 11 in a win over the Tulsa Shock in the first round of the WNBA playoffs. In the year in between, in 2014, Griner helped the Phoenix Mercury win the WNBA title.

From 2017-2021, Griner won two scoring titles, led the league in blocks four times, made the All-WNBA First Team twice. She also flourished overseas, winning three EuroLeague championships in 2018, 2019 and 2021 and winning the Russian League another three times with her team UMMC Ekaterinburg.

Off the court, Griner was one of the most vocal players in the WNBA speaking out on social justice issues. She played a large part in organizing efforts to honor both George Floyd and Breonna Taylor — who were killed by police officers

in separate incidents in 2020.

Surely, if someone else were in her position, Griner would be fighting like hell to secure the freedom of someone held almost 5,000 miles away from her. She would fight for someone who many

will sadly let fade from memory.

A black woman. A gay woman. A daughter. A sister. A fiancée. A teammate. A fighter.

It's time to bring her home.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.

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Thursday, November 17
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WIN

Continued from page B1

I'm very well set up to win it. I just need to execute correctly, run a smart race and not do anything stupid. If I run my smart race, I know for a fact I'll win the state championship."

As a team, Seaforth finished second in the boys regional, qualifying them for this Saturday's state championship race. Outside of Anstrom, the Hawks' other top finishers were sophomore Will Cuicchi (7th, 17:34.61), sophomore Hency McFall (12th, 17:49.28) and freshman Gabe Rogers (14th, 17:55.50).

In the girls 2A mid-east regional, Seaforth's girls also finished second and qualified for states. The top finishers for the Hawks on the girls side were freshman Katherine Leonard (4th, 20:40.87), sophomore Juana Jimenez (10th, 21:30.22), freshman Caicedo Bazemore (14th, 22:20.41) and sophomore Claire Morgan (22:28.06).

"(Watching the girls run) definitely pushes us to do well," Anstrom said. "It also gives us a lot of confidence that we're a program that's coming along really nicely. Just being a second-year program, it's pretty special to have two teams going to the state meet and finishing really highly at regionals."

The 1A Mid-east regional also featured solid showings from across the county. In the girls race, Woods Charter sophomore Anna Peeler finished in first with a time of 20:27.52, a new personal best. Before Saturday, Peeler's fastest finish in a race during her career was a 20:59.1, which she set at the Central Tar Heel

Conference Championships on Oct. 18.

Peeler helped the Woods' girls finish third as a team in the regional and qualify for this weekend's 1A championship race. The other top finishers for the Wolves at regionals were senior Maddie Sparrow (6th, 21:39.23) and junior Ellie Poitras (7th, 21:51.68).

Both Poitras and Sparrow finished in the top 10 of last year's 1A state championship race. If they can do that again and have Peeler finish strong, the Wolves could challenge for a state title.

Chatham Charter had two runners — junior Meredith Reese (13th, 22:51.90) and junior Samantha Scott (16th, 23:19.24) — qualify as individuals for this weekend's state meet.

The Woods' boys weren't as fortunate, finishing fifth overall as a team and not qualifying for states. The highest finisher for Woods in the race was senior Nicholas Vallant, who came in 21st with a time of 19:34.81.

The top-finisher from the county in the 1A Mid-east boys regional was Chatham Central junior Kolton Phillips, who finished second overall with a time of 17:25.86. Phillips will compete at this weekend's 1A state championships as an individual. So, too, will Chatham Charter senior Silas Christenbury, who finished 10th in a time of 18:56.87.

Both runners participated in last year's state championship race as sophomores. Phillips came in 49th in a time of 18:43.12, while Christenbury came in 66th in a time of 19:19.45.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_vernon.

The 1A Mid-east regional also featured solid showings from across the county. In the girls race, Woods Charter sophomore Anna Peeler finished in first with a time of 20:27.52, a new personal best.

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CLIPBOARD Q-A

Gary reflects on Seaforth's first varsity football season

BY JEREMY VERNON
News + Record Sports Editor

This year, Seaforth High fielded a varsity football team for the first

time. In their inaugural season of top-flight football, the Hawks finished 2-8 overall and 2-6 in conference play.

A quick look at the record can't tell you

the story of Seaforth's whole season, though. The Hawks shook off an 0-3 start — where they were outscored by a total of 128-0 — to go 2-2 over the next four weeks,

winning games against Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central and suffering close, one-score losses to Northwood and Graham.

Head coach Terrance Gary's team lost its final three games of the season, but Seaforth played the top three teams in its conference over those final three weeks. The combined record of the Hawks' final three opponents — North Moore,

Cummings and Bartlett Yancey — was 23-6 entering the state playoffs.

Gary spoke with the News + Record about his team's first varsity season, while sharing his goals for the offseason and his expectations for next fall.

You finished the year with a tough stretch against some strong conference opponents. Despite that, how do you feel about how this

first season went overall?

Terrance Gary: I think things went well for our first year on varsity. One of the things we worried about was injuries, which happen, because of our youth and size. We were also worried about kids just quitting. I don't think we lost anyone on varsity (during the season), and on JV we only lost like four or five out of like 36

See GARY, page B4



Staff photo by Nikki Witt

Seaforth head coach Terrance Gary chats with his team after the Hawks' 54-6 loss to Bartlett Yancey on Friday.

Chatham County Public Health Department Healthy Lifestyles & Wellness Programs

Diabetes Prevention Program

1 in 3 adults in the U.S. have prediabetes -- making them more at-risk for developing Type 2 Diabetes -- but you can reduce your risk by eating smarter, becoming more physically active, and reducing stress. The Diabetes Prevention Program is a group program to help you gain the knowledge and tools you need to lose weight and become more physically active.

Learn more about the program and sign up for the next classes (starting Tuesday, November 1st!) by calling the Siler City clinic at (919) 742-5641.

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- Monitoring blood sugar
- Food choices and meal planning
- Exercise tips & ideas
- Stress management tips
- Preventing and managing complications

Learn more about the program by calling the Siler City clinic at (919) 742-5641. All participants MUST have a referral from a physician to participate.

Nutrition Counseling

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- Losing weight
- Managing diabetes
- Lowering blood pressure and cholesterol

Call the Siler City clinic at (919) 742-5641 to schedule an appointment. Sliding scale is available for the uninsured. Most insurance is accepted.



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PLAYOFFS

Continued from page B1

for Seaforth. In its first varsity season in 2021, the Hawks went 2-13. Their improvement to 8-9 under head coach Giovanni Viana leaves plenty of hope for the future of the program. Seaforth also won't lose any seniors to graduation over the offseason.

The final county soccer team in action Monday was Northwood, which lost to Swansboro, 3-0, in the first round of the 3A state tournament.

The Chargers (8-12-1, 6-6 Conf.) entered the state playoffs as the No. 22 seed in the 3A east region. Northwood has lost in the first round of the 3A tournament in each of the last three seasons.

The top player for the Chargers this season was junior Ken Vazquez Alonzo, who finished the year with a team-high 21 goals to go with eight assists. Other top contributors for Northwood were juniors Patrick Baquero (15 goals, one assist) and Rui Aguiar (nine goals, 13 assists).

Northwood will graduate 10 seniors this offseason, including starting goal-

keeper Jay Callis, who had 110 saves and a 2.53 goals-against average this past season.

The only county team that made the playoffs and didn't play Monday was Jordan-Matthews, which had its first-round matchup against Southwest Onslow postponed because of inclement weather. The Jets' enter the 2A tournament as the No. 6 seed in the east region after finishing the regular season with a record of 16-4-1.

Jordan-Matthews top-scorer this season has been senior forward Zander Ocampo, who leads all county players with 32 goals to go with eight assists. Also contributing for the Jets are senior Juan Soto Hernandez (14 goals, three assists) and senior Stiven Herrera (nine goals, nine assists).

Last season, Jordan-Matthews made it to the fourth round of the playoffs before falling to Greene Central. This year, the Jets will try to win their first state championship since claiming the 1A title back in 2004.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at [@jbo_vernon](https://twitter.com/jbo_vernon).

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GARY

Continued from page B3

kids, which was good.

How do you feel about the foundation you've been able to lay down in this first varsity season? How do you feel things are set up for next fall?

Really well. All of our guys have come around, and the biggest thing right now is going to be the offseason. Games are won in the winter and spring, and mainly the winter. We know everyone has to get bigger. And I've got to have some one-on-one meetings with some people. But they've laid the foundation, especially the guys that were here from the very first day. They set the standard with how we practiced, our effort and how we handled ourselves.

What are some improvements you want to make from a coaching perspective, both personally and as a staff?

As a staff, we have to work on our tackling. I think it's a problem around football anyway. Tackling is a lost art, but we still have to be better at it. We also want to implement more of a downhill running game. We have a lot of playmakers, it's just about if we can get them the ball in some space so they can make plays. We just have to figure out how to do that. That's going to be one of our emphases this offseason.

Who are some players you think improved the most over the course of the season? Which players stepped up as leaders?

Oh, shoot. That's dang near everybody. From the first game we played until the end of the season, their was some great improvement overall. I really can't narrow it down to one person. Leadership-wise, (sophomore) Broden (Jones) has always been a leader for us. (Sophomore) Jackson Powell has been more vocal. (Sophomore) Walter Enterkin has also stepped up.

What is it like knowing that every-one is potentially eligible to come

back and play next year? You're in a unique situation compared to many other teams.

It's really great, not having to worry about who's graduating and all that. We can play a little bit differently than other people, just knowing that our guys are coming back. We added two kids after the second week of the season, and that helped us out a lot. And this is our first year playing football. Hopefully we can start convincing some other folks from other folks to come out and try playing for us, as well.

You played very well against the county teams, losing a tight one to Northwood and beating both Chatham Central and Jordan-Matthews. What does it mean to the team to have gotten off to a strong start against local rivals?

My goal, I told the guys before the season, was to beat all the teams in Chatham County. We came up just five points short. It's going to raise the level of football in Chatham County, as well. Hopefully people will start to notice and put more investments in football around here. It's such a small little area, and we only have four schools. We're going to have to put in work, and (the other schools) are going to have to put in work, as well.

You mention "investments." What sort of big-picture changes would you like to see implemented around the county to try and make some improvements to the level of play over these next few years?

Maybe we could push for more funding or push to get more kids to participate. J-M started their own 14U program, and we have one, too, but we share it with Northwood. But it's not really a whole Chatham County type thing. I need to get out to Moncure more to get more of those kids out here. I only had one kid on the football team this year from there, and he was a 9th grader. We just have to do better as a county to push football, if that's what they really want to do.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_ernon.

TENNIS

Continued from page B1

pair was one of three Chatham County duos to compete in the 1A state doubles tournament. The Bears also had Jaylee Williams and Rachel Albright qualify for the tournament, though they lost in the first round to Mount Airy's Brant and Kancie Tate.

Chatham Charter was represented by Elphie Spillman and Rebecca Brookshire. The pair lost to Bishop McGuinness' Ross and Holton in the first

round.

Phillips and Brooks are the top two players for the Chatham Central girls tennis team, which faced Chatham Charter after press time Tuesday in the third round of the state playoffs. Last fall, the Bears lost to the Knights in the same round, 6-3.

Speaking Tuesday morning ahead of their matches, Brooks and Phillips knew their presence as one of the top doubles teams in the state has motivated their teammates, while also easing some of the nerves they might have in this

high-pressure atmosphere.

"I think it takes some stress off the team," Brooks said. "They know they can count on me and Ellie to pull out the win in doubles, so that's hopefully one less thing they need to worry about. I think it helps everyone else play a bit looser and not stress about absolutely having to win. Now it's, 'I need to win, but if I don't, we should be O.K.'"

Entering Tuesday's match, Brooks and Phillips were a combined 31-3 in singles and 17-2 in doubles for the season.

FOOTBALL

Continued from page B1

senior Will Smith and a pass from junior Carson Fortunes to sophomore Isiah Blair.

Northwood closed the 2022 season by losing three of its final four games after beginning the year 3-3 overall. This is the first time the Chargers have missed the playoffs since the 2019 season, when they went 4-7 under former head coach Cullen Homolka.

Looking ahead, Northwood graduates just nine seniors this upcoming offseason, though they will lose their top offensive player from 2022 in Smith, who was the team's leading passer and rusher this fall. Expected to lead the Chargers next fall are Fortunes — who missed most of this year with an upper-body injury — and current sophomore tight end/defensive end Gus Ritchey.

North Moore 49, Chatham Central 6

Chatham Central lost its final game of the 2022 regular season, 49-6, to North Moore on the road last Friday. It was the fifth

straight loss for the Bears, who end the regular season with a 1-9 overall record.

North Moore ran for 316 yards and four touchdowns as a team. Defensively, the Mustangs intercepted three passes and forced two Chatham Central fumbles. They also sacked the Bears three times, and didn't allow a score until the fourth quarter.

Despite the loss and their 1-9 record, the Bears earned a bid into the 1A state playoffs as the No. 30 seed in the 1A East region. Central will play on the road at No. 3 Rosewood in the first round of the playoffs this Friday.

Rosewood is 6-4 on the season, but it enters the playoffs on a five-game winning streak. The Eagles have finished above .500 in five straight seasons under head coach Robert Britt.

Central's top player this season has been junior Devonte Johnson, who has 462 rushing yards and five rushing touchdowns and 134 receiving yards and one receiving touchdown to his credit this season.

Bartlett Yancey 54, Seaforth 6

The Seaforth football team ended its first varsity

season with a 54-6 loss to Bartlett Yancey at home last Friday. The Hawks finished the year 2-8 overall and 2-4 in conference play.

The Hawks ended the year on a three-game losing streak, but the three games came against teams ranked 1-2-3 in the Mid-Carolina Conference standings — Bartlett Yancey, Cummings and North Moore. Those three teams are a combined 23-6 this season, and all three made the state playoffs.

Seaforth had an up-and-down year, winning games against county teams Jordan-Matthews and Chatham Central and narrowly falling to 3A school Northwood. The Hawks had problems getting their offense going, as they averaged just 7.5 points per game while giving up 33.7.

While the 2022 season was the jumping off point for the Hawks, the 2023 season could be their opportunity to truly break out. Seaforth has no seniors on its roster, meaning all 33 players on its varsity roster are eligible to return next fall.

Sports Editor Jeremy Vernon can be reached at jeremy@chathamnr.com or on Twitter at @jbo_ernon.

Avoid Becoming "Burden" On Grown Children

Here's an interesting statistic: Some 72% of retirees say one of their biggest fears is becoming a burden on their families, according to a 2021 survey by Age Wave and Edward Jones. Both before and during retirement, what steps can you take to avoid burdening your loved ones in the future?

Here are a few suggestions:

- **Build your retirement savings.** The greater your financial resources, the less likely it becomes that you'd ever have to count on your grown children for financial support. You may have access to a 401(k) or similar retirement plan at work, so take advantage of it. Even with an employer-sponsored plan, you also may be eligible to contribute to an IRA. In addition to offering a variety of investment options, a 401(k) and IRA provide potential tax advantages. And once you do retire, be careful about how much you withdraw each year from your retirement plans and other investments.

- **Plan for health care costs.** Once you are retired, health care costs will be a significant expense. You may have Medicare, but you'll also want to consider your need for supplemental health insurance to cover traditional medical costs. And you'll want to consider another potential health-related expense: long-term care. You may never need the services of a home health aide or a stay in a nursing home, but no one can predict the future.

Medicare does not cover most costs for long-term care, which can be quite high. In 2021, the annual national median cost for a private room in a nursing home was over \$108,000, while the median cost for a full-time home health aide was nearly \$62,000, according to a survey by Genworth, an insurance company.

You may want to consult with a financial professional on strategies for protecting yourself from these costs.

- **Create necessary legal documents.** If something were to happen to you, and you didn't have the appropriate legal documents in place, your loved ones could be placed in a bind, both financially and emotionally. That's why it's a good idea to create documents such as a durable financial power of attorney, which lets you name someone to manage your finances if you became incapacitated, and a durable power of attorney for health care, which allows someone to make medical decisions on your behalf if you can't make them yourself. You'll want to work with a legal professional to develop the documents appropriate for your needs.

- **Evaluate your housing needs.** As you enter retirement, you may want to evaluate your living situation. Could you downsize to a smaller home, or perhaps a condominium or apartment? Not only might you save money with such a move, but you could also end up relieving your grown children of the responsibilities and hassles involved in clearing out and selling your home should you become unable to do so yourself during the later years of your retirement.

By taking these measures, along with others, you can go a long way toward maintaining your independence and putting yourself in a place where you won't burden your grown children. And that's a good place to be.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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Council on Aging Activities Calendar

November 7th through November 11th

Monday, November 7th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz (in-person and Zoom)**
- 11:15 - **Cornhole & Shuffleboard**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Walking Through Grief Support Group; Karaoke**
- 2 p.m. - **Geri-Fit**

Tuesday, November 8th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9 a.m. - **3G's Men's Group**
- 10 a.m. - **Woodcarvers; Bingo w/Joe & Coffee**
- 11 a.m. - **November Birthday Party w/Liz**
- 1 p.m. - **Rummikub**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:45 a.m. - **Chair Exercises w/Olivia for Beginners (in-person and Zoom)**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Ping Pong**
- 1 p.m. - **Rook/Phase 10/Rummikub; Book Club; "Bring Your Own Project" Gathering**
- 2 p.m. - **Fitness Room Orientation w/Olivia**

Wednesday, November 9th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 10 a.m. - **Chair Yoga w/Liz (in-person and Zoom)**
- 1 p.m. - **Open Art Studio**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 8 a.m. - **Veterans Benefit Assistance**
- 9 a.m. - **Strong & Fit w/Olivia**
- 10 a.m. - **Craft Club (Plastic Canvas); Bible Study**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Diabetes Discussion w/Olivia**
- 1 p.m. - **Cornhole**
- 2 p.m. - **Crafting w/Kathryn (Ribbon Tree Ornament)**

Thursday, November 10th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- 8:15 a.m. - **Body Conditioning w/Jackie**
- 9:30 a.m. - **Blood Pressure Screening**
- 10 a.m. - **Crafts and Conversation**
- 10:30 a.m. - **Diabetes Discussion Group**
- 1 p.m. - **Board Games & Cards**
- 1:30 p.m. - **Line Dancing**
- 3 p.m. - **Gentle Yoga w/Liz**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 9:30 a.m. - **Matter of Balance; Men's Coffee & Doughnuts**
- 10 a.m. - **Music w/ Tom Hildebrand; Music Jam Session**
- 2 p.m. - **Tai Chi**
- 3 p.m. - **Movie & Popcorn - You've Got Mail**

Friday, November 11th

Eastern Chatham Senior Center

- **COA Centers Closed - Veterans Day**

Western Chatham Senior Center

- 7 p.m. - **Friday Night Dance (fee required to attend)**

For more information on these and other programs, call our centers Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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Western Chatham Senior Center
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'State of Chatham County' report presented

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — Chatham Commission board Chairperson Karen Howard presented the 2022 State of Chatham County Report at the board's regular session in Pittsboro on Oct. 17. It covers fiscal year 2021-2022 (July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022), highlighted by two major economic development opportunities for the county.

Vietnamese electric vehicle manufacturer VinFast announced in March 2022 that it will build its first North American plant at the Triangle Innovation Point in Moncure. And just six months later, semiconductor manufacturer Wolfspeed announced it will build a major fabrication plant

at the Chatham-Siler City Advanced Manufacturing Site in Siler City.

"Years of hard work and collaboration by former and current commissioners, county staff, and our economic development team came together to bring these historic investments to our community," Howard said. "These opportunities will bring job growth to the tune of 9,000 new positions that will benefit our local workers, their families and our region for generations to come."

The report also includes updates on activities within the Chatham Comprehensive Plan, countywide initiatives and achievements within county departments and programs. The 2022 State of Chatham County Report is posted on the Cha-

tham County Website: www.chathamcountync.gov/stateofthecounty.

VinFast Incentives Agreement

Also at the Oct. 17 meeting, the board unanimously approved the \$4 billion incentives agreement for VinFast after holding a public hearing. The project expects to create approximately 7,500 full-time equivalent jobs at an average wage exceeding or equal to that of the median average wage for Chatham County by Dec. 31, 2027.

According to the agreement, the county will make annual performance-based cash incentive grants to the company for 20 years equal to a declining percentage of actual increased property

taxes paid. Performance would be measured by the creation of eligible jobs:

- 90% in years 1-4
- 80% in years 5-8
- 75% in years 9-11
- 60% in years 12-15
- 50% in years 16-20

In lieu of providing land to VinFast, the county would make cash, performance-based, payments over a period of years using increased property taxes to reimburse the company for its costs in acquiring land for the project.

• Payments will coincide with the initiation of the Business Incentive Grant.

• Once land acquisition payments total the cost, the county's obligation to make the payments will end.

Planning and site de-

velopment are currently underway. VinFast broke ground this fall and aims to start manufacturing and production at the facility by 2024.

Wolfspeed Incentives Agreement

Additionally, the board unanimously approved the \$5 billion incentives agreement for Wolfspeed after holding a public hearing. Wolfspeed expects to create approximately 1,802 full-time equivalent jobs at an average wage exceeding or equal to that of the median average wage for Chatham County by Dec. 31, 2030.

According to the agreement, the county will make annual performance-based cash incentive grants to the compa-

ny for 20 years equal to a declining percentage of actual increased property taxes paid. Performance would be measured by the creation of eligible jobs:

- 90% years 1-4
- 80% in years 5-8
- 75% in years 9-11
- 60% in years 12-15
- 50% in years 16-20

In lieu of providing land to Wolfspeed, the county would make cash, performance-based, payments over a period of years using increased property taxes to reimburse the company for 50% of its costs in acquiring land for the project.

• Payments will begin in 2024.

• Once land acquisition payments total the cost, the county's obligation to make the payments will end.

• Siler City is providing for the remaining 50%.

Initial construction of the Wolfspeed Chatham complex is expected to be completed by 2024.

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COLLEGE HONORS

Matthew Streets of Pittsboro graduated from the University of Mississippi with the August 2022 class.

Streets, a Southern Studies major, received a Master of Arts degree in the Graduate School.

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Chatham News + Record

For the sake of our children, our democracy, and our future:

VOTE

The GOP's tax cuts to millionaires, billionaires, and large corporations resulted in the **third largest annual deficit increase in U.S. history.**

Then they mismanaged the pandemic, resulting in **unnecessary human suffering and economic chaos.**

And then the Big Lie.

And then January 6.

And then Roe v Wade.

And now they have **NO PLAN** for the economy.

DEMOCRATS have passed legislation that is:

Fighting INFLATION

Saving our PLANET

Mending our aging INFRASTRUCTURE

EDUCATING our children and strengthening our workforce

Reducing the DEBT

Making HEALTH CARE less expensive and more accessible

Creating a more EQUITABLE society

There is only ONE responsible choice

DEMOCRATS

Paid for by the Chatham County Democratic Party

Sustainability issues at Chatham Maternity Care Center could jeopardize unit's future

A community task force is meeting to find solutions for staffing shortages and low delivery volume

BY RACHEL CRUMPLER

North Carolina Health News

13 maternity units or entire hospitals that contained maternity units closed in rural North Carolina counties. When a closure occurs, alternatives are hard to come by, often resulting in maternal health care deserts.

Maternity care deserts are counties without a hospital or birth center offering obstetrics care and without any obstetrics providers. Nationwide, 2.2 million women of childbearing age live in maternity care deserts and more than 146,000 babies are born there, according to a 2022 report by March of Dimes. Twenty-one counties in North Carolina are designated as maternity care deserts and another 17 counties have low access to maternity care, according to March of Dimes. This affects an estimated 342,738 women of childbearing age living in those counties.

Lack of access to rural maternity care can lead to poorer maternal and infant health outcomes. When Chatham Hospital decided to open a maternity unit, Stephanie Terry, co-founder of Chatham Organizing for Racial Equity (CORE), saw it as a value proposition to serve the community — a decision based on more than finances. After all, it's well-documented that obstetrics units in rural areas often lose money due to low delivery volume. Nonetheless, there remains a need for care.

Throughout the state, maternal and infant outcomes are worse than the national average. North Carolina women had a pregnancy-related mortality rate of 21.9 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2021 — above the national average of 17.3. North Carolina also ranks 40th in babies born low birthweight and 42nd in neonatal mortality, according to 2021 data from America's Health Rankings.

Compared to the rest of North Carolina and the United States, Chatham County fares worse in maternal and infant health indicators and outcomes, and Black and Hispanic communities

in particular are disproportionately affected by infant mortality and low birthweights.

In 2020, Chatham County had an infant mortality rate of 12.4 percent, compared to the state's rate of 6.9 percent. Additionally, 21.3 percent of Black babies were born low or very low birthweight in the county from 2016 to 2020 — several points above the state's rate of 17.7 percent.

Filling a community need

After completing her medical training and a surgical fellowship, Fareedat Oluyadi moved from Illinois to Chatham County to work as a family medicine physician at Chatham Hospital's Maternity Care Center.

"Chatham County and the MCC were the perfect fit," Oluyadi said. "It allowed me to provide care and use my skills to the highest level of competence but also provide care to a community

that needs it the most. That's where I get my job satisfaction, my sense of value and worth knowing that I'm in a place where I'm most needed."

Over 210 babies have been delivered at the Chatham Maternity Care Center since its opening. Oluyadi said about 80 to 90 percent of those giving birth on the unit are people of color, primarily Latina.

Chatham Maternity Care Center Evaluation Data From First Cohort of 99 births from September 2020 to June 2021:

- 71 birthing people were Hispanic and 28 non-Hispanic.
- 47 percent of patients preferred Spanish and 53 percent English.
- 37 percent of patients had an unmedicated birth. 52 percent had an epidural, 7 percent only had narcotics, and 3 percent had general anesthesia for C-section.
- 92 percent of the cohort were doing at least some breastfeeding at hospital discharge, with

50 percent exclusively breastfeeding.

- About half of the people in the first cohort lived between 2 to 7 miles away, so lots of folks from Siler City and fewer from farther away in the county.

Before the Chatham Maternity Care Center opened in 2020, Oluyadi said many Chatham residents in labor had to drive at least 45 minutes to the nearest hospital or birthing center. Traveling long distances during labor is associated with increased perinatal morbidity, including preterm birth and out-of-hospital births.

Now, care is closer to home for many. That's a good thing because Chatham County's population grew by over 20 percent from 2010 to 2020, according to the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management, and the increase is projected to continue for years to come as the new Chatham Park housing development is built. Two

major economic development projects — Wolf-speed's manufacturing facility for silicon carbide chips and VinFast's electric vehicle and battery production facility — will also spur growth, bringing thousands of jobs and likely families to the county.

Signs of trouble

The Chatham Maternity Care Center opening against trends of closures won Oluyadi over. It was an initiative she wanted to contribute to. Still, she knew the same factors challenging rural maternity care elsewhere were at play in Chatham, too.

She's been aware of the unit's vulnerability from day one, and it's been both a propellant and a background fear, said Oluyadi, who has worked on the unit since its opening.

For Oluyadi, a turning point putting the unit's sustainability issues front and center came

See **ISSUES**, page B7



Courtesy of Chatham Hospital

Chatham Hospital's Maternity Care Center opened in September 2020. There were 90-plus deliveries in the first year and more than 120 deliveries in the second year.

CHATHAM IS BOLD!

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BOLD CONSTRUCTION **BOLD REAL ESTATE** **BOLD FOUNDATION**

Chatham County unveils new mapping tool for locating electric vehicle chargers

From Chatham County Government

PITTSBORO — Chatham County has developed a new mapping tool aimed at helping electric vehicle (EV) drivers find public charging stations.

Individuals who drive an electric vehicle and utilize popular apps or websites to locate public chargers through-

out Chatham County often experience large discrepancies in EV station info from app to app. From broken chargers and inaccurate locations to outdated pricing, finding consistent and up-to-date information can be a challenge for EV drivers in the county.

A team of staff members from the Environmental Quality, Geographic

Information Systems, and Planning Departments developed a free, online tool to help overcome this challenge. Utilizing information collected and compiled from field surveys and online databases, the Chatham County EV Charging Station Finder is now available for community members to locate the charging stations that best fit their needs.

The EV Charging Station Finder is a web-based map that details helpful information for each charging station in Chatham County, such as exact location and nearby landmarks, photos, price, charging capacity, number and type of plugs and station network. With the click of a button, the tool can open a station's location in Google Maps to assist in navigation.

Since the needs of different electric vehicles can vary widely, the locator includes widgets designed to filter which stations are displayed by common requests, such as free chargers, stations that have the plug type compatible with specific vehicle models, or stations that offer the fastest charge. To ensure the

EV Charging Station Finder remains up to date, the map includes an online form where users can report a damaged station, or the location of a new charger not yet included.

"With climate change posing major threats to our region, and with funding becoming more available to local governments for improving electric vehicle charging infrastructure, the Chatham County EV Charging Station Finder is just one step of many that Chatham County is taking to make sustainable alternatives accessible for our community," Brandon Dawson with the Chatham County Planning Department said.

The EV Station Finder can be found on the Chatham County GIS Portal or here: <https://chathamncgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ec96f17d2fdc42debb78f3e5a600d932>.

Individuals with questions may contact Kevin Lindley, Chatham County director of Environmental Quality, at 919-545-7875 or kevin.lindley@chatham-countync.gov.



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A group of old friends, long-time Chatham residents, have met with Franklin Gomez, a Jordan Matthews and UNC graduate, over the past several weeks. We want to let all Chathamites know what a great listener he is. He is fully engaged in his role as Commissioner and understands the diverse nature of Chatham County. Commissioner Gomez shows an unusual degree of empathy for our current and upcoming opportunities and challenges. He is open to ideas, plus offers insight on how the County can be successful. We feel he brings a keen understanding and a kind heart to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners. Thank you.

Paid for by John Dykers, Peter Harkins, Larry Hicks and Halford House

ISSUES

Continued from page B6

last November when the Chatham Maternity Care Center first had to limit its hours of operation due to nursing shortages. The reduced hours, including being closed on the weekend, lasted months.

After returning briefly to 24/7 operating hours in June, three nurse resignations in July forced the unit to reduce its operating hours again due to insufficient staffing. The unit is currently open around the clock from 7 a.m. Monday until 5 p.m. Friday.

Sensing a tipping point about the unit's future, Oluyadi wrote a letter co-signed by close to 100 community members in August to Chatham Hospital President Strickler expressing concern about what felt like an "impending closure." The letter was read at Chatham County's Board of Health meeting on Aug. 22 during the public comment period.

"We've shown resilience through the staggering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that undoubtedly catapulted staff attrition, burnout and financial loss," the letter read. "Despite all these seemingly insurmountable obstacles, we're still standing doing what we came here to do. We maintain a hope that we will continue to be able to provide this service to our community."

In response, Strickler emphasized at the meeting that no decision has been made about the unit and that he remains committed to providing the highest quality care to mothers, though he said the challenge is real.

"Just to reiterate the critical nature of this, we are one resignation away from not being able to safely maintain the program," Strickler said at the meeting.

With reduced hours, the unit saw a decrease in delivery volume, slowing to an average of one delivery per week in May.

Lesley Starke, who lives in Pittsboro, gave birth to her son at the Chatham Maternity Care Center on June 15. Fortunately, his birth occurred during the weekday hours of operation. She said the unit's hours were a big stressor as she waited to go into labor.

Despite living in the county, if her prenatal doctor hadn't mentioned that Chatham Maternity Care Center was an option for delivery, Starke said she could have easily gone her whole pregnancy and not been aware of it. Lack of awareness of the labor and delivery unit in the county may be keeping delivery volume low, she said.

"People in this community have spent over 20 years knowing that the hospital did not have that facility anymore," said Starke, who said the birthing experience at the maternity center exceeded her expectations. "It's more than just neutral. It's like people had a negative association with that option there."

The lower volume of deliveries has contributed to some staff attrition, said Strickler at the meeting. If the unit doesn't have any patients, then the nurses are floated to another area of the hospital to provide support until a laboring patient arrives. Strickler also said staff have left to take other nursing jobs or even travel assignments, even as some of those high-paying assignments are starting to dry up.

Despite the turnover, Chetwynd who is now a researcher evaluating the Chatham Maternity Care Center and has conducted staff exit interviews, said overwhelmingly the staff who have left are still committed to the mission of the unit.

"Even though they're stepping away from the unit, they say very positive things about the service that is being offered and the value of what's being offered and the need for it in the community," she said. "One nurse told me that

even though she was an experienced labor and delivery nurse who had worked at multiple hospitals — both large and small — she had some of the most touching, important-to-her birth experiences as a labor and delivery nurse at Chatham Hospital."

Eric Wolak, chief operating officer and chief nursing officer of Chatham Hospital, said that he's working to hire more nurses so the unit can resume 24/7 operating hours with the needed two nurses per shift, but he's up against a tough hiring landscape as hospitals across the state and nation are looking for nurses to fill positions.

"We're at a very important time in the history of maternal health in our country, for reproductive justice in our country, and it's at this point that a local, rural critical access maternity care center is kind of on the brink," said Jen Medearis Costello, a member of the operational leadership team of Equity for Moms and Babies Realized Across Chatham (EMBRACe), which seeks to ensure successful and equitable birth outcomes for women and babies in the county.

Brainstorming solutions

At the August meeting, Strickler also announced the creation of a 17-member community task force that will examine the long-term viability of the unit and brainstorm solutions designed to ensure the quality, safety and sustainability of the center.

The community task force is led by Audrea Caesar, UNC Health's chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer, and Margaret Helton, chairperson of UNC's Department of Family Medicine. Community groups focused on achieving equitable outcomes like CORE and EMBRACe are represented on the task force.

The task force's work includes examining nurse retention, patient volume, community engagement, and health and safety. The work is expected to take months and several meetings have already occurred, Wolf, a UNC Health spokesperson, said in a statement.

"We need all the viewpoints from the operation side of it to the patient care facing side of it, to the community facing side," Oluyadi said. "I think together, we all have the solution, and that's why I keep going back to the task force being such a powerful avenue to solving this."

Community members are hopeful about the potential of the task force, pleased to see that a decision on the unit's future has not been made purely internally. They also said abandoning plans for the maternity center after two years, especially when COVID has exacerbated the unit's challenges, would not be fair to people of childbearing age across the county since there has not been enough time to really evaluate the unit's impact on health outcomes and disparities.

Back on Oct. 17, a mid-point meeting was held in which task force members presented proposed solutions to get feedback about their feasibility, said Costello, a task force member. Three UNC Health executives were expected to attend — Caesar and two others — but only Caesar attended.

Wolf said in a statement that leadership at UNC Health remain fully engaged in the discussions regarding the Chatham Maternity Care Center and were briefed by Caesar, Strickler and others after the meeting.

"I think that if this community task force is engaged in the way that it could be, where solutions are truly considered and where political will and finances are put behind those solutions, that we might make a new course and an even more positive course forward for the MCC because it will be a course that has been designed together and has been centered on the experiences of the people in Chatham County," Costello said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Wolfspeed signs deal with Jaguar Land Rover as EV chip supplier

Wolfspeed signed a deal with Jaguar Land Rover as a supplier of silicon carbide chips for its future electric vehicle production, Triangle Business Journal reported Monday. Jaguar hopes Wolfspeed chips will be used to electrify future versions of the Range Rover, Discovery, Defender and Jaguar vehicles. The car company has announced a timeline of rolling out its first Range Rover EV fleet in 2024 and Jaguar EVs debuting in 2025. "The energy efficiency of silicon carbide will play an essential role as Jaguar Land Rover pursues its own zero carbon goals, and as the world transitions to an all-electric transportation future," said Wolfspeed CEO Gregg Lowe in a statement.

According to recent earnings reports, Jaguar appears to be just one of the automakers Wolfspeed is targeting. Lowe said the EV market will be a "driving force" behind broader applications of Wolfspeed's silicon carbide technology.

Wolfspeed is planning the world's largest silicon carbide facility with an economic investment of \$5 billion and 1,800 jobs in Chatham County.

Chatham Chamber of Commerce sets annual meeting for Nov. 15

The Chatham Chamber of Commerce will conduct its annual meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the Chatham County Agriculture & Conference Center in Pittsboro.

The meeting will be held from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Lunch will be provided with program/awards to follow. For a nomination request form, please contact Mary Bowman at 919-742-3333 or maryb@ccuc.net

For ticket prices and to register for the event by Nov. 8, please go to: <https://www.ccucc.net/Event-Registration/>

'Salute to Veterans' set for Nov. 4

The Chatham County Council on Aging will hold its annual "Salute to Veterans" event at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 4, at the West Chatham Veterans Memorial, 100-1000 Alston Bridge Rd., Siler City.

Refreshments will be served beginning at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Liz Lahti at 919-542-4512 or email liz.lahti@chathamcountync.gov.

November is National Family Caregiver Month

The demands of being a caregiver for a loved one can be overwhelming.

With the mountain of responsibilities a caregiver faces — oftentimes becoming its own 24-hour-a-day job — finding time for personal space and reflection turns into its own challenge.

During National Family Caregiver Month, the Chatham County Council on Aging stands with local, state and national leaders in the effort to shine a light on this "labor of love" that family members undertake. Indeed, it is vital — and often of the unpaid variety. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution proclaiming November 2022 as Family Caregiver Month during its Oct. 17 meeting.

According to a recent report from AARP and the National Alliance for

Caregiving, more than one in four caregivers have difficulty coordinating care and one in four caregivers provide care for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Owing to the 2022 national theme of "Caregiving Around the Clock," the role can cause significant strain on a caregiver's physical, emotional and financial well-being as a loved one can require assistance with eating, bathing, getting dressed, mobility and toileting.

Moreover, Chatham County is aging by any objective metric. The N.C. State Demographer's Office reports that over one-fourth of Chatham's population is 65 or older, and among the state's 100 counties, Chatham is 10th with 28.2% of its population 65 or older.

Within Chatham, efforts are under way to alleviate burdens that caregivers and their families may experience. The Chatham County Council on Aging and others work to assist caregivers by offering respite, support groups, training, options counseling, Meals on Wheels, assistive equipment, incontinence supplies and other assistance.

The COA has partnered with Chatham County Parks and Recreation and the Chatham County Center of the N.C. Cooperative Extension to create Peaceful Pathways for Caregivers at Northeast District Park (5408 Big Woods Rd.) in Chapel Hill, with a second area planned for Southwest District Park (15124 Hwy. 902, Bear Creek). The area at Northeast District Park includes a picnic table, three rocking chairs and a rocking swing designed for quiet reflection for caregivers and their loved ones.

Six separate flower beds are stationed at the park, each representing a color on Teepa Snow's GEMS model. Snow, a dementia education specialist with over 40 years of experience, designed the model to account for both the "good" and "bad" days a dementia patient may experience.

Love Chatham hosts a diaper, coat drive

Love Chatham has served the community with various needs through its clothing closet and food pantry.

Now it's working to collect diapers and coats.

As the colder weather sets in, many are ushering in the beautiful fall foliage, making plans for the holidays, and beginning to make preparations for spending time

with friends and family. But the impending cold weather also means that many community members will be struggling even more than usual for basic things that many of us take for granted.

Love Chatham will be hosting a diaper drive and a coat drive at Freedom Family Church between 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on two Saturdays: Nov. 5 and Nov. 19.

"We have a regularly scheduled food pantry and clothing closet distribution and during this time we're also going to be prepared to receive donations from community members, organizations, churches, and businesses that feel led to participate in these two areas of need," said Dakota Philbrick, Love Chatham's executive director.

Please reach out by email at dakota@lovechatham.org or through the Love Chatham line at 919-726-9976 to get more information. In addition, Lou Giovenco is available for pick-up arrangements; reach him at lougiovenco@gmail.com or by phone at 941-468-5130.

To make a contribution to Love Chatham, give through its website at www.lovechatham.org, through its Facebook page, and through checks made payable to Love Chatham mailed to 421 N Holly Ave., Siler City, N.C. 27344.

Pittsboro's 'First Sunday' set for Nov. 6

PITTSBORO — On Sunday, Nov. 6, the Pittsboro Business Association's monthly First Sunday street fair will be featuring arts and crafts vendors, other businesses and civic organizations, music, food and children's activities.

Many downtown businesses will also be open, along with the Historical Museum. Come enjoy this family-friendly event from noon to 4 p.m. More information about attending or becoming a vendor is available on our Pittsboro Business Association Facebook page, at www.shoppittsboro.com, and via email to the event coordinator at pittsborofirstsunday@gmail.com.

Cooper appoints Pittsboro's McGarrah to state post

RALEIGH — Gov. Roy Cooper has appointed 27 individuals to the Andrea Harris Task Force, including Stephanie McGarrah of Pittsboro in the seat reserved for the Executive Director of the North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office.

Roots' grand opening set for Nov. 5

Roots, which provides healthy shakes, energizing teas, high protein coffee, and more for healthy nutrition, will celebrate its grand opening at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5.

The new business is located at off Polks Village Lane at 59 Knox Way, Suite 106, Chapel Hill, north of Pittsboro of U.S. Hwy. 15-501.

Ribbon cutting is scheduled for 11 a.m., followed by refreshments and an open house until 1 p.m.

Contact the Chatham Chamber of Commerce with any questions at 919-742-3333.

Wren Memorial Library seeks community members for 'Friends of the Library' group

SILER CITY — Wren Memorial Library in Siler City invites community members to join its Friends of the Library group. The library will host a Friends of Wren Memorial Library meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

The Friends of Wren Memorial Library participates in activities such as creating and conducting book sales, and promoting library events and programs in the community. Friends of Wren especially needs community members to serve in the group's leadership roles. Those interested in supporting Wren Memorial Library are welcome to attend the Friends of Wren meeting. Attendees can learn about library updates, input their thoughts, and help the Friends of Wren Memorial Library grow.

Wren Memorial Library is located at 500 North 2nd Ave., Siler City. For more information about Wren Memorial Library, individuals may contact wren@chathamlibraries.org or 919-742-2016. Information about all Chatham County Library branches can be found at www.chathamlibraries.org.

Siler City seeks members of advisory boards

SILER CITY — The town of Siler City is seeking to fill vacancies on a number of its advisory boards.

Airport Authority

The Airport Authority has a vacancy for one member with no residential requirements. The Airport Authority serves as an advisory board to the Board of Commissioners concerning operating, regulating, and promoting the Siler City Municipal Airport and to establish a framework to be utilized in coordinating local, state, and federal efforts toward this end. Major emphasis shall be placed on providing the basic facilities essential for attracting and encouraging sound growth of the Siler City Municipal Airport, as a tool for overall economic growth.

Immigrant Community Advisory Committee

The Immigrant Community Advisory Committee has a vacancy for one member with no residential requirements. The committee is for those from historically underrepresented communities with ancestry in Latin America and/or other world regions. Committee members shall be foreign-born or have recent immigrant ancestry (the children and grandchildren of foreign-born individuals).

Committee members must have a vested interest in immigrant communities and have particular knowledge, skills, or abilities that serve the interest and intent of this stated purpose.

Planning Board/Board of Adjustment

The Siler City Planning Board/ Board of Adjustments has one vacancy for an Alternate Member who resides inside the city limits. The Planning Board, in conjunction with the Town Planner, makes recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on conditional use permit, rezoning, conditional use rezoning, and text amendment applications. The Planning Board may also perform comprehensive surveys and studies of existing conditions and probable future developments and prepares such plans for physical and economic growth. The Planning Board promotes the public health, safety, convenience or the general welfare as well as efficiency and economy in the development of the Town. The Planning Board also serves as the Board of Adjustment to review variances, consider appeals from the zoning administrator or building inspector, and to issue special use and special exception permits.

All positions are advisory in nature and are unpaid with the exception of the Planning Board.

Persons interested should submit a letter of interest to the Town Clerk Jenifer Johnson at jjohnson@silercity.org no later than Nov. 23.

The letter of interest should include home address, phone number, email address, educational background, current employment, civic involvement, why you wish to serve, and any other information you feel pertinent.



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Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

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Pictured: Cathy Baker



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E C B Z H X W D E T L A M U S
R P O C M W N S T O S I L J I
G E D B A O H U C O K A Y X W
U T S Q C P B O Y S N L P K J

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: FAT-FREE MILK

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|
| Butter | Dry | Malted | Sour |
| Chocolate | Evaporated | Pasteurized | Soy |
| Cold | Fresh | Powdered | Whole |
| Condensed | Goat's | Raw | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	4		6	2			8
9				1		3	
		5	3		7		
3			5		4		
	7			6		9	
	9		8			2	1
2		1			4		5
	5			9			6
6			7			8	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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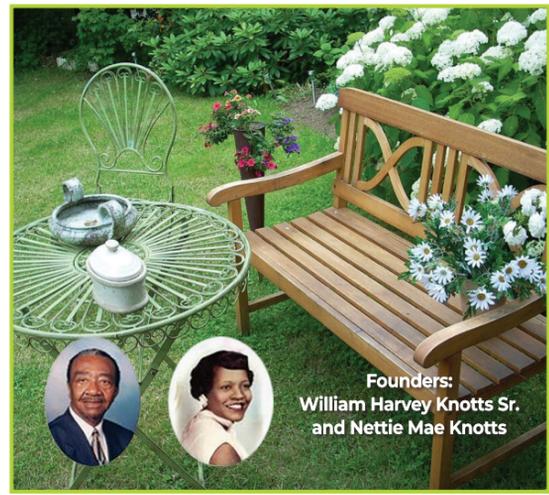
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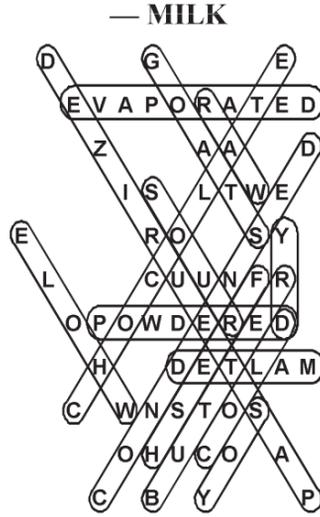
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— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

7	4	3	9	6	2	5	1	8
9	8	2	5	7	1	6	3	4
1	6	5	3	4	8	7	2	9
3	2	6	1	5	9	4	8	7
8	1	7	4	2	6	3	9	5
5	9	4	8	3	7	2	6	1
2	7	1	6	8	4	9	5	3
4	5	8	2	9	3	1	7	6
6	3	9	7	1	5	8	4	2

Cloudy, with a chance of sweetness

The only dietary restriction I have is crazy hot, spicy food.

It causes me actual pain, and unlike some, I don't relish, nor do I seek out pain. I just can't eat spicy stuff.

I know, kind of embarrassing for a food writer to be unable to eat super spicy chow.

But there are many, many dietary restrictions out there. Some are a choice: vegetarianism, pescatarianism, keto, low-carb, no carb, paleo.

Some are forced upon one by one's own DNA. Gluten intolerance, diabetes, lactose intolerance, and allergies from nuts to shellfish to soy. Heck, when I was a kid, I was allergic to chocolate.

Quelle tristesse! Luckily, I was so young I barely remember the trauma — maybe that's why chocolate is so very important to me today.

Anyway, I decided to make cupcakes to take to work on Halloween — orange cupcakes with toasted marshmallow frosting.

I bought festive cupcake liners and fall-hued sprinkling sugar.

Then I mentioned my plan at work.

Kinda glad I did, but I also wish I'd kept my trap shut.

This is where I learned that the only food or drink in which all my colleagues can indulge is water.

So, I pivoted to meringues. There's only a few ingredients; and no milk, wheat, nuts or soy. Yes, there is still sugar and egg whites, but good grief, a girl's gotta bake.

Classic Meringue Cookies

4 large egg whites
 ½ teaspoon cream of tartar
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 Recommended Equipment
 Large zip-top bag
 Large star piping tip
 Stand mixer (you can use a hand mixer instead, it will just take much, much longer)
 Preheat oven to 225 degrees Fahrenheit and line a large cookie sheet (or two regular-sized cookie sheets — make sure they will fit in your oven together) with parchment paper. Set aside.

Combine egg whites, cream of tartar and salt in a large, completely clean, completely grease-free bowl.

Using a stand mixer (with whisk attachment), stir on low speed until mixture becomes foamy.

Increase speed to high. With mixer on high, gradually add sugar, about 1 tablespoon at a time, stirring after each addition until sugar is dissolved (about 15-20 seconds between each addition).

Beat until mixture is thick, glossy, and has increased in volume by five or six times. Mixture should have stiff peaks and sugar should be completely dissolved (you can test this by rubbing a small bit of the mixture between your fingers, if it feels gritty, the sugar isn't dissolved).

Stir in vanilla extract and any other extract you may like to use. If using food coloring, add the food coloring at this stage, too.

Fit a large zip-top or piping bag with a large tip and transfer meringue to prepared piping bag and pipe onto prepared cookie sheet. The meringue cookies can be pretty close to each other as they won't spread, and you will want to bake all of the cookies at the same time, so make sure you make enough space.

Bake for 1 hour. Turn off the oven once the baking time as passed, and do not open the oven. Leave the oven door closed and allow cookies to cool completely in the oven (2-2½ hours) before removing.

Meringue cookies should be crisp and can be stored in an airtight container. Keep away from heat and moisture as it can soften your meringues. I collect the desiccated packages that come in pill bottles and use those in the container I store them in. They will still eventually go soft, but the packs slow the process.

I never actually have had mine go soft, because I can't keep my mitts off.

They're pretty easy to make, just don't rush putting in the sugar or baking. Also, if it's wet, humid or damp don't even. They'll never become crispy.

You can add flavors to yours, or gently whisk in chocolate

chips or crushed candy.

When finished, they are a beautiful centerpiece.

If you don't eat them all before you set them out.

Thanks for your time.

Contact me at dm@bullcity.mom.



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Meringues ready to be served.



Courtesy of Debbie Matthews

Meringues can be topped with with sprinkles of your choice to enhance the taste.



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LAFF - A - DAY



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"That reminds me, Mom — have you told Dad about your car yet?"

Touchstone magazine for generations feared lost in a game of Gen Z Twister

BY BUCK RYAN & LEI JIAO
Special to the News + Record

LEI: What's wrong? You look worried, Buck.
BUCK: I am, Lei. Very worried about the soul of our nation.

LEI: I know the midterm elections are coming up, and your president's hair is on fire over MAGA. Is that it?
BUCK: No, Lei, not MAGA — I'm worried about a magazine. Rolling Stone just might be losing its soul in a desperate attempt to attract younger readers. If that goes, so goes the soul of our nation.

LEI: I haven't heard a lament like that since Bob Seger's "Old Time Rock & Roll."
BUCK: Seriously, Lei. Whether it's music, politics or pop culture, Rolling Stone has been my go-to source for news and inspiration for the last 55 years. Now I'm concerned it's losing its pop.

LEI: Maybe that pop came from an aging hipster throwing out his back in a game of Twister.
BUCK: You nailed it, Lei — this is a wrenching tale about generational change.

LEI: I can't take credit for that Twister line. I read something like it in a Vanity Fair article on this very topic. The headline caught my eye: "It's Gotta Grow to Stay Alive: Inside Noah Shachtman's Raucous Reinvention of Rolling Stone."
BUCK: You're way ahead of me, Lei. I just finished reading reviews of Jann Wenner's "Like a Rolling Stone: A Memoir." Quite the success story for a college dropout from Berkeley in 1966. The next year Wenner co-founded the magazine in San Francisco with Ralph Gleason, a jazz critic for the San Francisco Chronicle.

LEI: The University of California at Berkeley is famous. Have you ever been there?
BUCK: Yes, Lei. One day walking along with a friend, I turned a corner and a man in a clown costume was sitting on the sidewalk with a sign.
LEI: What did the sign say?
BUCK: The end is near.

LEI: So that's what you fear about Rolling Stone?
BUCK: Bingo. I remember the first issue like it was yesterday — on Nov. 9, 1967, with John Lennon on the cover. Then two months later, on Jan. 30, 1968, the Tet Offensive changed Americans' minds about the Vietnam War.

LEI: What's the connection?
BUCK: America's failure in Vietnam and the antiwar movement at home fundamentally changed Rolling Stone from a music magazine into a political beacon.

LEI: So you're thankful China for its involvement in the Vietnam War?
BUCK: Lei Jiao.
LEI: Sorry, Buck. I couldn't resist.

BUCK: With the cover stories about the Stones and Dylan, photos by Annie Leibovitz, Timothy Crouse's "The Boys on the Bus" and Hunter S. Thompson on the '72 campaign trail. Do you know who Rolling Stone just made its first global cover star?
LEI: Who?
BUCK: Harry Styles, one of the original members of the boy band One Direction.

LEI: That puts the pop in the new King of Pop.
BUCK: No kidding.

That was the cover story of the Oct./Nov. issue for 14 editions appearing on newsstands globally in the US., the United Kingdom and Latin America.
LEI: Don't forget China, Buck.

BUCK: What?
LEI: Yep, Rolling Stone is making its play for our younger generation in China, too.
BUCK: Since when?
LEI: Well, I guess you missed Rolling Stone's debut issue in 2006 with its first Chinese-language edition.

BUCK: You're kidding.
LEI: No, it published local content, written by a staff mostly in Beijing, plus translations of articles that appeared in the U.S. It made a splash with its debut cover story on Cui Jian.
BUCK: Who's that?
LEI: That's like me asking you who is Elvis. Cui Jian is a singer-songwriter, trumpeter and guitarist who is considered the godfather of Chinese rock and roll.

BUCK: Godfather? What year did he become a smash hit?
LEI: That would be 1986, the same year he heard his first Beatles tape. He was 24 years old when he sang "Nothing to My Name" in a nationally televised concert at Workers' Stadium in Beijing.
BUCK: That's 35 years after Jackie Brenston and his Delta Cats (Ike Turner's Kings of Rhythm) hit the charts in 1951 with "Rocket 88," a vinyl gem made at Sam Phillips' Memphis Recording Service.

LEI: You sound like a rock historian.
BUCK: Don't get me started on the world's first rock star.
LEI: You mean Brenston?
BUCK: No, Franz Liszt in the era of the Opium Wars. I read that when he pounded the keys in Europe in the mid-19th century, women would rip his clothing and wrestle over locks of his shoulder-length hair. They would even battle over broken piano strings.

LEI: Great balls of fire, Buck!
BUCK: So Rolling Stone's debut in China was a big hit in 2006, eh?
LEI: They say the Cui Jian issue sold 125,000 copies.
BUCK: How long did that success story last?
LEI: About a year. Too many violations of China's publishing regulations.
BUCK: Figures.
LEI: But if it makes you feel any better, Rolling Stone's new management, with Wenner's son Gus at the helm, brought the magazine back to China.

BUCK: Oh, when was that?
LEI: January 2021. Can you guess who was on the debut cover of Rolling Stone China?
BUCK: I'm sure it wasn't Dr. Hook & the Medicine Show. The Beatles hold the record for Rolling Stone covers, so I'm going to guess it was a Beatle.
LEI: Yup, Paul McCartney with Taylor Swift. Not to mention old-time rocker Zhang Chu and Roy Wang, the smoking hot pop idol.

BUCK: Smoking hot?
LEI: That's a joke, Buck. When he was 16 years old, Time magazine named Wang one of the 30 Most Influential Teens of 2017, highlighting his boy band lyrics like "polish your leather shoes, put on a suit ...

arrive at every place with head held high." Then in 2019 he apologized for getting caught smoking illegally in a Beijing restaurant, ruining his good boy image.
BUCK: Jeepers. Let's see, I'm a Baby Boomer (born 1946-1964), you're a Gen Xer (1965-1980), I'm trying to picture the target Gen Z reader (1997-2012) in China for Rolling Stone.

LEI: With a 15-year-old daughter and all my college students, I can tell you a thing or two about young people today in China. We call Ruby's generation "the Post-00s." They are definitely a different breed.
BUCK: Do tell.
LEI: They are far more worldly and current than I was at that age. Many of them passionately embrace Chinese culture — they love the cuisine, dress in traditional Han clothing and play ancient instruments like the guzheng, a kind of Chinese zither. One other thing, Buck.

BUCK: What's that?
LEI: They are very patriotic. Just like your kids recite the Pledge of Allegiance, our young people recite ancient mottos, such as "Everyone should be responsible for the prosperity of the country."
BUCK: Not exactly the types to wave Timothy Leary's banner — "Turn on, tune in, drop out" — over the counterculture cauldron that gave birth to Rolling Stone magazine.

LEI: Nope. Think the opposite. Unlike the turbulent '60s, these kids grew up in an era of peace and prosperity. The biggest changes came in rural areas, where education levels rose as poverty declined.
BUCK: No more insecurity streaks, eh?
LEI: They have only known a strong and confident China. But they also know their history.

BUCK: You mean to these kids, the British Invasion had more to do with the Opium Wars from 1839 to 1860 rather than the Beatles' triumphant arrival in New York City in 1964.
LEI: Right-o, mate. There's something in China that mirrors Rolling Stone's struggles to keep its aging hipster readers at the same time it's trying to attract a younger audience.

BUCK: What's that?
LEI: Chinese opera. It's older, loyal audience is dying out while its appeal is lost on young people, even though they're old school. With its vividly painted masks, it's an art form, like the American newspaper, that is fading into history.
BUCK: You must have an ancient Chinese expression to help me make sense of all this change.

LEI: Of course, Buck. There's a 20th century quote from Lu Xun's work that people like to say jokingly: "Each generation is worse than the last." Then there's a popular saying dating back seven centuries to the Song Dynasty: "The Yangtze River forges ahead waves upon waves."
BUCK: Sorry, Grasshopper, I need help with that one.

LEI: It means the new generation will invariably surpass the old. The older I get, the more Buddhist I get. Nothing is permanent, except one thing.
BUCK: What's that?
LEI: Twister. You can buy many variations of the game on Alibaba.com in China.



Illustration by Ruby Wang

A mock Rolling Stone cover.

BUCK: Really?
LEI: For an aging hipster like you, I suggest the kids finger version, just to save your back. You'll need it to protect the soul of the nation.

About the authors: Buck Ryan, a University of Kentucky journalism

professor, and Lei Jiao, an English lecturer at Wuhan University of Technology, Hubei Province, China, collaborate on articles to advance cross-cultural understanding. You can read their last article (If you think China is a political football, just watch

a new fan jump into the fray/But don't worry about any NFL intelligence leaks) here:

<https://www.chathamnewsrecord.com/stories/if-you-think-china-is-a-political-football-just-watch-a-new-fan-jump-into-the-fray,14418>



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O27,N3,10,17,4tc

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FOOD SERVICES STAFF, Pittsboro Christian Village is accepting applications for Server, Pantry Cook, and Cook. Apply in person 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Friday, at 1825 East St. in Pittsboro. Jy14,tfnc

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 530
All persons having claims against **JEFFREY LEE CARMINES**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 13th day of October, 2022.
Elizabeth C. Jackson, Administrator
3604 Enos Rd.
Gloucester, Va. 23061
O13,O20,O27,N3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified on the 5th day of October, 2022, as Executrix of the Estate of **PATRICIA C. RUNYAN**, deceased, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 13th day of October, 2022.
Diane Runyan, Executrix of The Estate of Patricia C. Runyan
4011 University Drive, Suite 300
Durham, NC 27707
Gwendolyn C. Brooks, Esquire
Kennon Craver, PLLC
4011 University Drive, Suite 300
Durham, North Carolina 27707
O13,O20,O27,N3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 493
The undersigned having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **RICHARD WALKER WHITE**, late of Chatham County, NC does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned at the address below on or before the 13th day of January, 2023 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate to the undersigned. This the 13th day of October, 2022.
Joanna W. Morgan Executrix of the Estate of Richard Walker White,
c/o The Law Office of Anne Page Watson, PLLC
3400 Croasdaile Drive, Suite 325
Durham, NC 27705
O13,O20,O27,N3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
OF JEANNIE LOU MURCHISON Phillip Allen Cockman having qualified, under **FILE 22 E 542**, Chatham County, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of **JEANNIE LOU MURCHISON** aka **JEANNIE COCKMAN MURCHISON**; Deceased of 105 Goldston Glendon Road, Goldston, NC 27252, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 13th day of October 2022.
PHILLIP ALLEN COCKMAN, Personal Representative of the JEANNIE LOU MURCHISON aka JEANNIE COCKMAN MURCHISON
S. Denise Watts, Attorney for Estate of Jeannie Lou Murchison
WATTS PHANCO LAW GROUP PLLC
4617 Main Street
Shalotte, NC 28470
(910) 579-6508
O13,O20,O27,N3,4tc

HAVING QUALIFIED as Executor of the Estate of **MARK DONALD VEETY** 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 12th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 7th day of October, 2022.
Lynn Ann Veety, Executor of The Estate of Mark Donald Veety
546 Rebecca Lane
Siler City, North Carolina 27344
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312
(919) 542-5605
O13,O20,O27,N3,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 574
All persons having claims against **LULA MAE CRUTCHFIELD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 13th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 13th day of September, 2022.
Amy Renae Hargrove, Co-Executrix
4409 Eastport Blvd, Unit E1
Little River, SC 29566
Tracey Lynn Troxler, Co-Executrix
3750 Silk Hope Lindley Mill Rd
Snow Camp, NC 27349
O13,O20,O27,N3,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
I, **MARGARET T. SANDOR**, Administrator of the Estate of **MARY DANIELLE SANDOR**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, and does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to present them to the undersigned in care of Crisp Cherry McCraw PLLC, Attn: Christian P. Cherry, 615 S. College Street, Suite 1430, Charlotte, NC 28202, on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 20th day of October, 2022.
Margaret T. Sandor, Administrator
c/o Crisp Cherry McCraw PLLC
615 S. College Street, Suite 1430
Charlotte, NC 28202
(704) 332.0202
O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
I, **ANNE E. ATWATER**, 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 19th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 11th day of October, 2022.
James Atwater, Executor of The Estate of Anne E. Atwater
1474 Collins Mountain Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
BOX 1806
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312
(919) 542-5605
O20,O27,N3,N10,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
I, **WALTER M. ATWATER**, 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 19th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. This the 11th day of October, 2022.
James Atwater, Executor of

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
I, **HERBERT RECORE**, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make

The Estate of Walter M. Atwater
1474 Collins Mountain Road
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O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of **LORETTA J. EBEL AKA LORETTA JANE EBEL**, Deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at the offices of Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC, 501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the estate will please make immediate payment. This the 20th day of October, 2022.
SARAH ELIZABETH TILLMAN, EXECUTRIX
ESTATE OF LORETTA J. EBEL AKA LORETTA JANE EBEL
Tillman, Whichard & Cagle, PLLC
501 Eastowne Drive, Suite 130
Chapel Hill, NC 27514,
O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
I, **CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL FARRELL**, Plaintiff vs **CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL FARRELL** Defendant
NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS
BY PUBLICATION
TO: **CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL FARRELL**
TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed on the 13th day of April, 2022 in the above entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Plaintiff is seeking an absolute divorce from defendant upon one year's separation.
You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than 40 days following the 19th day of October, 2022, said date being the first publication of this notice, or from the date complaint is required to be filed, whichever is later, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.
This 19th day of October, 2022.
TARA TENNILLE FARRELL, Plaintiff
MOODY, WILLIAMS, ATWATER & LEE
W. Ben Atwater, Jr.
Attorney for plaintiff
P.O. Box 629
Siler City, NC 27344
(919) 663-2850
O20,O27,N3,3tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, having qualified on the 10th day of October, 2022, as Executor of the Estate of **DAVID COLMAN LINDEMAN**, deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate, please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 20th day of October, 2022.
Philip Anthony Lindeman, Executor of the Estate of David Colman Lindeman
Post Office Box 57579
Durham, North Carolina 27717
G. Rhodes Craver
Kennon Craver, PLLC
4011 University Drive, Suite 300
Durham, North Carolina 27707
O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS 22-E-475 NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, Donna Recore, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **HERBERT RECORE** deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the day of January 18th, 2022, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make

immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 20th of October, 2022.
Donna Recore, Administrator
c/o Marie H. Hopper,
Attorney for the Estate
Hopper Cummings, PLLC
Post Office Box 1455
Pittsboro, NC 27312
O20,O27,N3,N10,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NORTH CAROLINA CHATHAM COUNTY 22 E 400
All persons having claims against **ANGELO JUFFRAS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 20th day of October, 2022.
Diane M. Juffras, Executrix
203 Rossburn Way
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
O20,O27,N3,N10,4tp

PROJECT CHILD FIND LAUNCHED THROUGH DISTRICT
Project Child Find in the Chatham County Schools (CCS) runs from October 24th - November 4th to identify youths between the ages of 3 and 21 who have disabilities and require special education and other related services. The local effort is part of a concentrated statewide push to identify young people requiring special education. Project Child Find informs parents and guardians of such individuals about services available in their local school systems and at other state and community agencies. Project Child Find seeks youths who have been diagnosed or are suspected to have mental, physical or emotional disabilities and are unable to benefit from a regular school program without special assistance. Those aware of such youths who are not in school or not receiving special assistance are encouraged to contact the principal at the school in their area, or they could call the district's Exceptional Children's Department at 919-542-6400. Community support would help the effort a great deal, according to Sara Self-Maddox, the district's Executive Director for Exceptional Children and AIG.

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.

have more information: NC Department of Public Instruction, Exceptional Children Division - (984) 236-2550
Office of Early Learning (for ages 3-5) - (984) 236-2740
NC Department of Health and Human Services - (919) 707-5520
Family Support Network - 1-800-852-0042.
O27,N3,2tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF CHATHAM
THE UNDERSIGNED, having qualified on the 14th day of October, 2022, as Executrix of the ESTATE OF **PATRICIA I. TEMPONE A/K/A PATRICIA IRENE TEMPONE**, Deceased, of Chatham County, North Carolina, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against said Estate to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 28th day of January, 2023, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This, the 20th day of October, 2022.
HELEN NELSON, Executrix
ESTATE OF PATRICIA I. TEMPONE

PITTSBORO VILLAGE APARTMENTS
Now accepting applications for 2BR, 1.5BA
Range, refrigerator, dishwasher are included in the rent. Rent starts at \$630 and up.
400 Honeysuckle Dr., Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-5410
TDD 1-800-735-2962
Email: pittsborovillage@ECCMG.com
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

The following organizations A/K/A PATRICIA IRENE TEM-
HIRING CNA's ALL SHIFTS
CALL: 919-542-3151
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
for appointment to complete application and interview.
Pittsboro Christian Village
1825 East Street, Pittsboro, NC

HELP WANTED
Chatham Monument Co. has an opening for a monument installer. Work involves working in Siler City and surrounding area installing monuments as part of a 3-person team.
Apply in Person,
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
227 N. 2nd Ave. Siler City, NC 27344

Career Opportunities Available
Visit www.chathamcountync.gov and click Jobs.

PONE
c/o Shirley M. Diefenbach,
Attorney
Walker Lambe, PLLC
Post Office Box 51549
Durham, North Carolina 27717
027,N3,N10,N17,4tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 568
All persons having claims against **WELFORD DALTON HARRIS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Tamela M. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
4479 Moncure Pittsboro Rd
Moncure, NC 27559
Michael S. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
9100 Bud Smith Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING ON INTENT TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE A PORTION OF MONCURE FLATWOOD ROAD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners has scheduled a public hearing to consider the closing of a portion of **Moncure Flatwood Road**. The public hearing has been scheduled for **November 21, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center located at 1192 US 64W Business, Pittsboro NC 27312**. The hearing is being held pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. §153A-241 and the Resolution of Intent to permanently Close a portion of Moncure Flatwood Road that was approved and adopted by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners on October 17, 2022 upon a Petition filed by Vinfast Manufacturing US, LLC ("Petitioner"). Additional information is available at the Chatham County Planning Department office. Speakers are requested to sign up at the meeting prior to the hearing. You may also sign up on the county website prior to the meeting at www.chatham-countync.gov by selecting the heading County Government, then Commissioner Meetings, then Public Input/Hearing Sign Up. The public hearing may be continued to another date at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners. Substantial changes may be made following the public hearing due to verbal or written comments received or based on the Board's discussions. Notice to people with special needs: If you have an audio or visual impairment, unique accessibility requirements or need language assistance, please call the number listed below prior to the hearing and assistance may be provided. If you have any questions or comments concerning these issues, please call the Chatham County Planning Department at 542-8204 or write to P.O. Box 54, Pittsboro N.C. 27312.

NOTICE OF SALE BY PUBLICATION
TAKE NOTICE that the lienor, identified below, will publicly sell the manufactured home, also identified below, pursuant to N.C.G.S. §§ 44A-2(d) and 44A-4. Lienor hereby provides the following information in connection with the sale of the manufactured homes:
(1) The name and address of the lienor: Van Ness Apartments, LLC, c/o Manning, Fulton & Skinner, P.A., 3605 Glenwood Ave., Ste. 500, Raleigh, NC 27612.
(2) (a) The name of the person(s) having legal title to the properties and (b) the name of the person(s) with whom the lienor dealt: (a) Gregorio San Juan Tolentino, 247 Fontana Circle, Siler City, NC 27344; and (b) none.
(3) Description of the property: **2002 Coronado SLE Mobile Home; ID # VA-FL219A57435C012**, located at **247 Fontana Circle, Siler City, NC 27344**.
(4) The amount due for which the lien is claimed: \$4,140.00, plus reasonable costs and expenses of this sale first arising after this notice.
(5) The place of the sale: **Chatham County Justice Center, Main Entrance, 40 East Chatham Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312**.
(6) The date and hour when the sale is to be held: **Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 3:00 P.M.**

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF SILER CITY TRAILER REPAIR, INC.
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
19 E 122
All persons having claims against **MILDRED WATSON BROOKS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Ronald Brooks, Executor
75 Clarence Brooks Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 598
All persons having claims against **THOMAS HOWARD CROWSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Lisa C. Dorsett, Administrator
7759 Coltrane Meadow Rd
Ramseur, NC 27316+
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 596
All persons having claims against **SUZANNE MARIE WHITE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Margaret Zwilling, Executor
9426 NC Highway 42
Bear Creek, NC 27207
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 427
All persons having claims against **EDWARD R. SCHWERIN, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit

the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Tamela M. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
4479 Moncure Pittsboro Rd
Moncure, NC 27559
Michael S. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
9100 Bud Smith Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
22 E 587
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
The undersigned, Sharla Alexander, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DAVID ALEXANDER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 25th day of January 2023, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Sharla Alexander
c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds,
Attorney for the Estate
Eunoia Law Firm
Post Office Box 42
Holly Springs, NC 27540
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **HELEN P. GUTHRIE aka HELEN PIKE GUTHRIE**, late of 145 Pike Memory Lane, Staley, Chatham County, North Carolina 27355, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 4145 Randolph Church Road, Liberty, NC 27298, on or before the 7th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Myra Bunton Martin, Executor of the

Estate of Helen P. Guthrie aka Helen Pike Guthrie
Pamela E. Whitaker, Attorney at Law
4145 Randolph Church Road
Liberty, NC 27298
(336) 622-3553
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 603
All persons having claims against **DAVID CLARENCE OAKLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Tonya H. Oakley, Administrator
383 Oakley Farm Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 604
All persons having claims against **LOUIS LYON MARTIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 602
All persons having claims against **CLYDE A. DOWD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Jeanne Martin, Executrix
276 Boothe Hill Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 599
All persons having claims against **ALEXANDER GUNTER KLAUSMANN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Sandra Delouis Wilson, Executrix
1110 Windy Ridge Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

INVITATION TO BID
S. J. Louis Const., Inc. is soliciting subcontract and material bids for the Wastewater Treatment System Improvements-Contract 2 Project. Bids Due: 11/8/2022 @ 2:00 PM EST. Qualified DBE/MBE, Approved SLBE, and small business firms are encouraged to submit bids. We are seeking subcontractor and vendor quotes for Trucking/Hauling, Asphalt Milling/Paving, Traffic Control, Aggregates, Concrete Material, Clearing/Grubbing, Please contact us if you need any assistance in obtaining bonding, financing, insurance, equipment, supplies, materials or related assistance or services. All qualified bidders will not be discriminated against due to race, age, religion, color, sex or country of origin. Specifications and Plans available at www.sjlouis.com. Fax bids to (320) 253-3533. Please contact us at (320) 253-9291 ext. 361 for additional information.
N3,1tc

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 603
All persons having claims against **JOHN ALAN WOOD-COCK**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Sheryl Sturdivant Woodcock, Administrator
502 W. Poplar Ave; C-4
Carrboro, NC 27510
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 604
All persons having claims against **LOUIS LYON MARTIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **HELEN P. GUTHRIE aka HELEN PIKE GUTHRIE**, late of 145 Pike Memory Lane, Staley, Chatham County, North Carolina 27355, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 4145 Randolph Church Road, Liberty, NC 27298, on or before the 7th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Myra Bunton Martin, Executor of the

Estate of Helen P. Guthrie aka Helen Pike Guthrie
Pamela E. Whitaker, Attorney at Law
4145 Randolph Church Road
Liberty, NC 27298
(336) 622-3553
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 603
All persons having claims against **DAVID CLARENCE OAKLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Tonya H. Oakley, Administrator
383 Oakley Farm Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 604
All persons having claims against **LOUIS LYON MARTIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 602
All persons having claims against **CLYDE A. DOWD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Jeanne Martin, Executrix
276 Boothe Hill Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 599
All persons having claims against **ALEXANDER GUNTER KLAUSMANN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Sandra Delouis Wilson, Executrix
1110 Windy Ridge Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 587
The undersigned, Sharla Alexander, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DAVID ALEXANDER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 25th day of January 2023, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Sharla Alexander
c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds,
Attorney for the Estate
Eunoia Law Firm
Post Office Box 42
Holly Springs, NC 27540
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 568
All persons having claims against **WELFORD DALTON HARRIS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Tamela M. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
4479 Moncure Pittsboro Rd
Moncure, NC 27559
Michael S. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
9100 Bud Smith Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 598
All persons having claims against **THOMAS HOWARD CROWSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Ronald Brooks, Executor
75 Clarence Brooks Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 596
All persons having claims against **SUZANNE MARIE WHITE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Margaret Zwilling, Executor
9426 NC Highway 42
Bear Creek, NC 27207
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 427
All persons having claims against **EDWARD R. SCHWERIN, JR.**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 587
The undersigned, Sharla Alexander, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DAVID ALEXANDER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 25th day of January 2023, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Sharla Alexander
c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds,
Attorney for the Estate
Eunoia Law Firm
Post Office Box 42
Holly Springs, NC 27540
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **HELEN P. GUTHRIE aka HELEN PIKE GUTHRIE**, late of 145 Pike Memory Lane, Staley, Chatham County, North Carolina 27355, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 4145 Randolph Church Road, Liberty, NC 27298, on or before the 7th day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This is the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Myra Bunton Martin, Executor of the

Estate of Helen P. Guthrie aka Helen Pike Guthrie
Pamela E. Whitaker, Attorney at Law
4145 Randolph Church Road
Liberty, NC 27298
(336) 622-3553
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 603
All persons having claims against **DAVID CLARENCE OAKLEY**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Tonya H. Oakley, Administrator
383 Oakley Farm Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 604
All persons having claims against **LOUIS LYON MARTIN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 602
All persons having claims against **CLYDE A. DOWD**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Jeanne Martin, Executrix
276 Boothe Hill Rd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 599
All persons having claims against **ALEXANDER GUNTER KLAUSMANN**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 3rd day of February, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 3rd day of November, 2022.
Sandra Delouis Wilson, Executrix
1110 Windy Ridge Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
N3,N10,N17,N24,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 587
The undersigned, Sharla Alexander, having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of **DAVID ALEXANDER**, deceased, late of Chatham County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before 25th day of January 2023, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Sharla Alexander
c/o Shanelle K. Edmonds,
Attorney for the Estate
Eunoia Law Firm
Post Office Box 42
Holly Springs, NC 27540
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 568
All persons having claims against **WELFORD DALTON HARRIS**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Tamela M. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
4479 Moncure Pittsboro Rd
Moncure, NC 27559
Michael S. Schwerin, Co-Administrator
9100 Bud Smith Rd
Wake Forest, NC 27587
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 598
All persons having claims against **THOMAS HOWARD CROWSON**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Ronald Brooks, Executor
75 Clarence Brooks Rd
Pittsboro, NC 27312
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
CHATHAM COUNTY
22 E 596
All persons having claims against **SUZANNE MARIE WHITE**, deceased, late of Chatham County, North Carolina, are notified to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of January, 2023, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. Debtors of the decedent are asked to make immediate payment. This the 27th day of October, 2022.
Margaret Zwilling, Executor
9426 NC Highway 42
Bear Creek, NC 27207
027,N3,N10,N17,4tp

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Pittsboro Elementary Costume Walk teaches kindergarteners about local businesses

BY BEN RAPPAPORT
News + Record Staff

PITTSBORO — Spiderman, Sonic the Hedgehog and Elsa from “Frozen” marched around Pittsboro Monday to learn about local businesses and pick up treats along the way.

It was the 25th Pittsboro Elementary School Costume Walk. Kindergarteners and teachers dressed in Halloween costumes and visited more than 20 local businesses and county buildings as part of a social studies lesson about local goods and services.

“The local businesses really decorate for us, and we love doing this every year,” said Elizabeth Sturdivant, a kindergarten teacher at Pittsboro Elementary. “They put out like guided paths or themed decorations. The kids love getting to walk through a fun area and we love to see [businesses] going above and beyond for the students.”

More than 90 kindergarteners participated in the Costume Walk this year. Students were escorted along the way by volunteers, their teachers — each dressed as different colored Crayons — while the Chatham County Sheriff’s Office assisted with traffic and guided students down the right path.

Stops included the Pittsboro Welcome Center, Chatham County Justice Center, Pittsboro Toys, United Methodist Church, the Register of Deeds



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Teachers from Pittsboro Elementary each dressed as different colored crayons to lead their students on the annual costume walk on Monday.

Office and more.

Employees at many of the local businesses donned costumes for the holiday, but few were more dressed up than the administrators and staff at Chatham County Schools’ Central Services Building. At the home base for CCS, staff dressed as butterflies, witches and characters from different children’s books.

One of those characters was Clifford the Big Red Dog. The giant fur costume was donated to the office by Scholastic as part of what CCS called “Book-or-Treat.” Instead of the typical candy, CCS handed kindergartners books for their goody bags,

with popular titles like “Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type” and “Diary of a Worm.”

Kindergartners paused to give Clifford big hugs and high fives as they picked up their books, apples and pencils from Central Services before making their way to the next business.

“Clifford, I love watching your shows,” one kindergartener said.

“You’re my favorite dog on TV,” said her classmate.

Monday was the first time Pittsboro Elementary could resume the Costume Walk since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The two-year pause on the

Halloween celebration made this year especially exciting for students, teachers and local businesses.

“The students who weren’t able to do this walk are now in 3rd grade,” Sturdivant said. “It’s exciting having this be the first year we were able to bring this tradition back.”

Sturdivant described this year’s program as an overwhelming success. Perhaps unsurprisingly, kindergartners thrilled in parading around town in costumes and collecting treats along the way.

The adults also got in on the fun, with several posting pictures of their kindergarten-

er’s costumes to social media Monday.

“We arrrgh ready for our kindergarten community walk!” Jessica Spillman, a Pittsboro Elementary curriculum coach, tweeted. She and Sturdivant’s son both dressed as pirates for the Costume Walk.

With treats, books and tools of learning in their bags, the kindergarteners of Pittsboro Elementary started their Halloween on the right foot.

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



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Chatham County Schools Superintendent Dr. Anthony Jackson hands out books to Pittsboro Elementary School students as part of ‘Book-or-Treat’ on Monday.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Clifford the Big Red Dog gave hugs and high fives to Pittsboro Elementary students as part of Chatham County Schools Book-or-Treat on Monday.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Yoda, The Flash, Captain America and Pikachu were a few of the costumes donned by Pittsboro Elementary school students as part of the Halloween Costume Walk on Monday.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

At Chatham County Schools Central Services, Pittsboro Elementary students received an apple, pencil and books as part of their costume walk. They stopped at more than 20 businesses as part of the annual tradition.



Staff photo by Ben Rappaport

Kindergarteners at Pittsboro Elementary School walk toward Chatham County Schools Central Services Building as part of their annual Costume Walk on Halloween.

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