

Dominion Energy Services, Inc.
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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

March 9, 2021

Ms. Kimberly A. Campbell, Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
430 North Salisbury Street
Dobbs Building
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

**Re: Docket No. E-100, Sub 165
Dominion Energy North Carolina
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans**

Dear Ms. Campbell:

Enclosed is an Affidavit of Publication which will serve as proof of publication of the Public Notice as required in ordering paragraph 3 of the Commission's February 2, 2021 *Order Scheduling Public Hearing on 2020 Biennial IRP Reports and Related 2020 REPS Compliance Plans* ("Order") in the above-referenced docket.

Pursuant to the instructions in ordering paragraph 3 of the Order, notices were published in newspapers having general circulation in Dominion Energy North Carolina's service area once a week for two successive weeks beginning with the week of February 15, 2021. Copies of tear sheets from each of the newspapers in which the public notice ran are also enclosed.

Due to a scheduling error at the newspaper, the ad placement in the Roanoke Beacon, originally planned to be published on February 17, 2021 and February 24, 2021, published on February 24, 2021 and March 3, 2021, seven days past the February 17, 2021 deadline. A copy of the letter from Virginia Press Services explaining the errors is enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

OFFICIAL COPY

Mar 09 2021

Sincerely,

/s/ Lauren W. Biskie

Lauren W. Biskie
Senior Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Lucy Edmondson, Esq.
Nadia Luhr, Esq.



Virginia Press
Services

OFFICIAL COPY

Mar 09 2021

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION
(Order #21025DD0)

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
CITY/COUNTY OF Henrico, to-wit:

I, Julia Wigginton, Tearsheet Coordinator, hereby certify that a Legal Notice for Dominion Energy Services, Inc, State of NC Utilities Commission Raleigh...Docket No. E-100 SUB 165 was published in the following North Carolina and Virginia newspapers on the dates listed in the year 2021.

Bertie Ledger Advance 2/18/21, 2/25/21	Butner Creedmoor News 2/18/21, 2/25/21
Coastland Times - Manteo 2/17/21, 2/24/21	Edenton, The Chowan Herald 2/18/21, 2/25/21
Elizabeth City Daily Advance 2/17/21, 2/24/21	Gates County Index 2/18/21, 2/25/21
Hertford Perquimans Weekly 2/18/21, 2/25/21	
Martin Co Enterprise (changed name from Williamston Enterprise) 2/18/21, 2/25/21	
Nashville Graphic 2/18/21, 2/25/21	Pamlico News 2/17/21, 2/24/21
Plymouth Roanoke Beacon 2/24/21, 3/3/21	Roanoke Chowan News Herald 2/17/21, 2/24/21
Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald 2/17/21, 2/24/21	Rocky Mt Telegram 2/17/21, 2/24/21
Roxboro, The Courier Times 2/18/21, 2/25/21	Spring Hope Enterprise 2/17/21, 2/24/21
The Daily Reflector 2/17/21, 2/24/21	Virginian Pilot 2/21/21, 2/28/21

Julia Wigginton
Signature

Subscribed to and sworn before me this 4th day of March 2021.

My commission expires: 9/30/2024



[Signature]
[Notary Public]



Virginia Press
Services

March 4, 2021

Tracey Huang
Paralegal II, Legal Operations
Dominion Energy Services, Inc.

Dear Tracey,

We scheduled and confirmed a notice for Dominion Energy North Carolina in the Roanoke Beacon newspaper to be published on February 17 and 24, 2021. Due to a system conversion at the newspaper the ad was accidentally missed in page layout and the notice did not publish on February 17. The notice published on February 24 and March 3, 2021.

Sincerely,

Susan Wineland-li

Susan Wineland-li
Advertising Sales Director
Virginia Press Services

OFFICIAL COPY

Mar 09 2021

White

From 1

said, speaking of the country life as well as the city life.

White graduated with a degree in social work from Shaw University in Raleigh, where he met his wife, Elaine, who is also from Windsor.

Graduating in 1965, the Whites married, moved to Baltimore and put down roots. They had two sons and made a life there for 34 years, not moving back home to Windsor until 1999.

"I love eastern North Carolina," he said. "It is relatively peaceful."

He and Elaine have three grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

"And I have a whole bunch of grandchildren of a spiritual nature," he said.

While in Baltimore, White was teaching when he got the call to become a pastor.

He began his ministry in 1977 at New Friendship Baptist Church, where he pastored for 17 years, growing the church from 200 members to over 700.

The church was deep in the heart of downtown Baltimore, a city of well over a half million people.

"It was a great place to minister. We were in the midst of drugs, alcohol and prostitution," White said. "There is more crime [in Baltimore] than anywhere. But I believe the Church should be where the needs of people are."

He added, "We were in the highways and hedges," referencing a verse in the Bible that says, "So the lord said unto his servant, "Go out into the highways and along the hedges and compel them to come in so that my house may be filled." (Luke 14:23 KJV)



The Rev. Ralph White believed in loving God and loving your fellow man, a message much-needed today.

Only eight blocks from Johns Hopkins Hospital, the church volunteered to become a testing site for people who had possibly contracted AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) or HIV (human immunodeficiency virus).

"One of the members in my church had a son who died of AIDS. We were drawn to see what we could do about helping that community of people," White said.

He said some of the greatest moments of his ministry were during the years he spent counseling and testing people for the deadly virus.

"The church became a rescue mission," he said.

Trained by the health department, his office doubled as a clinic and a counseling room Monday through Friday, and a pastor's study on Sunday.

The ministry was always more about the person than it was about the test. According to White, the AIDS/HIV test can now be purchased at a drugstore, removing the human contact he feels was at the core of

the ministry.

"It was a fruitful ministry. We were able to get help to people who needed treatment for the problems that led to them having to be tested, like drugs and alcohol," he said. "It was such a blessing."

He remembers one man in particular.

"One of my greatest joys was a man that had been addicted for 27 years," he said. "He came in for testing. After talking with him I realized he needed to be in Teen Challenge."

That program is a national, long-term residential substance-abuse rehabilitation program that works with adults and teens. The closest one to Baltimore was in Washington D.C.

"It would take \$250 to get him there," said White. "My church would give him \$50 but he would have to come up with the rest of it."

"He told me nobody in his family would help him. I told him there is one person we can count on when nobody else believes in us. I told him to call his mama and I would talk to her," he said.

His mother did provide the money and White took him to DC where he finished the program.

"One day when I was back [in Baltimore] I ran into him. He was still living in DC and he was still clean. And, after living in addiction 27 years and sharing needles, he never did get AIDS," he said. "There are so many lives we touched in that ministry."

White saw some of the same problems in eastern North Carolina as he saw in Baltimore.

"Wherever you find people, you will find drugs and

alcohol," he said.

He tried to start a similar ministry when he moved back to NC in 1999, but he lamented the stigma of reaching those whom society considers "below filthy." He also mourned the lack of resources in rural eastern NC compared to Maryland.

"There are no resources here to get people the long term help and treatment they need," he said during a 2017 interview. "There are so many more resources in the bigger cities, along with Federal grants."

He is full of compassion for the hurting.

"People society calls dope addicts, scum, jailbirds and prostitutes - God loves them," he said.

"When you see people out on the street, you need to realize that God loves them. And if you take the time to investigate, you might be able to help them," he said.

"There is always a risk involved but you can't compare that to the joy you get from helping people like that," he added.

Regardless of where people have been in their lives, he said, "We are all sinners. Sin is sin. I'm not going to sit in judgment of you. We have to see one other through the eyes of the Lord and not see the faults and failings of each other."

"The church is the bride of Christ. We need to realize that we are all brothers and sisters in Christ," he said. "And we need to act like it."

Accepting the call to come home was not an easy decision.

"It was hard to leave," he said.

"The love we had - we still have. Every time we go back,

it's family; it's love. Someone will invariably say to me 'You will always be my pastor,'" he said.

When he received the call to come back to Bertie, he was also considering an invitation to pastor a church in Charlotte.

"I have learned to never go to a church because of the money. You go because you are called [by God]," he said. "He will never take you somewhere His grace cannot sustain you. It is never about the money. It is about the call."

He said that there is a difference in being a pastor of a church and being a preacher of a church.

"To become the pastor it takes years," he said. "You visit, marry, bury, and do all kinds of different things. It takes time."

Back in Bertie, the Whites continued to invest in people's lives and enjoying the fruits of retirement.

"I have been extremely blessed all my life. Even in the hard times," he said.

And the couple has endured hard times, especially when they lost their adult son Anthony, to leukemia in April 2015.

White himself battled cancer for the past several years, having 10 surgeries to remove low-grade tumors.

"As preachers, we tell people 'trust in God, everything will be okay'," he said.

"When troubles come to your own house, I found out, you have to eat your own cooking," he added, meaning he has to believe his own preaching.

"I just try to enjoy life and be a blessing," he said. "Also - have fishing poles - will fish."

Terminal

From 1

mission. On the commission from Bertie County and attending the event were Bertie County Chief Deputy Kenny Perry and Steve Biggs, Bertie County Economic Developer.

Additionally, Commissioners Ron Weson and Ron Roberson were present as well as Bertie County Manager Juan Vaughan II.

Commissioner Tammy Lee said, "We are absolutely thrilled with this beautiful facility" and she went on to thank all of the parties involved including Henry Joyner, who is the general manager of Tri-County Airport and the namesake for Henry Joyner Field.

Joyner actually cut the ribbon. The late Hertford County Commissioner Johnnie Ray Farmer was thanked for his work on this project and his widow,

SEE MORE PHOTOS ONLINE:
www.bertieledgeradvance.com

Paula Farmer accepted a plaque on his behalf.

North Carolina Rep. Howard J. Hunter, III was thanked for his work in the North Carolina legislature on this project as well as Rep. Michael Wray. Trey Lewis representing Senator Tom Tillis's office and Betty Jo Shephard from Senator Richard Burr's Office were present at the ceremony.

The importance of this new terminal and the impression that it makes on businesses looking to relocate was echoed by Biggs.

"Imagine the owner of a manufacturing company visiting our area to potentially relocate before the building of this facility landing and seeing the old decrepit terminal might tell his

pilot keep the engine running because we are not staying."

The terminal certainly states by its appearance that this area is in the 21st Century.

The Wilson Group were the architects of the building with Talbert & Bright Engineering as the planning consultants. Calvin Davenport, Inc. was the general contractor. The Windsor/Bertie Chamber and Ahoskie Chamber served as hosts for the event. A much larger celebration is planned for when Covid-19 conditions are better.

Lewis Hoggard is Executive Director of the Windsor/Bertie County Chamber of Commerce.

Missing

From 1

reportedly walked away from a family member's house Wednesday afternoon and wasn't seen again until the missing person bulletin was issued.

The incident began earlier Wednesday when Smallwood was reportedly the victim of a crime perpetrated by her father. The Bertie County Sheriff's Office investigated the com-

plaint, presented information to a magistrate and obtained warrants for the arrest of Patrick Smallwood.

Bertie County Maj. Matt Roebuck said once the elder Smallwood was in custody, his daughter was taken to a family member's home following consultation with DSS.

Later in the day, deputies returned to the resident to find Smallwood missing. The

relative said the teen was last seen walking down Hexlena Road/Kelly Park Lane between Powellsville and Ahoskie.

Sheriff Holley thanked all those who assisted with finding the missing teen.

"We are glad she is safe and sound," he said.

Thadd White can be reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
Reports and Related 2020 REPS) 2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
Compliance Plans) RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) has scheduled a public hearing in conjunction with the Commission's review and evaluation of integrated resource planning (IRP) in North Carolina. The purpose of the review and evaluation is to ensure that each regulated electric utility operating in North Carolina is developing reliable projections of the long range demands for electricity in its service area and is developing a combination of reliable resource options for meeting the anticipated demands in a cost effective manner. IRP is intended to identify those electric resource options which can be obtained at least cost to ratepayers in North Carolina consistent with adequate, reliable electric service. IRP considers conservation, efficiency, load management and other demand side program alternatives in the selection of resource options. Commission Rule R8 60 requires that each of the electric utilities furnish the Commission with a biennial report in even numbered years that contains the specific information set out in that Commission Rule. In odd numbered years, each of the electric utilities must file an update report updating its most recently filed biennial report. In addition, regulated electric utilities are required to include their plans for meeting customer electric needs via renewable energy resources and energy efficiency programs by submitting a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard compliance plan (REPS compliance plan) as part of the IRP filing.

During the public hearing to be held in this docket, the Commission will receive testimony from nonexpert public witnesses with respect to the most current IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed in 2020 by Duke Energy Progress, LLC; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC; and Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1 21(g).

A night hearing for the convenience of public witnesses and solely for the purpose of taking nonexpert public witness testimony shall be held by the Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing shall be conducted remotely via Webex. A link to view the hearing will be available at www.ncuc.net.

Persons desiring to present testimony for the record must register in advance of the hearing, no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021 by contacting the Public Staff via email at IRPPublicHearing@psncuc.nc.gov or by calling 866 380 9816. Testimony will be limited to five minutes per individual.

Only individuals registered with the Public Staff by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, will be allowed to testify at the hearing.

Anyone wishing to review the 2020 IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed by the utilities may do so at the Commission's website, www.ncuc.net, by selecting the Docket tab and entering Docket No. E 100 Sub 165. Upon request, the Chief Clerk will place copies of the IRPs, compliance plans and any other documents filed in this proceeding in centrally located public libraries where they may be copied without prohibition. Such a request may be made by writing to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699 4300, and providing the name and address of the library to which the information is to be mailed.

Persons desiring to send written statements to inform the Commission of their positions in the matter shall address their statements to Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699 4300

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information that the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699 4300

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699 9001. Written statements may be emailed to utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

**Martin
Community
College**

**Summer Semester
Starts May 17**

**Fall Semester
Starts August 18**

**Early registration for both
semesters starts April 19!**



Get a “HIRE” education!

Martin Community College offers affordable and transferable college credits! Degrees, diplomas and certificates are available in 23 programs of study.

5-week, all online, transferable classes include: American Literature I & II, British Literature I & II, American History I & II, Fit & Well for Life, Personal Health/Wellness, and College Transfer Success. Precalculus Algebra and Precalculus Trigonometry are hybrid classes.

A Manicuring/Nail Technology Certificate Program can be completed during the summer semester.

Twenty-seven classes are also available over the full summer session.

View the entire schedule at <https://www.martincc.edu/sites/default/files/Summer%20Schedule%202-18-2021.pdf>

Financial Aid is available!

You are encouraged to submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

Need help applying? Call 252-792-1521.

Apply now!

Apply online at www.martincc.edu or call 252-792-1521 for personal assistance.

Need help registering after applying?

MCC Counselors are available at 1161 Kehukee Park Rd., Williamston, NC.

Make an appointment or stop by the campus! Call 252-792-1521 or email vanessa.tripp@martincc.edu

The sooner you apply and register, the smoother your College experience will be!

**High School Students can
get a jump on their career!**



**NC CAREER &
COLLEGE PROMISE**

**Earn tuition-free college credits as
a high school student!**

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versity and save thousands of \$\$\$**

**Start a technical career upon
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tact Michelle Griffin at 252-789-0312 or via email at
michelle.griffin@martincc.edu**

**Learn more at www.martincc.edu or call 252-792-
1521. Assistance is also available via text at 252-
802-6116 or by email at help@martincc.edu**

*Martin Community College is committed to an environment that embraces
diversity, respects the rights of all individuals, is open and accessible, and is
free of harassment and discrimination.*

SHOWING LOVE



St. Elmo Missionary Baptist Church expressed its gratitude to the essential workers of Brian Center Health and Rehabilitation and Three Rivers Health and Rehabilitation facilities and expressed love to the residents and staff by giving Valentines Day tokens of love. **Above:** St. Elmo's congregation visits Three Rivers. From left are: Scarlet Spivey, Commissioner Ron Roberson, Brenda Perry who is Activity Director for Three Rivers, Pastor Margaret A. Barber of St. Elmo Missionary Baptist Church, Amelia Lee, and Brenda Ruffin. Below: St. Elmo's congregation visits Brian Center. From left are: Scarlet Spivey, Simon Spivey, Commissioner Ron Roberson, Deborah Young who is Activity Director for the Brian Center, Pastor Margaret A. Barber, Brenda Ruffin, Amelia Lee, and Thomas Ruffin.



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk



Two men tried to break into the Citgo gas station convenience store in Wilton early Friday morning authorities said. Contributed photo by the Granville County Sheriff's Office

Men seen on camera breaking into store

From staff reports

FRANKLINTON — Two men tried to break into the Citgo gas station convenience store in Wilton early Friday morning authorities said.

The Granville County Sheriff's Office said the men forced their way into the Food Mart, damaging the property. They were seen on security video, the sheriff's office said.

They did not enter the store, on N.C. Highway 96 South, but ran away after getting the door open.

One man was wearing a Champion hoodie and gloves. The other

man wore a ski mask, glove and camouflaged one-piece outfit.

The sheriff's office is also investigating after a Craftsman pressure washer was stolen from a home's garage early Sunday morning. The home was off Range Road in Stem.

Anyone with information about either incident is asked to call the Granville County Sheriff's Office at 919-693-3213 or call Crime Stoppers 919-693-3100.

A reward of up to \$1,000 is available for information that leads to an arrest. Callers can remain anonymous.

GRANVILLE BRIEFS

Granville County GOP

The Granville County Republican Party meets montly on the third Thursday. The next meeting is 7 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 18. Contact granvillegop@rock-etmail.com or granvil-lecountygop@gmail.com for more information or to get the Zoom link.

The Granville County GOP will have its precinct chair and delegate meeting at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25 at Bible Baptist Church, 2047 Gate 2 Road, Creedmoor. Precinct chairs and delegates will be selected then.

The Granville County GOP Convention will be held in the Superior Court Room of the Granville County Courthouse on March 18 at 7 p.m.

Brides on Wheels

Granville County vendors are invited to participate in the 2021 Brides on Wheels bridal tour, scheduled for March 28. The deadline for vendors — including florists, photographers, caterers, event planners, disc jockeys, and rental companies — to register has been extended to Feb. 22.

For more information, contact Granville County Tourism Director Angela Allen at 919-693-6125 or angela.allen@granvillecounty.org. Brides who would like to save a seat on the Brides on

Wheels caravan tour can register at <https://granvillebowns2021.eventbrite.com>.

Loving Our Community Drive

The city of Oxford is introducing its Loving Our Community Drive. Through Feb. 24, the city is collecting donations for the Masonic Home for Children and the Central Children's Home in Oxford. The dropbox is at Oxford City Hall, 300 Williamsboro St.

Items needed include dish cloths, can openers, bath towels, batteries, baby wipes, toiletries and laundry supplies.

For more information, contact Alyssa Blair at alyssa.blair@oxfordnc.org or 919-603-1102.

Curbside food drive

The Butner Church Council, 405 West E St., Butner, is looking for any food donations, particularly canned fruits, dry beans, rice, sugar, flour and cooking oil. It is holding a curbside food drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27. Contact coordinator Lisa Kennady at 919-414-3213 for more information.

Food drive

The Granville County Center for the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service is hosting a food drive for nonperishable items. Donations are being accept-

ed through Feb. 28, with collections to be taken to food pantries that assist local families.

This food drive is part of a statewide Cooperative Extension campaign that feeds the hungry and celebrates small farmers. The Granville County Center for the NC Cooperative Extension Service is at 125 Outer Loop Road in Oxford.

Call 919-603-1350 for more details.

Black History Month celebration

Vance-Granville Community College will honor Black trailblazers and hear from community entrepreneurs throughout the month of February as part of its Your History, Our History, Black History online celebration. To participate, visit <http://www.vgcc.edu> from until Feb. 28.

Senior yearbook ads

South Granville High School will include recognition advertisements in its yearbook to bring positivity and special recognition to the Class of 2021 for its senior year. Visit the yearbook website at <http://bit.ly/SGHSad21> to buy an ad and email questions to Mrs. Herrin, yearbook advisor, at her-rina@gcs.k12.nc.us.

Beef conference

N.C. Cooperative Extension will be hosting four free webinars during March.

Submit your event

The Butner-Creedmoor News publishes community briefs each week as a free public service. Send calendar items, event listings and other news items to editor@butnercreedmoornews.com.

The Piedmont Regional Beef Conference webinar series kicks off March 1 at 7 p.m., with sessions following every Thursday on various topics. Anyone interested in the production of beef is invited to register for one or all of these webinars.

For a list of topics and information on speakers, call the Granville County Cooperative Extension office at 919-603-1350. To register, visit <http://go.ncsu.edu/prbcwebinarseries21>.

Agriculture grants

The N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission is accepting applications for the 2021 grant cycle. The key objectives for 2021 are supporting the agricultural industry, impacting rural communities and stimulating economic development. Funds will be awarded in the fall for selected innovative projects.

Applications information is now online at <http://www.tobaccotrustfund.org>. For more information, call Jeff Camden at 919-397-6766. The deadline for applications submission is Friday, March 5.

Don't Wait to Get Your Screening Colonoscopy

SAFER • FASTER • MORE AFFORDABLE

HAVE YOUR COLONOSCOPY DONE WITHOUT A REFERRAL

Granville Gastroenterology Associates

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Oxford, NC

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Friday
8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**Colonoscopies are recommended for anyone over the age of 50 (45 for African Americans). If caught early, colorectal cancer has a 90% survival rate.*



To make an appointment, call 919.690.3499
or self-refer by visiting www.ghsHospital.org/Colonoscopy

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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Sheriff reports uptick of scams

From staff reports

OXFORD — County deputies are investigating several reports of scammers making off with people's money. The Granville County Sheriff's Office said these fraudsters are tricking residents over phone, mail and computers. Some of the scams involve fake computer virus protection offers, unemployment benefit scams, counterfeit checks, fake debt collection, and scams involving the IRS or taxes. The sheriff's office

said people should never respond to emails, phone calls or mail that is unsolicited or from an unfamiliar company. You should never share your personal or financial information with anyone unless you are certain you know who you're giving it to and where it's going, the sheriff's office said. People should regularly monitor their bank and financial accounts for unauthorized charges. Phishing scams — where criminals send emails pretending to

be a trusted person or company — can be avoided by never clicking on email links from unknown senders. The sheriff's office encourages people protect their passwords and PINs and avoid using easily available information like mother's maiden name, birth dates or phone numbers. Passwords should be changed regularly. Anyone who thinks they may have been scammed should call the sheriff's office at 919-693-3213.

Stem to spend more to fix stormwater draining

By Amanda Dixon
amanda@butnercreedmoornews.com

STEM — Commissioners on Monday agreed to spend \$3,200 to address stormwater drainage issues that have long-plagued two residential subdivisions. The problems with water not draining at Carriage Hill and Highland subdivisions prompted the town to come up with a plan to fix the issues. The spending will fund engineering that is expected to fix the drainage. Stem allocated \$31,000 a year ago for the project, but work has been delayed for a series of reasons. According to Mike Conti, the town's stormwater and zoning administrator, the company contracted to do the work will be on site as soon as possible, as the weather allows. The contractor will rework drainage ditches. The Stem Board of Commissioners on Monday also looked over a

draft of a letter that will be sent to town residents asking them to clean up their property. Many commissioners said the draft wasn't specific enough about what the town wants to see corrected. The letter will be re-drafted before being mailed to residents. In January, commissioners agreed to send courtesy letters to homes with exteriors most in need of tidying up. Commissioners on Monday announced plans to hold a public hearing on a proposal to close the town cemetery. The board is asking its attorney to determine what needed to be done to finalize the closure. Commissioner Frank Shelton said he had the scope of work ready for repaving Franklin Street, but it had been brought to his attention there were other town-owned streets that needed repair or repaving as well. The board tasked Shelton with listing those streets so the board can

help prioritize repair and get a separate scope of work for other streets. Commissioners then talked about rethinking the annual Easter egg hunt because of the pandemic. Instead, commissioners said they hope to coordinate with the Stem fire department and arrange for the Easter Bunny to ride through the community and deliver eggs. Commissioner Kenneth McLamb will following up with the fire department. McLamb also said the fire department has been disinfecting park equipment and town patrol cars on a weekly basis. It's also disinfecting Town Hall. The board moved several other agenda items to its March 1 work session, including finalizing plans for its video for Granville County's 275th anniversary celebration and discussion on park trash receptacles and open lot usage rules. The work session will start at 6:30 p.m.



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COVID-19 town hall addresses questions about vaccines

By Amber Revels-Stocks
arevels@wakeweb.com

RALEIGH — Locals were able to ask experts questions about the COVID-19 vaccines at a virtual town hall held by U.S. Rep. David Price on Feb. 18. Participants spoke with Dr. Deepak Kumar, director of the Julius L. Chambers Biomedical/Biotechnology Research Institute at N.C. Central University, and Kody Kinsley, deputy secretary for Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities at N.C. Department of Health and Human Services. Here's how the experts answered some public questions:

Are the current vaccines effective against the COVID-19 variants? Can we expect them to be effective as mutations continue?

KUMAR: All vaccines provide a certain degree of protection to the variants. That's very good news. Both provide very good protection to the U.K. variant. They have a smaller degree of protection against the South African variant. Regardless, they both provide enough protection against any severe disease. There should be no reason not to take these vaccines. Both companies are actively working on the booster shots or any future variant to provide protection.

Should you get the vaccine even if you've already had COVID-19?

KUMAR: You should definitely get the vaccine per CDC recommendations. As long as you have recovered from the COVID, you should definitely get the vaccine. There are a certain amount of antibodies built into you when you get the COVID, but we don't know the protection level that provides. If you were hospitalized due to COVID and you were given antibody therapeutics, the CDC recommends you wait 90 days before you take the vaccine. Talk to your

provider about that.

How long after the second shot do you have to wait to be considered protected?

KUMAR: At approximately three weeks you will have the protection after the second dose of the vaccine. We must continue to practice the 3Ws. Unless we create and maintain the culture of 3Ws, it is not going to go away from the community. If you have taken the vaccine ..., it is a responsibility to continue to maintain the 3Ws. Wear your mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance. It's very important to follow. The CDC has clear guidelines. In general, you have to follow the 3Ws. I think nothing should change in that regard.

When my group becomes eligible, will I have a choice as to which vaccine I get?

KUMAR: All three vaccines are very great vaccines. They have outstanding efficacy. You have 94-95% efficacy from Pfizer and Moderna. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which is upcoming, has an efficacy of 66-72%. Most importantly, in severe disease, it's 85% efficacy. These are good vaccines. Their efficacy is more than anybody expected. To the best of my understanding, we don't have a choice. There's no reason to differentiate between one vaccine over another.

Is the supply adequate to get everyone vaccinated?

KINSLEY: The Biden administration has done a phenomenal job of increasing the supply over last few weeks. It's upwards of 57% more than what we've seen since the start of the year. Our allocation for next week is expected to be 210,120 doses. We expect it to be same for the next several weeks. To the question is supply enough? The answer is of course no. We have over 10 mill people in

North Carolina. The easy math: 200,000 doses is enough for 2% of the population to get one dose in a week. While the vaccination supply is increasing, it's not going as fast as we want. ... Not only is scarcity an issue, no matter how we group folks, there's always more people in the group than there is supply in a given week.

How do you explain limits in supply? How do we move beyond that?

KINSLEY: On the supply side, the federal government controls the supply in so far as they have purchased and contracted with Pfizer and Moderna to obtain that supply. We know Johnson & Johnson has scheduled to review their product with the FDA, and perhaps by end of month, we could have additional J&J vaccines. I want to say so that everyone hears this. All of these vaccines are amazing. They have shown zero hospitalizations and zero severe illnesses for folks have any vaccine in the trials. More vaccines being brought online is the best way forward to increase the supply.

Is there a timeline anybody who wants to get a vaccine can get one? When can we sign up and should we join a waiting list before it's our group's turn?

KINSLEY: There's so many variables, such as supply chain, production, when other vax come online. By the end of June, we expect to have between Pfizer and Moderna enough for 300 million people to be vaccinated. Then, Johnson & Johnson may have another 100 million vaccines for that. As we get into the summer, we expect to have significant supply. ... I do not recommend getting on a waiting list until it is your phase. Our providers are, of course, screening folks for when it is their phase. Right now, it's important to wait for your turn.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

ago and stand 5.9 cents per gallon higher than a year ago.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in North Carolina is priced at \$2.08 per gallon Monday while the most expensive is \$3.09

er than year ago. Historical gasoline prices in North Carolina and the national average going back ten years:

February 15, 2020: \$2.27 per gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.45 per gallon)
February 15, 2019: \$2.17

February 15, 2015: \$2.19 per gallon (U.S. Average: \$2.25 per gallon)

February 15, 2014: \$3.30 per gallon (U.S. Average: \$3.33 per gallon)

February 15, 2013: \$3.39 per gallon (U.S. Average: \$3.65 per gallon)

gallon from last week's \$2.28 per gallon.

Charlotte - \$2.33 per gallon, up 4.5 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.29 per gallon.

Greensboro - \$2.37 per gallon, up 8.8 cents per gallon from last week's

Patrick De Ilaan, head of petroleum analysis for GasBuddy. "The rise in gas prices continues to be driven by improving demand in the United States, and has nothing to do with who sits in the White House, but rather

the national average will rise another 10 to as much as 50 cents per gallon if oil production doesn't respond to the continued recovery in demand."

GasBuddy data is accessible at <http://FuelIn.sights.GasBuddy.com>.

North Carolina GOP votes to censure Burr after impeachment vote

By Bryan Anderson

Associated Press/Report for America

The North Carolina Republican Party unanimously approved a resolution Monday to censure Sen. Richard Burr over his vote to convict former President Donald Trump during Trump's second impeachment trial.

Michael Whatley, the state party chairman, said the central committee's decision serves as a symbolic gesture of the party's opposition to Burr's action.

"It's important for the party to go ahead and put out a vote and a statement that it disagrees with Senator Burr's vote, but in terms of practical impacts, it is just that. It's a resolution," Whatley said.

Burr, who has been in Congress for 26 years, including the last 16 as a senator, is one of several Republicans to be censured by state and county parties for voting for Trump's impeachment.

"It is truly a sad day for North Carolina Republicans," Burr said in a statement. "My party's leadership has chosen loyalty to one man over the core principles of the Republican Party and the founders of our great nation."

The senator announced in 2016 that he would retire from politics after his final term and not seek reelection in 2022. Burr previously voted to dismiss the impeachment trial on the basis that it was unconstitutional to impeach a president who was no longer in office.

But in a move that startled some members of his party, Burr joined six of his GOP colleagues in convicting Trump of "incitement of insurrection." He then said in a statement that the Senate's vote to proceed with the trial established a precedent that a former president could be impeached.

"I do not make this decision lightly, but I believe it is necessary," Burr stated. "By what he did and by

what he did not do, President Trump violated his oath of office to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Ultimately, Trump was acquitted of the charge because the 57-43 vote fell short of the two-thirds majority needed for conviction.

Since the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol that claimed the lives of five people, Trump has continued to hold influence over state parties. Amid harsh critiques from Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and a growing number of investigations into Trump's role in sowing discord following his electoral defeat, the former president remains popular with his vocal segment of the Republican Party, which party officials will need if they want to reclaim the House or Senate in the upcoming midterms.

Whatley believes Trump played a strong role in helping down-ballot North Carolina candidates in 2020, including newly reelected GOP Sen. Thom Tillis, who declared Trump not guilty of the incitement of insurrection charge. He wants to see Trump's North Carolina supporters convert into reliable Republican voters.

"The president will have the ability to help excite the base and turn voters out," Whatley said.

Within hours of Burr's decision, the North Carolina GOP and 2022 Republican Senate candidate Mark Walker quickly rebuked Burr.

"Wrong vote, Sen. Burr," Walker wrote on Twitter. "I am running to replace Richard Burr because North Carolina needs a true conservative champion as their next senator."

Burr is not the only one who has faced repercussions following his Saturday vote. The Louisiana GOP executive committee unanimously voted later that day to censure Sen.

Bill Cassidy for his decision to convict Trump. Pennsylvania's Republican Party is planning a meeting to potentially censure Sen. Pat Toomey over his vote to convict Trump, according to county party officials.

Burr said in a statement after the trial that Trump "bears responsibility" for the riot at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Whatley, who served as an elector in the state Trump narrowly won, declined to link the former president's behavior to the violent actions taken by his supporters on Jan. 6 but said "clearly some events would not have taken place" if Trump had accepted the 306-232 vote of the Electoral College in favor of President Joe Biden.

Republican South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham said this weekend on "Fox News Sunday" that Burr's move to convict strengthens the prospects of another Republican who has yet to declare her candidacy for Burr's seat: Lara Trump.

Lara was born along North Carolina's coast in Wilmington and is married to the former president's son Eric. She was active on the campaign trail in 2016 and 2020 and helped garner support for her father-in-law in the Tar Heel state.

Graham told Fox News host Chris Wallace that Burr "just made Lara Trump almost the certain nominee for the Senate seat in North Carolina to replace him if she runs."

Whatley did not discuss which candidate he'd support in 2022 but spoke positively of Lara Trump when asked whether he'd like to see her enter the race.

"If Lara were to get in the race, I think she would command widespread and immediate attention across the state," Whatley said.

He also hopes Burr will remain a visible force in North Carolina politics.

"He's been a leader,

he's voted right, he has stood up for North Carolina throughout his career and we believe that he will continue to have a leadership role in the party," Whatley said of Burr's political future. "We're being very careful with the vote tonight to focus on his vote for impeachment after declaring that it was unconstitutional to move forward. We're not rebuking him or going after his record. We're focusing solely on his vote."

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Dare Sheriff's Office open March 13 for gun permit applications

COVID-19 update: Some metrics trending down

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On Monday, Feb. 22, 2021, the United States counted 500,000 lives lost from COVID-19.

The milestone was marked by a moment of silence and candle lighting ceremony at the White House.

Federal and North Carolina flags will fly at half-staff on federal and state buildings through sunset Friday, Feb. 26, 2021 as Gov. Roy Cooper joined President Joe Biden in issuing the flag lowering order.

In North Carolina, COVID-19 deaths neared 11,000.

Some metrics in the state are following a downward trend.

On Monday, Feb. 22, North Carolina's new cases totaled 2,133, down 408 cases from the day before. People hospitalized with COVID-19 numbered 1,567, down 80 patients.

Across the state, the number of critical level counties has dropped dramatically.

The county alert system measures coronavirus spread and hospitalizations. Based on data collected between Jan. 31 and Feb. 13, the alert systems categorized 27 of North Carolina counties

as red, or critical. Orange, or substantial spread, is counted in 40 counties and yellow, or low impact, counties number 33.

In the new county alert, Currituck and Camden counties remain critical or red. Moving from the red level to the orange are Dare and Pasquotank counties. Hyde moved from critical to low impact/yellow and Tyrrell remains unchanged at orange/substantial.

Vaccinations - North Carolina is currently vaccinating all people in Groups 1 and 2, which include healthcare workers, long-term care staff and residents and people 65 and older.

On Feb. 24, vaccine eligibility for people in Group 3 will begin in some counties for teachers and childcare workers and March 10 for additional frontline essential workers.

In Dare County as of Feb. 21, 821 people in Groups 1 and 2 are currently scheduled for vaccination and 2,206 people are on the waiting list. The Dare Health Division will continue vaccinating Phase 1 and 2, however many educators, law enforcement and other frontline workers have

received two doses of vaccine and are now in the two-week waiting period. Dare public schools re-open for in-person learning March 1, 2021.

The Walgreens location at 5312 Virginia Dare Trail, Kitty Hawk, is participating in the nationwide program for COVID-19 vaccinations. Go to walgreens.com for more information and to make an appointment at the Kitty Hawk location.

Dare County - The Dare Health Division Bulletin of Feb. 23 writes, "we are pleased to report Dare County's COVID-19 data continues to trend in the right direction. Specifically, there were only 37 new positive cases last week. This is the lowest it has been since the beginning of October. Additionally, the percent of positive tests to total tests for this past week decreased from 10.9% to 8.2%. While these numbers are looking much better, we still need to remain vigilant."

As of Feb. 23, 2021, Dare County's death count was 13.

On the same day, the total number of cumulative COVID-19 cases in Dare County was 2,756.

Active positive resident cases number 46,

according to the county's dashboard, with 38 in home isolation and eight hospitalized.

In Dare County, those who are qualified to receive the vaccine can register online at darenc.com/Register4vaccine or call 252-475-5008. Those who register will be called to schedule an appointment.

As of Feb. 22, 8,256 first doses of coronavirus vaccine have been administered in Dare County. Second doses numbering 4,831 have been administered, according to the state's dashboard.

At Feb. 19, the Dare County Detention Center, Peak Resources in Nags Head and Spring Arbor in Kill Devil Hills remain on the outbreak list.

Hyde County - In Hyde County, telephone numbers for registering for a vaccination and to make an appointment on the mainland are the county health department at 252-926-4467 and on Ocracoke, call 252-489-3622.

On Feb. 19, Hyde County Health Department reported 633 total cumulative cases with nine active positive cases. Deaths number eight persons.

Some 1,088 first doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered and 544 second doses, according to the state's vaccine page.

As of Tuesday, Hyde County will continue to vaccinate Phase 1 and Phase 2 people on the waiting list. The county has been successful in vaccinating the 200

teachers and staff in the Hyde County School System who wanted to receive a vaccination. The health department made shots available to educators when no-shows and cancellations occurred.

Tyrrell County - Martin-Tyrrell-Washington Health District reports second dose vaccination clinics in Tyrrell and Washington counties are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27.

Martin-Tyrrell-Washington Health District writes that Tyrrell County, as of Feb. 22, has 29 active COVID-19 cases. Six individuals have died in the county due to coronavirus.

Tyrrell House, a residential care facility, remains on the congregant living outbreak list.

In Tyrrell County, 609 first doses of COVID-19 vaccine and 257 second doses have been administered as of Feb. 22, 2021, on the state's dashboard.

Camden, Currituck, Pasquotank counties - Albemarle Regional Health Services will conduct second dose clinics Wednesday, Feb. 24 in Camden County at Camden Intermediate School and in Pasquotank County at Elizabeth City Aviation Commerce Park. Both clinics are scheduled for 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m.

On Thursday, Feb. 24, Albemarle Regional will conduct first dose clinics in Camden County at the Camden County Library, in Currituck County at Maple Park (near the YMCA) and Pasquotank

County at the Elizabeth City Aviation Commerce Park. The clinics for Camden and Currituck are scheduled from 9 to 11 a.m. or until supplies are depleted. The Pasquotank Clinic is set for 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m.

Albemarle Regional Health Services has posted the following case information as of Feb. 23:

Camden: 565 lab-confirmed cases, with 38 cases now active. Camden County has lost five people to the coronavirus. As of Feb. 22, in Camden County, first dose vaccines administered number 2,295 and second doses 999, according to Albemarle Regional.

Currituck: 1,348 lab-confirmed cases. Some 87 cases are active. Currituck County has lost 15 people to coronavirus.

In Currituck County, 5975 first vaccine doses have been administered and 3,671 second doses, according to Albemarle Regional.

Currituck Health and Rehabilitation Center remains on the outbreak list.

Pasquotank: 3,015 lab-confirmed cases. Active cases number 35. COVID-related deaths in the county number 73 people. In Pasquotank, 7,626 vaccine first doses and 4,950 second doses have been administered, according to Albemarle Regional. Elizabeth City Health and Rehabilitation, Waterbrooke and Brookdale Elizabeth City remain on the congregant living outbreak list as is Albemarle District Jail.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

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CURRITUCK

From 1A

and discuss findings, which will lead to a consensus on the state of Currituck County Schools. The groups will then identify areas of strategic focus, and choose four to five areas to pursue. "One of the expected outcomes is to grow leaders across our county," Lutz said. "It's a great opportunity."

Lutz then presented a new attendance policy for board approval. "We are struggling to get some of our students to attend

in-person and online," Lutz said. He requested a temporary modification to the attendance policy due to COVID-related challenges. Currently, for students doing virtual learning, there are four times students are to log in. If the student logs in only once, they are counted as attending for the entire day. Lutz is trying to change that.

Kindergarten through second grade will continue to follow the temporary rule for remote instruction. Students in grades three through twelve must contact the course instructor if they are not able to attend virtually or

in-person, and parents must send in a note giving a reason for the absence. "We think it's in the best interest of our students to make sure we are coming to class," said Lutz.

Lutz informed the board that the district teachers and staff are doing everything they can for students, particularly students at academic risk. "We are making direct contact with students," he said.

The board passed the temporary attendance requirements and Lutz shared that part of the summer agenda involves "taking a long look at our attendance policy."

DARE

From 1A

and camping tent sites,

how the density calculation worked.

Board of Commissioners Chairman Robert L. Woodard announced the

property along Airport Road. Property owner Stan White made the request.

Commissioners authorized

When do we change names and history?

The Raleigh City Council recently removed the historic designation of Wakestone, the former home of Josephus Daniels.

That action is just one more reminder of North Carolina's and the nation's struggle to find agreement on what people should be honored and what versions of history should be taught in our schools.

The unanimous action of the council was prompted by the property's current owner, who wanted the historic designation removed because it restricted plans for intensive development. But the owner's representative explained its request as follows: "Daniels' legacy in white supremacy is certainly now having its reckoning as a tragic episode. But this site, and this designation, does not stand in the same way as a memorial of



D.G. MARTIN

the kind of accomplishment upon which the City of Raleigh wishes to officially confer recognition? What lesson does that convey?"

Last year's book, "Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy" by David Zucchino, highlighted the role Daniels and his newspaper, The News & Observer, played in fanning the flames that led to that tragedy.

What is often left aside are the progressive battles that Daniels and his paper fought and often won in a deeply conservative state during the last century.

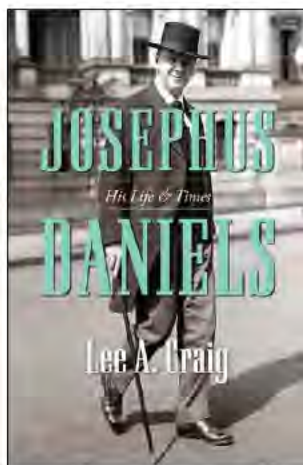
hallowed ground, to teach us lessons. It is a celebration of accomplishment. Is white supremacy

How could one of North Carolina's most important political leaders be both a progressive champion for education and economic development and, at the same time, the leader of the white supremacy movement in our state? N.C. State Professor Lee Craig wrestled with this challenging question in his book, "Josephus Daniels: His Life and Times" (UNC Press, 2013).

Professor Craig struggled with this seeming contradiction: "I had to confront the fact that the most consistently progressive American political leader between the Civil War and the Cold War was also the father of Jim Crow."

The hard fact is that Daniels was an enthusiastic supporter of the white supremacy movement in the elections of 1898 and 1900.

Craig explained how he came to terms with the different aspects of



Daniels' public life, "In researching Daniels's life and times, I've become comfortable with the contradictions of the man. He was a progressive, a warm-hearted family man, a man who genuinely cared about the country's less-fortunate and down-trodden, at least as he defined them. Yet at the same time, he was a white supremacist, who used the coercive powers of the state to keep blacks in a socially and eco-

nomically inferior state for generations. He was a near-pacifist who tried to keep the United States out of the world's worst war to date; yet, he was a gunboat diplomat. He was a capitalist who sought government regulation of capital."

Craig's book describes Daniels' business genius as a newspaper publisher, his support for public education and other progressive policies in North Carolina, as well as his important public service as Woodrow Wilson's Secretary of the Navy and Franklin Roosevelt's Ambassador to Mexico.

But today's leaders, taking into account the continuing stain of widespread white supremacist views, have been unwilling to measure Daniels' many progressive accomplishments against his white supremacist actions.

Last summer, notwithstanding Daniels'

many accomplishments but rather citing his white supremacist views and actions, the Wake County School System changed the name of Daniels Middle School, N.C. State University removed the name from its Daniels Hall, and UNC Chapel Hill removed the Daniels name from its student stores building.

How far can we go on this track?

What will happen to names of buildings, monuments, and buildings named for Washington, Jefferson, and other national heroes when their accomplishments are similarly evaluated against their white supremacist views and slave-holding records?

D.G. Martin is a retired lawyer, politician and university administrator and is host of UNC-TV's "North Carolina Bookwatch" at 3 p.m. on Sundays and 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

EVANS

Continued from A4

all NEW construction.

I also have heard concerns about the green space in front of the current high school. I have

been very involved in many activities on that space, whether it be the Farm Heritage Day, Peanut Festival, Back to School Bash, or others.

The architects told us in the Community Meetings that they heard us

and would address those concerns. I look forward to seeing how they incorporated our input.

This week, in John Mitchener's vacant downtown storefront, the architects will have renderings of the new high school

displayed. I hope that ALL OF US will take the time to go view them and voice our opinion of which one we like best.

I just turned 60 years old, and I have lived in the same community in this county all my life with the

exception of college. I have seen the people of this county rise to the occasion on several different issues.

Now is the time for us to all join together to build the NEW high school for our children and grandchildren, and the faculty and

staff that will work there, as they all deserve our support.

Chowan County, it is time, and it is the right thing to do!

Steve Evans is a resident of Rocky Hock.

LAYTON

Continued from A4

roasted over a fire.

I think most of all, it reminded me of how during hardships — in this case camping on a cold, wet and windy weekend — people come together. Northeastern North Carolina residents tend to look out for one another, especially during times of crisis. That's a beautiful thing.

I just got back from camp and cleaned up, but I still smell campfire smoke. Not sure if it's me or all of our camping supplies we brought back. That smell makes me smile. We did it. We did some-

thing new and scary.

The camping trip wouldn't have been possible without my husband, who told me during one of my bouts of boredom at the campsite to put my work, aka my phone, down and enjoy being with our son. As we camped, seeing Robert in his element was a joy. Seeing how much he has grown as an individual in his 12 years of life by letting him call the shots during the trip ... well, that just makes this mama very proud.

Something else that makes me proud is this newspaper. Miles and I recently were interviewed and discussed the news-

paper's evolution since we came here in 2017.

A lot of the newspaper's technological advances — getting social media, YouTube, and finally a website — have come under our tenure here in Chowan County.

We recently expanded coverage to Tyrrell, Hyde and eastern Washington counties. General Manager Sean O'Brien and Regional Director of Audience Development Nathan Kohan are helping lead the effort to expand our readership. Like Chowan County, there is spotty internet access outside towns.

Kohan also helped us with a new feature that appears in this edition's B section. We have had a few

customers requests puzzles be put in the paper, but we have had issues in finding a reliable source for these. Kohan knew of a source and we started looking at what is available.

We are proud to now offer Suduko, crossword and a few other puzzles starting this week. The puzzle answers appear elsewhere in the B section.

We have some other great things in the works at the Chowan Herald. We hope you enjoy this week's

edition. Thanks for reading. We'll see you around the Cupola.

Contact Nicole Bowman-Layton at nlayton@ncweeklies.com.

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This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

TOBIAS

Continued from A4

The fact remains that the road to the chapel need not be very long at all. The "common ground" is the land we already stand on. And every time we have a conversation, we are indeed establishing at least a small "middle" — even though that middle may be but a tiny dot.

All we have to do is to expand that dot to a horizon.

Still, a lot of people turn their nose up at the idea. A friend of mine, Lori, suggested that people find it easier to live in a black and white world "where we can firmly believe or know something, but in reality, there is no black and white ... Living in the grey is disconcerting, challenging and exhausting."

It's much easier, she concluded, for most people to insist that things be one way or the other.

She was referring to the logical fallacy of the "false excluded middle" where everything is shrunk down to an either/or dichotomy. That "black and white" thinking is indeed easier. But it is also lazy. And irrational.

We older adults are (or ought to be) made of sterner stuff. The younger generations need to see the fruits of old(er) age, which is dignity, patience, kindness, and wisdom.

Wisdom puts up with the grayness of life.

The tragedy of it all is that you won't be seeing this gorgeous commercial any time soon.

A day or two after the Super Bowl, somehow in some mysterious way

Bruce was "outed." Back on November 14, he was arrested on a DWI charge at Sandy Hook (a national beach on the eastern tip of New Jersey). A policeman witnessed the singer getting photographed with some fans. And, as a thank you, they poured him a shot of Patron tequila. Then he hopped on his motorcycle and started off.

The officer pulled him over. Springsteen was completely honest: he owned up to drinking two shots, not one. He was, as the officer noted, very cooperative.

A black and white thinker would infer complete guilt and throw away all the Boss albums in their LP library, or erase them from their playlist.

That's exactly what the Jeep corporation did. They pulled their lovely commer-

cial. For them, the middle ground was excluded.

It turns out that the breath test revealed a level of only 0.02% — a quarter of the legal level. Which makes me wonder why he was arrested at all.

And why the news of this DWI was publicized only after that commercial came out.

I don't wonder about Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Inc (which owns Jeep). The bottom line has never tolerated the human grayness of life.

But you and I do. And even if that commercial won't be seen in the foreseeable future, that chapel still stands, and remains.

A resident of Chowan County, Jonathan Tobias can be reached at jano-tec77@gmail.com

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STATE

3 dead, 10 hurt after tornado tears through Brunswick

Twister part of blast of severe winter weather across US

BY BRYAN ANDERSON
AND JONATHAN DREW
The Associated Press

OCEAN ISLE BEACH — An apparent tornado killed three people and injured 10 others as it struck a coastal North Carolina town, authorities said. It was spawned along the edge of the same weather system bringing bitterly cold temperatures to much of the nation.

"The sky lit up and there was a lot of pop-pop-popping. And the loud thunder. And then it sounded like a train, a freight train coming through. The roar of a freight train. That's when all the damage occurred," Sharon Benson, who lives in the neighborhood, said by phone.

The tornado hit just before midnight Monday, ripping open homes, flipping cars and uprooting trees in Ocean Ridge Plantation, said Ed Conrow, Brunswick County's emergency



EMILY FLAX/BRUNSWICK SHERIFF'S OFFICE

A damaged vehicle sits among debris after a deadly tornado tore through Brunswick County Tuesday.

services director. Dozens of other homes were damaged by the "fierce tornado," Gov. Roy Cooper said in a tweet.

Photos distributed by the sheriff's office showed first responders walking through a debris field of uprooted trees and crumpled piles of boards and bricks in the golf course community. Hours later, aerial footage from a WRAL-TV news helicopter showed a handful of home

lots covered in splintered wood, with debris trailing from one house onto the fairway of the golf course. Several other roofs had damage ranging from torn-off shingles to roof beams exposed where the storm tore a hole.

It caused "a lot of destruction. It's going to be a long recovery process," Brunswick County Sheriff John Ingram told reporters. Benson, 63, said her roof

was damaged, the garage door was blown off, windows were shattered and nearby trees were uprooted. She was meeting Tuesday with an insurance representative to discuss repairs. She said her neighbors also sustained heavy damage.

She said she was surprised to hear heavy winds and thunder and see intense lightning just before midnight Monday.

"They said it was going to rain. Not severe weather at all. No forewarning," she said.

Mark Willis, meteorologist in charge for The National Weather Service's office in nearby Wilmington, said the same cold front bringing freezing temperatures, ice and snow from Canada to Mexico created conditions favorable to tornadoes in North Carolina, where it pushed up against a warm front from the Gulf of Mexico.

A weather service team will survey the damage and confirm that a tornado did indeed touch down, Willis said. Conrow, the emergen-

cy director, told reporters that the community had little notice of the dangerous weather and that a tornado warning wasn't issued until the storm was already on the ground and causing damage.

"We've been talking with our partners at the National Weather Service, and they

were very surprised how rapidly this storm intensified," he said. "It's something they normally don't see. So we didn't have much warning. And at the time of night when most people are at home and in bed, it creates a very dangerous situation."

Chatham info posted online after attack

County refused hacker's Oct. 28 demand it pay \$2.4M

The Associated Press

PITTSBORO — An investigation into a ransomware attack Chatham County's computer network showed personal information posted for sale on the "dark web," the county said.

Chatham's network was hit on Oct. 28 with ransomware that originated in a phishing email with a malicious attachment, The News & Observer of Raleigh reported Tuesday. It encrypted much of the county's network infrastructure

and associated business systems, the county announced.

County spokeswoman Kara Dudley said the hacker sent a ransom note asking for 50 bitcoins, or about \$2.4 million. The county refused to pay.

County staffers are working with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and the N.C. Attorney General's Office to identify files affected by the breach and to notify people whose personally identifiable information or personal health information may be at risk, County Manager Dan LaMontagne told the board of commissioners Monday. The cyberattack shut

down most county functions and temporarily cut off public access to services. Data also was stolen from county systems, but LaMontagne said it's not known what specifically was taken.

The Chatham News & Record reported last week that it found sensitive files, including county employee personnel records, eviction notices and Chatham County Sheriff's Office investigation documents, posted to the internet, including to the dark web.

There were two releases, according to the News & Record. On Nov. 4, "mostly innocuous" files were uploaded, LaMontagne told

the newspaper. In January, a second upload included more sensitive data. The newspaper was able to take screenshots of a counter on the site showing the files had been viewed over 30,000 times.

Staff had to wipe and re-image the county's servers and over 550 staff computers, LaMontagne said. Staff computers, internet, office phones and voicemail are almost recovered, and they are adding security measures and reinforcing employee training, he said.

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

Doug Williams
Rick Gilbert

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LOCAL & STATE

LINCOLNTON

Sick woman blows in deputy's face

Authorities in North Carolina say that a woman has been charged after she claimed to have the coronavirus and blew into a sheriff deputy's face.

The Charlotte Observer reported Tuesday that the incident occurred Sunday evening in Lincoln County, which is northwest of Charlotte.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Office said Jasmine Louise McClain, 27, was already in police custody because she had been identified as a suspect in a stabbing.

"While being processed into the jail, McClain is accused of blowing into the face of the processing officer twice after admitting she had tested positive for COVID-19 eight days earlier," the sheriff's office stated. "She was charged with assault on a government official."

The sheriff's office did not state whether McClain has actually tested positive COVID-19.

PEMBROKE

12 malnourished dogs rescued

Twelve dogs found malnourished in filthy cages were rescued from a North Carolina home Monday, authorities said.

Robeson County Sheriff Burnis Wilkins said the dogs were found underfed and living in poor conditions at a Pembroke home, news outlets reported.

Wilkins said the dogs were seized and taken to a vet.

Homeowner Nehemiah Pate, 25, was charged with 12 counts of misdemeanor cruelty to animals. Pate was taken to the Robeson County Detention Center with a \$2,000 secured bond.

It's unclear whether Pate had an attorney who would comment on his behalf.

"There is no excuse for animal cruelty. Animals can't express their feelings but when abuse is recognized, we must become their voice," Wilkins said.

GREENVILLE



DEBORAH GRIFFIN/THE DAILY REFLECTOR

Monday was no walk in the park at Greenville Town Common, as high water from the Tar River flooded its walkway.

RALEIGH

Bill: Concealed carry OK at churches

Concealed weapon permit holders could carry handguns on North Carolina private school campuses when separate church services are happening onsite in legislation approved on Tuesday by a state Senate committee.

The measure largely follows portions of a 2020 gun bill that Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper vetoed. Republicans ultimately failed to gain enough Democratic support to override the veto.

Bill supporters, which include leaders of many conservative Christian ministers, say the measure seeks to improve internal security for churches that also operate schools. Current law allows standalone churches to let concealed weapon holders carry a handgun, but not at churches that hold services at the same location where the school operates.

From Associated Press reports

PART-TIME

Continued from A1

and investigate crimes, Buffalo said.

"We have been using them (full-time officers) at the Potato Festival, we have been using them at vaccination clinics, posting them at extended crime scenes," Buffalo said. "We had three homicides in one day and had three extended crime scenes. We had to hold one of those locations for about three days."

Buffalo told City Council that Elizabeth City is one of the few police departments that have permanent shifts. The 10-percent shift premium would go to officers who work nights and weekends and would boost those officers' pay on average by around \$4,100 a year.

Twenty officers would be eligible for the premium and it would cost the city just over \$83,000 annually. The department has 40 officers assigned to the Field Operations Division.

"Shift premiums allow for greater competition within the labor market in recruit-

ing the highest caliber of candidates for the position of police officer," Buffalo said.

The Mobile Command Unit would cost around \$40,000, with half that amount being used to equip the vehicle. The unit would be used at public events, crime scene investigations, vaccination and testing clinics and for natural disasters.

Buffalo said the mobile unit would also be used by the city's fire and public utilities departments. The current mobile unit is 23 years old and shared by the city, Camden and Pasquotank counties and Emergency Management.

Buffalo told councilors that it's unclear who is responsible for maintaining the vehicle.

"We may use it tomorrow and it may or may not start," Buffalo said. "We allowed Hertford and Perquimans to use it during their natural gas leak and there was a problem with the generator."

Buffalo is also asking to purchase \$13,000 of what he described as "less-than-lethal" equipment that would be used to respond to a civil unrest incident in the city.

The purchase would include irritants like pepper bells, munitions like bean bag rounds, rubber balls and batons and distraction devices such as flashbangs. The devices would be classified as minimum force but effective enough to deter hostile crowds.

"The civil unrest events of 2020 showed the Elizabeth City Police Department needs additional equipment to protect lives and property from individuals who seek to disrupt the lives of our citizens," Buffalo said. "We are requesting these to be on hand so we can be prepared."

Establishing a dive team would cost around \$60,000, which would go toward training and the purchase of equipment. The city currently uses the Chowan County Sheriff's Office's dive team.

"We have six police officers in our department that are interested (in serving on a dive team)," Buffalo said. "The fire department already has divers that go over to Chowan and serve on the dive team. We have the staff, we just don't have the equipment."

Third parties given more time

Green, Constitution parties can keep voters until June 12

The Associated Press

RALEIGH — Two small political parties in North Carolina that failed to meet candidate support thresholds in November to remain on future ballots will get more time to retain their registered voters, the State Board of Elections agreed to on Tuesday.

The Constitution Party of North Carolina and North Carolina Green Party, which fielded candidates in 2020, are no longer officially recognized by the state. But the five-member board directed election workers not

to redesignate the parties' registrants — totaling more than 9,000 — as unaffiliated voters until June 12.

If the parties turn in enough signatures — about 13,900 — by that date, the parties will be recognized again for fielding candidates in upcoming municipal

elections, and the party registration of the Green and Constitution voters won't be changed.

The extension ensures voters won't be affiliated with expired political parties, which could prevent them from voting in a primary, the board said.

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SCHOOLS

Continued from A1

students, 72 of whom are in face-to-face classes. Seven returned to in-person classes and two returned to remote learning. No students are waiting.

- J.C. Sawyer Elementary: 341 total students, 187 of whom are in face-to-face classes. Seventeen returned to face-to-face classes, while another 15 are waiting to return to in-person classes. Eleven returned to remote learning.

- Northside Elementary: 434 total students, 237 of whom are in face-to-face classes. Eleven returned to face-to-face classes, while another 35 are waiting to return to in-person classes. Seven students returned to remote learning.

- Pasquotank Elementary: 266 total students, 140 in

face-to-face classes. Nineteen returned to face-to-face classes, while another five are waiting to return to in-person classes. Seven students returned to remote learning.

- P.W. Moore Elementary: 364 total students, 196 in face-to-face classes. Twenty-six returned to face-to-face classes, while another seven are waiting to do so. Sixteen returned to remote learning.

- Weeksville Elementary: 211 total students, 134 in face-to-face classes. Eight returned to face-to-face classes, while another 12 are waiting to do so. Four others returned to remote learning.

- Sheep-Harney Elementary: 330 total students, 110 in face-to-face classes. Sixteen returned to face-to-face classes, while another 40 are waiting to do so. Ten others returned to remote learning.

- Elizabeth City Middle School: 589 total students, 215 in face-to-face classes. Thirty-two returned to face-to-face classes, while another 17 are waiting to do so. Fourteen others returned to remote learning.

- River Road Middle School: 582 total students, 247 in face-to-face classes. Twenty-one returned to face-to-face classes, while 18 are waiting to do so. Four others returned to remote learning.

- Pasquotank High: 623 students, 124 in face-to-face classes. Forty returned to face-to-face classes, while one is waiting to do so. Thirty-six returned to remote learning.

- Elizabeth City Pasquotank Early College: 131 students, 27 in face-to-face classes. Twelve returned to in-person classes while one returned to remote learning. No students are on the waiting list.

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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
) 2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
) RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
) PLANS

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A night hearing for the convenience of public witnesses and solely for the purpose of taking nonexpert public witness testimony shall be held by the Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing shall be conducted remotely via Webex. A link to view the hearing will be available at www.ncuc.net.

Persons desiring to present testimony for the record must register in advance of the hearing, no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021 by contacting the Public Staff via email at IRPPublicHearing@psncuc.nc.gov or by calling 866-380-9816. Testimony will be limited to five minutes per individual.

Only individuals registered with the Public Staff by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, will be allowed to testify at the hearing.

Anyone wishing to review the 2020 IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed by the utilities may do so at the Commission's website, www.ncuc.net, by selecting the Docket tab and entering Docket No. E-100 Sub 165. Upon request, the Chief Clerk will place copies of the IRPs, compliance plans and any other documents filed in this proceeding in centrally-located public libraries where they may be copied without prohibition. Such a request may be made by writing to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300, and providing the name and address of the library to which the information is to be mailed.

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

OBITUARIES

WILBUR E. CASPER

GATESVILLE, NC - Wilbur Eugene Casper, 82, of 1465 NC Highway 37 South, Gatesville, died Thursday, February 18, 2021 in his home.



Mr. Casper was born in Gates County on September 26, 1938, and was one of four children born to the late Joseph Clinton and Fannie Monds Casper. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Joseph Edward Casper.

A son, brother, cousin, husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, most importantly he was child of God, always professing his love for Jesus. He loved his family and friends, enjoying family functions, eating with friends on Fridays for their "catfish dinners", and the social events and luncheons for Senior Adults at Eure Baptist Church.

Music was especially important to Wilbur. Learning to play the guitar "by ear" at a very young age, he later formed a band with some friends, naming it--"Casper and The Cut-Ups". Among his greatest pleasures were playing at The Red Barn in Rocky Hock on Friday nights, and playing with other musical groups at charity events and special occasions.

A retired Welding Instructor, he worked with Norfolk Naval Shipyard for 30 years.

Surviving are his wife of 27 years, Patricia L. Casper; children, Richard Eugene Casper of Courtland, VA, Rodney James Casper (wife, Demetra) of Carrsville, VA, Tammy E. Perry (husband, Steve) of Eure, Debra E. Smith (husband, Tracy) of Gates, and Penny E. Williams (husband, Wade) of Sunbury; sisters, Thelma C. Hobbs (husband, Donald Ray) of Hobbsville, and

Christine C. Hollowell of Shawboro; grandchildren, Wyatt Michael Casper, Drake Alexander Casper, Steven Wayne Perry, Jr. (wife, Sandia), Whitney Perry Hobbs (husband, Matthew), Walter Lee Smith (fiancé, Lauren Burdett), and Nicole Genevieve Smith; and four great-grandchildren.

With concerns associated with the Covid-19 Pandemic, a private service at Damascus Christian Church in Sunbury is planned for the family. No formal visitation will be held, however friends may visit the family at the residence where masks and social distancing measures should be recognized.

Miller Funeral Home, 304 Main Street, Gatesville, is handling arrangements and online condolences may be made by visiting www.millerfhc.com.

LUTHER H. EURE, SR.

GATESVILLE - Luther Haywood Eure, Sr., 93, of 279 NC 137, Gatesville, died Friday, February 19, 2021 in his home where he was cared for by his family.



Mr. Eure was born in Gates County on November 6, 1927 and was the youngest of six children of the late Zebedee and Caroline Felton Eure. With his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Penistene Howell; and by his brothers, Timothy, Parish, Felton, and Delton Eure.

Retired from Union Camp Corporation in Franklin, VA, he worked in instrumentation and calibration at the mill for over 30 years. Since 1957, he farmed the land on which he lived, growing crops, breeding and raising beef cattle, and planting pine trees for water conservation.

A lifelong and faithful member of Eure Christian Church, he had served as Chairman of the Board of Deacons,

as both a teacher and superintendent of Sunday School, Director of the Youth Department, and as a member of the Adult Choir, the Property and Grounds Committee, and the Bereavement Committee.

Community involvement included his membership for nearly 72 years in Gatesville Masonic Lodge #126 where he had served as Master, Secretary, and as Chaplain, membership in The Order of the Eastern Star, and service with the Albemarle Commission in delivering Meals on Wheels. For his dedicated service with the Commission, in 2018 he was awarded membership in their "Hall of Fame".

A veteran of World War II, he served as a Radioman in the United States Army. Luther loved everyone; God, his church, his country, his family, his Masonic Lodge Brothers, and baseball.

Surviving are his wife of over 71 years, Rebecca Dail Eure; two daughters, Lydia Eure Barker (husband, Gerry Riddick), and Melinda Dale Eure, all of North Topsail Beach; a son, Luther H. "Luke" Eure, Jr. (wife, Jeanette) of Reidsville; seven grandchildren, Michael Barker (wife, Morgan), Rachel Koupal (husband, Matthew), Ashley Miller (husband, Justin), Jared Johnson, Hannah Queenan (husband, Kyle), Alexa Stroup (husband, David), and Ainsley Eure (fiancé, Collin); and five great-grandchildren, Denali and Kelty Barker, Cooper Koupal, Lillie Johnson, and baby Miller to be born in July.

A small private service will be held in Eure Christian Church and will be conducted by his pastor, The Rev. Wade Bennett.

A graveside service, open to extended family and friends, will be held Thursday, February 25 at 12 noon in Eure Christian Church Cemetery. Military and Masonic Rites will be accorded. Due to the restrictions associated with the Covid-19

Pandemic, no formal visitation is being held. Masks are required and social distancing measures will be in place for those attending the service.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to Eure Christian Church, 872 NC 137, Eure, NC 27935, or to the Masonic Home For Children, 600 College Street, Oxford, NC 27565.

Miller Funeral Home, 304 Main Street, Gatesville, is assisting the family with arrangements and online condolences may be made by visiting www.millerfhc.com.

KEITH BALLARD

ELIZABETH CITY

– Keith Ballard, 43, of Elizabeth City, formerly of Gates, died Sunday, February 7, 2021 at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, VA. Funeral services were held on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at Upper Room Assembly, Gatesville. Hunter's Funeral Home, Gates, handled the arrangements.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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HISTORY

This Week in North Carolina History

“Witlings Defame Her:” William Gaston and “The Old North State”

On February 18, 1927, the General Assembly adopted “The Old North State” as North Carolina’s official state song.

State Supreme Court Justice William Joseph Gaston of New Bern penned the song’s patriotic lyrics in the 1830s, when North Carolina was lagging economically behind its neighbors and masses of people were moving away. A dedicated public servant and advocate for internal improvements, Gaston sought to defend North Carolina against accusations of being backward.

When court was in session in Raleigh, Gaston stayed at the home of Mrs. James F. Taylor. One day after a couple of women in the household returned from a concert by a group of visiting Swiss bell-ringers, they began to sing and play one of the concert tunes on the piano. Gaston became inspired. At his office on Hargett Street, he wrote several verses of the now-familiar song, adapting it to the melody he had just heard. A chorus of 50 young women first performed the song at the Whig state convention in Raleigh in October 1840.

R. Culver set Gaston’s poem to music in 1844, but the arrangement composed in 1926 by Mrs. E. E. Randolph in Raleigh is the version familiar to North Carolinians today.

Photographer and Conservationist Hugh Morton

On February 19, 1921, developer, conservationist and photographer Hugh Morton was born in Wilmington.

Morton was instrumental in supporting many of the attractions enjoyed by residents of and visitors to the Tar Heel State. He served as the first president of Wilmington’s Azalea Festival, and was influential in raising funds to bring the battleship USS North Carolina to that port city. He advocated saving the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse by use of artificial seaweed.

Morton is perhaps best-known as the developer of Grandfather Mountain, which he inherited in 1952. He was responsible for the construction of the “Mile-High Swing Bridge” and under his leadership, the site grew to become one of the most popular in the state.

He gained notoriety for his fight to keep the Blue Ridge Parkway from crossing Grandfather Mountain and spoiling its aesthetic appeal. The result was the Linn Cove Viaduct, an engineering marvel coursing around the mountain.

Morton was part of the post-World War II era of tourism development in North Carolina and was friends and colleagues with notables from across the state. He took close to a quarter-million photographs which are now part of the North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Burning of Winton by Union Troops, 1862

On February 20, 1862, Union troops burned Winton, a small village in Hertford County overlooking the Chowan River.

The previous day, six gunboats transporting soldiers from New York and Rhode Island steamed up river to Winton, intent on destroying a railroad bridge. Confederate soldiers from North Carolina and Virginia opened fire on the vessels. Despite riddling the wheelhouse of the lead gunboat, the USS Delaware, the volley did little damage, and the shelling commenced. That night the Union fleet anchored seven miles south of Winton, and Federal officers decided that the town of 300 inhabitants should be burned.

The fleet returned to find the town almost completely abandoned. Soldiers, fresh from victory in the Battle of Roanoke Island, landed and took possession of Winton. The invaders burned military

goods, along with the courthouse and several private homes; soldiers often ransacked homes before torching them.

Word of the destruction spread fast in newspapers, North and South. Southern editors fueled public outrage. A Norfolk paper proclaimed the action a “vile incendiary.” The action at Winton proved to be a precedent for the practice of “total war” embraced by Sherman later in the conflict.

“High Priestess of Soul” Nina Simone Born

On February 21, 1933, Nina Simone, often called the “high priestess of soul,” was born in the small town of Tryon in Polk County.

Determined to become one of the first highly-successful African-American concert pianists, Simone spent a summer at the famed Juilliard School after graduating high school in Asheville in 1950. Denied admission to music school in Philadelphia, Simone took menial jobs there.

While on a trip to Atlantic City, N.J. in the summer of 1954, Simone began to experiment with popular music. Word of her talent spread, and she became in high demand at nightclubs all along the Mid-Atlantic coast.

After releasing her first album, Little Girl Blue, in 1958, her work began to reflect her increasing involvement in the civil rights movement and her close associations with leading African-American intellectuals like Lorraine Hansberry and Langston Hughes.

After releasing 13 albums during the 1960s, Simone hit a rough patch in the 1970s, struggling with a divorce and mental illness. She toured extensively in Europe during the 1980s and her career began to wind down in the early 1990s. She died in France in 2003.

George Burrington, Controversial Colonial Governor

On February 22, 1759, Governor George Burrington, first royal governor of North Carolina, was murdered in London.

An interesting and controversial figure in the colony during the proprietary and royal periods, Burrington appears in records as contentious, inflammatory and sometimes violent.

At various times he was accused of attempting to blow up colonial chief justice Christopher Gale’s house, throwing colonial official Edmund Porter’s written defense of his judgeship into the fire, horse theft and stealing the council’s secretary’s commissioning seals.

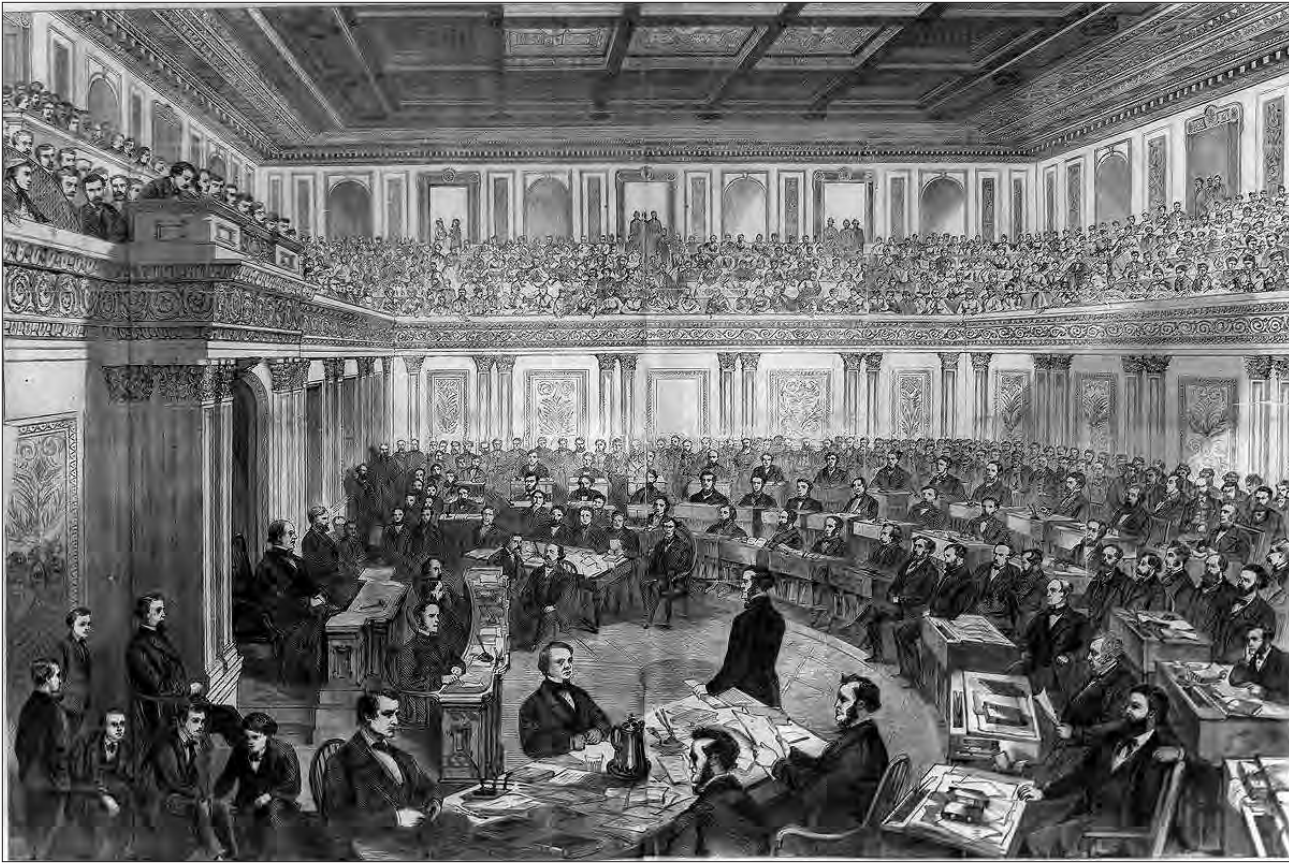
Burrington was a man of contrasts, though. Interested in the expansion and promotion of the colony, he traveled and planned for internal improvements, founded what is now Wilmington and effectively opened the lower Cape Fear area for settlement. In the 1730s, Burrington was removed from his royal governorship, just as he had been removed from his proprietary governorship a decade earlier.

He returned to England and remained there until his death, which was the result of an attack in a robbery attempt.

Good Deed in Durham Launches Literary Career

On February 23, 1955, Reynolds Price met Eudora Welty on a cold, dark, railroad platform in downtown Durham. The Mississippi-bred novelist and short-story writer was coming to Duke University to give a lecture and lead a writing seminar. Price, a Duke senior English major from Warren County, was eager to meet Welty. “The world she described seemed so close to my own,” Price later wrote.

Having learned Welty’s train would arrive well after midnight and knowing taxis would be unavailable that late, Price decided to chauffeur the future Pulitzer Prize-winner to her hotel in his mother’s DeSoto convertible. At the next day’s seminar, Welty read Price’s short story, “Michael Egerton.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

President Andrew Johnson’s impeachment trial

Afterward, she offered to send it to her agent. “Despite a 24-year-gap in our ages, a friendship was cemented on the spot,” Price wrote. That friendship lasted until Welty’s death in 2001.

By that time Price had become an award-winning writer and long-time English professor at Duke. Treatment for a cancerous spinal tumor in 1984 left him paralyzed from the waist down. Still, he continued to write and teach. His 37 volumes include poetry, short stories, novels, essays, plays and memoirs. Price died in 2011 at age 77.

Andrew Johnson Impeached, 1868

On February 24, 1868, Andrew Johnson became the first president to be impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors. Johnson, the 17th president, was born in Raleigh in 1808.

After apprenticing with a tailor in Raleigh, Johnson moved to Tennessee in 1826, and prospered as a tailor and, later, as a politician. Styling himself an advocate for the common man, Johnson was elected to the Tennessee legislature and served there for several years. He represented the First District of Tennessee in Congress for five consecutive terms and then served two terms as governor of Tennessee. He went on to be elected U.S. senator.

Abraham Lincoln appointed Johnson military governor of Tennessee in 1862, and then named the Southerner his running mate in his successful 1864 re-election. Lincoln’s assassination elevated Johnson to the Presidency.

Johnson’s greatest challenge as president was leading the nation through Reconstruction. After the Civil War’s conclusion, he issued general amnesty to Southerners with a few exceptions. Radical Republicans, unhappy with Johnson’s national progress, sought to undermine his power and eventually had Johnson impeached. The primary charge was related to his removing Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton from office.

The trial concluded in May 1868 with Johnson’s acquittal.

Hiram Revels and the Genesis of Black Political Representation

On February 25, 1870, Hiram Revels was seated in the United States Senate.

A story, perhaps apocryphal, has it that when Jefferson Davis left the U.S. Congress, fellow Senator Simon Cameron told him, “I believe, in the name of God that a Negro some day will come and occupy your seat.”

Cameron’s prediction came true, and in 1870, North Carolina native Hiram Rhodes Revels became the first black member of Congress, taking Davis’ seat

representing Mississippi.

Revels was born a free black in 1822 in Fayetteville. By 1838, he had moved to Lincolnton. For a few years he worked as a barber’s apprentice for his brother, and after his brother’s death, he managed the shop for a time before moving out of North Carolina to pursue other opportunities.

After leaving the Senate in 1871, Revels served as acting secretary of state in Mississippi in 1873 and, from 1876 to 1882, as president of Alcorn Agricultural College.

An ordained African Methodist Episcopal minister, Revels preached and lectured widely. While attending a church conference in Aberdeen, Mississippi, in January 1901 he died suddenly.



IMAGE COURTESY OF DUKE MAGAZINE

Reynolds Price and Eudora Welty at the University of Mississippi in 1979.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan) 2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
Reports and Related 2020 REPS) RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
Compliance Plans) PLANS

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

FROM PAGE A1

HERTFORD

Continued from A1

reduced Nuisance Fees to make it easier to purchase and sell homes. These initiatives also support economic development.

- Forwarded lien accounts to ZLS, a law firm that specializes in foreclosures, nuisance fees and liens to increase revenue. This effort will also help beautify the town by claiming property for improvement or claiming plots for affordable housing and other venues that will benefit all citizens.

- Our Hertford Police Department (HPD) has begun to perform Code Enforcement to clean up debris and ensure citizens are following town ordinances in the appearance of their homes, e.g., West Railroad is looking much better. This is a beautification effort.

- We paved two dirt roads in Meads Trailer Park, as well as paved and installed speed bumps on King Street. This was most importantly for the safety of our citizens, but also to beautify our town.

- Acquired a VAC truck for Public Works to make their jobs easier, sweep and clean our streets. This is an ongoing beautification project.

- Contacted the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) several times to pave the Church Street gateway off of Route 17. This is our curb appeal, our first impression entering Hertford. We want this correction, now, not to wait until the completion of the new S-Bridge, target date in 2022.

Citizen Safety

- When there were multiple shootings in Hertford that imposed a curfew for the safety of children, seniors and all Hertford citizens. We conducted a very successful citizens' town hall with the HPD to address concerns and solicit citizens' input to improve services.

- Surplus old HPD guns and replaced with new, approved a new HPD Corporal position and acquired bullet proof vests for our Police officers all to ensure the safety of our officers and improve service to our citizens.

- Paid 911 FY2018 bill. Collaborated with the County and thankful for the excellent service provided by the PQ County Management Service (EMS) especially for COVID-19 communications for the two gas leaks. The HPD and the Hertford Fire Department were also very instrumental during the two

gas leaks. As a result of everyone's support our residents were kept safe, we did not lose service and waterways were not affected.

Community Outreach and the COVID-19 Pandemic:

- Appointed a Hertford Housing Authority (HHA) resident to the Board to ensure their voices are heard and their concerns are addressed in the decision making process.

- Identified and assisted Hertford citizens to apply for the Albemarle Commission Essential Single-Family Rehab Loan Pool Program (ESFRLP) for home rehabilitation. The first Hertford home repair will begin, March 2021.

- Entered into a relationship with the Elizabeth City Youth Build Program to provide GED training and teach occupational trades to our citizens, to include free transportation.

- Fed approx. 1500 Hertford citizens at the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic in support of our citizens.

- Approved the distribution of CARES funds among Hertford small businesses to help maintain their businesses. These were awarded to small businesses who

applied for the grants.

- We celebrated Christmas with a drive by parade, Church Street was beautifully lit, Historic Hertford, Inc. (HHI) with the help of our Public Works Department decorated our downtown and our residents again installed lighted Christmas trees along our Perquimans River. Our children still celebrated Halloween, practicing social distancing and participated in a Pumpkin Painting contest. And, we also had a Fourth of July parade and Martin Luther King parade.

Hertford belongs to EVERY resident living within its nine miles radius. Hertford is the municipality within Perquimans County. Ongoing collaboration is underway to enhance services.

Yes, there is still much to be done, but with everyone's persistence, collaboration, resilience, hard work and faith we can reach our fullest potential.

My prayer for Hertford's future is aimed at all the love we can stand and to achieve.

UNITY IN THE HERTFORD COMMUNITY.

Mayor Earnell Brown can be reached at mayor@townofhertfordnc.com

Sheriff's Office: Scammers Target Jury Duty

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Perquimans Sheriff's Office wants folks to know about a new scam that is under investigation.

Apparently, a person is identifying themselves as Chief Deputy Tom Reid is telling people they have failed to show up for jury duty.

The scammer also mentions the name of Clerk of Superior Court Todd Tilley.

The scammer instructs the person to pay a fine for not showing up for court, and has them pay using gift cards.

THIS IS A SCAM. If someone directs you to pay something with gift cards, DO NOT COMPLY.

Contact your local law enforcement immediately.

Please pass this on to our older citizens because they are the ones being hit the hardest with this new scam.

Sheriff's office will update everyone with more information as soon as it can.

Anyone with tips or information is asked to contact the sheriff's office at (252) 426-5615.

Minzies Creek Sanitary District

Monthly meeting will be held on

**SAT., FEBRUARY 27, 2021
AT 10:00am**

**The Meeting Will Be Held at
139 Treasure Lane, Hertford**

Unclaimed Property

This is a notice of unclaimed property by the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office currently has in custody three unclaimed firearms. Their description are as follows:

- 1) Springfield Model 67 3 inch 12 gauge shotgun black with light brown wooden stock and forearm - light rust covering
- 2) Stevens .22 LR Model 987 black in color with dark brown wooden stock semi-automatic - light rust w/ Bushnell Sport view scope 3X-7X, 20mm
- 3) Smith and Wesson SD40VE semi-auto with black polymer frame with stainless slide

If you are the owner or are entitled to any of these firearms you need to contact the Perquimans County Sheriff's Office and provide the details of your possessory interest within 30 days of this notice. This notice is to advise that the unclaimed property will be sold or disposed of otherwise if left unclaimed.

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

CHAMBER

Continued from A1

sented to Natalie Brown, owner of Planter's Ridge. Excited about the year to come with her new Farm Market open.

Business of the Year Award Nominees are awarded to those businesses who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, business acumen, and professionalism within our community. Criteria include: Demonstrated success in areas including employment, sales, and innovation. Dedication to quality, customer service, and commitment to employees. Evidence of contribution to the community and community-oriented projects. Evidence of support of the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce. Additional information such as hurdles overcome, innovative management techniques, previous awards

won, etc.

Perquimans Arts League received 2020 Nonprofit of the Year. PAL President Ed Sanford and PAL Program Director Sheryl Corr accepted this award on behalf PAL. Non-Profit of the Year Nominees for the Community Service Award should have displayed inspiring vision, fostered collaboration, and embodied community service as demonstrated throughout their good work within our community.

Criteria includes: Evidence of contribution to the community through community-oriented projects. Providing professional expertise or personal talents to the community. Engaging in civic and/or community activities that promote the community, our residents, businesses, and educational facilities (includes support of the Perquimans Chamber of Commerce).

Cyn Owens with Taylor Mueller Realty received the

2020 Ambassador of the Year. She has shown dedication and volunteer at several of our events. Chamber's ambassador program had just started last year and Owens jumped in with excitement and helping hands. Familiar faces will be serving on the Chamber's Board of Directors for 2021

Board of Directors Officers for 2021

President: Reginald White (19-term ends 12/21) U.S. Army, Retired

Vice President: Melanie Metzler (20-term ends 12/22) B & M Contractors

Treasurer Gregory Dillard (21-term ends 12/23) The Legacy Agency

Secretary: Brittany Taylor (19-term ends 12/21) State Employee's Credit Union

Proxy: Matthew Simons Credit Union

Board Members

Erin Brabble (21-term ends 12/23) Landings of Albemarle

Matt Thomas (21-term

AWARDS

Continued from A1

and effect positive change for women.

Community Service goes to a woman who is changing neighborhoods or organizations by pro-

viding services that benefit women and/or girls.

Corporate Women's Champion has worked within her company to ensure women's success - by initiating or aiding in the implementation of formal programs, working with networks, and

other creative actions.

Legacy Award goes to a woman who - throughout a long and successful career - has made advancing women a priority.

Mentor Maven has a powerful commitment to advising other women and helping them advance.

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We offer a variety of advertising options to fit your budget and needs. From small classified ads to large full-page ads, we have the solution for you. And, with our special March 8-12 promotion, you can get even more value for your advertising dollars.

Don't miss this opportunity to significantly boost your business results. Call or email us today to learn more and reserve your space now!

Ramblers part of latest Eastern NC Living

THADD WHITE
The Enterprise

The Martin County Ramblers began with friendship, a love of music and a blend of influences.

Since then the local group has become a fixture at festivals and events throughout the east with their mix of country music, blues, jazz and roots rock.

The group also has original songs that are based on events throughout the north-eastern corner of North Carolina.

The Ramblers are one of 14 stories in the latest edition which is titled "Hometown Harmony" and is a magazine dedicated to music.

As part of the magazine, readers can enjoy reading about Mark Hoggard, a Bertie County resident who is well known in Williamston, where he attends First Pentecostal Holiness and has held the Mark Hoggard Memorial Sing.

In neighboring Washington County, readers will learn about retired



The Martin County Ramblers are part of the latest edition of Eastern NC Living magazine.

band director Leroy Bland, who began playing music before he can even remember.

"Who knows why I started?" Bland asked. "All I know is I was tickled to death when I got to fifth grade and joined the elementary school band."

Neighboring Northampton County has a husband and wife duo who lead music at

Lasker Baptist Church, and who have become known for their hard work and dedication to music. Readers will have the opportunity to learn more about the Rev. Ricky and Denise Barnes.

The magazine also features stories about popular Wilson County artist Mark Bunn, Gates County Middle School Band Director Leigh

Morgan and Tyrrell County musician Bob Waters.

This edition's Biography features Roxobel's

Mabel Harris, who has the nickname "No. 1," and features the music photography of Interim Enterprise Editor Jim Green.

Sylvia Hughes offers recipes for Russian Tea and Russian Tea Cookies in the latest edition of Grandma's Kitchen.

In addition, Lewis Hoggard guides readers on a tour of The Great Dismal Swamp Welcome Center in Camden County. Mike Sweeney's Reel Stories helps readers learn about fishing for the "mighty" rockfish.

The latest edition of Eastern North Carolina Living is available at businesses throughout Martin County and the surrounding region. Those include Wells Fargo, Riverbank,

Boyd Insurance, Roberson Brothers and Williamston Cleaners in Williamston as well as Southern Bank, Village Pharmacy and Robersonville Furniture in Robersonville. Magazines are available at Mackey's Peanuts and Tio's Grill in Jamesville and Everett Insurance and the Hamilton Town Hall in Hamilton.

Bear Grass has magazines at Cherry's Store, Green Acres and Deadwood.

In addition, there is a stand in front of The Enterprise office on Main Street in Williamston.

The magazines are free whether picked up at a newsstand or a retail establishment.

Thadd White can be reached via email at twwhite@ncweeklies.com.

MGH

From A1

patient room.

* All visitors will be asked COVID screening questions.

* Masks are mandatory at all times inside the hospital.

* Exceptions may be made for patients in end-of-life care.

The hospital front entrance remains closed after 5 p.m. and on weekends until further notice. Anyone who needs to enter the hospital during those times should enter through

the Emergency Department.

Visitors are asked to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the building.


Practice social distancing when in the hospital, and limit the number of personal belongings brought to the hospital when visiting.

Visitors should limit their visit to the patient's room only and masks are required at all times.

If you have any of the following symptoms, please do not visit the

hospital:

Fever, chills, persistent cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, congestion or runny nose or body aches.



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TOBACCO EQUIPMENT AUCTION

PAUL HARRIS FARMS INC.
ROBERSONVILLE, NC

SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 10:30 AM

Location: 17218 Hwy. 903 – Robersonville, NC

(2) Long Gold Eagle & (4) Long Standard Eagle box barns, (6) Tharrington 10-box barns, (2) Taylor 10-box barns, DeCloet & Roanoke 2-row harvesters, Granville Precision box loader, (4) Sheppard 28' trailers, DeCloet 2500 sprayer, JD 6000 hi-cycle, JD 2955, Plantek 4-row setter, Sukup 4-row cultivator, First Products 4-row applicator, KMC 4-row ripper/bedder, JD 1700, 8-row planter, (2) greenhouses,

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Mar 09 2021 OFFICIAL COPY

Manning

From A1

Whichard-Brown said. She explained Manning was “not only a member of the team, but he ended up being a good and trusted friend.”

Commissioner Al Chesson remembered his friend and colleague as a man who “personified The Golden Rule,” calling Manning a “truly compassionate man.”

Chesson felt the following line in Manning’s obituary epitomized his friend well. “His concept of success was to do good work in an unpretentious and unassuming way.”

A man of strong faith, Manning cherished his family, friends and valued the profession he worked so hard to honor.

Christina Craft, town clerk and incoming interim town administrator, worked directly

with Manning on a regular basis.

“To all who knew him, he was a gifted lawyer, historian, conversationalist and public servant,” Craft said. “To the Town of Williamston, he was family and the loss is immense.”

Prior to Manning’s return to his hometown as an attorney, he served as an agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

According to Manning’s son, Dan Jr., a reminder of his father’s service time hangs on the wall of the law practice.

It is a commendation signed by J. Edgar Hoover, the first director of the FBI.

Manning and his partner had responded to a robbery call nearby. It was a call they did not have to answer, at a time where tensions were high and danger was a very real possibility.

The pair was put in harm’s way while responding, but their actions brought the incident safely under control until local police were able to take over.

Although Manning may have never seemed to be in a hurry, there was a definite method to everything he did.

The roles he likely cherished the most were that of a second father to his daughter-in-law and that of “Grandpa Manning.”

His son and daughter in law, Chrystal, recalled the excitement of annual visits to the beach where “Grandpa Manning” taught their sons a love of the ocean and all things that entailed.

Well aware of how loved Manning was to their family, today they take comfort in hearing of the numerous lives he touched simply by being himself.

Jobs

From A1

Building Reuse Program application on behalf of The Jay Group for Project Shoelace.

Gov. Roy Cooper announced a building reuse grant award on Feb. 18 of \$130,000 in support of the project.

“Renovating and repurposing buildings while at the same time creating jobs is truly a win-win situation,” said Martin County Economic Development President Jason Semple. “The Jay Group is a family-oriented business from right here in eastern North Carolina, and I am excited to welcome them to our business community.”

Ronnie Smith, Chairman of the Martin County Commissioners, stated, “The Jay Group has a long track record of success in eastern North Carolina. We greatly appreciate their choice of Martin County for their expansion, and we look forward to a strong partnership and more investments in the future.”

Mayor Tina Brown of Robersonville welcomed the positive economic news.

“I am excited to hear a new company is coming to the Town of Robersonville. This is great for our community bringing in 22 jobs,” said Brown. “I’m also happy that building will be utilized and turned into something that will benefit the town.”

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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Activity Director March 3
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learn more at <https://www.martincc.edu/conedhealth>
Contact: sue.gurley@martincc.edu

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Principles of Ethics and Personal Leadership
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apply at <https://www.martincc.edu/ems>
Contact: rw08276@martincc.edu

Fire and Rescue
Next Fire Academy starts May 17, 2021
learn more at <https://www.martincc.edu/fire>
Contact: larry.johnson@martincc.edu

Apprentice Line Technician
Next class starts in August 2021
apply at <https://www.martincc.edu/otherconed>
Contact: nathan.mizell@martincc.edu

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and Robersonville:

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English as a Second Language (ESL)
Contact: Catina Blake at 252-789-0288 or via email
at catina.blake@martincc.edu

Personal and Professional Development
Classes coming up in March!

Welding, T & W, 6 - 10 pm, starts 3/2, Williamston
Wedding Event Planning, Th, 6 - 8 pm, 3/4, Windsor
Concealed Carry Handgun Classes
Sat., 3/6, 8 am - 5 pm, Williamston
Sat., 3/20, 8 am - 5 pm, Windsor
Effective Teacher Training, M & W, 6 - 9 pm, 3/8 - 4/12,
Windsor
Cake Decorating, T, 6 - 9 pm, 3/9 - 4/13, Windsor
Defensive Driving (4 hr.), M, 8 am - 12 pm, 3/15, Williamston
Digital Photography, T, 6 - 9 pm, 3/16 - 5/4, Windsor
Introduction to MS Word, T, 6 - 9 pm, 3/16, Williamston
Computer Basics for Srs., T & Th, 9 am - 12 pm, starts 3/16,
Williamston
Forklift Operator, Sat., 3/20, 8 am - 2 pm, Williamston
Notary, Sat., 9 am - 4:30 pm, 3/20, Windsor
Vehicle Safety Inspection, 3/23 & 24, 6 - 10 pm, Williamston

To register or learn more, contact Leslie Bond at 252-789-0248 or via email at leslie.bond@martincc.edu

Learn more at www.martincc.edu or call 252-792-1521. Assistance is also available via text at 252-802-6116 or by email at help@martincc.edu

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Mar 09 2021

NASHVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

ARRESTS

Robin Massenburg; 2/11/21; charged with driving while intoxicated

INCIDENTS

A driving while license revoked was reported on 2/10/21
A maintaining a place was reported on 2/9/21 at 4316 Community Drive
A simple possession was reported on 2/10/21 on US 64E at mile marker 461

A non-negligent was reported on 2/10/21 on US 64W

A failure to report was reported on 2/8/21 at 815 E Washington Street

A secret peeping was reported on 2/9/21 at 131 Nashville Road

A open liquor was reported on 2/11/21 at Barnes and Church Street

A larceny was reported on 2/13/21 at 100 East Evans Drive

NASH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORTS

A possession of marijuana less than 1/2 ounce was reported on 2/9/21

A warrant service was reported on 2/11/21, 2/12/21 and 2/7/21 at 100 N Boddie Street, Nashville

A possession of methamphetamine was reported on 2/10/21 at 10607 E NC 97, Rocky Mount

A warrant service was reported on 2/13/21 at 109 Frazier Court, Rocky Mount

A simple assault was reported on 2/10/21 at 12563 Farm Ridge Road, Zebulon

A felony larceny and felony breaking and entering was reported on 2/9/21 at 2066 Sherrod Road, Nashville

A resisting arrest/hinder and delay was reported on 2/10/21 at 2190 S Wesleyan Boulevard, Rocky Mount

A larceny after a breaking and entering and felony breaking and/or entering was reported on 2/11/21 at 3578 W Hilliardston Road, Nashville

A larceny of a firearm was reported on 2/11/21 at 4107 Cedar Tree Drive, Bailey

A forgery was reported on 2/10/21 at 4221 S Hathaway Boulevard, Sharpsburg

A felony larceny was reported on 2/10/21 at 6375 Dorchies Boulevard, Rocky Mount

A missing person was reported on 2/12/21 at 6403 Gold Drive, Battleboro

A second degree trespass was reported on 2/12/21 at 738 Moss Road, Spring Hope

A possession of stolen goods was reported on 2/9/21 at 7392 Stoney Hill Church Road, Bailey

A missing person was reported on 2/13/21 at 7907 Buck Deans Road, Middlesex

A felony possession of a schedule I controlled substance, failure to stop for light and siren, felony maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, possession with intent to manu-

facture/sell/deliver heroin, possession of cocaine, possession of marijuana less than 1/2 ounce and trafficking heroin/opium/opiates was reported on 2/11/21 at 802 Harbour West Drive, Rocky Mount

A possession of marijuana less than 1/2 ounce was reported on 2/10/21 at 9377 N US 301, Whitakers

A drug equipment violation and felony maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance was reported on 2/9/21 on I-95 S at the 145 mile marker

A possession with intent to sell/deliver marijuana and carrying a concealed weapon was reported on 2/9/21 on US 64W at the 457 mile marker

A concealed gun after/while consuming alcohol, carrying a concealed weapon and possession of marijuana less than 1/2 ounce was reported on 2/10/21 at N US 301 and CDC, Whitakers

RMPD makes additional arrests in Branch St. homicide

The Rocky Mount Police Department has made two more arrests in the February 4 homicide of Markelius Chambers. Chambers, 27, was shot and killed in the 1000 block of Branch Street.

Daryel Jerrod Hill, 30, was charged on February 5 with first degree murder in the incident. On February 11, officers charged Tyheem Perry, 20, of Rocky Mount, and Nakesha Williams, 40, of Rocky Mount, with accessory after the fact. Perry received a \$50,000 secured bond while Williams received a \$90,000 secured bond.



PERRY



WILLIAMS

Rocky Mount man charged with catalytic converter theft

A Rocky Mount man was arrested and charged with stealing catalytic converters from vehicles.

The Wilson County Sheriff's Office responded to a call on February 11 around 3 a.m. concerning a suspicious vehicle parked at an abandoned service station at 5845 Holden's Cross Road in Wilson. Upon arrival, deputies identified the vehicle as a blue and silver Nissan Altima with a missing front bumper.

The same vehicle was reportedly captured on video surveillance after a catalytic converter was removed from a vehicle at A Greater Love Christian Church in Rocky Mount.

Joshua Robert Lewis, 39, of 700 Kinston Avenue, Rocky Mount, was identified as the driver of the vehicle while Chelsea Megan Barnes, 24, was identified as the passenger.

While searching the vehicle, deputies located a blue reciprocating saw, cutting blades and a pry tool inside a camo backpack. Lewis was charged with possession of burglary tools and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The Nash County Sheriff's Office also responded and transported Lewis back to Nashville to conduct further interviews.

The Nash County Sheriff's Office had been investigating numerous catalytic converter thefts since January 4. Interviews with Lewis revealed his involvement with the thefts at at least six Nash County businesses.

The businesses include, Rocky Mount Electrical, Hardees Furniture, Greater Love Christian Church, SE&M Contractors, Arrow's Exterminator and NC DOT and NC Wildlife Offices.

Lewis was charged by the Nash County Sheriff's



LEWIS

Office with larceny after breaking and entering, breaking/entering a place of worship, damage to real property, altering/destroying/removing ID marks on personal property, breaking and entering an auto and larceny of auto accessories. Lewis was also charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was placed in Nash County Jail under a \$502,000 secured bond.

NASH COUNTY BUILDING PERMITS FEB. 8-12

BUILDING PERMIT (RESIDENTIAL)

Steven Tripp; 6394 River Walk Drive; detached accessory; \$5,800

Jeff Dodrill; 1639 Blue Heron Drive; detached accessory; \$30,000

Felicia Manning; 910 Rose Boulevard; new single family; \$250,000

Felicia Manning; 1684 Blue Heron Drive; new single family; \$340,000

Felicia Manning; 1689 Blue Heron Drive; new single family; \$345,000

Alan Evans; 1912 Bedfordshire Road; new single family; \$228,000

Alan Evans; 1952 Bedfordshire Road; new single family; \$225,000

William Mercer; 3618 W Hampton Drive; detached accessory; \$5,500

William Mercer; 3618 W Hampton Drive; addition (covered); \$4,200

William Mercer; 3618 W Hampton Drive; detached accessory; \$18,100

William Mercer; 2303 Jacobs Branch Drive; detached accessory; \$27,200

Martin M. Bastian; 1821 Erkin Smith Road; detached accessory; \$15,500

Scott Lowe; 3485 Stoney Hill Church Road; new single family; \$165,000

Nathan Woodcock; 10631 Red Oak Boulevard; new single family; \$300,000

Andy Brown; 4320 Adolphus T Boone Road; renovation/alteration; \$70,000

Tony Shearin; 4993 Red Cabin Lane; new single family; \$200,000

Allen Ray Bordeaux; 2254 Reges Store Road; detached accessory; \$29,000

Ben Britt; 10255 Red Oak Road; new single family; \$330,000

Joshua Piatt; 403 S Boddie Street; renovation/alteration; \$3,000

DEMOLITION

Gary A. Sharpe; 101 E. John J Sharpe Street; \$6,500

MANUFACTURED HOME PERMIT

David Jardine; 102 Retriever Court; off-frame modular; \$149,900

Herbert J. Pendergrass III; 4730 W Castalia Road; single-wide; \$1,500

Jackie Taylor; 13085 Stells Court; multi-sectional; \$90,000

Jesus Salazar; 9502 Sage Meadows Road; singlewide; \$3,971

Tar River Transit offers free rides to vaccine sites

The city of Rocky Mount continues to prioritize the safety and well-being of its citizens. To assist with COVID-19 vaccination opportunities, the city's Tar River Transit service is offering free rides to those with scheduled appointments to "drive-up" sites.

Transportation is available from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday-Saturday to vaccination sites located in Nash and Edgecombe counties. Citizens who are interested in transportation to and from vaccination sites may call Tar River Transit at 252-972-1174, 252-972-1514, 252-972-1515, 252-972-1516 or 252-972-1517.

All appointments may be scheduled the day

before the trip. Healthcare facilities may also call and schedule transportation on behalf of their patients. Free rides will be available until at least June 30, 2021.

Visit tarrivertransit.org regarding more information about general routes and services.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) has scheduled a public hearing in conjunction with the Commission's review and evaluation of integrated resource planning (IRP) in North Carolina. The purpose of the review and evaluation is to ensure that each regulated electric utility operating in North Carolina is developing reliable projections of the long-range demands for electricity in its service area and is developing a combination of reliable resource options for meeting the anticipated demands in a cost-effective manner. IRP is intended to identify those electric resource options which can be obtained at least cost to ratepayers in North Carolina consistent with adequate, reliable electric service. IRP considers conservation, efficiency, load management and other demand-side program alternatives in the selection of resource options. Commission Rule R8-60 requires that each of the electric utilities furnish the Commission with a biennial report in even-numbered years that contains the specific information set out in that Commission Rule. In odd-numbered years, each of the electric utilities must file an update report updating its most recently filed biennial report. In addition, regulated electric utilities are required to include their plans for meeting customer electric needs via renewable energy resources and energy efficiency programs by submitting a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard compliance plan (REPS compliance plan) as part of the IRP filing.

During the public hearing to be held in this docket, the Commission will receive testimony from nonexpert public witnesses with respect to the most current IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed in 2020 by Duke Energy Progress, LLC; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC; and Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g).

A night hearing for the convenience of public witnesses and solely for the purpose of taking nonexpert public witness testimony shall be held by the Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing shall be conducted remotely via Webex. A link to view the hearing will be available at www.ncuc.net.

Persons desiring to present testimony for the record must register in advance of the hearing, no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021 by contacting the Public Staff via email at IRPPublicHearing@psnc.nc.gov or by calling 866-380-9816. Testimony will be limited to five minutes per individual.

Only individuals registered with the Public Staff by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, will be allowed to testify at the hearing.

Anyone wishing to review the 2020 IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed by the utilities may do so at the Commission's website, www.ncuc.net, by selecting the Docket tab and entering Docket No. E-100 Sub 165. Upon request, the Chief Clerk will place copies of the IRPs, compliance plans and any other documents filed in this proceeding in centrally-located public libraries where they may be copied without prohibition. Such a request may be made by writing to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300, and providing the name and address of the library to which the information is to be mailed.

Persons desiring to send written statements to inform the Commission of their positions in the matter shall address their statements to Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

The Public Staff is authorized by statute to represent consumers in proceedings before the Commission. Written statements to the Public Staff should include any information that the writers wish to be considered by the Public Staff in its investigation of the matter. Such statements should be addressed to Mr. Christopher J. Ayers, Executive Director, Public Staff - North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4326 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-9001. Written statements may be emailed to utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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U.S. General Services Administration

NASHVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

INCIDENTS

A speeding and driving while intoxicated was reported on 2/14/21 at 314 W Washington Street

An obtaining property was reported on 2/14/21 at 131 Nashville Drive

A felony larceny was reported on 2/14/21 at 100 East Evans Drive

A trafficking was reported on 2/19/21 at 307 Battle Drive

A maintaining a dwelling was reported on 2/18/21 at 307 Battle Drive

A carrying a concealed weapon was reported on 2/20/21 on US 64 E at the 462 mile marker

A damage to real property was reported on 2/20/21 at 815 E Washington Street

A felony larceny was reported on 2/16/21 at 2612 Eastern Avenue

A sell/deliver was reported on 2/16/21 at 737 Sunset Avenue

ARRESTS

Darius Arnold; 2/14/21; charged with driving while intoxicated

Ryan Fitzgerald; 2/20/21; charged with driving while intoxicated

NASH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORTS

A warrant service was reported on 2/15/21 at 100 N Boddie Street, Nashville

A possession of marijuana less than 1/2 ounce was reported on 2/16/21 at 1213 Waterloo Drive, Rocky Mount

A larceny of a firearm was reported on 2/17/21 at 1454 Harris Collie Lane, Nashville

A larceny after a breaking and entering and felony breaking and entering was reported on 2/15/21 at 17114 NC 43, Whitakers

A warrant service was reported on 2/15/21 at 2121 Ash Way, Nashville

A warrant service was reported on 2/16/21, 2/19/21 and 2/20/21 at 222 E Washington Street, Nashville

A warrant service was reported on 2/15/21 at 2503 Wintergreen Road, Nashville

A possession of heroin and possession of drug paraphernalia (not marijuana) was reported on 2/16/21 at 307 Mosley Court, Rocky Mount

An identity fraud was reported on 2/18/21 at 3796 S Old Carriage Road, Rocky Mount

A damage to personal property was reported on 2/18/21 at 4705 Winstead Store Road, Nashville

A misdemeanor larceny and possession of marijuana less

than 1/2 ounce was reported on 2/16/21 at 5162 Blackthorne Road, Rocky Mount

A breaking and entering an auto, damage only, and misdemeanor larceny was reported on 2/16/21 at 5598 Southern Nash High Road, Spring Hope

An assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and first degree burglary was reported on 2/15/21 at 7996 Old Middlesex Road, Bailey

A damage to personal property was reported on 2/19/21 at 8209 E NC 97, Elm City

A probation violation was reported on 2/14/21 at 913 Strawbush Road, Rocky Mount

An identity fraud and financial transaction card fraud was reported on 2/21/21 at 9475 Main Street, Castalia

A larceny of a credit card and obtaining property by false pretense was reported on 2/14/21 at 9572 S NC 581, Bailey

A possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance, possession with intent to sell/deliver marijuana and felony possession of a schedule I controlled substance was reported on 2/17/21 at Church Street and Adamsville Court, Rocky Mount

A carrying a concealed

weapon was reported on 2/17/21 on US 64W at the 450 mile marker

A located missing person was reported on 2/17/21 at Old Bailey Highway and Joy Road

A felony possession of a schedule VI controlled substance, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance, possession of marijuana less than 1/2 ounce, felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance and possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule IV controlled substance was reported on 2/15/21 at Sandy Cross Road and Bones Cut Off Road, Nashville

A firearm by a felon was reported on 2/15/21 at Thomas A Betts Parkway and Gold Road Rock, Rocky Mount

A failure to stop for a light and siren, driving while license revoked/not impaired, reckless driving, a seat belt violation and firearm by a felon was reported on 2/17/21 at US 301 and E NC 97, Rocky Mount

A felony possession of marijuana and possession of LSD was reported on 2/16/21 at US 64A and N Big Woods Road, Spring Hope

NCSO searches for missing Middlesex woman

The Nash County Sheriff's Office is currently looking for Brittney Lynn Dudley, a 21- year old female missing from 7907 Buck Deans Road, Middlesex.

Brittney Lynn Dudley was last seen on February 13, 2021, at 5:40 a.m. She was seen wearing a red hoodie and red plaid pants. Brittney Lynn Dudley is believed to be traveling in a navy-blue Chevy Trailblazer (unknown year or registration plate number) possibly with a friend, Shanicia Gardner, from the Bertie County area.

Brittney Lynn Dudley is described as having freckles under both eyes, 5'06" in height, weighing approx-

imately 200 pounds, hazel eyes, dark brown shoulder length hair and of African American and Caucasian descent.

Brittney Lynn Dudley is believed to be suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's disease, or a disability that requires them to be protected from potential abuse or other physical harm, neglect, or exploitation. A missing report has been filed with the Nash County Sheriff's Office.

This investigation is still ongoing by the detectives of the Nash County Sheriff's Office.

Any information related to this incident, please call Sergeant D. Dupree at (252) 557-6492, the Nash County



Brittney Lynn Dudley

Sheriff's Office at (252) 459- 4121 or Twin County Crime Stoppers at (252) 977-1111.

RMPD investigates Moye Court shooting, two injured

Rocky Mount Police are investigating a shooting that injured two people.

Police responded to a shooting with injury in the 100 block of Moye Court on February 18 around 10 p.m. When officers arrived, they located two victims, a

16-year-old female and a 36-year-old female.

Both victims were transported to UNC Nash Healthcare with non-life threatening wounds.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information

can call the Rocky Mount Police Department at 252-971-1411, Twin County Crime Stoppers at 252-977-1111 or Text-A-Tip (Text RMPOL) and your message to CRIMES (274637).

Rocky Mount hosts tree give-away

The City of Rocky Mount Tree Advisory Board will give away free Southern Crab Apple tree seedlings on March 1st at the drive-thru exit at the Business Services Center located at 224 S. Franklin Street. The event will last from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the limit is two trees per person while supplies last.

The Southern Crab Apple is a small deciduous tree that grows 20 to 30 feet in height. The Southern Crab Apple tree also produces

small fruit (i.e. apples) about one inch in diameter that can be used for jelly, preserves and cider.

Low-growing trees that are suitable for planting near power lines are given away each year to help keep Rocky Mount beautiful and to promote proper planting. Planting deciduous trees on the south and west sides of the home can also help save energy. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the winter, so they provide shade in the summer and

allow sunlight to warm the home in the winter.

Before planting trees, residents are reminded to first call 811 at least three business days beforehand to have underground utilities located. Even when digging only a few inches, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists. 811 is the national call-before-you-dig number and is free of charge for all excavators.

For more information about the annual tree give-away, call (252) 467-4800.

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Friday night's game.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

FINANCIAL FOCUS

What Can Investors Learn from 2020?



Dan M. Roberts

Now that we're a few weeks removed from 2020, it's a good time to reflect on such a momentous year. We can think about developments in the social and political spheres, but we also learned – or perhaps re-learned – some valuable lessons about investing. Here are four of them:

- **A long-term perspective is essential.** Volatility in the financial markets is nothing new, but, even so, 2020 was one for the books. Of course, the COVID-19 outbreak was the driving force behind most of the wild price swings. Soon after the pandemic's effects were first felt, the S&P 500, a common index of U.S. large-cap stocks, fell 34% but gained 67% by the end of the year. Consequently, investors who stuck with their investment portfolios and kept their eyes on their long-term goals, rather than on shocking headlines, ended up doing well. And while 2020 was obviously an unusual year, the long-term approach will always be valuable to investors.
- **Investment opportunities are always available.** The pandemic drove down the prices of many stocks – but it didn't necessarily harm the long-term fundamentals of these companies. In other words, they may still have had strong management, still produced desirable products and services, and still had good prospects for growth. In short, they may still have been good investment opportunities – and when their prices were depressed, they may also have been "bargains" for smart investors. And this is the case with virtually any market downturn – some high-quality stocks will be available at favorable prices.

- **Diversification pays off.** Bond prices often move in a different direction from stocks. So, during a period of volatility when stock prices are falling, such as we saw in the weeks after the pandemic hit in March, the presence of bonds in your portfolio can lessen the impact of the downturn and stabilize your overall returns. And this, in essence, is the value of maintaining a balanced and diversified portfolio. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification can't guarantee profits or prevent all losses.)
- **The market looks ahead.** The pandemic-driven market plunge may have been stunning, but it made a kind of intrinsic sense – after all, the sudden arrival of a pandemic that threatened lives, closed businesses and cost millions of jobs doesn't sound like a positive event for the financial markets. But the strong rally that followed the initial drop and continued into 2021 has surprised many people. After all, the pandemic's effects were felt throughout the rest of 2020, and are still being felt now, so why did stock prices rise? The answer is pretty straightforward: The financial markets always look ahead, not behind. And for a variety of reasons – including widespread vaccinations, anticipated economic stimulus measures from Congress and the Biden administration, and the Federal Reserve's continued steps to keep interest rates low – the markets are anticipating much stronger economic growth, possibly starting in the second half of 2021.

All of us are probably glad to have 2020 behind us. Yet, the year taught us some investment lessons that we can put to work in 2021 – and beyond. *This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.* Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION Pamlico County

Secure Your Load for Litter Free Roads

Daniel Simpson, County Extension Director, Agriculture Agent



"Secure Your Load for Litter Free Roads" is the new slogan for the Pamlico County litter awareness campaign. Litter is becoming an increasingly common sight along the highways in Pamlico County. Litter creates not only an eyesore within our community, but adds to potential road hazards, undermines economic development, and threatens the natural environment.

One of the most common sources of litter along our roadways is unsecured trash blown from vehicles. While there are offenders who intentionally dispose of their trash through illegal littering, many motorists may be unknowingly contributing to this problem. Under North Carolina state law, it is illegal to haul improperly secured loads, and intentional and unintentional littering both carry fines and penalties. To help reduce this issue, motorists need to properly secure their loads using tarps, cargo nets, or tie downs to prevent debris from leaving vehicles. Placing lighter items on the bottom with heavier items on top may also help.

To help combat the issue of litter, Pamlico County is planning several litter awareness projects during 2021. The first of these activities will be the "Secure Your Load" campaign to educate citizens on the importance of reducing unintentional littering by properly securing your load on your vehicle. To help facilitate this effort, citizens will notice new signage near the entrance of the Pamlico County Transfer Station (3192 NC 306 North, Grantsboro, NC 28529) and near the recycling convenience centers. Pamlico County is also planning a tarp distribution event on March 6 and April 3, 2021, from 7:30 AM to 12:00 PM, at the Pamlico County Transfer Station for those motorists who need a tarp to help cover their load. If you have questions about this event, you can contact Garry Cooper at 252-745-2094, garry.cooper@pamlicocounty.org or Daniel Simpson at 252-745-4121, daniel_simpson@ncsu.edu.

Pamlico County is also planning a Clean Sweep event for April 24, 2021, for volunteers who would like to help collect litter along our roadways or other public areas. Pamlico County will provide safety vests, gloves, trash bags, and extended reach grabbers to aid volunteers. Pamlico County will also help coordinate with these volunteers to dispose of collected litter. If you are interested in volunteering for this event or would like to learn more, please contact Garry Cooper at 252-745-2094, garry.cooper@pamlicocounty.org or Daniel Simpson at 252-745-4121, daniel_simpson@ncsu.edu.

Littering costs North Carolina millions of dollars each year and the problem can only be solved if citizens take an active role in addressing the issue. Let us all do our part, secure our loads, and support our community.

KEEP PAMLICO COUNTY BEAUTIFUL

SECURE YOUR LOAD FOR LITTER FREE ROADS!

IT'S THE LAW!

Helping millions of motorists reduce litter and improve safety by using proper tie-down techniques to secure their loads.

FREE TARP DISTRIBUTION

Join us for a free tarp distribution event on March 6 and April 3, 2021, from 7:30 AM to 12:00 PM at the Pamlico County Transfer Station.

- Refreshments & Snacks
- Free Tarp Distribution
- Free Tie-Downs
- Free Litter Pick-Up

Secure your load for litter free roads. It's the law!

- Properly secured loads help to keep our roads clean and safe.
- Improperly secured loads can cause accidents and injuries.
- Properly secured loads help to keep our roads clean and safe.
- Improperly secured loads can cause accidents and injuries.

PAMLICO COUNTY RECYCLING CONVENIENCE DROP-OFF SITES

Monday: Seaboard (306 NC Hwy 306 E)
Tuesday: Ottobine (306 NC Hwy 306 E)
Wednesday: Argonne (306 NC Hwy 306 E)
Thursday: Argonne (306 NC Hwy 306 E)
Friday: Argonne (306 NC Hwy 306 E)
Saturday: Argonne (306 NC Hwy 306 E)
Sunday: Argonne (306 NC Hwy 306 E)

Holton's Dockside Seafood/Joe Himbry Waterfront Park - Bayboro

top photo courtesy of Beverly Holton



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

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This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

Attorney General Josh Stein Announces 2020’s Top 10 Consumer Complaints



(RALEIGH) Attorney General Josh Stein today shared the top 10 consumer complaints that the North Carolina Department of Justice received in 2020 as he released the department’s 2020 annual report. The report discusses NCDOJ’s work to protect the people of North Carolina from scams and fraud, defend the state, fight crime,

provide assistance to North Carolinians, and defend their rights.

North Carolinians were inundated with robocalls in 2020, said Attorney General Josh Stein. Scammers use them to try to trick and scare people out of their hard-earned money, so I’m asking people to report them at www.ncdoj.gov/norobo. My office will continue our fight to shut down robocallers and bring back peace of mind to North Carolinians. And we’ll do everything in our power to hold accountable those who defraud and scam hard-working people.



United Way of Coastal Carolina recognizes national 2-1-1 day

New Bern, NC, February 19, 2021 United Way of Coastal Carolina joins United Way Worldwide and United Way of North Carolina to recognize National 2-1-1 Day on Thursday, February 11. Seven days a week, 24 hours a day, people in need can dial, text or message 2-1-1 to access free and crisis and emergency counseling, disaster assistance, food, health care and insurance assistance, stable housing and utilities payment assistance, employment services, veteran services and childcare and family services through this United Way initiative.

The trained specialists at 2-1-1 call centers listen, identify underlying problems, and connect people in need with resources and services in their communities. In 2020, 2-1-1 in the United Way of Coastal Carolina service area of Carteret, Craven, Jones and Pamlico Counties answered more than 2300 calls. Housing and shelter, health care, utility assistance, and food insecurity accounted for 61% of the calls.

On March 18, 2020 when NC 211 was activated by Governor Cooper as part of the State’s emergency response, call volume skyrocketed. NC 211 answered more than 206,000 calls in 2020 and the team of call specialists doubled to keep up with the demand. Despite these challenges, NC 211 remains strong in their mission to provide personal connection to resources. That means from the first hello, someone calling 2-1-1 is reaching a real person who can talk through their specific situation.

2-1-1 does more than help people gain access to agencies. Instead, 2-1-1 specialists are trained to identify root causes of a client’s problem –and connect them with a wide range of available resources that meet other underlying needs. 2-1-1 has its “finger on the pulse” of North Carolina’s greatest needs. It is a vital part of United Way of Coastal Carolina’s efforts to build stronger communities and fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community.

The United Way of Coastal Carolina had its beginnings in the Coastal Carolina area in 1957. Started as a community fundraising organization, United Way has developed into a non-profit organization that focuses on measurable, long-lasting results for the local community’s most compelling needs. United Way fights for the Health, Education, and the Financial Stability of every person in every community. Currently there are 15 funded programs serving individuals in Carteret, Craven, Jones and Pamlico Counties. Funds are raised locally to fund local programs. For more information visit www.unitedwaycoastalnc.org.

NC 211 is an information and referral service provided by United Way of North Carolina. Accessible via an easy-to-remember, three-digit number, families and individuals can call to obtain free and confidential information on health and human services within their community.

Deadlines Approaching For Agcarolina Farm Credit Scholarships

[Raleigh, NC] – The deadline to submit applications for AgCarolina Farm Credit’s North Carolina State, North Carolina State Ag Institute, North Carolina A&T, University of Mount Olive, At-Large, 4-H, FFA, and community college scholarships is coming soon.

College scholarships are one component of AgCarolina Farm Credit’s corporate-giving program. Ag loans, special loan programs, educational seminars, grant funds and financial sponsorships are provided by the lender to help young and beginning farmers succeed.

Scholarships are awarded to students attending North Carolina State University, the University of Mount Olive, and North Carolina A&T State University. In addition to the college and university scholarships, there are scholarship opportunities for FFA and 4-H students residing within AgCarolina Farm Credit’s territory. Additionally, scholarship opportunities are available to the children and grandchildren of AgCarolina Farm Credit members.

Deadlines are approaching with some applications due by February 15, 2021. For a full list

ing of the scholarships, eligibility criteria, and amounts, please visit our website.

“Educating the future leaders of eastern North Carolina is a priority of our association,” says Dave Corum, AgCarolina’s President and CEO. “Through these scholarships, AgCarolina continues to show our desire to help create opportunities for young people.”

AgCarolina Farm Credit is a farmer owned financial cooperative with headquarters in Raleigh. They are the leading provider of credit to farmers in central and eastern North Carolina. AgCarolina Farm Credit has over \$1.5 billion in loans and commitments outstanding to nearly 3,400 North Carolina farmers. Loans are made to finance land, homes, farm buildings, operating expenses, livestock and equipment, as well as other purposes. Credit life insurance, appraisal services, and leasing are also available through AgCarolina Farm Credit. Branch locations are in Ahoskie, Elizabeth City, Greenville, Halifax, La Grange, Louisburg, New Bern, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Smithfield, Swan Quarter, and Williamston.



Continued from page A1

Dental Sealants: Dentists use sealants, a thin plastic-like coating placed on molars to reduce the risk of decay by nearly 80 percent. Dental sealants can even stop early stages of decay from becoming a full-blown cavity.

Fluoride: Fluoride is a mineral and natural cavity fighter which helps rebuild tooth enamel. Although fluoride is found in most water sources, your dentist may also recommend a fluoride mouth rinse or fluoride treatment. If your child is prone to cavities, their dentist can apply fluoride directly to the teeth with a gel or foam.

MARCH MADNESS

Countdown

Selection Sunday is

March 14

READ THE SPECIAL EDITION
ON MARCH 3 FOR DETAILS
RELATING TO NCAA
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

and let the Madness begin...

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

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“March, when days are getting long, Let thy growing hours be strong to set right some wintry wrong.” – Caroline May

Author to discuss ‘Land Hunger’ for Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, Beaufort County Community College will host Dr. Matthew Stanley. Stanley’s online presentation, “Land Hunger: The Long History of ‘40 Acres and a Mule,’” is scheduled for February 26 at 11:00 a.m.

The presentation can be accessed at this link: <https://zoom.us/j/99043080667>.

The failure of Reconstruction to provide formerly enslaved Black citizens with an economic foothold meant that many had no choice but to return to the plantations from which they were liberated. They had been granted political freedom, but not economic freedom. A promise of Reconstruction had been to restore the

dignity of work, but these situations of desperation meant Black workers never received a fair day’s pay for a fair day’s work and led to continued exploitation. Black laborers were often forced into debt from which they could not escape.

Forty acres was a rumored hope that was never delivered. Promises of land were only that—a promise—and the wealth of land-owning White citizens and landless Black citizens started to sharply diverge, accumulating and stagnating, respectively, over generations into the present.

Dr. Matthew Stanley serves as associate professor of history at Albany State University.



Washington County Explorers Post recently collected 256.6 pounds of food to be donated to Plymouth Food Pantry. Stopping for a photo after organizing the goodies are, from the left, PIO Tynasiah Hyman, Cadet Taniyah Hyman and Capt. Jahi Walker. (Photo courtesy Stephanie Simpson)

Auditor finds a bevy of unlicensed providers receive Medicaid funds

By JOHNNY KAMPIS
Carolina Journal News Service

An audit released by State Auditor Beth Wood’s office Thursday, February 18, found the state Department of Health and Human Services did a poor job of gatekeeping the Medicaid Provider Enrollment process.

The auditor’s office says HHS didn’t properly ensure that only qualified providers were approved to provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries and to get payments from the state’s Medicaid program. HHS didn’t identify those providers who had professional licenses suspended or terminated so they could remove them from the program, the audit said.

Furthermore, the audit found that HHS didn’t en-

sure its contractor General Dynamics Information Technology verified all professional credentials and provider ownership information during the enrollment re-verification process.

Auditors sampled 191 approved applications and found that 185 of them never had their professional credentials verified.

“The Department of Health and Human Services does not check any credentials during this re-verification process. None,” Wood said in a video accompanying the audit.

Examiners discovered that of 66 Medicaid providers disciplined by their licensing board in fiscal 2019, 26 had their license suspended or terminated. HHS only removed eight

of the 26 from the Medicaid program.

The reasons for the suspended or terminated licenses ranged from substance abuse to sexual misconduct to a felony conviction related to health-care fraud.

These errors increased the risk that ill-equipped providers could receive millions of dollars in improper payments, the audit said.

Such neglect is a big deal across the country: The Government Accountability Office reported that non-compliance with provider screening and enrollment requirements among the states contributed to more than a third of the \$36.3 billion in estimated improper payments in 2018.

States are required to screen and enroll Medicaid providers in accordance with standards set by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to help combat waste, fraud, and abuse of the system. It’s also a matter of safety, as Wood’s office said that some providers on the Medicaid rolls lost their licenses due to patient deaths.

The audit said that unlicensed providers received \$1.64 million in Medicaid payments in North Carolina during fiscal 2020. Providers lacking proper credentials got \$11.2 in funds that year.

Dr. Mandy Cohen, secretary of HHS, said in a response included with the audit that she agrees with the findings, and the

department has removed ineligible providers and is working to recoup improper payments.

“Ensuring that we enroll and maintain only qualified providers to care for the beneficiaries is a fund-

ability responsibility of the Medicaid program,” she wrote.

“I have directed our Medicaid program leadership to make the issues identified in the report a top priority.”

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Pettiford was first African American on town council

By WILLIE DRYE
Special to The Beacon

Reuben Pettiford was a highly respected African American brick mason and businessman in Plymouth in the years immediately after the Civil War. He would eventually become the owner of what is now known as the Picot-Armistead-Pettiford House in Plymouth, one of the most historic houses in northeastern North Carolina.

The community's respect for Pettiford was clearly demonstrated when he became the first African American elected to the Plymouth Town Council.

The *News and Observer* of Raleigh reported Pettiford's election in its edition of May 4, 1882. The N&O also noted that Thomas S. Armistead—who then resided in the house that Pettiford would one day own—was elected mayor. The election drew the largest voter turnout since the Civil War had ended 17 years earlier.

Armistead had lived in the house at West Main and Monroe since his birth in 1843 to Dr. Robert and Marietta Armistead. But Marietta Armistead died soon after giving birth to Thomas, and he'd been raised by his father and Jane C. Ward, a widow who came to live in the house as a caretaker and housekeeper.

Thomas Armistead was a teenager when his father died in 1857, leaving him a considerable fortune.

Armistead enrolled at the University of North Carolina in 1858, leaving Ward as the only resident of the house.

The Civil War erupted in April 1861, while Armistead was still in school. Plymouth, an important seaport, was in Confederate hands at the war's outbreak. Armistead graduated from UNC in June 1862 and entered the Confederate army. Union forces occupied Plymouth soon afterwards, and it's unlikely that Armistead returned home until after the war ended in 1865.

Armistead married Mary De Berniere Jones, daughter of a prominent Charlotte physician, in January 1868. He retained his house in Plymouth, but Ward moved to Charlotte to be near him and his new wife.

Thomas Armistead was young and wealthy, and his future



Worn stairs in the Picot-Armistead-Pettiford House stir up questions about all the people that traversed the steps since the home was built. (Beacon file photo)

seemed promising. He owned property in Charlotte and Plymouth, 150 acres in Washington County, and several productive fisheries on the Roanoke River. But his marriage lasted only a

few months. Mary Armistead died in August 1868 at the age of 24.

Ward died in Charlotte in March 1872. Two months later, Armistead married Mary Bratton, a spirited beauty who was the daughter of Dr. Samuel E. Bratton of Charlotte.

A few months after their marriage, Mary and Thomas Armistead left on a five-month tour of Europe. The couple returned in January 1873.

In mid-February, Thomas visited Plymouth, and around this time he used his Plymouth house and other property as collateral for a large loan.

By June 1873, Armistead had become an executive in the Charlotte office of Southern Life Insurance of Atlanta, and again his future looked bright.

But in September, the U.S. economy was rocked when the

failure of a huge Philadelphia financial firm set off a severe depression that lasted until 1877.

Thomas Armistead's finances went into a steep, irreversible decline. His wife, however, continued the lavish lifestyle that regularly got her mentioned in the society pages of Charlotte newspapers.

Thomas Armistead went bankrupt in February 1878. He returned to his house in Plymouth. Mary Bratton Armistead stayed in Charlotte with her parents. Although they would never divorce, their marriage was over.

Thomas became one of Plymouth's leading citizens. He served as a justice of the peace, published a newspaper, served on the school board and town council.

But his finances never recovered, and he was forced to sell his house in 1886. He died in 1896 at the age of 53.

The house had several owners until 1914, when Reuben Pettiford bought it.

Pettiford died in 1916. His widow, Nancy Pettiford, turned the house into a boarding house and hotel for African Americans. The house was listed in Plymouth city directories as the Pettiford Hotel until the 1960s.

Editor's note: This story is based on research by the late DiAnne Bryant of Franklin, Va., with additional research by the author.

Being Prepared: State plans tornado drill for next week

By DALE HEBERLIG
Staff Writer

A statewide tornado drill is part of North Carolina's Severe Weather Preparedness Week March 7-13.

The tornado drill is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 10, with a broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio and the Emergency Alert System.

State officials say every school, business, workplace and family across the state is should participate in the drill.

The recent catastrophic tornado that struck Brunswick County in February clearly illustrates the unpredictable, destructive and life-threatening nature of tornadic weather.

While tornadoes are unusual in Washington County, a string of cyclones swept through surrounding counties in eastern Carolina in 1984, killing 42 NC residents, including nine in Pitt County and six in Ber-

tie County.

Washington County Emergency Management Coordinator Lance Swindell says, "It is a good practice for everyone within your office space to know where to go and how to keep themselves safe in the case of a tornado."

He directs residents to www.ready.gov/tornadoes for help in conducting a drill.

Unlike hurricanes, tornadoes develop suddenly with little warning, and practiced techniques must be employed swiftly.

In the February 15 Brunswick County tornado, NOAA alerts actually came after the tornado struck.

Emergency Services Director Edward Cornow said afterward, "I heard that first crack of thunder, and it only took seconds after that before the tornado touched down. It was a freak storm, and we just

didn't have enough time to respond."

Weather.gov advises:

- If you are in a home or small business, go to the basement or a small interior room such as a closet, bathroom or interior hallway without windows on the lowest level. Put as many walls between yourself and the outside as possible.
- If possible, get under something sturdy, such as a heavy table, or use a mattress to protect yourself from flying debris. Most injuries associated with high winds are from flying debris, so remember to protect your head. If available, put on a bicycle or motorcycle helmet to protect yourself from head injuries.
- If you are in a large business, school, hospital, shopping center or factory, go to the designated shelter area. If a shelter area is not available, the best place is

to go to an interior hallway on the lowest level. Stay away from the structurally-weaker portions of buildings, such as windows and rooms with expansive roofs, which are more likely to collapse when tornadoes strike. If you are in a mobile home or home on stilts, get out and take shelter in a sturdy building or storm shelter. If there is not one nearby, take shelter in the most interior room

that has no windows, such as an interior bathroom or closet.

- If you are outside with no shelter available, there is no single research-based recommendation for what last-resort action to take, because many factors can affect your decision. Possible actions include, immediately get into a vehicle, buckle your seat belt and try to drive to the closest sturdy shelter. If your ve-

hicle is hit by flying debris while you are driving, pull over and park and cover your head with your arms and a blanket, coat or other cushion if possible. Lie in an area noticeably lower than the level of the roadway and cover your head with your arms and a blanket, coat or other cushion if possible. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safer in a low flat location.

Jamesville approves speed bumps on Hardison Drive

By KATHY WATERS
Special to The Beacon

Martin County Sheriff Tim Manning was present at the February meeting of the Town of Jamesville to request approval to put in speed bumps on Hardison Drive.

He has already met with the fire department and rescue chiefs and they are all okay with it. This will be paid for from funds through the MTW Health Department as part of a Safe Kids grant.

The State DOT will install, but the sheriff was requesting approval as this is on a town street, close to the Jamesville school site.

The board voted unanimously to do this.

Town employee, Samuel Lilley, shared pictures of the area behind Dollar General where they were unable to bulkhead the area relative to the sewer manholes (at Cooper Swamp). He will check to see if they can use the fill from the cemetery. He will bring a recommendation to make these repairs to the next meeting. The Board unanimously accepted the water/wastewater report.

In other maintenance issues, employee Charles Winstead discussed the washout by the water plant. Finance Office, Kim Cockrell, advised that the audit report for FY19-20 has been submitted on time to the Local Government Commission. In other financial business the board voted to accept the report of comp-time payout.

The board continues to wait on a report from Mr. Valentine relative to property he intends to develop, though he has advised he will put something together for them.

Commissioner Willis Williams presented a Use of Town Vehicles policy to the board, which they approved unanimously after discussion. They also approved a time management policy. Relative to GPS devices, Mr. Willis Williams advised that the employees are working to get these in place and working.

Commissioner Carolyn Martin shared a final version of the veterans' memorial for approval. The board approved with changes.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

UTILITIES COMMISSION

RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

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This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

Chowan women bounce back from Friday OT loss

MURFREESBORO - The Chowan women's basketball team avenged Friday's overtime loss against King College and salvaged a weekend split thanks to 83-71 victory in Conference Carolinas action on Saturday afternoon.

Keibra Hopkins posted a team-high 17 points, including a perfect 8-for-8 from the charity stripe. Destiny Robinson recorded back-to-back double-doubles with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Demetria Bland chipped in with 15 points, while Aniah Patterson tallied 11 points. Monique Jones hauled in 10 rebounds and eight points.

Chowan (now 5-6 overall and in league play) shot 52.5% from the field during the contest.

Trailing 20-17 at the end of the opening period of play, the Hawks seized command in the second quarter. There, Robinson and Patterson opened the scoring in the period with a pair of buckets. Patterson answered

a three-pointer from King with a triple of her own before Robinson added a layup to give the Hawks a 26-23 lead.

The Hawks would finish the final seven minutes of the quarter on a 19-5 run to take a 45-30 lead into the locker room. That offensive surge was fueled by back-to-back triples from Brianna Copeland; a trey and a deuce from Bland; and a pair of hoops from Emarée Hinton.

Bland and Robinson tallied a bucket each to push the lead to 17, 49-32, early in the third period. King would go on a 6-0 run before Jones posted a layup along with a basket by Robinson and Hinton.

However, King kept chipping away at their deficit, eventually getting as close as 55-50 before Hopkins hit a layup to lead 57-50 heading into the final stanza.

A pair from the stripe by Robinson and an old-fashioned three-point

play by Hopkins offset the three-pointer by King to open the quarter. A layup by Robinson and jumper by Bland pushed the lead back to double-digits, 66-56, with 7:21 remaining.

The visitors got within 70-63 before Jones posted back-to-back buckets along with a layup by Robinson and a bucket by Hopkins to push the advantage back to double-digits, 79-69.

In Friday's game, Chowan - down by 18 in the third period - trailed by 10 points on two occasions in the fourth quarter before staging a furious comeback capped by Bland's acrobatic shot with 10 seconds left to give the Hawks a 63-60 lead. King would answer with a game-tying three-pointer on the next possession to send the contest into overtime.

In the extra period, King built a five-point lead (70-65) before Robinson connected from the stripe for a pair and added a layup to trail 71-

69 with 37 seconds left. Jones then added a layup to cut the deficit to one, 72-71, with 17 ticks left.

King salted the contest away at the charity stripe as the Hawks were unable to connect from the floor down the stretch as Chowan fell, 76-71.

Jones posted a career-high 19 points to pace the Hawks. Bland recorded a season-high 19 points. Robinson tallied a double-double with 16 points and a career-high 19 rebounds. Robinson also had six rejections.



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252-332-3181

Chowan swimming holds Senior Day

MURFREESBORO - The Chowan Swimming Program fell to King College in a tough battle during Senior Day here Saturday morning.

FINAL WOMEN | Chowan 79, King 109
FINAL MEN | Chowan 72, King 113

200 MEDLEY RELAY

Ashley Mayes, MacKenzie Lucy, Jasmine Gibson, and Grace Arredondo posted a second place finish to start off the meet with a time of 2:09.96 just .42 off the pace.

James Cameron, Lucas Pels, Justin Lough, and David Clark finished second with a time of 1:51.70.

800 FREE

Jersey Razzano touched the wall to post a pool record in the event with a time of 9:45.58 to finish in first. Marissa Mann finished in fourth for the Hawks.

Igor Proszynski improved on his pool record time in the event with a time of 8:54.51 for a first place finish on the men's side of the action.

200 FREE

Atar Idrissi finished third in the event with a time of 2:34.05.

Shaine Olmstead finished third touching the wall at 2:08.67. Christian Olega finished fourth and Tristan Stinson in fifth.

50 FREE

Ashley Mayes posted the second best Chowan time in the pool with a time of 27.82 to lead the event. Grace Arredondo finished third.

David Clark touched the wall in second with a time of 25.41 being out-touched by .14. Justin Lough finished third with a time of 25.98.

200 IM

Erin Graza finished third for the Hawks with a time of 2:50.43.

Lucas Pels posted a second place finish with a time of 2:17.51. Kyle Sheridan finished fifth with a time of 2:57.55.

100 FLY

Ashley Mayes broke her own pool

record in the event with a time of 1:03.34 to place first. Brinna Houlahan finished second with a time of 1:16.36.

David Clark finished second for the men with a time of 1:03.86. Tristan Stinson finished third.

100 FREE

Grace Arredondo picked up a second place finish with a time of 1:03.93. Jealeah Delancy and Atar Idrissi finished fourth and fifth.

Marshall Stevens finished second with a time of 57.36. Christian Olega touched the wall fourth.

100 BACK

James Cameron and Andrew Simmons finished second and third respectively with times of 1:05.10 and 1:05.92.

400 FREE

Jersey Razzano moved into second in program history in the pool with a time of 4:46.74 to finish first in the event. Jasmine Gibson finished fourth.

Igor Proszynski finished second overall in the event with a time of 4:18.61.

100 BREAST

Jealeah Delancy led the Hawks with a third place finish with a time of 1:28.87. Erin Garza and MacKenzie Lucy finished fourth and fifth.

Marshall Stevens paced the Hawks with a second place finish with a time of 1:08.91. Lucas Pels touched at 1:08.99 for third, while Kyle Sheridan finished fifth.

400 FREE RELAY

The Hawks relay comprised of Brinna Houlahan, Jealeah Delancy, Atar Idrissi, and Jersey Razzano finished second with a time of 4:31.81.

Justin Lough, Andrew Simmons, James Cameron, and Igor Proszynski finished second with a time of 3:47.01.

UP NEXT

Chowan will take the next two weeks to prepare for the 2021 Conference Carolinas Swimming Championships on Feb. 25-27.

HAWKS:

Continued from 1B

by Willis pushed the lead to 89-81 with 2:55 remaining.

The visitors would cut the deficit to 90-85, but Williams tallied a layup with under a minute to play and McFall knocked down four free throws

in the final minute as the Hawks held off their guests.

In Saturday's second game of the weekend doubleheader, Chowan led 47-38 at halftime, but cooled off in the second half en route to suffering an 82-79 setback.

Willis poured in 21 points to lead the Hawks.

Elijah Hill scored 18 points, while Dilliard tallied 14 points. McFall posted 11 points. Calvin Ahoume posted seven points and seven rebounds off the bench.

Chowan shot 59.4% in the first half compared to 37.0% (10-27) in the second

Chowan fell to 3-5 overall and in conference play with the loss.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

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Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk



PHOTO BY WILLIAM ANTHONY
HCHS senior guard Daylan Askew holds the game ball from last week's contest where he scored his 1,000th career point.

Askew exceeds 1,000 career points

By **BILLY HARRELL**
Senior Sports Writer

AHOSKIE – Daylan Askew, a senior guard for Hertford County High School, has reached a plateau very few will ever see.

On Feb. 16 during a home game vs. Currituck County, Askew scored the 1,000th point of his high school career.

"It felt good about reaching 1,000 points in my career," said Askew, who is averaging 22 points per game for the Bears this season. "It's a big accomplishment; all the hard work is paying off, and I'm making my family proud."

Veteran HCHS head coach Charles Simmons made sure that Askew was recog-

nized, awarding him a basketball bearing information about reaching the lofty achievement.

"Daylan has been our leader this year," Simmons said. "He's been a member of our

varsity program since his sophomore season and has accomplished a lot for our program since that time."

Askew was a First Team All Conference selection last season. He was also named to

the All Region Team.

Simmons said Askew is being recruited by several NCAA Division II schools, to include Elizabeth City State University. He also has offers from some junior colleges.

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Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk



Lloyd Hill
Owner/Broker, GRI
Approved HUD Broker



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DR. CHARLES SAWYER

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DR. MICHAEL ALSTON

"I took the vaccine to reduce my risk of getting COVID-19, and of spreading it to my family, friends and patients."



DR. COLIN JONES

WHY I GOT THE SHOT
ROANOKE CHOWAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER



FEMA opens mass vaccine sites as weather hampers efforts

BY EUGENE GARCIA AND JOCELYN NOVECK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FEMA opened its first COVID-19 mass vaccination sites Tuesday, setting up in Los Angeles and Oakland as part of an effort by the Biden administration to get shots into arms more quickly and reach minority communities hit hard by the outbreak.

Snowy and icy weather across much of the U.S., meanwhile, forced the cancellation of some vaccination events and threatened to disrupt vaccine deliveries over the next few days. Houston's public health agency lost power and had to scramble to give out thousands of shots before they spoiled.

The developments came as the vaccination drive ramps up. The U.S. is administering an average of about 1.67 million doses per day, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. At the same time, deaths are down sharply over the past six weeks, and new cases have plummeted.

Nearly 39.7 million Americans, or about 12% of the U.S. population, have received at

least one dose of the vaccine, and 15 million have gotten both shots, the CDC said.

Deaths are running at about 2,400 per day on average, down by more than 900 from their peak in mid-January. And the average number of new cases per day has dropped to about 85,000, the lowest in 3 1/2 months. That's down from a peak of almost a quarter-million per day in early January. The overall U.S. death toll is at nearly 490,000.

In the early morning in Los Angeles, several dozen cars were already lined up with people sitting inside reading newspapers and passing the time, a half-hour before the 9 a.m. opening of the country's first mass vaccination site run with assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Troops in camouflage fatigues stood around the sprawling parking lot at California State University, Los Angeles, where some 40 white tents were erected and dozens of orange cones put in place to guide traffic.

The site, set up in heavily

Latino East L.A. as part of an effort to reach communities that have suffered disproportionately from the coronavirus, aims to vaccinate up to 6,000 people a day. Another such site opened at the Oakland Coliseum, near working-class Black and Latino neighborhoods.

Hard-hit California has overtaken New York state for the highest death toll in the nation, at over 47,000.

The Los Angeles vaccination site is "proximate to a community that has been disproportionately impacted by this pandemic," Gov. Gavin Newsom said. "The effort here is to address that issue forthrightly."

The Biden administration intends to establish 100 such federally assisted vaccination sites nationwide in cooperation with state authorities.

Elsewhere around the country, the coronavirus put a big damper on Mardi Gras in New Orleans. The French Quarter's Bourbon Street, where the rowdiest and bawdiest partying usually takes place, was blocked off with police barricades, and bars

were ordered closed.

"It's hard to wrap my head around it," New Orleans lawyer Dave Lanser, wearing a luminescent green cape and a black mask with a curved beak, said as he looked up and down a nearly empty Bourbon Street.

"I don't think there's a way to safely do it this year," he said. "So, I support canceling the parades, closing the bars, all that kind of stuff. It's just kind of the reality of it."

Mardi Gras crowds last year were blamed for a severe outbreak of COVID-19 in Louisiana.

Snow, ice and bitter cold forced the cancellation of vaccinations in places such as Memphis, Tennessee, and Missouri.

Houston's Harris County rushed to dispense more than 8,000 doses of Moderna's coronavirus vaccine after a public health facility lost power early Monday and its backup generator also failed, authorities said. The shots were distributed at three hospitals, Rice University and the county jail.

"It feels amazing. I'm very grateful," said Harry Golen, a

19-year-old sophomore who waited for nearly four hours with his friends, much of it in the frigid cold, and was among the last people to get the shots — which otherwise wouldn't have reached students until March or April.

More than 400,000 additional vaccine doses due in Texas now won't arrive until at least Wednesday, officials said.

The Biden administration said the severe weather is expected to disrupt shipments from a FedEx facility in Memphis and a UPS installation in Louisville, Kentucky. Both serve as vaccine shipping hubs for a number of states.

The administration is increasing the amount of vaccine sent to states to 13.5 million doses per week, a 57% increase from when Biden took office nearly a month ago, White House press secretary Jen Psaki announced.

Psaki also said the administration is doubling to 2 million doses per week the amount of vaccine being sent to pharmacies across the U.S. as part of a program to improve access in neighborhoods.

Democrat's lawsuit accuses Trump of inciting deadly Capitol riot

BY ERIC TUCKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The House Homeland Security chairman accused Donald Trump in a federal lawsuit Tuesday of inciting the deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol and conspiring with his lawyer and extremist groups to try to prevent Congress from certifying the results of the presidential election he lost to Joe Biden.

The lawsuit from Democratic Rep. Bennie Thompson is part of an expected wave of litigation over the Jan. 6 riot and is believed to be the first filed by a member of Congress. It seeks unspecified punitive and compensatory damages. It also names as defendants Rudy Giuliani, Trump's personal lawyer, and the Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers, extremist organizations that have had members charged by the Justice Department with taking part in the siege.

"All I wanted to do was do my job, and the insurrection that occurred prevented me from doing that," Thompson, D-Miss., told reporters Tuesday as he recounted his harrowing experiences as Trump loyalists broke into the Capitol and disrupted the constitutionally mandated process of certifying the election.

A Trump adviser, Jason Miller, said in a statement that Trump did not organize the rally that preceded the riot and "did not incite or conspire to incite any violence at the Capitol on Jan. 6th." A lawyer for Giuliani did not immediately return an email seeking comment.

The suit, filed in federal court in Washington under a Reconstruction-era law called the Ku Klux Klan Act, comes three days after Trump was acquitted in a Sen-

ate impeachment trial that centered on allegations that he incited the riot, in which five people died. That acquittal is likely to open the door to fresh legal scrutiny over Trump's actions before and during the siege. Additional suits could be brought by other members of Congress or by law enforcement officers injured while responding to the riot.

Even some Republicans who voted to acquit Trump on Saturday acknowledged that the more proper venue to deal with Trump was in the courts, especially now that he has left the White House and lost certain legal protections that shielded him as president.

The suit traces the drawn-out effort by Trump and Giuliani to cast doubt on the election results even though courts across the country

and state election officials repeatedly rejected their baseless allegations of fraud. Despite evidence to the contrary, the suit says, the men portrayed the election as stolen while Trump "endorsed rather than discouraged" threats of violence from his angry supporters in the weeks leading up to the assault on the Capitol.

"The carefully orchestrated series of events that unfolded at the Save America rally and the storming of the Capitol was no accident or coincidence," the suit says. "It was the intended and foreseeable culmination of a carefully coordinated campaign to interfere with the legal process required to confirm the tally of votes cast in the Electoral College."

Presidents are historically afforded broad immunity from lawsuits for actions they take in their role as command-

er in chief. But the lawsuit filed Tuesday was brought against Trump in his personal, not official, capacity and alleges that none of the behavior at issue had to do with his responsibilities as president.

"Inciting a riot, or attempting to interfere with the congressional efforts to ratify the results of the election that are commended by the Constitution, could not conceivably be within the scope of ordinary responsibilities of the president," Joseph Sellers, a lawyer

who represents Thompson, said in an interview.

"In this respect, because of his conduct, he is just like any other private citizen," he said.

Sellers, a lawyer with the Washington law firm of Cohen Milstein, filed the case along with the NAACP. Several other members of Congress are expected to join.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters Tuesday that Biden supports the rights of individuals "to take steps through the judicial process," but she

declined to comment further.

Though the impeachment case focused squarely on accusations of incitement, the lawsuit more broadly accuses Trump of conspiring to disrupt the constitutional activities of Congress — namely, the certification of election results establishing Biden as the rightful winner — through a monthslong effort to discredit the outcome and to lean on individual states and his own vice president to overturn the contest.



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**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
) 2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
) RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
) PLANS

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A night hearing for the convenience of public witnesses and solely for the purpose of taking nonexpert public witness testimony shall be held by the Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing shall be conducted remotely via Webex. A link to view the hearing will be available at www.ncuc.net.

Persons desiring to present testimony for the record must register in advance of the hearing, no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021 by contacting the Public Staff via email at IRPPublicHearing@psncuc.nc.gov or by calling 866 380 9816. Testimony will be limited to five minutes per individual.

Only individuals registered with the Public Staff by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, will be allowed to testify at the hearing.

Anyone wishing to review the 2020 IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed by the utilities may do so at the Commission's website, www.ncuc.net, by selecting the Docket tab and entering Docket No. E 100 Sub 165. Upon request, the Chief Clerk will place copies of the IRPs, compliance plans and any other documents filed in this proceeding in centrally located public libraries where they may be copied without prohibition. Such a request may be made by writing to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699 4300, and providing the name and address of the library to which the information is to be mailed.

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

OBITUARIES

Frederick Lee ‘Freddy’ Mahaffey

ROANOKE RAPIDS — Frederick Lee “Freddy” Mahaffey, 73, died Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021, in his Roanoke Rapids home.

Freddy was born in Halifax County, son to the late David Leo Mahaffey Sr. He was raised, along with his siblings, Brenda Mahaffey Livesay who is married to Jay, and Steve Mahaffey who is married to Joan, of Waxhaw, by his grandparents, Bessie Mahaffey, who he called mother, and his grandfather, Doc Mahaffey, who he called Daddy Mahaffey. Freddy loved hunting and fishing and family gatherings. He especially loved gatherings at Bobby Edwards’ and going to Randy Lee’s house because Randy was able to create deer stands that would accommodate Freddy who was battling Parkinson’s Disease.

He loved playing pool at Hux’s Billiards. He loved cooking and sharing recipes with Troy Cribb, and he was also a member of Community Hunting Club. Freddy worked as a welder and machinist at Bibb for more than 30 years. Freddy later went to work with one of his closest friends, Fuzzy Conner at William & Lamb, until his health played a factor in his retirement. In addition to his father, Freddy was preceded in death by his grandfather



and grandmother, Doc and Bessie Mahaffey; and brother, David Mahaffey Jr.

Freddy is survived by his wife of 54 years, Brenda Rook Mahaffey of the home; his only child, Tony Wayne Mahaffey and wife, Angela Acree Mahaffey; grandchildren, Megan, Seth Mahaffey and Kale Olnhausen; and two great-grandchildren, Matthew and Dawson Turner, all of Roanoke Rapids. Also surviving is a special family friend, Shelly Wright of Roanoke Rapids.

The family will hold a memorial service to remember Freddy’s life at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 at Roanoke Rapids Church of God. The family will receive friends at 801 E. 11th St. in Roanoke Rapids.

Due to COVID restrictions, social distancing and facial coverings are recognized.

Hockaday Funeral & Cremation Services is handling arrangements and online condolences may be sent to hockadayfs.com.

Virginia Mae Edwards Ivey

ROANOKE RAPIDS — Virginia Mae Edwards Ivey of Roanoke Rapids went home to be with our Heavenly Father on Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021, due to natural causes.

Virginia Mae was a lifelong and faithful member of First Pentecostal Holiness Church of Roanoke Rapids, prior to failing health. She loved and was loved by many.

Virginia Mae was preceded in death by her loving husband, James O. Ivey; siblings, Jack Edwards, Jimmy Edwards, Lloyd Edwards, Dorothy Edwards Franks, Charlotte Edwards Johnson; son, Lloyd A. “Sonny” Ivey; and grandson, Patrick O. Groves.

Virginia Mae left to continue her loving, Christian demeanor a daughter, Betty Lou Ivey Studley and her husband, Dennis; son, Jim Ivey; seven grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and 24 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces



and nephews. Virginia Mae also left special caretaker, Kay Phillips, of the home.

The family will receive friends at 10 a.m., followed by services at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 26 in the chapel of Wrenn, Clarke & Hagan Funeral Home in Roanoke Rapids, which is handling the arrangements. Pastor Don Causey will officiate, with special music by the Rev. Ricky Barnes and pianist Denise Barnes.

For the safety of all, the CDC guidelines of social distancing and face masks will be required.

Online condolences can be made to wrenn clarkehagan.com.

JoAnn Kiriluk Gediek

LITTLETON — JoAnn Kiriluk Gediek, 67, of Littleton, died Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021, at her residence.

JoAnn was born in Japan, the daughter of the late Joseph Kiriluk and Kiku Mitsu Miyagi Kiriluk. She was a former nurse with Guardian Care of Roanoke Rapids. She was preceded in death by two sons, Thomas G. Gediek Jr. and Timothy Andrew Gediek.

She is survived by her husband, Thomas G. Gediek; a daughter, Julia Ashman and Kevin Gordon of Salem, Virginia; a son, Joseph M. Gediek and his wife, Shondrea, of Littleton; a sister, Francis Carlin of Chester, Pennsylvania; and seven grandchildren, Christian Adkins, David Ashman III, Hunter Keese, Zack



Gordon, McKenzie Gediek, McKayla Gediek and Isaiah Gediek.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 at Weaver’s Chapel United Methodist Church, 2209 Weavers Chapel Road, Littleton, NC 27850, with the Rev. Stan Lewis officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at wrennclarkehagan.com.

James Alexander Richardson

HOLLISTER — James Alexander Richardson, 82, of 105 James Richardson Lane, died on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2021, in the serenity of his home surrounded by his loving family.

A viewing will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. today, Wednesday, Feb. 24 at Robinson Funeral Home, 215 US Highway 158 in Littleton, which is handling the arrangements. Only five persons will be allowed to enter at any one time.

A viewing will be held from 1 to 2 p.m.,

followed by funeral services at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 2241 NC Highway 43, in the Arcola Community of Warrenton. The Rev. Michael Richardson, pastor, will deliver the eulogy. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Because of COVID-19, all CDC guidelines will be followed by the wearing of masks, social distancing, and limiting the number of people in attendance.

Betty Sue Cherry

WINDSOR — Betty Sue Cherry, 89, of 243 Republican Road in Windsor, died Sunday, Feb 21, 2021, at Three Rivers Health and Rehabilitation in Windsor.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 at Mt.

Ararat Missionary Baptist Church in Windsor, with the Rev. James S. Collins officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Wilder’s Chapel of Windsor, 222 South Granville St. in Windsor, is handling the arrangements.

Thomas Otis Sexton

ROANOKE RAPIDS — Thomas Otis Sexton, 48, of 200 Old Farm Road in Roanoke Rapids, died Friday, Feb. 19, 2021, at Vidant North Hospital in Roanoke Rapids.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 in the chapel of Wilder’s Funeral Home, 921 South Main St. in Rich Square, which is handling the arrangements, with the Rev. Tony Flood officiating.

Janice Elaine Bass Capehart

COLERAIN — Janice Elaine Bass Capehart, 70, of 336 Dilday Road in Colerain, died Friday, Feb. 19, 2021, at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 at the Greater Wynns Grove Baptist Church Cemetery in Colerain, with Bishop Thomas E. Lee officiating.

Wilder’s Chapel of Windsor, 222 South Granville St. in Windsor, is handling the arrangements.

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WORLD

YANGON, MYANMAR

New charge filed against Suu Kyi

Police in Myanmar filed a new charge against ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi, her lawyer said Tuesday, in a move that may allow her to be held indefinitely without trial as part of an intensifying crackdown by authorities who seized power in a coup.

Suu Kyi, who was deposed and detained in the military takeover on Feb. 1, already faced a charge of illegally possessing walkie-talkies — an apparent attempt to provide a legal veneer for her house arrest. Under the new charge, she is accused of breaking a law that has been used to prosecute people who have violated coronavirus restrictions, lawyer Khin Maung Zaw told reporters after meeting with a judge in a court in the capital, Naypyitaw.

It carries a maximum punishment of three years in prison. But, perhaps more worryingly, because of changes to the Penal Code instituted by the junta last week, it could allow her to be detained indefinitely,



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Demonstrators display images of detained Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi during a protest against the military coup Tuesday in Yangon, Myanmar.

ly, even without a court's permission. Suu Kyi's lawyer told reporters he has not seen her since her arrest — and only arrived after an unexpected videoconference the judge said had been held with her.

The legal maneuver comes two weeks after the military seized power in a coup that shocked many in the international community who had been hopeful that Myanmar was taking steps toward democracy.

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS

Alleged Central African Republic rebels plead not guilty to war crimes

Two alleged leaders of a predominantly Christian rebel group in the Central African Republic were key players in a campaign of atrocities against Muslim civilians intended to restore power to the country's ousted president in 2013 and 2014, an International Criminal Court prosecution lawyer said Tuesday as their trial opened.

The men both pleaded not guilty to multiple counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity. They face maximum sentences of life imprisonment if convicted.

Former soccer official Patrice-Edouard Ngaïssona and Alfred Yekatom, a rebel leader known as Rambo, are accused of involvement in crimes including murder, torture and attacking civilians. The charges stem from their roles as senior leaders in a predominantly Christian militia known as the anti-Balaka that engaged in bitter fighting with the mainly Muslim Seleka rebel group and its perceived sup-

porters in 2013 and 2014.

"I reject all the charges that you have laid against me," Yekatom said. Ngaïssona told Presiding Judge Bertram Schmitt: "I do not recognize myself in the charges brought against me. I am not guilty."

The interreligious violence left thousands dead and displaced hundreds of thousands. Mosques, shops and homes were looted and destroyed.

The trial is the first at the global court that focuses on the violence that erupted after the Seleka seized power in the Central African Republic in 2013, forcing President Francois Bozize into exile.

Prosecution lawyer Kwaku Vanderpuye told the three-judge panel that 150 prosecution witnesses, including victims, experts and "insiders," will testify at the trial and prove the defendants' guilt "beyond reasonable doubt."

From Associated Press reports

India's dramatic fall in virus cases leaves experts stumped

BY KRUTIKA PATHI AND ANIRUDDHA GHOSAL
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — When the coronavirus pandemic took hold in India, there were fears it would sink the fragile health system of the world's second-most populous country. Infections climbed dramatically for months and at one point India looked like it might overtake the United States as the country with the highest case toll.

But infections began to plummet in September, and now the country is reporting about 11,000 new cases a day, compared to a peak of nearly 100,000, leaving experts perplexed.

They have suggested many possible explanations for the sudden drop — seen in almost every region — including that some areas of the country may have reached herd immunity or that Indians may have some pre-existing protection from the virus.

The Indian government also has partly attributed the dip in cases to mask-wearing, which is mandatory in public in India and violations draw hefty fines in some cities. But experts have noted the situation is more complicated since the decline is uniform even though mask compliance is flagging in some areas.

It is more than just an intriguing puzzle; determining what is behind the drop in infections could help authorities control the virus in the country, which has reported nearly 11 million cases and over 155,000 deaths. Some 2.4 million people have died worldwide.

"If we don't know the reason, you could unknowingly be doing things that could lead to a flare-up," said Dr. Shahid Jameel, who studies viruses at India's Ashoka University.

India, like other countries, misses many infections, and there are questions about how it is counting virus deaths. But the strain on the country's hospitals also has declined in recent weeks, a further indication the virus' spread is slowing. When recorded cases crossed 9 mil-

lion in November, official figures showed nearly 90% of all critical care beds with ventilators in New Delhi were full. On Thursday, 16% of these beds were occupied.

That success cannot be attributed to vaccinations since India only began administering shots in January — but as more people get a vaccine, the outlook should be even better, though experts also are concerned about variants identified in many countries that appear to be more contagious and render some treatments and vaccines less effective.

Among the possible explanations for the fall in cases is that some large areas have reached herd immunity — the threshold at which enough people have developed immunity to the virus, by falling sick or being vaccinated, that the spread begins to slacken, said Vineeta Bal, who studies immune systems at India's National Institute of Immunology.

But experts have cautioned that even if herd immunity in some places is partially responsible for the decline, the population as a whole remains vulnerable — and must continue to take precautions.

This especially is true because new research suggests that people who got sick with one form of the virus may be able to get infected again with a new version. Bal, for instance, pointed to a recent survey in Manaus, Brazil, that estimated that more than 75% of people there had antibodies for the virus in October — before cases surged again in January.

"I don't think anyone has the final answer," she said.

And, in India, the data is not as dramatic. A nationwide screening for antibodies by Indian health agencies estimated that about 270 million, or one in five Indians, had been infected by the virus before vaccinations started. That is far below the rate of 70% or higher that experts say might be the threshold for the coronavirus, though even that is not certain.

"The message is that a large proportion of the population remains vulnerable," said Dr. Balram Bhargava,

who heads India's premier medical research body, the Indian Council of Medical Research.

But the survey offered other insight into why India's infections might be falling. It showed that more people had been infected in India's cities than in its villages, and that the virus was moving more slowly through the rural hinterland.

"Rural areas have lesser crowd density, people work in open spaces more and homes are much more ventilated," said Dr. K. Srinath Reddy, president of the Public Health Foundation of India.

If some urban areas are moving closer to herd immunity — wherever that threshold lies — and also are limiting transmission through masks and physical distancing and thus are seeing falling cases, then maybe the low speed at which the virus is passing through rural India can help explain sinking numbers, Reddy suggested.

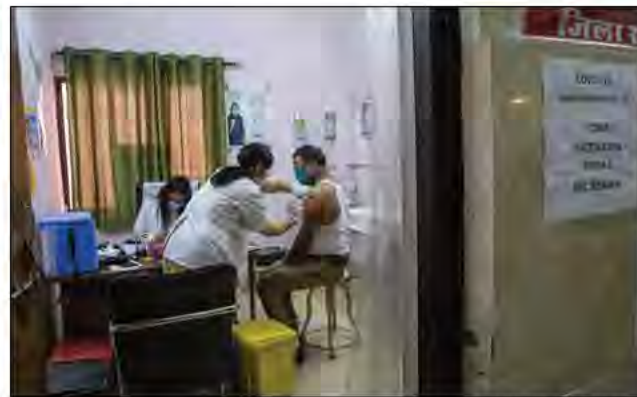
Another possibility is that many Indians are exposed to a variety of diseases throughout their lives — cholera, typhoid and tuberculosis, for instance, are prevalent — and this exposure can prime the body to mount a stronger initial immune response to a new virus.

"If the COVID virus can be controlled in the nose and throat, before it reaches the lungs, it doesn't become as serious. Innate immunity works at this level, by trying to reduce the viral infection and stop it from getting to the lungs," said Jameel, of Ashoka University.

Despite the good news in India, the rise of new variants has added another challenge to efforts here and around the globe to bring the pandemic under control. Scientists have identified several variants in India, including some that have been blamed

for causing new infections in people who already had an earlier version of the virus. But they still are studying the public health implications.

Experts are considering if variants may be driving a surge in cases in the southern state of Kerala, which previously had been hailed as a blueprint for tackling the virus. Kerala now accounts for nearly half of India's current COVID-19 cases. Government-funded research has suggested that a more contagious version of the virus could be at play.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A health worker administers COVID-19 vaccine to a police officer at a health centre Thursday in Greater Noida, a suburb of New Delhi, India.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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Capitol defenders cite missed intelligence for deadly breach

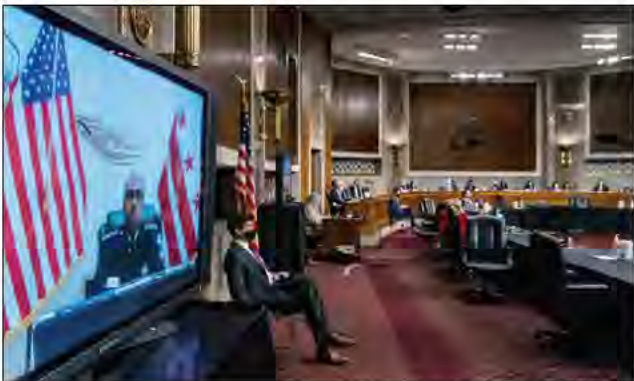
BY MARY CLARE JALONICK, MICHAEL BALSAMO AND LISA MASCARO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Missed intelligence was to blame for the outmanned Capitol defenders' failure to anticipate the violent mob that invaded the iconic building and halted certification of the presidential election on Jan. 6, the officials who were in charge of security that day said Tuesday in their first public testimony on the insurrection.

The officials, including the former chief of the Capitol Police, pointed their fingers at various federal agencies — and each other — for their failure to defend the building as supporters of then-President Donald Trump overwhelmed security barriers, broke windows and doors and sent lawmakers fleeing from the House and Senate chambers. Five people died as a result of the riot, including a Capitol Police officer and a woman who was shot as she tried to enter the House chamber with lawmakers still inside.

Former Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund, who resigned under pressure immediately after the attack, and the other officials said they had expected the protests to be similar to two pro-Trump events in late 2020 that were far less violent. Sund said he had not seen an FBI field office report that warned of potential violence citing online posts about a "war."

Sund described a scene as the mob arrived at the perimeter that was "like nothing" he had seen in his 30 years of policing and argued that the insurrection was not the result of poor plan-



ANDREW HARNIK

Washington Metropolitan Police Department Acting Chief of Police Robert Contee III, left, testifies via teleconference before a Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs & Senate Rules and Administration joint hearing Tuesday on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C., to examine the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol.

ning by Capitol Police but of failures across the board.

"No single civilian law enforcement agency — and certainly not the USCP — is trained and equipped to repel, without significant military or other law enforcement assistance, an insurrection of thousands of armed, violent and coordinated individuals focused on breaching a building at all costs," he testified.

The hearing was the first of many examinations of what happened that day, coming almost seven weeks after the attack and over a week after the Senate voted to acquit Trump of inciting the insurrection by telling his supporters to "fight like hell" to overturn his election defeat. Fencing and National Guard troops still surround the Capitol in a wide perimeter, cutting off streets and sidewalks that normally are full of cars, pedestrians and tourists.

The joint hearing, part of an investigation by two Senate committees, was the first time the officials testified publicly about the events of Jan. 6. In addi-

tion to Sund, former Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Michael Stenger, former House Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Irving and Robert Contee, the acting chief of police for the Metropolitan Police Department, testified.

Irving and Stenger also resigned under pressure immediately after the deadly attack. They were Sund's supervisors and in charge of security for the House and Senate.

"We must have the facts, and the answers are in this room," Senate Rules Committee Chairwoman Amy Klobuchar said at the beginning of the hearing. The Rules panel is conducting the joint probe with the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

Even after the hearing, much still remains unknown about what happened before and during the assault. How much did law enforcement agencies know about plans for violence that day, many of which were public? And how could the Capitol Police have been so ill-prepared for a violent insur-

rection that was organized online?

Sund told the lawmakers that he did not know then that his officers had received a report from the FBI's field office in Norfolk, Va., that forecast, in detail, the chances that extremists could bring "war" to Washington the following day. The head of the FBI's office in Washington has said that once he received the Jan. 5 warning, the information was quickly shared with other law enforcement agencies through a joint terrorism task force.

Sund said Tuesday that an officer on the task force had received that memo and forwarded it to a sergeant working on intelligence for the Capitol Police but that the information was not sent on to other supervisors.

"How could you not get that vital intelligence?" asked Senate Homeland Chairman Gary Peters, D-Mich., who said the failure of the report to reach the chief was clearly a major problem.

"That information would have been helpful," Sund acknowledged.

Even without the intelligence, there were clear signs that violence was a possibility on Jan. 6. Far-right social media users openly hinted for weeks that chaos would erupt at the U.S. Capitol while Congress convened to certify the election results.

Sund said he did see an intelligence report created within his own department warning that Congress could be targeted on Jan. 6. But he said that report assessed the probability of civil disobedience or arrests, based on the information they had, as "remote" to "improbable" for the groups expected to demonstrate.

Contee, the acting city police chief, also suggested that no one had flagged the FBI information from Norfolk, Va., which he said came in the form of an email. He said he would have expected that kind of intelligence "would warrant a phone call or something."

Sund and Irving disagreed on when the National Guard was called and on requests for the guard beforehand. Sund said he spoke to both Stenger and Irving about requesting the National Guard in the days before the riot, and that Irving said he was concerned about the "optics" of having them present. Irving denied that, saying Sund's account was "categorically false."

"We all agreed the intelligence did not support the troops and collectively decided to let it go," Stenger said.

Once the violence had begun, Sund and Irving also disagreed on when the National Guard was requested — Sund said he requested it at 1:09 p.m., but Irving denied receiving a call at that time.

Contee said he was "stunned" over the delayed response. He said Sund was pleading with Army officials to deploy National Guard troops as the rioting rapidly escalated. Police officers "were out there literally fighting for their lives" but the officials appeared to be going through a "check the boxes" exercise, he said.

Pentagon officials, who will be invited to testify before the committee at a second hearing next week, have said it took time to put the troops in position, and there was not enough contingency planning in advance. They said they offered the assistance before-

hand but were turned down.

Klobuchar said after the hearing that the next police chief should have greater ability to make decisions both leading up to and during a crisis, and the Rules panel could consider such legislation once the investigation is completed. The current structure "clearly needs some reform," she said.

The hearing Tuesday was the first of several this week examining what went wrong Jan. 6. A House subcommittee will examine damage to the Capitol today and will hear testimony from current security officials, including Acting Capitol Police Chief Yogananda Pittman, on Thursday. Next week, the Senate panels will invite officials from the Pentagon, FBI and Homeland Security Department.

In prepared testimony released ahead of the hearing on damage to the Capitol, Architect of the Capitol J. Brett Blanton and the curator of the House of Representatives, Farar Elliott, describe damage to statues and paintings and quick thinking by staff as the rioting was underway — including one aide who secured the House's 1819 silver inkstand, the oldest object in the chamber.

Congress is also considering a bipartisan, independent commission, and multiple congressional committees have said they will look at different aspects of the siege. Federal law enforcement has arrested more than 230 people who were accused of being involved in the attack, and Attorney General nominee Merrick Garland said in his confirmation hearing Monday that investigating the riot would be a priority.

Linda Thomas-Greenfield confirmed as U.N. ambassador

BY MATTHEW LEE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate confirmed President Joe Biden's choice to lead U.S. diplomacy at the United Nations on Tuesday. Linda Thomas-Greenfield's confirmation reflected the Biden administration's determination to re-engage with the world body after former President Donald Trump's diplomacy that often left the U.S. isolated internationally.

Senators voted 78-20 to confirm Thomas-Greenfield to the post, which will be a Cabinet-level position.

Thomas-Greenfield, a retired 35-year veteran of the foreign service who re-

signed during the Trump administration, will be the third African American, and the second African-American woman, to hold the job. Her confirmation was hailed by Democrats and advocates of the United Nations, who had lamented the Trump administration's unilateral approach to international affairs.

"This confirmation sends a message that the United States is back and that our foreign service is back," said Rep. Karen Bass, D-Calif., who chairs a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Africa, global health and global human rights. "We as a country and as a world are safer with Linda Thom-

as-Greenfield serving as the United States ambassador to the United Nations."

"We can count on Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield to work with international partners to confront our collective challenges head on, and play an active role in ensuring the U.N. evolves with the demands of our era as an essential forum for collective problem-solving and catalyst for global progress," said Elizabeth Cousens, president of the United Nations Foundation, a private group that supports the world body's endeavors. "Hers is the leadership America needs at the UN at this critical moment for the U.S. and world."

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

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This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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Showing Valentines Day love

Person Memorial Hospital employees were showing their Valentines Day spirit last week. Dorothy Hutchins and Rena Wilkins from the dietary department were all smiles even under their masks, while Director of Nursing in the Extended Care Unit Mary Kaye Robbins and MDS Coordinator Patricia Jansen were decked out in their cupid gear.



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Impaired driver hits student driver

By **GEORGE WILLOUGHBY**
gwilloughby@roxboro-courier.com

An impaired driver collided with a student driver on Highway 49 near Blalock Dairy Road last Wednesday night.

Ashley Nichole Harrison, of N.C. Highway 86, Prospect Hill, was charged with DWI, failure to maintain lane and other traffic violations.

According to the state Highway Patrol's report, Harrison was traveling north on Highway 49 around 6:30 p.m. when she overtook another vehicle,

over-corrected and sideswiped another vehicle on the right before crossing the center line where she collided head-on with a student driver and instructor traveling southbound.

According to the accident report, Harrison completed two alcohol tests, resulting in a blood alcohol content of 0.25 – three times over the legal limit.

None of the vehicles were deemed drivable after the wreck with the student driver's 2015 Ford taking the most damage – an estimated \$5,000 worth.



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A PIECE OF HISTORY

About 100 years ago, this is how neighborhood gentlemen took care of the walnut and pecan trees — by picking and pruning them, so the winter ice would not destroy the following year's crop.

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UTILITIES COMMISSION
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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

PCC names honor roll students

Named to the President's List were students who completed a minimum course load of 12 credit hours and maintained a grade point average of 4.00. They were:

Samantha M. Aiken, James D. Barr, Elizabeth M. Betts, Gracie L. Blalock, Michael S. Bobbitt, Hannah A. Brann, Joline L. Bumphus, Ahmad J. Byrd, Madison F. Carroll, Katie A. Carver, Devon L. Chamberlain, Scott A. Clausen, Krystal L. Clayton, Creavon R. Clayton, Emily M. Craig, Lindsey F. Dunkley, Nicholas T. Dunkley, Sheila C. Fernos, Mary M. Flores, Cassandra M. Foltz, Fletcher W. Fryczynski.

Autumn B. Gentry, Manuel A. Gil, William E. Hamlett, Tomonica S. Harris, Zoe A. Hodgin, Kyndall G. Holt, Baylor R. Howerton, Clarisa Ignacio, Bernice Ignacio, Melaine P. James, Matthew J. Jennings, Faith R. Johnson, Alexandria L. Kirby, Makayla B. Klenke, Amanda C. Knott, Justice A. Lawson, Brittanni C. Lea, Caleb L. Long, Cara G. Lynch, Kailey G. Mangum, Lauren E. Matthews, Lauren N. McFarling, Aaliyah S. Miles, Chandler F. Moore.

Brendan T. Nunnally, Hannah B. Oakley, Teresa D. Oakley, Kaitlyn F. Oakley, Austin C. Oakley, Kenya A. Pettiford, Yvonne Pettiford, Anna C. Pleasant, Shermisha T. Pointer, Karen O. Pope, Brooke E. Pulliam, Kayla A. Ramey, Elizabeth N. Reiter, Kevin D. Renuart, Michele R. Rheau, Amy R. Richardson, Luis F. Rodriguez-Martinez, Brent E. Rose, Amelia C. Rust.

Jessica N. Simmons, Hannah K. Smith, Timothy H. Smith, Grace A.

Smith, Caleb T. Smith, Mary E. Solomon, Laticia M. Springfield, Nykia M. Steed, Nancy Thompson, Caleb T. Tingen, Wallace B. Vaden, III, Caleb W. Vanek, Dylan R. Wall, Jonathan M. Willis, and Colton A. Wrenn.

Students qualified for the Dean's List by attending PCC on a regular basis and maintaining a grade point average of 3.50 or better. Named to the Dean's Lists were:

Bri-Kell L. Averett, Sean-Clyde P. Bates, Logan D. Bates, Perla Bautista, Autumn T. Blackman, Grayson C. Brann, Devin R. Butler, Sidney K. Chambers, Ashley R. Collins, Justin D. Cotton, Bryanna C. Courson, Alexis N. Dail, ShaCorra Daniels, Kortney S. Davis, Camille A. Daye, Lynette M. Dunkley, Martina Eguia, Kaitlyn N. Evans, Karson M. Evans, Ty L. Faulkner, Courtney M. Florence, Lucas C. Fuller, Kenneth C. Fuqua.

Rodney C. Garrett, Shanice M. Hicks, Jonathan E. Hill, Pamela N. Hill, Candace C. Holt, Lauren R. Horan-Gagliardi, Heather L. Horner, Bernice Ignacio, Samuel J. Jackson, Cheyenne N. Johnson, Caleb C. Jones, Jacie C. Kennedy, Mary E. Long, Ashton E. Medlin, Paige R. Melton, Deshawn F. Myers, Haileigh P. Norton, Hannah E. Oakley, Consuela C. Patterson, Nathan P. Phillips, Bambi M. Powers, Peyton E. Price, Kaytee L. Price, Elissa N. Pruitt, Dylan V. Pruitt.

Peaches T. Raglin, Justin B. Rimmer, Eric S. Rone, Tamia J. Ross, Terri L. Royster, Emma F. Schumacher, Ashila N. Shepphard, Rachel L. Smith, Kaleb J. Stephens, Joshua T. Taborn, Dylan W. Tate,

Jeanie M. Thomas, William E. Thomas, Samantha M. Vermillion, Sarah K. Watlington, Abby N. Weaver, Kayla N. Whirley, Seth M. Wilborn, Cassidy L. Wilkins, Denzel M. Williams, Kamaya N. Winstead, Amelia J. Worley, Jala V. Yancey, and Sara G. Young.

Students named to the Part-Time Honor Roll must attend PCC on a part-time basis and maintain a grade point average of 3.50 or better. These students included:

Joseph Adcock, Sarah E. Alcantara, Mariana Alcaraz, Leah R. Anderson, Crystal M. Anderson, Shirley J. Andrews, Abbigale E. Arnold, Zoie M. Ashby, Amanda M. Askew, Amy C. Barbee, Ridge C. Barker, Dalton R. Blume, John M. Bolles, Rachel F. Bowes, Ethan C. Bowman, Clifton W. Bradsher, III, Jonathan T. Bradsher, Samuel L. Brandon, James L. Broadhead, Brittany L. Brown, Rachelle C. Burgess, Ashley R. Byrd.

Elijah B. Campbell, Lauren E. Carter, Tracy B. Carver, Summer M. Chambers, Abigayle B. Chandler, Leslie E. Clack, Thomas J. Clayton, Mykiah N. Clayton, Destiny Clayton, Mandy C. Clements, Kayla N. Collins, Gregory E. Collins, Nicholas J. Cooke, Victoria S. Cooper, Natalie S. Coste, Britney L. Cox, Katie F. Crabb, Daylen Crews, Tabitha M. Cribb, Odaliz A. Cruz.

Jules L. Darquenne, Connor M. Davis, Jimmy L. Davis, Lillie Davis, Karen D. Day, Monica K. Day, Kristy C. DeMello, Tyler L. Denny, Jesus A. Diaz, Dylan L. Dienstfrei, Myla L. Dildy, Emma K. Duncan, Brandon R. Dunn, Andrew J. Durand, Brianna J. Durham, Destiny R.

Edmunds, Jasmine M. Ellis, Robert H. Elrod, T'niya A. England, Jackson E. Evans, Monica R. Evans.

Chloe Farmer, Caitlyn M. Farthing, Charles E. Feren, Charlotte R. Fitzgerald, Jesus A. Flores, Ryne S. Ford, Aliyah L. Ford, Zachary T. Fortner, Lauren A. Foushee, Alyssa M. Fuqua, Pamela A. Furstenau, Cassidy T. Futch, Ricardo J. Gachuzo, Courtney Gaddy, Tonaya Galloway, Neya L. Garcia, Kay L. Garciaz, Richard A. Gardner-Sessoms, Natalie R. Garrett, Abigail T. Gentry, Tracy M. Gibbs, Kristina A. Givens, Natalia L. Gomez, William H. Graham, Trevor P. Greene, Benjamin J. Gregory, Carly B. Grinstead, Aubree D. Gunter, Melissa F. Guth.

Courtney L. Hackett, Jamaal Hailey, Mekhi Z. Hargrove, Hunter Harris, Faith M. Harris, Nolea D. Hatchett-McGhee, Grace A. Hawkins, Karter B. Hawkins, Anisha L. Hawley, Tierra M. Henderson, Kearstin Hester, Christina M. Hinman, Michael T. Hinson, Brandon W. Hogan, Percilla R. Holloway, Katherine R. Holmes, Alicia M. Hoover, Aaliyah J. Horton, Robert W. Hudson, Britney L. Hughes, Elijah Humphries.

Jacob W. Jackson, Victor Q. Jacobs, Kanit D. Jacobs, Jamison P. Johnson, John L. Jones, Jr., Courtney L. Jones, Jackson V. Jones, Mary L. Jordan, Michelle M. Kearney, Michael J. Keeton, David A. Kilmer, Deandra L. Knight, John

M. Koutsis, Kimberly D. Lambert, Paige A. Lee, Anna R. Lee, Kyle T. Leet, Kendall M. Lewis, Wanda R. Long, Kawana M. Long, Nancy Z. Love, Paige M. Lovette, Jeremy Lozada, Brianna P. Lunsford, Josie L. Lynch, Kelcey L. Mangum, Immanuel Martin, Grace A. Mattson, Jessica N. McAdoo, Mariah McCowan, William G. McDowell, Diavionce S. McGhee, Amya N. McGhee, Lelia A. McGregor, Jaedan V. McLain, Laura S. Miles, Jimmy R. Miller, Christian A. Milligan, Rayna A. Mims, Walker S. Mishue, Olaa A. Moazeb, Joseph J. Morgan, Taylor D. Morris, Ebony R. Motley, Qua-Iveon I. Muldrow, Kayleigh R. Mullen, Mary Myers.

Elizabeth C. Nance, Catherine B. Nance, Vanessa O. Noel, Michele H. Nowell, Rebecca K. Oakley, Shelton J. O'Brian, Jr., Trevor A. Oligmueller, Karmi B. Painter, Cynthia D. Parrish, Preston A. Parsons, Bailey E. Pearson, Krista A. Perry, Gavin A. Pleasant, Jr., Connor E. Plucker, Alicia Pointer, Peyton D. Poole, Estella M. Poteat-Okafor, Kendall R. Powell, Luke T. Pulliam, Nadia I. Queen.

Jadala O. Ragland, Brant A. Rainwater, Cheyenne E. Reaves, Stephanie H. Reaves, Amanda L. Recicar, Samuel A. Recicar, Shantel J. Reese, Sadie L. Rhoades, Miranda L. Rice, Joanna L. Richardson, Valencia L. Richardson, Jessica N. Robertson, Allen S. Roberts, Richard C. Roberts, Adalia I.

Rust. Colby A. Sanders, Alayna G. Santos, Nicholas C. Scruggs, Joshua Seamons, Stephanie B. Serrano, Faith N. Sharpe, Brandi A. Shatney, Melissa D. Shaw, Emily A. Shively, Savannah R. Shumaker, Karah N. Shytle, Kaliyah B. Simpson, Caydrian D. Slade, Matthew R. Smallwood, Candace D. Smith, Angela D. Speed, Jasmine N. Street.

Christopher L. Thorpe, Jr., Yakira T. Thorpe, Aniyah D. Thorpe, Noah S. Tingen, James F. Titch, Darkima C. Torain, Olivia C. Townsend, Tiffany B. Tuck, Jaylyn M. Turner, Bridget M. Turner, Megan K. Vaden, Anna N. Vaughan, Mattie G. Vaughn, Jake J. Vaughn, Julia C. Vernon, Essivi V. Vovor-Segbenya.

Faith E. Walker, Melissa W. Walls, Austin M. Walls, Brenda C. Walters, Grace K. Watlington, Joanna O. Weaver, Rylie G. Webster, Curtis W. Wesley, Jonathan W. West, Mason D. Whitfield, Shari M. Wilfong, Jordan P. Wilkerson, Meghan A. Willard, Kathleen M. Windham, Brenna M. Winstead, Tyler T. Womack, Mary C. Wrenn, Tabitha F. Wrenn, Kaitlyn M. Wrenn, Gavin C. Yarbrough, Shelby B. Yarbrough, and Nathan A. Young.

Questions about the PCC honor roll list should be directed to the Student Development Office in Building E on the Person County Campus or by calling (336) 322-2159

Basic Life Support Instructor course offered at PCC on March 27

Piedmont Community College will offer the Basic Life Support (BLS) Instructor course on March 27, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on the Caswell County Campus, located at 331 Piedmont Drive in Yanceyville. PCC is an American Heart Association authorized training site.

Those interested in enrolling in the BLS Instructor course should call 336-694-8052 or stop by a campus to pre-register.

The purpose of the American Red Cross BLS Instructor course is to train instructor candidates to teach the basic-level American Red Cross Basic Life Support course. Basic Life Support Instructor candidates must possess a current basic-level certification in Basic Life Support or equivalent.

To qualify for the course, participants should: provide a course completion certificate for the BLS Instructor Essentials course in advance — this course is available online for \$34 at www.onlineaha.org; complete an instructor candidate application. Application should be signed by the instructor candidate and by someone who can verify the instructor candidate's instructor potential and brought to class. Request this form from heather.franklin@piedmontcc.edu. Anyone taking the course that will not be aligning with Randolph Community College Training Center (TC) will need to have the affiliating TC fill out the

See **Course**, Page 7B



Joseph Ribkoff
TRUNK SHOW
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 11-5
Spring/Summer 2021 - Tops Pants Dresses Jackets
New Casual Feminine Styles for Sizes 2 to 22
Brooke Boettcher, Joseph Ribkoff representative, will advise and guide
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over 100 years of fashion
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55 Main St Danville, M-Sat 11- 434.792.682 rippes.com

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan)
Reports and Related 2020 REPS)
Compliance Plans)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON)
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND)
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE)
PLANS)

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This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

Schools: Studies have shown schools can reopen

continued from page 1A

ber. The bill would effectively eliminate Plan C, the all-virtual learning option, and grant school districts wide flexibility in how best to operate in person. It requires schools to adhere to N.C. Department of Health and Human Services safety protocols, while still allowing parents and students to decide whether virtual or in-person learning is best for their needs. "I've spoken with

many constituents in Senate District 11 who have voiced their concerns about virtual learning and the impact on students' mental health, education and well-being," Barnes said. "The science is clear: Multiple studies, including one conducted here in North Carolina, show it's safe to reopen schools by following health protocols. It's time for all schools to reopen." The legislation directs schools to follow requirements in the state health department's Strong Schools N.C.

Public Health Toolkit for reopening. Studies have shown schools can reopen safely with mitigation efforts. Gov. Roy Cooper recently announced that research conducted in North Carolina "tells us that in-person learning is working and that students can be in classrooms safely, with the right safety protocols in place." New studies affirm that strong prevention measures work, said Mandy Cohen, secretary of the state's Depart-

ment of Health and Human Services. "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently cited North Carolina as an example that schools can reopen safely, even during periods of high community transmission, when they follow those COVID-19 safety protocols," Cohen said. State health officials recently told the State Board of Education that COVID-19 cases associated with K-12 schools accounted for 0.15% of the state's total cases as of Jan. 30.

Evidence that school closures harm children is overwhelming. As far back as last summer, public health experts at Harvard University warned that school closures are "a disaster that some students may never recover from," according to information Barnes provided. Earlier this month, the CDC concluded there is little evidence that schools have contributed meaningfully to increased community transmission.

Last month, University of North Carolina and Duke University researchers with the ABC Science Collaborative noted "no instances of child-to-adult transmission of SARS-CoV-2 were reported within schools" during their examination of 11 open school districts in North Carolina serving 90,000 students. "Our data supports the concept that schools can stay open safely in communities with widespread community transmission," the researchers' report concludes.

OBITUARIES

Jimmie McKinley Greene

Nov. 14, 1943 — Feb. 11, 2021

SPRING HOPE — Jimmie McKinley Greene, 77, passed away Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021. He was born in Nash County on Nov. 14, 1943, to the late Hubert and Florine Edwards Greene. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his wife, Barbara. Jimmie loved his family, rabbit hunting and beagle dogs. He is survived by son, Rodney Greene (Amy Carlyle); daughter, Barbara Renee Boulder (Kevin); grandchildren, Chason Severini, Annie Elizabeth Greene, Amy Elise Greene, Jackson McKinley Greene; and a sister, Flora Powell (Joe).

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Cornerstone Funeral Home, 1052 S. First St., Nashville, is honored to be caring for the Greene family. Words of comfort may be shared at www.cornerstonefuneralhomeandcremations.com.

Horace Melton Meacomes Sr.

March 15, 1925 — Feb. 10, 2021

BAILEY — Horace Melton Meacomes Sr., 95, died Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021. Arrangements are by Joyner's Funeral Home and Crematory, Wilson.

Jimmie Lee Godwin

BAILEY — Jimmie Lee Godwin, 89, died Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021. Arrangements are by Wilson Memorial Service.

James Arthur Finch Jr.

Jan. 27, 1942 — Feb. 9, 2021

MIDDLESEX — James "Jimmy" Arthur Finch Jr., 79, died Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021. Arrangements are by Joyner's Funeral Home and Crematory, Wilson.

Diana Viola McFadden

BAILEY — Diana Viola McFadden, 72, died Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021. Arrangements are by Stevens Funeral Home, Wilson.

Ernest Reid Perry

BAILEY — Ernest Reid "Rasters" Perry died Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021. Arrangements are by Serenity Memorial Funeral Home, Goldsboro.

Janyce G. Winborne

BAILEY — Janyce G. Winborne, 84, died Friday, Feb. 5, 2021. Arrangements are by Harry L. Smith Funeral Director Licensee, Clayton.

THE ENTERPRISE publishes brief death notices at no charge. Full obituaries are published on a paid basis. The obituary deadline is 4 p.m. each Friday for the following week's edition. Contact Lori Parrish at 252-265-7850 with questions.

Police: Rocky Mount teen shot dead

From staff reports

ROCKY MOUNT — City police are investigating another shooting death. Officers responded to a shooting with injury call around 3:40 p.m. Feb. 8 on the 1900 block of Vernon Road, said Cpl. Ricky Jackson, public information officer for the Rocky Mount Police Department. Jordan Clayton, 19, died at the scene in the Meadowbrook neighborhood. "Officers began lifesaving measures until emergency medical services arrived and pronounced Clayton deceased at the scene," Jackson said. The investigation is active and ongoing, Jackson said. The homicide is the third shooting death in as many days. Arrests have been made in the other two cases. Anyone with information about Clayton's homicide is asked to call the Rocky Mount Police Department at 252-972-1411 or Twin County Crime Stoppers at 252-977-1111. To send information via the Text-A-Tip service, text RMPOL and your message to CRIMES (274637). Police say calls and text messages are anonymous.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

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Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

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PLANS

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This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION
Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

Puppy Puddles



The Enterprise
Good to the Last Word



NC PRE - KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM Is Accepting Applications for 2021-2022 School Year!



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Children who will be 4 yrs. old on or before August 31, 2021
Families whose gross income is at or below 75% of the State median income level

PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO FAMILIES WHO MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Children who have limited English proficiency
- Children who have a parent or guardian serving active duty in the military
- Children who are **not** enrolled in a childcare program
- Children who are **not** enrolled in a subsidy program

For more Information contact one of the following Agencies below:

- Wilson County Partnership for Children
109 Park Avenue, Wilson, NC 27893 Phone: 252-206-4235
- Hattie Daniels Daycare Center
1900 Lipscomb Rd., Wilson, NC 27894 Phone: 252-291-4694
- Kiddie Kampus Child Care Center
1805 Forest Hill Rd., Wilson, NC 27896 Phone: 252-291-7550
- Jones Elementary School
4028 NC HWY. 42 W., Wilson, NC 27896 Phone: 252-265-4020



ESTAMOS ACEPTANDO APLICACIONES PARA Programa de Pre-Kindergarten de NC 2



Quién es Elegible?

Niños que tienen cuatro años o cumplen antes de Agosto 31, 2021 Niños que actualmente no están inscritos en ningún programa de preescolar Niños cuyos padres tienen un ingreso de/o menos de 75% del sueldo medio estatal

SE LES DARÁ PRIORIDAD A LAS FAMILIAS QUE COMPLAN LA SIGUIENTE CRITERIA:

- Niños que tienen Inglés limitado
- Niños que tienen padres o guardianes que sirven en el servicio activo militar
- Niños que **no** están enrolados en un programa de cuidado de niños
- Niños que **no** están enrolados en un programa Subsidiario

Para mas informacion contacta una de las agencias de abajo:

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1900 Lipscomb Rd., Wilson, NC 27894 Phone: 252-291-4694
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OBITUARIES

Teresa Cale Griffith Watkins

Teresa Cale Griffith Watkins passed away at age 56 on Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2021, at Lower Cape Fear Hospice and Living Center after her battle with primary esophageal carcinoma, a rare and unrelenting form of cancer.

Born in Ahoskie, Teresa was a lifelong resident of the state. She was a 1982 graduate of Southern Nash Senior High School. She graduated from Nash Community College's real estate salesperson program and held her sales and broker's licenses for many years. Teresa later graduated from Cape Fear Community College's occupational therapy assistant program where she maintained a 4.0 grade point average, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and served as vice president of the Student Occupational Therapy Association club. Specializing in geriatrics, she practiced as a certified occupational assistant for almost 20 years and took great pride in her work. Teresa was baptized as a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on Jan. 18, 2020.

Teresa was preceded in death by her brother, Ryan Travis Cale; sister-in-law, Lois Cale; son-in-law, Derrick Scott Benton; and her mother-in-law, Ruby Mae Davis Watkins.

She is survived by her husband, Melvin Lee Watkins Jr. of Castle Hayne; her father and step-mother, Merle and Carolyn Cale of Spring Hope, and her mother, Patricia Sellers of Rocky Mount. She also leaves her daughter and son-in-law, Anna Griffith and Ian Jerome Munna; her son, Ryan Lee Watkins; stepdaughters, Amanda Kate Watkins and Sara Watkins Benton; granddaughter, Elizabeth Kate Benton; and her brother and sister-in-law, William Allen and Peggy Ticconi Cale.

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UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

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Nash student wins community college system design contest

For The Enterprise

ROCKY MOUNT — Nash Community College advertising and graphic design student Josh Ludlow won a design contest to produce cover art for the N.C. Community College System's annual conference program.

The design contest was open to all students enrolled at North Carolina community colleges. As the winner, Ludlow's art, photo and biography are featured in the conference program. The systemwide virtual conference began Feb. 1 and continues through March 12.

"Josh is a creative and talented graphic designer," instructor Natasha Neal said. "He is a hard-working and energetic person who embraces design challenges and de-



Ludlow

Ludlow, of Rocky Mount, is a multimedia producer who loves to bridge the gap between functional layout and beautiful design. He has maintained a 4.0 cumulative grade point average and plans to graduate from Nash Community College in May.

"The quality of his work and attention to detail are superb," Neal said. "His work ethic has been exemplary, and he is always learning new skills and expanding his talents outside of traditional print-based media."

Ludlow is employed by a nonprofit publisher in North Carolina. Outside the workplace, he designs tabletop games and enjoys watching old episodes of "The Office." He appreciates any opportunity to make people laugh, especially his wife Lia.

"I am thankful to have had the opportunity to participate in the contest," Ludlow said. "My goal for the design was to direct the focus on the youth, who are the future, in a fun and simplistic way. I am honored to have been chosen as the finalist and hope to encourage others to continue to pursue their goals and work hard."

NCC's advertising and graphic design curriculum is designed to prepare students for employment in the graphic design profession with

emphasis on design, advertising, illustration and digital and multimedia preparation of printed and electronic promotional materials.

"I have enjoyed my time as a student in the advertising and graphic design program at Nash Community College," Ludlow said. I am extremely grateful for the teachers who have gone above and beyond to teach and encourage not only me, but all students. We, the students at Nash, have a lot to be thankful for with such dedicated and hardworking staff."

Advertising and graphic design graduates are prepared for work with graphic design studios, advertising agencies, commercial printers and in a wide variety of manufacturing, retail, media and graphics operations.

Cast iron skillet a kitchen workhorse



DEEANN RIVERA

One thing I remember about my grandmother's kitchen is her big white stove. There was always a pot of used grease and a cast iron skillet on the stove. Maybe your grandmother kept the same items on hers as well.

I really like eggs, but I hate how hard it is to clean eggs out of my pan. I was debating on boiling my breakfast eggs since

cleanup is easier, but I don't really love eggs cooked that way. That's when I thought about my grandma's eggs — and suddenly, I remembered seeing her breakfast-making skills.

I recalled that she'd cook eggs in her cast iron skillet once she emptied it of the biscuits she'd baked. I could not remember seeing her ruthlessly scrub the pan in between.

Her fluffy, melt-in-your-mouth biscuits would slide out of the skillet, and then she'd whip up scrambled eggs and never break a sweat from scrubbing the pan — in fact, she didn't ever scrub that pan. Which got me questioning: Why am I not using a cast iron skillet?

In my kitchen, I actually already had two sizes, both bought many, many years ago but never used. I rubbed them both with extra virgin olive oil and baked them at 250 degrees for 30 minutes, then turned them upside down and dialed up the heat to 400 degrees for an hour.

After letting them cool in the oven, I now had bulletproof pans. OK, maybe not bulletproof, but they are pretty incredible.

My pan surface is like

an ice-skating rink and my eggs slide off like a speeding hockey puck. I baked a pizza and the dough was crispy on the outside, warm and perfectly baked on the inside and nary a crumb stuck to the pan! Vegetables sauté and never stick.

I even baked an apple cobbler that would make Martha Stewart cry with joy! It was like my cast iron pan was shouting, "baby, baby, don't get hooked on me!"

Why have I not been using this amazing iron workhorse?

Well, I'm a nurse and I wash my hands with soap and water — a lot! So, I was a little unnerved once I realized that I'm never going to use soap on my new kitchen love. This was almost enough to make me stow the beauty back in the cupboard and go back to hard-boiled eggs (cue the sad songs and frowny face).

Fortunately, I found a compromise cleaning method that I can live with. It's simple and easy and will kill germs. Immediately after cooking, all you do is rinse with warm water and scrub gently with a nylon brush and baking soda. The baking soda neutralizes flavors and odors and

has antibacterial properties! The cast iron pan is still sitting on my stove.

After cooking for several days in a row, I did learn a few reasons these kitchen beasts may have fallen out of home cooks' favor. 1. They are heavy. 2. They get really, really, really hot. Even all the way down to the tip of the handle hot!

There's nothing to do about it being heavy except get stronger. For lava-generating heat, I have figured out to keep a potholder handy and to not put bare skin onto the handle once I've been cooking with it. I'd like to say I learned that quickly, but I have a few burns to prove it took more than once to remember.

So, if you have a cast iron skillet and are craving gooey brownies with a skillet-kissed crust, these are perfect. If you haven't got the iron goddess but still want brownies, then this recipe will work with a 9-by-13 casserole dish. Brownies have butter, which makes them good whether they are skillet-kissed or not.

DeeAnn Rivera is a Spring Hope resident who blogs at VictoryGardenGal.com. Email her at VictoryGardenGal@gmail.com.

Skillet-Kissed Brownies

EQUIPMENT

12-inch skillet (9-by-13 casserole dish)	Whisk	Mixing bowls
	Measuring cups/spoons	

INGREDIENTS

1 cup butter, melted	1/2 teaspoon sea salt	1/2 cup all-purpose flour
2 cups sugar	3 eggs	1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 cup cocoa powder (can be dark for extra rich brownies)	1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract	1/2 cup chopped walnuts or chopped pecans (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Allow your skillet to preheat (this is the skillet-kissed part).

Melt your butter. In a large bowl, whisk together sugar, cocoa powder and salt. Pour in the butter and stir until just combined (don't over stir — the bubbles will keep them from being fudgy).

Whisk in the eggs and vanilla extract.

Add the flour and cinnamon and nuts if you want them. Fold until just combined.

Pour the batter into your preheated skillet (use a potholder!) and place the skillet back into the oven at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. The top should be set, but the middle will be soft — don't worry, the brownies are not supposed to be completely cooked yet. Allow them to cool completely (about an hour) before cutting.

The middle will complete its cooking and they will be perfect. Best of all, they won't stick to the pan and you can eat them all! Vanilla ice cream is recommended for accompaniment.

Good...

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March 2021

LOCAL & STATE

Republicans back program for students lagging from virus

BY GARY D. ROBERTSON
The Associated Press

RALEIGH — A summer school program designed to target K-12 students in North Carolina at risk of academic failure after virtual learning during the pandemic will help children get caught up, House Speaker Tim Moore said Tuesday while unveiling the proposal.

Moore and other House Republicans are backing legislation that would require each local district to offer the in-person six-week “school extension learning recovery and enrichment program.” Teachers and other staff

who want to work in the summer would be hired temporarily beyond their usual school-year contracts.

At-risk students who have fared poorly on end-year tests would get priority seating in the program, although enrollment would not be mandatory. Other students could participate if there is capacity, but Moore anticipates there will be instruction for any parent that wants it — he cited \$1.6 billion in additional federal funds that were approved last week and are being distributed to districts to address COVID-19 challenges.

“There’s a lot of children who are going to be getting tested, and they’re not going to be at grade level,” Moore, a Cleveland County Republican, said at a news conference about the measure, which will get a committee hearing Wednesday. “I submit to you that most parents are going to want to take advantage of every resource they can to know that those children are getting caught up.”

Moore mentioned the summer school program last month on the General Assembly’s session first day. The program would require at least five hours of instruction daily and

offer lunch and transportation services. K-8 students would focus primarily on reading and math with enrichment activities like sports or music. High school programs would emphasize courses necessary for graduation.

The program would have to receive both House and Senate approval before going to Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper’s desk.

Senate and House Republicans already are negotiating separate, final legislation that would direct K-12 school districts to offer at least partial in-person instruction within about two weeks

of the bill’s enactment.

The chambers approved different versions of the bill. Moore said Tuesday he expected a compromise agreement would be voted upon in his chamber as early as today.

While Cooper and other education leaders have urged schools to reopen, the governor has expressed concern about directing a statewide mandate and prefers persuading districts to act on their own. The legislation, which Cooper would have to decide whether to sign or veto, still would provide parents the option of stick-

ing with at-home learning this school year.

Many public school teachers are worried about returning to the classroom without receiving a vaccine first. Federal health officials have said schools can reopen safely without immediate vaccinations for teachers and staff, provided that social distancing and other precautions are followed.

Cooper announced last week that teachers, principals and school staff of all ages could get vaccinated starting Feb. 24. But vaccine supplies may prevent immediate access to the shots.

GOP leaders: Legislature watchdog agency to be shuttered

The Associated Press

RALEIGH — The North Carolina General Assembly’s state government watchdog agency will soon be shuttered, according to the offices of the legislature’s Republican leaders.

State law created the nonpartisan Program Evaluation Division in 2007, making North Carolina’s legislature one of the last in the country to create such an office.

The division, monitored by an oversight committee

of legislators who directs the agency’s work, has issued scores of reports over the years that located wasteful spending and recommended efficiencies. A Feb. 8 division report projected the state could save up to \$2 million annually if its mobile devices and services were better managed.

The findings by the division, which employs more than a dozen researchers and other staff, were not always embraced by committee members and the

agencies who were targeted. Other committee members praised the division’s work.

Spokespeople for Senate leader Phil Berger and House Speaker Tim Moore said this week that the General Assembly wanted to use other bipartisan oversight methods to address agency accountability.

Leadership “is evaluating its current oversight functions to improve outcomes and remove duplicative processes. By reinvigorating an existing bipartisan

process, the General Assembly will have greater flexibility to examine issues in a more timely and efficient manner,” Berger spokeswoman Lauren Horsch wrote in an email.

Moore spokesman Joseph Kyzer said the new process would use joint House-Senate panels with “the authority to compel timely and comprehensive answers from public agencies.”

Horsch said on Tuesday that Berger chose not to appoint senators as members of the oversight com-

mittee for the next two years, which means no committee work or business will be considered during that period. It’s unclear whether the division ultimately would be abolished by legislation.

The division is a unit of the Legislative Services Commission, which is led by commission Officer Paul Coble. Coble, who serves at the pleasure of Moore and Berger, did not respond to an email Tuesday seeking more information.

The division currently has an acting director. The division has been led for most of its life by John Turcotte, who retired in September.

Turcotte tweeted Monday his unhappiness with the shuttering of the division, which he said receives \$2 million in funding annually. The agency’s annually recurring savings achieved through its reports have outpaced its operating costs by a ratio of over 20-1, Turcotte wrote.

Information posted after ransomware attack

County officials say an investigation into a cyber attack on its computer network showed personal information posted for sale on the “dark web.”

The Associated Press

PITTSBORO — An investigation into a ransomware attack on a North Carolina county’s computer network showed personal information posted for sale on the “dark web,” the county said.

The Chatham County network was hit on Oct. 28 with ransomware that originated in a phishing email with a malicious attachment, The News & Observer of Raleigh reported Tuesday. It encrypted much of the county’s network in-

frastructure and associated business systems, the county announced.

County spokeswoman Kara Dudley said the hacker sent a ransom note asking for 50 bitcoins, or about \$2.4 million. The county refused to pay.

County staffers are working with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services and the N.C. Attorney General’s Office to identify files affected by the breach and to notify people whose personally identifiable information or personal health information may be at risk, County Manager Dan LaMontagne told the board of commissioners Monday.

The cyberattack shut down most county functions and temporarily cut off public access to services. Data also was stolen

from county systems, but LaMontagne said it’s not known what specifically was taken.

The Chatham News & Record reported last week that it found sensitive files, including county employee personnel records, eviction notices and Chatham County Sheriff’s Office investigation documents, posted to the internet, including to the dark web.

There were two releases, according to the News & Record. On Nov. 4, “mostly innocuous” files were uploaded, LaMontagne told the newspaper. In January, a second upload included more sensitive data. The newspaper was able to take screenshots of a counter on the site showing the files had been viewed over 30,000 times.

Staff had to wipe and re-image the county’s servers and over 550 staff computers, LaMontagne said. Staff computers, internet, office phones and voicemail are almost recovered, and they are adding security measures and reinforcing employee training, he said.

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Graham planning a run for Congress

The Associated Press

LUMBERTON — Democratic state Rep. Charles Graham announced on Tuesday that he’s running for Congress next year, with a likely goal of working to unseat Republican 9th District incumbent Dan Bishop.

Graham, of Robeson County, is in his sixth House term at the General Assembly. He’s considered among the more conservative Democrats in the chamber, someone who has been

willing to vote with Republicans on certain legislation.

Graham told The Robesonian of Lumberton that he had thought about running for Congress for several years, and “I just feel like this is the right time,” he said. Graham said he wants to offer voters a candidate who understands rural issues and has worked in a bipartisan manner.

Graham said he’d run for the seat in the 9th Congressional District, which currently includes Robeson and

several south-central counties, moving west all the way to Mecklenburg County.

Bishop, himself a former state legislator from Charlotte, won a special election in 2019 and earned a two-year term this past November. But the 9th District and the rest of North Carolina’s congressional map likely will be redrawn later this year based on the decennial census figures.

Primary elections are set for March 2022.

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of 2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan Reports and Related 2020 REPS Compliance Plans) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON) 2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND) RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE) PLANS
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) has scheduled a public hearing in conjunction with the Commission’s review and evaluation of integrated resource planning (IRP) in North Carolina. The purpose of the review and evaluation is to ensure that each regulated electric utility operating in North Carolina is developing reliable projections of the long-range demands for electricity in its service area and is developing a combination of reliable resource options for meeting the anticipated demands in a cost-effective manner. IRP is intended to identify those electric resource options which can be obtained at least cost to ratepayers in North Carolina consistent with adequate, reliable electric service. IRP considers conservation, efficiency, load management and other demand-side program alternatives in the selection of resource options. Commission Rule R8-60 requires that each of the electric utilities furnish the Commission with a biennial report in even-numbered years that contains the specific information set out in that Commission Rule. In odd-numbered years, each of the electric utilities must file an update report updating its most recently filed biennial report. In addition, regulated electric utilities are required to include their plans for meeting customer electric needs via renewable energy resources and energy efficiency programs by submitting a Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard compliance plan (REPS compliance plan) as part of the IRP filing.

During the public hearing to be held in this docket, the Commission will receive testimony from nonexpert public witnesses with respect to the most current IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed in 2020 by Duke Energy Progress, LLC; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC; and Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1-21(g).

A night hearing for the convenience of public witnesses and solely for the purpose of taking nonexpert public witness testimony shall be held by the Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing shall be conducted remotely via Webex. A link to view the hearing will be available at www.ncuc.net.

Persons desiring to present testimony for the record must register in advance of the hearing, no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021 by contacting the Public Staff via email at IRPPublicHearing@psncuc.nc.gov or by calling 866-380-9816. Testimony will be limited to five minutes per individual.

Only individuals registered with the Public Staff by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, will be allowed to testify at the hearing.

Anyone wishing to review the 2020 IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed by the utilities may do so at the Commission’s website, www.ncuc.net, by selecting the Docket tab and entering Docket No. E-100 Sub 165. Upon request, the Chief Clerk will place copies of the IRPs, compliance plans and any other documents filed in this proceeding in centrally-located public libraries where they may be copied without prohibition. Such a request may be made by writing to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300, and providing the name and address of the library to which the information is to be mailed.

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

N.C. sheriff: Burglar shot in robbery attempt

NASHVILLE (AP) — A man who burglarized a North Carolina home was shot by one of the occupants, a North Carolina sheriff’s office said Tuesday.

The Nash County Sheriff’s Office said in a news release that Bailey police reported Jose Luis Arizpe, 34, hit a woman inside the home with a hammer late Monday night. According to the news release, a man inside the home shot Arizpe multiple times. Arizpe was taken to a Raleigh hospital, where he underwent surgery.

Neither the woman’s name nor the man’s name were released by the sheriff’s office.

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News

Museum of Art exhibit focuses on mental health

BY DEBORAH GRIFFIN
Staff Writer

A current juried exhibition at the Greenville Museum of Art (GMOA) displays that art can be healing when it comes to mental health.

The exhibition, which features an array of eastern North Carolina artists, ages 11 through 80, will be on display through Saturday, March 6.

According to GMOA Executive Director Trista Porter, Healing Through Art: Mental Health Awareness represents struggles different artists have faced, and how they used art to persevere.

"It is a very powerful exhibition," she said.

With more than 20 artists represented, "it shows a lot of different perspectives and voices," she said. Each submission is an example of human resilience.

"Art can bring about conversations on a subject that is sometimes frowned upon (mental health)," she said. "Art is a such a great avenue



DEBORAH GRIFFIN/ THE DAILY REFLECTOR

Work in the Healing Through Art exhibit at the Greenville Museum of Art represent artists' struggles and how they used art to persevere. Visitors are encouraged to communicate with the artists by leaving a note in provided envelopes. The exhibit is also bringing awareness to the H & J Scholarship Fund, which helps provide free therapy at the East Carolina University Family Therapy Clinic. The museum is now open to the public 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

for working through struggles."

She said the art is varied

as the artists' battles. Media include socks, photography, textiles and paint, among

others.

"Art can bring healing, even when people are un-

aware of their struggles," Porter said. "This is a way to bring about conversations."

Porter, who has been with the museum for three years, said it has not featured another exhibit like this as far as she knows. Visitors are encouraged to communicate with the artists by leaving a note in provided envelopes.

The exhibit is also bringing awareness to the H & J Scholarship Fund, which helps provide free therapy at the East Carolina University Family Therapy Clinic to people who otherwise would not be able to afford it, according to Alston Cobourn, artist and ECU archivist. She encourages visitors to give to the scholarship fund.

Cobourn is one of the curators of the exhibit, along with Jennifer Hodgson and Darlene Williams, head organizer of the art exhibit.

Cobourn said the exhibition is not meant to be depressing and some pieces

represent reliance and hope.

"Everyone has mental health — just like everyone has physical health," said Cobourn. "If you don't take care of your physical health, there are consequences — as there are if you don't take care of your mental health."

Cobourn's submitted painting, titled "The Ooze," (an arm with toxic green substance dripping out of it) depicts suppressed feelings and traumas which eventually surface in one form or another.

"The Ooze illustrates long-bottled fear, guilt, shame, sadness, and trauma leaking out of the body, soiling everything around you.... And it is hard, hard work to clean it up," she explained.

The museum is now open to the public 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission is free. COVID-19 safety measures including mask wearing and social distancing are required. More information can be found at GMOA.org.

For Senate rules arbiter, minimum wage latest minefield

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — She's guided the Senate through two impeachment trials, vexed Democrats and Republicans alike with parliamentary opinions and helped rescue Electoral College certificates from a pro-Trump mob ransacking the Capitol. She also does spot-on impersonations of senators including Bernie Sanders.

Elizabeth MacDonough, an English literature major and the Senate's first woman parliamentarian, is about to demonstrate anew why she's one of Washington's most potent, respected yet obscure figures. Any day, she's expected to reveal if she thinks a federal minimum wage boost, progressives' most

prized plank in Democrats' \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief plan, should fall from the bill. Her decision, a political minefield likely to elicit groans from whichever side she disappoints, will play an outsized role in deciding the wage increase's fate. It may not be definitive — majority Democrats might try overriding an opinion they don't like.

As Democrats begin pushing Biden's sweeping relief package through Congress, they're using a special procedure that shields the bill from Senate Republican filibusters, which require 60 votes to thwart. That's out of reach for Democrats in a 50-50 chamber they control with Vice President Kamala Harris' tie-breaking vote.

But Senate rules require that items in such a bill

must have a substantial budget impact that is not "merely incidental" to the language's main intended purpose.

MacDonough has been meeting with Democrats who've tried persuading her that their minimum wage provision meets that test, and Republicans who've told her it doesn't. Democrats want to raise the federal floor, fixed at \$7.25 hourly since 2009, to \$15 over five years.

The Senate usually heeds the parliamentarian's advice, which is whispered to the senator presiding over the chamber. But the majority party will on rare occasion force a vote to overrule the parliamentarian.

If MacDonough decides the minimum wage hike

should remain in the bill, it would likely survive because GOP opponents would need an unachievable 60 votes to remove it. But at least two Democrats have expressed opposition to the \$15 proposal, so it still could be amended or even dropped.

If MacDonough says it should be stricken, Democrats would have no chance of garnering 60 votes to overrule her. But they might choose the rarely utilized, hardball tactic of having the presiding officer, presumably Harris, ignore her and announce that the minimum

wage language meets the test to stay in the overall legislation.

That would force Republicans to find 60 votes to strip the provision, which they'd fail to do. Such a

tactic is called the nuclear option because Democrats would be using their majority to muscle through rules changes, enraging Republicans and inviting a future tit-for-tat retaliation.

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
PLANS

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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

PROGRESS ENC

The Daily Reflector's annual economic progress report in 2021 will provide a checklist of programs and organizations working to improve the local economy, as well as a roadmap for where we need to go in the future. **Progress 2021** will ask the critical question: Are we making progress? The answer will come from company leaders, job trainers, educators, business-development agencies and economic analysts. Local companies will be invited to share their "vision" for **2021 - and beyond.**

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Louveste

from Page 1

being built. Mary got into his office and copied the plans. The story was make-believe, but many have read it as fact.

Reenactments and books love painting Mary as slogging for days through frigid weather in her journey to Washington. To that, one Newport News educator says, “B.S.”

Local historians have discovered the real Mary and want others to see her as she is. There are no known photos of Mary, but researchers can now paint a portrait of her that is much more compelling than any tall tale. She had children. She lost children. She was someone’s wife. She was a businesswoman when few women were, particularly African American women. She died with money. She also might have had a hand in furthering the cause of freedom more than history previously knew.

The Louvestes

The myths of Mary all start with one real fact — a letter from U.S. Navy Secretary Gideon Welles. In his 1872 dispatch, Welles recalled that Mary came to his office in the winter of 1861-62 “at no small risk” to bring him information about the enemy ship.

Troy Valos is a special collections librarian with the Sargeant Memorial Collection at the Slover Library in Norfolk. Late last summer, he got a research request from a patron wanting more about Mary. Valos was stumped. Could he find her and put some flesh to history’s bare-bones? Valos, whose nickname is “The Bloodhound,” studied Welles’ letter, picking out references to Mary being a Mrs. and her unusual last name. He hit census records.

He found a Michael Louveste, a mulatto, meaning he was mixed. Michael also was a free man and from the French Caribbean colony of Guadeloupe. The 1850 and 1860 census showed he indeed had a wife named Mary. Valos knew the French were typically Catholic, so he checked marriage records at Norfolk’s St. Patrick’s Church, now the Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception. Valos found the couple. They were married on June 1, 1844.

The Bloodhound then picked up on another scent, Mary’s maiden name, “Ogilvy.” Valos could then

look for her parents.

“So then one thing starts another starts another starts another,” Valos said. “Then there’s simple drudging through every single volume and finding all the Ogilvies or the Louvestes and you build it. Is this her? Is it not her? Is it a relative?”

Valos had much to sift through. Deciphering 19th-century, often illegible, cursive can be migraine-inducing. Recordkeepers then weren’t known for their spelling, either. The varying names made searching databases excruciating. Valos came across at least 10 spellings including “Loureste,” “Lonest,” “Lovitt,” “Lowveste” and “Lowresle.” Her maiden name was sometimes “Ogilvie,” “Oyilvis,” “Ogilbe,” or “Ogleby.”

This is the family cluster Valos feels pretty confident about: Mary was the daughter of a Lewis or Louis Ogilvie, who hailed from St. Domingue, present-day Haiti. The family was probably part of the massive influx of refugees in the 1790s — whites with their enslaved, free Blacks and mulattos — following a 1791 slave revolt on the island.

Lewis married Sukey, who was born free in York County around 1778. Under Virginia law, children took on the status of their mothers. Sukey was free and so were her children.

Norfolk required free Blacks to register. Valos found the parents, Mary and three of her four siblings — Louisa, Joseph and Jane — in several of the city’s court documents, beginning in 1828. Another sister, Susan, would be born later. In 1834, Mary Ogilvie registers for the first time as a free adult. It is one of several times that she is listed as mulatto. With the documents and her ages in census records, Valos estimates her birthdate around 1812.

In 1838, a Mary Ogilvie got her first business license for “private entertainment,” which is probably a restaurant or bar, Valos said.

Meanwhile, a team of staff and volunteers at The Mariners’ Museum and Park in Newport News have had Mary on their radar for years. Lauren Furey, manager of visitor engagement, said Michael left Guadeloupe through the U.S. Navy. The Navy didn’t care about U.S. citizenship, Furey said, and Michael worked as a captain’s steward aboard the USS Vandalia. The Vandalia made frequent stops in Norfolk.

Like Valos, Furey has documents that show that Mary and Michael had at least two children, Susan and



Tommy L. Bogger, a retired archivist and professor at Norfolk State University, has traced the Louvestes off and on for decades. He was too busy teaching in the 1980s to pursue them as a project, he said. **FILE PHOTO**

Ophelia.

In 1855, yellow fever tore through Portsmouth and Norfolk and Valos found references to a M. Louverte of Norfolk reporting the deaths of two children, Ophelia and Robert, on the same day. It is the only reference Valos found to a child named Robert, but he believes “M. Louverte” is Michael. He found a census report that places Susan in a Baltimore boarding school during this time.

Valos came across another young person tied to Mary, but back in 1838, the year she got her business.

The boy was a 10-year-old named Mark, and he was her enslaved.

Life for the Louvestes in Norfolk

Tommy L. Bogger, a retired archivist and professor at Norfolk State University, has traced the Louvestes off and on for decades. He was too busy teaching in the 1980s to pursue them as a project, he said. But he then talked to a contemporary who was interested and felt it was in good hands: Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alex Haley, who wrote the groundbreaking “Roots” and “The Autobiography of Malcolm X.”

Haley died in 1992 and his

widow, My, published the novel “The Treason of Mary Louvestre” with Virginia Beach’s Koehler Books in 2013.

Bogger has authored his own works, including “Free Blacks in Norfolk, Virginia, 1790-1860.”

He has an idea of what life was like for the Ogilvies, Louvestes and how Mary would have been in a position to become a spy in 1861.

Bogger said Lewis Ogilvie established himself in Norfolk and developed a degree of status. Records list him as free, sometimes labeled colored or white, and owning a business as a shoe and bootmaker.

In 1840, Norfolk had about 11,000 white and African American residents of whom 43% were Black. The majority — 78% — were enslaved. Most of the 22% who were Black and free were mulatto, Bogger said. Lighter-skinned, French-speaking immigrants were likely elevated to a higher class, so to speak, and more accepted among whites. Bogger said the Ogilvies came to Norfolk with a particular “social consciousness,” too.

Mary and Michael would have easily found each other in this insular world and Micheal had obviously made inroads with the establishment. The two men listed as witnesses on their marriage certificate are white. One of them,

a John Dodd Jr., entered into a leasing agreement with Michael for a property on Nivison Street, where the Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel now sits.

Mary and Michael for years ran a business that at times is referred to as a restaurant, bar or boarding house. It appears they lived in apartments above it.

“My only problem with that is if local whites perceived them as nonthreatening,” Bogger said, “they must have maintained some social distance between the other free Blacks and slaves.”

Still, even as privileged free Blacks, Mary and Michael surely weren’t ignorant to the realities of race.

Slave ships carrying chained men, women and children to New Orleans’ markets were within sight of their doors. State law prevented Blacks from buying alcohol to sell, Bogger said. But Michael, as a barkeeper, got the necessary three white justices of the peace to give their blessing.

Mark DeMortie was born enslaved in Norfolk in 1829 and listed as mixed; at least twice he would be called a “Frenchman.” His roots are linked to refugees from St. Domingue, the same as the Ogilvies.

Valos can’t find another Mary Ogilvie in the area, so he feels certain that this Mary bought him from a white Norfolk doctor when Mark was a child. Was she drawn to him because of their similar Creole background? Were they related? Did she buy him to save him from another fate?

Bogger said it was common for free Blacks to buy the enslaved for humanitarian reasons. Virginia law also made it better for Mary to keep him enslaved. Once freed, he would have to leave the state within the year. Where would the young boy have gone?

On March 25, 1850, Mary emancipated him, though, a few weeks before he turned 21.

DeMortie headed to Massachusetts where he became a businessman and a well-known anti-slavery activist. He returned to Virginia after the war and jumped into politics. But, before then, he worked on the Underground Railroad and chanced his freedom by helping the enslaved escape. The Elizabeth River, a mere block from the Louvestes’ home, was a popular railroad station. Did he start his work there with the Louvestes?

Turn to Louveste, Page 7

WHY WILLS ARE OBSOLETE:

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
Reports and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
) 2020 BIENNIAL IRP REPORTS AND
) RELATED 2020 REPS COMPLIANCE
) PLANS

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During the public hearing to be held in this docket, the Commission will receive testimony from nonexpert public witnesses with respect to the most current IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed in 2020 by Duke Energy Progress, LLC; Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC; and Virginia Electric and Power Company, d/b/a Dominion Energy North Carolina. Public witness testimony will be received in accordance with Commission Rule R1 21(g).

A night hearing for the convenience of public witnesses and solely for the purpose of taking nonexpert public witness testimony shall be held by the Commission on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing shall be conducted remotely via Webex. A link to view the hearing will be available at www.ncuc.net.

Persons desiring to present testimony for the record must register in advance of the hearing, no later than 5:00 p.m. Thursday, March 11, 2021 by contacting the Public Staff via email at IRPPublicHearing@psncuc.nc.gov or by calling 866 380 9816. Testimony will be limited to five minutes per individual.

Only individuals registered with the Public Staff by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, will be allowed to testify at the hearing.

Anyone wishing to review the 2020 IRP reports and REPS compliance plans filed by the utilities may do so at the Commission’s website, www.ncuc.net, by selecting the Docket tab and entering Docket No. E 100 Sub 165. Upon request, the Chief Clerk will place copies of the IRPs, compliance plans and any other documents filed in this proceeding in central ly located public libraries where they may be copied without prohibition. Such a request may be made by writing to the Chief Clerk, North Carolina Utilities Commission, 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699 4300, and providing the name and address of the library to which the information is to be mailed.

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The Attorney General is also authorized by statute to represent the using and consuming public in proceedings before the Commission. Statements to the Attorney General should be addressed to The Honorable Josh Stein, Attorney General, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699 9001. Written statements may be emailed to utilityAGO@ncdoj.gov.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 2nd day of February, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk

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Call for COVID-19 tests dropping off

As demand wanes, official warns about letting guard down

By Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Just five weeks ago, Los Angeles County was conducting more than 350,000 weekly coronavirus tests, including at a massive drive-thru site at Dodger Stadium, as health workers raced to contain the worst COVID-19 hotspot in the U.S.

Now, county officials say testing has nearly collapsed. More than 180 government-supported sites are operating at only a third of their capacity.

"It's shocking how quickly we've gone from moving at 100 miles an hour to about 25," said Dr. Clemens Hong, who leads the county's testing operation.

After a year of struggling to boost testing, communities across the country are seeing plummeting demand, shuttering testing sites or even trying to return supplies.

The drop in screening comes at a significant moment in the outbreak: Experts are cautiously optimistic that COVID-19 is receding after killing more than 510,000 people in the U.S. but concerned that emerging variants could prolong the epidemic.

Meanwhile, the Food and Drug Administration on Saturday approved Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine, making a third shot available in the United States.

That vaccine is the first to require one dose instead of two and shipments are expected to start within days, adding to the effort already underway to admin-



Maria Rivera gets a COVID-19 vaccine injection Thursday at Dodger Stadium. Los Angeles County officials say the call for testing has collapsed. Not long ago, the county was conducting over 350,000 tests weekly. PHILIP CHEUNG/THE NEW YORK TIMES

ister millions of doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines.

"Everyone is hopeful for rapid, widespread vaccinations, but I don't think we're at a point where we can drop our guard just yet," said Hong. "We just don't have enough people who are immune to rule out another surge."

U.S. testing hit a peak Jan. 15, when the country was averaging more than 2 million tests per day. Since then, the average number of daily tests has fallen more than 28%. The drop mirrors declines across all major virus measures since January, including new cases,

hospitalizations and deaths.

Officials say those encouraging trends, together with harsh winter weather, the end of the holiday travel season, pandemic fatigue and a growing focus on vaccinations are sapping interest in testing.

"When you combine all those together you see this decrease," said Dr. Richard Pescatore of the health department in Delaware, where daily testing has fallen more than 40% since the January peak. "People just aren't going to go out to testing sites."

But testing remains important for tracking and containing the outbreak.

LA County is opening more testing options near public transportation, schools and offices to make it more convenient. And officials in Santa Clara County are urging residents to "continue getting tested regularly," highlighting new mobile testing buses and pop-up sites.

President Joe Biden has promised to revamp the nation's testing system by investing billions more in supplies and government coordination. But with demand falling fast, the country may soon have a glut of unused supplies. The U.S. will be able to conduct nearly 1 billion monthly

tests by June, according to projections from researchers at Arizona State University. That's more than 25 times the country's current rate of about 40 million tests reported per month.

With more than 150 million new vaccine doses due for delivery by late March, testing is likely to fall further as local governments shift staff and resources to giving shots.

"You have to pick your battles here," said Dr. Jeffrey Engel of the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. "Everyone would agree that if you have one public health nurse, you're going to use that person for vaccina-

tion, not testing."

Some experts say the country must double down on testing to avoid flare-ups from coronavirus variants that have taken hold in the U.K., South Africa and other places.

"We need to use testing to continue the downward trend," said Dr. Jonathan Quick of the Rockefeller Foundation, which has been advising Biden officials. "We need to have it there to catch surges from the variants."

Over the holiday season, many Americans still had to wait days to receive test results, rendering them largely useless. That's led to testing fatigue and dwindling interest, said Dr. Michael Mina of Harvard University.

"It doesn't exactly give you a lot of gratifying, immediate feedback," Mina said.

Still, U.S. test manufacturers continue ramping up production, with another 110 million rapid and home-based tests expected to hit the market next month.

Government officials long assumed this growing arsenal of cheap, 15-minute tests would be used to regularly screen millions of students and teachers as in-person classes resume. But recent guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention don't emphasize testing, describing it as an "additional layer" of protection, behind basic measures like masking and social distancing.

Even without strong federal backing, educational leaders say testing programs will be important for marshaling public confidence needed to fully reopen schools, including in the fall when cases are expected to rise again.

The New York Times contributed.

FDA gives approval to J&J's single-dose vaccine

By Lauran Neergaard
and Matthew Perrone
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is getting a third vaccine to prevent COVID-19, as the Food and Drug Administration on Saturday cleared a Johnson & Johnson shot that works with just one dose instead of two.

Health experts are anxiously awaiting a one-and-done option to help speed vaccinations, as they race against a virus that already has killed more than 510,000 people in the U.S. and is mutating in increasingly worrisome ways.

The FDA said J&J's vaccine offers strong protection against what matters most: serious illness, hospitalizations

and death. One dose was 85% protective against the most severe COVID-19 illness, in a massive study that spanned three continents — protection that remained strong even in countries such as South Africa, where the variants of most concern are spreading.

"The more vaccines that have high efficacy that we can get into play, the better," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert, said ahead of the FDA's ruling.

Shipments of a few million doses to be divided among states could begin as early as Monday. By the end of March, J&J has said it expects to deliver 20 million doses to the U.S., and 100 million by summer.

J&J also is seeking autho-

rization for emergency use of its vaccine in Europe and from the World Health Organization. The company aims to produce about 1 billion doses globally by the end of the year. On Thursday, the island nation of Bahrain became the first to clear its use.

A U.S. advisory committee will meet today to recommend how to prioritize use of the single-dose vaccine. And one big challenge is what the public wants to know: Which kind of vaccine is better?

"In this environment, whatever you can get — get," said Dr. Arnold Monto of the University of Michigan, who chaired an FDA advisory panel that unanimously voted Friday that the vaccine's benefits outweigh its risks.

Bowers Hill Interchange Improvements Study
Cities of Chesapeake and Suffolk
Citizen Comment Opportunity
www.BowersHillInterchange.com

Review information and provide comments on an improvements study to consider potential safety and operational improvements in the Bowers Hill interchange area in Chesapeake and Suffolk. The Bowers Hill Interchange Improvements Study area includes segments of I-664, I-64, I-264, Route 460, Route 58, Route 13 and Jolliff Road (Route 191). The needs of this study are to reduce congestion, improve travel reliability and provide additional travel choice on I-664 from and including the Bowers Hill interchange to College Drive. In lieu of an in-person meeting, citizens are invited to learn more by viewing a video presentation and to submit comments using an online survey. Study information will be online as early as Feb. 12, 2021 with the video presentation online on March 15, 2021. Public comments will be received **March 15 through March 25, 2021.**

The presentation, survey, past meeting materials and more study details are available at www.BowersHillInterchange.com. Comments can also be sent to bowershill@vdot.virginia.gov or mailed to Bowers Hill Interchange Improvements Study, 11827 Canon Blvd. Suite 402, Newport News, VA 23606.

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State Project: 0664-131-028, P101 Federal Project: 31103 UPC: 111427

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. E-100, SUB 165

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
2020 Biennial Integrated Resource Plan
(IRP) and Related 2020 REPS
Compliance Plans

) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
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ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

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NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk