Where’s Walker?
Congressional Candidates Answer—and Don’t Answer—Immigration Question

by Nora Haenn

For months, I planned an article comparing the immigration stances of US Congressional Representative Mark Walker and his challenger Ryan Watts. Walker and Watts are running in the 6th District which includes Chatham County. In all honesty, the column I intended to pass, but it remains the Republican “Secure America’s Future Act.” The act would probably have been entirely predictable. But then something interesting happened.

First, the predictable part. On immigration, Republican Walker and Democrat Watts have aligned on their party positions.

This summer, Walker co-sponsored the “Secure America’s Future Act.” The act failed to pass, but it remains the Republican platform. The act would have eliminated the 80,000 legal permanent residencies (or green cards) awarded annually via lottery, authorized expansion of the existing border wall, and allowed the Justice Department to withhold funds from communities deemed “sanctuary cities.” For DACA recipients, the Act would have provided a renewable, three-year status but not green cards. In order to secure legal permanent residency, DACA recipients would have to follow existing channels which the act would have narrowed by reducing the overall number of green cards issued each year by 25 percent.

Democrat Watts seeks to “protect DACA and its recipients...Here in District 6, over 2,200 have DACA and they collectively contribute over $98 million annually in economic benefit.” Watts also wants to provide “a more direct path citizenship for immigrants who work, pay taxes, and go to school. In many counties, the percentage is much higher than 25 percent.”

Mother Nature is telling us to wake up from our sleep and take notice, but I do not see that we are.

The Monument, Part 1: The Project

by Wil Sexton

Editor’s Note: Confederate monuments are much in the news. This is the story of the Confederate monument in Pittsboro, in three parts.

The rain that drenched Chatham County on the afternoon of August 22, 1987 must have made for anxious times in the London house. The next day would mark the unveiling of the Confederate Monument that stood now covered in white cloth, in front of the county courthouse in Pittsboro a block and a half away. Henry A. London wrote in that day’s Chatham Record that the “largest crowd ever assembled in Chatham was here at the veterans’ reunion in August, 1887...and if tomorrow (Friday) is a good day almost as large a crowd will be here.” Visitors had already begun arriving in the town, and no doubt many called at the London’s to pay respects. Talk probably began affecting our area that night when we arrived back home. My sweetie went into the bathroom and took a very long bath. After all, we had been without running water and electricity for three months. A long bath was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time. When it came time for my shower, I turned on the bathroom light, the power went off and stayed off for two weeks. It was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time. When it came time for my shower, I turned on the bathroom light, the power went off and stayed off for two weeks. It was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time.

The Monument, Part 2: The Monument

by Nora Haenn

The Monument, Part 3: The Legacy

by Nora Haenn

Hurricanes Grow Ever More Worrisome

by Joe Jacob

After moving to North Carolina in 1982, I thought I had seen the end of hurricanes when I moved to Chatham County and rather far away from the coast. One year, my sweetie and I had spent the summer in Alaska living off the grid and without running water. When we arrived at the Anchorage Airport to fly back to North Carolina, I picked up a newspaper and saw the projected track of Hurricane Fran. With my Hurricane Camille inland experience, I told my sweetie we had nothing to worry about. I thought that by the time Fran hit Chatham County, it would have lost most of its punch. Fran was expected to begin affecting our area that night when we arrived back home. My sweetie went into the bathroom and took a very long bath. After all, we had been without running water and electricity for three months. A long bath was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time. When it came time for my shower, I turned on the bathroom light, the power went off and stayed off for two weeks. It was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time. When it came time for my shower, I turned on the bathroom light, the power went off and stayed off for two weeks. It was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time. When it came time for my shower, I turned on the bathroom light, the power went off and stayed off for two weeks. It was a luxury we had been looking forward to for a long time.
**Chatham County Line embarks on a dynamic future**

by Julian Sereno

Chatham County Line, your community newspaper, has a new management team. Randy Voller and I are part of the Chatham County Community. As I prepare to leave my role as Publisher, I am excited to introduce Randy, who has been a part of the Chatham County community for more than 10 years. Now his ideas and energy will infuse the paper. With his partnership, there is no reason the paper won't go for another 26 years, maybe more.

If you want to buy an ad, email Randy at voller@chathamcountyline.org or call 919.740.5231.

We will always be there for you. Unconditionally accepting and ready to welcome you back. Even you go far away. It is similar to the all-seeing ability intrinsic to our fairies and deities. Your town has eyes out for you, can follow you around the world, knows where you are on Christmas eve or when you lose a baby tooth. Your home town is omnipresent where you are concerned because, yes, you really are that special.

So, when your home town takes a serious blow, say from an act of God or an explosion or epidemic or a natural disaster such as a hurricane, you can feel dizzy and confused. And perhaps overly emotional. People say to you, ‘won’t that your town in the news last night, is your family okay? You burst into tears, wondering am I really that empathetic? You feel compelled to help rescue children and animals, or distribute food and medicine through the Red Cross. You want to get in the car and drive there, forgetting about your job and your mortgage and the people depending on you. None of that matters any more because your home town needs you.

We currently publish 10 times a year with double issues in December/January and July/August. But we could consider offering more frequent events, in order to deliver a timely and special message to the homes and businesses in and around Chatham County.

To do this we need to partner with you. If you have ideas and/or submissions of content please email Julian at editor@chathamcountyline.org or if you want to promote your business or nonprofit email me at chathamcountyline@gmail.com and you can discuss how to host a benefit program with Chatham County Line that fits your needs.

R. Voller, 919.949.1274

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**Mead Day Fills Pittsboro's Beverage District**

by Randy Voller

Pittsboro was alive with costumed festival goers at the first “Mead Day” held in the Chatham Beverage District. Kyle Bullock of Fair Game Beverage and the driving force behind the biofuels plant and a partner in the new beverage district said about the changes: “We are arranging the pieces that make up our industrial roots into a food and beverage district. Over 1,000 people were here today.”

Combined with the thousands who attended “Summerfest” in the Pittsboro’s Main Street District, the annual Chatham County Fair, and the upcoming Pittsboro Street Fair on October 27 it appears that the “Circle City” is gearing up to handle and host bigger and more frequent events.

The “beverage district” is a collaboration between Fair Game Beverage, Chatham Cider Works and Starrlight Mead and its members have been eagerly anticipating the upcoming ribbon cutting for Starrlight Mead on Friday, November 9 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at 130 Lulet Lane.

“Getting Starlight Mead up and running is a significant first piece to this puzzle” said Jim Crowford who owns and operates Chatham Cider Works with his wife-Maureen. “We look forward to working with them and hosting many events with this team next year and beyond.”

“Mead Day” drew in visitors from all over North Carolina including Roderick Nehrenz and Danial Kreidler.

“We came from Raleigh and we absolutely love their mead.”

Nehrenz has worked Renaissance festivals and is a member and has been working with this team next year and beyond.

Inside the gates, Justin Bullock was holding court at the life-sized chess set with friends and family and a significant piece to this puzzle” said Jim Crowford who owns and operates Chatham Cider Works with his wife-Maureen. “We look forward to working with them and hosting many events with this team next year and beyond.”

Washout Back in My Home Town

by Brenda Linton

S

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The Bucket

by Randy Voller

Over three years now and no poems. I carry around a bucket of ice from the stream up near Roan Mountain. This can become poetry water. But it stays frozen. I carry it down through the woods every day and pace the city streets feeling like a fool - as if traffic and noise will cause it to melt. Can I leave it in your yard?
If I Had a Prostate

by Brenda Denzler

The doctor looked one more time at the computer screen, turned toward the patient and leaned in with his elbows on his knees. Being careful to make eye contact, he delivered the news.

“The tests show that you have a small cluster of cellular abnormalities. The good news is, it isn’t serious right now, and it may never become serious. This is the kind of thing we need to watch, but not worry about too much. And that’s what we’re going to do—keep an eye on it so that we can do the right thing at the right time.”

“Cellular abnormalities?” the patient asked, looking befuddled. “I don’t know what that means. What’s abnormal about them?”

“They don’t quite look like normal cells are supposed to look,” the doctor replied, failing to actually answer the question and trying not to use the word he desperately wanted to avoid. Suddenly the patient’s look of confusion turned to realization. “You mean cancer?”

“No invasive cancer,” the doctor said quickly. “This is more like a proto-cancer. The cells look funny, but they don’t seem to be growing and invading surrounding tissues. That’s why we want to watch and wait. If they show signs of becoming invasive, we’ll begin treating you right away. But most cells like this never do. We’d hate to get you through treatment that you don’t need.”

“I don’t know,” said the patient, looking justifiably skeptical. “If this thing could become cancer, I’d like to do something right now to make sure it never does.”

“That’s understandable,” conceded the doctor. “Many people feel this way. Studies show, however, that this just isn’t necessary, and the guidelines for treating this kind of proto-cancer suggest watchful waiting. That doesn’t mean ignoring it. It means keeping a close eye on it so that we can do the right thing at the right time.”

The question is, what really is the right time, and what is the right thing to do then? Throughout human history, anything that was identifiable as “cancer” was the kiss of death. Nothing could be done. As a result, the very idea of it was so frightening that the word itself was only whispered in polite company. In the last 50 years, our understanding of cancer has grown exponentially. We have all kinds of conventionally sanctioned treatments for it, as well as better data on alternative and integrative therapies.

At first, the fruits of all this knowledge were applied without a great deal of discrimination. A breast cancer was a breast cancer, and every tumor got the same treatment. A prostate cancer was a prostate cancer, and it had to be dealt with the way we dealt with all prostate cancers.

As the survival curves became more favorable, however, and people began to live with the results of their treatments, which can put a damper on survivors’ quality of life, researchers began to experiment with a more nuanced, “less-is-more” approach—giving less intensive treatments to those with earlier-stage cancers than to those with later-stage. Recently they’ve fine-tuned this distinction even further. In the September 18, 2018, online issue of the journal Oncology, an article suggests that some patients with Stage III colon cancer may need more chemotherapy, while others diagnosed at the same stage may do better with less. Go figure.

It’s in the context of this less-is-more approach that the “wait and see” tactic for very early-stage diseases has gained a lot of traction. Nowadays it is more apparent than in the case of two sex-linked cancers: prostate cancer and breast cancer. The term “cancer” scares women. Maybe men aren’t as spooked by the word “cancer”...but I have my doubts.

It has been said that more men will die with prostate cancer than of prostate cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, in every 1 out of 2 men will get prostate cancer at some point in his life, but only 1 out of every 4 men will die of prostate cancer. This is not because the treatments for prostate cancer are so effective. They’re actually pretty brutal. Rather, it’s because most prostate cancer is not aggressive, and in many cases it’s localized and slow-growing that it would never be a threat.

Because of this, men’s equivalent to women’s screening mammogram—the prostate-specific antigen, or PSA test—has been de-emphasized since 2009. There’s no point in finding small, symptomless cancers, the thinking goes, so save the testing for when there is enough disease to create symptoms that need to be managed. Even when an early-stage cancer is discovered, the guidelines for treatment often suggest watching and waiting rather than treating. I’ve often thought that I was “lucky” to have an aggressive form of breast cancer. I didn’t have to make a decision about whether to treat or to watch and wait. What would I do? I’ve wondered, if I had a prostate and an early-stage cancer how it had been found? I don’t know.

Cancer treatment is seldom on big deal. For DCIS, the usual treatment (if one is pursued) is surgery. Whether women opt for a small excision or choose complete removal of the breast, the long term side effects for them tend not to be as extreme as they are for men. For prostate cancer, the most common treatments are surgery or radiation. They often cause unpleasant side effects such as incontinence, impotence, or bowel problems. According to the Journal of Clinical Oncology (May 2017), 15 percent of long-term survivors of prostate cancer come to regret their treatment decisions. The longer they live with the side effects, the more likely they are to have regrets.

But prostate cancer can kill. It does kill. Every day. Would I want to take a chance that I’d forfeit my life because I was afraid to know the truth early enough to do something about it? What are the chances that refusing a PSA screening test could increase my risk of dying? What really is the right thing to do, and the right time to do it? In my next column, I’ll take a look at the impact of 10 years of reducing PSA testing.

Brenda Denzler was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer in 2009. She became a cancer survivor on the very day she was diagnosed.
by Jon Spoon

Here are my brief explanations of the purpose for and reason to vote against all 6 constitutional amendments:

AMENDMENT 1

The purpose: The sole purpose of this amend-
ment is to trick people into thinking these
amendments are a good idea. Lots of people
like to hunt and fish. This was intentionally
amendments are a good idea. Lots of people
like to hunt and fish. This was intentionally
AMENDMENT 3: VOTER ID

The purpose: This is probably the most important issue on the
statewide elections and thus, their bad ideas
will only apply to certain types of crime. They
made sure to include assault and larceny, but
conveniently left out any new rights for victims
of white-collar crimes.

AMENDMENT 5: ‘MERIT’ SYSTEM

The purpose: Mostly the same as the elections
board. Take a long-standing gubernatorial
power away from the Governor and give it to
the legislature. The GOP knows its ideas do not
work to protect our State’s constitution this
year. Why to vote against it: Despite seeming nice, this is not for regular people. No one particularly likes paying taxes, but we need them to create the wealth in which we want to live. This is intentionally framed to be egalitarian. No matter who you are, no one pays more than 7 percent. The issue is the enormous wealth disparity in our state. It doesn’t matter what the max cap is for poor and most middle-
class people. If the state lowers its income tax rate for the lowest 10 percent of earners by 1 percent it really doesn’t lose very much income. 6 percent of next to nothing is about the same as 7.5 percent of next to nothing. If the state lowers its income tax rate on the highest 10 percent of earners, it loses an enormous amount of income. This might seem like something average voters want, but it wasn’t designed for them and it certainly will not benefit them.

These are all my personal opinions and are
based on my own research and reading. There
may be some misinterpretations, but I think
this is pretty close to the actual story. Please
talk about these issues with your friends,
family and neighbors. A recent poll said that
almost no NC voters even know this effort is
happening. It’s so in blind, read about a right
to fish and a 7 percent income tax cap, we
could end up stuck with those terrible policies for
years to come.

The choice is simple, but we will have to
work to protect our State’s constitution this
November.

Jon Spoon resides in Chatham’s Oakland
Precinct.

Mountaire of Siler City, NC

MEET US AT THE JOB FAIR!

Dennis Wicker Civic Center, 1801 Nash Street
Saturday, October 20th 10AM-5PM

For more information visit: mountaire.com/careers
Job Line: 844-427-7546
Mountaire Farms is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Six amendments to the NC Constitution are on the ballot in November. All are unnecessary, unprecedented, & politically motivated.

In each case legislators could pass a law instead of amending our state constitution, but they want to tie the hands of future lawmakers and citizens. Vote AGAINST all Six.

Legislators plan to write the details when they return to Raleigh two weeks after the election. Don’t trust the Radical Republican majority. Vote AGAINST all Six.

The amendments will not be numbered on the ballot. The amendments will appear on the ballot in the same order as shown below. Vote AGAINST all Six.

Ballot Language: "Constitutional amendment to establish a bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections."

- This does more than change who appoints members of the Board of Ethics and Elections.
- It creates an even-numbered board that will deadlock.
- The amendment fundamentally alters the balance of power that North Carolina's constitution has historically maintained, removing important constitutional checks and balances.
- All living NC governors and all living state Supreme Court Justices oppose this amendment.

Ballot Language: "Constitutional amendment to change the process for filling judicial vacancies that occur between judicial elections from a process in which the Governor has sole appointment power to a process in which the people of the State nominate individuals to fill vacancies by way of a commission comprised of appointees made by the judicial, executive, and legislative branches charged with making recommendations to the legislature as to which nominees are deemed qualified, then the legislature will recommend at least two nominees to the Governor via legislative action not subject to gubernatorial veto; and the Governor will appoint judges from among these nominees."

- The language is deceptive, masking the true intent: to concentrate power in the General Assembly, weakening the courts and the governor.
- Judicial qualifications are already defined by the NC Constitution. The governor’s authority to fill judicial vacancies would be undermined.
- It creates a partisan process that allows the political party in power in the General Assembly to submit nominees, appoint the commission, select the candidates, and require the governor to choose one of them.
- Legislators, not the people of the state, would nominate individuals to fill vacancies.

Ballot Language: "Constitutional amendment to protect the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife."

- There is no threat to anyone's right to hunt or fish.
- It is unclear if property owners would be allowed to restrict hunting or fishing on private land.
- The impact on commercial fishing or on environmental regulations and protections is unclear.
- Extensive litigation is a likely outcome.

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- This amendment fundamentally alters the balance of power that North Carolina’s constitution has historically maintained, removing important constitutional checks and balances.
- All living NC governors and all living state Supreme Court Justices oppose this amendment.

Ballot Language: "Constitutional amendment to reduce the income tax rate in North Carolina to a maximum allowable rate of seven percent (7%)."

- An income tax cap will tie the hands of future generations.
- Your taxes won’t go down. Property and sales taxes will go up to fill the gap.
- We won’t be able to fund schools and other priorities adequately.
- The wealthiest will continue to get the biggest tax breaks.

Ballot Language: "Constitutional amendment to provide photo identification before voting in person."

- The bill contains no implementation language. You have to pass this one to find out what’s in it.
- This is a do-over of previous voter ID initiatives that were ruled unconstitutional. The courts held that the 2013 voter ID law targeted African-American voters with “almost surgical precision.”
- Voter fraud is not a problem. Out of 4,769,640 votes cast in 2016, one fraudulent vote would have been prevented with voter ID.

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- Voter fraud is not a problem. Out of 4,769,640 votes cast in 2016, one fraudulent vote would have been prevented with voter ID.

Ballot Language: "Constitutional amendment to strengthen protections for victims of crime; to establish certain absolute basic rights for victims; and to ensure the enforcement of these rights."

- We already have strong victim’s rights legislation.
- This would be an underfunded/unfunded mandate.
- The law could compromise a victim’s right to privacy and the accused’s right to a speedy trial.
- It eliminates the current distinction between adult and juvenile offenses.
- Victim’s advocates in states that have voted on Marsy’s Law opposed it, as does the NC ACLU.
Neill Lindley (R) Challenger for District Four
Who are you?
My Name is Neill Lindley. I am a native of Chatham County. As the only organic dairy farmer in the county, I have a daily connection with our water and soil. My business depends upon good stewardship of Chatham's natural resources. The water we drink in our overall quality of life; efforts to build community across Chatham County and our those who don't get heard.

What will you do for the people if elected?
As a commissioner, I will be committed to environmental issues, zoning and property rights and keeping our families working, shopping, and playing in Chatham County.

Commissioner James “Jim” Crawford (D) Incumbent, District Four
Who are you?
I am from a very small town in Pennsylvania. It's a town where the loudest sounds were the recorded church bells at the corner Luthers church and the sound of trucks coming in and out of the local family-owned grocery store. Like Goldston, Pittsboro and Siler City, people from my small town have a strong sense of place and community.

My family were farmers and factory workers. My parents often worked swing shifts and two jobs to take care of the family. Living this way is stressful, and it takes a toll. My parents separated, and my dad raised us. And then tragedy struck, and my father died of a heart attack when I was just 15. This was a watershed moment in my life and provided the backdrop for who I am today.

Thus my experiences in industry and work as a community leader. Our citizens are deeply con- nected to their physical space, to the land and the environment. Good jobs and fair wage impacts not just the people who earn them, but their families too.

I believe that the responsibility of everyone who has the opportunity to make sure that populations who don’t always have an equal voice get heard. Today, I believe that the responsibility is to the people to create a more level playing field.

What are you running for?
I believe that everyone has the responsibility of giving the voice to the people – especially those who don’t get heard.

And I will continue to push for high-paying jobs in our two mega-sites and nodes of com- mercial development across the County.

The people can count on me to continue to support smart growth strategies; investments in our overall quality of life; efforts to build community across Chatham County and our region; fully funding our schools and our teachers and protecting the air we breathe and the water we drink.

Secrets to Aging Gracefully
by R. Barnes Steer
Here we go again. Yet another article about getting old? How to profit from it, applaud it, improve it, analyze, etc. Then ways and means to make it happen. At least, that’s the way they sold the new product that defies aging altogether. Been there done that?

Now being of a certain age, I have decided to look into my basket of weird and counter- culture ideas about aging and go public with my top three notions. Yes, I have successfully tested all three, yet none of them is going to appear on the stock exchange or at the App store. Dadgummit! The first notion is one I was born with. You too! I am convinced that “it is good for all" (especially your love ones," to bare- footed. Naked as can be. Too we really need suckers to contain them. Most arches are doing just fine without a whole bunch of para- phernalia from the drug store. Take notice that bare feet do not overheat on drugs and do not possess police records. Even before our babies (well, other’s babes) can turn over, they are permanently ensnared in expensive footwear. And I’m not just talking about Nick, although it’s hard not to think of him. To make my shoeless argument, I go against the American way. Americans insist that our shoes (bottoms, that is) are clean at all times, except at the pool or beach. There is probably already a law against being barefooted in public places. Yes, I know it is unfriendly to send food to those barefooted, especially undocumented immigrants.

Perform this test. Take off your footwear in the privacy of your home and wiggle your toes. Then when you wake up in the morning. At the end of a week have a meeting with your bare feet and leave the verdict up to them. Also notice that your balance and agility have improved. At night, or in the early morn, I advocate taking a few bare-fon the sidewalk before the neighborhood. Even before our babies (well, other’s babes) can turn over, they are permanently ensnared in expensive footwear. And I’m not just talking about Nick, although it’s hard not to think of him. To make my shoeless argument, I go against the American way. Americans insist that our shoes (bottoms, that is) are clean at all times, except at the pool or beach. There is probably already a law against being barefooted in public places. Yes, I know it is unfriendly to send food to those barefooted, especially undocumented immigrants.

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We are the party of the New Deal. Not the raw deal. 
We are the party of the New Frontier. Not the fracked frontier. 
We are the party of the Great Society. Not a mean society.

We Deserve a Representative in Washington who Listens

Elect Ryan Watts, 6th Congressional District
www.WattsForCongress.com

“We must restore our state’s ability to recruit and attract high-quality, good-paying jobs. Many North Carolina families have not experienced the ‘Carolina Comeback.’ Our economy should work for all North Carolinians.”

Re-Elect Chatham’s Great State Legislative Delegation

Sen. Valerie Foushee, State District 23
www.ValerieFoushee.com

“I am supporting Diana because she is thorough, well prepared and an excellent advocate for the County.”
– Cindy Perry

Rep. Robert Reives II, House District 54
www.ReivesForHouse.com

“We need fair and reasonable judges to prevent this partisanship.

We are the party of the New Deal. Not the raw deal. 
We are the party of the New Frontier. Not the fracked frontier. 
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Re-Elect Chatham County Commissioners

Commissioner Diana Hales, District 3
www.DianaHales.com

“Those counties have offered me and my family so much opportunity, I’m proud to serve Chatham and Durham Counties in the North Carolina House of Representatives. Together we can get North Carolina back on the right track.”

Win the courts, win the war

Judicial races may be at the end of the ballot, but they are as important as the races at the top. In recent years conservative justices upheld conservative redistricting maps, sustained private school voucher programs and voter ID laws, weakened NC’s consumer protection law and more. We need fair and reasonable judges to prevent this partisanship.

Re-Elect Chatham County Commissioners

Commissioner Jim Crawford, District 4
www.Crawford4Chatham.com

“Take the true...”

“The counties have offered me and my family so much opportunity. I’m proud to serve Chatham and Durham Counties in the North Carolina House of Representatives. Together we can get North Carolina back on the right track.”

Vote for Fair Judges

Anita Earls for NC Supreme Court
EarlsJustice.com

“Antila’s service to North Carolina is undeniable. She has been at the forefront of the fight for fair maps and voting rights in our state, and she has dedicated her life to achieving fairness, equality, and justice. I look forward to supporting Anita as she seeks to represent all North Carolinians from the bench of North Carolina’s Supreme Court.” —Jim Hunt

Toby Hampson for NC Court of Appeals
TobyHampsonforJudge.com

“Anita’s service to North Carolina is undeniable. She has been at the forefront of the fight for fair maps and voting rights in our state, and she has dedicated her life to achieving fairness, equality, and justice. I look forward to supporting Anita as she seeks to represent all North Carolinians from the bench of North Carolina’s Supreme Court.” —Jim Hunt

Allegra Collins for NC Court of Appeals
AllegraCollins.com

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Judge John S. Arrowood for NC Court of Appeals
KeepJudgeArrowood.org

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Democrats think “we’re all in this together” is a better philosophy than “you’re on your own.”

Invest in Chatham & Democrats with your vote on November 6th. Every vote is important! Every election matters!

Volunteer for the Chatham & North Carolina that You Want

Help elect great candidates and defeat the constitutional amendments. Volunteer to canvass, make phone calls, work the polls among other tasks. Visit www.ChathamDemNc.net and click on Get Involved or send an email to: volunteer@chathamdemsnc.net

www.ChathamVotes.org

PAID FOR BY THE CHATHAM COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
North Carolina K9 Emergency Rescue Team

by Valerie Broadway

This column was in the works before Hurricane Florence existed, but she is just the kind of disaster that could call for the work of the North Carolina K9 Emergency Response Team (NCK9ERT). I interviewed Melisa Seminario, a Chatham resident who has been involved with NCK9ERT for 15 years.

NCK9ERT Emergency Response Team was organized in 1999 as a non-profit serving North Carolina and the surrounding areas. The organization provides highly skilled search teams which are available 24 hours a day. They respond to requests from Law Enforcement agencies during natural or manmade disasters, drownings, and lost or missing persons in urban or wilderness settings. Every member of NCK9ERT is a volunteer, and there is no cost for their services. One canine response team is as effective as 20-30 human-only searches. Dogs are trained for one of two purposes, to either “trail/truck” or to “search.” Trail/tracking dogs follow the trail a human has taken using a scent article from the person. Dogs usually work on long leashes and can follow scents up to 36 hours old. Search dogs, sometimes called cadaver dogs, find any human scent in a large area. They usually work off-leash.

Volunteers with NCK9ERT work with their personal dogs. Training for handler/ dog teams is rigorous and must meet strict standards before they are deployed on a mission. Maintaining skills at an optimal level requires at least 50 hours per month of training and continuing education. Training is a combination of classroom, first aid, and in-the-field work. Beyond the dog training side of certification there are many other types of training a handler can complete. Additional training courses Melisa has completed include, CPR, Ham radio license, Haz Mat Awareness, Crime Scene Preservation, K9 First Aid, and Emergency Vehicle Driver. It takes most teams 18 – 24 months to become fully certified as a search dog/handler team.

Melisa’s interest in search dog work began after taking her dog at the time to a few “just for fun” Search and Rescue (nose work/scent-work) classes in Raleigh with dog trainer Dennis Hilt (www.dogtrainingcampusa.com). She enjoyed the classes so much she decided to take the next step, which was a class in Apinsar called Fundamentals of Search and Rescue led by instructor, Mac Morgan, Chief of NCK9ERT. Dogs from working bloodlines with higher than average drive and intensity are best suited for search and rescue. Melisa has always trained her German Shepherd Dogs. Melisa and her dog at the time, Mick, were one of the first operational search dog teams in NC to earn a National certification through NASAR (National Association for Search and Rescue.) Melisa’s current operational dog, 2-year-old Chico, is certified with NASAR as an HRD (Human Remains Detection) Land Type III dog.

For Melisa the rewards are both broad and personal. She states, “I have always liked helping people who needed help, so that part was easy. Helping to find missing people when other efforts had ceased gives comfort to those whose loved ones are missing. It instills a sense of security, and much more satisfaction, because I don’t believe there ever is closure in the heart.” Melisa adds, “On a more personal level, I love working with dogs, and love the training of the dogs and myself. So, search offers me the opportunity to perform a service for the community with my dogs.” Melisa adds, “Every missing person is someone’s child, parent, sibling, aunt, uncle, or cousin.”

Search work has taken Melisa to many parts of NC and areas throughout the southeast. She says, “My dogs and I have searched in all types of terrain and conditions. Often the conditions dictate the amount of time a dog is able to work, excessive heat being a big determining factor. NCK9ERT responds to requests from Law Enforcement and Emergency Management at no charge to the requesting agency. We have worked for agencies throughout the southeast, including the F.B.I.”

Melisa wants people to know the K9 Emergency Response Team is made up of dedicated hard-working, hard training, always learning individuals who put the mission first and foremost. She adds, “In addition to our K9 teams we have some special capabilities with an Edgetech side scan sonar, a small remote controlled boat (for small ponds/water) and an underwater drone. We are always open to people with some knowledge and experience to join forces with us.”

K9 Search teams spend about 50 hours a month on actual searching, working in up to 12 hour shifts. Volunteer searchers invest in the purchase of their personal equipment. They typically pay for their own training costs, as well as, their gas and food when not on a search.

Donations to keep the teams going are always needed, and greatly appreciated. NCK9ERT operations receives no state or federal governmental funding. Support comes completely from donations and the occasional grant. Otherwise, expenses are paid out of the pockets of the volunteers. To donate or ask other questions, to support the organization, or learn more, go to their website at nck9ert.org.

Valerie Broadway, the Canine Coach, is a dog trainer and behavioral specialist. For more information, call 919-340-4729 or visit www.caninecoachingservices.com.

Visit Us at North Chatham Village Shopping Center
(formerly Cole Park Plaza)

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StateFarm

What’s Happening at Chatham Park?

New Road to Northwood High School

In August, we began clearing for a second road that will connect Northwood High School to 15-501. The existing road into the High School connects to Penguin Place on the east side of 15-501, and ultimately, the lower half of Mosaic. The additional road, approximately ¼ mile north, will connect to the upper half of Mosaic.

“The new access/exit road at Northwood High School will be a great help in regard to managing school traffic both internally and on Highway 15-501. We are excited about our partnership with Chatham Park and look forward to working together in the future to meet the needs of Chatham County Schools students.”—Dr. Derrick D. Jordan, Superintendent and Chris Blice, Chief Operations Officer, Chatham County Schools.

Completion of the new road is expected in the Summer of 2019.

Solar Farm Development Underway

North Carolina is fast becoming a national leader in the clean energy industry—creating new jobs, producing innovative new technology, and enriching the likes of communities like Chatham County.

In Chatham Park, we’re partnered with Strata Solar, LLC, headquartered in Chatham County, to build an array of solar panels on 50 acres of land. This 5 megawatt solar farm would power an estimated 750 to 800 homes once completed.

Strata Solar’s development manager, Sam Judd, expressed his excitement surrounding the Chatham Park partnership, “We are very excited to partner with Chatham Park on this project and to ensure a cleaner energy future for the community.”
Follow the Compass: Plan Chatham

In November 2017, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Plan Chatham Comprehensive Plan, which focuses on the next 25 years. This adoption launched a flurry of implementation and related activities. County management organized cross-departmental collaborative impact teams that will focus on implementation. Read the plan at: www.chathamnc.org/comprehensiveplan

Comprehensive Plan Awards & News

- The Comprehensive Plan has won two major national awards and a top state award for its innovative community input, balance of rural character with job development, and inclusion of health and natural resources in the plan.
- Related plans are in the works or complete: Water & Wastewater Master Plan in partnership with the towns; Comprehensive Master Plan for Parks & Recreation; and Five-Year Aging Plan (completed by the Council on Aging).

Economic Development

A report from the Chatham Economic Development Corporation on new jobs created and new business investment is above.

As a requirement of $8 million in infrastructure grants from the Golden LEAF Foundation, the Board of Commissioners approved five-year options to purchase either of the two megasites if an industry is ready to locate. Also, the county assisted with two projects related to the CAM Megasite in Siler City: provided $750,000 to upgrade the town's wastewater treatment plant and helped secure an additional $600,000 from the Golden LEAF Foundation to upgrade the town's water plant.

County Leadership News

County Manager – Renee Paschal, who served as county manager since November 2015, announced her retirement effective Oct. 1, 2018 with 30 years of public service, most of it in the County Manager’s Office. She played key roles in initiating many successful programs, including: an award-winning budgetary process, the Leadership Academy, capital improvement program, joint use facilities, and Citizens’ College. Assistant County Manager Dan LaMontagne will be interim manager starting Oct. 1.

Cooperative Extension – On Feb. 1, 2018, Ginger Cunningham became the new director of the Chatham County Center of NC Cooperative Extension. She previously developed guidelines for a new Affordable Housing Trust Fund, partnered with Siler City on an assessment of housing conditions in target neighborhoods, and created both online resources and a brochure for tenants.

New Departments

- We created the first county Veteran Services Office in October 2017. David Kennedy keeps office hours in Pittsboro and Siler City.
- Several court-related offices have been combined into a new Courts Services Department, led by Renita Foxx. The divisions include Chatham 360, family visitation services, child victim services and a new domestic violence program.
- Watershed Protection has transitioned to a full department led by Rachael Thorn. It is charged with oversight of four key environmental regulations.

Hurricane Florence Damage?

Visit www.chathamnc.org/FlorenceRecovery to get information on filing claims and important tips.

Education Highlights

The county made significant progress on several major school facility projects in FY 2017-18 as part of the county’s Capital Improvement Plan:

- Seaford High School – A design for this school has been approved. Slated to open in August 2021, it will have a core capacity of 1,400 students.
- Chatham Grove Elementary – This K-5 school will include a recreation center shared with the county. It also will serve as an emergency shelter. It will open August 2020.
- Community College Health Sciences Building – The facility will help meet the demand for health-related professionals. Opening late 2020, it will serve as an early voting location and the site includes land for a future county library branch.
- K-12 Central Services Building – It will house all administrative staff and provide meeting space. Construction begins in 2020.

The county provided funds to offset the impact of a 2017 state mandate to reduce K-3 class sizes, but is able to redirect the money to begin the transition of county-funded salary supplements for licensed employees from a flat-rate base to a percentage base.

Biennial Resident Phone Survey

Major Improvements in Departmental Interactions

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<th>2017 Grade</th>
<th>2015 Grade</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<td>A-</td>
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<td>Water Utilities billing &amp; payment</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<td>Planning – application process</td>
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Customer Ratings – A research firm conducted our biennial resident survey in November 2017, with calls to selected cell phones and landlines. Residents were asked to grade the county in specific areas, using grades A to F. The survey found major improvements since 2015, including several record-level improvements, based on the firm’s experience.

Other Big News

Chatham County added four new staff in two departments to offer support to victims of domestic abuse. The county’s Child Victims Advocate successfully offered the “Think first and Stay Safe” curriculum in all fourth grade public school classes.

A new Affordable Housing Advisory Committee hit the ground running. Members developed guidelines for a new Affordable Housing Trust Fund, partnered with Siler City on an assessment of housing conditions in target neighborhoods, and created both online resources and a brochure for tenants.

Central Permitting & Inspections launched public access to the online CityView portal December 2017. Nearly all permitting functions can be submitted and tracked online.

Chatham County Sheriff Mike Roberson and Health Director Layton Long convened more than 75 leaders for the Chatham Opioid Prevention Leadership Summit on Dec. 4, 2017. The Sheriff’s Prevention Partnership on Controlled Substances led the planning effort and has continued to do important follow up work.

Just in time for Hurricane Florence, Chatham Emergency Management formed Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to help communities better prepare for emergencies and disasters. Classes teach recommended actions before emergency responders arrive. CERT members provided valuable help during Hurricane Florence.

After nearly three years of effort, the county was able to attract a more reliable provider of mental health and substance abuse services for those with limited ability to pay. Daymark Recovery opened its Siler City Clinic on July 3, 2017.

See full report with awards & other highlights: www.chathamnc.org/StateoftheCounty
I’m Brian Bock and I am running for Chatham County Commission this year. I am focused on making sure you get to know your local candidates. Our backgrounds and policy ideas are very different and can have a much more profound impact on our daily lives than anything Washington, I’ve been a Navy Veteran, I’ve been a small business owner, I’ve been a financial professional for over 20 years, and I’ve been a member on a Commissioner meeting by 6 p.m.

leaders need to be in the community and hold regular town hall meetings, I will return to the town halls on a regular basis.

To achieve the twin goals of maintaining our rural charac-
ter and improving quality of life, we have to make providing broadband Internet access to a top priority. I will make this a key-

For him and Bettie, remembrance was the heroism and self-sacrifices of the Confed-
eracy. For them, the struggle was real, and the memories were painful. But even in the face of such tragedy, they knew that their loved ones deserved to be remembered. And so they worked tirelessly to ensure that the monuments they built would stand as a lasting testament to the sacrifice of those who served during the Civil War.

Betty and Henry London could look down Hillsboro Street from their home and see the monument looking northward in front of the Chatham County Courthouse. PHOTOS COURTESY RANDY VOLLER

... and policy ideas are very different and can have a much more profound impact on our daily lives than anything Washington. I’ve been a Navy Veteran, I’ve been a small business owner, I’ve been a financial professional for over 20 years, and I’ve been a member of the Chatham County Commission.

I considered writing about the fact that we have over 50 percent of our workforce driving out of the county and the negative effect that has on our quality of life or 74 percent of our CO2 emissions are created by the commuter problem. I thought about reminding you of the cost of services is in the hands of our small taxpayers with only 8 percent derived from a commercial tax base costing us over $600 mil-

While the Fayetteville Independent Light and the Fayetteville Observer continue to tout the fact that broadband access has been achieved in Chatham County, the reality is that access is not available to everyone.

Henry London devoted the editorial page of the August 22 edition of the weekly Record to framing the next day’s events. Just a week earlier, he had announced the start of the paper’s thirtieth volume, three decades for which “no other paper has been exclusively and solely owned and edited by the same person.” This former Confederate court and long-time voice of the county took the month to wax editorial.

The bronze figure, standing on this monu-
ment, will forever typify and call to mind the most magnificent soldiers who ever marched to battle in any age or country. In the ages to come that silent sentinel, standing with his empty musket at parade rest, will speak more elo-

... and policy ideas are very different and can have a much more profound impact on our daily lives than anything Washington. I’ve been a Navy Veteran, I’ve been a small business owner, I’ve been a financial professional for over 20 years, and I’ve been a member of the Chatham County Commission.

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BOCK + LINDLEY FOR COMMISSIONER

Brian and Neill are from two sides of the county. Together, they see a vision for Chatham that embraces a period of historic growth while preserving the rural splendor of the county.

ONE CHATHAM
paid for by the committees to elect Brian Bock & Neil Lindley
cases, gaining citizenship can take over 17 years. This is unacceptable.” Finally, Watts wants to “hold the Trump Administration and ICE accountable in order to protect hard working Americans, veterans, and others who are being detained and deported without proper legal and moral justifications.”

Observer readers will notice the direct quotes from the Watts campaign, while for Walker, I relied on his co-sponsorship of legislation. This is where the interesting part comes in. When I contacted the Watts campaign, somebody answered. After contacting Walker’s office, I never heard back. It wasn’t for lack of trying. I used Walker’s email to send messages on May 22, June 11, and July 6 of this year. The system sends a confirmation notice, so I know my requests arrived. Still, it took far too long to get a response from Walker’s office this year. Two other press releases touched on immigration. In January, Walker held a roundtable with approximately eight people who included members of The LIBRE Initiative, a group funded by the Koch brothers that advocates for “limited government.” A July 18 press release announced Walker’s support for a Congressional resolution declaring support for Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents.

Given my fruitless attempts to communicate with Walker, the title of that July 18 press release made me chuckle. Democrats did not support the resolution. Walker said this meant “Democrats Have Shown They are “Completely and Irresponsibly Absent” on Immigration Debate.” Based on my experience, it was Walker who has been absent from debate.

According to a Gallup poll, 57 percent of Americans support building a border wall. I share those sentiments, but I also recognize immigration is a complex topic. As a society, we need civil, in depth conversations to soften the current political impasse.

In other settings, Walker has called for the same approach. Last year, he wrote: “It’s easy to preach to the choir, but we must take our message to new places, to new neighborhoods and new communities. Learn to listen.” In yet another twist, he was demanding that they do. The predictions are that enough of our political leaders are not feeling so lucky as I watch it hurling across the Atlantic Ocean and headed straight for North Carolina. My past hurricane experiences have me very worried. Worried because I now have a business located in the Haw River floodplain. Hurricanas Fran had pushed five to six feet of water into what is now The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Co. office and river shop. We are kind of used to water getting into the building every time it rains. The building was built into the side of a hill at a time when vapor barriers were not a common building practice. What concerned me was I knew all the sewage treatment plants upstream would overflow if we get the rain that was predicted. The deduction looked like Hurricane Fran all over again. Rain water in the building is one thing. Human sewage and industrial waste is another thing. Fortunately, only a little rain water got into the building while the river got within a foot of coming into the front door. It is a lot easier to clean up after rain water.

Of course, I am feeling very lucky again, but I cannot stop feeling a little guilty this time because I know how easy it is for me, but how difficult it will be for those in eastern North Carolina to get back to a normal life any time soon. Hurricanes will be coming back, and I have dodged the bullet way too many times.

I am feeling a little helpless since the odds are not in my favor. Besides, it does not seem that enough of our political leaders are taking climate change seriously enough, and it is because not enough of us, you and me, are demanding that they do. The predictions are that stronger and more powerful hurricanes are in our future and that a greater amount of rainfall will be associated with them. Mother Nature is telling us to wake up from our sleep and take notice, but I do not see that we are.

Joe Jacob, a Chatham resident for more than 50 years and a marine biologist by training, is president of The Haw River Canoe & Kayak Co., www.hawrivercanoe.com, since 1970. He worked for The Nature Conservancy for 25 years and served as Director of Science for TNC’s Southeast Region.

WALKER
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TNC’s Southeast Region.

He worked for The Nature Conservancy for 20 years and served as Director of Science for TNC’s Southeast Region.

As your Commissioners we commit to:

- Fully support our public schools, teachers and staff
- Support work force training with Community College programs in public schools
- Implement smart growth strategies in our Comprehensive Plan
- Actively pursue the clean-up of Jordan Lake
- Plan for future water supply with regional partnerships
- Fight frack ing to protect our air, land and water
- Work cooperatively with our towns on infrastructure
- Promote economic development and broadband
- Invest in environmental protections for Chatham
- Engage in the climate change discussion, and act locally

VOTE DEMOCRAT! November 6

Four more years of thoughtful planning for Chatham’s future!
Or, our opponents stuck in yesterday.

Sen. Valerie Foushee
District 23, Chatham & Orange Counties

Investing in Quality Education
We must support public education: universal pre-K, affordable early college programs, and our flagship community college & university systems.

Promoting a Strong Economy
Many North Carolina families have not experienced the “Carolina Comeback.” We must ensure our economy works for all North Carolinians.

Protecting the Environment
Our state is rich in natural & cultural resources. Our clean air and water regulations are being slashed. We must protect these resources for future generations.

Ensuring Equality
Our Constitution asserts the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Yet our reality falls short. We must promote fairness and equality for all North Carolinians.

Preserving Democracy
In these times we cannot take the fundamentals of our democracy for granted. We must speak up against efforts to manipulate government to serve the needs of politicians and not North Carolinians.

Rep. Robert Reives
District 54, Chatham & Durham Counties

Education
Our public schools, community colleges and university system have been under attack. We need to raise teacher salaries to the national average, reduce class size, restore job protections and put resources into our classrooms.

Jobs and the Economy
Schools, community colleges, and universities must prepare students for the future and we need to work to attract high-tech manufacturing jobs that pay good wages to well-trained employees.

Environment
Wise stewardship of our renewable resources and minerals is essential to provide long-term benefits. Clean water and air is essential to attracting industry and protecting our tourist industry.

Women’s Health
The legislature has been trying to turn back the clock on women’s health and choice issues. I fight back hard for our daughters and granddaughters.

Voting Rights
Democracy is the foundation of our political system. Voting must be more accessible, not less. I’ll fight to reverse the policies passed by the General Assembly that try to disenfranchise certain segments of our population.

CAREER
As a lifelong resident of Orange and Chatham Counties, State Senator Valerie Foushee understands the hopes and needs of residents.

In the Senate, Valerie has advocated for bipartisan reform of education funding policy to ensure transparency and appropriate funding for all school districts.

Valerie began her tenure in the Senate following Senator Ellie Kinnaird’s retirement from District 23, serving Orange and Chatham Counties.

Valerie first joined the legislature in 2012 as a House Representative for District 50 (rural Orange and Durham counties). Foushee built relationships, passing several local bills.


Retired from the Chapel Hill Police Department after 21 years of service supervising two units and administering an $11 million budget.

Graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Science and African and Afro-American Studies.

CAREER
2016 – Elected Deputy Democratic Leader, making him the 2nd highest ranking Democrat in the NC House of Reps; Vice-Chair of the Education & Community Colleges and the Judiciary III Committees. Other legislative committee assignments include Agriculture, Finance, and Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

After winning his first full term in 2014, Robert was named co-chairman of the House Freshman Caucus and treasurer of the Legislative Black Caucus.

Partner, Wilson & Reives for almost two decades
Prosecutor, Lee County DA’s Office
J.D. from UNC-Chapel Hill, School of Law
Awarded a Pogue Scholarship while studying at UNC-Chapel Hill for a B.S. in Business Administration/Finance

CONSTITUENTS SAY
“North Carolina needs Robert Reives in Raleigh defending us from discriminatory right-wing policies. I’m with Robert because he stands up for equality.”

Chris Sgro Dir. Communications, Human Rights Campaign

“As a small business owner, I’m glad to know Robert Reives is looking out for me in Raleigh. I, my family and my employees depend on his leadership.”

Leslie Cox Former State Rep., NC

CAREER
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Leslie Cox Former State Rep., NC

ENDORSED BY
AFL-CIO LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS LILLIAN’S LIST SIERRA CLUB MOMS DEMAND ACTION PLANNED PARENTHOOD SIERRA CLUB

ENDORSED BY
AFL-CIO NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS NC LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS PAC STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA SIERRA CLUB, NC CHAPTER

PAID FOR BY FOUSHEE FOR NC AND THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT ROBERT T. REIVES II
The US Constitution makes Congress the heart of our national government. It framers put the most ink and the most governing power into their establishment of the House and Senate in 1787. Having the entire body of Representatives and one-third of Senators stand for election every 24 months puts accountability in the hands of the voters. Our charter press the demand the we actively and willingly govern ourselves.

How do we honor this obligation? Sadly, our country has very low voter participation. The nation that has fought many wars to establish or preserve democracy around the globe has poor turnout at home—especially in so-called off-year elections. We are being chased by nearly all other electorates. Consequently, the legitimacy of government itself is in crisis here.

The primary reason our government is not functioning well is if the public does not choose representatives who can make effective policy. Is any other country as complex, as fast-moving, and as unable industrial plan informing our current distemper will pass. The nation that has fought many wars for the security of its power to slow run-off water ash, seen its power to serve local needs. This government’s power to serve local needs. This is the going rate in the European Union. An taxation level that still was well below what is the going rate in the European Union. An acceptance of the notion (started in 1945) that in a global economy, we as the big fish deserve to have one. Some have made careers out of some epic battle are hogwash. Divisive-

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Longevity: US vs Europe

by Don Lein

When people compare life expectancy rates at birth between U.S. and Europe they find Europe is better. They frequently attribute this to the presence of socialized medicine in Europe and no similar federal program in U.S. They suggest that the government can do anything better than private enterprise (except, perhaps the military/public safety) is delusional. In the British healthcare system, NHS data on the early years indicated that patients are “Dying in the Corridors” while waiting to be treated. Even worse, in corridors for up to 12 hours, patients were treated in corridors, gynecological exams were done in full view of other patients, etc. Until the NHS English is ranked on quality of care in corridors for up to 12 hours, patients were treated in corridors, gynecological exams were done in full view of other patients, etc. Until the NHS English is ranked on quality of care

What then is the reason for the U.S. having shorter life spans? There are several areas where the U.S. differs from its European counterparts. Among them: (a) lower physical activity levels, the use of opiates and obesity, among others. Thus, the daily habits of the U.S. citizenry produce more overweight, drug-taking people to start with, before considering any treatment options. Obesity itself has contributed to the shorter life span in the U.S., as compared to other wealthy countries. Some byproducts in my last trip on the subject were pro- voked at a cheaper rate, it might improve outcomes, however it has been observed that immigrant groups with less access to healthcare are also getting a higher death rate. In fact, cars in turn mount fewer car deaths, but equally important it meant that people had to use more strenuous activity running, bicycling to get to the other place. The U.S. was below the average car usage in Latin America and well below the U.S. figures, which in turn makes running a healthy and popular activity. How does the fatter and more accident-prone U.S. catch up—by injecting more physical activity into our daily regimens.

A personal level, I feel that I have no experience anywhere else in the universe, to think of alien life, that contains life, that sums to 200 trillion planets in the universe. Some entity, spirit, first driver, or, if you prefer, deity, has a better idea, so much the better—share it with them.

Galaxies, it is now known, appear in irregular shapes and sizes, and that many of these galaxies exist. Those galaxies, the smallest in the universe, contain only a few hundred or a few thousand stars. The Milky Way, our home, has over 150 billion stars. This galaxy contains no one planet, sufficiently dense to contain matter equal to between 200 billion and two trillion galaxies, exploding via the phenomenon we call the Big Bang, put in motion, somehow, someway, by a force as yet unexplained, but not the energy in the universe itself.

The Size and Scope of the Universe

by jeff davison

The Milky Way has nearly 200 billion stars, however, this is a statistical estimation. Most galaxies have fewer stars, perhaps around 100 billion. If galaxies were reduced in size to that of apples, neighboring galaxies would only be a handful of meters apart. The relative proximity of galaxies means that galaxies occasionally merge. Around 5 billion years from today, the Milky Way will merge with the Andromeda galaxy.

The merging process itself will require at least 100 million years. During this transition, all life on earth will be irreversibly altered and most likely obliterated, as will virtually all life everywhere else within both galaxies. Stars and their orbiting planets—solar systems—will be subjected to enormous changes in gravity, orbit, rotation, revolution, and motion down to the molecular level. Hence, nothing is assured or unchanging.

The FASTNESS OF IT ALL

The observable universe is estimated to have between 200 million and 1 trillion galaxies. Each star has at least one planet orbiting it. Most stars have more than one planet, as does our Sun. Thus, the observable universe likely contains at least 200 billion (600,000,000,000,000) or more stars (to break the number down: 200 trillion times 10 trillion).

Since each star has at least one planet orbiting around it, if even one of these planets has an orbiting planet that contains life, that sums to 200 trillion planets in the observable universe. If only one in one of these 200 trillion planets contain intelligent life, perhaps even hominized-shape life, that means that 200 billion planets contain intelligent life. Said another way, not only are we not alone, the odds are overwhelming that there is intelligent life elsewhere. The distances are too vast to not-exclude alien life, but UFO enthusiasts keep up with the debate.

THE CREATOR BEHIND IT ALL

The notion that some supreme or divine being appeared on Earth, in the form of a trillion-year-old man, the Milky Way, and the emergence Homo erectus was around 4 billion years from today, the Milky Way, and the Ancient Americans of that epoch, and their perseverance despite their suffering at the hands of Jim Crow. Exhibits would include stories of local lynchings, including memorials for those killed.

While there is no record of any lynchings in Orange County, there were some in Chatham County. It would celebrate African American contributions to the world and to the world, including Carrboro’s Libby Cotton and her song “Freight Train,” still beloved after 100 years. She was a contemporary of Julian & Carr, for whom Carrboro is named.

The museum would also feature exhibits from the Civil Rights era, the integration of UNC as well as the history of the Chapel Hill and surrounding counties. Local leaders, among them true visionaries, would have their stories told too. Paul Murray, Julius Chambers, Terry Sanford, Floyd McKissick, Dean Smith. The museum would host lectures, discussions, conferences and symposia. It could be used for our闲置 national conversation about race.

Jesus Sereno MA ’88

Said another way, not only are we not alone, the odds are overwhelming that there is intelligent life elsewhere. The distances are too vast to not-exclude alien life, but UFO enthusiasts keep up with the debate.

The Milky Way, our home, the Milky Way, rotates at about 560,000 miles per hour and completes one full revolution every 200 million years. Our own galaxy, the Milky Way, rotates at about 560,000 miles per hour and completes one full revolution every 200 million years. The Milky Way, our home, the Milky Way, rotates at about 560,000 miles per hour and completes one full revolution every 200 million years.
Portada: Candidatos al Congreso responden — y no responden — a preguntas sobre la inmigración

Por Nora Hauen

Traducido por Luis Melodelgado

Desde hace unos meses he venido planeando un artículo en el cual comparar las posiciones del Represen-
tante Mark Walker y su oponente Ryan Watts. Walker y Watts están compitiendo por el distrito número 9, el cual está incluido el Condado de Chatham. Honor-
estamente, la columna había tomado el aspecto completamente predecible. Afortunadamente sucedió algo interesante.

Lo predecible es que, en el tema de la migración, tanto el republicano Walker como el demócrata Watts se han alineado tras las posturas oficiales de sus partidos.

Este verano, Walker fue uno de los promo-
tores de la "Iniciativa para asegurar el futuro de los Estados Unidos". La iniciativa no tuvo éxito, pero continuó expresando la plataforma ideológica republicana. De tener éxito, la ini-
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