

SERVING THE TRIANGLE

COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

June 2021
Volume 38
#629

BASKETBALL ★ CYCLING ★ RUNNING ★ OUTDOORS

Waiting On Broadband, Far and Near

Edwardo Porter, *New York Times*

Whom should the government help get superfast internet access?

The question is not addressed directly in President Biden's multibillion-dollar infrastructure plan, which devotes tens of billions of dollars to expanding access to broadband but does not provide much detail about how the money will be spent.

But veterans of the nation's decade-long efforts to extend the nation's broadband footprint worry that the new plan carries the same bias of its predecessors: Billions will be spent to extend the internet infrastructure to the farthest reaches of rural America, where few people live, and little will be devoted to connecting millions of urban families who live in areas with high-speed service that they cannot afford.

"From an economic and society perspective, the most important thing to do is to get online everybody who wants to be online," said Blair Levin, who oversaw a broadband project at the Federal Communications Commission during the Obama administration and is a fellow at the Brookings Institution. "From a political perspective, the biggest political capital is behind accelerating deployment where there is none, which means in rural areas."

There is a political and economic logic to devoting billions of taxpayer dollars to bringing broadband to the rural communities that

13.6M

The number of urban households without a broadband connection

4.6M

The number of rural households that lack one

make up much of former President Donald J. Trump's political base, which Biden wants to win over. But some critics worry that the capital-heavy rural-first strategy could leave behind urban America, which is more populous, diverse and productive.

About 81 percent of rural households are plugged into broadband, compared with about 86 percent in urban areas, according to Census Bureau data. But the number of urban households without a connection, 13.6 million, is almost three times as big as the 4.6 million rural households that don't have one.

"We also have to be careful not to fall into the old traps of aggressively solving for one community's problem—a community that is racially diverse but predominantly white—while relying on hope and market principles to solve for another community's problem—a community that is also racially diverse but disproportionately composed of people of color

BROADBAND, continued on page 4

Limited Activities For July Fourth

The Triangle continues in recovery mode and July Fourth celebrations will be larger than last year but remain limited in both size and number.

The 42nd annual Festival of the Eno runs July 3-4 from 10 to 6 at West Point on the Eno City Park, Durham. Park at Durham County Stadium and take the shuttle. Festival features 40+ musicians on three stages, 60+ artisans for juried craft shows, river activities, food trucks, craft beers, seltzers, ciders.

July Fourth Road Races

Interested in running a July 3-4 holiday race, you'll have to head out of town.

Four on the Fourth in Carrboro, first event in Tour de Carrboro, will be virtual with in-person races planned for October and November. Cary, Kernersville, Greensboro, Charlotte, Brevard, Beaufort and plenty of others have July 3 races and Albemarle, Asheville, Bryson City, Wilmington, Charlotte hold July 4 events.

For details, see Page 2 this issue or check runningtheusa.com/racelist/nc/online.

Tickets are \$25/day for adults, \$10 for kids 5-17 at eventbrite.com. Proceeds are used to acquire/protect lands along the Eno River.

A Children's Independence Day Parade starts at 10:30 a.m. July 4 at Durham Central Park on Foster Street. Bring the kids at 9:30 and decorate their bikes, wagons, trikes with items from the Scrap Exchange.

Durham Bulls will have fireworks after the game starting at 6:05 p.m. Sunday at DBAP.

Carrboro activities will be different. No kids' parade on Weaver Street, but they're looking at other options for youngsters, activities they haven't offered previously. They plan to livestream the Mayor's reading of Frederick Douglass' essay outside at Town Hall and one or two musical acts. Details TBA.

Pittsboro holds Summer Fest July 4 from 5 to 9 downtown. Details TBA.

Raleigh will have fireworks only at 9:30 p.m. near PNC Arena/Carter Finley Stadium. Free parking at the State Fairgrounds and Carter Finley. Gates open at 6. No entertainment or food trucks.

Cary will have music by Cary Town Band, N.C. Symphony starting at 5:30 at Koka Booth Amphitheatre, followed by fireworks about 9:25. Food available for sale.

SUMMER CYCLING



Cycling news this issue covers all the bases with new MTB trails, race results, summer rides, Asheville Gran Fondo. See stories Page 5. PHOTO: DISCOVERJACKSONNC.COM

Funding Proposed For More Trails

The pandemic brought more hikers to state parks and local trails and greenways.

House Bill 936, introduced in May, calls for allocating \$10M for 21-22 and a second \$10M for 22-23 to build more trails—natural surface, paved, paddle—through the Parks & Rec Trust Fund. Funds can be used to acquire land, design and build additional trails. About \$3M is included for maintenance and signage for nine state trails including Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

Investing in our trails will allow people in our state to enjoy the environment and scenic beauty of North Carolina, said Rep. Erin Pare of Wake County, one of the sponsors.

The governor's proposed budget called for upgrading and improving access to trails in state parks, spending \$5M in each year of the biennium for trails. That's \$40M over four years and also directs \$200,000 to the Conservation Corps of NC for state park trail maintenance

Night Kickoffs For UNC Football

North Carolina will play a bunch of night games in the fall. Here's the schedule with home games all caps:

Sep 3 (Fri), at Virginia Tech, 6 p.m., ESPN; 11, GEORGIA STATE, 7:30 p.m. RSN; 18, VIRGINIA, 7:30 p.m., ACCN; 25, at Georgia Tech.

Oct. 2, at Duke; 9, FLORIDA STATE 16, MIAMI; 30, at Notre Dame, 7:30 p.m., NBC.

Nov. 6, WAKE FOREST; 11 (Thu), at Pitt, 7:30 p.m., ESPN; 20, WOFFORD; 27 (Fri), at N.C. State, 3:30 or 7 p.m., ABC/ESPN.

Inside: Fish Attractors Politics & Bikes Senior Medalists

More Protections For Streams, Marshes

The Biden administration is set to toss out President Donald Trump's efforts to scale back the number of streams, marshes and other wetlands that fall under federal protection, kicking off a legal and regulatory scuffle over the fate of wetlands and waterways around the country, from the arid West to the swampy South.

Michael Regan, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, said his team determined the Trump administration's rollback is "leading to significant environmental degradation." The EPA and Army Corps of Engineers will craft a new set of protections for waterways

PROTECTION, continued on page 5

Jordan Lake Mini-Guide July 14

The next issue of CSN (July 14) will highlight summer activities at Jordan Lake—birding, swimming, boating, camping, hiking, plus golf commentary and race results.

To advertise in this issue call 919-968-8741 or email joelcsn1@gmail.com. Deadline is 7 days in advance.

Way Too Early ACC Hoops and Fall Hunting Preview follow in August.

High School Championships

Carrboro, CH Win In Tennis

Carrboro won the 2A boys tennis title in Cary with Aidan Chung of Carrboro MVP. He defeated Shane Swindell of North Lenoir 6-0, 6-0 in singles final. Chris Hartzill & Sam Kruse (Ledford) def. Jonathan Baddour & Callen Baruch (Carrboro) 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 in doubles.

Chapel Hill won 3A boys tennis in Burlington with Hickory and Marvin Ridge. MVP was Dennis Perumov of Chapel Hill who defeated Joshua Mayhew (Cedar Ridge) 6-2, 6-2 in singles final.

Women's Soccer Playoffs

1A, Woods Charter, the #12 seed, defeated Elkin 4-1 and Polk Co. 1-0 before falling to Christ the King of Huntersville 4-0 in third round. Leading WC scorers were Leyla Noronha and Eloise Maclean.

2A, Carrboro, the #8 seed, blanked McMichael 9-0, Richland 3-0, East Bladen 9-0, edged Clinton 1-1 in shootout (4-2) and lost 5-0 to Lake Norman Charter of Huntersville in the championship. Carrboro beat LNC for the title two years ago. Leading Carrboro scorers were Sarah Wesley, Julia Spang.

3A, East Chapel Hill, the #11 seed, beat Conley 2-0, Southern Alamance 3-2 before losing to Chapel Hill 2-2 in shootout (4-3). Leading scorers for East were Katie Levy, Sara Oren.

3A, Chapel Hill, the #2 seed, beat Grays Creek 9-0, Cleveland 5-0, East Chapel Hill 2-2 in shootout (4-3), Northern Guilford 1-0 and lost 1-0 to Cox Mill in Greensboro in the state finals. Chapel Hill beat Cox several years ago for the title. Leading Chapel Hill scorers were Jane Rydin, Lizzie Ball, Audrey Yazejian. Ball scored the game-winner in the regional final over Northern Guilford and had 13 goals, 9 assists for the 17-2 season.

Orange Co. Men Basketball

thru June 10, Spring League

3's Company 5-0, Bucket Junkies 4-1, Young Ballers 4-1, Kanye 2024 3-2, League Runners 3-2, Dave and Busters 2-3, Dough Boys 2-3, D-None 2-3, The Bushy Fork All Stars 2-3, EVILA 2-3, ToonStarz 1-4, Free Agents 0-5.

Orange Co. Hockey

Final Standings, Winter/Spring Season

C Div—Chiefs 7-2 14, Torpedos 6-3 12, Wyld Stallions 5-4 10, Ice Wizards 0-9 0.

D Div—Tripods 9-0 18, Tropical Depression 3-4-0-2 8, Brewins 5-0-1 7, Blades 3-6 6.

Over 40—Green 7-2 14, Blue 7-2 14, Red 3-6 6, White 1-8 2.

OCASL Soccer

Final Standings, Spring Season

Open 8

Mountain Goat FC 10-0 30, Europa FC 5-3-2 17, Sick Wid It 5-0-3-2 17, Hilary Chi 5-5 15, Noragami 4-6 12, BH 3-4-3 12, Internationals 2-5-3 9, Mandalorians 0-8-2 2.

Over 50

Closer to 70 Than 80 18-18 54.

Anderson Div

Masked Bandits 8-1-1 25, Austin Villa 8-1-1 25, Artritico Madrid 6-4 18, Old Man City 3-5-1 10, Geri-Hat Tricks 1-8-1 4, Boot Room FC 1-8-1 4.

Carrboro Co-Rec Softball

Final Standings, Spring Season

Hickory Tavern 12-0, Death Before Walks 4-8, Fightin Squids 2-10.

NC Multisport

June 19

10th 3 Little Pigs Sprint Tri, Smithfield, 7:30 a.m., fsseries.com.

Carolina Beach Double Sprint Tri, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.

June 27

22nd Hendersonville Sprint Tri, Patton Park, 7 a.m., race-roster.com.

July 18

Asheville Sprint Tri, Rec Park Pool, rolling start 7:30-9 a.m., racerooster.com.

July 25

Smiley Sprint Tri, Clemmons, 7:30am. runsignup.com.

July 31

Buckner Mission Man Sprint Tri, Burlington, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

REMINDER!

Readers are advised to check with race organizers that these events will be held.

NC Road Races

June 19

Curvy Girl 5K, Raleigh, itsyourrace.com. Virtual.

Rhododendron 10K, Bakersville, 8:30 a.m., werunevents.com.

Run for Shelter 5K/10K, New Bern, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

Braveheart 5K of NC, Franklin, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

June 20

Father's Day 5K, Dix Park, Raleigh, 8:30 a.m., itsyourrace.com.

June 26

Run Wake Forest Run 5K, 7:30 a.m., raceeach.com.

Rescheduled, Rugged Maniac obstacle race 5K mud run, Rockingham, 8:30 a.m., ruggedmaniac.com.

Spartan Race, Fayetteville Trifecta 5-30m, Spring Lake, 7:30 a.m., letsdothis.com.

Fayetteville Spartan Trail 10K, Spring Lake, 8 p.m., active.com. *Headlamps required.*

Gibson Park 5K/10K, Jamestown, active.com.

35th Ultimate Runner, 5 running events (1 mile, 100/400/800m 5K XC), Hanes Park, Winston-Salem, 4:30 p.m., runsignup.com.

Linville Ridge 5K, Linville, 8 a.m., Details TBA.

Grapevine Relay at Union Grove Farm plus fancy tailgate, Chapel Hill, 1 HR Run/1 HR Relay, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

June 29

Championship Miles, Sir Walter Running, Raleigh. Details TBA.

July 3

26th Rotary Club of Kernersville 5K, 8:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

8th Run for Liberty 5K, WakeMedSP, Cary, 8:30 a.m. raceeach.com.

Fun Fourth Freedom Run 5K/10K, Greensboro, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

YoHoHo and a Bottle of Rum 5K. Beaufort, 8 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

Charlotte Firecracker 5K, 7 p.m., racerooster.com.

Firecracker 5K, Brevard, 8 a.m., runsignup.com by 6/30. *Live and Virtual.*

July 4

Four on the Fourth, Carrboro. *Virtual.*

Run White & Blue 7.4m/7.4K, Huntersville, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live & Virtual.*

American 4 Miler, Charlotte, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

Asheville Independence Day 5K, Carrier Park, rolling start 8-9 a.m., racerooster.com.

Battle for Independence 5K, Wilmington, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

Vac & Dash 3.6m Watermelon Run, Albemarle, 7 a.m., runsignup.com.

July 5

Independence Beer Mile, 1 mile novelty run, Kill Devil Hills, 11 a.m., athlinks.com.

July 8

Bear Race 5m, Linville, 7 p.m., appstate.irisregistration.com.

River Jam Run 5K/10K Trail, Charlotte, fs24.formsite.com.com/usnwc/

July 10

Cantaloupe 5K, Norlina, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

Chasing Trail 8K, Asheville, race roster.com.

Moonlight Bootlegger 5K, Greensboro, 8:45 p.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

Tri-Span 5K/10K, Wilmington, 7 a.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

July 17

5K for Unity, social run, not timed, Vecino Brewing Co., Carrboro, and Ponysaurus Brewing, Durham, 11 a.m. runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

Beat the Heat 5K, USATF state championship, Winston-Salem, 7 p.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

Highland Brewing Night Flight, 9.5m, Asheville, 7:30 p.m. imathlete.com.

Run for the Greenway 5K, Salisbury, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

July 23

Greensboro Distilling Speakeasy 5K, Greensboro, 9 p.m., runsignup.com. *Live and Virtual.*

July 24

NoDa 5K, Charlotte, 6 p.m., racerooster.com.

July 31

Running with the Law, 8K/5K, Jacksonville, 7:30 a.m., runsignup.com.

Home Run Trot 5K, Hickory, 8 a.m., runsignup.com.

N.C. Distances Races/October

1-3, Tuck Fest Trail M/HM/10m/4m/5K, Charlotte.

2, Oktoberfest HM/5K, Brevard.

2, Badwater Cape Fear 50m/50K, Bald Head Island.

2, Broad River Trail Run 10m/5K, Boiling Springs.

2, Cary Greenways Tour M/HM/10K/5K.

2, Naturalist Epic 25K/50K, Franklin.

2, New River M/HM/4m, Fleetwood.

2, Pilot Mtn. to Hanging Rock Trail Ultra, 50m/50K, Pilot Mtn to Danbury.

2, Run for Green HM/10K/5K, Davidson.

9, Holden Beach HM/5K.

9, Black Bear HM, Hendersonville.

9, Cape Fear 24 Hr Endurance Run, Lillington.

10, Craft Beer HM/5m, Charlotte.

16, Medoc Trail Races 10m/5m, Hollister.

16, Ache Around the Lake, 12.4m/8K/2m, Tryon.

17, Bull City RaceFest HM/5m, Durham.

19, Appalachian Series Day 4, M/HM, Fletcher.

22, Tuna Relay, 200m, Garner to Carolina Coast.

22-23, Cannonball M/HM/5K, Greensboro.

23, Run Ocean Isle Beach HM/5K.

23, Footrock Trail HM/10K/5K, Pittsboro.

23, American Tobacco Trail 10m/4m, Apex.

23, High Country HM, Boone.

23, Pisgah 55.5K, Pisgah Forest.

23, Wine & Dine 3/6/9 Hr Ultra, Mill Spring.

30, Emerald Isle M/HM/5K.

30, Triple Lakes Trail Races 40m/40K/HM, Greensboro.

30, Dark Horse Ultra 30Hr/50K trail, Tryon.

Copies of CSN are available inside all area Harris Teeter stores; Food Lion at Timberlyne, Governors Village, Whole Foods, Weaver Street Market Southern Village, Hillsborough; in rack beside Food Lion, Carrboro Plaza, and rack at Daniel Boone Village, Hillsborough.

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July 14, Jordan Lake Mini-Guide
Aug. 18, Too Early ACC Hoops, Fall Hunting
Sep. 15, Fall Running Preview

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OCASL Spring Soccer Winners

Here are OCASL spring winners by division: Open 8s, Winner, Mountain Goat FC (10-0); Golden Boot, Drew Enyedi, Sick Wid It, 31 goals; Best Offense, Mountain Goat FC, 94 goals scored; Best Defense, Mountain Goat FC, 25 goals allowed.

Anderson (M30+, W30+), Winner, Masked Bandits (8-1-1); Golden Boot, Angel Lopez, Masked Bandits, 21 goals; Best Offense, Masked Bandits, 67 goals scored; Best Defense, Austin Villa, 25 goals allowed.

Summer Hockey, Fall Softball, Ultimate

Orange County Sportsplex, Hillsborough, summer non-checking hockey leagues are under way.

Games are weekly through August. Cost is \$325/player for the entire season of 13 games including playoff, \$162 for goalies. Leagues are Over 40, Mondays, C Division Tuesday, D Division Thursday. Register online at oc-sportsplex.com.

Carrboro Leagues

Carrboro is registering teams for fall co-rec softball (Tue/Thu) and co-rec ultimate (Mon/Wed) leagues that start in mid August at Anderson Park. A \$200 deposit is required for softball. Cost is \$42/player for ultimate players, male and female. Register online at Rec-Connect or call 919-918-7364.

Summer Basketball

Orange County Sportsplex, Hillsborough has a summer Friday night men's basketball league (ten games plus SE tournament) starting July 23. Cost is \$65/player. Contact Scott Green at sgreen@oc-sportsplex.com.

Chapel Hill Leagues

The town plans to offer adult basketball, softball, kickball in the fall, with online registration opening Aug. 9.

Davis Completes Hoops Staff Hiring

UNC basketball coach Hubert Davis completed his coaching staff.

Here are the coaches and support staff:

Sean May, assistant coach; Jeff Lebo, assistant coach; Brad Frederick, assistant coach; Pat Sullivan, director of recruiting; Jackie Manuel, director of player/team development; Eric Hoots, director of basketball operations. Brandon Robinson is expected to be on the staff as a graduate assistant.

HOF GAMES

North Carolina plays Purdue and Tennessee plays Villanova Nov. 20 in the Naismith Hall of Fame Tip-Off Tournament at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, CT. The winners and losers play the next day.

Orange County Speedway Leaders

Points leaders after three races at Orange County Speedway, Rougemont:

Late Model, Alan Dillard III, first 143 points, 3 races started, 1 win, 3 top 5 finishes; Richard Hayden, second, 138, 3 starts, 1 win, 2 top 5; Tracey Chambers, Timberlake, third, 136, 3 starts, 0 wins, 3 top 5.

Mod 4, Cory Purnell, Yanceyville, first, 154, 3 starts, 3 wins, 3 top 5; Harold Summey, Hillsborough, second, 147, 3 starts, 1 win, 3 top 5; Scotty Potter, third, 48, 1 start, 0 wins, 1 top 5.

Mini Stock, Kevin Brown, first, 139, 3 starts, 1 win, 2 top 5; Ken Broadwell 13, 132, 3 starts, 0 wins, 3 top 5; James Peery, Chapel Hill, third, 96, 2 starts, 0 wins, 2 top 5.

Charger, Austin Purnell, first, 143, 3 starts, 1 win, 2 top 5; Chance Carpenter, second, 134, 3 starts, 0 wins, 2 top 5; Austin Ferrell, third, 132, 3 starts, 0 wins, 3 top 5.

Triangle Sports News

Sports Radio Open charity golf takes place June 24 at Riverwood, Clayton, 9 a.m. shotgun start. Cost is \$99/player online at eventbrite.com with proceeds to Helene Foundation.

Two former UNC women's basketball players, rookie Stephanie Watts (Chicago) and veteran Jessica Breland (Indiana), were on WNBA opening day rosters.

No Tomato Day is planned at Carrboro Farmers' Market in June again this year.

NCCU will play N.C. A&T at Bank of America Stadium, Charlotte, in Duke's Mayo Classic to open the 2022 and 2027 seasons. This year's game is Clemson/Georgia Sep. 4 at 7:30 p.m. (ABC).

Raleigh Flyers pro men's ultimate team plays home games at Durham County Stadium. Games are 6/19 and 6/25 at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$6.00.

UNC won its third straight field hockey championship, beating Michigan 4-3 in OT in Chapel Hill. Women's doubles team of Mackenna Jones and Elizabeth Scotty won the NCAA championship, beating a Texas duo in a tiebreaker in Orlando. Both UNC women and men lost in NCAA lacrosse semis and both men and women soccer fell in NCAA semis in Cary.

Central N.C. Men's Senior Baseball

Standings 6/7/21:

18+—Tri-Sox 6-1, Kaks 5-1, Barons 4-2, Bulldogs 3-4, Carolina Cubs 1-5, Bulls 1-6.

40+—Orioles 5-1, Marlins 5-1, 40 Red Sox 2-4, 40 Giants 0-6.

50+—50 Giants 6-0, Senators 5-1, Rebels 3-3, Dodgers 3-3, Mets 2-3, Reds 2-3, 50 Red Sox 1-5, Rockies 0-4.

Pro Tennis Returns To Winston-Salem

The Winston-Salem Open men's tennis tournament returns Aug. 21-28, keeping its spot on the ATP calendar right before the U.S. Open. Tourney features 48 players for singles and 16 doubles teams. Prize money is \$717,955, with \$96,000 to the winner. Poland's Hubert Hurkacz defeated France's Benoit Paire in the 2019 finals. Event was canceled last year.

Tickets range from \$10 to \$65/session plus taxes and fees starting June 23 in early bird pricing at winstonsalemopen.com.

Highs And Lows For Library Funding

Construction of the Southern Orange Branch Library in Carrboro is expected to start shortly.

In the meantime, the county's McDougle School library will close, cybrary hours in the Century Center will expand, library hours in Hillsborough will be reduced and the allocation for Chapel Hill Public Library was cut by 5.6 percent. All were part of the county's budget deliberations.



410 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill
11-8:30, 919-967-2666
dine-in, curbside, pickup, delivery
202 W. Haggard, Elon, 336-524-6644



Chapel Hill Skate Park ramp needs some work. Photo was taken in May.

PHOTO BY SUSAN KELLY

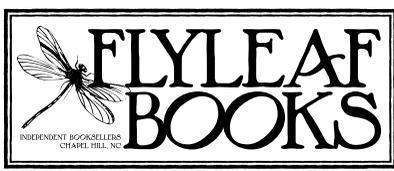
Skate Park Needs More Than Love

The Chapel Hill Skate Park, in the back corner of Homestead Park near the Aquatic Center, needs more than a little love. It needs repairs and a paint job to spruce it up. Ramps were worn and damaged. The water fountain didn't work. The bathrooms were clean on the day I visited.

The facility has 10,000 sq. ft. with a concrete slab and wooden ramps for in-line skaters and skateboarders of all skill levels and is an unsupervised facility operated by the town. Admission is free. Skate at your own risk. Hours are 9-8 daily. Batting cages are behind the skate park.

Skateboard Park: The rec department purchased more skate lite surfaces to replace the worn-down areas on the ramps and old railings. This work is scheduled to be completed in July 2021. *J.B.*

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Things To Do

June

- 18-19, Inaugural Juneteenth Celebration in Chapel Hill/Carrboro honoring those who were enslaved in the U.S., with virtual and in-person events, chapelhillarts.org.
- 19, Juneteenth Tours, Stagville Historic Site, Durham, 10-4, free but pre-registration at eventbrite.com required.
- 19, 16th N.C. Juneteenth Celebration, E. Main St., downtown Durham, 1-10 p.m.
- 20, Summer Solstice Laser Show, The Drive-in at Caraway Village, Chapel Hill, 30 minute shows 8:45 and 10:30 p.m., fees.
- 20, Skateboard video premiere with Durham skaters, Durham Central Park, 1-11 p.m.
- 25, Docu film screening, "The Rise & Fall of Liberty" (Warehouse), Durham Central Park, 8 p.m.
- 26, The Cookout in Honor of Juneteenth, Unity Church of Peace, Seawell School Rd., Chapel Hill, 11-4, fees.
- 26, NC Pacific Arts Festival, Humphrey Farm, Chapel Hill, 12 noon-8.

Jordan Lake Mini Guide

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and those earning lower incomes,” Joi Chaney, senior vice president for policy and advocacy at the National Urban League, recently told the House Appropriations Committee.

Wiring rural America is clearly expensive given the long distances involved, but it can be done. In a policy document a few years ago, Paul de Sa, a former chief strategist at the FCC, estimated that expanding access to broadband from 86 to 100 percent of rural America would cost \$80 billion. If the goal was to wire only 98 percent, the price tag would fall to \$40 billion.

If money is no object, de Sa said, the federal government could extend high-speed fiber lines past every farm in the country and also ensure that the 18 million households in rural and urban America who are not yet plugged in are taken care of.

But money is always scarce. Biden has tried to woo Republicans by cutting back his original infrastructure plan, shaving the proposal for broadband to \$65 billion from \$100 billion. Republicans’ more austere counteroffer focuses mostly on rural areas and offers little to urban residents.

The Democratic proposal put forth in Congress by Rep. James E. Clyburn of South Carolina and Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota also devotes only a small share of its resources to expanding broadband connections in cities and suburbs.

Indeed, the rural bias in broadband funding has a long history. From 2009 through 2017, the federal government plowed over \$47 billion into programs to expand high-speed access to remote farms and hamlets.

These investments often did not perform as advertised. For instance, the Rural Utilities Service, a descendant of the federal agency that was created to electrify rural America during the Great Depression, ran a \$3.5 billion program of loans and grants that it said would help extend broadband to seven million hard-to-reach people in 2.8 million rural households. It would also connect 362,000 businesses in rural America and 30,000 crucial institutions, including schools and police departments.

Five years later, the program had supported the deployment of 66,521 miles of fiber-optic cable and added thousands of wireless access points. But all that equipment supported just 334,830 subscribers, and the program returned about one-tenth of the money to the Treasury because it couldn’t find viable projects.

Connecting urban families does not require laying thousands of miles of fiber-optic cable through meadows and glens. In cities, telecom companies have already installed a lot of fiber and cable. Extending broadband to unserved urban households, most of them in low-income neighborhoods and often home to families of color, typically requires making the connec-

tion cheaper and more relevant.

A survey by the Pew Research Center in 2019 found that half of the people who did not have a broadband connection said they could not afford it. Only 7 percent blamed lack of access to high-speed networks as the main reason.

“Our investments must not only solve for the deployment or availability gap,” Chaney argued. “They must also solve for the adoption gap, the utilization gap and the economic opportunity gap to truly achieve digital equity.”

The Biden team appears to be aware of this. Administration officials propose to encourage new companies to deliver broadband, to add competition and thus contain prices.

But there is little evidence that phone and cable companies compete much on price. In many areas, there are one to three providers of high-speed access, and they can set prices as they wish without fear of losing customers.

“Looking at the last decade, there’s no evidence that there’s going to be additional competition in the market that will reduce prices for most people anytime soon,” de Sa said.

The administration also wants to encourage and subsidize cities and local governments to build high-speed infrastructure that could be used by internet providers to offer service to residents. The idea is that many companies would use those shared lines to offer competing plans, driving down prices.

But Levin, the former FCC official, said municipalities had no cost advantage over cable or telecom companies. So the economics don’t support the idea that a municipality could provide service at a substantially lower price. And local lawmakers may not be that interested, given the other demands on local governments. “If I were sitting on the city council, I’m not sure I would give my money to that,” Levin noted.

That places the effort to expand broadband penetration into one of the more challenging areas of American politics: the debate over what is often disparagingly referred to as “welfare.”

Experts like Levin argue that getting near universal broadband use will probably require offering a permanent subsidy to make the service affordable to low-income families. And the government would have to persuade such households to subscribe to broadband by providing online services that are valuable to low-income families—in, say, health, education and employment—and helping them figure out how to use the technology.

There is not much of this in the Biden infrastructure proposal. A White House fact sheet said permanent subsidies were “not the right long-term solution for consumers or taxpayers.”

Subsidies, moreover, don’t poll well. Only 36 percent of rural adults say the government should provide subsidies to help low-income Americans buy high-speed home internet service. That compares with 50 percent of urban residents and 43 percent of suburbanites, according to a 2017 survey by Pew.

Early in May, the federal government began a \$3.2 billion temporary program to offer a subsidy of \$50 or \$75 a month for low-income families to pay for broadband service. It is set to expire when the money runs out or six months after the pandemic is declared over, whichever comes first.

If made permanent, this could be a game

changer for many American families. But such a subsidy could add up to \$8.4 billion to \$12 billion a year or more for 14 million households.

The only source of permanent aid is called Lifeline, which provides a subsidy of \$9.25 a month to buy communications services. But very few eligible families actually use it to buy internet access; most use it for cell phone service.

Other ideas are out there, like demanding that big technology companies that benefit

enormously from online services contribute to the cost of wiring the nation. Government programs that would benefit from having all Americans online, like Medicaid and Medicare, could also contribute funding.

“There are some paths forward, but first there has to be some kind of acknowledgment that as a country, we benefit from having everyone on and that private market forces are not going to produce that result,” Levin said. “I think we are finally there. But we need leadership and a plan to get us over the finish line.”

Politics Limit Cycling Funding

Jack Igelman
Carolina Public Press

Pandemic restrictions led to an explosion of interest in biking on North Carolina roadways and optimism about the future of cycling for transportation, according to Mike Sule, executive director of the urban cycling advocacy group Asheville on Bikes.

“COVID has presented us with an opportunity to rethink how we allocate the public right of way to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists,” Sule said. “This is really our oyster to grab.”

Sule and other cycling and pedestrian advocates said the state government will be a pivotal partner in developing safer and more efficient modes of pedestrian transportation. But politics in Raleigh and a lack of funding for pedestrian and cycling facilities could squander the momentum to redesign and invest in public pedestrian spaces.

The pandemic revealed what advocates have known for years: that most North Carolina cities and towns lack functional public transit and pedestrian infrastructure, said Terry Lansdell of BikeWalk NC, a statewide advocacy group for pedestrians and cyclists.

“People experienced neighborhoods again during the shutdown,” he said. “They went outside, became more active and realized that a lot was lacking. They realized there was not a continuous sidewalk. They realized there weren’t bike lanes. During COVID, they became aware of their surroundings like they never have before.”

“When we get back to normal, we still live in that place, and there may be no real choice other than to drive. But we have to build options and look to leaders to do it.”

The moment of possibility for biking is not the first. Bicycle ridership spiked in the U.S. during the 1973 oil crisis, which strained the U.S. fuel supply, Sule said.

Yet once the oil flowed again, he said, drivers settled back behind the wheel of their automobiles.

He is hoping this time is different.

Making Plans

North Carolina released its first long-range transportation plan in February. Known as NC Moves 2050, the multimodal transportation plan proposes eight strategies and 32 actions to improve the state’s transportation system over the next three decades.

The strategies include expanding multimodal options such as public transportation, cycling facilities, greenways and other shared-use paths for pedestrians.

According to the report, one of the chal-

lenges to building more sidewalks and bike routes is the lack of funding: The N.C. Department of Transportation’s budget of \$4.96 billion allocates just \$800,000 to cycling.

“What really draws people to bikes are safe facilities,” Sule said, but “so much of our infrastructure puts cyclists and pedestrians in peril.”

A former middle school teacher, Sule launched Asheville on Bikes in 2006, aiming to build an urban cycling culture in Asheville by making it safer and more accessible. Among the organization’s recent achievements is advocating for a protected bike lane—the city’s only stretch—along a recently reengineered section of road in the city’s River Arts District.

“People are going to see and experience features like this and are going to want more of it,” he said.

Yet Sule told Carolina Public Press that even small-scale pedestrian projects with low price tags can be heavy lifts. For example, according to Sule, it took a year to persuade the city of Asheville to transform a public parking space at an intersection into a “bike corral,” a cycling parking facility, in the hub of the city’s trendy West Asheville business district.



A bike parked in the bike corral on Haywood Road in Asheville. PHOTO BY JACK IGELMAN FOR CAROLINA PUBLIC PRESS

“Once it was there, businesses appreciated it,” he said. “Suddenly, you can park 15 bikes in place of one car. It seems on the surface like a small win, but those wins have culminated in changing how the city approaches active transportation.”

Who rides?

A white hipster on a pricey cargo bike may be the caricature of an urban cyclist, but Sule said the reality of who actually cycles is a more diverse snapshot.

Black and Latinx individuals nationwide have less access to cars and are more likely to take public transportation than whites. Some bike advocacy groups, such as the national People for Bikes organization, are pressing to make biking more diverse and inclusive.

The goal of building safer streets for biking may also make neighborhoods more attractive, contributing to gentrification and displacement, said Meg Fencil, program director of the nonprofit Sustain Charlotte.

But creating safe spaces to bike and walk can improve social and economic conditions for everyone.

“Since we have not built connectivity throughout Asheville over the last 30-40 years, too often a bike lane or bike facility looks like an agent of gentrification,” Sule said. “We need to build active transportation everywhere in places that need it most.”

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Chapel Hill Cyclists Score In Time Trial

Five Chapel Hill cyclists were division winners at regional time trial state championships (NC/SC) in Wade organized by Carolinas Cycling Association. Distance was 40K.

M Eddie Merckx cat 1-5, John Paul Amalongo, Chapel Hill, first, 58:31, 21 finishers.

W Masters 60+ cat 1-4, Kristin Allyne, first, 1:04:56, 3.

W cat 3, Sarah Kraxberger, second, 1:05:01, 2.

M cat 1/2, Stephen Vogel, first, 47:40, 8.

M Masters 50+ cat 1-4, Brian Attis, first, 53:25, 9.

M Masters 70+ cat 1-4, Paul Pugliese, second, 1:01:43, 4.

M cat 3, James Duff, Carrboro, first, 53:21; Fred Stutzman, Chapel Hill, second, 58:08, 3.

New Pump Track In Spruce Pine

The Thickets mountain bike pump track opened in May at Brad Ragan Park in Spruce Pine. All ages are welcome. Admission is free and helmets are required.

The track has an endless loop of berms and rollers that allow riders to move forward by shifting body weight or "pumping" instead of pedaling. Pump tracks, like the one in Carrboro at MLK Park on Hillsborough Road, are used for recreational and skills development and aimed at beginner and intermediate riders.

Spruce Pine provided the land and some funding and local volunteers built the track.

Cane Creek Cup Series Race Results

Top Chapel Hill finishers in Cane Creek Cup XC races:

Race 1, Nicole Clamann, first W Jr 12-14 cat 3 (7 finishers); Rick Essman, second M60-69 (3); Asher Strauss, first Jr 17-18 cat 3 (6); James Allen, Mebane, second M Single Speed 16-99 cat 1-3 (5).

Race 2, Essman third, M60-99 cat 2 (5); Strauss, second M Jr 17-18 cat 3 (10); Allen, third M SS 18-99 cat 1-3 (9).

Race 3, Ada Watson, Carrboro, first W Jr 12-14 cat 3, Clamann, second (9); Amelia Brinson, third Jr 15-16 cat 3 (3); Laura Roe, second, W18-99 cat 3 (14); Strauss, first Jr 17-18 cat 3 (12); Essman, second M60-99 cat 2 (4); Abbie Decker, Mebane, third W19-39 pro/cat 1(4); Allen, third SS 18-99 cat 1-3 (8); Ben Sunde, first M19-29 pro/cat1, Owen Cole, Carrboro, third (13).

Race 4, Strauss, first M19-39 cat 3 (17).

Race 5, Laura Roe, second W18-39 cat 3; Watson first W Jr 12-14, Clamann second, Ali Otto, third (6); Tyler Roe, third Jr 15-16 cat 3 (14); Michael Richardson, first Jr 17-18 cat 3 (4); Caryn Willis, Carrboro, third W18-99 cat 2 (3); Strauss, first M19-29 cat 2 (7); Peter Hollis, Hillsborough, third M60-99 cat 2 (3); Keith Gerarden, first M40-99 cat 1 (6); Sunde first M19-29 pro/cat 1, Matthew Edwards, second (13).

Race 6, L. Roe, third W18-99 cat 3 (9); Clamann first, E. Cole third, W Jr 12-14 cat 3 (3); Watson, first W18-99 cat 2 (5); Brinson, first W Jr 15-16 cat 3 (1); N. Strauss, third, M Jr 17-18 cat 3 (6); Gary Decker, Mebane, third, M Clydesdale 18-99 (5); William Myers, Chapel Hill, first M19-29 cat 2 (5); Stephen Cole, Chapel Hill, second M40-49 cat 2 (13); Essman, second M60-99 cat 2; Abbie Decker, Mebane, second, W19-99 pro/cat1 (2); Owen Cole, Chapel Hill, first, Matthew Edwards, Chapel Hill, second, B Sunde, third, M19-99 pro/cat1 (8).

Series races continue through Sep. 26.



PHOTO: TORCNC.ORG

MTB Trails Planned At Pickards Mountain

Orange County could get ten miles of new mountain bike trails at Pickards Mountain.

Triangle Off Road Cyclists (TORC) and Unique Places to Save, owners of the property near White Cross, are planning a new trail system, according to the TORC website. They are raising money to build the trails, estimated to cost \$5/foot to construct, and have raised 10.9 percent of the \$100,000 goal from 125 donors. TORC is a non-profit so donations are tax-deductible (torc-nc.org).

Goal is to build 4 miles of trail this year and 4-6 more next year. Nature Trails LLC of Chapel Hill is the builder. Website says natural rock features for optional jumps and drops are planned.

Summer Bike Rides On Tap



PHOTO: DUKEFOREST.DUKE.EDU

June 25-27, Tour de Llama, 21/61, Winston-Salem, 8 a.m.-12 noon, samaritanforsyth.org.

July 4, 28th Firecracker Ride, 50K/100K, Carolina Brewing Co., Holly Springs, 8 a.m. itsyourrace.com.

11, NCBC Summer Rally, 23-64m, Harris Envr. Ctr., New Hill, 8 a.m. Registration TBA.

Aug. 7, Robin's Ride for Hope, 50K/100K, Denver, 8 a.m., bikereg.com by 7/29.

14, Blue Moon Ride, 6/12m, DBAP, Durham. Details TBA.

21, Labonte Roubaix, 25/62m, VIP Ride 25m, Bowman Gray Stadium, Winston-Salem, 8 a.m., bikereg.com.

21, Blue Ridge Brutal, 56-102m, Ashe Civic Center, West Jefferson, 8 a.m., bikereg.com.

28, 10th Tour de Turns, 15-62m, Charlotte, 8 a.m., bikereg.com.

28, Victory Ride to Cure Cancer, 10-100m, Centennial Campus, NC State, Raleigh, thevictoryride.org/register.

When completed, Pickards would join Carolina Outdoor Education Center (UNC), Brumley Forest, Little River and Carolina North Forest (two) as Orange County mountain bike destinations. Check trianglemtb.com website for trail conditions.

Public Input Needed On Transportation

If you're interested in highway, bicycle, pedestrian and transit projects for the region, you're invited to give your feedback on an assessment of future transportation needs.

The Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) is seeking public feedback on the Deficiency and Needs Analysis at dchcmo.org for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The 2050 MTP identifies future highway, transit, rail, bicycle, pedestrian and other transportation projects for the region over the next 30 years.

The DCHC MPO is updating the 2050 MTP this fall, and will use the public input received on the Deficiency and Needs Analysis as part of their efforts to model future population and employment projections to identify where roadway, public transportation, bicycle, pedestrian and other transportation investments will be needed in the coming decades.

Residents and other stakeholders are asked to review the Deficiency and Needs Analysis at the DCHC MPO website and provide comments by email no later than Wednesday, June 30.

REPORTER, Continued from page 1

that provide habitats for wildlife and safe drinking water for millions of Americans, according to a joint statement [*Washington Post*].

With the announcement, the Biden administration is wading into a decades-long battle over how far federal officials can go to stop contaminants from entering small streams and other wetlands.

"Communities deserve to have our nation's waters protected," said Jaime A. Pinkham, acting assistant secretary of the Army for civil works.

Some Republican lawmakers accused the Biden administration of wanting to return to Obama-era clean-water rules and burden farmers, real estate developers and other businesses with new restrictions on how they can use their land.

Asheville Gran Fondo July 18

Gran Fondo Asheville will be held Sunday, July 18, with 29, 61, 98 mile route options with timed segments. Rides start at 8 a.m. in downtown Asheville and are limited to 500 riders. Register online at bikereg.com. Riders of all skill levels can participate.

USA Cycling 2021 Gran Fondo National Championship will be held earlier the same day in Asheville. Riders must qualify for a starting spot in the nationals. It's the only national cycling championship in the state this year and part of Gran Fondo National Series. Event was scheduled for 2020 but was canceled by the pandemic.

The Boone Gran Fondo is Aug. 1.

Olympic Cycling Races In July

Tokyo Olympic dates are July 21-Aug. 7. Haven't seen the "official" or final NBC Olympic TV schedule, but here's what we know about Olympic bike races, based on preliminary schedules.

The men's road race will be July 24 at 5 p.m., with the women's road race July 25 at 7. Time trial takes place July 28 at 5:30 for men and women. No idea what channel will broadcast it. Could be NBC, Olympic Channel or another NBC/Comcast affiliate.

Other cycling divisions are BMX racing, BMX freestyle, cycling track racing. *J.B.*

Cycling News Tidbits

State Games mountain biking races for all ages take place June 20 at Lake Crabtree CP, Morrisville. Races are part of Cane Creek Cup Series. Signup deadline is June 19 at webscorer.com.

Annual Bike rodeo Friday, July 9, 8-12 noon at Rena Center, Rogers-Eubanks Neighborhood on Edgar Street, Chapel Hill, supported by Carrboro Bike Coalition and the Bicycle Alliance of Chapel Hill.

Town of Chapel Hill plans to add bike lanes on Culbreth Road as part of a summer re-paving program. Project scheduled to be completed before school starts in August.

Interfaith Council (IFC) and the ReCYCLery are piloting a project where the Recyclery has provided the IFC six vouchers for bicycles for clients. The Town of Carrboro provides helmets for the new bike owners, and Clean Machine offered Specialized Stik Switch lights that were purchased by the shop for bike light giveaways.

National Team Soccer

Men

July 11, Gold Cup, TBD, Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
July 15, Gold Cup, Martinique, Kansas City, 9:30.
July 18, Gold Cup, Canada, Kansas City, 5.

Women

June 16, friendly, Nigeria, Austin, 9 p.m.,ESPN2.
July 1, friendly, Mexico, East Hartford, 7, FS1.
July 5, friendly, Mexico, East Hartford, 5, ESPN.

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Carper Second In Craft HM

Brian Carper (1:18:26) of Chapel Hill was second male overall at Craft HM in Winston-Salem (374 finishers). WTs were 1:16:58 and 1:31:52.

Jaye Meyer of Chapel Hill was second 60-64, 2:23:38. O'Mara Second In 5K

Ryan O'Mara (16:40) of Chapel Hill was second male at the Craft 5K (371 finishers). WTs were 16:21 and 19:28.

Chapel Hill award winners were Lauren McRae, third 20-24, 25:55; Sarah Sutton, third 25-29, 27:47; Heather Rabalais, Hillsborough, second 45-49, 38:17; Martha Hamblin, Mebane, first 65-69, 35:26.

Triangle Sprint Triathlon

Beach Bums X Three of Chapel Hill (1:35:03) was third in team division (8) at Triangle Sprint Triathlon in New Hill. Team members were Kelly Hollis, Bruce Hollis, Morgan Johns. WT was 1:20:30.

Local age group award winners were Art Prejs, Carrboro, third 45-49, 1:19:15; Paul Eldridge, Chapel Hill, second 70+, 1:45:30; Lucie Semone, Carrboro, second 20-24, 1:28:41; Allison Lo Piccolo, Pittsboro, first 25-29, 1:23:07; Amy Rodriguez, Chapel Hill, second 35-39, 1:36:25; JoAnna Younts, first 50-54, 1:27:04; Sharon Roggenbuck, Hillsborough, first 70+, 2:01:36. Distances were 750m swim, 15.35m bike, 5K run. WTs were 1:09:34 and 1:19:21 (216 finishers in age groups, 8 in advanced).

Mini Sprint Tri

Grace Parker (54:32) of Chapel Hill was third woman in the Mini Sprint Tri (10). WTs were 44:50 and 50:40. Distances were 400m swim, 8.25m bike, 1.5m run.

Running of the Bulls 8K

Marc Jeuland (27:31) of Chapel Hill was tenth overall and second male master and Jill Farcana (32:41) of Chapel Hill first female master at 13th annual Running of the Bulls 8K in Durham (747 finishers). WTs were 25:53 and 28:36.

Other top local finishers were Allen Baddour, 13th, 28:18; Jake Green, 14th 28:23; Aneesh Rhandale, 16th, 28:43.

Krouse, Wade Lead 5 Miler

Nick Krouse (35:27) of Chapel Hill and Zoe Wade (41:47) of Hillsborough were the leaders at Zen Squirrel 5 Mile trail run at Briar Chapel (52 finishers). Matthew Lynberg (37:25) of Chevy Chase, MD, was second male and Chris Murphy (38:37) of Chapel Hill third. Eva Yguico (46:31) and Allison Brinkley (49:35), both of Chapel Hill, were second and third females.

Local age group winners were Alison Drain, 40-49, 1:10:36; Diane Jacobs, 60-69, 1:29:42; Wayne Price, 60-69, 43:56.

10 Mile Run

Out of town runners accounted for half (five of ten) of the top finishers at Zen Squirrel 10 Mile Trail at Briar Chapel (56 finishers).

Ryan O'Mara (1:09:07) of Chapel Hill and Alice Bloemer (1:28:06) of Sneads Ferry were the winners. Matt Staub (1:11:03) of Carrboro was second male and Aaron Cziraky (1:11:32) of Cary third. Sarah Solie (1:28:47) of Durham was second female and Megan Binkley (1:35:55) of Kill Devil Hills third. Finley Wild, age 13 of Chapel Hill was fourth male, 1:20:30.

Local award winners: Katharine Patsakham, first 40-49, fourth female, 1:36:56; Sarah Birken, Pittsboro, second 40-49, fifth female, 1:39:10; Matt Glass, third 40-49, 1:25:30; Laura Maile, Hillsborough, first 50-59, 1:50:23; Ilona Jaspers, Carrboro, second, 1:50:25; David Beaulay, first 50-59, 1:23:41.

2 Mile Run

Chapel Hill runners Matthew Holtry (15:35) and Lauren Bates (16:30) were the winners in the 2 Mile Run (29). Kyle Hawkins (18:26) was second male and Jack Harman (21:33) third. Susie Gies (20:15) of Raleigh was second female and Jaime Brady (20:25) of Snow Camp third.



Running News

RACE NEWS

"We are not doing the Historic Hillsborough HM/5K this year. Virus aside, we do not have enough time to put it on successfully," Martin Wileman of Hillsborough Running Club told CSN. Race is normally held in early October and was canceled for 2020 due to the pandemic.

Five Tar Heel brewers including Vecino in Carrboro and Ponsaurus in Durham are helping organize the July 17 5K for Unity. It's a social run/not timed at 11 a.m. that organizers hope will lead to conversation and a cold beverage after the run. Events are live and virtual. Other brewers participating are Foothills in Winston-Salem, Little Brother in Greensboro and Divine Barrel in Charlotte. They are all part of Together We Stand NC.

The New York City Marathon returns Nov. 7 with 33,000 runners instead of the usual 50,000. There is no requirement for all runners to have a vaccination. Instead runners have been asked to produce proof of a completed vaccination series or a negative Covid test close to race date.

The High Country Triple Crown Series includes Aug. 21 The Cub 7m, Sep. 25 The Knob 2m and Oct. 23 High Country HM.

Runner Results

Jaye Meyer of Chapel Hill was first 60-64 at Beaufort Historic Road Race 10K (100 finishers) in 1:04:44. WT was 46:30.

John McCue (34:31) of Mebane was second in the elite division (6 finishers) at Kayak for the Warriors at Pine Knolls Shore. WT was 31:50.

Chapel Hill runners Andre Weber (21:04) was second 19&U and Med Woodburn (22:51) first 19&U at Run for Love 5K in Raleigh (832 finishers, compared to 583 in 2019). WTs were 16:10 and 18:30.

Matthew Lunceford Blivin (16:50) of Durham and Nancy Jurgens (19:01) of Apex were the leaders at the Big Run 5K in Chapel Hill on Global Running Day (133 finishers). Top local finisher was Neal Duncan of Chapel Hill (18:25) third.

Jessica Beardsley of Chapel Hill was first 40-44 at Downhill at Dawn HM in Ridgecrest (258 finishers). WT was 1:24:12.

Award winners. Carolina Godiva TC honored Kim Manturuk of Chapel Hill, Female Runner of the Year, Kevin McCabe of Cary, Male Runner of the Year, and Shannon Johnstone and Anthony Corriveau (Cary), Volunteer of the Year at the virtual spring banquet.

Howe Second In Cary 10K

Matthew Howe (33:48) of Chapel Hill was second male overall at the NCRC Classic 10K in Cary. WTs were 33:11 and 28:05. There were 133 finishers, compared to 147 two years ago. It was the first race in more than a year by Young & Associates of Raleigh.

Sahara Muradi of Hillsborough was third 30-39, 48:59, and Simon Sawyer of Chapel Hill second 50-59, 44:05.

The featured race of the day was supposed to be the 21st annual NCRC Classic HM, but the club was denied permission to run through Umstead State Park, organizers said. The race was canceled.

Tobacco Road Marathon

The Triangle's first "big" race since the pandemic, the 11th Tobacco Road Marathon, was held in mid-May in Cary (547 finishers) along with TR HM (979 finishers) the next day. WTs for M were 2:17:37 and 2:45:33, both course records.

Local award winners: Christian Jones, Chapel Hill, ninth overall and second 25-29, 2:44:31; Fernando Cruz, second 40-44, 2:57:15; Megan Walsh, first 20-24, 3:03:28; Katherine Georger, second 35-39, 3:21:08; James Pendergraph, Hillsborough, first 65-69, 3:40:43; Teresa Fiorito, Chapel Hill, third 19&U, 4:18:23; Joanneke Elliott, second 55-59, 4:41:17.

TR Half Marathon

WTs were 1:07:09 and 1:17:49 for the HM. Award winners: Andy Shelton, Carrboro, 11th overall and first 20-24, 1:15:56; Millie Barritt, Chapel Hill, third masters female, 1:41:41; Andra Ghent, second 40-44, 1:43:10; Grady Purcell, first 16-19, 1:45:28; Cary Moody, Carrboro, second 45-49, 1:49:02; David Leith, Chapel Hill, first 70-74, 1:49:32; Virginia Purcell, second 50-54, 1:49:43; Peter Guild, second 65-69, 2:09:50; Beca Rollings, Mebane, third ruck div., 3:06:19; Sion Rogers, Pittsboro, first 80+, 3:25:06.

Senior Games Medalists

Here are medal winners from doubles events and Silver Arts at the Orange Senior Games (individual sports medalists in contested events will run in the July CSN issue):

Badminton/Mixed Doubles—65-69 age group, Lee Schimmelfing and Amy Piersma; 75-79, Virginia Wallace and Ralph Balzac.

Badminton/Doubles—F70-74, Amy Piersma and Virginia Wallace; M65-69, Lee Schimmelfing and Mit Sherman.

Pickleball/Doubles—50-54, Tiersa Tavana and Mike Rogers first; Ruth Newman and Julia Clark second; 60-64, Charron Andrews and Jean Le Cluyse, 65-69, Kathy Rausch and Harriet McCarthy; 70-74, Linda Johnson and Beverly Heisterberg first, Catherine Matthews and Carolyn Barrett second; 70-74, Bruce Blankenhorn and Bob Raymond first, James Van Voorhies and Charles Cole second; 75-79, James Wood and Robert Apply.

Pickleball/Mixed Doubles—55-59, Lucinda Covington and Edwin Caldwell; 60-64, Julie Eldridge and Eddy Yao; 65-69, Bob Williams and Harriet McCarthy; 70-74, Jung Oh and Edward Oh, first; Linda Johnson and Richard Brown, second, Beverly Heisterberg and Bob Raymond.

Table Tennis/Doubles—50-54, HariPriya Chinnaswamy and Ariene Green; 70-74, Catherine Matthews and Carolyn Barrett; 60-64, Daniel Wallace and Ron Ginsburg; 65-69, Alan Johnson and Gary Brande first, Bill Elmore and Gregg Gerdau second, Lee Schimmelfing and Bruce Buley third; 70-74, Siva Vilapakkam and Rufus Dalton; 75-79, Tommy Wade and Damian Kotecki; 80-84, Richard Billings and Alan Tom.

Table Tennis/Mixed Doubles—50-54, HariPriya Chinnaswamy and Ron Ginsburg; 65-69, Lee Schimmelfing and Catherine Matthews; 70-74 Arlene Green and Tommy Wade first; Carolyn Barrett and Lewis Woodham, second.

Tennis/Mixed Doubles—85-89, Betty James and Larry Nielsen.

Heritage Arts/Jewelry—Helen Frederick, Tigereye Magnific; Needlework, Charley Norwood, Ice Cream Float of Delight & Joy first, Frederick, Brown Paisley second; Stained Glass, Alexandra Austin, Peak; Tole/Decorative Painting, Frederick, Its Kitty Tyme; Woodturning, Michael Mitchell, Chexs; Woodworking, Dean Pricer, Star Burst first, Mitchell, Present, second.

Visual Arts—Acrylics, Frederick, Australian Tri, first, Robert Dodder, Lake Cabin, second; Drawing, Larry Nielsen, Monarch, first, Dodder, Running on Empty, second; Pastels, Tim Williams, Spring Bouquet, first, Dodder, Intensity, second; Photography-Digital, Dodder, Forest Finds; Watercolor, Nielsen, Seascape, first, Austin, Deer Peer in Striped Sunset, second, Dodder, Foggy Bay, third.

Performing Arts—Comedy/Drama Small Group, Tina Quick.

Leave Wildlife Alone

The biologists who staff the NC Wildlife Helpline at the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission receive a glut of calls each spring and summer about fawns, bunnies and fledgling songbirds that people find and mistake as abandoned or in danger. Well-meaning people often put young wildlife into harm's way when they intervene in a wild animal's natural process of growing up.

"In the majority of these cases, the mother is off feeding nearby and will return when no predators are nearby, and that includes people," said Falyon Owens, extension biologist at NCWRC. "Most young animals spend a lot of time on their own, even before they appear able to fend for themselves. When the mother returns, sometimes many hours later, she expects to find her young near where she left them."

Owens advises that if you truly feel the animal needs help, the best thing you can do is leave it alone (or put it back) and call a wildlife rehabilitator for advice.

OWASA Lakes To Rent Boats

OWASA is renting boats--flat bottom, canoes, kayaks--at University Lake and Cane Creek.

Boat rentals include the vessel and paddles; no boat motors will be rented at this time. Visitors are urged to bring their own Personal Flotation Device (PFD). Electronic payment is encouraged for lake use and rental fees.

OWASA's permit application process will remain in place for visitors who want to reserve a boating space at either Cane Creek (Friday and Saturday) or University Lake (Friday through Sunday) and arrive between 6:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Permit applications are available Monday and Tuesday each week on the Recreation page of the OWASA website. OWASA will notify applicants of their permit status each Wednesday by email.

Gates will remain open after 10 a.m. for visitors without a reservation. Visitors will be treated on a first-come, first-served basis, until capacity is reached.

Visitors who are interested in bank fishing or picnicking at either reservoir are welcome without a reservation and can visit either reservoir beginning at 6:30 a.m.

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Summer Season Boating Safety

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is urging the public to make safety a top priority when on the water. The Wildlife Commission reported a 13% increase in vessel registration between May and December 2020 and a 10% increase in vessel registrations in the first four months of 2021. The surge in registrations likely will result in more boats on the water this summer, especially on holiday weekends.

"We've seen an increase in activity at our boat access areas since COVID restrictions were issued last year," said Captain Brandon Jones of the Wildlife Commission. "People are choosing to recreate outdoors and that means our state's waterways are likely to be more crowded."

New and novice boaters are asked to take the following precautions:

- Wear a life jacket or Coast Guard-approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) at all times. Put your life jacket on prior to entering the boat and make sure it's snug, yet comfortable, and will not move above the chin or ears when lifted at the shoulders.

- Appoint a designated driver for the boat. Operating a boat under the influence of alcohol is illegal and is just as dangerous as driving a car impaired.

- Assign an adult "Water Watcher" to actively supervise children in or around the water at all times. Young children and people who are not strong swimmers should always be kept within arm's reach.

- Swim only in designated areas. You are less visible to boaters and more vulnerable to accidents. Avoid diving in unfamiliar areas, as there may be hidden structures.

- Throw, don't go. Be prepared to throw a flotation device or use a pole or tree branch to reach someone struggling in the water. Never jump in to save someone because you could go under too.

- Take a boater safety course. The Wildlife Commission offers an array of N.C. boating education classes. If you were born on or after Jan. 1, 1988, you must complete an approved course before operating any vessel propelled by a motor of 10 HP or greater. Summer classes are in high demand. Here are two local classes: June 20, 2-8 p.m. at Eno River State Park office, Durham, and June 26, 9-3 at Emmaus Baptist Church, Pittsboro. Register online at register-ed.com. Classes are free.

Two 'Best Beaches' In North Carolina

Two of the country's top five beaches are in North Carolina.

Ocracoke Lifeguarded Beach, Outer Banks of North Carolina, was third and Old Lighthouse Beach, Buxton, Outer Banks of North Carolina fifth. Hapuna Beach State Park, Big Island of Hawaii, was first and Coopers Beach, Southampton, New York, was second.

Stephen Leatherman (Dr. Beach), a coastal scientist and professor at Florida International University, has studied and ranked U.S. beaches for 30 years.

Protect Our Wildlife. Dispose of Used Fishing Line Properly.



DID YOU KNOW?

Residents can recycle aluminum foil and pie pans in the separate scrap metal dumpsters at any of the Waste & Recycling Centers! These items are NOT recyclable in your blue recycling cart.

Hunting/Fishing Report

Fishfinders and Attractors

Chris Maroldy

It's summertime and living is easy. At least for a month or so more, if you're a bass fisherman.

I always think of the catching getting tougher after mid-July. The *fishing* is always easy, assuming you can find the time.

Maybe it's just that the way I like to fish—shallow and relatively quickly—is not as productive as the water warms to bathtub temps, and before I'm inclined to slow down and/or go deep I'm itching to move on to another species so as not to miss out. There's something to be said for specialization in the fishing world, but there's also value in being well-rounded, even if you'll never be called upon to save anyone's life by proving your fishing versatility.

The benefit of variety or of moving on from a fanatical devotion to the bass is probably to your mental health, if nothing else. Take guys creeping soft plastics in 20 feet of open water in the dog days. Not that there's anything wrong with that. It just would drive me nuts. Yes, it helps if you can see the fish you're after on your fishfinder, but I'll bet if that weren't possible the majority of anglers would be up near the banks with me, soaking

a bait for catfish and leaning back, waiting for the easy fish and not doing all that hard work.

Speaking of fishfinders and open water, the two go together but people were catching fish in the middle of summer all over the water for a long time before the gizmos came along. I once had a local bass pro tell me nobody uses paper lake maps anymore (even the topographical kind) but I know that's not true because I have several of 'em. In fact, I proved their benefit soon after, when my fishfinder had some kind of issue and I was going after summer catfish.

On a bluebird mid-morning with the sun blazing, I triangulated to a spot I had never been before using my tattered map and powers of observation and spent several hours catching some nice channels and feeling quite satisfied with myself.

I have to admit being relieved when I eventually fixed my electronics problem, but I had proven to myself I could find and catch fish in unfamiliar territory the old-fashioned way. While I am a very late adopter of fishfinders and probably don't get half the benefit I could out of them (for various reasons ranging from ignorance to basic set-up inadequacies) I would never poo-poo the good they can do when the catching AIN'T easy.

Another aid to summer fishing is the artificial fish attractor. These can be invaluable to anglers who don't invest in electronics or haven't the skills to read water or a map. I don't mean to say they are fishing spots for dummies, but they kind of are. You can usually find them without a map, and sometimes even without a boat. They vary in productivity, but as area lakes have aged they have proven invaluable by replacing natural structure and cover that have given way to time.

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has a map and a spreadsheet on their website with a (partial) listing of their fish attractors, even including downloadable GPS coordinates for some. Especially if you are new to fishing a particular body of water, I highly recommend checking them out, especially for warm-weather fishing.

I was particularly pleased to see that the NCWRC has taken on a shallow cove attractor program on Harris Lake, which receives heavy fishing pressure and can often be difficult to fish, depending on your style and what you enjoy. More than 300 new fish attractors were placed in three shallow water coves in an effort to improve largemouth bass catch rates. The mouths of the coves will be marked by buoys as warning to boaters, and with the attractors ranging from only two- to ten-foot

tall, it's not expected there will be much risk to props and hulls even though there will be an abundance of new PVC in the water.

The program has the potential to spread out angler pressure a little bit and offer an alternative to Harris' famed "grass beds and humps" offshore fishing pattern. The NCWRC considers this new program an experiment, and if successful it's possible that similar efforts could be expanded to other areas of the state.

Outdoor Notes

SEVERE DROUGHT

Six SE N.C. counties are in severe drought, 49 are experiencing moderate drought and 29 abnormally dry in early June, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor for N.C. (ncdrought.com). Orange, Chatham, Durham are in moderate drought.

A burn ban, meaning no open burning, was imposed May 24 on 26 Tar Heel counties in ENC by the N.C. Forest Service due to increased fire risk and lifted June 2 as conditions improved. The Memorial weekend brought some relief in terms of rainfall.

PLAN AHEAD

If you intend to visit national parks this summer, you better be doing your pre-planning and making reservations now to avoid problems.

"A lot of the most famous destination national parks, the lodging, the campgrounds around those parks are already fully booked through Labor Day, so we want to make sure people are planning ahead before jumping in the car for a weekend road trip," said a National Park Service official.

FISHING RESULTS

Jerry Mashburn of Sanford and Adam Parker of Linden (5 for 33.86) took first place and big fish (8.20) at the PBC Rock Outdoors \$5,000 spring bass trail championship at Falls Lake. Keith and Alden Patterson of Mebane (5 for 24.03) were third. The field was 42 pre-qualified boats on a warm spring day with 153 fish landed. Spring series points leaders were Sheffer & McNeill (548).

Earlier, the winner at qualifier #6 had 5 for 23.77 at Falls (44 boats, 127 bass). Big fish was 6.57.

Brian Fritts of Raleigh and Bo Adams of Pittsboro (5 for 18.96) won Qualifier #7, the last one, for PBC Hart's Custom Sets Spring Bass Trail (\$10,000) at Kerr Lake. There were 58 boats, 246 fish landed. Big fish was 4.47. Air temps were 71-87. Winner of Qualifier #6 had 5 for 25.71 at Jordan Lake (60 boats, 194 fish landed), big fish 7.15.

Fall Team End of Year Series starts July 17 at Kerr Lake.

CREEK WEEK

Chatham Creek Week is June 19-26. For events, check the website at

TREE PROTECTION

As climate change brings more attention to the need for more trees, N.C. HB 496 could cut tree protections for communities without laws authorized by the General Assembly. Bill passed the House (72-43) despite no votes from Triangle representatives and is pending in the State Senate.

JORDAN LAKE MINI GUIDE

July 14, 2021

Featuring Birding (Eagle watching), Camping, Hiking, Swimming

Contact 919-968-8741, joelcsn1@gmail.com

about advertising in this issue. Ad deadline 7 days in advance.

UPCOMING CSN ISSUES:

July 14—Jordan Lake Mini-Guide
Aug. 18—Way Too Early ACC Hoops, Fall Hunting
Sep. 15—Fall Running Preview



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Ad deadline 7 days before publication

FALL HUNTING PREVIEW

August 18



Call 968-8741
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Ad deadline 7 days in advance

Basketball Museum Reopens

The Carolina Basketball Museum on the ground floor of the Williamson Athletic Center on Skipper Bowles Drive beside the Smith Center, UNC, Chapel Hill, reopened. It had been closed since March 2020.

Hours are Mon-Fri 10-4, Sat 9-1. Closed on Sunday and state holidays. Admission is free. Park across the street in metered spaces. For groups of 25, contact 919-962-6000 in advance.

Duke Gardens, Cradle Reopen

Duke Gardens reopened with limited capacity. Hours are 8 a.m. to dusk daily with social distancing.

Public parking is available only in the garden parking lot. Overflow parking is no longer available. No public events, tours. The garden shop and cafe are not operating.

Also in Durham, the Bulls are operating at full capacity at Durham Bulls Athletic Park. Individual tickets are on sale at the website.

At Duke, the Duke Lemur Center reopened, with prepaid reservations required. Check website lemur.duke.edu for information on tours offered.

Cat's Cradle, Carrboro, reopened with limited capacity for live shows in the main room.

Wooden Bat Baseball

Burlington Sock Puppets of the "new" Appalachian League are playing their first season of collegiate summer baseball under MLB and USA Baseball. The wooden bat league has ten teams and showcases freshman and sophomore prospects. Previously the Burlington Royals were part of MiLB, but now MLB oversees all baseball, especially player development.

Games are at Burlington Athletic Stadium downtown with 20 of 27 home dates played Thursday-Sunday. Start times are 7 p.m., 6 on Sunday. Monday is generally an off day. Season (54 games) started early June and runs into early August and includes an all-star game in July and playoffs in August.

Call 336-222-0223 for tickets, general admission or box seats, or order on the team website.

Community News

IS Nike coming to North Carolina?

Triangle Business Journal reported in May the apparel giant was looking at space in the Parkline Building (the former BCBS Building) on US 15-501, Chapel Hill. The report could not be confirmed.

HILLSBOROUGH has two openings on the Parks and Recreation Board, an advisory board that meets monthly. If you're interested, fill out an application on the town's website. Applicants are volunteers and must live in town or within town's extraterritorial jurisdiction.

DUKE athletic venues will operate at full capacity for the 2021-2022 academic year.

The announcement comes after Duke football and basketball did not have fans at any home games during the 2020-2021 year. The university encourages all fans to get vaccinated prior to attending events on campus.

RALEIGH has a new tax rate of 37.3 cents (an increase of 1.78 cents) and reflects a penny toward park maintenance. Penny for Parks will raise about \$38M over five years. The first improvements are planned for Laurel Hills Park, Pullen Park and the Pope House Museum downtown.

ORANGE County is gauging public sentiment on how county commissioners are elected and whether or not the current method can be improved following the resignation of Mark Dorosin, who's moving to Florida to teach law. OWASA will raise rates 5 percent effective Oct. 1.

Finley Pro To Play 99-Hole Marathon

UNC Finley Golf Course head professional Frank Maynard is playing a 99-hole golf marathon Friday, June 18, to provide financial support for Folds of Honor, a Professional Golfers Association of America program that provides educational scholarships to the spouses and children of America's fallen and disabled military service members.

Maynard's goal is to raise \$10,000 to fund two scholarships. He is in his 21st year at UNC Finley. He plans on playing five and a half rounds of golf on June 18. People who wish to support Folds of Honor may do so at www.foh.org/uncfinley.

He says playing that many holes of golf in one day could be a challenge but believes adrenaline and excitement for supporting a great cause will keep him going.

Maynard will be paired with one other person each round from UNC staff, members of UNC Finley and military veterans.

Another View, Mine John Nieman

It's been almost a year and a half of fear and worry and not being able to do the things we love to do. And it doesn't seem like there's going to be one magic moment when it's all over, but the process of being over has begun and so now I'd like to think about all the good things there are in life.

No one in my immediate family even contracted Covid-19. I'm very grateful for that. We're now starting to spend time together. We're even hugging.

We have a country that doesn't embarrass us at summit meetings with other countries.

All kinds of good things to think about.

We're all grateful for the years and years of devotion and service Roy Williams gave UNC basketball. Heck, I'm even grateful for the years that Coach K gave us a worthy team to hate. And that he's giving us another year to say goodbye. Interested in how that will go.

Dynamo soccer has started back. There's no way to express the feeling I had to be out on a soccer field with my beloved teammates just kicking the ball around. Since last we played together, one has given birth to a future Dynamo, one has retired, two of us have new jobs, and one's son turned old enough to join the team. Now I'm not the only one. And none got sick.

Standing on the field—which is what I do most of the time when I'm playing—and watching everyone playing and seeing Burke and Larkin chasing the balls that went out of bounds for us made me realize just how wonderful life is, even in a pandemic. I didn't cry . . . much.

Whether for good or bad—and there can be many criticisms for those decisions that can be leveled—we were able to watch sports all through this horrible pandemic.

Selfishly and gratefully we watched as our sports favorites literally risked their lives to provide us with joy during this time. Quite frankly, watching reruns of old matches and games would have just reinforced the malaise of the time. We didn't have to do that. We were able to see so many meaningful and entertaining live sporting events while we hunkered down and tried to stay safe.

And while we can choose to focus on the divisions that the pandemic laid bare, we can also choose to see all the positives

to be appreciated in watching millions of people putting on masks and staying distanced and holding off on the things that they wanted to do in order to keep all of us safe.

We got to spend a whole lot of time with our significant others. Martha became interested in soccer documentaries and pro wrestling biographies. She delighted in telling people how she understood promotion and relegation and how sad it is to see the diminution of Barcelona and Real Madrid. I developed a much greater appreciation of all of the equestrian arts and I also developed a much greater appreciation of Martha.

I don't know about the rest of you, but all of this masking and distancing and sanitizing and hand washing resulted in me going all this time without even a head cold. And, quite frankly, I look better with a mask on than without.

Sometimes I feel like I'm spending an inordinate amount of space in this column venting my frustration with some of the things that I find troubling in sport that I just wanted to spend this particular space expressing my sincere gratitude for what sports have given me throughout my life. It's much easier to appreciate it during this time of crisis.

Danish footballer Christian Eriksen collapsed on the soccer field during the Euros with an apparent heart attack. We watched as he was saved on the field. There were many commentators who said that this was indicative of how life is so much more important than sport. But when I saw the reactions of the players and the fans it just reinforced for me just how important sport is to life.

It certainly is to mine.
And most of all, I'm very happy to report Fat Boy Index: 282.

Duke Football

Here's the Duke schedule with home games all caps:
Sep. 3 (Fri), at Charlotte, 7 p.m., CBSSN; 10 (Fri), NC A&T, 8 p.m., ACCN; 18, NORTHWESTERN, 4, ACCN; 25, KANSAS.
Oct. 2, at North Carolina; 9, GEORGIA TECH; 16, at Virginia; 30, at Wake Forest.
Nov. 6, PITT; 13, at Virginia Tech; 18 (Thu), LOUISVILLE, 7:30 p.m., ESPN; 27, MIAMI.

Media Sportswatch Joel Bulkeley

How we watch sports continues to change. For years TV networks paid large rights fees to be the exclusive home of this live sport or that, but now the networks are moving some of the games to streaming services (ESPN to ESPN+, CBS/Viacom to Paramountplus, NBC/Comcast to Peacock) forcing viewers to decide whether to pay the extra \$5/month or more for streaming services in order to see the games they want. Recent TV ratings/audiences for the World Series, NBA championship and Super Bowl dropped significantly.

Many customers cut their cable cord in favor of buying on-demand umbrella services like Sling or Futbol TV to get sports. But you'll probably be paying the same total amount as before, as streamers like Disney, Netflix raise their monthly fees, and the bills go higher. Media companies cut their staff, laying off thousands, but it wasn't enough to stem the tide of rising costs.

The point of all this is to suggest you do your homework before switching or adding services. Streaming services generally offer a week of free programming to check out what they offer. Get the free trial, but wait until fall sports seasons start before making a final decision. And even then the changes will keep coming. And the idea of saving money, while wonderful, isn't likely to happen. Adjustments will need to be made.

Coach K announced plans to retire after the 21-22 season, setting off widespread chaos in Durham and joy elsewhere. The story came from Jeff Goodman of Stadium and led to a feeding frenzy among reporters and talking heads about how his successor (John Scheyer) was selected and how to honor K. There's no clear answer on either.

The legendary Duke coach has a .764 winning percentage, Roy Williams (retired) .774, Dean Smith (retired) .776, Mark Few .834.

Other media changes came in bunches last month. The radio voice of the Panthers, Mick Mixon, 62, announced the 21 season will be his last. He's been doing Panther play-by-play since 2005. Before that he did color for UNC football/basketball broadcasts. No word of whether his cover band career (drummer) will continue.

Mark Armstrong, ABC/11 sportscaster for 17 years, left the station and is painting houses. The station won't replace him, just share the work among current staffers. He said he was leaving with his head high while he could and mentioned

what happened to cohort Jeff Gravley of WRAL Sports who was forced out two years ago. TV stations are cutting sports costs and coverage where they can.

Rick Bonnell, 63, NBA writer for the Charlotte paper for 30+ years, passed away.

Kenny Mayne's contract at ESPN wasn't renewed. He was a popular and personable SportsCenter anchor.

The ACC Network, owned by the ACC and ESPN which began in August 2019, reportedly is doing better than expected, according to several ACC athletic directors, but no subscriber numbers are available. There were reports last month that Xfinity/Comcast cable companies might start carrying ACCN in the fall. These reports might be wishful thinking but have not been confirmed.

Good stuff. Luke DeCock did a nice job with commentary on Cane's playoff games. Unfortunately they didn't get out of the second round.

No college papers during the summer. Instead UNC and Duke do a send-home edition for new students.

For college hoops fans July 7 is a big day for next season regarding returning players.

The National Basketball Association announced June 1 that 353 players--296 players from colleges and other educational institutions and 57 international players--have filed as early entry candidates for NBA Draft 2021 on July 29.

Players who have applied for early entry have the right to withdraw from consideration for the Draft by notifying the NBA of their decision in writing no later than 5 p.m. ET on Monday, July 19. Under NCAA rules, in order to retain college basketball eligibility, college players who have entered NBA Draft 2021 must withdraw by Wednesday, July 7.

Walk Up Vaccinations

Visit: www.myspot.nc.gov. Search for zip code 27278. Choose a time and date that works for your schedule!

Call 919-913-8088 to register by phone. The phone center is open weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Spanish and other languages available.

Other options are to visit CVS at Rams Plaza or downtown or Walgreens on MLK Blvd. or East Franklin.

There is no cost, Covid 19 vaccinations are available for persons 12 and older.