

## **Notes for Friday Conference Call, June 19, 2020**

*Status: 841[up from 759] cases in Chatham; 39 deaths [up from 37]*

Hello, again. This is our 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive Friday morning conference call with you. I hope all is well.

As we normally do, we will pause a minute to think about the frontline heroes who are helping protect and otherwise serve us during this COVID-19 pandemic. This includes our officials with Chatham Emergency Management, the director of whom is our guest today. This pause will also give you an opportunity to grab a pen and paper in case you want to take any notes during the call. Don't rush, we'll wait for you.

As I just mentioned, this week we have another special guest. Steve Newton is director of Chatham County Emergency Management. Steve is helping lead Chatham's response to COVID-19, along with Mike Zelek of Public Health who spoke to us last week. Of course, Steve manages many other challenges, including hurricanes. Technically hurricane season is supposed to run from June 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, tropical storms Arthur and Bertha can't read a calendar and decided to arrive early. They were the first affirmation that we may have an above-normal season.

Steve, thanks so much for joining us this morning. I am turning the microphone over to you. We will mute the phones now but let us know when you are willing to take some questions.

Thanks again, Steve. I know your very busy schedule. Feel free to stay on the call but we also realize that you may have to leave.

As Steve emphasized, as with every hurricane season, the need to be prepared is critically important.

"Social distancing and other CDC guidance to keep you safe from COVID-19 may impact the disaster preparedness plan you had in place, including what is in your go-kit, evacuation routes, shelters and more. It is time to revise and adjust your emergency plan now," said Carlos Castillo, acting deputy administrator for resilience at FEMA. "Natural disasters won't wait, so I

Comments of Dennis Streets, Chatham CCCOA Director

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encourage you to keep COVID-19 in mind when revising or making your plan for you and your loved ones, and don't forget your pets.”

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I mentioned last week that we have formed a small work group composed of a few staff and Board members to begin planning for reopening of our centers and various programs and services. I don't want you to think that any reopening will happen soon. I am afraid that there is still a long road ahead. Still, if you want to share your thoughts (concerns or suggestions), you can call or email either Liz Lahti at the Pittsboro Center (919-542-4512; [liz.lahti@chathamcoa.org](mailto:liz.lahti@chathamcoa.org)), or David Mallard at our Western Center (919-742-3975; [david.mallard@chathamcoa.org](mailto:david.mallard@chathamcoa.org)). We want your input.

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Last week we had our first Listen-and-Learn-a-Thon event. Last Friday night we also hosted a great concert. **Krista**, who did a super job planning and pulling this together, also served as master of ceremonies for the events. Krista, please tell folks how they can still enjoy these events if they missed them or want to experience them again.

Thanks Krista.

Let's stay with activities a bit longer. Jackie give us any update on the calendar. Also Liz remind us about Silver Arts. And at the end of today's call, we are joined again by two of the Silver Arts performers—Don and Marian Lein [Line]. I \_\_\_\_\_ encourage all to take on the call to enjoy their music.

**Krista, let's keep the lines open a bit longer as I am going to share a few trivia facts and questions.** This week I am going to focus on some questions about – guess what—hurricanes.

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(1) Which sports team in North Carolina chose “Hurricanes” as its nickname?

- (a) Baseball
- (b) Basketball
- (c) Soccer
- (d) Football
- (e) Hockey**

(2) Where do you think NC ranks in terms of our 50 states when it comes to the number of hurricanes that we have experienced?

- (a) 1<sup>st</sup>
- (b) 10<sup>th</sup>
- (c) 4<sup>th</sup>**
- (d) 6<sup>th</sup>

What states are ahead of us? **Florida, Texas and Louisiana**

(3) What hurricane did NC experience in 1954, which is considered the strongest to have hit our state?

- (a) Irene
- (b) Florence
- (c) Hazel**
- (d) Donna

(4) What major hurricane hit NC just six years later, in 1960?

- (a) Florence
- (b) Donna**
- (c) Emily
- (d) David

(5) Has there been a Hurricane David?

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(a) No

(b) **Yes** [**Hurricane David** was an extremely deadly **hurricane** which caused massive loss of life in the Dominican Republic in August 1979, and was the most intense **hurricane** to make landfall in the country in recorded history.]

(6) When did men start having their names assigned to Hurricanes too?

(a) 1921

(b) 1985

(c) **1979** [Starting in 1979, the World Meteorological Organization began assigning both **male** and female **names** to tropical cyclones. This decade featured **hurricanes** David and Frederic, the **first male** Atlantic **hurricane names** to be retired.]

(d) 1965

(7) Can a hurricane name be used twice?

(a) **Yes** [This normally results in each **name** being reused every six years. However, in the case of a particularly deadly or damaging storm, that storm's **name** is retired, and a replacement starting with the same letter is selected to take its place.]

(b) No

1954	Hazel
2018	Florence
1996	Fran
1960	Donna
1993	Emily
1955	Connie
1955	Ione
1958	Helene
1984	Diana

Now for a quick look at what happened today, June 19<sup>th</sup>, in history:

One of the most destructive storms in South Central Kansas history swept through on **June 19<sup>th</sup>** 1990 and would later be titled the “Inland **Hurricane**”.

**1846** First officially recognized baseball game (played by Cartwright Rules) - NY Nines 23 defeat Knickerbockers 1 at Hoboken, New Jersey [So what’s the Cartwright Rules—so glad you asked.]

Some of the **rules** attributed to Alexander **Cartwright** are: (1) a runner being touched with a ball, rather than hit with it to be considered out; (2) a ball being determined foul if outside the range of first or third base.

**1926** DeFord Bailey is 1st African American to perform on Nashville's "Grand Ole Opry" [A grandson of slaves, Bailey was born near the Bellwood community in Smith County, Tennessee, and learned to play the harmonica at the age of three when he contracted polio (or, as it was called at the time, infantile paralysis). He was confined to bed for a year, during which he began developing his distinctive style of playing.]

### **DeFord Bailey: A Legend Lost | NPT**

08/29/2019 | 26m 27s | Video has closed captioning.

Add to My List

DeFord Bailey was the most influential harmonica player in the 20th century. Despite such acclaim, DeFord died quietly without recognition of his place in American music history. A documentary tells his story, including how much he and other black musicians influenced many of country music legends including Jimmie Rodgers, The Carter Family, Hank Williams and Johnny Cash.

Let me play you a bit of this documentary:

<https://www.pbs.org/video/deford-bailey-a-legend-lost-npt-wh7wz7/>

**1943** NFL's Philadelphia Eagles & Pittsburgh Steelers merge, (not surprisingly, this did not last long—it dissolves on Dec 5th)

**1964** Civil Rights Act of 1964 passes US Senate 73-27

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**2006** Stanley Cup Final, PNC Arena, Raleigh, NC: Carolina Hurricanes beat Edmonton Oilers, 3-1 for a 4-3 series victory; Hurricane's first Championship

**1910** Father's Day celebrated for 1st time (Spokane, Washington).

We enjoyed some wonderful stories last week shared by Reverend Neriah Edwards-Boone. I do want to add a story I heard recently:

1862 Jun **19**, Slavery was outlawed in U.S. territories. ... 1865 Jun **19**, Emancipation Day, also known as Juneteenth, was the day that Union General Granger informed Texas slaves that they were free. Blacks came to celebrate the day as Juneteenth Freedom Day.

At this point, I want to emphasize something very important to those at the Council—especially in light of what has taken place over the past few weeks. Acknowledge and respect the diversity of our Council’s personnel, volunteers and clients — It is vital that anyone representing our Council as staff or volunteer understand and respect this guiding principle. There shall be no discrimination as to eligibility for services because of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, national origin or sexual orientation. While this speaks specifically to eligibility for services, the intent goes beyond "eligibility." We want a culture and environment that makes people feel welcome and respected. This is —emphasized in all of our policies and practices. \_\_\_\_\_

**Krista, please mute the phones again.**

As I always share, we are still working hard for you. You can call on us at the Council on Aging if you need assistance with food, supplies, assistive equipment, or just want a friendly call. We also have a supply of **box fans**. We probably should be giving out umbrellas and heaters after this past week. In any case, the 1<sup>st</sup> official day of summer is coming soon -- June 20<sup>th</sup>, temperatures will get warmer, along with the humidity. You know our numbers: at the Pittsboro Center, 919-542-4512, or the Western Center in Siler City at 919-742-3975.

In addition, let me remind you of a few numbers and share a few new ones:

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"The Hope Line," run by the NC Baptist Aging Ministry, provides comfort to isolated seniors daily from 9 am until 9 pm. Call: 866-578-4673

"The Friendship Line," 800-971-0016, provides crisis counseling by phone for seniors over 65 and adults with disabilities.

"211" or 888-892-1162 is a free, confidential referral and information helpline and website that connects people of all ages and from all communities to the essential health and human services they need, 24/7.

Dementia Alliance offers a virtual support group for caregivers, as well as one-on-one support and resources during business hours: 919-832-3732

For those of us who may be experiencing emotional or mental health distress, you can call 855.587.3463 for support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is called the **Hope4NC Helpline**. You can also call the **Cardinal Innovations Help-line** at \*\*275.

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Also let me remind you of a few other items:

Calls wanting to schedule Tax appointments

Taxes are due July 15<sup>th</sup>. While we are no longer scheduling any more VITA appointments for this year, Orange County is still providing some assistance and has opened their service to Chatham residents as well. **Call 919-245-4242.** \_\_\_\_

Medical rides

We are still working through Chatham Transit to schedule essential medical rides. Again, before you call us though, contact your medical provider to be sure they still want you to come to their office. If they do and you need a Chatham Transit ride, you can schedule through Sigi Markworth by calling 919-542-4512, ext. 222.

Again, Chatham Transit is now requiring riders to:

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1. wear a face covering (a mask, or anything covering your mouth and nose, i.e., a bandana)
2. let Chatham Transit or us know if your healthcare provider requires you to wait in the car/van before entering for your appointment.

### SHIIP

All NC SHIIP/Medicare related calls are still being handled by the State SHIIP Office through their toll free line at 1-855-408-1212.

### Census

**Don't forget to participate in the Census. This is very important.** We want every person counted—it makes a difference in our funding.

**Make Chatham count by completing your 2020 Census online ([my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)), by phone (844-330-2020), or by mail when the questionnaire arrives to your home!**

If you know of older Veterans in Chatham who needs help with home modifications and repairs, have them give us a call.

I want to encourage us all to **continue being smart and careful. Remember staying at home means:**

- Avoid gatherings, hang-outs, and parties, even with family that do not live with you. Remember: If one person at your family gathering is infected, your whole family will be at risk.
- Keep distance from others if you must go out, wear a cloth face covering, and limit the number of trips you make.
- Stay in touch with loved ones by phone or video apps.
- Look out for each other, but from a distance.

**Stay home. Stay safe. Save lives.**

**Take care of yourself and let us know if you think we can assist in some way.**

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**Remember to wash your hands often –try not to touch your face; keep your distance from others; sanitize contact surfaces (especially if someone has entered your house). And a few more things: Stay hydrated—drink lots of water. Get plenty of sleep.**

**3Ws= Wear ... Wait ... Wash [Do you remember what the 3Ws stand for?]**

**Krista, let's open up the phone one last time for any questions and comments.**

**If you want to say something, just state your name first. Please try not to speak over someone who is already talking.**

**Thanks for sharing. Remember we will meet again at 10:15 next Friday morning when we may have another special guest.**

**Now I am turning the call over to Don and Marian. Thanks for joining us again with some of your beautiful music.** Again I look forward to our call next Friday. In the meantime, take care. Give us a call if you need some assistance or just want to say hello.

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And now let me end with a very rare 1947 recording as DeFord Bailey made an unscheduled guest appearance on Roy Acuff's Weather House Grand Ole Opry segment, singing "Kansas City Blues". This is the earliest known recording of DeFord playing guitar and singing, something he was known to do during his tenure as a Grand Ole Opry member (which ended in 1941), in addition to his more famous harmonica playing. This is one of only a handful of live recordings of his music that survive.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJ4hLVcXyv4>