



The East Carolinian

YOUR CAMPUS NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1925

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East Carolina University Board of Trustees welcome new members last year when Phillip Lewis and Robert Moore were sworn in. SUMMER TONIZZO | THE EAST CAROLINIAN

Construction continues on culvert project

George Martin
TEC STAFF

As construction in order to install a new drainage culvert near Clement Hall continues, city officials assure students the project will soon come to a close.

The city of Greenville held a public information session on Jan. 28 to update the business owners and residents of Uptown on the state of the culvert, as well as what the future of the project will be since the start of construction in October 2019.

The session featured three speakers including Mark Horstman, Lisa Kirby and Dan Robinson, all of whom are engineers working on the project.

Lisa Kirby started the session by stating why the construction is necessary in order to replace the culvert underneath Reade Circle and Cotanche Street.

"Aging infrastructure really is an issue, the original culvert was installed in the 1930s, and we had an undersized culvert," Kirby said. Without naming specific construction projects, Kirby said that there were multiple new projects going on throughout Greenville to try and reduce flooding throughout Greenville.

One of the engineers working on the culvert, Mark Horstman, said that the new stormwater control methods (SCMs) being implemented are important in order to guarantee that flooding is reduced.

"We are removing 250 pounds of nitrogen throughout the year by using these SCMs, which is equivalent to having a new park downtown," Horstman said.

Additionally, Horstman said that the city of Greenville obtained a zero interest loan from the state of North Carolina in order to implement green infrastructure, which will save taxpayers approximately \$10 million in interest.

Next month, Horstman said that the intersection of Reade Circle and Cotanche will be reopened and the intersection of Reade Circle and Evans Street will be closed in order to continue the installation of the new culvert.

"Late February, we are going to close the West 8th Street intersection of South Washington and Dickenson in order to install a culvert and do some maintenance," Horstman said.

Another engineer on the project, Dan Robinson, said that there will be a new detour once Cotanche reopens, that will make drivers drive down to 14th Street in order to go around the construction.

The construction on Evans is going to take approximately six months in order to complete, according to Robinson. The construction will then move from there to West 8th Street in order to do storm drains and utility work. There is more construction planned after this closure as well.

"In May 2020, we will begin the last and final phase at the intersection of Fickland and 9th Street. We will have to

Allegations verified

Lewis and Moore transcripts are unlawful

Sarah Hooper
TEC STAFF

George Martin
TEC STAFF

In the most recent developments involving the East Carolina University Board of Trustees members, a transcript detailing a conversation between BOT members and an anonymous student has been released.

During an interview with *The East Carolinian*, Student Government Association President Colin Johnson, gave a statement on the transcript between Phil Lewis, Robert Moore and the anonymous student.



Colin Johnson

that are personally offensive, but that's not my focus. The position isn't about me, it's about serving students. That's all I can do and will continue to do so in the most ethical



way I know how," Johnson said. "Whoever has this position next, I hope they will make the same commitment to students."

Moore and Lewis first began their offer of financial support to the unnamed student running for SGA on Jan. 13, when they had lunch with the student. In records now released by the UNC BOG public records office, the recorded conversation at the lunch meeting was put into transcription. The majority of the student's dialogue has been redacted. At one point, Lewis and Moore speak on donating because it is a "free world."

During their meeting with the anonymous ECU student, Lewis and Moore discussed Johnson by referencing the most recent BOT meeting in November where the vote was a majority 12 to one win to raise student fees related to athletics, where Lewis is quoted saying, "We could have won seven to six... but I'd be giving Colin a victory, and what in the hell do I



Phil Lewis

want to do that for?"

On Monday morning, Johnson sent out a statement to the ECU student body addressing the transcript and including a link to a petition to remove Lewis and Moore if students wished to become involved.

"Let me be clear, what was discussed in this meeting is offensive and represents a clear attempt to interfere in the SGA elections process," Johnson said.

Johnson's email stated that SGA candidates will now be required to report all campaign contributions or offered campaign contributions made by anyone. Accepting a campaign contribution from a trustee member will now result in immediate disqualification from the elections. Candidates also must sign an ethics statement before running.

In his statement on Monday, Johnson defended the student who met with Lewis and Moore, reminding ECU that their identity is protected by law.

"This student did a great service to the university and the student body by bringing to light this meet-

> ALLEGATIONS page A2

Greenville community to promote youth literacy

Hannah True
TEC STAFF

Tomorrow will mark the 11th annual World Read Aloud Day where two celebrations will take place, one in the Children's Library at Sheppard Memorial Library at 3:30 p.m. and another at Barnes & Noble at 6 p.m.

Barnes & Noble will also be hosting an all-day READ ENC book fair fundraiser for readers to enjoy and for a portion of the profit to go back to READ ENC. Greg Needham, director of Sheppard Memorial Libraries, expresses his excitement for the event.

"We at Sheppard Library are very excited to host a World Read Aloud event again this year. Reading aloud is such a powerful positive thing for people to share with each other," Needham said. "This event highlights out loud reading with some super leaders and reading advocates of our community. We're really looking forward to it and hope it inspires everyone to share more reading aloud."

World Read Aloud Day started in 2010 and was founded by LitWorld to allow millions of people to celebrate reading out loud and advocate for literacy as a human right. According to LitWorld's website, the celebration in 2019 allowed for #WorldReadAloudDay to be one of the top hashtags on Twitter and was celebrated by people in over 170 countries. It also allowed

many famous celebrities to join in.

Kristen Gehsmann, ECU professor and chair of the Literacy Studies, English Education and History Education department, explained what the celebration means to her.

"World Read Aloud Day is a celebration of the written word and the power of stories to bring people, communities, and the world a little closer together. It is one of my most favorite days of the year," Gehsmann said.

The events are both hosted by the Children's Library at Sheppard Memorial Library and READ ENC, an organization promoting school success to Eastern North Carolina. Terry Atkinson, executive director of READ ENC: Community Literacy Coalition, explained the purpose of READ ENC.

"READ ENC connects with community partners who share the common goal of providing the resources and support for all Pitt County children and families so that every third grade students will read on grade level by the end of grade three," Atkinson said.

Gehsmann also gave the advice to read aloud to children because it proves to have many benefits. A child who is read to just ten minutes a day will be exposed



Mayor P.J. Connelly reads to children at Sheppard Memorial Library. CONTRIBUTED BY TERRY ATKINSON

> LITERACY page A6

ONLINE

» ARTS: Molly's Community Cafe food review

» Check out our website for stories, photo galleries and more

SOCIAL MEDIA

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BRIEFS

Series to inform students on leadership certification

Tomorrow, G.O.L.D Series Leaders will host an orientation meeting from 4:00 to 4:15 p.m. at the Students Activities and Organizations Office. The meeting will inform students who are interested in becoming a better leader how to get involved in its leader program that offers leadership certification and a graduation cord.

School of Hospitality will provide employment opportunities

Today, the School of Hospitality will host a career fair from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. located in the Main Campus Student Center. The fair will connect students who are interested in hospitality careers to a plethora of possible employers.

Networking skills to be offered to education students

Today, the College of Education will host "Teacher Toolbox: Job Search & Interviewing for Success" from 5:30 to 7 p.m. located in the Speight building room 203. The event will cover techniques to help students interested in educational careers expand their networks.

Personal trainers will offer free assessment

Today, Campus Recreation and Wellness will offer students free body composition testing from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center. Certified personal trainers will be available to help assess body fat percentages and offer students advice on how to live a healthier lifestyle.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

If you feel there are any factual errors in this newspaper, please contact Jenna Price at editor@theeastcarolinian.com.



Democratic candidate campaign signs for the 2018 Midterm elections are showcased in front of the Willis Building in Uptown Greenville, NC.

ECU to hold political debate

District 9 democratic candidates will descend on campus

Ahren Rau
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University's Campus Voter Initiative will host a democratic debate between two District 9 candidates on Wednesday in the Hendrix Theatre from 7 to 8 p.m.

The debate will be between Brian Farkas and Jake Hochard, who are running for a seat in the NC House of representatives.

The event will be moderated by members of the Campus Voter Initiative, according to co-founder of ECU's Campus Voter Initiative, Peyton Paschke.

Paschke said the Campus Voter Initiative is a group within the Honors College focused on bringing political issues to the campus and they have been an organization for almost a year.

"Our goal is basically to get as many people on campus engaged in political activities, getting people out to vote, getting people registered to vote, we've passed out fliers with polling and candidate information," Paschke said.

Paschke said the idea of the event came to mind when her organization had heard that Jake Hochard, an ECU economics professor, was running for the position.

The debate will start with opening statements from the candidates, followed by questions asked by the moderators and then each candidate will have the opportunity for closing

statements, according to Paschke.

"During the question portion we will be distributing note cards or we have a hashtag on Twitter that people can use to submit questions. Other members of our group will be leafing through those seeing the most liked, the most important, and then we will ask about three or four of those at the end of the question portion," Paschke said.

She said candidates were given debate questions beforehand and will include topics on gun violence, livable-wage and healthcare.

The democratic primary voting is on Mar. 3 and will determine the democratic nominee to run against the current seat holder, Perrin Jones, according to Paschke.

Sophomore political science and Spanish major Alex Urban is another member of the Campus Voter Initiative and said part of his role to help prepare for the debate was to get the community involved with the debate, and not just those on campus.

Urban said he reached out to GPAT-23, a public access television channel for subscribers to suddenlink in Pitt County, and asked them to stream the event.

The NC Board of Elections also granted the Campus Voter Initiative permission to have registration tables outside of the event, added Urban.

"This is what we considered the best way to

get it out to the general public and not just the students here on campus," Urban said.

Voter participation, voter registration and voter turnout is lower today among the youth than it has been in a long time, according to Urban.

Urban said it is really important that the event is at ECU because it may start a trend and lay the building blocks towards a more participant voting culture.

"We wanted to bring the process to ECU to have students and people experience the political process as well as bring registration tables so people can register after the event. Get more people more and more students involved," Urban added.

According to Urban, the Campus Voter Initiative has a very good mixture of political affiliations and said everyone's goal mainly to get the campus and public involved in the political process.

Urban said he is very excited for his organization's first event and said they're already planning more events for the university in the future.

There is no entrance fee for the event and it will open to both students and non-students. More information can be found on ECU's Engage website.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.

CULVERT continued from A1

close 9th street and we may have Evans Street, 8th Street and the intersection of Fickaland and 9th closed at the same time," Robinson said.

He said there are currently no utility outages that should occur from the construction.

Sophomore business major Nicholas Siegel said when commenting on the culvert the construction outside of his apartment complex, The Boundary, is a pain and an inconvenience whenever he is going somewhere.

Siegel said that the construction is loud and will sometimes distract him when he is trying to do work

for his classes.

"It's a pain when I'm inside and it's a pain when I'm outside," Siegel said. "I can't focus with the noise and then if I want to walk downtown I have to take this detour to get there."

Siegel also said that the construction is an ugly sight for anyone walking through Greenville, although he does understand that it is necessary in order to install the new culvert.

Siegel said that he is relieved that the construction will finally be done come next fall, but is not satisfied with the speed of the construction.

Sophomore biology major Ashlee Falls currently lives at West End on campus and said that the culvert

construction shouldn't take as long as it has.

"It seemed like for most of the fall semester, they had more days off than they worked," Falls said.

Falls said that she is glad that the construction is going to stop outside of Clement Hall, but she is frustrated that the construction is simply going to move down the street.

"This just means that the traffic is all going to get funneled through an area that isn't properly equipped to handle it, and it's just going to cause traffic jams," Falls said.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.



The East Carolina University Board of Trustees discuss tuition increases for fall 2020 and announce a search committee to the next chancellor at its Nov. 22 meeting where Colin Johnson was present.

ALLEGATIONS continued from A1

ing and the substance of their discussion. I do not wish any retaliation or ill-will on this student. I thank them and applaud their bravery," Johnson said in his statement.

In three letters submitted on Jan. 20 to UNC BOG from Moore to the chair of the Committee on University Governance with the BOG, Daniel Powers, the removal of three other members of the ECU BOT, Max Joyner, Fielding Miller and Vern Davenport was requested. In each letter, Moore suggests that those members may have also violated university bylaws.

In a Jan. 22 email, the UNC BOG received a complaint from Moore recommending the removal of Davenport from the BOT. The same day Moore also recommended the removal of BOT members Max Joyner and Fielding Miller due to inappropriate behavior as board members. All recommendations for removal of university trustees are governed by the UNC BOG Policy 200.7, which states that such matters are considered by the Committee on University Governance.

The week of Jan. 27, it was revealed that Vern Davenport, chairman of the ECU BOT, may also have gone against UNC System Policy.

The other letters accused Joyner of allegedly violating ethical policies by using information obtained through his position in the BOT to purchase property that "is only 185 feet from property that has been leased/sold to Elliott Sidewalk," the letter said.

Elliott Sidewalk is a company that has been working with ECU in order to develop

the area in which Joyner allegedly bought property nearby.

When *The East Carolinian* reached out for an interview with ECU BOT members Joyner, Davenport, Lewis, Moore, Jim Seagrave and Angela Moss, none of the six responded.

Lewis and Moore's offer of financial support is a violation of the University of North Carolina System Policy and the North Carolina State Government Ethics Act.

John Bell, a republican in the North Carolina Assembly, and republican Senator Jim Perry are cited in the transcript as "wanting to see change" within the ECU BOT.

Lewis mentioned Angela Moss, a BOT member based out of Chapel Hill and former ECU SGA president, to the student saying he would like to connect them so she could help him out.

In a Jan. 24 email to Powers, Lewis and Moore express their apologies and claim they met with the student with intentions of furthering the higher interests of ECU.

In addition to student backlash, an online petition is currently circulating on social media and has been signed by over 1,000 people for the removal of Lewis and Moore.

The University of North Carolina System Board of Governors Committee on University Governance will meet to hear complaints and respond to the situation this Wednesday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in Chapel Hill at the Center for School Leadership Development, Room 128. The full BOG will likely vote on this matter at their meetings on Feb. 20 and 21.

This writer can be contacted at news@theeastcarolinian.com.



Vern Davenport



John Bell

OUR VIEW

Media failed handling of Kobe's death

It is difficult to move past the death of any prominent figure in society, especially a legend such as Kobe Bryant. All across social media, there has been an outpouring of support and well wishes from fans worldwide, all to honor the late basketball star.

However, it is easy to forget that just because someone is a celebrity, that doesn't mean they aren't human. Celebrities are used to being under public scrutiny, but at a moment like this it is important to give Bryant's family and the families of the other victims time to mourn.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe the media outlets which reported on Bryant's tragic accident should have given the families and friends involved the time they needed, despite how big the news was.

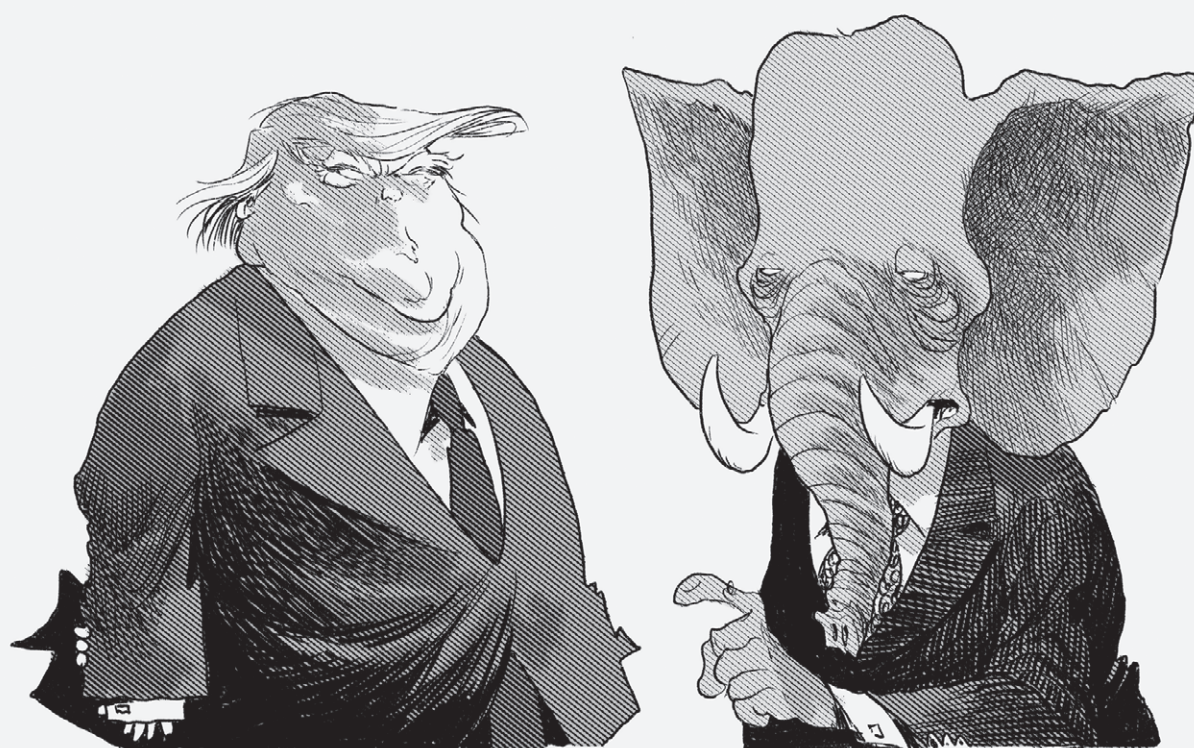
Working in media often puts reporters in a bind when something like this occurs, as it is difficult to determine how to handle things. However, no one deserves to be under a constant spotlight after losing a loved one.

The world needed to know what happened to such a beloved public figure. But Vanessa Bryant and the rest of Kobe's family should have been given as much time as they needed to grieve. In addition, while seeing the reactions of other NBA stars showed just how special Bryant was, the other players also deserve privacy after losing someone who seemingly touched all their lives.

It can't be forgotten that Bryant and his daughter Giana were not the only ones who lost their lives in the helicopter crash. It is easy to mourn a celebrity en masse; it is also easy to forget that another, less prominent family was torn apart by this tragedy.

Two of Giana's teammates and their parents were also killed, as they were on their way to a travel game. They, along with their families, deserve to be in everyone's thoughts as well as society moves past the loss of one of the best to ever play on the court.

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



BOT issues hurt school

Backroom deals place Trustees above students



Joey Moore

GUEST COLUMNIST

This week, word of petty feuds, the likes of which I would expect from friends still in their teens or twenties, spilled into the news—from the

Board of Trustees. For those who haven't read about the scandal, I will lightly recap it.

From what I've gathered, there are three key players to this situation: Phil Lewis, Robert Moore and Angela Moss. The former two were either friends, associates, or allies with Moss, who lost the election for Chairman of the Board by one vote in July.

It is important to note that the SGA President holds a voting seat, and that Moore alleges our SGA President at the time promised his vote to Moss, only to change his mind. That's when the feud from this trio of Trustees turned towards a student.

Recordings show that Lewis and Moore then went on to try and hand pick a new SGA president, offering to pay for their campaign and set them

up with Moss for 'advice' as she was the SGA President in 1999. This feels like an attempt to endear Moss to the new hand-picked President, ahead of a future election.

If what they were doing was so above board, then why did they feel the need to hide where the money was coming from? This is a quote by Lewis, taken from the recording: "I can line that up and you can talk to her by phone or she'll come down here. And, and, confidentially, as long as you don't have to show where you get the money — I mean, we have no problem — I don't have any problems supporting you."

I have been a student at a community college and two universities, each of which had SGA associations. I've seen students that are passionate about SGA, and those who hardly know of its existence; either way, it serves an important purpose in the University.

It is a widely accepted idea that students pay tuition and fees into the university, with little-to-no expectation of transparency or influence in how that money gets spent, or how the uni-

versity is governed. The SGA challenges that theory, by leaving students to their own devices in governing the areas they're granted control or influence over. It also provides better transparency, as the head of this association is given a seat at the table for the Trustees, where many of the high-level decisions are made.

By so heavily attempting to manipulate the SGA, and install their own president, these Board of Trustees members are showing how little they respect the students they govern. In their apology letter, Lewis and Moore wrote "We also realize that we have a responsibility to the UNC Board of Governors," but what of a responsibility to the students they were trying to manipulate? This a school that people come to for learning, and the personal politics of its Trustees should always take a backseat.

Moore is a junior majoring in computer science and a guest columnist. To submit an article, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Voting important for students

Down Pat



Pat Polomchak
TEC COLUMNIST

Last year, I took a writing course in the political science department and wrote my term paper on factors that impact voter turnout rates in America. Overwhelmingly, young people just do not go to the polls.

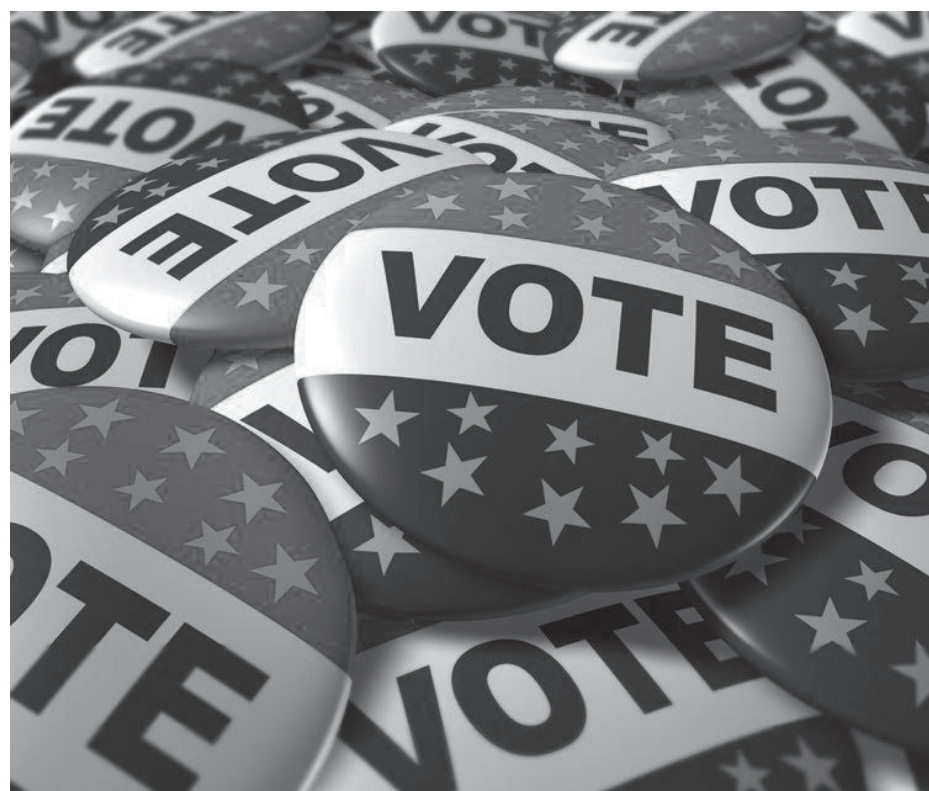
As you would expect, there are a lot of things that contribute to low voter turnout numbers among youth. This is especially true depending on what kind of election is happening, as the numbers are better when a president is up for election than they are in midterms.

One of the biggest factors I found in my research is simply the fact that young people tend to be more mobile than older generations. Once you settle down it's easy to register to vote and simply stay registered; meanwhile, young people are still figuring their lives out and that often means moving every few years with the jobs.

Another huge barrier is how difficult it is to register. There is a lot of misinformation out there, and it can be confusing to first-time voters. Personally, I wish our system automatically registered a person once they turn 18.

Regardless, this past midterm election, in 2018, recorded better numbers than the 2014 election. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, turnout rates among those 18-29 years old jumped from 20% to 36%, nearly double.

It's an encouraging statistic, because it is more important than ever for young people to get involved with politics. With the echo chambers that are created by the ability to block the opposing opinion



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Voting is an important institution in America, and it is especially important for the youth to vote.

on social media, the best possible way to make your voice heard is still to vote.

It can be easy to get discouraged and feel like your vote doesn't matter. After all, our election system leaves the possibility for the candidate who loses the popular vote to still win the presidency thanks to the electoral college. It happened in 2016, and has happened in the past as well.

However, even despite this, the electoral college bases its votes on which candidate wins each particular state. So it is still important to participate in the process in the hopes that enough people in your state agree with you for your candidate to win.

Not everyone in the world has the

ability to elect their government, and that provides a certain level of accountability for politicians who don't want to lose their positions. Not voting is doing a disservice to not just yourself, but everyone else in the country.

While everyone has the right to choose whether to vote or not, I urge all students at East Carolina University to register, whether here or at home. By exercising this right, you can help create the society you want to live in post-graduation.

Polomchak is a junior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.



Junior multi-event track and field competitor Mackenzie Whitaker competes in the long jump in a meet earlier this season. COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Whitaker reflects on career

Jess Sabin
TEC STAFF

Many athletes strive their whole careers to be considered one of the best in their respective sports, and Mackenzie Whitaker was able to achieve that in just her junior year.

In the indoor pentathlon, athletes compete in five events. In order, it goes the 60-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, long jump and, lastly, the 800-meter run. Whitaker currently stands at second in the conference and 26th in the country for the pentathlon. In the Hokie Invitational, which was held on Jan. 24, she broke the school record for the pentathlon with a score of 3834 and was, at the time, No. 1 in the conference and No. 9 in the country.

"I knew she had it in her, I think the biggest thing was getting her to believe she could be as anyone in the country," ECU track and field assistant coach Jefferey Artis-Gray, said. "So she started off in the pentathlon and initially she placed fifth in our conference as a freshman, so I knew then that she was going to have a breakout year in this event I just didn't know when."

Whitaker has a leg length discrepancy, which means that her legs aren't completely even in length. She has also been dealing with a bad hip and the combination of the two caused her to deal with sacroiliac joint pain. The sacroiliac joint, or SI joint (SIJ), is defined as the joint between the sacrum and the ilium bones of the pelvis, which is connected by strong ligaments.

"So, we decided this year to come back to the multi-events just to give it a try and see if her body can tolerate it and we went back to the drawing board to see which things work and

don't work," Artis-Gray said. "We threw some things out and added some things in and now we have what I feel is the perfect formula for her and now she is reaping the benefits of everything."

Despite being passed and falling to No. 26 nationally, Whitaker is confident she can make up the points to reach the top-16 which is what is needed to qualify for nationals. Doing so is manageable as the difference between Whitaker and Kaylee Hinton, a senior from Texas Tech University who currently occupies the 16th rank is a little over 100 points at a score of 3939.

"Her room for improvement is very high, she still has a lot of things to work on," Artis-Gray said. "That was a very impressive mark but she still left out a lot of points on the board in two of her events in particular. So she still has at least 200 to 300 more points she can get out of those events still."

Whitaker went to West Carteret High School in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina and didn't even start doing track and field until her freshman year in high school where she was convinced to do cross country to help her get in better shape for soccer.

"The head cross country coach I had in high school talked me into it, said it would get me in great shape for soccer," Whitaker said. "So I did it, and then the track coach saw me after one of our cross country home meets and he said I should come out and do track."

Mackenzie wasn't even supposed to be competing for ECU. Initially,

she had signed to commit and run for the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and after some stuff fell through, she didn't want to be on the UNC team. Luckily enough a spot was open on the ECU roster and Mackenzie was able to run and compete with the Pirates.

Funny enough, Mackenzie's first year was the first year for her position coach, Artis-Gray, and as the years have gone by, they have been able to grow and learn with each other. Despite her high praise of the coaching staff and her love for her teammates, Whitaker admits that she is driven by her own desire to be the best, not by any external forces.

"I had no idea who he (Artis-Gray) was, he had no idea who I was. It was his first year of training collegiates and I am so happy that I have gotten to work with him, he is one of the greatest coaches I have ever worked with. I just love the feeling of competing, I love winning, and that is enough for me to just go out and do it," Whitaker said.

Whitaker strongly believes in holding yourself accountable, she has fully bought into the mentality that "others can't want it for you." That being said she knows that as an upperclassman it is her responsibility to push and help the underclassmen reach their full potential.

That drive is what has gotten Mackenzie to where she is today and it is what will continue to push her to reach even higher heights than what she has already achieved. Whitaker will take to the track again on Feb. 7 for the Doc Hale Elite meet in Blacksburg, Virginia.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

ECU lacrosse set to begin 2020 season

Lydia Ryan
TEC STAFF

Coming into their third season at East Carolina University, head coach Amanda Moore and the women's lacrosse team look forward to a roster filled with experienced upperclassmen.

Over the last two seasons the biggest challenges facing the lacrosse team has been being a young program that has young players. Now coming into its third year the roster is filled with 17 junior and senior players, making up almost half the team. A majority of these players have been with the team since their freshman season.

"A few things we've lacked, but one of the big things was experience on the field and leadership on the field. That's something that now, our first class, that are now juniors and two seniors, really breaks the table for us on and off the field," Moore said.

Returning junior attack Megan Pallozzi will be making a move to the offense this season after starting all 17 games last season. Pallozzi among a select few that was named to the American Athletic Conference (AAC) Preseason All-Conference Team and recorded 28 points on 24 goals in the 2019 campaign.

"I think that Megan Pallozzi, who has moved to the offense for us this season has really kind of seen her game evolve as an offensive threat," Moore said. "In the midfield, rising sophomore Cameryn Pennypacker is really settled down, I think the game has really slowed down for her. Then we've got a returning veteran defense, in all honesty that I think has really gelled well."

Freshmen attacks Elizabeth Wilson and Frances Kimel both come to ECU from Cardinal Gibbons High School in Raleigh, North Carolina. Under head coach Patricia Alexander they won three state championships, four regional titles and four conference championships during their four seasons, only failing to finish as the state champs during their freshman season.

"We've got speed in our freshmen class and athleticism. Really, I think, just a great competitive spirit," Moore said.

Last season the Pirates increased their winning record from 2-15 in 2018 to 5-12. The 2019 campaign was also their first in the AAC. Although they lost all five conference games, there was still an overall improvement that the team hopes to carry into this season.

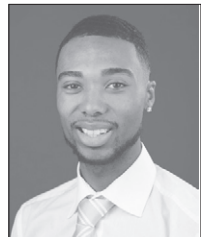
For women's lacrosse, the AAC is comprised of ECU, University of Connecticut, Temple University, University of Cincinnati, University of Florida and Vanderbilt University. Florida won the conference last season winning all five conference games.

The season will kick off this Friday in Greenville, South Carolina where ECU will challenge Furman University. They will then travel to Clinton, South Carolina to face Presbyterian College. They have not faced either of these two opponents in the history of the three year program.

"We are really fired up, really ready to go. We have been going really hard at it since we got here in August. This is the first year that we have really had upperclassmen and a lot of leadership so, I think that, all together the team is more competitive and ready to go," Cox said.

With more experienced players and more depth on the roster the Pirates hope to once again increase their winning record in their third season. The opening game against Furman starts at 6 p.m.

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.



Jefferey Artis-Gray



Jordyn Cox

Tom Morris retires after 22 years at ECU

Daniel Shepard
TEC STAFF

Not many people have won as many matches as East Carolina University women's tennis coach Tom Morris has in his career. In fact, Morris' 559 career wins makes him the all-time winningest women's tennis coach in the state of North Carolina.

It took Morris 30 years of coaching to earn that distinction and lofty number of wins, but the 2019-2020 season will be his last. On Thursday, Morris and the university announced he would be retiring from his duties as the Pirates' Director of Tennis and women's head coach, effective March 1.

"This is not something that I haven't been considering for a while, I've sort of been planning and wondering when would be the right time," Morris said. "Honestly, I feel very comfortable with where we are as a team and it just seemed everything worked out at the right time. It felt like this was the right time."

Current associate head coach and former player under Morris, Kirstin Burgess, will step into the role of interim head coach following Morris' departure.

This being his 22nd season as head coach of the Pirates, Morris has witnessed a slew of talent grace the tennis courts in Greenville, North Carolina. Having coached so many people throughout his career, the outpouring of love and well-wishes was immense following Morris' announcement.

"The current team was sad to hear that, they all wished me well," Morris said. "Then all the former players, the emails and Facebook posts and all that has just been very humbling and you realize how blessed I was to be a coach of such a fine group of young ladies for such a long period of time."

Even before his team at ECU, Morris was coaching at Barton College (formerly named Atlantic Christian College). There, his teams won a combined 10 league championships between men and women as Morris racked up four Carolinas Conference Coach



Tom Morris (far right) poses with the 2019-2020 women's tennis team before the start of this campaign. Morris will retire on March 1. COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

of the Year awards.

Nevertheless his success, both at Barton and ECU, Morris' best team was perhaps last year's squad of Pirates.

Ranked as high as 49th in the nation by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, that team finished the campaign 22-3. Back-to-back losses gave way to 22-straight victories for Morris and the Pirates, leading them to eventually fall to the No. 10 ranked University of Cincinnati in the American Athletic Conference tournament.

"Obviously last year was a great year for us," Morris said. "The record that we had and the national ranking that we had. We've done some very good things in terms of community service, and academically, we've done very well."

At the core of that success in 2019, Lisa Hofbauer earned All-AAC honors, posting a 17-12 singles record and a 14-4 mark in dual matches.

With all of his wins and accomplishments over the course of his career, Morris says it has never been solely about winning. Instead,

he measures success in a different way.

"We've not really ever focused on winning, more of improving," Morris said. "The goal was to try to work as hard as we could and always look at trying to get better instead of focusing on trying to win or how the matches turn out. I feel like if we can just continue to move in a positive direction, continue to improve, then winning and losing will take care of itself in the end."

A member of the North Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame since 2010, Morris owns more than 380 wins during his tenure at ECU.

Satisfied with the mark he has left on the program and the tennis community as a whole, as well as where his current team stands, Morris is looking forward to some down time with family.

"I don't know that I won't be going back into coaching. I can't see that at this point," Morris said. "Right now, just want to catch my breath and spend some time with my family."

This writer can be contacted at sports@theeastcarolinian.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Greenville Little League is seeking baseball umpires for the 2020 season. No experience is necessary however it is helpful to have some baseball background. An informational meeting for prospective umpires will be

held Sunday, February 9 from 5:30-6:30 at Elm Street Park (1055 South Elm Street). Questions may be directed to Brian Weingartz at baawein@aol.com or 252-341-5680.

FOR RENT

Apartments for Rent Near ECU: 400/402 Lewis Street Apartments 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Water/sewer included. \$450 per month For more information Contact Wainright Property Management 252-756-6209

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- Edit your communications and consider consequences in advance. Stick to practicalities and avoid distraction. Focus on plans rather than action. Take detailed notes.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is an 8 -- A spontaneous profitable opportunity is worth grabbing. Prepare what's needed. You can make a bundle with well-played cards. Plan your moves in advance.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Take extra time for yourself. It's OK to let your power shine. Growing stronger helps others too. Abandon a worn-out habit. Focus on the positive.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Find a quiet spot to think and plan. Crawl into your shell if you want. Enjoy music, birdsong or silence. Small changes reap big rewards.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Friends help you make the perfect connection. Stick to practical priorities and plan your moves in detail before initiating action. Keep secrets and confidences.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Handle practical professional responsibilities and ignore rumors, gossip or distractions. You don't have the full story yet. Wait for developments. Upgrade your image.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- Prioritize experiences, encounters and destinations for greatest efficiency. Expect communication delays and traffic. Monitor conditions and move when the coast is clear.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Don't worry about the small stuff. Fantasies distract from financial priorities; keep a steady focus on what's needed to keep your boat afloat.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Partnership provides strength and support. Arguments could spark over nothing; stay patient and remember your shared commitments. Keep your promises. Manage practical details.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Prioritize your health and wellness. Demands on your energies could seem overwhelming. Postpone what you can. Get help when needed. Eat and rest especially well.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 7 -- Go for no-frills fun rather than clinging to worn-out fantasies. Let go of romantic expectations and focus on what and who you love.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- Provide domestic stability and comfort, one washed dish at a time. Not everyone agrees on how things should be. Abandon preconceptions or unrealistic expectations. Listen.

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COMICS

ONE AND ONLY BY BRIAN JUDGE



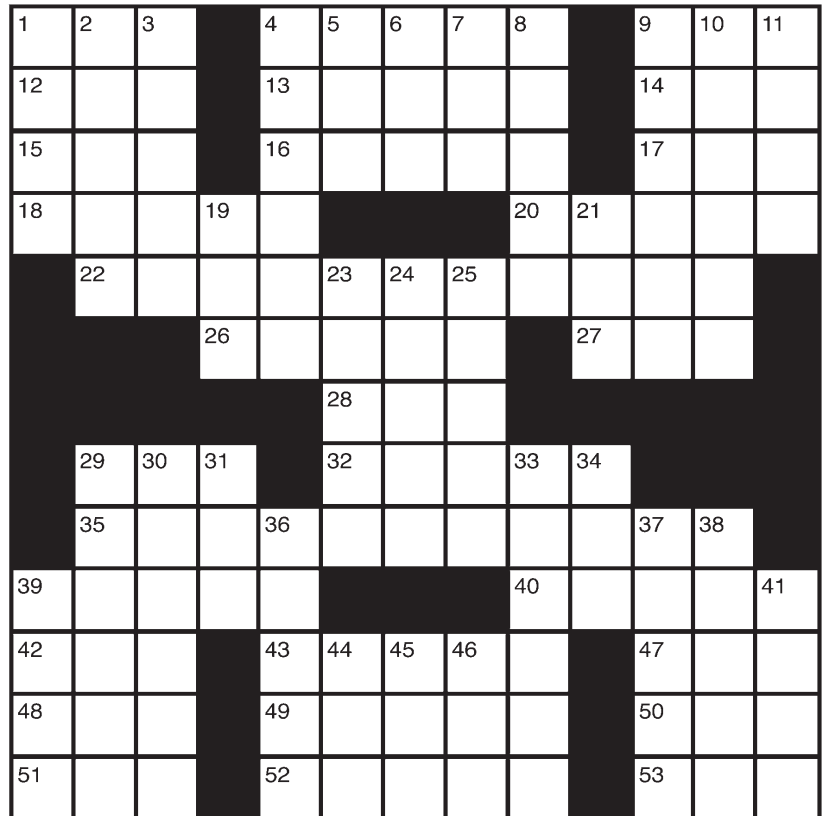
BLISS



CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- 1 "How the West ___ Won"
- 4 Alda and Rachins
- 9 "Murder, ___ Wrote"
- 12 Linkletter or Carney
- 13 Actress Brewster
- 14 Neither's partner
- 15 Paul's cousin on "Mad About You"
- 16 End of the Greek alphabet
- 17 "___ Big Girl Now"
- 18 "Support Your ___ Sheriff"; James Garner movie
- 20 Slangy refusals
- 22 Role for Josh Charles on "The Good Wife"
- 26 Judy Garland's younger daughter
- 27 Sullivan and Bradley
- 28 Assistance
- 29 "___ Voice"
- 32 Sophia Loren's nation of birth
- 35 Actress who starred in "Little Women" and "Girl, Interrupted"
- 39 Henry, Peter or Jane
- 40 OPQ followers

- 42 Cleaning cloth
- 43 Cold rice with bits of raw fish
- 47 Starz competitor
- 48 180° from WSW
- 49 Ted Lange's role on "The Love Boat"
- 50 Wallach or Marienthal
- 51 Letters after a dentist's name
- 52 Actress Emma
- 53 Guided

DOWN

- 1 Cry loudly
- 2 "Broken ___"; movie for John Travolta and Christian Slater
- 3 Actress Keanan
- 4 "___ 13"; Tom Hanks film
- 5 On the ___; fleeing
- 6 "Ice ___: Dawn of the Dinosaurs"
- 7 Opposite of positive: abbr.
- 8 "X-Men: The Last ___"
- 9 Shot from a concealed place
- 10 Namesakes of Bart's dad
- 11 Historical periods
- 19 "___ in the Family"
- 21 "___ Life to Live"
- 23 Corn, wheat or barley, e.g.
- 24 Lt. ___ Van Buren; role on "Law & Order"
- 25 Role on "M*A*S*H"
- 29 "___ a Half Men"
- 30 Door hanger's metal pieces
- 31 "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's ___"
- 33 Words to a song
- 34 Three-foot measurements: abbr.
- 36 Fertile spot in a desert
- 37 Lucy's landlady
- 38 Russia's currency
- 39 Wilma Flintstone's hubby
- 41 Empty space
- 44 Neighbor of Canada: abbr.
- 45 Actor Waterston
- 46 Pork product

Solution from 01/30



SUDOKU

SUDOKU

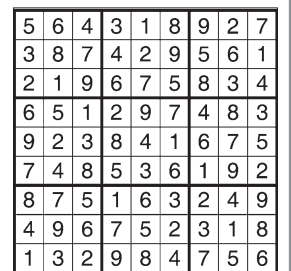
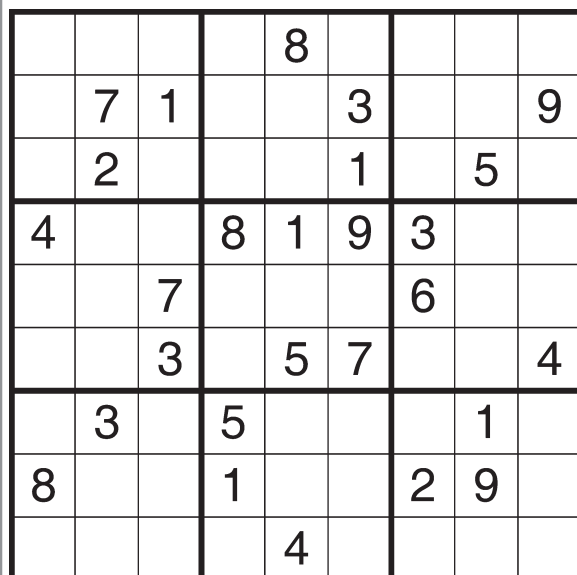
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution from 01/30



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TAP THE APP

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Available in the App Store and Google Play

EVENTS

TODAY

The Office Trivia
Uptown Brewing
Company
7 p.m.

Composition 101
ASAP Photo and Camera
7 p.m.

Tabletop Tuesday
Pitt Street Brewing
Company
6:30 p.m.

TOMORROW

**Art Means Business: Tax
Essentials for Artists**
Emerge Gallery and Art
Center
6 p.m.

Fleet Feet Pub Run
Uptown Brewing
Company
6:15 p.m.

**Park Avenue South at
Nino's**
Nino's Cucina Italiana
7 p.m.

Thursday

Comic Book Club
Smashed Waffles
7 p.m.

Photography for beginners

Local camera store to host basic photo class tonight

Hannah Bolick
TEC STAFF

Local camera store, ASAP Photo and Camera, will hold a photography class called Composition 101 at 7 tonight at their store in Greenville.

According to the event on their Facebook page, students “will explore some basic concepts of composition such as defining your subject, placement of subjects, use of leading lines, shapes, color, use of negative space and attention to details.”

The class is being taught by freelance photographer, Jamie Konarski Davidson. In addition to teaching classes at ASAP and other workshops, she runs her own website to showcase her nature-focused work called New Life Photos.

Cheryl Belczak, who will be co-teaching a workshop with Davidson in the Finger Lakes area of New York later this year, praised Davidson not only as a photographer but also as a teacher.

“As a photography teacher she is very patient, generous and mindful of her students’ interests and abilities, which allows her to challenge and encourage them in a meaningful way,” Belczak said.

This class is only one of about 25 different classes offered by ASAP this year. Chad Winstead, studio photographer and the education director at ASAP, said that the classes are laid back and are designed to help anyone, with or without equipment currently in their hands, learn something.

“It’s an enjoyable fun environment here. It’s laid back. You don’t have to have any certain set of skills to come take a class here. This is an environment for learning not judging. If you’ve literally never picked up a camera before but it’s something that interests you, come take a camera basics class and see if it’s something



ASAP Photo and Camera located on 3701 Charles Blvd will host a photography class tonight at 7 p.m.

you could see yourself doing,” Winstead said.



Chad Winstead

Carder Frutiger, president of ASAP Photo and Camera, said his father and stepmother started the business about 25 years ago and started offering two or three classes soon after they opened. From there the education aspect of the business continued

to evolve.

Frutiger said that part of their professional advantage over their online competition is that they are not only a camera retailer. They can take a customer through their photography hobby all the way to printing their finished work in ASAP’s professional print lab.

“We can take them from the step of, hey I’ve got a camera, we teach them, they learn photography, and then go on to the final, which is you know, actually taking their images, their memories, their travel photos, whatever it is, having them printed and put on the wall,” Fru-

tiger said. “So we can really take them through the whole journey of photography.”

Winstead also mentioned that ASAP is in it for the long haul with its customers, even after they purchase a camera.

“Our goal is not only to help you acquire the gear you need but to never stop learning and growing with your photography, and that’s the reason we started offering the classes here,” Winstead said.

In-studio classes are \$59.99 with field sessions and photo walks having varied pricing. The Class Pass, which gives access to all of the classes for the year is \$129.99 plus tax. One hour personal training sessions are also available for \$75 per session with Class Pass members receiving 50% off of each session.

More information and registration on the photography classes, Class Passes, and personal training sessions can be found and purchased on ASAP Photo and Camera website at ASAP-Photo.com.

This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.



ADVERTISE WITH US!

THE Hook
ECU’s Student Interest Magazine

Sales deadline: February 6

The Hook is a full-color, lifestyle magazine that takes an in-depth look at topics, interests and activities of today’s ECU students. Reserve a spot in the spring edition to showcase your business!

	Dimensions	Price
Back Page	8.5 x 11 in	\$1,000
Premium	8.5 x 11 in	\$900
Full Page	8.5 x 11 in	\$650
Half Page	8.5 x 5.5 in	\$375
Quarter Page	4.25 x 5.5 in	\$250

Contact smas@ecu.edu for more information.



A volunteer at the 2019 World Read Aloud Day at Sheppard Memorial Library reads to children.

LITERACY continued from A1

to more than half a million words in a year; 20 minutes a day, they’ll be exposed to well over a million words.

“Reading aloud helps improve children’s vocabulary and language development, their imagination and sense of empathy, their love of reading, and overall achievement in school. Children who are read to are more likely to read themselves. If you want to raise a reader and strengthen family bonds, consider reading together each day,” Gehsmann Said.

The events will feature a broad range of guest readers from Greenville’s mayor, PJ Connelly, professors from ECU, Pitt County sheriffs, Miss Teen World Pitt County, Ellie Osborne, and many others.

Atkinson mentions that many ECU College of Education undergraduate students serving as interns Pitt County’s elementary schools will be attending in both events at Sheppard Memorial Children’s Library and Barnes and Noble.

“All ECU College of Education undergraduate students have been invited to attend this year’s two community celebrations... ECU students who are serving as interns in the Pitt County Schools will also be participating in school-based WRAD celebrations, such as the one at G.R. Whitfield (Elementary School) when Mayor P.J. Connelly will be a guest reader.” Atkinson said.

The readers will also bring a variety of children’s books ranging from “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus,” “The Rainbow Fish,” “Harry the Dirty Dog,” “Duck on a Bike” and many others.

The events are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend and buy books to support READ ENC in the fundraiser at Barnes and Noble. More information about World Read Aloud Day can be found on LitWorld website and on the World Read Aloud Day Facebook event page.



Kristin Gehsmann



Terry Atkinson

This writer can be contacted at arts@theeastcarolinian.com.