



The East Carolinian

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J. SCOTT PARK | TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICES

East Carolina University will work with the CDC to implement contact tracing in the fall in hopes to limit the spread of COVID-19.

University to trace cases

Pirates prepare to work with CDC to track COVID-19

George Martin
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University plans to implement contact tracing in the fall in an attempt to limit the spread of COVID-19 on the university's campus when students, faculty and staff members return.

The "Return of Pirate Nation" plan outlines the protocols for the fall semester during the pandemic and it said the university will employ the use of contact tracing, when possible, for every individual diagnosed with COVID-19. The plan said there will be a task force created which will be responsible for overlooking contact tracing and advising the university.

Peter Schmidt, the vice dean of ECU's Brody School of Medicine (BSOM) and senior associate vice chancellor for medical affairs at ECU, said in an email statement contact tracing is the identification of individuals who may have been in contact with other individuals who have contracted the virus.

"For the sake of contact tracing, we look specifically for 'close contact,' which the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has defined as being within 6 feet of a person for more than 15 minutes. Early in the pandemic, the CDC used 10 minutes to define contact tracing, but has extended the time.



Peter Schmidt

This reflects that it is quite rare for the disease to be spread in passing," Schmidt said, in an email statement. Contact tracing begins as soon as a case of the virus is identified, and it is only effective if the case is identified right away, according to Schmidt. He said he hopes everyone on campus will be vigilant about symptoms and will report for testing as soon as they experience changes in their health.

Schmidt said if it is found that a student or faculty member was in close contact with an individual

who has the virus, they will likely be alerted by text message.

"Depending on the level of contact, people may have to either go into quarantine, which is for people if their disease state is unknown, 'isolation' is when they are known to be infected, or to practice 'extreme social distancing,' where they will avoid all close contact situations and wear a mask almost all the time," Schmidt said.

Contact tracing is difficult, and it is estimated to take one day for an experienced contact tracer per an infected person to effectively trace, according to Schmidt.

Acting as if everyone you come into contact with has the virus is the safest strategy, Schmidt said. He said masks are shown to be an effective way of reducing the spread of the disease.

"The best data shows that COVID-19 is more deadly than malaria. In a typical year, drunk and distracted driving combined kill 43 people per million.

> TRACK page A2

Greek life to face new fall changes

Jennifer Sieg
TEC STAFF

As East Carolina University's fall 2020 semester faces change in academics, clubs and social gatherings, some students may notice a different Greek life experience as well.

Greek life Director John Mountz said there are over 30 fraternities and sororities affiliated with four different councils and each has its own individual recruitment process. He said all recruitment processes for the 2020-2021 school year will be impacted by COVID-19.

Mountz said Greek life will continue to work alongside all campus organizations and plans to operate according to the current university and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.

"For example, you know, the university is requiring that everybody that steps on campus wears a mask," Mountz said. "So one of the things we're going to be doing is making sure that our chapters do their best to adhere to those things as well."

Phase 2 of Governor Roy Cooper's Stay-at-Home order makes social gatherings difficult for all campus organizations, according to Mountz. He said all Greek life groups plan to move some or all processes to a virtual format, depending on what the guidelines are when that time comes.

Mountz said intake processes will depend on how many members participate in each group. He said if the member intake is anticipated to be five members, they can do that safely in-person, but if member intake is anticipated to be above recommended guidelines, they'll have to move that process to a virtual format.

The Panhellenic Association (PA) sorority recruitment will mostly be virtual, according to Mountz. He said the Interfraternity Council (IFC) plans to do the first portion of its recruitment virtual as well, but hopes to have some events in-person. More on the PA recruitment process can be found on its website.

"We have spent, our staff has spent, all summer long working with all of our councils to figure out multiple scenarios," Mountz said.

The primary focus of Greek life is to build connections with other people, according to Mountz. He said although virtual communication looks different than what most people are used to, it doesn't mean connecting is impossible.

Mountz said he's confident Greek life will adapt to circumstances and will work to figure out the best way to do things in the fall.

"You have to manage your numbers of people and you

> GREEK page A2

Online tour continues

First Friday Art Walk held for July

Macie Tano
TEC STAFF

Uptown Greenville hosted its virtual First Friday Art Walk July 3 for the month of July from 5 to 8 p.m., which was documented through Facebook.

The virtual event featured several artworks of different media forms from various artists. A few local art galleries participated in the event, such as Emerge Gallery and Fine Arts Center, The ArtLab and the Greenville Museum of Art (GMOA).

Sarah Lazure, the marketing and finance coordinator for Emerge, said the gallery hosted a virtual musical and mural exhibition for the First Friday Art Walk event, which premiered at 5 p.m. with a second showing at 7, with its content being posted to its Instagram and Facebook pages.

"Since First Friday Art Walks are still virtual for all of us in Greenville, we incorporated a visual exhibition with a musical performance. This continued our efforts to

give a platform to Black voices. The Murals exhibition is called 'Black Voices Matter' and the music performance is titled 'American Reflections, Is Time Really Standing Still,'" Lazure said.



Sarah Lazure

Although this event and the past First Friday Art Walk events during COVID-19 have been virtual, Lazure said Emerge has continued to see a decent amount of participation in its events. Lazure said Emerge's virtual exhibition featured a performance from several different musicians as part of their African American Music Series, as well as the murals on the outside of the gallery. She said Emerge continues to try to participate in as many arts and cultural events as possible.

"Just because we are not able to reopen yet, that doesn't mean that we are absent

> ART page A3



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

Former Pirate Chris Johnson struts in for score against the Miami Dolphins during time as a Titan.

Johnson finishes degree

Dylan Woolard
TEC STAFF

Former East Carolina University running back Chris Johnson returned to school at ECU this year to finish his degree after spending 10 years in the National Football League (NFL) and retiring in 2018.

Johnson shared the news of his grad-

uation with the world via post on his Instagram page July 1. The photo featured Johnson holding his cap with a caption that left a message for the younger student athletes who may be struggling with some of the woes of being a student athlete today.

"You know, going to school, I was once one of those younger guys looking

> ALUMNI page A6

ONLINE

»ARTS: Mark Griffin releases solo album

»SPORTS: MLB player pools name several ECU athletes

SOCIAL MEDIA

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BRIEFS

Umbrella Market will hold regular hours

Today, the Umbrella Market will open at Five Points Plaza at the corner of 5th and Evans Streets from 5 to 8 p.m. The market will offer pre-ordering options for customers that can be found on its website. More information on the Umbrella Market can be found on its Facebook page.

ECU BOT begins regular session

Tomorrow, East Carolina University's Board of Trustees will begin its regular session at 8:30 a.m. Thursday's meeting will include the Athletics and Advancement Committee at 9 a.m., University Affairs Committee at 10:15 a.m., Finance and Facilities Committee at 11:30 a.m. and the full board meeting at 3 p.m. The Chancellor Search Committee meeting has been postponed. More information on meeting times and links to live meeting feed can be found on ECU BOT's website.

Carpool Cinema plays SHAZAM!

Friday, Greenville Recreation and Parks department will host Carpool Cinema at Jaycee Park at 8:30 p.m. The movie SHAZAM! Will be the featured film for the evening. The movie will begin after sunset (8:30 p.m.) as soon as it is dark enough to display. Parking spots are limited and available by pre-registration of one person per vehicle on Greenville's website. Call 252-329-4567 for more information.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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



The Old Cafeteria Complex, located on main campus, houses advisors which include transfer counselors to provide resources needed by ECU students.

ECU provides transfer direction

Pirate Promise program gives opportunities to incoming students

Cayla Menges
TEC STAFF

East Carolina University continues to provide resources for its transfer students through the Office of Student Transitions and Undergraduate Admissions.

Assistant Vice Chancellor and Director for Admissions Stephanie Whaley said ECU averages around 1,860 transfer students a year with applications open in the fall, spring and summer semesters. ECU offers a unique program for prospective transfer students geared toward guaranteed admissions, according to Whaley.

Whaley said Pirate Promise is a program for students who attend one of the 36 Pirate Promise partner community colleges in North Carolina. Requirements for the program include completing an associate's degree and maintaining a cumulative 2.5 GPA, according to Whaley.

"Pirate Promise also gives the students additional perks and resources. For example the students in Pirate Promise get advising from ECU advisors while they're at the community college. The students can make sure they're taking courses at the community college that fit into whatever major they're planning to take at ECU," Whaley said.

ECU suggests community college students interested in the Pirate Promise program apply

six months to a year ahead of time, according to Whaley. She said students can purchase an ECU ID and take advantage of resources like the ECU Student Recreation Center (SRC), Joyner Library and athletic events.

Pitt Community College and Wake Technical Community College are two colleges which bring the most transfer students to ECU, according to Whaley. She said about one third of ECU transfer students partake in the distance education (DE) program.

Whaley said a good way for students to prepare for transfer is to develop good study habits and management skills.



Stephanie Whaley

"The courses they're taking at the community college are certainly going to prepare them for the courses they're going to take at ECU. So really just to build their skill set with those study habits and time management will help them when they come to ECU," Whaley said.

Transfer Counselor Sydney Luyster said she helps prospective and admitted transfer students navigate the transition to ECU. Luyster said she heads 15 North Carolina community

colleges to recruit students to ECU.

Prospective transfer students receive information on the application process and glimpses of what ECU has to offer, according to Luyster. She said transfer students have particular questions about ECU when it comes to dining, parking and academics.

Associate Director for the Office of Student Transitions Lathan Turner works as the coordinator of ECU's living and learning community, Quest. Turner said Quest provides leadership opportunities for growth and development among transfer students.

Transfer students accepted into the program will live together and attend a COAD class instructed by Turner himself. He said Quest accepts 30 students into its semester-long program each year.

In a traditional setting, transfer students do a lot of group activities together, according to Turner. He said due to COVID-19, he has to look at virtual alternative routes of activities.

"We'll be introducing them to a lot of different people to emphasize lots of areas of growth and development. So leadership, career planning and community service," Turner said.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

TRACK continued from A1

In eastern North Carolina, COVID-19 has already killed 120 people per million population. This is a serious illness," Schmidt said.

Interim Chancellor Ron Mitchelson said there will be other ways the university tries to remind the students of their health during the pandemic. This includes an app the university encourages students to use which will be a checklist of symptoms which are associated with the coronavirus.

Mitchelson said use of the app will not be mandatory, and no data from the app will be saved, it is just a way for students to be more aware of any symptoms they may have.

To help with contact tracing, Mitchelson said the importance of, and has considered, having an assigned seating chart for each class so students know who they are sitting near.

"At least with some level of confidence, we can say we know precisely, those that are within six feet for more than 15 minutes. These classes are



Ron Mitchelson

little longer now right, so I think there's a ring around that infected student who need to be notified, and they won't have a choice, there's an authority here," Mitchelson said.

There will be two deputized public health officers on campus, LaNika Wright and Paul Berry, who will both have authority to tell students to quarantine with legal binding. Any student who has tested positive will have to reveal any close contact they've had.

Frank Reid, a sophomore accounting major, said it is important that tracing is effective and he hopes students take the virus seriously when the fall semester begins.

"We are young and it's easy for younger people to just shrug off the dangers associated with the virus because it doesn't normally seriously affect younger people, but the chain reaction that can be caused by the spread of the coronavirus is something that people need to be reminded about," Reid said.

Updates on ECU's response to the coronavirus can be found on the university's coronavirus updates page.

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

GREEK continued from A1

need to take precautions in terms of social distancing, wearing a mask, keeping distance, having hand sanitizer and things," Mountz said. "These are all things that our groups are having conversations about right now."

Senior finance major and Vice President of Chi Phi Fraternity Kyler Bowen said the fraternity will follow IFC's guidelines for social gatherings and events. He said this includes the usual six feet distance, limitations on the number of people at an event and wearing masks.

Bowen said Chi Phi will continue to look for people to share the next three to four years with, regardless of the given circumstances. He said the virtual aspect of things will not take away from the relationships that are built between members.

"I think people will still try to get involved with fraternities and sororities because they'll still have the rest of their college career to be involved even though this first year might be a little bit different than what they expected or what usually happens," Bowen said.

Senior industrial distribution and logistics major Nathan Brewer is a member of Chi Phi fraternity at ECU. He said in an email statement he is in charge of the fraternity's social media accounts and newsletters, and he additionally tries to help with other positions

within the chapter as well.

The fraternity will do its best to host fundraisers and events in compliance with the guidelines Greenville and ECU release, according to Brewer. He said in his statement recent changes and a shortened calendar makes it hard to distinguish what he looks forward to most.

"Honestly, this fall semester still has a lot of unpredictability so we aren't exactly sure how it's going to work," Brewer said.

Senior marketing major and Chapter President of Phi Mu sorority Sarah Justinson said she expects a lot of the chapter meetings to be virtual and have some sort of smaller group fundraising.

She and other chapter presidents, leaders and members will plan for every scenario possible, according to Justinson. She said she looks forward to meeting new people during recruitment every year regardless of this fall being virtual.

"I think going Greek is such a great opportunity to meet new people," Justinson said.

Justinson said she encourages students to still become involved in Greek life, even given uncertainty with coronavirus circumstances. She said it is still a great way to make connections while following appropriate health safety guidelines.

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

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Closed Monday
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The front of Sheppard Memorial Library, located at 530 Evans St., which is one of the community partners the EC Scholars will donate books to.

Fundraiser held for BLM

EC Scholars plans to donate books to community

Yasmine Curmon-Ward
TEC STAFF

The East Carolina University EC Scholars program, a program within the Honors College, organized a fundraiser titled “Books that Embrace Race,” which began June 30 and lasts until the end of July to donate to its community partners.

Tiana Washington, an EC Scholar and senior neuroscience major, said as a Black woman herself, growing up she did not see many characters in books as children of color or children with a disability.

EC Scholars wanted to show support to the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, but as a group they did not want to just post something on their social media, according to Washington. She said they wanted to come up with a way to show support and make an impact.

“Children growing up and reading books where they specifically say this person is a person of color or just talks about race opens up the avenue to have positive representation early on to see yourself as more than a stereotype; to see yourself as that doctor, teacher, that superhero,” Washington said.

Victoria Chan, an EC Scholar and senior public health and psychology double major, said it is important for children to see themselves as the main character and the hero in a story.

“I think that children’s books are a great way to invite conversations about race and how it plays into our development and our identity as children growing up in America,” Chan said.

The goal for the fundraiser is to raise \$5,000 to buy books to donate to the children of EC Scholars community partners, according to Chan. The partners include the Boys and Girls Club of the Coastal Plain, Little Free Libraries in the Greenville area and The ECU Community School.

Some of the books take a more direct approach to the topic of racism, according to Chan.

“Like ‘A Kid’s Book About Racism’ some of these are more direct to initiating conversations about racism in America, but there are definitely a lot of other ones that are a little bit easier to start the conversation,” Chan said.

Chan said there are over 100 books on the list right now that the EC Scholars want to donate to children that range from a preschool to a twelfth grade reading level.

“When they see books that represent kids that look like them with cultures that align with their

culture they can get really excited and come out of their shell and develop their own personality as well as their own creativity at the same time,” Chan said.

Naimi Pothiwala, an EC Scholar and junior public health major, said the Honors College Roundtable chose to start the fundraiser to expose children to books that discuss race and that celebrates diversity to improve race relations in Pitt County.

Pothiwala said people can share their support by spreading the word about the fundraiser on social media or to family and friends. She said it is important to expose children in your own family to literature and entertainment that introduces them to diverse representations.

“Give them a more accurate representation of the diverse world we live in through the books they are exposed to,” Pothiwala said.

The Honors College will continue to work together in other ways to discuss race relations issues and to make an impact in the community, Pothiwala said. She said they will start a book club on July 9 on “The New Jim Crow.”

More information on the fundraiser can be found on the fundraiser’s GoFundMe page.

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



Victoria Chan

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ART continued from A1

from the arts community. Part of our mission is to provide arts education and artistic opportunities to Pitt County. By participating in the art walk and many other virtual activities, we are continuing to promote the artists of our arts community and provide cultural content to our residents,” Lazure said.

BJ Smith, an artist in residence at The ArtLab, said in an email statement that the gallery put together an exhibition for the First Friday Art Walk titled “The Walk by Exhibition.”

Smith said The ArtLab appreciates the chance to participate in the First Friday Art Walks as it has been closed since April. He said The ArtLab has participated in the First Friday Art Walk series for around a year and a half now.

“We typically use these Art Walk events as openings for our new exhibitions. Each event has its own personality where visitors can enjoy refreshments while enjoying the artwork, live music, and exploring our open studios. These virtual Art Walks give us the opportunity to share art with our community while doing what we need to do to keep our artists and patrons safe,” Smith said.

The ArtLab’s exhibition featured artwork from Smith and two other artists, Liz Steiner and Jacinda Aytch at The ArtLab, according to Smith. The exhibition featured a variety of mediums, such as jewelry, hand cut paper portraits, digital prints and woodwork.

Smith said The ArtLab chose to be a part of the First Friday Art Walk series because of Greenville’s growing arts scene. He said he believes the series is a great way for the community to see the art from local artists and artists from around the country.

“I think many people would be blown away by the art that they can enjoy from local galleries and the Greenville Museum of Art. Not just local artists, but from all over the country. It’s also the easiest way to support local art businesses. Even a little heart emoji goes a long way by letting us know you appreciate what we do,” Smith said.

Trista Reis Porter, the executive director for the GMOA, said the museum participated in the virtual event by sharing pictures and videos of its exhibit on social media, titled “Freeman Vines Hanging Guitars.”

Porter said the museum staff showed a small portion of the exhibit and hopes when the museum can open to the public, people can come see the rest of the exhibit that wasn’t shown in the virtual tour.



BJ Smith



Community members at an exhibition at The ArtLab.

“Freeman Vines Hanging Tree Guitars’ is a combination of handmade guitars by Freeman Vines. He is an artist from the Farmville (North Carolina) area and originally from Fountain, North Carolina. He basically taught himself how to make these handcrafted guitars,” Porter said. “Some of them (the guitars) are more traditional, like electric guitars, and some of them have like faces or animals or different designs carved into them.”

The museum showed photography by Tim Duffy, a photographer and one of the founders of Music Maker Relief Foundation. Music Maker Relief Foundation is a nonprofit organization in Hillsborough, North Carolina, which the GMOA partnered with for the exhibition, Porter said. The black and white photos showed Vines working on his art in his studio and around his home.

Porter said artwork was shared live on the gallery’s Instagram and Facebook stories, and then videos and pictures were posted after for those who missed the live showing.

“It (the virtual art walk) allows us to still provide content for the community, even though we’re not really sure when we will be able to open again. It’s the main way that we’re able to provide art for our community, even while we’re not able to have people here physically. The fact that we’re able to give a video tour is certainly helpful during these times,” Porter said.

More information on Emerge Gallery and Fine Arts Center, The ArtLab and the GMOA can be found on its Instagram and Facebook accounts. More information on the First Friday Art Walk series can be found on its Facebook page or Uptown Greenville’s website.

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

OUR VIEW

ECU should be cautious in fall 2020

East Carolina University announced on June 22 that it plans to have students and faculty members return to campus for face-to-face instruction in the fall. This plan, "The Return of Pirate Nation," included a number of new protocols students and faculty members will have to follow. This includes face coverings being required while on campus and at face-to-face meetings, social distancing and daily health screenings.

We, the editorial staff of The East Carolinian, believe that while ECU will continue to take great measures to ensure students and faculty members will be safe when they return in a month, the school should be cautious in letting people on campus for face-to-face instruction.

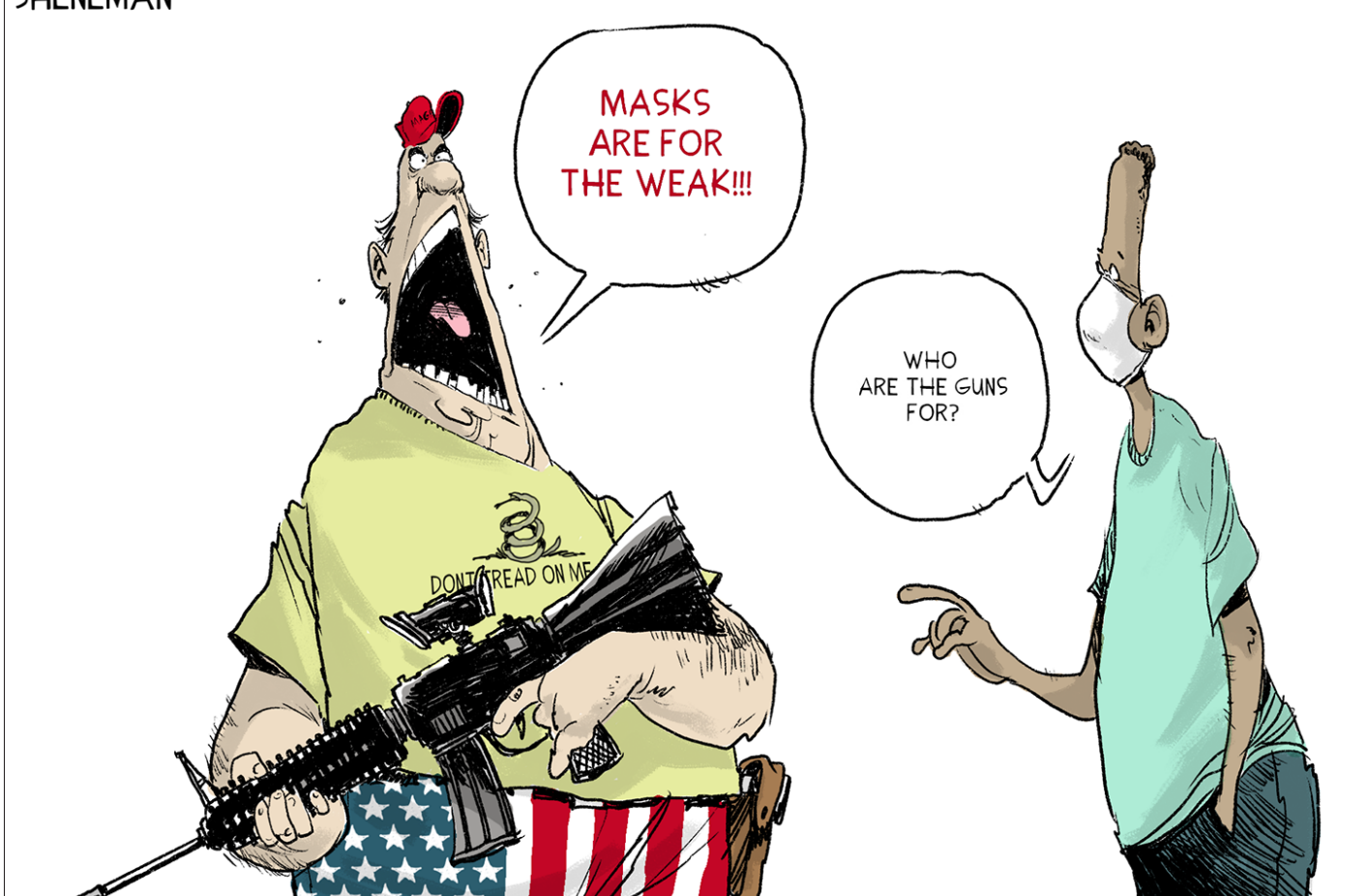
ECU professors have until this Friday to come up with their final decision on whether they will hold their classes in-person or online. ECU also has a block scheduling system in place that limits the number of students on campus at one time.

Following the release of the fall semester plan, ECU also released specific plans for faculty members and students. This includes daily health screenings, where students and staff members complete an assessment on possible COVID-19 symptoms. There is also a self-reporting system in place on PiratePort where students and staff can report a positive case. This will be used to notify students' instructors for attendance measures.

Since the release of the plan for the coming semester, many people have raised some concerns about allowing everyone back on campus. Interim Chancellor Ron Mitchelson addressed some of these concerns during two virtual town hall meetings, where he assured the Pirate community that the right measures will be taken for students and staff who are diagnosed with COVID-19.

The number of positive COVID-19 cases in North Carolina continues to rise each day. While ECU's protocols can benefit students and faculty members to stay healthy, it does not guarantee that they won't be exposed to the virus. If students and faculty are exposed to the virus, ECU must be prepared for backup plans to reduce the spread on its campus.

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEDGER



Researchers' voices are needed

Ethnographers must use platforms to share unheard stories



Kayla Evans
GUEST COLUMNIST

Sitting in the temporary town hall offices of Princeville, North Carolina, a small town located less than an hour from my home, I am tasked with conducting an oral history interview, focused on the catastrophic flooding caused by hurricanes Floyd (1999) and Matthew (2016). For many who have heard of Princeville, it was the national attention brought on by the flooding in 1999 which introduced them to the rural, river-side town.

As I am being told these personal accounts of homes and belongings being swept away in the rising floodwaters, their words are somehow still laced with hope and resilience, a keyword for social scientists like myself. My focus is on resiliency in Princeville, and what the locals believe would lead to a stronger, more storm-ready town. All the while, I am being introduced for the first time, to a larger, deep-rooted story of history and pride.

What many do not know, including North Carolina life-long residents like myself, is that Princeville is the oldest town chartered by freed Blacks in America. In 1885, this historic place which was once called Freedom Hill was renamed after Turner Prince, a carpenter who built most of the original town. This town

was built on land that locals say no one else wanted, but they made it their own.

This is a lesson in history that I, and many others, were never taught. The people of Princeville do not shy away from this injustice and lack of representation; instead, they embrace the need for change and encourage its importance.

As an outsider looking in, one of the most obvious questions I have is how these people stay in an area that has flooded and will flood again? Why do they put themselves and their property in such danger just to stay in the town they grew up in? Why not embrace one of the town resilience options of moving to a nearby 53 acres which is less likely to flood? Why stay in a place where they have experienced loss and trauma due to "storms of the century?"

Growing up in coastal North Carolina myself, I assumed that I would have the insight needed to understand, to fully comprehend and be able to reason with their answers. How naïve of me. In the quest to understand how they stay or the ways that they think the town should build itself back with more resilience, I have completely looked past the why, which is by far the most important part.

As many of our respondents explain, their ties to Princeville are not recent, they are ancestral. The brave Black men and women who came together to form a town of their own, a place of their own. Those before them who took the land that no one wanted, and

endured storms, flooding, and challenges that I will never really understand. How could anyone who has such a tie to those grounds simply leave?

It was then that the realization hit: sometimes researchers are so focused on the questions they are hoping to answer, they miss the most important information. As an ethnographer using oral life histories, there is a unique opportunity to collect qualitative data directly from those who were and continue to be most impacted by the floods. Giving those who have never been given a platform an opportunity with which they can use their own words and phrases to tell the story of not just what resilience might be in Princeville, but the real reason why.

If there's one thing that I have learned while working on this project, it is that it is my responsibility as someone with the privilege of having a platform for my voice to help those who do not. Helping tell stories like these – stories that many have never heard – is an important contribution an ethnographer can and must make to people and communities. We must use the platforms of our research to not just answer our questions, but to share with it the voice of those whose stories have never been told.

Evans is a graduate student majoring in anthropology and a guest columnist. To contact her, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

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Negligence during COVID-19 is harmful

Gillespie's Gripes



Brendan Gillespie
TEC COLUMNIST

Today's coronavirus pandemic is unlike any that has been seen since the Spanish Flu outbreak of 1918, a virus that infected approximately 500 million people and killed 50 million people worldwide as reported by The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) past pandemics page. COVID-19 continues to prove to be one of the most widespread diseases in world history and should be taken seriously.

Over 11 million people worldwide have contracted coronavirus and about 535,181 have died from the virus according to the World Health Organization as of July 7. Something of this magnitude deserves to be taken seriously by everyone.

I've seen firsthand how dangerous it can be for a person to interact with other people, and go out in public without a mask and without adhering to social distancing protocols. CDC's social distancing recommendations are designed to keep the public safe and to also reduce the spread of COVID-19. When just one person goes against that, they can put many at risk.

Someone I know did exactly this. They went shopping for groceries and visited with as many friends as they wanted to and as a result, unknowingly put me and others at risk. Several days after they had gone home, I learned that they had come into contact with someone who now had coronavirus. Lucky for me, I had been within six feet of her the exact

“You will not be the only one wearing a mask, and more importantly you will be preventing the spread of a virus that has already taken so many lives in this country and around the world.”

same day they hung out with that person.

Soon after, they too discovered that they had the coronavirus. I immediately began to panic. With how careful I was throughout this crisis I could not imagine that after all that, somebody I knew was going to give me the virus because of their carelessness.

While I was nervous about missing work and quarantining, my girlfriend was in a much more dire situation. Paying her way through college, she needs a job in order to afford rent, car payments, food and other amenities. If she ended up contracting the coronavirus and had to take time off of work, she was going to end up homeless. She would likely lose her nannying job and have no hope to be able to continue to live and go to school at ECU.

I avoided going home for Father's Day and isolated myself so that I could be sure no one else contracted the virus if I had it. If someone else wasn't going to care about the safety of others, I had to be sure that I did.

This story has a happy ending. After being tested and waiting almost a week for results, my girlfriend, all of my friends and I that came into contact with that person tested negative. While this was a really close call, I think it

puts into perspective how many people can be affected by just one person getting the virus.

A plea to all those reading this column. Please don't think of how inconvenient it would be to wear a mask or how uncomfortable it might be on your face or even how you may look with one on. Trust me, other people are wearing it. You will not be the only one wearing a mask, and more importantly you will be preventing the spread of a virus that has already taken so many lives in this country and around the world. We cannot afford to continue to be negligent with our actions.

There have been 75,875 laboratory confirmed cases out of 1,071,290 completed tests as of July 7 according to The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. These are just the reported cases, and I can only imagine how much higher that number could be if more people continue to ignore North Carolina's statewide requirement for face coverings.

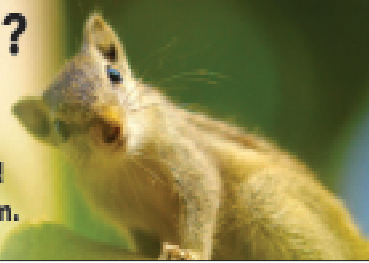
Gillespie is a senior majoring in communication and a TEC columnist. To contact him, email opinion@theeastcarolinian.com.

ONLINE | FULL STORY

CLASSIFIEDS

Did someone say FREE?

Looking for a roommate or a sublease?
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ECU students can submit a classified for **FREE!**
Contact smaa@ecu.edu for more information.



HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is a 6 — Lay low. It's easy to trip on words and actions. Observe developments. Edit your response. Adjust plans. Review priorities. Avoid travel, controversy and gossip. Keep promises.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Build secure financial foundations, despite uncertainty. Work could interfere with playtime. Exercise restraint, especially with spending. Focus on basic necessities. Creative work pays well.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 7 — You can overcome a domestic irritation. Avoid sharp words, actions and corners. Consider costs and consequences before making a change. Obsess on details.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 7 — Consider what you want to say and refine the message before issuing a group statement. Disagreements can spark easily. Patiently polish. Get feedback and adjust.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Navigate challenging times with your partner by providing support and keeping quiet. Avoid controversy, rumors and risk. Arguments spark easily; patience pays off.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 9 — Avoid miscommunications. Puzzles and intellectual challenges satisfy your curiosity. Edit and refine rather than publishing. The possibility of disagreement is high. Review options.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is an 8 — Professional challenges take focus. Words and action could seem at cross purposes. Keep your head down, and focus on the job at hand.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 7 — Prioritize health and wellness. Exercise clears your head and builds energy. Slow to avoid accidents. Actions and words can backfire today. Keep it cool.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is a 9 — Aim for peaceful productivity. Keep your focus practical. Avoid controversy or rumors. With obstacles, wait for conditions to clear. Patience and silence are golden.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 — You're yearning to go explore. Encounter new dangers. Expect barriers to traffic, shipments and travel. Words get easily twisted. Study a secret system.

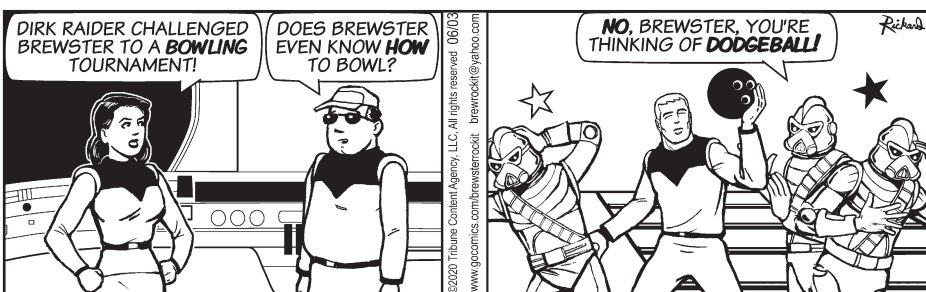
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — Barriers confront your romantic plans. Tempers may be short. Relax and lower your own expectations. Cultivate patience for greater peace. Focus on love.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — Don't get stopped by past failures; they show you what didn't work. That's valuable. Adjust your sights. Don't be hasty. Pamper yourself and make personal plans.

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COMICS

BREWSTER ROCKIT



BLISS

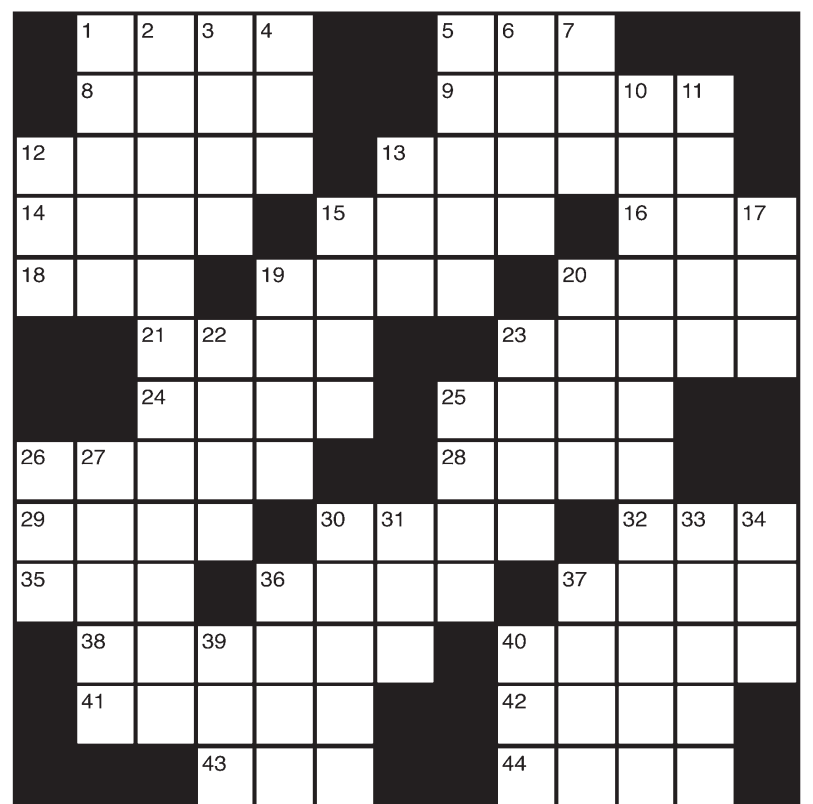


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CROSSWORD

THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS

- O'Neal or Seacrest
- "Manchester by the ___"; Casey Affleck film
- Sharpen
- Bart's mom
- Anson ___; actor on "Inhumans"
- Those who get just their feet wet
- Poet ___ St. Vincent Millay
- His and ___; like matching items for Dad & Mom
- Letter from Greece
- Henpeck
- "Mr. Candid Camera"
- John of "Touched by an Angel" and his family
- Laurel or Musial
- David ___; role on "Criminal Minds"
- ___ to Hart
- Judy Garland's eldest child
- "A League of ___ Own"; Tom Hanks film
- Sherman Hemsley sitcom
- Ferrell or Smith
- Skillet
- Rebecca's husband on "Return to Amish"

DOWN

- Valerie Harper role
- Series for Iain Armitage
- Actress Faris
- Butterfly catcher's need
- "Get ___"
- Actor George ___
- "Car 54, Where ___ You?"
- Medical drama series
- Actor Rob
- "___ Behaving Badly"
- Ming-Na ___
- Actress Helen
- "___ walked out in the streets of Laredo..."
- Jamie of "M*A*S*H"
- Drift off
- "An American ___"; film about Fievel
- Curved edges
- "Promised ___"; Gerald McRaney series
- "___ and a Half Men"
- "Beverly ___, 90210"
- Sat for an artist
- Carney or Linkletter
- Helpful lift
- Napoleon or Hirohito: abbr.
- Nolan Gould's role on "Modern Family"
- Woody Guthrie's boy
- Felix or Garfield
- Monogram for singer Tennessee

Solution from 7/1

M	A	C	A	L	A	N	S	D	A	N	
E	V	A	R	E	N	A	L	A	T	E	
N	A	T	N	A	N	N	Y	T	E	D	
U	N	C	L	E	A	L	I	A	S		
T	H	E	S	I	M	P	S	O	N	S	
I	S	S	I	S	S	I	S	S	A	G	E
A	S	K	N	I	C	K	S				
T	H	E	B	A	C	H	E	L	O	R	
S	H	I	N	E	L	Y	R	E	S		
T	A	L	A	C	H	E	S	D	E	E	
A	L	L	R	H	O	D	E	E	S	E	
R	F	D	S	I	S	S	Y	R	E	D	

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SUDOKU

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

3		6	9	8		7	1	2
				7				
1				3		8		
	9							
4		2	1			7		
					5			
	3		7					6
			8					
7	8		1	5	9		3	

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, please visit sudoku.org.uk

Solution from 7/1

5	4	2	1	9	6	3	7	8
3	6	7	5	4	8	1	2	9
8	9	1	3	2	7	5	6	4
2	5	6	9	3	4	8	1	7
4	1	8	2	7	5	6	9	3
9	7	3	6	8	1	4	5	2
6	8	4	7	1	9	2	3	5
7	2	5	4	6	3	9	8	1
1	3	9	8	5	2	7	4	6

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» ANALYSIS

ECU will dominate USF and GSU

Pirates will go on the road, win games five and six behind stout offense



Dylan Woolard
TEC STAFF

After a home-heavy first four games to start the 2020 season, the East Carolina University football team will take back-to-back road trips to visit Georgia State University and the University of South Florida in weeks five and six of competition.

The Pirates' final out of conference contest is set for week five against Georgia State, but before going on the road, the Pirates will face off against the University of Central Florida in a Thursday night matchup against the Knights. This does of course mean a couple of extra days rest for the Pirates, while the Panthers will be dealing with a more typical Saturday kickoff that just so happens to be on the road.

Statistically, the Panthers come across as an average team, having allowed opponents to score more points per game and total points than them last season, but they do play in the Sun Belt Conference which may skew their stats. The Sun Belt, like the American Athletic Conference (AAC) which ECU currently resides in, are both Group of Five conferences, but are perhaps two of the stronger and more challenging Group of Five conferences to play in.

While the Mid-American Conference and the Mountain West Conference can at times feature the top group of five team or teams in college football, the AAC and Sun Belt has typically offered a level of consistency throughout each other's leagues that isn't present elsewhere. Georgia State did finish with a winning record at 7-6 (4-4) and with an impressive win over the University of Tennessee in week one, but in losses the Panthers were gashed on the ground.

Three losses in particular highlight the Panthers' inefficiencies on defense: week three loss to Western Michigan University, week



COURTESY OF ECUPIRATES.COM

ECU wide receiver CJ Johnson takes on a Bulls defender in last season's matchup with USF.

11 loss to Georgia Southern University and their bowl game loss to Wyoming University in the Nova Home Loans Arizona Bowl. In all three losses the Panthers allowed near or well beyond 300 yards rushing.

Western Michigan ran for a total of 490 yards, Wyoming totaled 290, but perhaps the most troubling was Georgia Southern's 279 yards on the ground as they failed to reach 100 yards passing against the Panthers. No reason for the Panthers defense to allow near 300 yards on the ground if the opposing offense can't, and in Georgia Southern's case that day refuses to throw the ball. Stack the box and hold on tight, it's not rocket science.

The Pirates will have no issue taking advantage of a poor run defense from the Panthers as the combination of powerful runners like junior running back Darrius Pinnix Jr. and junior quarterback Holton Ahlers will easily tally more than 100 yards on the ground. The deadly strike of any

Pirate offense, however, almost always comes through the air and with an easy day of running against Georgia State, Ahlers will have no issue stretching the field as well.

The extra rest combined with what appears to be an easy week on offense should allow the Pirates to get a nice road win against a solid non-conference opponent.

Following the trip down south to Georgia State, the Pirates will take a trip even further south to see conference foe South Florida in week six. ECU has just one win in seven meetings with the Bulls. In last season's 45-20 loss, the Pirates had several chances to make it a fair game, but chose to go 6-14 on third down conversions, failed to score three of the six times they entered the red zone and gave up big runs all night from USF's backs.

The Pirates did not play up to par on offense, sure, but allowing three backs to average more than 10 yards per carry will pretty much always result in a loss. USF also totaled

347 yards and that's painful too, but they should have to do that on 60 or more attempts, not the 40 that it took them to get there.

Fortunately for ECU, the three backs on the Bulls roster that ran all over Bagwell Field last season have been shaken up just a bit. Expect sophomore Jordan McCloud to return as the Bulls quarterback where he will likely do damage mostly on the ground, but now as a sophomore could show improvement throwing the ball. The leading rusher from last season's matchup, running back Jordan Cronkrite, has graduated and will fortunately be no threat to the Pirates.

The last home run-hitting back from that night is still with the Bulls, but is now listed as a wide receiver and wasn't listed as a running back on last season's roster anyway. Sophomore Jah'Quez Evans was listed as a quarterback last season, but only threw one pass for two yards against the Pirates whereas he ran six times and even scored on the ground.

The mix up in the backfield may very well play to the Pirates' advantage when they meet up this season. South Florida also has a new head coach in town after deciding to let former head coach Charlie Strong go after three seasons. Jeff Scott, the former co-offensive coordinator at Clemson will take over for the Bulls this season.

Scott has yet to prove anything as a head coach as he's never been one at the collegiate level. To expect anything out of him or his staff is optimism at its peak. Scott's offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach isn't even 30-year-old yet. That said, Charlie Weis Jr. is the son of former offensive coordinator under Bill Belichick and most recently University of Kansas head coach Charlie Weis. The Pirates will take advantage of an inexperienced staff.

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

ONLINE | FULL STORY

THE ECU SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION BELIEVES:

BLACK LIVES MATTER
LOVE IS LOVE
WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS
NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL
SCIENCE IS REAL
KINDNESS IS EVERYTHING

ALUMNI continued from A1

at it the same way," Johnson said. "I knew I wanted to go to school and I knew I wanted to go pro. That was my main objective, was to go to college, play football and make it to the pros and I did that. After doing that and playing in the league for 10 years and then retiring and looking at the next step in life, I didn't understand it as a young kid."

A portion of Johnson's message in his post reads, "If they're going to use you for your talent, you use them for their education!!!!" An education that in some cases is paid for by the university in question, but many in the sports world today argue that playing sports for a university and the money that schools make from student-athletes and their efforts on the field warrants a greater payout. Johnson doesn't disagree, but also said an education is invaluable.

"If I could go back and do it again, I would take the school part of it, the education part of it way more serious than I did," Johnson said.

Jokingly, Johnson mentioned the short lifespan of a National Football League (NFL) player's career saying that NFL stands for "Not For Long." As it stands today, the average span of an NFL player's career is about 3.3 years.

Regardless of the short career of the average player, Johnson still managed to score well beyond that mark and said he is forever grateful to his time playing football and all the things it has afforded him to do. The Tennessee Titans drafted Johnson as the 24 overall selection in the 2008 draft. The first round selection earned him a five year, \$12.1 million deal.

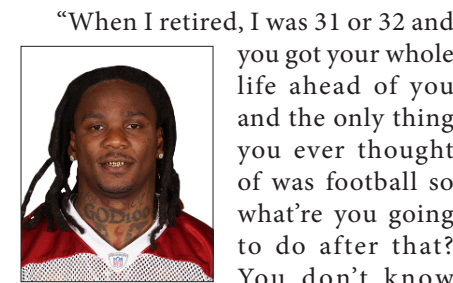
Johnson was quick to impress for the Titans as he shot out of the gate with three straight Pro Bowl selections in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

His sophomore campaign in 2009 was perhaps his best as he was also selected as the Associated Press Offensive Player of the Year and was first team All-Pro as well. Johnson rushed for 2,006 total yards and led the league in the category by just under 600 yards. The 2,000 yard season in 2009 placed Chris Johnson in elite company as one of seven players ever to have rushed for 2,000 yards in a single season.

"I played 10 years and not to take anything away from it, I did everything I wanted to do," Johnson said. "Broke

all the type(s) of records, made millions...of dollars, but what people have to understand is you train and play football from when you're young and you get into college and most people are done playing football in two or three years. You're lucky to play six years, what are you going to do when football is done?"

Johnson said he wants current players to stress the next step and to worry more about things that may come to them after football is over.



Chris Johnson

"When I retired, I was 31 or 32 and you got your whole life ahead of you and the only thing you ever thought of was football so what're you going to do after that? You don't know because the only thing you ever thought of or put your effort into was football," Johnson said.

Oftentimes when players come back and are able to finish the degree they started there are a number of people behind the scenes that have influenced them in making that decision and helped them through the process. For Johnson, this person was his advisor.

"I got to give so much credit," Johnson said. "None of this would have happened without my advisor from when I was in school, Margaret Clayton. I saw her at a game and she was always like 'we got to finish, we got to get your degree' and I was always like 'I'm going to do it,' but I knew I was never going to do it, I was just saying that."

Clayton's pestering of Johnson to finish his degree is ultimately what changed his tune and brought him back to ECU.

Johnson completed his communication degree and said he plans on using his background in sports to vault himself into the world of broadcasting as part of his next chapter in life. Johnson said what he learned after returning to school will help him in his current position as a businessman and entrepreneur.

The Pirate football hall of fame and now ECU alumnus has records on the gridiron and now a diploma to his name.

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