

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	ALMANAC
					Yesterday's High 67 Yesterday's Low 47 Record High 85 in 1991 Record Low 24 in 1956
Cloudy Precip Chance: 15%	Few Showers Precip Chance: 30%	Mostly Cloudy Precip Chance: 20%	Isolated T-storms Precip Chance: 35%	Partly Cloudy Precip Chance: 20%	SUN & MOON Sunrise 7:15 a.m. Sunset 7:30 p.m.
65° 51°	69° 54°	76° 61°	79° 54°	74° 55°	Full 3/28 Last 4/4 New 4/11 First 4/20

GOOD MORNING The Sanford Herald appreciates all of its readers. Today, we'd like to thank Charles Cameron of Sanford for subscribing.

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Death of man found near car being called a homicide



Submitted Photo

The body of Raekwon DeVante Quick was found in a ditch on Broadway Road beside his Honda Civic. The death has been ruled a homicide.

BY NANCY MCCLEARY

NMCCLEARY@SANFORDHERALD.COM

The death of a man found beside his car on Broadway Road on Friday is being investigated as a homicide, according to the Lee County Sheriff's Office.

A medical examiner determined that Raekwon DeVante Quick, 25, of Love Grove Church Road,

Broadway, died from multiple gunshot wounds, a sheriff's office release said.

A passing motorist discovered Quick's body in a ditch at 7:23 a.m., the release said. He was beside his 2015 gray Honda Civic.

Anyone with information about where Quick was on Thursday, who he was with or who many

seen someone around the Civic that night or Friday morning, is asked to call the Sheriff's Office at 919-775-5531 or the Detective Division at 919-775-4563.

Anonymous tips can be made by calling the Tip Line at 919-718-4577.

A reward is offered for information, Capt. Jeff Johnson said Monday.

Women in government: Running the home and the board room

BY JASMINE GALLUP

JGALLUP@SANFORDHERALD.COM

Lee County broke barriers last year when two women were elected to the Board of Education, giving the board a female majority.

This year marks only the fourth time since 1995 that four women have sat on the board. The local election results are a sign of increasing female representation across all levels of government, as more women were also elected to state and federal offices.

In recent years, the number of women running for and elected to public office has skyrocketed. More than 470 women ran for the U.S. House in the 2018 election, up from the previous high of 299, according to the Center for American Women and Politics. That record was again broken last year when 585 women ran for the U.S. House, a 22.5% increase.

Female representatives still make up less than 50% of most governing bod-



Jasmine Gallup | The Sanford Herald

The four women who currently sit on the Lee County Board of Education stand in their meeting room at Lee County High School on Monday. From left: Christine Hilliard, Sherry Womack, Sandra Bowen and Pam Sutton.

ies, but the numbers are increasing, according to the center. This year, a record number of women — 2,277 or 30.8% — are serving in state legislatures as a result

of the 2020 election.

In Lee County, six women currently serve at the highest levels of local government. On the board of education, those women

are Chairwoman Sandra Bowen, Vice-Chair Christine Hilliard and members Sherry Womack and Pam Sutton.

SEE WOMEN/PAGE A5

Sanford man allegedly caught with crystal meth

BY MARK ROGERS

MROGERS@SANFORDHERALD.COM

A Sanford man was jailed Monday after being caught with eight pounds of crystal methamphetamine worth more than \$300,000 during a traffic stop.



Javier Pelagio

Sanford Police Department Maj. Vincent Frazer said officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle driven by Javier Pelagio, 26, of 120 McGill St. in Sanford and discovered the meth. Frazer said officers stopped the vehicle on Harvey Faulk Road near N.C. 87.

SEE METH/PAGE A4

Elderly man missing from home safely returned

BY THE SANFORD HERALD

A 91-year-old man who wandered away from his Edwards Road home Thursday was later found safe, according to Lee County Sheriff Tracy Carter.

The man, who was not identified, was reported missing in a heavily wooded area near Black's Chapel Road, Carter said in a post on his Facebook page.

It is believed he became disoriented and got lost.

One the sheriff's office was notified, patrol deputies and a K-9 team responded and hastily formed a search party, Carter said.

SEE MISSING/PAGE A4

COVID-19 cases steady, vaccines for teens start

BY JASMINE GALLUP

JGALLUP@SANFORDHERALD.COM

New cases of COVID-19 are still appearing in Lee County, but numbers have stabilized over the past month, with 46 new cases reported since last week, according to the Lee County Health Department.

Weekly increases since the beginning of March have all been around 40 cases, according to the health department.

This week's increase brings the total to 5,595 Lee County residents who have tested positive for COVID-19 since the pandemic began.

The county's rate of positive

tests is hovering around 4%, having increased from 3.4% last week to 4.2% this week. That's lower than the state's 5.8% positivity rate. The county rate has dropped significantly since January, when it was around 10-12% following the winter holidays.

As the number of new cases remains steady, no new deaths have been reported. The total remains 73, with the last deaths reported Feb. 26.

The Lee County Health Department opened registration for the Pfizer vaccine to people age 16 or older Monday. Until this week, the department was only vacci-

nating those 18 and older. The change has no impact on the age guidelines for the Moderna vaccine, according to a news release.

Vaccine registration remains open to people in groups 1-4 of the state's phased rollout plan. Generally, those are health care workers, staff and residents of elder care facilities, people 65 or older, people with pre-existing medical conditions and essential workers.

Group 4 makes more essential workers eligible for the vaccine, including people who work in chemical plants, hotels, retail stores, informa-

tion technology, national security, energy, financial services, hazardous materials, hygiene services, public works, real estate and water.

To register in Lee County, call 919-842-5744 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. To register in Spanish, call 919-718-4640 option 8.

Visit leecountync.gov/covid19 to preregister online. People who preregister online should expect a phone call from county staff within five days to complete the registration process.

Visit findmygroup.nc.gov to find out if you are eligible for the vaccine.

OBITUARIES

SANFORD: Cleveland Palmer, 69; David Lee Oldham, 73; Helen Tickle Wester, 72
BROADWAY: Beth Wilson Womack, 79

LILLINGTON: Vickie Lee Yunker, 65
BEAR CREEK: Martha "Lois" Smith Phillips, 89

PAGE A2-3

WHAT'S INSIDE

Dear Abby A7
Classifieds A8-9
Comics A8
Crossword A7
Horoscope A7
Stocks A3

