



THE BULL



Issue 8

August 2023

BACK 2 SCHOOL TIME

The 1st Day of school is

Monday, August 28th 2023

Inside this issue:

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- Early Voting and the need for ID
- Vote for Change with Charlene Henderson
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- Back to School Pep Rally and Bookbag Giveaway
- ART - is - ME Event
- Back in Stride Sneaker Ball
- Expungement Clinic
- Genesis Project services

The Upstate New York Poison Center will mark Monday, Aug. 21, Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day, by sounding the alarm on fentanyl.

"Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid. It poses a significant national health issue, contributing to a concerning rise in opioid-related deaths nationwide," says Jeanna Marraffa, PharmD, clinical director of the Upstate New York Poison Center, "Similarly, our poison center based in Syracuse has observed an increase in poison-related calls involving fentanyl and its derivatives. We recognize the urgent need for proactive measures to combat this epidemic."

[According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), fentanyl is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in the U.S. There are two types of fentanyl: pharmaceutical fentanyl and illegally made fentanyl. Both are considered synthetic opioids. Pharmaceutical fentanyl is prescribed by doctors to treat severe pain. However, most recent cases of fentanyl-related overdoses are linked to illegally made fentanyl.

The United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reminds everyone that "[One Pill Can Kill.](#)" The DEA says, "Never trust your own eyes to determine if a pill is legitimate. The only safe medications are ones prescribed by a trusted medical professional and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist."

The Upstate New York Poison Center encourages all families who have any opioid prescriptions, including fentanyl, in their home to keep the pills in their original container and keep the bottle out of reach and sight of children and teens. Fentanyl patches should be folded in half before disposing. The Poison Center also encourages the use of a lockbox for all prescription and non-prescription medicines.

If an individual is suspected of swallowing/inhaling a drug that might contain fentanyl:

1. Call 911 if the individual is not breathing
2. If one has access to Naloxone (Narcan), follow instructions to administer Narcan.
3. If the person is awake and breathing and, direct questions to the Poison Center at **1-800-222-1222**. It is recommended that individuals say this number to their contact list.

As a vital resource for communities in Upstate New York, the Upstate New York Poison Center remains steadfast in its mission to educate families and individuals about the dangers of fentanyl and provide essential guidance in times of crisis. poison center provides [free educational materials](#), including brochures, posters, magnets, pencils, etc., for families, community centers, schools, and healthcare facilities throughout our 54-county coverage area.

See more of this article at: <https://www.upstate.edu/news/articles/2023/2023-08-16-fentanyl.php#:~:text=21%20as%20National%20Fentanyl%20Prevention%20and%20Awareness%20Day,-The%20Upstate%20New>

EARLY VOTING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023 - 00:00

Early Voting Begins Thursday for Municipal Elections in Charlotte and Sanford; Voters Will Be Asked for Photo ID

The in-person early voting period for September 2023 municipal elections in **CHARLOTTE** and Sanford begins *Thursday, August 24, and ends Saturday, September 9.*

RALEIGH, N.C.

The in-person early voting period for September 2023 municipal elections in Charlotte and Sanford begins Thursday, August 24, and ends Saturday, September 9. This is the first election in which voters will be asked to show photo identification under a law enacted in 2018.

The State Board of Elections offers the following 10 tips for early voters in those two cities:

1. Eligible voters may cast a ballot at any early voting site in their county. For sites and hours, use the [One-Stop Early Voting Site Search](#) or read [One-Stop Voting Sites for the September 12, 2023 Election \(PDF\)](#).
2. Sample ballots are available for eligible voters through the Voter Search tool. To be eligible to vote in a municipal election, the voter must be registered and live in that municipality – and, in some cases, the ward or district with a seat up for election.
3. Voters will be asked to show photo ID when checking in at the voting site. Most voters will simply show their driver's license, but there are many other acceptable photo IDs. For more information, including the full list of acceptable IDs, visit [Voter ID](#).
4. If a voter cannot show a photo ID, they can still vote by filling out an ID Exception Form and voting a provisional ballot. County boards of elections must count provisional ballots with properly completed ID Exception Forms.
5. Don't have an ID? All [county boards of elections can issue free voter photo IDs](#) to registered voters in the county through the last day of early voting, which is September 9. To be issued a free voter photo ID card, the voter must provide their name, date of birth, and the last four numbers of their Social Security number, and have their photo taken. Additionally, any North Carolina resident can get a free non-driver's ID card from the DMV. Find more information under "No-Fee ID Cards" at [State IDs | NCDMV](#).
6. Individuals who missed the regular voter registration deadline for their municipality's election may register and vote at the same time during the early voting period. Same-day registrants must attest to their eligibility and provide proof of where they live. For more information, visit [Register in Person During Early Voting](#).
7. Voters who receive an absentee ballot by mail may deliver their completed ballot to an election official at an early voting site in their county during early voting hours. Ballots will be kept securely and delivered to the county board of elections for processing.
8. The State Board asks that all voters respect the rights of others to participate in the election. Every eligible voter is entitled to cast their ballot freely, without harassment or intimidation. Voters who feel harassed or intimidated should notify an election official immediately.

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9. Voters at one-stop early voting sites are entitled to the same assistance as voters at a voting place on Election Day. Curbside voting is available for eligible individuals at all early voting sites. For more information, visit [Curbside Voting](#).

10. The State Board of Elections and county boards of elections do not generally provide information about candidates. However, candidates' websites, political parties, media outlets, and advocacy groups often compile information about candidates for voters.

For more information about early voting, please visit [Vote Early in Person](#). For more information about municipal elections scheduled for October and November 2023, see [Upcoming Election](#).

###

Source of Article: <https://www.ncsbe.gov/news/press-releases/2023/08/22/early-voting-begins-thursday-municipal-elections-charlotte-and-sanford-voters-will-be-asked-photo-id>

VOTE FOR CHANGE

CHARLENE HENDERSON

Charlotte Native

FOR CITY COUNCIL
MEMBER AT LARGE

SINGLE MOTHER
SMALL MINORITY BUSINESS OWNER
FOR OVER 29 YEARS
A SURVIVOR
AN ACCOUNTABLE
LEADER WITH HEART
COMPASSION
&
EMPATHY



for more information, visit
www.charlenehenderson.com



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SATURDAY, AUGUST 26th 2023

10AM to 2PM

CN JENKINS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1421 STATESVILLE AVENUE

CHARLOTTE, NC 28206

*** SHOES * SOCKS * BACKPACKS * CARE BAGS**



**If you would like to add anything to the Word of the Week, please email akadesignz1@gmail.com*

MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2023 - 00:00

Governor Cooper Launches NC S.A.F.E. Initiative to Promote Safe Gun Storage

Today, Governor Roy Cooper announced the NC S.A.F.E. (Secure All Firearms Effectively) initiative to urge North Carolinians to take action to safely store their firearms and save lives.

RALEIGH

Today, Governor Roy Cooper announced the NC S.A.F.E. (Secure All Firearms Effectively) initiative to urge North Carolinians to take action to safely store their firearms and save lives. This call to action highlights firearm safety in response to mounting numbers of deaths of children and youth from firearm injury, along with a surge in firearm thefts across the state.

“For those of us who own guns, it’s our responsibility to keep them safe and out of the wrong hands,” said Governor Cooper. “Safe storage is an essential part of responsible gun ownership, and this initiative will encourage North Carolinians to safely secure their firearms in their homes and vehicles.”

There is an urgent need for North Carolinians to safely secure their firearms in order to decrease childhood deaths, decrease firearm thefts, and increase the safety of homes and communities. The NC S.A.F.E. (Secure All Firearms Effectively) is a new statewide initiative that provides resources on best practices for firearm storage and safety. NC S.A.F.E. is not associated with any advocacy-based initiatives related to gun laws or regulations.

“Children are gaining access to firearms in their homes, and gun theft — especially from cars — is on the rise throughout North Carolina,” said NC Department of Public Safety Deputy Secretary William Lassiter. “Today, more than 20% of youth car break-ins involve guns. That’s double what we’ve seen in recent years. We all have to work together to stop guns from getting into the wrong hands.”

“Too many of our children are dying from gun violence, and it simply does not have to be this way,” said Attorney General Josh Stein. “If you own a gun or are thinking of buying one, lock it up and keep it secured so it’s not stolen or lost. Our children’s lives may depend on it.”

The NC S.A.F.E. initiative is part of Governor Cooper’s ongoing commitment to reducing violence and strengthening public safety in North Carolina. In March 2023, the Governor announced the creation of a statewide Office of Violence Prevention focused on reducing violence and firearm misuse in North Carolina. In 2019, the Governor directed state agencies to close crime reporting gaps between state and federal agencies. The Governor’s budget proposal includes investments in school and community safety, including the Office of Violence Prevention.

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Firearms are the leading cause of injury-related death among children and youth in North Carolina. Last year, a Johnston County 2-year-old died from a single gunshot wound to the head after finding his father's loaded handgun in the front seat of the family's truck. In April, a 7-year-old in Robeson County died while visiting a family member after the child found a loaded gun inside the residence. Nationwide, an estimated 82% of adolescent suicides by firearm involve a gun belonging to a family member.

Gun thefts have increased across North Carolina. In Raleigh, 211 firearms were stolen from vehicles in 2020. In Durham, 62% of the approximately 185 gun thefts from cars in 2022 were from unlocked cars — meaning these were preventable crimes. According to a 2021 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey, more than half of the firearms that were stored loaded at home—already a safety risk--were also unlocked.

Gun owners in North Carolina can prevent firearm injuries and deaths as well as gun theft through safe storage. There are many ways to effectively secure a gun, including cable locks, trigger locks, gun safes, lockboxes, and gun cases. To secure guns in vehicles, NC S.A.F.E. urges gun owners to both lock their vehicle and safely secure the firearm with a locking device.

Governor Cooper has proclaimed June 4 – 10 as NC S.A.F.E. Week of Action to raise awareness about the importance of safe gun storage. As part of this week, representatives of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety will be traveling across the state to spread this message along with local law enforcement, juvenile justice and other partners in public safety. In addition, NC S.A.F.E. will be encouraging all North Carolinians to secure their firearms effectively and to insist others do in their communities to save lives.

Visit ncsafe.org to find a full list of firearm storage options and a checklist for the steps to effectively secure firearms.

Source of article: <https://governor.nc.gov/news/press-releases/2023/06/05/governor-cooper-launches-nc-safe-initiative-promote-safe-gun-storage>



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**Newest Suicide Prevention Signs going in
Mecklenburg County's 4th Street Parking Deck!**

**You're NOT Alone
Need Help?**

**Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
Call or Text**

988

**or Text HELP to
741741**

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BACK 2 SCHOOL PEP RALLY

FREE FOOD **BACKPACK GIVEAWAY** **LIVE MUSIC**

AUGUST 26TH, 2023 - 10AM - 1PM
STRATFORD RICHARDSON YMCA 1946 West Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28208

Vendor Registration




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SHUTTLE STOP PARKING

GREENWAY PARKING AREA
DOWN FROM 1546 WALTON RD
CHARLOTTE, NC 28208

CHARLES PARKER
ACADEMIC CENTER
PARKING WILL BE LIMITED
SINCE TEACHERS WILL BE
SETTING UP CLASSROOMS

PROGRESSIVE BAPTIST
1600 CLANTON RD
CHARLOTTE, NC 28208

GREATER MOUNT SINAI
1243 WEST BLVD, CHARLOTTE, NC 28208

BACK TO SCHOOL PEP RALLY

FREE FOOD

BACKPACK GIVEAWAY

LIVE MUSIC

AUGUST 26TH, 2023 - 10AM - 1PM

STRATFORD RICHARDSON YMCA 1946 West Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28208

Vendor Registration

the Y **YMCA**

come for the hungry

St. Joseph's Hospital 2 **empowerHE inc.**

CONNECTED!

SYDKIMYL

SpeechTactics *Empowering the Speech & Communication*

MONEY MAGNETS CLUB

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The poster features a yellow background with a white rectangular area containing the event details. At the top left is the logo for NINE EIGHTEEN NINE STUDIO GALLERY, a blue square with the text 'NINE EIGHTEEN NINE' and 'STUDIO GALLERY' inside. To its right is the word 'presents' in yellow. The main title 'ART is-n-me' is written in large, colorful, stylized letters. To the right of the title is an illustration of an artist's palette with various colored spots and a paintbrush. Below the title, the date and time 'Sunday Sept. 10th 2:00pm—5:00pm' are written in red. Underneath that, the location 'NINE EIGHTEEN NINE Studio Gallery' is written in blue. At the bottom left is the 'Trey Miles' logo, with 'Trey' in blue and 'Miles' in red. At the bottom right is the 'VPA' logo, with 'VPA' in large, colorful letters and 'VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER' in smaller text below it. On the far right, the address '700 North Tyron Street Charlotte, North Carolina' is written vertically in black.

ART is-n-me

Sunday Sept. 10th 2:00pm—5:00pm

NINE EIGHTEEN NINE Studio Gallery

Trey Miles

VPA
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

700 North Tyron Street Charlotte, North Carolina

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David & Friends
501c3 organization supporting HBCU's

10th Annual Low Country Gala

BACK IN STRIDE AGAIN

Sneaker Ball - Semi Formal Attire
All Inclusive Food | Open Bar | Free Parking

Friday • September 8 • 7 pm

Oasis Shriners
604 Doug Mayes Pl. Charlotte, NC 28262

Early Bird Tickets: **\$75** | General Tickets: **\$80** | Door Tickets: **\$90**



davidandfriendsllc.net

CIAA may have left the city, but we haven't! Get your tickets to the 10th Annual Low Country Gala using promo code HBCU10 to save 10% on your early bird tickets.

Your ticket purchase helps to provide scholarships to deserving high school seniors in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools planning to attend any HBCU.

Please visit DavidandFriendsLLC.net to learn more about our organization and how you can help.

Early Bird

\$75.00+\$6.88 Fee

Sales end on Jul 23, 2023

Sales ends on July15th

General Admission

\$80.00+\$7.21 Fee

Sales start on Jul 23, 2023

VIP Tables

\$1,000.00+\$68.91 Fee

Sales end on Sep 8, 2023

Guaranteed Seating, Recognition in Booklet, Signage on Table and at Check in, Private Bar

Go to Eventbrite to purchase:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/david-friends-back-in-stride-again-fundraising-gala-supporting-hbcus-tickets-530716797227?discount=HBCU10>

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Studies show that 95% of people with convictions will live with the barriers that come with them for the rest of their lives because of the difficulty of getting their records cleared, according to the Black and Brown Cannabis Guild. These convictions can restrict access to housing, employment and voting rights long after sentences have been served.

MUST PRE-REGISTER ON-LINE: WWW.MECKLENBURGCOE.ORG

EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

Sat. April 22, 2023

• *Pre-Register by March 5, 2023*

Sat. July 22, 2023

• *Pre Register by May 20, 2023*

Sat. Oct. 21, 2023.

• *Pre-Register by Aug. 6, 2023*

10AM - 3PM

Plaza Road Academy – 1000 Anderson St. / Charlotte



Network: Charlotte/Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee (CRC), Mecklenburg Council of Elders (MCOE), Charlotte Area Fund, Courthouse Self-Serve Center, Asst. Public Defenders Office, Re-Entry Partners, District Attorney's Office, Urban League of the Carolinas, Univision National TV, US District Court NC 26th District, Personal Warrant Court Mediation (PWC), Emry Law Firm, PLLC, National Black Lawyers, The Freedmen Law Group, City of Charlotte JumpStart Grant Program, United Way of the Carolinas, Duke Energy Foundation

Contact: coexpunge@gmail.com

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Genesis Project

Changing the world... one family at a time!

Services Available

Individual Counseling
Family Counseling
Marriage & Couples Counseling
Peer Support Services
Intensive In-Home Services
Community Health and Support Services
Group Counseling
Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Therapy
Sexual Trauma Therapy
School Advocacy
Crisis Intervention
COVID-19 testing, tracing, and vaccinations

All of our services are culturally sensitive and can be provided in the office or home settings.

The following methods of payment are accepted:

United Health Care
Blue Cross and Blue Shield
United Behavioral Health
Optum Health Behavioral Solutions
Tricare (Prime & Standard)
Aetna Healthcare
Cigna Healthcare
Medcost
NC Medicaid
NC HealthChoice

Sliding Scale Fee for Self-Pay Consumers

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Genesis Project is moving forward into integrative services. To do so, we now have medical services at our center with a holistic approach, which means providing support that looks at the whole person, not just their mental health needs. The support should also consider their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual wellbeing. Come one come all or refer someone to get a medical evaluation.

Call 704-596-0505, TODAY!!!

Let's support the mission and the great opportunity of having a doctor supporting Genesis Project's program.



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You're NOT Alone
Need Help?

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline

Call or Text

988

or Text HELP to

741741

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