

OPIOID

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their course of action from making an arrest to transferring a drug user to a treatment clinic.

"We have a law enforcement assisted diversion program here in North Carolina where law enforcement is actually asking for these treatment centers," Cooper said. "They know that they can't keep arresting people, then overdosing, sending them to emergency rooms, getting back out, arrested again. That's a vicious cycle that's not working."

Medicine for opioid overdose

BROOKS

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place himself and Brooks on opposite ends of the political spectrum, he enjoys reading Brooks' work because of its provocative nature.

"What he is devoted to and what he wants his readers and fellow citizens to pursue are the most essential questions: how do we create a fairer, more humane and more just society, but more importantly, the role that we are to play in achieving the just society," Gibney said. "This is why I like David Brooks so much."

A&F GOAT

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aspect of going to a studio for class.

"You lose a lot of your inhibitions and it becomes more lighthearted and fun when you're in a room full of baby goats," Burleson said. "The attention is on the interaction with the animals."

Burleson always uses joy and happiness as the intention for the practice when she teaches DisGoat, including incorporating funky dance moves into the poses where appropriate.

"I love it. It's always really excit-

has been made more accessible in the state since former Governor Pat McCrory signed two pieces of legislation intended to help battle the epidemic. In 2013 McCrory signed the Good Samaritan Law permitting law enforcement to carry and administer naloxone, a life-saving drug that reverses the effects of overdose in victims. The Good Samaritan Law also provides immunity to individuals calling for help in the presence of an overdose. Three years later, McCrory signed Senate Bill 734, making naloxone accessible in pharmacies to be purchased without a prescription.

Brooks' visit to campus provided a great opportunity for students, faculty members and community members to hear invaluable insights pertaining to current issues, said Carla Willis, vice chancellor for university advancement.

Willis said the university will continue to schedule speakers like Brooks to share different perspectives with the community this year to celebrate UNCA's anniversary.

"We look pretty good for 90, I think, and we have a lot more ahead of us," Willis said.

ing to see people's faces when they come in and see the baby goats," Breeden said. "They're obviously here for the goats but it's pretty neat to see people connect with local farmers."

Each session fills the room with giggles, they said.

"I want people to leave feeling completely joyful," Burleson said. "That they were able to completely let go."

The next Farm Friend Bend will be two sessions on Oct. 29 on Franny's Farm at 4:30 p.m. and again at 6 p.m.

"It's not so much to the people being affected by the drug because you can imagine if they've overdosed, then they can't save themselves," Williams said. "It's really for their loved ones and those around them, their friends, co-workers, family. We've heard stories of 14-year-olds getting it so they can save their 18-year-old brother's life if he overdoses while he's at home."

The epidemic of increased opioid overdoses has been seen nationwide over the last 20 years. North Carolina is home to four of the top 25 cities in America for opioid abuse rate: Wilmington, Hickory, Jack-

sonville and Fayetteville. According to the Center for Disease Control, there are 97 prescriptions for painkillers in every 100 people in North Carolina.

The Opioid Action, the Good Samaritan Law, and Senate Bill 734 are changing the protocols for dealing with this crisis.

Alongside these changes in legislation increases in treatment, education, and understanding about the tragic loss of hundreds of lives daily gives the state reason to hope for reversal of increasing overdose-related deaths.



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