

A dose of distraction...

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MARTIN COUNTY ENTERPRISE & Weekly Herald

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Opinion



Enterprise & Weekly Herald staff writer and columnist Sarah Hodges Stalls recalls a 'Night to Remember' meeting Joe Diffie. Page 4



Martin County Chamber of Commerce Director Chase Conner writes about how it is important to be part of the COVID-19 recovery by supporting local businesses. Page 4

Sports



David Friedman writes about the good that's happening in the sports world. Page 5

Gov. Cooper: Stay at home

Latest executive order aimed to help flatten curve of COVID-19

SARAH HODGES STALLS
Enterprise & Weekly Herald

On Friday, Gov. Roy Cooper signed Executive Order 121, ordering North Carolinians to remain in their homes for health and safety purposes except to performing essential work and essential activities such as taking care of others and obtaining necessary supplies.

This Executive Order is effective Monday, March 30, 2020, at 5

p.m., and shall remain in effect for 30 days from that date or unless repealed, replaced or rescinded by another applicable Executive Order.

An Executive Order rescinding the Declaration of the State of Emergency will automatically rescind this Executive Order.

This Stay at Home Order will help slow the spread of COVID-19 and prevent the medical system from being

overwhelmed by keeping individuals from being exposed to the virus and keeping those who have the virus from spreading it to others.

Included are frequently asked questions and answers. In addition, individuals should check with local governments to determine whether additional restrictions have been imposed in their local jurisdictions to limit the spread of COVID-19. Note that Executive Order 121

modifies some sections of previous Executive Orders, but sections not modified are still in effect.

This information is subject to change in light of new CDC guidance and additional Executive Orders or local government declarations.

What You Need to Know about the Order

This order permits the following businesses to remain open:

- Restaurants that

provide take-out, drive-thru, or delivery

- Grocery stores
- ABC stores and beer and wine stores
- Doctors and other healthcare providers
- Pharmacies
- Hardware stores
- Post offices
- Office supply stores
- Gas stations and convenience stores
- Veterinarians and pet supply stores
- Hotels, airlines, bus-

See ORDER, 3



SARAH HODGES STALLS / Enterprise & Weekly Herald

The parking lot may be empty, but staff still works tirelessly to care for Martin County's senior citizen population.

License Plate Agency closed

WILLIAMSTON — In the interest of the health, safety and security of the community and its employees and effective immediately, the Martin County License Plate Agency is closed to the public and will be open to dealers by appointment only.

County Manager David Bone stated, "Martin County has strived to maintain services in the License Plate Agency, but this operational adjustment was made necessary by the current standard of limiting gatherings to no more than ten persons."

The Martin County Driver's License Office remains closed, but many common NCDMV services, such as driver license renewal and vehicle registration renewal can be performed any time and any place on a computer or mobile device. please go to <https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv>.

Public access to the Martin County offices and facilities continues to be restricted to appointments only, with limited exceptions. Staff will continue to report to work on their regular schedules and will be available to serve the public by phone and email from 8 a.m. until

See CLOSED, 3

Meeting needs Special group still being served

SARAH HODGES STALLS
Enterprise & Weekly Herald

WILLIAMSTON — Closures of offices to the public have been hard for everyone; however, it's been a different kind of tough around the Martin County Senior Center.

The Center provides a place for area senior citizens to congregate and fellowship, a temporary fix for the loneliness many of them know all too well.

According to Charmaine Hardison, Director of Martin County's Adult and Aging Services Department, their friends have not been forgotten.

A 15-day food supply was provided to those who generally attend

meals on-site.

"We call our seniors everyday," she explained. Conversations range from health checks to simple conversations. Staff members have made these calls a regular part of their irregular day.

"Any older adults are welcome to reach out to us if they have questions or fears in the wake of our current situation, or if they just want to talk to someone," Hardison added. "They are welcome to call us at 792-1027."

Meals on Wheels, an outreach for local shut-in seniors, has undergone a temporary transformation to better see all involved through this crisis.

According to Hardison,

son, five shelf-stable meals are being delivered at one time to recipients of Meals on Wheels.

"This reduces volunteer, staff and most of all client exposure," she added.

Hardison reminds the public, agency staff remains on the job and are available by telephone only for now.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reminds residents COVID-19 is "a new disease and we are learning more about it every day."

Reminders for Older Adults:

If you have a serious underlying medical condition:

Stay home if possible.

Wash your hands often.

Avoid close contact (six feet, which is about two arm lengths) with people who are sick.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Avoid all cruise travel and non-essential air travel.

Call your healthcare professional if you have concerns about COVID-19 and your underlying condition or if you are sick.

For more information on steps you can take to protect yourself, see CDC's How to Protect Yourself.

Stress and coping Older people are at higher risk for severe

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GOOD MORNING,

Lela Styons of Jamesville
Thank you for subscribing!

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