Gov. Roy Cooper has declared a state of emergency and requested federal resources

By Michael Taffe
Staff Writer

Hurricane Florence is projected to reach the coast of North Carolina on Wednesday. At 4 p.m. on Monday, the storm is a Category 4 hurricane, indicating winds from 131 to 155 mph, with the potential to cause significant loss of life and property.

According to a report from the National Hurricane Center on Monday at noon, an NOAA Hurricane Hunter aircraft indicates that Florence is continuing to rapidly strengthen.

Gov. Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency and requested federal resources ahead of the storm.

"I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that the effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments," Cooper said in his letter. "Also, supplemental Federal assistance is necessary to save lives and to protect property; public health and safety, or to lessen the threat of disaster."

The letter requested generators, food, water, shelter supplies and multiple means of evacuation and medical assistance.

The N.C. Congressional Delegation sent a letter to President Donald Trump on Monday endorsing Cooper's state of emergency declaration.

Cooper reported Tuesday the federal government granted North Carolina a federal disaster declaration for Hurricane Florence.

The Town of Chapel Hill is also preparing resources to respond to any storm damage. Ran Northam, community safety communication specialist for the Town of Chapel Hill, commented on the Town's current preparation in an email Tuesday morning.

"Regular practices of Town staff ahead of storms include — but are not limited to — making sure vehicles and equipment are properly maintained and fueled and checking known areas of town that are prone to flooding," Northam said in an email.

The Town of Hillsborough issued a press release Monday afternoon alerting Orange County residents to the severity of the hurricane.

"Heavy and prolonged rainfall forecasted from the storm later this week is expected to cause life-threatening, freshwater flooding across central North Carolina, with 7 to 10 inches of rain and possibly up to 20 inches in some areas if the storm lingers," the Town said in the release. "Wind damage in the Hillsborough area could exceed the damage sustained during Hurricane Fran in 1996."

The press release said the town and Orange County Fire Department are taking the necessary precautions. Orange County announced Tuesday it will use Smith Middle School and CW Stanford Middle Schools as shelters for Hurricane Florence. The shelters will open at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

"A representative from Walmart said the store is more busy than usual, and they are running out of supplies such as water, bread and toilet paper."

Cooper signed two executive orders to help the state prepare for Hurricane Florence.

"The University will move from Condition 1 to Condition 2 at 5 p.m. Wednesday. Operations will remain suspended until 5 p.m. on Sunday. Classes are cancelled. Students are strongly encouraged to leave Chapel Hill before the storm hits," according to an alert Carolina message.

"All Carolina Dining Services locations except Chase Dining Hall and Top of Lenor will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday. Top of Lenor and Chase Dining Hall will remain open from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. on Thursday. Chase Dining Hall will remain open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. All athletic events are cancelled through Sunday, including Saturday's football game against the University of Central Florida. Parking regulations will remain in effect on Wednesday, and will be suspended Thursday and Friday. The Town of Carrboro announced that trash collection is cancelled on Sept. 13 and 14. There is no make up collection announced at this time. They urged residents to not put out their yard waste this week."

"Chapel Hill Transit is not running beginning on Thursday, Sept. 13. Buses will not run until further notice. P2P and PASS Cart operations will be suspended on Thursday, and will remain closed until further notice. According to the East Carolina, classes at ECU are cancelled starting after 12 p.m. on Tuesday. NC State University announced that university operations will be suspended after 5 p.m. on Wednesday. UNC-Wilmington issued a voluntary evacuation starting at noon on Monday, and cancelled classes at noon on Monday. Duke University has cancelled all classes after 5 p.m. on Wednesday. UNC-Greensboro has cancelled all classes and other university activities starting at noon on Wednesday. Appalachian State University has cancelled all classes from tomorrow at 5 p.m. through 5 p.m. on Sept. 16."

FOR HURRICANE FLORENCE UPDATES, VISIT DAILYTARHEEL.COM

Squalls out on the Gulf Stream, big storm coming soon.

JIMMY BUFFETT

DTH/TARYN REVOIR

Junior global studies and geography double major, Emily Adcock, shops to get ready for Hurricane Florence on Tuesday Sept. 11 at Harris Teeter.

Samantha Dickoff, Marian Knotts, Kimberly Oliver and Shawna Ocear prepare to bunker down for Florence.

CLOSINGS, CANCELLATIONS AND MORE

Shoppers at Harris Teeter have a hard time getting what they need before Hurricane Florence because bread, water, milk and eggs are scarce at stores.
Town of Chapel Hill honors the victims and heroes of 9/11

By Ryan Smoot
Senior Writer

Local first responders and officials gathered Tuesday morning at the Chapel Hill Fire Station to honor the victims and heroes of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The event, which also remembers the courage and sacrifice of public safety officers, was held amid record heat and high safety concerns caused by Hurricane Florence’s arrival.

“It’s important we take the time each year to honor the people that perish in that fateful morning but also recognize the men and women who fought so gallantly to save lives,” said Town Manager Maurice Jones.

In his first three weeks as town manager, Jones said he’s been impressed with Chapel Hill’s emergency personnel and noted the Fire Department’s success in putting out a local fire the Monday night amid thunderstorms.

“With Hurricane Florence bearing down on the Carolinas, we will be tested again in the coming days,” Jones said. “Based on what I know, and have seen of our emergency personnel, I am confident we will be able to take on any challenge.”

Matthew Sullivan, the chief of the Chapel Hill Fire Department, spoke on the bravery of his first responders and the importance of staying calm in a time to reframe. The department is scheduled to host the 40th anniversary of the first responders at the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

“I’m pleased we’ve stayed and cannot do anything to help those who have made us strong, kept us safe and given their lives in service of others,” she said.

city@dailytarheel.com
Former football players take field in NFL

By Will Keegan
Staff Writer

Although North Carolina football has struggled early on in 2018 with an 0-2 start to the season, that hasn’t stopped the Tar Heels from succeeding in the NFL. As Week 1 came to a close, four former Tar Heels showed up during the first week.

Eric Ebron

After playing the past four seasons with the Detroit Lions, Ebron was signed by the Carolina Panthers on Tuesday night. The Panthers agreed to a two-year, $15 million deal with the Indianapolis Colts within a week. In the Colts’ loss to the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday, Ebron pulled down four receptions for 65 yards while catching the first touchdown of the season for the team. He should be a reliable second option at tight end for the Colts this year, as they look to improve on a 2017 season that saw just four wins.

Giovanni Bernard

Bernard has been a steady option over the past five seasons for the Bengals. The running back has averaged 4.2 yards per carry in the NFL, as well as catching passes for 2,071 career yards. In Week 1, he had only one carry for negative yardage, as second-year running back Joe Mixon stepped up with a bigger role in the offense. Whether his one rush was an outlier for the season or Bernard’s usage will continue to drop remains to be seen in the upcoming weeks.

Ryan Switzer

In his rookie year with the Dallas Cowboys, Switzer was used as both a kick returner and wide receiver. He was traded to the Oakland Raiders in the offseason, then traded again to the Pittsburgh Steelers 13 days before he debuted for the team in Week One. Switzer played solely on special teams against the Browns, where he gave the Steelers good field position by getting past the punt 25-yard line every time the ball was kicked his way. On offense, he rushed once for eight yards and was targeted by quarterback Ben Roethlisberger in the slot one time. He gave the Steelers a viable option on special teams, and they should continue to return kicks and punts.

Mitch Trubisky

After opting not to return for his fourth year of college in favor of moving to the NFL, Trubisky was drafted second overall by the Chicago Bears in 2017. He has shown growth and development since that time. He took the reins early in 2017, making his first start for the Bears in the team’s fifth game last season. He came out strong in Week 1 of 2018, completing 23 of 35 passes but was unable to close out the game against Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers. Rodgers orchestrated an incredible comeback, bringing his team from 10 points down for the 24-23 win, spoiling Trubisky’s day. But the second-year quarterback showed promise.

Julius Peppers

In his 17th season in the NFL and second year back playing for the Carolina Panthers, Julius Peppers was provided veteran experience to the organization’s defense. He made some crucial plays late in Sunday’s game, putting pressure on the Dallas Cowboys backfield and forcing turnovers. There is no doubt he will be a strong force this year, as he pushes the Panthers towards making the playoffs this season.

By Brian Keys
Staff Writer

The Tar Heels executed a fast-paced workout to do on their own as they continued to train in the hopes of carrying momentum into their home opener on Saturday. Head coach Karen Shelton pointed out a couple leaders in the locker room, captain Ashley Hoffman and vice captain Marissa Creature, who helped keep morale high during the inclement weather.

“We had music going, we were playing a couple games,” Erin Matson said. “There’s a really close team here and easy to just joke around. We all love field hockey and we wanted to show everyone what we got.”

Shelton also stressed the importance of taking care of the ball, especially in the middle of the field. “We call it the death zone,” she said. “They’re full of energy and I think they’ve had some experience having delays like this,” Shelton said. “It’s been great... it’s a nice tone in the locker room.”

The Tar Heels executed a fast-paced pressing attack to keep control of the ball for most of the game. Hoffman and Matson both emphasized that the team’s attack always started from the defensive end before being quickly pushed forward.

“If there is a pass forward, we pass forward,” Hoffman said. “If not, we go sideways and if not then, as a last resort we go backwards.”

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All athletic events for upcoming weekend are postponed

By Chris Hilburn-Trenkle
Sports Editor

All North Carolina athletic events and practices this week and next weekend, the University’s athletic department announced on a statement Tuesday night through GoHeels.

With Hurricane Florence bearing down on the North Carolina coast, the University notified faculty and students Monday night that classes were cancelled the rest of the week and would resume on Tuesday afternoon.

No, a Level 1 threat continued its reign of dominance as it took down Appalachian State in a 6-0 drubbing, its fourth shutout of the season. The Tar Heels’ performance was so complete, with winds increasing to the point of dominance as it took down Appalachian State in a 6-0 drubbing, its fourth shutout of the season.

The Carolina Field Hockey Stadium was cancelled for its official dedication on Saturday, but the official forecast for both the impact and recovery forecast has also been postponed.

The volleyball team also cancelled its Friday night game against North Dakota State. The team will reschedule its away contest at Duke that was set for Sunday.

The men’s soccer team also set to play in Durham against the Blue Devils on Friday, but that game has also been postponed.

This story will be updated once postponed events have been rescheduled by the athletic department.

The Daily Tar Heel sports@dailytarheel.com
The North Carolina women’s golf team won the Briar’s Creek Invitational March 19–20, 2018.

By Torre Netkovick
Staff Writer

As most students struggle to compose their first essays of the semester, junior Gage Tarlton is putting the finishing touches on the scripts for several of his own full-length plays.

Tarlton already has two of his projects in the works on campus this semester. One of his plays, which currently has the working title “We Were Kids,” is part of a play development series for LAB! Theatre. His other work, “Just Like Now,” is being produced by the Kenan Theatre Company.

Lab’s play development series entails monthly table reads, which culminate in a staged reading in April. “We Were Kids” tells the story of high school students two years in the future and shows how desensitized they have become to school shootings. Tarlton said it was important to him that his protagonists were young. “I knew I wanted to write about people our age,” he said. “I’m interested in how we talk and our mannerisms.”

However, the concept of the play did not come to Tarlton easily, and he went through a process to complete the script. Tarlton’s work paid off when he secured the series with LAB! Theatre. Sophomore Olivia Herrera, who serves as financial chair for the board of the theater company, was part of the decision to select Tarlton’s script.

“We were really impressed with his sample and concept,” Herrera said. “His writing is like poetry almost. It’s fluid, and nothing is said without purpose.”

Herrera said she looks forward to witnessing the future of Tarlton’s script. “I like how the project is continuing over the course of the year,” Herrera said. “We’re only on draft one, and I’m so excited to see where it’s going to go.”

In addition to his monthly table reads with LAB!, Tarlton received a provost’s grant to produce his play “Just Like Now” with the Kenan Theatre Company. “I can’t believe it’s happening,” Tarlton said. “I love working on a project and seeing it go up.”

In addition to his other play, “Just Like Now” centers around young protagonists, specifically four queer college students. “We’re trying to navigate relationships on campus,” he said. “It’s really fun,” senior Ruthie Allen, the director of the play, said of Tarlton’s writing. “It’s not every day that you find a piece that is so authentic to us as queer college students. It’s written by a 19-year-old and you can tell, which is what I like about it.”

Tarlton was involved with the casting process for the show and has incorporated cast feedback into the script. “It’s been a very collaborative environment,” Allen said. “He’s someone to bounce ideas off of.”

As Tarlton juggles both projects this semester, he said he cannot deny that he has found his creative home in playwriting. “Anything that I have free time I get out my laptop and start putting words on the page,” Tarlton said. “If you’re passionate about something, you make the time to do it.”

By Rachel Jensen
Senior Writer

The revolution has been set to music.

SEPTEMBER 21
MOESER AUDITORIUM
FLUTRONIX
Blazing a new path to modern chamber music.
By Robin Frohardt

SEPTEMBER 29
MEMORIAL HALL
BUDDY GUY
那么多安装10 AM - 5 PM DAILY
The Daily Tar Heel
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Women’s golf has ninth-place finish

The North Carolina women’s golf team fin-
ished ninth in the Cougar Classic on Monday, after play was shortened due to the anticipation of Hurricane Florence making landfall.

The team’s first tournament of the season had a competitive field that included No. 3 Arkansas and No. 14-Penn State.

UNC golfers for the tournament included junior Brynn Walker, senior Kelly Whaley, sophomore Ava Bergner, and first-years Jennifer Zhou and Nicole La. The first round was halted when play was suspended for the day due to inclement weather. Because of the suspension, only Zhou was able to finish 18 holes on Sunday. At the time of the delay, North Carolina had shot a combined 10-over-par and was 15th on the team leaderboard.

The original schedule of the tournament included rounds on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. But after the postponement Sunday, golfers had to finish round one on Monday and also play round two the same day.

After the end of the first round, UNC stood at 5-over-par, which put the team in 13th place. North Carolina jumped four spots on the leaderboard following a 1-under-par second round. But after an improved performance in the second round, College of Charleston, the tournament’s host, canceled the weekend’s events because of the approaching hurricane.

After 36 holes, the tournament ended and North Carolina finished in ninth place with a score of 4-over-par for the event.

Walker stood out as the most successful Tar Heel. She finished in a five-way tie for 44th place. After shooting an even-par 72 to com-
plete the first round, she shot 1-under-par in the second. On that last day of competition, she shot two birdies and had one bogey. Her score of 4-over-par in the first round. In the second round, she made an eagle on the 18th hole, and finished the day 1-under-par. In the tournament she shot an overall 3-over-par and finished tied for 44th.

With North Carolina advanced four spots on the team leaderboard after day two, it still fin-
ished far behind the University of Florida, who remained in first place for both rounds of com-
petition, and shot a combined 16-under-par.

Despite the tough field, the Tar Heels will hope to see better results than a ninth-place finish in their next tournament.

UNC will have a chance to improve in the Mason Rudolph Championship in Franklin, Tenn., which will be held from Sept. 21–23.

By By Torre Netkovick
sports@dailytarheel.com

SEPTEMBER 28
MEMORIAL HALL
BROOKLYN RIDER AND MAGOS HERRERA DREAMERS

Women’s golf has ninth-place finish

By Torre Netkovick
Staff Writer

The North Carolina women’s golf team won the Briar’s Creek Invitational March 19–20, 2018.

Kelly Whaley (holding trophy) also won the individual title.

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Herrera, who serves as financial chair for the process to complete the script.

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SEPTEMBER 29
MEMORIAL HALL
Buddy Guy

SEPTEMBER 21
MOESER AUDITORIUM
Flutronix
Blazing a new path to modern chamber music.
Local schools celebrate arts educators

By Rachel Jensen
Senior Writer

Art classes in elementary school allow not only for the creation of homemade Mother’s Day cards and hand turkeys but also for the development of lifelong skills and creative processes. Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools join many other school districts this week in celebrating National Arts in Education Week.

Hannah Murphy, a visual arts teacher at Ephesus Elementary School, recognizes the week both inside and outside of the classroom. “This week is really more of an advocacy piece for other adults,” Murphy said. “It is a good way to communicate that the arts are important.”

In particular, both teachers and administrators are taking to social media to raise awareness about the positive impact of arts in education. Brenda Whiteman, arts education coordinator for CHCCS, runs a Twitter account dedicated to the arts in the district and plans to post regularly this week in order to showcase the various arts activities occurring in all the different schools.

“We are fortunate to live in a district that is very supportive,” Whiteman said. “The parents’ group is very involved in the things that are happening.”

However, both Whiteman and Murphy recognize arts funding has been known to fluctuate across the country and are working to ensure the arts, including music, remain a part of the education students receive through CHCCS.

Murphy recognized arts funding has been an issue in the district that is very supportive,” Whiteman said. “We want to continue them.”

In her years there, “I was in chorus all throughout high school,” Smith said. “I loved it. I had a really great relationship with my chorus teacher. She was always there for students and was a really important figure.”

Whiteman emphasized that teachers are looking to the future. “Technology continues to change and shape the arts as we see them in the world,” she said. “Our teachers are beginning to explore the many possibilities.”

Whiteman urged the public to take the time to visit the CHCCS Arts Twitter account to appreciate the work of students this week and beyond. Additionally, the hashtags ArtsTwitter and artseducation can be used to continue the conversation.

“Good things are happening in the arts,” Whiteman said. “We want to continue them.

UNC receives top ranking from Wall Street Journal

By Jordyn Williams
Staff Writer

Comparing the value of education to the price students pay in tuition, UNC ranked second in best-valued schools in the U.S., according to The Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education College Rankings.

According to “The Wall Street Journal, UNC students pay roughly $10,000 for tuition on average due to financial aid programs that help lower and middle-income students afford college. UNC has programs in place, such as Carolina Covenant Scholars, which ensure students with families who make less than double the federal poverty level graduate debt free.

This sentiment to an affordable education was reaffirmed by Chancellor Carol Folt. “As we remain steadfast in our mission of serving the public in our state and around the world, we will continue to make a world-class education affordable, conduct ground-breaking research and lead to innovation for the future,” Folt said in a statement.

Many students have expressed their own ideas for why UNC ranked so highly compared to other universities. “I think it has to do with UNC fully recognizing arts funding,” said Caroline Smith, now a first-year student at UNC. “You see people on campus, and people here will help me go far.”

“I'm proud to be a Tar Heel,” Scott said. “One of the reasons I chose to come here and come out-of-state from Atlanta was because UNC is so highly ranked, and I know the name and people here will help me go far.”

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Folt said this is one of the core justifications for UNC’s high rank. “Our students, faculty and staff’s commitment to excellence is evident in Carolina’s placement among the top valued college for public education,” Folt said in the statement.

This commitment to excellence has given UNC national recognition and is a point of pride for many students. “I’m proud to be a Tar Heel,” Scott said. “One of the reasons I chose to come here and come out-of-state from Atlanta was because UNC is so highly ranked, and I know the name and people here will help me go far.”
Carolina Housing 99.7 percent occupied

As of August 2018, Carolina Housing’s occupancy rate was at 99.7 percent, which has some wondering if it will continue to be a problem, or if it will be a reassignment as the year goes on.

According to Carolina Housing’s strategic plan, since the 2002-2013 academic year, Carolina Housing has not passed an occupancy rate of 97.5 percent.

Allan Blattner, director of Housing & Residential Education, was aware of the high occupancy rate before the academic year began. Blattner said he told RAs during resident advisor training that mediation between roommates needed to be prioritized in the coming year.

“I encouraged them that they’re really going to need to double down on their efforts to try and help people have an effective roommate relationship,” he said.

Joshua Pontillo, a junior RA in Carrick哈尔 Residence Hall, said he was told of the high occupancy rate during training, but it was not portrayed as a major problem.

“They kind of made it into a positive,” he said. “They did bring up the issue that it might bring some people to us, but they were kind of good problems as opposed to a bad problem, which would be like not having enough students to fill all of like a happy thing, or at least that’s the way it was presented to me.”

Blattner said housing would rather have an occupancy than have empty rooms.

“It is our goal always to house and be as full as we can because that means we’re making housing available to the most number of students we can,” he said.

Pontillo said he has felt a change in attitude from recent years toward room reassignments. He described two instances in which he felt his supervisors chose to prioritize reassignments for residents with more pressing reasons over those who preferred a roommate change for less pressing reasons.

Pontillo said he has felt the increased pressure of mitigating conflict this year as opposed to last year.

“In terms of the 99.7 percent capacity, they were, ‘We’ll handle situations as they come up and get people moved, but keep in mind – and make sure to tell your residents – that we are at high capacity,’” he said.

Although Pontillo said he felt the effects of this change, first-year Maddie Cagle said her room reassignment was handled quickly.

“It was very simple. It was like a ten-minute conversation and she already had me a new room and a new assignment,” Cagle said. “She wanted me to move in the day after that.”

Blattner said students requesting room reassignments are either moving, on-campus from off-campus housing, looking for a different room location or are residents who are having problems with their current roommate.

“Obviously our priority here, with the limited number of spaces we have to make these kinds of adjustments, is to the folks who are having issues in their room,” he said.

Blattner said he does not believe occupancy will get any closer to 100 percent during the academic year.

“Normally if we’re full, we go into the year full because now we will start to have people that, for whatever reason, leave school or leave housing,” he said. “So typically, we’re at full right around mid-August.”

According to the Carolina Housing strategic plan, the aggregate retention rate for residents has been between 97 percent and 98 percent from the fall of 2013 to spring of 2017.

Yet, Blattner said high occupancy rates will not affect reassignments for people with roommate problems.

“I would hate for the thought that, ‘Oh, there aren’t good options available,’ to dissuade people from coming forward,” he said. “Because we do have options and we can help.”

(c)marcusquire@
university@dailyearthcom
By Ryan Smoot
Senior Writer

The Orange County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved over $380,000 in funding last Tuesday for a fiber optic pilot program to expand internet access in underserved areas of the county.

The project will provide address points with $39.99 per month broadband service, with upload speeds at a minimum of 25 Mb and upload speeds of 1 Mb.

Although the Federal Communications Commission recommends a minimum 25 megabits per second download speed to live in the modern digital age, current download speeds for underserved residents have been about 1.5 mbps, with DSL service provided by AT&T and CenturyLink.

Bonnie Hauser, a resident in an underserved western region of Orange County, said slow connection speeds have hampered the educational and entrepreneurial ambitions of rural families.

“That lack of service makes it difficult, if not impossible, to do homework, run a home business, join a webinar or link into telemedicine — let alone stream a video or even watch a county commissioner meeting from home,” she said.

Kevin McNamara, a resident of northern Orange County, said the often can’t access the internet or receive cell phone reception.

“Cell phone availability is not a viable option for us in our community,” said McNamara. “The only internet source I have is provided from CenturyLink, so when CenturyLink’s service is down or substantially slowed, which happens frequently, I can’t even make a phone call from my house using my cell phone.”

Parents in underserved areas worry especially about their children’s ability to keep up in school because they need access to the internet for homework.

“My daughter’s in the fourth grade, and we need internet service to be able to do her schoolwork,” said Orange County resident Kate Lloyd. “I just don’t understand that I’m five minutes from downtown, and (AT&T and Spectrum) can’t guarantee that she’ll have internet access much further.”

The county’s contract with Open Broadband is a phased project, with $385,240 approved for the first phase of the pilot program — covering north and central areas of Orange County. Pending the success of the initial project, $146,720 will be allocated for Pilot Program 2 in the southernmost area of the county.

Jim Northrup, spokesperson for Orange County, said the project will cover 2,700 address points of a 4,957 underserved or unserved addresses in the county. Northrup said there’s a possibility the southernmost service circle will be moved to the North to cover more customers, though such a move may be contingent on a new cell tower by Orange County Emergency Services.

Indeed, independent of this, we have been doing a communication tower study with emergency services, and the consideration for broadband service was in consideration of where to put the first tower,” Northrup said.

The county will have test sites in each service circle to ensure Open Broadband’s speeds are accessible for 90 percent of area address points.

Since the broadband may not be available for 10 percent of service area residents, Northrup recommended customers keep an existing internet service provider for a few weeks after adding Open Broadband.

“I wouldn’t suggest running out and dropping your ISPs at this moment, but as this program starts taking shape and starts reaching its stride, I think it’ll be an obvious alternative choice for the existing service providers in those areas,” Northrup said.

Residents in Orange County can begin signing up for Open Broadband’s pilot at www.openbhh.com.

By Zach Goins
Senior Writer

When Emily Liew first got to Chapel Hill, it didn’t feel like home. Instead of going out and meeting new friends, Liew often found herself alone in her dorm room.

But when she first saw Flying Silk perform, Liew said everything changed.

“Everything looked so beautiful, so in sync, and I knew I wanted to join,” Liew said. “Ever since I came into Flying Silk my sophomore year, it was like it was my whole social group expanded. I knew all these people, I started going out, meeting new people, just doing anything.”

Since its creation in 2012, Flying Silk, the only traditional Chinese dance team on campus, has evolved from a structured and highly-coordinated group of dancers into a group more focused on cultural enrichment and passion.

Three years after first falling in love with the dancing, now a senior, is serving as the group’s publicity chair.

“I joined my sophomore year, and honestly, I wished I’d joined earlier,” Liew said.

And Liew isn’t the only one whose college experience has been transformed by Flying Silk. Junior Alyse Chen, the group’s design chair, had a similar path to joining the team.

“It was sort of a social reclass freshman year,” Chen said. “My friend actually dragged me out to one of the events and I remember being struck by how pretty the colors were. One of the big things that attracted me was how effortlessly the dancing and the silk was entwined with each other, and it didn’t seem like people there had like hours and hours of dance training, but it still looked so graceful and beautiful. Their performance was top notch, even though their choreography wasn’t the best.

The fact that you can make something not look so beautiful was what attracted me.”

According to Chen, the beauty of the team is in its laidback nature.

“I feel like focusing on a difficult choreography, the team places an emphasis on enjoying the performance. “We’re not all caught up in the semantics of how to execute a dance move, so it’s easier to go and have fun while you’re doing it,” Chen said.

“There’s a beauty in learning a difficult dance move, but that’s not where we’re really focussed.”

Chen, Liew and the team’s other 14 members meet twice a week to practice routines for their upcoming performances, but even outside of practice, it’s hard to find a time when the team is apart.

“Any perk of being in a small group is that we’re incredibly close,” Chen said. “Bonding is really easy to do.”

Chen said she’s glad to have teammates who can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing, mates she can always count on for advice, whether it’s about dancing.

Lindsey Molina, the team’s co-captain, agreed.

“What makes Flying Silk special to me is the family dynamic,” Molina said.

“Navigating UNC’s large campus and interacting with new faces each day can be overwhelming at times, but joining Flying Silk has allowed me to make a smaller, more comfortable niche for myself. I am always at ease when I go to practice and spend time with my team. My closest friends are ones that I’ve made after joining.”

When Flying Silk takes the stage in the Mid-Autumn Festival Gala in Sept. 30, Molina knows that the team’s passion for their dancing, and each other, will be on full display.

“I always feel such a rewarding feeling after our performances, knowing that the choreography is entirely student-driven,” Molina said. “We’re spending hours and hours practicing because we want to be there – not because we have to.”

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Ah, the excitement of a story.

Local news graphics, calls from parents and shopping opportunities abound.

Chris Dablice
Online community manager
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All right North Carolinians, you are being called. Called to be a higher purpose. Called to show how America is great! Called to the highest duty you can aspire to. Called to as an American without a war to contribute to. What is this call ask you? Why, to enter into panic about a possible natural disaster of course!

Now as Americans we have this well systematized. First: You are called to catch to copies amounts of local news. The clown makeup, questionable tie choices and hair styles giving a window into the styles of two decades ago tend to draw in those over 65 or looking for lottery numbers: the rest is not so much. But with Florence winding its merry way toward us, we can all find community again collectively watching the ill-suited huffoon that can never quite manage to point where they should be pointing on the weather graphic screen. And let not a single cloudy day dampen the folkloristic flood over cheap deck windows. Of course, the belief that the phrase is entirely spurious and nativity is to spiritually cope with natural disaster are usually elaborations on "sea, sea," but what did Doris Day know? And finally, don’t forget the real higher purpose of America: go shopping. According to the news, the potential American parameters of gasoline running should have you running to the streets with gas cans right now. And while you are, don’t forget to buy a double pack of bread and milk, and we all pack on (more) fat for the forced fast that may be coming! Indulging the quintessential topic of discussion for the next week. You are also required to get on the phone to anyone you know that could be affected and discuss the pros and cons of staying or going, bringing up the large amount of unknown information. Parents are required to call your worry and counseling you as if the upcoming weather front is reducing you in their yearning capacity of a toddler. All discussion of art, culture, politics, religion, philosophy... you know, the stuff we should be discussing in a college town, and particularly when death and disaster are near should be even more repurposed than usual as we discuss the large-ly futile specific human attempts to react to this. This is nothing quite so inspiring as seeing people responding to possibly coming natural disasters. Well, the worst has left our lives drifting into an interminable ennui for far too long. And why we should be thanking the future is no: the reason for these possible disasters. What common patterns of escape, sub-zero reality of the best possible day and excitement and entertainment would we have without them? Now get out there, do your duty and beat your neighbor to death before that last loaf of artisan bread you have to discard!