

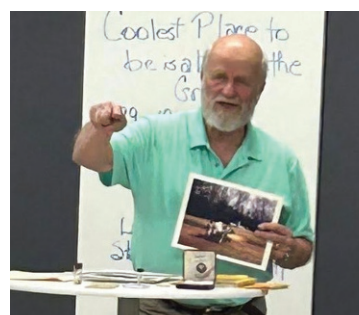


Independent Tribune

The local voice of Greater Cabarrus County

NBA playoffs 2026 rankings: Who have been the 10 best players so far?

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Thursday, April 30, 2026

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Rowan Chamber to launch campaign

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Rowan Chamber of Commerce will launch its 2026 Total Resource Campaign, supporting Chamber programs and services, on Thursday evening during the annual Derby Party hosted by Trinity Oaks.

The theme for this year's campaign is "Run for the Roses," celebrating the excitement and tradition of the Kentucky Derby.

The campaign kickoff will take place



Lynn

from 5-7 p.m. on April 30 at Trinity Oaks, located at 728 Klumac Road in Salisbury. Chamber members are encouraged to attend and dress in Derby-inspired attire while enjoying refreshments, festive activities and valuable networking opportunities.

"The Total Resource Campaign is more than a fundraising effort. It is about

strengthening the business community across Rowan County. We want to ensure every business, whether a long-time member or new to the Chamber, sees the value of being connected to an organization that advocates for growth, leadership, and opportunity," said Dr. Christine Lynn of Catawba College, Chamber chair-elect and campaign chair.

Lynn has selected a group of team captains to lead this year's campaign efforts:

- Carrie Hanneman, F&M Bank
- Donna Groce, Trinity Oaks
- Rosalind Hines, Waggoner Realty
- Leigh Ellington, Catawba College
- Starling Johnson Kaklamanos, Johnson Concrete Products
- Brad Wasler, Walser Technology

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Following the kickoff, all campaign volunteers will participate in sales training sessions to learn about the Chamber's newest benefits and services.

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CABARRUS COUNTY

SERVICE CAN BE A LIFELINE



CABARRUS COUNTY

CCTS Manager Charles Ratliff demonstrates the wheelchair lift.

CCTS connects eligible residents to care, resources

Editor's Note: Information in this story comes from Cabarrus County. It comes as the city of Kannapolis is cutting its participation in the Rider Transportation System (CK Rider buses). Elimination of the Brown route and eliminations to two other routes in Kannapolis are on the table.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

CONCORD — Getting to a doctor's appointment or the pharmacy can be a challenge for many residents, but Cabarrus County is helping to bridge that gap.

Cabarrus County Transportation Services (CCTS) provides reliable, accessible transportation for eligible residents, ensuring they can reach critical services that support their health, independence and overall quality of life.

For residents like Wally Poole, the service

is a lifeline. Health issues prevent him from driving, but CCTS keeps Poole on the go.

CCTS drivers are "very helpful," he says. "They make sure I get in the van OK. And when I get out ... they help me step down and make sure I grab on to my wheelchair and go on my merry way."

Poole uses the service daily for visits to the Concord LunchPlus site at the Logan Multipurpose Center on Booker Drive. There he connects with other residents through food and fellowship.

Between July 2025 and January 2026, CCTS logged nearly 35,000 trips throughout the county, boasting a nearly 97% on-time average. The department has 21 full-time drivers along with call center and dispatch representatives, fleet support and

Please see **TRANSPORTATION**, Page A3

Google to bring new operation to Kannapolis

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Google is coming to Kannapolis and southern Rowan County after the company signed a lease in the development off I-85, Exit 65.

"We welcome Google to the City of Kannapolis. As one of the biggest companies in the world they have the reputation of being on the cutting edge of technology and innovation and they have landed a premiere location in our City where businesses have found a strong business environment to invest," commented Kannapolis Mayor Doug Wilson.

"We look forward to welcoming Google into our community and to see the growth of the Overlook 85 Industrial Park," said Kannapolis City Manager Wilmer Melton.

"Google's investment is evidence of the competitiveness of Kannapolis and the region," said Irene Wong, Economic

Please see **GOOGLE**, Page A3

City issues statement on contamination

Editor's Note: This is a statement issued by the City of Kannapolis as a follow-up to the "boil water" notice that was in effect Friday, April 24, and Saturday, April 25.

FROM THE CITY OF KANNAPOLIS

Statement on Boil Water Notice

We would like to provide you with information on how the Boil Water situation evolved and what next steps are being taken by the city.

The Water Resources Department conducts tests on the Kannapolis water supply continuously. The tests are done using water taken from outdoor areas, usually spigots or water meter boxes from randomly rotating selected areas around the city.

A test on April 23 was positive for E Coli in one of the samples. The test results were sent to the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

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Shot to stop cancer looks promising

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• Joan C. Lowder

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