

US military bases delay cleanup of toxic ‘forever chemicals.’

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Dudley’s dynamic big playmaker heads the list of top receivers for 2026.

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REVVING UP FOR JETZERO JOBS



WOODY MARSHALL PHOTOS, NEWS & RECORD

Guilford County Schools teachers learn python coding at Deloitte Smart Factory Believers Institute in the Moore Humanities and Research Building on the UNC-Greensboro campus in Greensboro on Wednesday.

Company hopes STEM training initiative makes believers of Guilford County Schools students

RICHARD CRAVER
Staff Reporter

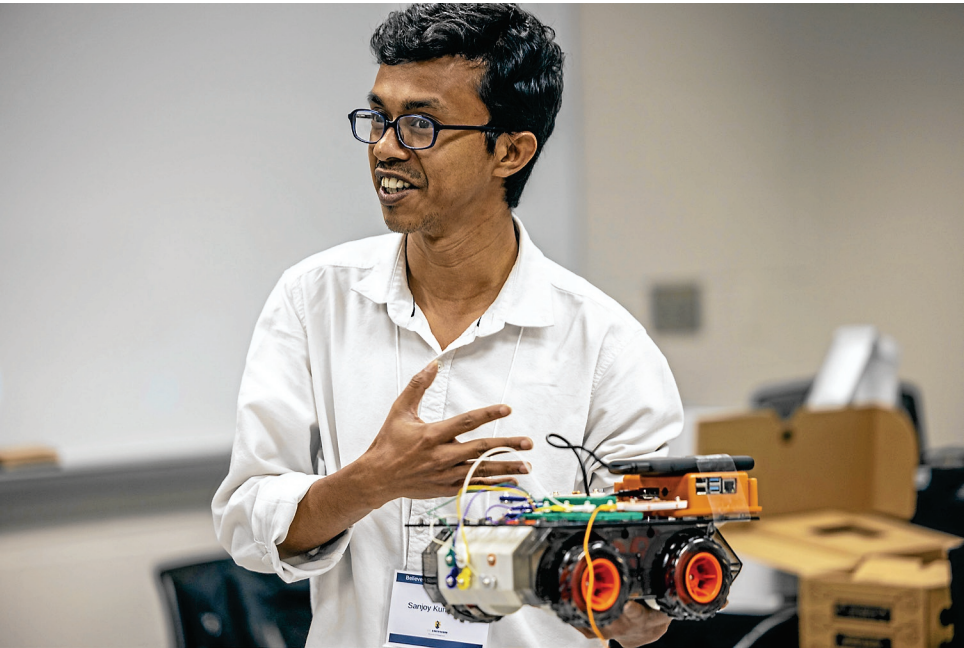
JetZero’s audacious \$4.7 billion project to build the first blended-wing passenger aircraft comes with an overlapping three-legged challenge.

Trying to simultaneously build a headquarters and manufacturing campus, a projected 14,564-employee workforce at full production by the early 2030s, and an

industry game-changing aircraft with the goal of demonstrator test flights taking off in 2027.

The fledgling manufacturer broke ground July 15 on its planned 8-million-square-foot campus at Piedmont Triad International Airport. The goal is producing up to 20 Z4 aircrafts per month.

Please see BELIEVERS, Page A4



Dr. Sanjoy Kundu teaches Guilford County School teachers at Deloitte Smart Factory Believers Institute at the Moore Humanities and Research Building on the UNCG campus on Wednesday.

Family
sues after
mistaken
cremation

Walter Bell wanted an open-casket ceremony, but a funeral home cremated him instead, according to a lawsuit

SUSIE C. SPEAR
Staff Reporter

When Brodrick Bell learned his dad had been mistakenly cremated by a Greensboro funeral home, he grieved a second time, the Reidsville man said.

Bell’s father, Walter Jones, 70, died at his Greensboro home on March 1 from lung cancer.

Jones had entrusted Bell with making sure his funeral plans were carried out with a traditional embalming and burial.

“He told me he wanted an open casket,” Bell said. “He wanted to be seen, and he said, ‘Make sure they see me and give me the same love they did on earth, and I can take that with me.’ My father did not want to be cremated. Our family doesn’t do cremations.”

But on March 5, Bell said he received a call from Tony Carter, the owner of Regional Memorial Cremations and Funeral Services, asking him to come to the Lindsay Street business because something had gone very wrong.

The funeral home had cremated Jones, Carter said.

Bell has filed a civil lawsuit in Guilford Superior Court against Regional Memorial and Carter.

The suit alleges the company and Carter negligently mishandled Bell’s father’s corpse, and negligently inflicted emotional distress on Bell, causing him to experience depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. The lawsuit seeks more than \$25,000 in damages.

The suit further demands a jury trial, meaning the case will not simply be decided by a judge.

Bell is represented by attorneys Philip Olivier and Brian Walker of Garrett, Walker, Aycoth & Olson, a Greensboro-based law firm.

A man who identified himself only as Tony Parker’s brother, said by phone from the funeral home on Thursday that the company’s attorney had instructed them not to speak to the media.

“So far, they have refused to accept any responsibility for what happened,” attorney Walker said Tuesday.

Bell said he also has made a complaint against Regional Memorial to the North Carolina Board of Funeral Service, the state governing agency that monitors and sanctions funeral homes and crematoriums.

The board could not verify receipt of the complaint because such issues are not public record unless disciplinary measures are taken against a funeral business, administrators said.

Poster at the funeral

On a recent morning at his Reidsville home, Bell shared photos of his father, including a poster-size image of Jones, clad in a white suit and hat.

Friends and family signed the poster

Please see LAWSUIT, Page A6

Understaffing, DOGE cuts at N.C.’s federal wildlife lands stretch workers thin.

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Showers and thunderstorms
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