

The Macon County **NEWS** & Shopping Guide

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independent
weekly

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for your
Valentine*
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FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Manna Food Bank held its monthly food giveaway for residents needing some assistance on Monday, Jan. 25, at the Macon County Fairgrounds. This month, 882 individuals in 252 households were served in the rainy weather. Items included in this month's package were paper towels and toilet paper, fresh carrots and sweet potatoes along with canned goods, drinks, and candy for Valentine's Day completed the offerings. Aside from the MANNA food bank, Macon Program for Progress supplied boxes of food which included the paper goods, pasta and other treats.
Photo by Vickie Carpenter

Macon Schools celebrate 95.4% graduation rate

Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer

The Macon County School Board convened on Monday night for their monthly meeting. At the top of the list was the graduation rates for Macon County School's students in 2019. Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin conveyed the statistics. Nantahala School had a graduation rate of 100%, Highlands School 100%, Macon Early College (MEC) 100%, Franklin High School (FHS) 91.4%, Union Academy (UA) 73%, which he stated is in line with other alternative schools in the state. The total brings Macon County Schools to an overall rating of 95.4% which places Macon Schools in the top percentile level for graduation, compared to all 981 high schools in North Carolina.

Lack of arts concerns parents at MMS and FHS

Art and chorus have been missing at Macon Middle School (MMS) for some time now and students entering MMS from Mountain View Intermediate (MVI) are saddened to find that there are no fine art programs for them to enroll in.

Sarah O'Neil is an art teacher at MVI. She is also the mother of a 6th grader and an 8th grader. During Monday

might's board meeting O'Neil gave an impassioned plea to help bring back the arts to these two schools.

"When my students ask me about what art is like at MMS, sadly, I tell them there is no art or choir. If you could see their faces, they are shocked and sad," said O'Neil. For many of them, art is what helps them get through their day. I asked my students recently why the arts are important and here are some responses: "We will be behind other students if we don't have access to the arts"; "Art calms me and brings me joy"; "Art is the reason I come to school"; "Art is life. How can we not have art?"; "Art helps me draw better and music helps my soul. Without it, I'm not getting the experiences I want and need until high school and that is sad"; "Art is therapeutic and is helping me get through COVID."

"That last quote hit me particularly hard. We see so many things about kids and their experiences through this time and the arts are really what is saving a lot of them," she continued. "Today my students had the opportunity to make something out of clay, and for many, it was their first time using clay. One student said, 'this is the best day ever!'"

"The arts, more than ever, are truly an outlet for our kids,

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SCHOOL BOARD

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for their social and emotional learning. I wanted to share my personal experiences with you and remind you that we are still here and advocating for the arts in Macon County Schools.

“For some students, art may not be their favorite subject but it is something that brings them joy.”

Maggie Jennings is the parent of a second grader at East Franklin Elementary School and will have another child starting kindergarten in the fall. Jennings is also a huge advocate of returning the arts to MMS and FHS. MMS has not had an art program for the past 10 years and the choir program has been a missing component for the past five years. With no stepping stone from MMS choir, the FHS choir program has suffered also. This past year only 10 students were enrolled into the FHS choir program when in the past it had been up to 25 students. Jennings helped form a group called Arts for MCS (Macon County Schools) a few years ago with the goal “to support Macon County Schools in providing equal access for all students in the arts.” There are more than 1000 parents in this group. They have a Facebook page and anyone interested in joining or learning more about the Arts for MCS initiative can go to Facebook Arts for MCS (Macon County Schools.) Jennings also read impassioned pleas from two of the parents who couldn't make the meeting.

One homeschooling mother was concerned that her son who will be entering the

6th grade next year would not have any art options. She said, “Kids need an outlet to express themselves” and hoped that Macon County will consider more art options for kids.

Another mom wrote that she was “appalled” that her daughter would not have access to art, music or choir activities and that she was extremely talented in these areas and benefitted academically when they are integrated into her daily activities. “These integrated experiences make learning more fun and enjoyable for her and prolong her learning experiences, helping her to retain much of what she has learned throughout the school year as these experiences build upon one another.”

She said her daughter struggles with ADHD and is able to be more successful when listening to music or drawing while working and that art and music helps to enhance her social skills.

“Adding music, choir, band, arts and crafts to the curricula would greatly enhance each and every student's academic learning experiences as they navigate through their teen years, and it would bring much needed joy and meaning to their academic career as they transition into adulthood. Thank you for your time, service and consideration,” she concluded.

Water woes at Iotla Valley Elementary

Iotla Valley Elementary School and MVI both use Geothermal Energy to heat and cool the schools. Geothermal heating works by moving temperature-conducting fluid through a loop of pipes in the school. This allows the fluid to collect the thermal

energy deposited in the earth from the sun. This works well even in the coldest winters because the earth below the frostline is a steady 55 degrees Fahrenheit all year long. The heat is circulated back into the pump and then distributed evenly throughout the facility using duct work. The cooling process simply works in reverse. There are two commonly used types of fluids that can be circulated through the ground loop system. The Standard Geothermal uses a mix of water, antifreeze (Propylene Glycol), and refrigerant. While, the Waterless Geothermal System uses R-410A refrigerant. Macon schools' Geothermal System uses Glycol.

Eight breaks have occurred in the Geothermal system at Iotla Valley Elementary and the glycol is now just water. This has caused floods through the ceiling in some rooms. Todd Gibbs, director of Auxiliary Services, said that this was a “catastrophic concern.” Luckily the floods were caught early thanks to staff reporting during school, but if they would have occurred over a long weekend it could have caused major damage.

“There are 100 wells that are 100 feet deep. The well field is under the parking lot so there is no way for us to visually check for water coming up through the dirt or even a wet spot on the dirt to make sure the piping in the wells is intact. In order to evaluate the damage an engineer is needed to survey the site. This will come at a cost of \$4,900.” The board voted to approve the cost in order to get this issues resolved. Included in the \$4,900 is an analysis, and suggestions for a solution.

COVID-19 Updates

Dr. Baldwin expressed concern regarding the rising number of positive COVID cases in schools, coupled with staff and student quarantines. He explained that at this point, MMS and MVI are just holding on but if more cases necessitate more teachers being quarantined those schools might have to go to remote learning due to lack of staff available to adequately supervise students. As of Jan. 22, current COVID cases are as follows: Cartoogechaye Elementary, 2 staff and 10 students quarantined and 1 student positive; East Franklin Elementary, 2 staff and 14 students quarantined, 1 student and 1 staff positive; FHS, 36 students quarantined, 5 staff and 7 students positive; Highlands School, 7 students and 1 staff quarantined and 1 student positive; Iotla Elementary, 21 students and 2 staff quarantined, 1 staff and 4 students positive; Macon Early College, 4 students quarantined and 2 positive; MMS, 5 staff and 27 students quarantined, 1 staff and 4 students positive; MVI, 3 staff and 15 students quarantined and 1 staff positive; Nantahala School, 1 student quarantined; South Macon Elementary, 12 students quarantined and 1 student positive; Union Academy, 2 staff and 19 students quarantined and 1 student positive; for a total of 187 students and 27 staff not in school. Dr. Baldwin would like to see teachers getting vaccinated as soon as possible, but the governor and Health and Human Services is in charge of vaccine rollout. Dr. Baldwin stated,

“Without vaccinations we are going to continue to face school closures. In N.C., the majority of students are virtual and we want to keep our schools open,” said Dr. Baldwin.

Harris Regional, health department team up to vaccinate Jackson teachers

Brittney Lofthouse-Contributing Writer

Last week, schools in Jackson County dismissed early on Friday to allow all educators wanting to receive the COVID19 vaccine to be able to do so.

The vaccination clinic was conducted in collaboration with the Jackson County Department of Public Health and Harris Regional Hospital.

North Carolina is currently vaccinating Group 2 of the vaccination rollout plan — which means healthcare workers and anyone 65 years or older can receive the vaccine. While the Jackson County Health Department is leading the community vaccination efforts in Jackson County, Harris Regional Hospital, like other hospitals in the state have received their own allotment of the vaccine. When the hospital completed the vaccination of hospital staff, they realized that they had additional doses available.

“Last week, we were encouraged by the state to use up our remaining vaccine supply by today, [Monday, Jan. 25] or run the risk of it being transferred out of our community,” said Lucretia F. Stargell vice president of Professional Services for Harris Regional Hospital. “After consultation with the health department, we were able to coordinate with the school system to rapidly organize this vaccine clinic.”

Several factors went into the decision to vaccinate public educators in Jackson County, which according to Stargell included:

- The school system had the right number of people for the amount of vaccine available to distribute;
- The school system was able to provide and set up the location for the event;

- The identified population could be quickly and efficiently mobilized to meet the timeline;

- As frontline essential workers, teachers, and other school system staff are high risk for exposure to COVID-19 in their work settings.

“Vaccinating these individuals also protects our students, their parents, and families against COVID-19 and helps keep our schools open and operational,” said Stargell. “We appreciate the support and patience of our communities as we continue to follow federal and state guidance and partner with our local health departments on community vaccine distribution.”

While Jackson County and Swain County have both been able to vaccinate public educators, Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin informed the board of education Monday night that Macon County Public Health Director Kathy McGaha said that it is impossible to say when Macon County teachers will receive the vaccine.

Teachers are listed in Group 3 of the state's vaccine rollout — which was originally supposed to begin around the end of January in Macon County. However, due to vaccines being diverted to urban areas of the county this week for mass vaccination clinics, Macon County's vaccine allotment was drastically decreased.

While Harris Regional Hospital provided vaccines for the community event in Jackson County, McGaha told commissioners last week that the Macon County community has not received the same support from Angel Medical Center or Mission Health Systems.

Over the weekend, a group in Highlands conducted a vaccination clinic that distributed nearly 500 vaccines — and

AMC has vaccinated some of their frontline staff. As of Tuesday, Macon County had 230 vaccines on hand, with 2,273 vaccines administered so far.

Chick-Fil-A coming to town

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Last week, the corporate headquarters for Chick-Fil-A inc confirmed that the company is in the process of opening a restaurant in Franklin. While they confirmed the restaurant, additional details regarding a location and timeline were scarce.

“While we are excited to be moving closer toward a Chick-fil-A restaurant in Franklin, we do not have any updates to share on timing,” according to Chick-fil-A, Inc who confirmed the future store on Thursday. “We look forward to joining the community and serving all of our guests with great food and genuine hospitality.”

Preliminary building plans dated Nov. 11, provide additional details as to the future Franklin location for a new Chick-Fil-A restaurant. According to the plans, the proposed location will be located off US Highway 441 and Siler Road — across the road from the Dowdle Mountain Pit Stop.

The proposed plans break down the construction process to ready the plat of land into three phases which include preparing the land to address erosion controls and maintain the vegetation.

The preliminary design plans have the restaurant entrance after the red light, before the roundabout, with an exit onto Siler Road. Plans also include a large 750 square foot outdoor patio and two large pond features.



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State parks report 19.8M visitors in 2020

North Carolina state parks experienced a record number of visitors in 2020.

State parks and recreation areas welcomed 19.8 million visitors last year — 400,000 more than any other year on record and 1.2 million more visitors than in 2019. The previous record for visitation was set in 2017 when the parks welcomed 19.4 million visitors.

Park staff attribute the increased visitation not only to public recognition that outdoor recreation promotes better health during the pandemic, but also to recently completed Connect N.C. Bond projects at parks across the state. These projects include improved and expanded campground facilities, new trails and visitor centers and improved parking and access.

Among 41 state parks and recreation areas, 28 reported increases in visitation in 2020, despite the majority of parks being closed for weeks at the outset of the pandemic. Jockeys Ridge State Park in Dare County reported the highest visitation at 1.9 million, and was among seven state park units that welcomed more than a million visitors. The others were Carolina Beach, Pilot



Mountain, William B. Umstead, Fort Macon and Eno River state parks and Falls Lake State Recreation Area. Jordan Lake, Kerr Lake and Falls Lake welcomed fewer visitors than previous years due to several weeks of closed campgrounds, facilities and boat ramps.

Several parks experienced visitation increases in excess of 25 percent compared to 2019, including Carolina Beach (78 percent), Mayo River (92 percent), Raven Rock (32 percent) and Grandfather Mountain (32 percent). The month of December was the busiest December on record, with South Mountains up 98 percent for the month and William B. Umstead up 68 percent. Hammocks Beach welcomed 67 percent more visitors in December than the prior year, and Hanging Rock welcomed 57 percent more visitors.

With increased visitation also came challenges. According to the Division of Parks and Recreation, visitors can help to reduce negative impacts in the parks by carrying a bag for their own litter; staying on trails to avoid damaging natural resources; visiting less popular parks or trails; and visiting on weekdays or visiting earlier or later in the day to reduce crowding.

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HCA Healthcare helps bring PPE mask plant to Asheville

Through a new joint venture between HCA Healthcare and A Plus International Inc., and support from the HCA Healthcare Mission Innovation Fund, LLC, production of personal protective equipment (PPE) will be brought to North Carolina through a new manufacturing center.

The joint venture will produce PPE Level 1 and Level 3 masks meeting American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards for quality and safety starting in early 2021 from a manufacturing center located in Asheville. The joint venture will be co-managed by A Plus and HealthTrust, a global leader in purchasing aggregation and performance improvement for healthcare.

“Early on in the COVID-19 pandemic, we saw the vulnerabilities in the global supply chain for critical PPE,” said Greg Lowe, President, HCA Healthcare North Carolina. “While HCA Healthcare has been able to secure the PPE needed for its 187 hospitals and more than 2,000 sites of care, this new PPE manufacturing center in Asheville will help ensure access to quality masks made domestically. Should there be a surge in demand similar to what was experienced in the first half of 2020, we will take comfort knowing that we will have the flexibility to ramp up production capacity to meet growing demand.”



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MCPH streamlines vaccine registration, scheduling

Macon County Public Health has streamlined the COVID-19 vaccination registration and appointment scheduling process in an effort to register individuals and schedule appointments in a timelier manner.

Beginning Tuesday, Jan. 25, individuals who need to register or schedule an appointment for a COVID-19 vaccination should call (828)524-1500. The Call Center is operating Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Macon County is currently vaccinating individuals' eligible for Group 1 (Health Care Workers with in-person Patient Contact) and Group 2 (Individuals age 65 and over).

Vaccination clinics are being held Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Due to vaccine allocations not meeting the current demand, Macon County Public Health has begun a waitlist system for individuals who register or need to schedule appointments from Jan. 25 forward. Appointment slots will be established based on vaccine supply. As vaccine becomes available individuals on the waitlist will

Beginning January 25th, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing

Monday—Friday

8:30am - 4:00pm

Macon County Public Health

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Vaccination Scheduling 828-524-1500

Testing Scheduling 828-349-2517

be contacted with their appointment date and time.

Individuals' needing an appointment for COVID-19 testing should call (828)349-2517. Testing clinics are also being held daily Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Macon County Public Health is providing testing and vaccination clinics through a drive-thru clinic at 1830 Lakeside Drive in Franklin and, an appointment is required. MCPH requests the community's assistance by holding calls to schedule vaccinations until your phase is announced.

Dementia workshop series planned for February

The Alzheimer's Association, Western Carolina Chapter and the Alzheimer's Association, Eastern North Carolina Chapter are hosting a three-part virtual education series in February.

Part one — “Navigating a Dementia Diagnosis: What does this diagnosis mean?” — will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 10 from noon - 1:15 p.m. Understanding the disease and diagnostic process, symptoms of early stage and managing, and the relationship(s) among doctors, patients, and care partners. Presented by Dr. Mark Pippinger, Behavioral Neurologist with Novant Health.

Part two — “Navigating a Dementia Diagnosis: The Power of Planning” — will take place Wednesday, February 17 from Noon - 1:15 p.m. This program will cover care planning, care teams, care management, a legal and financial overview, and an exploration of family and friends, relationships, and self-care. This session will include a panel of experts including: Corinne Auman (family care-

giving and aging expert), Alyssa Botte (psychotherapist in memory counseling), and Marjorie Brown (elder law attorney).

Part three — “Navigating a Dementia Diagnosis: Live Well” — will take place Wednesday, February 24 from Noon - 1:15 p.m. This program will include Alzheimer's Association Early-Stage Advisors sharing their experiences of living with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

The three-part series is open to individuals with a recent diagnosis and/ or in the early stages of Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases, their families and care-partners and the general public. Interested parties may register for all three, or just those sessions that fit best their schedule and interests. Attendees can attend via video/webinar or through a toll-free number. There is no charge to participate, but registration is required. To sign up, visit tinyurl.com/NavigatingALZFeb2021 or call 1-800-272-3900.

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Nantahala Bank welcomes new commercial customer manager and senior lender

Nantahala Bank and Trust announces that Josh Owens, is the Commercial Relationship Manager and Senior Lender in its Franklin office. Owens will work with business customers who need funding for purchase, refinance or construction of their business, a business line of credit or an equipment loan.



Josh Owens

“We are so excited that our customers will be able to benefit from Josh’s vast experience and wide range of knowledge in the lending industry,” said Tim Hubbs, CEO of Nantahala Bank.

Owens is a native of Franklin, and has been in the banking industry for 20 years, most recently as Business Banker III at First Citizens Bank (formerly Entegra Bank). He has experience in all areas of lending, including mortgage and commercial lending.

Owens graduated summa cum laude from Mars Hill College with a degree in Business Administration (concentration in finance and economic) and is a member of the Business Honor Society and National Honor Society. He is also active in the community. He is the current president of the board of directors for Macon Citizens Abilities, a member of the Certified Entrepreneurship Community (CEC) Leadership Team and a member of the Community Relations Board for Angel Medical Center. He previously served as a board member of the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce for two terms and served as treasurer and youth development chair of the Rotary Club of Franklin Daybreak.

“I am pleased to join Nantahala Bank as a lender, where I can help our local small businesses grow and prosper. Having decisions made locally is a great advantage for our customers,” said Owens.

Southwestern to host two virtual job fairs

Even as the pandemic continues, employers continue to seek eager workers to fill important job roles.

To help with the search, Southwestern Community College’s Career Services is offering two virtual job fairs through Google Meet.

While jobs are posted daily, there will be a showcase of jobs on the SCC Job Board on Monday, Feb. 15. Students can tune in at 10 a.m. to discuss opportunities with Director of Career Services, Mike Despeaux, and co-host Paula Alter, Career Center Manager of the Macon, Jackson and Swain County NCWorks Career Centers.



Mike Despeaux overseeing the career fair, now being hosted virtually.

The first event, co-hosted by the Director of SCC’s nursing program, Wendy Buchanan, is a healthcare career fair that will take place from 1-4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16. A general job fair will then take place from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18. Julie Spiro Donaldson, executive director of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and Stephanie Edwards, executive director of the Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce, will co-host the event.

Despeaux will begin each job fair by introducing SCC’s resources to job-seekers and employers, then he’ll allow participating employers to introduce themselves and discuss their respective job openings.

Throughout these timeframes, employers will be available to answer calls, respond to emails, and set up individual Google Meet or Zoom meetings to discuss job openings and hiring plans. After the events, recordings will be avail-

able as podcasts to any job-seeker who visits www.southwesterncc.edu/career-services/southwestern-career-connection-video-podcast-series.

“Job fairs are excellent opportunities for candidates to learn more about opportunities, gain an advantage in the hiring process, and leverage their SCC educations to achieve success,” said Despeaux.

Participation in the job fairs, traditionally hosted on campus, is free and open to the public.

Employers who would like to reach a large number of qualified job-seekers can sign up by contacting Mike Despeaux at m_despeaux@southwesterncc.edu.

Job-seekers can get more information about how to participate in the Virtual Job Fair and the schedule of employers by visiting www.southwesterncc.edu/career-services/preparing-job-fair.



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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

I have two important updates this week. Both will impact our community in the coming weeks.

The Highlands/Cashiers Community Vaccination Clinic is a great success. On Sunday about 480 people were vaccinated. The clinic is a model for how volunteers and nonprofit groups can work together to provide a critical service for the community.

Tom Neal, the clinic organizer, and the volunteers were ready to vaccinate even more people yesterday. But, the clinic was closed because no vaccine was available. There appears to be a severe shortage of vaccine across the nation. While we have the system to put vaccine in arms as soon as it arrives, this supply shortage prevents us from doing so. Macon and Jackson County are dependent on vaccine allocations from the state.

I worry that our counties, as well as all of Western North Carolina, may not be getting a full allocation of vaccine. There are some accounts that a higher portion of vaccine is being diverted to larger metropolitan areas. There may be a misperception that the outlying counties in Western North Carolina simply don't have the systems in place to vaccinate people. Our community clinic has demonstrated that is not necessarily the case.

If you share my concern, please call the governor's office at (912)814-2000 and let your concern be known, that equitable allotments of vaccine should be sent to the counties and programs of Western North Carolina. The governor can also be contacted by entering on a search engine: governor.nc.gov .

Despite these vaccine shortages, registration for vaccinations will continue. An appointment list is being maintained, and as vaccines become available people on the list will be notified when to come to the clinic for vaccination.

The other big update concerns the paving of Main Street by NCDOT. Our town manager, town engineer and I met with DOT engineers and the paving contractor last Friday afternoon. The group actually walked Main Street to examine paving issues.

The contractor and DOT are developing a schedule for starting the downtown paving which will take approximately two weeks. The projected start date is sometime around the middle of March. A specific timeframe

See TAYLOR page 11

Letters to the Editor

'Try to love one another right now'

Last night, in a dream, a song from my distant past rang its way into my mind. It was written by Chet Powers in the mid '60s, when I was but a child. I had no idea what the Youngbloods were saying, but their message stuck in my brain. "Get Together" was the second single released from the Youngbloods' debut album in July 1967. It was only a mild success at first, peaking at #62 on the Billboard charts. However, a PSA campaign in 1969 brought it back into the public eye. It was reissued and quickly shot to #5, becoming the de facto anthem of the hippie movement.

Here it is:

Love is but a song we sing
Fear's the way we die
You can make the mountains ring
Or make the angels cry
Though the bird is on the wing
And you may not know why

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Some may come and some may go
We will surely pass
When the One that left us here
Returns for us at last
We are but a moment's sunlight
Fading in the grass

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

If you hear the song I sing
You will understand, listen
You hold the key to love and fear
All in your trembling hand
Just one key unlocks them both

It's there at your command
Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

I said come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now
Right now
Right now

Sometimes we need to just listen. Some things in that song ring true today. The hippies tried to "find themselves" through drugs, "free love," etc. Some finally stumbled onto the truth, got off of drugs, and got "high" on Jesus and the "Jesus People" movement came on the scene. Jesus will give you a reason to "smile on your brother." Fear is the way we die! Take off the mask and live for Jesus before you die.

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us." (1 John 4:7ff)

Ed Hill – Franklin, N.C.

The cats need your help

For a long time now, a group of feral cats or as I prefer to call them, cats that were lied to when told they were getting a forever home, have been living at a construction site. Myself, Lisa and others have been feeding them twice a day. I'm looking to find them true forever homes. I have three cats but took on the responsibility of saving a four-week old kitten, that was within minutes of dying.

This was accomplished by Dr. Lenzo and his staff dropping everything to ensure the kitten lived. The kitten is now a valued member of my family and I wouldn't give her up for anything. Lisa has also opened her home to save more of them.

What I am looking for is others willing to give their love and home to save more of these animals. The biggest thing, is that you must have more than just a desire to save one or more of these felines, it must be a forever home. If you are interested, please give me a call at 1-828-524-0114. For anyone adopting a cat, I will be happy to teach you how to speak cat. If I am not in, just leave a message, I will get back with you. Thank you.

Jeff Pritz – Franklin, N.C.

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The three walls are already in place

This is a word to the wise and to see if you can open your eyes, your ears, and your mind and understand what's really going on around you....

There was a chemistry professor in a large college that had some exchange students in the class.

One day, the professor noticed one young man, an exchange student, who kept rubbing his back and stretching as if his back hurt. The professor asked the young man what was the matter.

The student told him he had a bullet lodged in his back. He had been shot while fighting communists in his native country who were trying to overthrow his country's government and install a new communist regime. In the midst of his story, he looked at the professor and asked a strange question.

He asked: "Do you know how to catch wild pigs?"

The professor thought it was a joke and asked for the punch line. The young man said that it was no joke. "You catch wild pigs by finding a suitable place in the woods and putting corn on the ground. The pigs find it and begin to come every day to eat the free corn.

"When they are used to coming every day, you put a fence down one side of the place where they are used to coming. When they get used to the fence, they begin to eat the corn again and you put up another side of the fence.

"They get used to that and start to eat again. You continue until you have all four sides of the fence up with a gate in the last side.

"The pigs, which are used to the free corn, start to come through the gate to eat that free corn again. You then slam the gate on them and catch the whole herd.

"Suddenly the wild pigs have lost their freedom. They run around and around inside the fence, but they are caught. Soon they go back to eating the free corn. They are so used to it that they have forgotten how to forage in the woods for themselves, so they accept their captivity and the inevitable slaughter house."

The young man then told the professor that is exactly what he sees happening in America. The government keeps pushing us toward Communism/Socialism and keeps spreading the free corn out in the form of programs such as supplemental income, tax credit for unearned income, tax exemptions, tobacco subsidies, dairy subsidies, payments not to plant crops (CRP), welfare entitlements, medicine, drugs, etc., while we continually lose our freedoms, just a little at a time.

One should always remember two truths: There is no such thing as a free lunch, and you can never hire someone to provide a service for you cheaper than you can do it yourself.

If you see that all of this wonderful government "help" is a problem confronting the future of democracy in America, you might want to share this with your friends.

If you think the free ride is essential to your way of life, then you will probably not share this and no doubt in the future become a pork chop.

But, God help us all when the gate slams shut.

Now look around you, listen and come to grasp with the undeniable fact that the local, state and federal government in complicity with Big Tech and the Lame Scream media has for a long time:

– Told you where and when you can or cannot worship according to your closely held spiritual beliefs and training

– Told you whether or not you can leave your house – stay home (kind'a like being in jail without the lousy food and noise) or be arrested and go to jail and pay a huge fine and attorney's fees

– Told you where you can and cannot shop. Okay to shop the big box stores, but shut down locally owned business, restaurants, hair care shops, etc.

– Told you what you can and cannot read – Big Tech shut-

ting down Conservative social media posts and even crushing conservative companies (Parler being the first big example) while allowing Left Wing radicals and foreign interests who hate America to post whatever they want

– Told you what you can or cannot think – Shut up and follow the party line or the Left will denigrate and punish you

– Told you cannot own firearms they don't think you should own while you have to pay for them to have armed security

– Told you cannot protest governmental over reach and tyranny

– Told you that if you stand up for and voice your support for your guaranteed Rights, you are a racist and a domestic terrorist

– Told you that undocumented aliens are more important and entitled than American citizens

– Told you that you must pay to support millions of undocumented aliens

Told you that you are racist if you don't want undocumented aliens who broke the law to get into this country have more rights than you do and have to stay here

– Told you that you have to shut up, sit down, and allow even more law breaking undocumented aliens to come into this country

– Told you that the elected and bureaucratic Elitists in government are smarter, better, and more important than you

While I could write a lot more, I am hoping you get the idea that the three walls are already up and the gate is closing.

Are you one of those haters of the American way of life so many people fought, bled and died to protect and be one of the Fellow Travelers who will continue to ratify, condone, support and enable the Socialist/Communist Democratic Party dedicated to taking over our country to be successful or will you realize you have been duped, brainwashed by the Left's propaganda and stand up for the Truth and defend our Liberty?

Yea therefore and verily I say unto you, the Truth shall set you free, but first it shall make you very angry.

Pete Stern – Franklin, N.C.

TAYLOR

From previous page

should be coming soon, and we will notify everyone, especially the downtown merchants, as soon as possible.

DOT and the contractor plan to do the paving downtown as fast as possible. They will maintain a round-the-clock work schedule. At night the contractor will operate a huge milling machine to remove the top 1 1/2 inches of paving. It will be very noisy and generate a substantial amount of dust. It is a tradeoff. If the milling machine was operating during the day, visitors would be encountering not only noise, but also large clouds of dust. The milling machine will shut down in the early morning hours, and paving equipment will come in and resurface the freshly milled section. During the paving, one side of the street will be closed for paving. The other side will remain open for two-way traffic, so the downtown will never be completely closed to traffic. The contractor believes this plan will reduce by half the time for paving the downtown area.

Once the downtown paving is complete, paving of US 64 to Buck Creek will begin, as well as paving NC 28 to Clear Creek. These two projects will go into the summer months.

We will keep everyone up to date, but plan on disruptions in late March.

How to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning

As cold temperatures persist this winter, officials with the North Carolina Division of Public Health caution people not to use gasoline-powered generators or tools, outdoor grills and camp stoves in enclosed spaces. These devices should be used outside only and at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and air vents to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas produced whenever fuel is burned. In an enclosed space, such as a home, garage, car or camper, carbon monoxide can build up to deadly levels quickly. Even low levels of carbon monoxide can cause dizziness, fatigue, nausea, headaches, confusion or fainting. If you experience these symptoms, get to fresh air immediately and seek medical attention.

Carbon monoxide can be deadly within minutes. Carbon monoxide poisoning can be fatal to anyone, especially children, pregnant women, older adults and/or those with chronic illness. People who are sleeping or intoxicated can die from carbon monoxide poisoning before ever becoming aware of their symptoms.

To stay safe:

- Do not use gasoline-powered tools, generators or engines in enclosed or even partially enclosed spaces. Use them outdoors, at least 20 feet from doors, windows and air vents.

- Do not use charcoal grills or propane stoves indoors, even in a fireplace.

- Never use the stove or other gas appliances to heat your home.

- Do not idle your car, truck or other vehicle in the garage, even if the garage door to the outside is open. Fumes can build up quickly in the garage and living area of your home.

- Install a carbon monoxide detector on each level of your home. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and maintenance. If used correctly, these detectors can save lives by alerting people to increasing levels of carbon monoxide in the home.

- Keep rooms well ventilated.

When buying a generator, make sure to buy or use the correct extension cord to allow the generator to be placed outdoors, at least 20 feet from doors, windows and air vents and still have enough power to work correctly. For fuel-burning devices, read and follow instructions carefully, use the proper fuel and make sure there is enough air for ventilation and fuel burning.

If you experience symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning including dizziness, fatigue, nausea, headaches, confusion or fainting, get to fresh air immediately and seek medical care.

For more information about carbon monoxide poisoning prevention, visit epi.publichealth.nc.gov/oe/a_z/co.html.



Wildlife commission conducts annual cliff closings to protect falcons

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

Each year, measures are taken in Western North Carolina to protect peregrine falcons. While no longer on the Endangered Species List, the falcons are still considered sensitive to environmental toxins, and annual area temporary cliff closures are necessary to ensure nesting habitats are undisturbed so that the population of peregrine falcons continues to thrive, according to Chris Kelly, a mountain wildlife diversity biologist at the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC).

Peregrine falcons mate for life and return to the same site each year to nest. Disturbances early in the season could result in abandonment, while disturbances later in the cycle may interfere with the adults tending to the nestlings, informed Kelly.

While several cliff closings occur in surrounding counties, the main one of importance to Macon County is at Pickens Nose. Kelly explained that a cliff closure does not mean the entire hiking area is closed, just one area is off limits temporarily to climbers so that the falcons can lay their eggs and raise their offspring.

“Whiteside Mountain in Jackson County, very near the Macon County line, also has a partial closure,” said Kelly.

Typically, the U.S. Forest Service closes protected cliffs each year between Jan. 15 and Aug. 15. However, “Some cliffs on other properties are closed to climbing year round, such as at Chimney Rock State Park,



Peregrine falcons mate for life and return to the same site each year to nest.

Devil’s Courthouse on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Grandfather Mountain, and others,” Kelly said.

Besides rock climbing, other activities prohibited during cliff closures are rappelling, ice climbing, bouldering, hang gliding, and slacklining.

To monitor area cliffs and ensure falcons are protected, NCWRC staff and volunteers

“check sites throughout the nesting season to see if a pair is on territory; determine what ledge they are using for their nest (they don’t build a stick nest; rather, they lay their eggs on the flat rock surface); when incubation begins; when they have young; how many young they have; disturbances; and whether the nest attempt was successful or not,” said Kelly. “This involves long hours

(usually four-hour blocks early in the morning) looking through binoculars or a spotting scope, and becoming familiar with peregrine falcon identification, vocalizations and behaviors that reveal what is going on at the nest site. They can be very difficult to observe as they blend in well with rock and are secretive. It is not like watching an eagle nest because we don’t always know immediately which ledge they’ve selected for nesting. At Pickens Nose, there is no clear view of the nest ledge. We watch from very far away at all sites. But at Pickens Nose we watch through the trees from below or observe from above, waiting for a vocalization or flyby to clue us in.”

Peregrine falcons, deemed the fastest animals on the planet, can reach speeds of more than 200 miles per hour. And even though they are skilled hunters, the birds have never been very abundant, cited U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, because their offspring often cannot replace quickly enough the death rates of adults due to accidents and environmental factors.

NCWRC reported that in 2020, across Western North Carolina, 16 sites were occupied by peregrine falcon pairs and four successfully reproduced with a total of seven offspring.

To learn specifics about where and when to avoid activities at Western North Carolina rock cliffs, visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/> and search “Temporary rock cliff closures to protect peregrine falcons.”



Some cliff areas in Western North Carolina are often nesting sites for peregrine falcons and must close to climbers while the birds are nesting and raising their young.



Peregrine falcons are considered the fastest animals on the planet and can reach speeds of over 200 miles per hour.

N.C. State Park lands now total 250,000 acres

The North Carolina state parks system now includes 250,000 acres of land and water, according to the Division of Parks and Recreation. Recent acquisitions, including 230 acres for Deep River State Trail and 300 acres for Salmon Creek State Natural Area, brought the system's acreage up to the new total.

In recent years, several land acquisitions were made possible by the authorization of new state trails and natural areas by Gov. Roy Cooper and the N.C. General Assembly, funding from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF), and strong partnerships with land and water conservation organizations and donors across the state.

"Through the hard work and vision of lawmakers, Parks and Recreation Trust Fund board members, State Parks staff, donors and non-profit conservation partners, a quarter-million acres of irreplaceable, diverse North Carolina natural areas are now protected and managed by North Carolina State Parks for conservation, recreation, and education," said Reid Wilson, secretary of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. "We will continue to acquire additional lands in the coming years in response to increased public demand for places of respite, recreation, and community that will endure for generations to come."

Hanging Rock State Park gained 900 acres in September 2019. The property, adjacent to the eastern portion of the park and slated for new camping, trail access and parking, was acquired with funding from PARTF and the N.C. Land and Water Fund.

More than 1,000 acres of a N.C. Natural Heritage Area was added to Morrow Mountain State Park in May 2019 as part of ALCOA Corporation's Federal Energy Regulatory



Several land acquisitions, including for the Wilderness Gateway State Trail, have allowed the N.C. State Parks system to grow to more than 250,000 acres.

Commission relicensing agreement. In October 2019, the Foothills Conservancy of N.C. secured the first acquisition for Bob's Creek State Natural Area with 2,200 acres in McDowell County along five miles of streams that drain to North and South Muddy creeks.

Along the Jacob Fork River, over 180 acres were purchased late last year for the Wilderness Gateway State Trail. Finally, a smaller acquisition of 29 acres for Deep River State Trail took the park system's total acreage to 250,000.

"We are honored by the confidence our residents and our state's outstanding land trusts have placed in us to manage these top examples of North Carolina's natural world," said Brian Strong, State Parks deputy director for planning and natural resources. "Whether acquiring lands to protect sensitive ecosystems for water quality and habitat protection, or offering campsites and trails to inspire new stewards of our public lands, none of it would be possible without outstanding support from our partners and our state leaders."

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Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests January 8 - 21. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

January 8

Megan Marie Haynie, was charged with assault and battery. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Jonathon Stutts, was charged with simple assault, assault and battery or participates in simple affray. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

Bobby Linwood Robertson, was charged with possession of firearm by a felon. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

January 9

Brandon Meriadoc Reid, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Nick Loft-house made the arrest.

Joshua Lawrence Burr, was charged with drug/narcotic violation, possession of drug paraphernalia. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

January 10

Joshua Lawrence Burr, was charged with communicating threats.

January 11

Crystal Dawn Bates, was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Michala Cheyenne Taylor, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Jamie Patrick Oneal, was charged with failure to appear for wildlife violation. No bond was set.

January 12

George Lewis Bell, was issued a true bill of indictment for possession with intent to sell/manufacture/deliver a schedule I controlled substance, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Janis Meredith Kendall, was charged with simple assault. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Michael Anthony Rowland Jr., was issued warrant service. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

January 13

Sandra Gibbs Medina, was charged with being a public nuisance. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

Brandon Justice Ewing, was charged with possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

January 14

Brandon James Parrish, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

January 15

Alora Leigh Bingham, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation, maintaining vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, carrying a concealed gun, possession of a schedule II controlled substance, possession of drug parapher-

nalina. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

January 9

Trance Lewis Stoudemire, 31, was charged with resisting a public officer, communicating threats, drunk and disorderly, assault on a government official. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. Officer Riles made the arrest.

January 11

Richard Lee Davis, 34, was charged with trespass of real property. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Officer Cabe made the arrest.

January 12

Joseph Christian Seagnelli, 25, was charged with disorderly conduct. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Officer Cabe made the arrest.

January 13

Ronnie Lee Queen, 38, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$4,000 was set. Sergeant Norman made the arrest.

January 14

Tyler Lee Gilbreath, 31, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. Officer Chastain made the arrest.

January 19

Kelly William Brasier, 26, was charged with breaking and entering a motor vehicle, carrying a concealed weapon. No bond was set. Officer Bingham made the arrest.

January 21

Ronald Edward Swafford, 46, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

Steven Edward Bowman, 34, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

January 12

Brooke Leighann Smith, 24, of Hazel Saunooke Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failing to appear for obtaining property by false pretenses, possession of stolen goods/property, probation violation, simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Bryn Chicoah Hoyle, 22, of Greasy Branch Rd., Bryson City, was charged with failure to appear for second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Kelsey Lane Mason, 27, of Parkway Rd., Brevard, was charged with carrying a concealed gun. No bond was set.

January 13

Albert Juarez, 30, of Wolfetown Rd., Cherokee, was charged with violation of domestic violence protective order. No bond was set.

Sanford Lee Parker, 54, of Wilson Dr., was charged with communicating threats, assault on a female. No bond was set.

Adam Warren-David Evitt, 32, of Windy Gap Rd., Cullowhee, was issued a true bill of indictment for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Angela Darlene Tinkham, 47, of Academy St., Canton, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

January 14

Jamison Lawrence Lassiter, 37, of Sylva, was charged with failure to appear for second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Tammie Taylor Lambert, 51, of Too How Rd., Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for operating a vehicle with no insurance. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Deborah Kay Williamson, 55, of Small Meadow Dr., was charged with resisting a public officer. A secured bond of \$150 was set.

January 15

Lori Jane Cantrell, 49, of Bigwitch Rd., Cherokee was charged with failure to appear for shoplifting concealment of goods, trespassing, larceny, possession of stolen goods/property. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Zavion Frederick Southerland, 20, of Clairborne Woods Rd., Charlotte, was charged with assault causing physical injury to a detention employee, assault on a detention employee causing serious injury. An unsecured bond of \$1,000 was set.

January 16

Michael Jerome Drakeford, 39, of Usti Dr., Cherokee, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

William Donald Cline 29, of Addie Littlejohn Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for possession of stolen goods/property, obtaining property by false pretense. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

David Charles Roberts, 40, of Lavender Way, Cullowhee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

January 17

Robert David Burch, 44, of Overdrive Rd., Franklin, was charged with possession of a firearm by a felon. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Loretta Moss Watson, 60, was issued a true bill of indictment for misdemeanor possession of a schedule IV controlled substance. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Baron Houston Sutton, 34, of Levi Mathis Rd., Whittier, was charged with possession of stolen property, larceny after breaking and entering, breaking and entering of a motor vehicle forcible. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Matthew Zachary Farnsworth, 20, of Glenwood Rd., Maiden, was charged with driving while impaired, driving after consuming under age of 21. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Kristopher Alexander Tutt, 25, of Little Rock Circle, was charged with negligent child abuse causing serious physical injury. An unsecured bond of \$10,000 was set.

January 18

Christopher Dale Cagle, 41, of Lonesome Hollow Dr., Maggie Valley, was charged with possession of a firearm by a felon. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Katrina Lynn Cook, 33, of Casino Trail, Cherokee, was charged with intoxicated and disruptive. A secured bond of \$200 was set.

Amber Elaine Ledbetter, 43, of Pink Dogwood Lane, Waynesville, was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Leslie Ann Shipman, 36, of Manor Trace, was charged with possession of stolen property, larceny. A \$1,500 bond was set.

Kassandra Rene Crowe, 37, of Beck Branch Rd., Whittier, was charged with possession of stolen property, misdemeanor larceny. No bond was set.

January 19

Quinton Earl Barker, 26, of Cozy Cove Rd., was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$750 was set.

Steven Chase Stanley, 28, of Belmont Dr., Franklin, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Monique Laverne Smith, 29, of Hollyview Circle, Franklin, was charged with rear lamp violation, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, possession of heroin. No bond was set.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Franklin First Baptist Church Drive by for February Sunshine Treats every Saturday in February between 2 to 3:30 p.m. Remain in your car as you receive hot chocolate, homemade cookies plus a bag of fruit per car.

American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, Feb. 11, from 12:30 to 5 p.m., at the First Baptist Church, 69 Iotla St., in Franklin. Make your appointment to give blood, platelets or plasma with the Red Cross by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or by calling (800)733-2767.

Macon County Public Health is currently vaccinating those eligible under Group 2. This group includes those who are 65 years of age or older, regardless of health status. Those who are eligible under this phase to receive a vaccination, can call (828)349-2517 to schedule an appointment. Vaccine appointments will be at Macon County Public Health located at 1830 Lakeside Drive in Franklin, and will be conducted through a drive-thru clinic.

Celebrate Recovery at Discover Church every Monday night, 6 to 8 p.m. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered, 12-step recovery program for anyone struggling with hurt, pain or addiction of any kind. Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling our life. Free child-care up to five years old for attending parents. Discover Church is located at 47 Macon Center Dr. (behind Bojangles). For more information, email cr@discover.church for questions.

Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Centers in Cullowhee and Franklin have an educational parenting program to earn "points" to use to obtain free items for your family. The centers carry formula, diapers, wipes, baby items and clothing up to size 6, as well as strollers, car seats, high chairs, pack n' plays, etc. Donations are always welcome. Services are free and confidential. For more information or an appointment, call (828)349-3200, (828)293-3600 or smccc.org

Crawford Senior Center is hosting Zoom classes. Zoom classes will include exercise, tai chi, and others. For more information, or to register, call the Senior Center at (828)349-2058.

Macon Chips, the Franklin Wood Carving Club will meet on Thursday, 6:30 p.m. in Franklin High School Wood Shop. They will continue to meet on Thursdays. Participants are asked to comply with social distancing and other endemic protocols. All members and prospective members are cordially invited to attend. For more information, call Contact D Lansont (828)369-2144.

Uptown Gallery on Main Street hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Alzheimer's Association Western Carolina Chapter Telephone Support Group for Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's Disease or dementia is designed to provide caregivers opportunities for sharing, education, and support through a telephone conference. Support group participants and a support group facilitator connect each month for one-hour confidential sessions. For more information, call (800)272-3900.

Franklin Covenant Church has a grocery delivery service for anyone at higher risk for COVID-19. If you are unable to leave home to get the supplies you need due to sickness, disability or age, please contact us for more details. The only cost to you would be the items you order, there is no delivery charge. FCCdelivery@yahoo.com.

Volunteer drivers needed at Macon County Senior Services. Mileage will be reimbursed. For more information, call (828) 349-0211.

Macon County CareNet is in need of volunteers. Positions open are food pantry, soup kitchen and file room. If interested stop by for an application at 130 Bidwell St., or call (828)369-2642.

Volunteer at Angel Medical Center Enjoy the reward of making someone else's day brighter by sharing your talents and time. Become a volunteer at Angel Medical Center. Volunteers serve in a variety of roles such as mail and flower delivery, guest service, information desk assistance, student volunteer programs, pet therapy, chaplain, administrative support and more. For more information, call (828)349-6639 or email Bonnie.Peggs@msj.org.

CareNet on Bidwell Street will be open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A box of food may be picked up once a week.

Alzheimer's Association Western Carolina Chapter Telephone Support Group for Caregivers of Persons with Alzheimer's Disease or dementia is designed to provide caregivers opportunities for sharing, education, and support through a telephone conference. Support group participants and a support group facilitator connect each month for one-hour confidential sessions. For more information, call (800)272-3900.

Appalachian Animal Rescue Center is looking for volunteers. Call for information about the store (828)369-3046 or the shelter (828)524-4588 if you are interested in volunteering.

Macon Medication Assistance Program located at the back of the First Baptist Church is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call (828)524-5258.

Mens Teen Challenge Needs Good Quality Lumber for its wood-working Shop. Pick up in Franklin area. To donate, call (828)369-1177.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

First Alliance Church Sunday Services are held in-person and on Facebook at 10:30 a.m. Associate Pastor Evan Jensen will deliver the message. Music by Pinnacle Brass. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. The church is located in Franklin at 31 Promise Lane (off Womack next door to Trimont Christian Academy). For more information, call the church office at (828)369-7977.

All Saints Episcopal Church is conducting worship online through its YouTube page. Go to www.youtube.com and search for "All Saints Franklin." The in-person worship schedule is subject to change. To learn more about attending in-person worship, contact us directly at admin@allsaintsfranklin.org or by calling (828)524-4910.

Olive Hill Church Services are held on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Pastor is Keith McWhite. The church is located at 2389 Olive Hill Road.

Franklin First United Methodist Church is streaming services on Facebook at Franklin First United Methodist Church either live at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays or later on recorded video while they are social distancing due to COVID19. The church is located at 66 Harrison Avenue in downtown Franklin; senior pastor is Rev. David Beam. for more information, call (828)524-3010 or visit www.firstumcfranklin.org<http://www.firstumcfranklin.org

Lifespring Community Church is holding Sunday services beginning at 10 a.m. with social distancing observed. Brian Lamb in the pastor. The church is located at the intersection of Cheek Road and Addington Bridge Road.

Tellico Baptist Church is holding in-person Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. inside the church building with Rev. L. E. Angel. Everyone is welcome.

West Franklin Church services are held on Sunday, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The church is located on Sloan Road next to the Forest Service Office.

Prentiss Church of God is holding Sunday worship service in its sanctuary beginning at 10:30 a.m. Social distancing is observed and safety measures are in place. Services are also streamed online on the Prentiss Church of God Facebook page. The church is located at 59 Church Hill Lane, off Addington Bridge Road. Phone: (828)369-3885.

Memorial United Methodist Church Anonymous Call-in Prayer Line. If you need prayer, call (828)369-0707. Leave a message with your prayer request, and the church will be happy to pray. You may also leave a request for a call back if you need one.

Spiritual Light Center is now open for in-person services every Sunday at 11 a.m. Covid-19 protocols are in place. The public is invited. The center is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., Franklin.

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SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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2	4	1	6	9	8	5	7	3
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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Local musician Dave Stewart releases inspirational new album

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

For months, musician Dave Stewart has been trying to make the most of the challenging times brought on by the pandemic. Especially for musicians, quarantines, venue closings, shelter-in-place mandates, and more have essentially halted opportunities for people to gather to listen to live music. Creative individuals have had to become even more creative in their endeavors.

“Ever since COVID-19 hit last March and all the playing gigs dried up and I decided to use my time to record, which I’m very glad I did,” said Stewart. “Recording leaves a permanent mark ... a legacy.”

“Call of the Wild: God in the Mountains” was released on Jan. 16. He noted that all songs on the album, such as “Mixed Up World,” “Through Suffering to Love,” and “Give it Up,” are intended to encourage during trying times.

Stewart explained that for him, ceasing to write and play music just because he cannot perform often in public has not squelched his desire to create.

“I do it because it’s inside me and I want to express it,” he said.

Besides spending time writing the songs for and launching “Call of the Wild,” Stewart said he also used 2020 as an opportunity to focus on other aspects of his music career. “I spent time learning to produce my music, so I record, mix, and master the songs,” he explained. “And, I am learning about marketing. I plan to do a video series on YouTube called ‘The Cheapskate’s Guide to Recording, Producing and Marketing Your Music’ so that I can share the things I’ve learned so far.”

“Call of the Wild” is Stewart’s second album.

“I released a bluegrass-style album in 2018 using Myriad

Media to produce the album.”

However, his career as a musician spans 50 years. He started playing electric guitar as a rocker in the 1970s but branched out to blues, jazz, classical, folk, and bluegrass. Stewart plays guitar, bass, banjo, and mandolin, and some of the local bands he has formed include Blue Jazz, Celtic trio Kate, Maree, and Cowboy, rock band Cullasaja, and guitar/flute duo Stewart & Metz.

His music is inspired by life experiences, and “Call of the Wild” focuses on his journey as a Christian, which began in 1977.

“I was writing songs then and naturally my songs became about Jesus ever since,” said Stewart.

“The songs on this album were written between the 1970s and today. I’m glad I recorded them on my cassette tape deck as I had ideas ... I was able to listen

this past year and pick 15 of them do redo. ‘The Changer’ was the first Christian song I wrote.

“I wrote all the songs except ‘Talk About Suffering,’ which is an old spiritual song dating back around the Civil War or before. The author is unknown but believed to have been a slave,” he added.

Stewart’s favorite song on the new album is “Colossians 3.”

“It means the most to me because it’s also my favorite chapter in the Bible,” he said. “And I had the most fun creating the mandolins in ‘Matthew 6-7.’ All of these songs are about the spiritual truths I have learned and lived by most of my life. Themes of praise to Jesus, the purpose of pain and



Dave Stewart, whose music career spans 50 years, plays guitar, bass, banjo, and mandolin, and some of the local bands he has formed include Blue Jazz, Kornbread Kreek, and Stewart & Metz.

suffering, the sad state of this world, the hope that we have after this life ... are common to the songs.”

Stewart admitted that being a musician is a journey, one on which he is always learning and growing.

“The album is far from perfect. In fact, I hope to do a Revision 2 using other musicians to improve it. But I learned a great deal about recording and arranging from this album. I feel I spent my time well doing this album. I’ve starting making a third album of jazz songs now.”

Until the pandemic dissipates and large gatherings are again considered safe, Stewart said the public can still support professional musicians, who he said “have really been hit hardest,” by continuing to follow them online, listening to

and purchasing their music, and generally expressing support and appreciation.

“Music is a very important part of our lives. The social aspect of playing with other musicians has really been missed, either playing gigs or just getting together and playing ... and playing for audiences.”

Reliance on online services has been vital this past year. “My music is on most online sites like Apple, Amazon, and streaming sites like Spotify, Pandora, YouTube.”

Stewart’s music, available on CDs and as in Wav and Mp3 formats on USB drives, as well as information about his music career is also on his website at www.davestewart-songs.com.



Local professional musician Dave Stewart released Jan. 16 his second album, “Call of the Wild: God in the Mountains.”

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NCDMV officials celebrate 50-year employee

Western North Carolina teenagers in 1970 had to visit with Johnny Southard before they could legally get behind the wheel of their Dodge Challenger, Ford Mustang or Chevy Cheyenne.

They had to pass his test — the Department of Motor Vehicle driving test.

Fifty years later, some cars are electric, parts of the test are electronic, and the teenagers themselves are more eclectic.

But the 16-year-olds of today still have to see Southard and pass the test. Southard has now spent five decades working as a license examiner — most of the time as the only examiner — in offices across western North Carolina including Andrews, Franklin and Bryson City.

“He has been a staple of the community for 50 years and he is intertwined with the people who live in Swain County,” said Southard’s boss, District 7 Manager Renee Link. “He’s a servant to the state and the community. I can’t imagine the number of people he’s waited on and served. Kids and their kids — three generations of one family.”

Top North Carolina DMV officials traveled from Raleigh to Bryson City last week to surprise Southard at his office and honor him for 50 years of service and dedication to the department.

“I like my job, and time has went by so fast and sometimes I get to thinking about retirement and that I’ll do it in a few months, but then a year goes by then another year,” Southard said. “I just like the job. I makes you feel good. That’s a good part of the job — being able to help people.”

DMV Commissioner Torre Jessup presented Southard with a letter from Governor Roy Cooper at the ceremony. DMV Deputy Commissioner Scott Parker presented Southard with the N.C. DMV Commissioner’s Award as well as a two customized vanity license plates — 50YR@DMV and 50GR8YRS.

“He is an example of commitment and loyalty to an organization and has been an integral part of this community,” Jessup said. A driver license provides people access to health care, education, a job and gets people to where they need to be to improve their quality of life. Imagine how much he’s



DMV Commissioner Torre Jessup, left, presents Johnny Southard with a vanity plate for 50 years of dedication to NCDMV.

improved the quality of life in this community for generations.”

Southard reported for training in Raleigh on Jan. 25, 1971, to earn a salary of \$500 per month. He has worked in at least 16 different offices in Western North Carolina, witnessed the uniform change four times. He is a witness to every evolution of the licensing process from the era of pounding out licenses on a typewriter and affixing pictures, to the automation and exhaustive computer upgrades of recent decades.

He’s had his share of wild experiences administering driving tests. Early in his career, a man taking the test turned into oncoming traffic and Southard reacted by grabbing the wheel and

steering the car into the median to avoid a dump truck. On another trip, a lady had a box in the back of her station wagon during her driving test. She was a recent widow. Her husband was a snake-handling preacher who died of snakebite, and the box carried copperheads.

Southard has served multiple generations of the same family. He has served some of Western North Carolina’s most famous — and infamous too — citizens. He renewed the driver’s license for Rev. Billy Graham one year and served moonshiner Jim Tom Hedrick another time.

Southard has been a constant amidst all the changes at DMV. For five decades he has advised young drivers, helped elderly citizens and served North Carolina, the DMV, and his community. He treats clients with the patience necessary to properly complete tasks and respect that every citizen deserves.

“We are grateful for the hard work and dedication Mr. Southard has shown during his 50 years of service to the state of North Carolina and the Division of Motor Vehicles,” said state Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette. “He has served the people of North Carolina with distinction and has always done his best to ensure the people he worked with were safe and responsible when they got behind the wheel. Even though he shows no signs of slowing down, his life’s work has served a model for anyone devoted to helping others.”

County’s community funding pool accepting applications

Macon County nonprofit organizations have until Feb. 26 to apply for county funds through the Macon County Community Funding Pool (CFP). Due to budget constraints, grant funds available for this year have been reduced from \$75,000 to \$37,500. Application forms and instructions are available on the Macon County website at www.maconnc.org. Hard copies are available at Macon County Public Library on Siler Farm Road in Franklin, the Hudson Library on Main Street in Highlands, and the Nantahala Public Library on Nantahala School Road. Call ahead to make sure a copy will be ready for pickup.

Organizations applying for CFP funds must provide financial statements such as budgets and federal tax-exempt reports, organization goals and objectives, and program/service descriptions.

Applicants must contact Karen Wallace, (828)524-3600, or Bobbie Contino, (828)342-7872, to discuss their proposal prior to submitting their grant application. Groups not incorporated as nonprofits may enlist an established nonprofit to serve as their fiscal agent. Collaborative agency proposals are encouraged to leverage limited funding and to share resources.

The Community Funding Pool was established to help the Macon County Board of Commissioners allocate tax-generated funds to local nonprofits in a fair and efficient way. The CFP Task Force is composed of citizens chosen by the Board of Commissioners to consider applications and make recommendations to the board, who make final funding decisions. The Community Funding Pool is a separate entity from the Macon County Community Foundation.

Families, educators mark School Choice week in N.C.

In the midst of a school year like no other, North Carolina families and educators are spotlighting education options during School Choice Week 2021.

North Carolina families, schools, and organizations are hosting virtual or at-home celebrations during the Week. Among these will be the announcement of the winners of a statewide K-12 student art contest, who will be featured on social media throughout the Week. Additionally, North Carolina charter school families will share videos about their choice during the Week using the Storyvine app.

In North Carolina, there are a variety of educational options available including: traditional public schools, charter schools, magnet schools, online academies, private schools, and homeschooling.

North Carolina also offers state-run scholarship programs that help offset the cost of private school tuition for students with disabilities or whose families who meet certain income criteria.

To download a guide to North Carolina school choice, use the Schools Near Me tool to search for schools in your area, or see celebration photos and proclamation updates, visit schoolchoiceweek.com/north-carolina.

National School Choice Week is an independent public awareness effort; the Week is nonpartisan, nonpolitical, and not related to any legislative advocacy campaign.

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Deaths & Funerals

Ruben Black Anderson

Ruben Black Anderson, 83, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021, in the care of Care Partners Hospice in Asheville, N.C.

He was born in Franklin March 16, 1937, to the late John Robert Anderson and Frankie Love Anderson. He was raised in Franklin and moved to Washington State in 1955 to work at Weyerhaeuser Lumber Co. He then moved to Florida to start his lifelong career as a trim carpenter and raise his two daughters. He moved back to Franklin in 1980 to help his parents build their new home and continued trim carpentry work in Franklin and Highlands until retirement. He was known to help many family, friends and neighbors with carpentry projects in their homes, stringing beans, and bush hogging. He enjoyed walking, reading westerns, grilling, gardening, squirrel hunting, splitting wood, working on his land with his tractor, driving his ATV, and eating at his favorite steak and seafood restaurants. He enjoyed his time most in the company of loved ones, especially in his home or out in the mountains of Western North Carolina.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Clara Belle Johnston.

He is survived by his daughters, Lori Elliott and Rob Elliott, and Vicki Shirley; granddaughters, Audrey Elliott, Stacey Elliott, McKenzie Elliott, and Cassidy Shirley; and his aunt, Birdia Anderson.

No services are planned at this time.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Anderson family. Online condolences can be made at www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that you "Plant a Tree" in memory of Ruben Anderson.

Joanne Elizabeth Barker Cloer

Joanne Elizabeth Barker Cloer, 72 of Franklin, N.C., passed away Jan. 19, 2021.

Born in Charlotte, N.C., she was the daughter of the late James Stanley Barker and Alice Rebecca Akins Barker. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by sister, Judy Essen.

She was a member of Patton United Methodist Church where she actively participated with missions and hospitality. She enjoyed spending time in the garden tending to her flowers. She also loved to read and was considered a word search conqueror.

Surviving is her husband of 48 years, Johnny Cloer; three daughters, Rebecca Kaminski (Sean) of Franklin, Heather Ray of Franklin, and Susan Cloer of Tarboro N.C.; two sisters, Jeannette Overman of Daytona, Fla., and Tina Cox of Longview Texas; one brother, Jim Barker of Franklin; five grandchildren, Damon Cloer, Megan Ray, Anthony Ray, Michaela Kaminski, and Alexis Kaminski; one great grandchild, Lewis Brown and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Jan. 23, at Patton United Methodist Church with Rev. Evan Hill, Rev. Andy Cloer, and Rev. Phillip Cochran officiating.

Pallbearers were Damon Cloer, Anthony Ray, Austin Hicks, Chris Green, Caleb Cochran, and Jacob Brown. Honorary pallbearers were Lewis Brown, Sean Kaminski, Megan Ray, Michaela Kaminski and Alexis Kaminski.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Patton United Methodist Church Cemetery fund, C/O Gary Holland, 65 Scroggs Rd., Franklin, NC 28734.

Online condolences at www.maconfuneralhome.com
Macon Funeral home is handling the arrangements.



Ruben Black Anderson

Acton Wayne Chalu, 72, completed his work and journey on earth when he was called home by his Lord and Savior on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021.

He is survived by his wife Cynthia Chalu of Franklin, N.C.; sisters, Carol Chalu and Lauren Chalu (Jimmy) of Clearwater, Fla.; sons, Robert Finck (Rennie) of Parrish, Fla., and John Finck (Jennifer) of Sandy Springs, Ga.; two beautiful granddaughters, Annabelle and Berkeley Finck of Sandy Springs.

He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on Oct. 24, 1948, graduated from Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook, Ill., and received his teaching degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Chicago. After graduating, he taught American history at Deerfield High School, in Deerfield, Ill., before going on to receive his Juris Doctor from Stetson College of Law in St Petersburg, Fla. While he was a law student and working part time at Bayfront Medical Center, he found his future wife, Cynthia, a registered nurse, who was there just in the right place at the right time. They were married 45 years ago at Garden Crest Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg.

He had a remarkable 35-year career as a criminal attorney with the State of Florida, serving in both the Hillsborough County Public Defender's Office and the Office of the State Attorney, 13th Judicial Circuit. During his tenure, he held noteworthy positions including Chief Assistant Public Defender in Hillsborough County, and then later, Chief Assistant State Attorney, Chief of the Economic Crimes Division, prosecutor in the homicide division and during a crisis moment in Hillsborough County, he stepped up as the Acting State Attorney for an interim period. In 1995, he was awarded a certificate of appreciation from the DEA, U.S. Department of Justice, for outstanding contributions in the field of drug and law enforcement. In 2010, he was selected to receive the Bell Childers Award from the Tampa Police Department, which stated that his "unselfish contributions and exemplary achievements through the professional practice of law, has made the city of Tampa a safer place to live, work and visit."

His dream of retirement in the beautiful cool mountains of Franklin became a happy reality in 2010. He stayed busy as an active member of Holly Springs Baptist Church by serving on the deacon board, teaching adult Bible classes and singing in the choir. He loved living in the Mill Creek community and was happy to serve on the Mill Creek Board of Directors (MCEPOA) from 2016-2019 and to serve as a volunteer driver for Care-Net, a local food bank, where he enjoyed giving to others.

He had a passion for singing along with his wife in Mountain Voices, Hilltop Singers, and the Western Carolina Community Chorus. Before that, he sang in Men Macon Music. He would tell you that the most amazing thing he ever did was just this past year, when he traveled to New York City with the Franklin First United Methodist Church choir to sing "Rutter's Requiem" in Carnegie Hall.

He was compassionate, honest, kind, patient, thoughtful and humble. When asked how he wanted to be remembered he said that he wanted others to know "he always tried to do the right thing." Friends and family will fondly remember his keen sense of humor and what a storyteller he could be. When asked what he was going to do next, he always said he was going to "get back on the golf course." When he suddenly passed away, he had been busy cheering on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers as they made their way through the playoffs.

While he will be deeply missed by his family and the great many friends he established along the way, he is with our heavenly Father now which brings us much peace and comfort. He would tell you COVID-19 is a terrible disease and pray for you to stay safe.

A graveside service will be held on Jan. 30, at Memorial Park Cemetery in St. Petersburg, Fla., with family present and with the sound of bagpipes playing "Amazing Grace."

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his honor to the Holly Springs Baptist Church "Just One Thing" Building Fund or to the Second Mile Food Bank, both at hollyspringsbaptist.org or by mail to Holly Springs Baptist Church, 366 Holly Springs Church Road, Franklin, NC 28734.



Acton Wayne Chalu

Ethel Kirkland Walker

Ethel Kirkland Walker, 95, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Jan. 19, 2021. She was born April 11, 1925, in Swain County, North Carolina, to the late Fred and Lucinda Jenkins Kirkland. She was a homemaker and a Baptist by faith, a true country girl and a lady. She loved her grandchildren and enjoyed fishing, sewing, embroidering, working in the garden and watching things grow.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three sisters, Anna Belle Smith, Nancy Russell and Cordelia Shears; brothers, Floyd Kirkland and Leroy Kirkland; a grandson, Steven Sherman; and former husband, Arvil Walker.

Surviving are her daughters, Barbara Ann Adams (Douglas) and Rosemary Grant; four sons, Lewis Walker (Trish), Jessie Walker, Frank Walker and Phillip Walker; four sisters, Willa Mae Hovis, Louise Hurst, Anna Lois Shepherd, and Dorothy Reddish; brother, Wiley L. Kirkland; 10 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Jan. 23, in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with Rev. Lee Russell officiating. Burial was in the Ridgecrest Baptist Church Cemetery.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Walker family. Online condolences may be made at www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com.



Ethel Kirkland Walker

Ora Sue (Thomas) Scruggs

Ora Sue (Thomas) Scruggs, 87, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021, at her residence. She was a native and lifelong resident of Macon County, the daughter of Jesse W. and Margie B. Thomas. She retired from Belden Electric in 1990 and was of the Methodist Faith. She was married to the late Alfred Scruggs.

She is survived by two daughters, Susie Bryson and Janet (Donald) Gentry of Franklin; a son, Darin (Jessica) Scruggs of Franklin; grandchildren, Shawn Bryson of Franklin, Cassie Gentry Russell (Antonio) of Tampa, Fla., Gabi Gentry Wang of Franklin, Shaundra and Torin Scruggs of McDonough, Ga., Matthew and Kevin Burgess of Franklin, and Chelsey, Adrian and Derik Scruggs of Franklin; and 12 great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, Alfred, Otis, and Gilmer Thomas; and her son, Alfred Michael Scruggs.

A private graveside service will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery on Saturday, Jan. 30, for the immediate family.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Scruggs family. Online condolences can be made at www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com.



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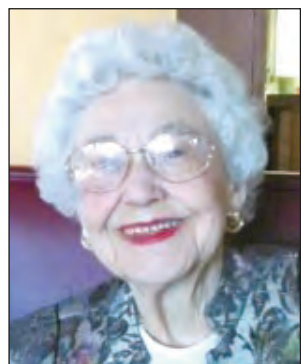
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Deaths & Funerals

Jessie Ruth 'Tootsie' Stewart Williams

Jessie Ruth "Tootsie" Stewart Williams, 94, of Arden, N.C., formerly of Waynesville, N.C., passed away Jan. 19, 2021. She was born Dec. 20, 1926, in Macon County, to the late Harley and Pearl Moore Stewart. She was a graduate of Western Carolina University and had her Master's Degree from Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn., now known as Vanderbilt University. She taught school for 25 years in Macon and Haywood County. She was a member of Fletcher United Methodist Church and she loved to play bridge.



Jessie Williams

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Edwin Thomas Williams; and two brothers, Harley Moore Stewart and Wayne H Stewart.

She is survived by her daughter, Jane Williams of Asheville, N.C.; and a son, Thomas Williams and wife Linda of Alexander, N.C.

The family wishes to thank Trinity View Retirement Community for their care and support of our parents.

A graveside service was held Sunday, Jan. 24, at Longview Baptist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Manna Food Bank, 627 Swannanoa River Rd. Asheville, NC 28805.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Williams family. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

America Potts Hedden

America Potts Hedden, 98, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021.

She was born in Macon County, North Carolina, the daughter of the late Albert B. Potts and Fannie Irene Russell Potts Buchanan. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Aaron Hedden; and siblings, Gladys Paige, Jean Chapman, Edna Rich, John Potts, James Potts, and Alice Potts.



America Potts Hedden

She enjoyed working hard in her garden, cooking, and spending time with her family.

She is survived by five children, Gloria Jean Katsch (Jim) of Leicester, N.C., Carol Ann Hall of Belmont, N.C., Bruce Hedden (Sandy) of Franklin, Thomas Gary Hedden (Phyllis) of Franklin, and Joan Beasley of Jesup, Ga.; 11 grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, 5 great-great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Wednesday, Jan. 27, at Burningtown Baptist Church cemetery with Rev. Charles Stevens officiating.

Pallbearers were grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Burningtown Baptist Church.

Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Claire N. Snipes

Claire N. Snipes, 94, passed away Dec. 28, 2020, at her daughter's home in Ocala, Fla. She previously lived in Claremont, N.H. and Franklin, N.C.

She was born Oct. 27, 1926, in Springfield, Mass., the daughter of Charles and Eveline (Paro) Nolin.

She worked as a quality control inspector at Sylvania in New Hampshire. She was also QC Inspector and UAW Union President at Scott Electronics and NCR in Orlando, Fla. Also, QC Inspector at Lockheed Martin in Orlando, before retiring to Franklin with her husband, Milton. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters, Macon County Quilters Guild, American Legion Auxillary, and Red Hat Society. She loved to sew, was an avid reader and stamp collector. She was a blood donor for many years and she also loved to travel. Trips included New Zealand, Egypt, Canada, Hawaii, and many U.S. states and sites. She had met six U.S. presidents in her lifetime.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Milton Snipes; daughters, Cecile Peno; and brother, Charles Nolin.

Survivors include her four daughters, Patricia Kain and husband Fred of Ocala, Cheryl Magoon of Dublin, N.H., Susan Fillion and husband Roger of Unity, N.H., and Debra Underwood and husband Donald, of Claremont, N.H.; three step-children, Martin "Jack" Snipes of Orlando, Milton "Chip" Snipes and wife Deborah, of Orlando, and Genna and husband, Chuck, of Ocala; 12 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

No services will be held at this time. Memorial donations may be made in her name to the charity of your choice.

Kenneth Wayne Pearce

Kenneth Wayne Pearce, 65, of Franklin, N.C., died Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021, surrounded by his family in the care of Angel Medical Center staff.

He was born Oct. 10, 1955, in Tampa, Fla., to Gordon and Nancy (Patterson) Pearce. He married his soul mate and best friend, Kimberly Jane Anderson, on July 1, 1989.

He was born and raised in Tampa and retired as a manager with Verizon (formerly GTE) in Durham, N.C., in 2011. After retiring, he and Kim relocated to Franklin in 2013, their lifelong goal. He was an all-around family man, an out-of-the box thinker, and a handyman. He enjoyed spending time with his family, working on cars and doing projects around the house.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sister, Pamela Pearce Reed.

He is survived by devoted wife, Kim; daughter, Kelsey, and stepdaughter, Erin (Allan) Barbee; and two grandchildren, Samantha and Kayley.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Pearce family. Online condolences may be made at bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

William Henry Bahruth

William Henry Bahruth, 89, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021. He was born June 13, 1931, in Manhattan, N.Y., to the late Gustav Bahruth and Anna Krokus Bahruth. He was a U.S. Army veteran serving during the Korean War. He retired from National Broadcasting Company where he broadcast for NBC in Washington and was also a member of the White House News Photographer Association. He first worked for ABC channel 7 and retired from NBC channel 4. He owned and operated a commercial shrimping company for eight years.

Survivors include a daughter, Lillian M. Bahruth-Mobley (Stevent) of Washington, DC; and a son, William J. Bahruth of Washington, DC. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Gustav F. Bahruth.

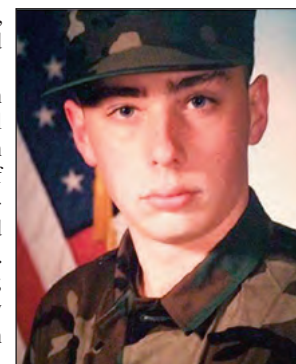
No services are planned at this time.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Bahruth family. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Charles Russell 'Rusty' Peek

Charles Russell "Rusty" Peek, 51, of Macon County passed away on Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021.

He was born in Jackson County to the late Charles Earl Peek and Claire Peek Dills on March 22, 1969. He lived most of his life in Macon County. In addition to his dad, he was preceded in death by his stepfather, Rev. Oliver Dills of Bryson City, N.C.; grandparents, Eldon and Daisy Ashe of Cullowhee, and Martin and Ollie Peek of Franklin; and two aunts, Jean Carter of Sylva, and Hester Mull of Franklin.



Charles Russell Peek

He was an Army veteran who earned several achievement and marksmanship awards before being discharged. He loved the outdoors and was the happiest sitting somewhere in front of a campfire with friends and his dogs.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by a daughter, Kerry Brianna Peek of Bryson City; two stepbrothers, Matthew Young-Dills (Tony) and Jonathan Dills, both of Sylva; four aunts, Ethel Shelly, Bethel McCarter, and Margie Edwards (Dale) of Clinton, Tenn., and Ruby Bennett of Cullowhee; many other family members and an abundance of friends. He will be missed by many.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you donate to one's favorite charity or reach out and help someone who may be struggling during this pandemic.

Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com, all other written condolences and cards can be sent to PO Box 1005, Bryson City, NC 28713.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



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Racing teams getting it together for 2021 season

NASCAR Media

Kaulig Racing announces personnel and returning partners for 2021 Season

Jeb Burton

Jeb Burton will begin his 2021 NASCAR Xfinity Series (NXS) season with primary partner, Nutrien Ag Solutions, at Daytona International Speedway in the No. 10 Chevrolet for Kaulig Racing. Nutrien Ag Solutions will be on board the No. 10 Chevrolet for 16 races in 2021.

Bruce Schlicker returns as the crew chief for Kaulig Racing's No. 10 Chevrolet for the 2021 season. Last year atop the



Justin Haley will drive the No. 11 for Kaulig Racing in 2021.

No. 10 pit box, Schlicker recorded 15 top five and 27 top-10 finishes with driver Ross Chastain.

Justin Haley

Kaulig Racing announced earlier the return of Justin Haley to the No. 11 Chevrolet for a third-straight year. The team is also thrilled to announce the return of primary partner, LeafFilter Gutter Protection, to the No. 11 Chevrolet for the 2021 season. LeafFilter has donned the No. 11 Chevrolet since the team's inception in 2016 and continues to be the flagship entry for the team. A new addition has been added to the well-known LeafFilter scheme, and that is another "Leaf" company. Kaulig Racing is adding LeafHome Solutions and its subcompanies to the No. 11 Chevrolet.

Returning as the crew chief for the No. 11 LeafFilter Gutter Protection Chevrolet and Justin Haley will be Alex Yontz, who will call the shots for his second, full-season as crew chief. Together in 2020, Yontz and Haley recorded three wins, 10 top five and 21 top-10 finishes for Kaulig Racing.

AJ Allmendinger

AJ Allmendinger will kick off his first, full NASCAR season since 2018 with partner, Ellsworth Advisors on the No. 16 Chevrolet at Daytona. In addition to his return to full-time competition, Kaulig Racing also announced recently that Allmendinger will pilot the No. 16 Camaro ZL1 1LE at the Daytona International

Speedway Road Course race in the team's part-time NASCAR Cup Series (NCS) entry.

Atop the box for the 2021 NXS season will be long-time race engineer Jason Trinchere, who was previously Justin Haley's lead engineer during the 2020 NXS season. Trinchere has worked in all three of NASCAR's top series as an engineer and is a great addition to the Kaulig Racing crew chief lineup.

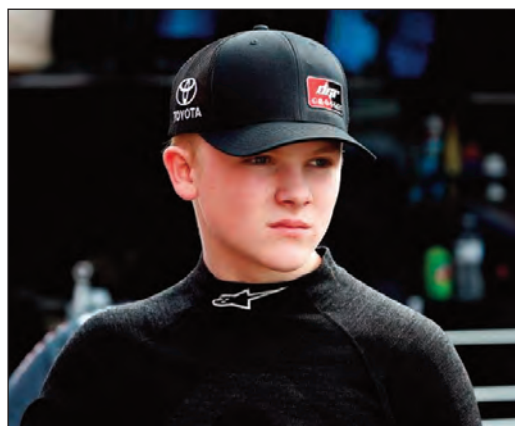
Kaz Grala

Kaz Grala was recently announced as the driver for Kaulig Racing's 2021 Daytona 500 entry, as well as other select races in the 2021 NCS season with the team.

Leading the way for the No. 16 team as the crew chief for Kaulig Racing's part-time NCS entry is Matt Swiderski. Swiderski most recently acted as a crew chief for Team Penske's part-time No. 12 NXS entry.

Ty Gibbs to compete for ARCA Menard's Series Championship; make NASCAR Xfinity Series debut in 2021
HUNTERSVILLE, N.C. – Joe Gibbs Racing driver Ty Gibbs will compete for the ARCA Menards Series Championship in 2021 and make his NASCAR Xfinity Series debut in the No. 54 Toyota Supra.

Gibbs, who captured an ARCA Menards Series-high six wins in 2020 despite running a partial schedule, will return to the No. 18 Toyota Camry to run the full schedule and compete for the championship. In addition to his six wins, Gibbs scored 12 top-five and 14 top-ten finishes in his 16 starts last season to help claim the organization's first ARCA Menards Series Owner's Championship. In addition, Gibbs also earned a win



Ty Gibbs in Pensacola, Fla., in March 2019

in six starts in the ARCA Menards East Series.

"We want to build on the success that our team had last season," said JGR ARCA Menards Series crew chief Mark McFarland. "Ty works extremely hard to prepare each week and it's exciting to have him behind the wheel for every race and the opportunity to go after our goal of winning that championship."

In addition to competing in the ARCA Menards Series, Gibbs is slated to make his Xfinity Series debut driving the No. 54 Toyota Supra starting with the road

course race in Daytona on February 20. Although his exact schedule in the Series is still being finalized, current plans qualify Gibbs to contend for the Sunoco Rookie of the Year honors. He will be joined behind the wheel of the No. 54 Toyota Supra this season by veteran teammates Kyle Busch, Denny Hamlin, and Martin Truex Jr., all of whom are scheduled to run at least one race.

"I'm pumped to run the full season in the ARCA Menards Series," said Ty Gibbs. "(Crew Chief) Mark (McFarland) has put together an amazing team that gives me a chance to be successful every week.

"I'm also really excited to have the opportunity to work with (crew chief) Chris Gayle to make my debut in the Xfinity Series," added Gibbs. "I can't imagine a better situation for me to learn and be able to compare notes, not only with my Series' teammates like Brandon (Jones), Harrison (Burton) and Daniel (Hemric), but also veterans like Kyle, Denny and Martin who I will share the car with."

A full schedule to include driver assignments for JGR's No. 54 Xfinity Series entry will be announced at a later date.

"I'm looking forward to the upcoming season," said Chris Gayle, who will serve as crew chief for the JGR No. 54 Xfinity Series entry in 2021. "Ty has already shown a great deal of talent with each step he has taken in his career and I think the opportunity to also learn from his veteran teammates will be a huge benefit to his development."

Ally to be title sponsor of Nashville Superspeedway's inaugural NASCAR Cup Series race on Father's Day 2021

LEBANON, Tenn. (Jan. 19, 2021) – Ally Financial will make history in June as the presenting sponsor of the inaugural NASCAR Cup Series race at Nashville Superspeedway, track and company officials said today.

Ally, a leading digital financial-services company and the primary sponsor of Alex Bowman and the iconic Hendrick

Motorsports No. 48 Chevrolet, will be a NASCAR race sponsor for the first time with the Ally 400 NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday, June 20 (2:30 p.m. CT, NBCSN, #Ally400 on social media), capping a spectacular Father's Day weekend at Middle Tennessee's home for racing and entertainment. Tickets for the entire June 18-20, 2021 NASCAR tripleheader weekend are available to the general public.

The multi-year agreement links Ally and Nashville Superspeedway for future NASCAR Cup Series races as well as upcoming community and NASCAR fan events.

"We plan to make the Ally 400 a premiere event for NASCAR fans and the Nashville community this summer with great racing and some other fun surprises we'll announce soon," said Andrea Brimmer, chief marketing and public relations officer, Ally. "It wouldn't be an Ally event if we didn't 'Do It Right' by making a lasting impact through donations to support first responders — like those who saved so many lives in December's bombing — and to an organization that has long provided necessary assistance to this community."

Initial highlights of the new relationship include:

Ally will donate \$25,000 to Box 55 Association, which provides support for first responders, and \$25,000 to the Urban League of Middle Tennessee, a civil rights and urban advocacy organization providing direct services that impact thousands of people in underserved communities across the state.

Fans can enter the Ultimate Ally 400 Sweepstakes, with a grand prize of a VIP package for two for the entire June 18-20 race weekend! Visit NashvilleSuperspeedway.com/ally400sweepstakes/ for details.

Fans will have a chance to help choose Alex Bowman's No. 48 Chevrolet paint scheme for the Ally 400 NASCAR Cup Series race. Follow @allyracing on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for more details to come.

Look for details on more Ally-Nashville Superspeedway events in the coming months leading up to NASCAR's return to the Nashville area.

The Ally 400 is the centerpiece of a full schedule of activities at Nashville Superspeedway on June 18-20, including a NASCAR Xfinity Series race on Saturday, June 19 (2:30 p.m. CT, NBCSN) and a NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on Friday, June 18 (7 p.m. CT, FS1).

"We're honored to team up with Ally for our inaugural NASCAR Cup Series race," said Erik Moses, Nashville Superspeedway's president. "Ally has heavily invested in NASCAR in recent years and given so much back to race fans with innovative contests and events. As we prepare to welcome America's best drivers back to Middle Tennessee, we're looking forward to working with Ally to present the best experience possible for our fans."

On-track and off-track schedules for all three of Nashville Superspeedway's NASCAR events will be determined and shared at a later date.

Keep track of Nashville Superspeedway's latest news and updates at NashvilleSuperSpeedway.com via social media at [Facebook.com/NashvilleSuperspeedway](https://www.facebook.com/NashvilleSuperspeedway), on Twitter at

@nashvillesupers and Instagram @nashvillesuperspeedway.

For questions about tickets, media relations, employment, or other inquiries, interested parties are encouraged to email info@nashvillesuperspeedway.com.

The NASCAR Foundation announces new members to Board of Directors

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. – The NASCAR Foundation has announced two key additions to its Board of Directors, further strengthening the organization's leadership and strategic relationships within the racing industry. Veteran race car driver Hurley Haywood and Rev Racing Co-owner Dr. Jennifer Satterfield-Siegel accepted nominations to join the board led by Chairman Mike Helton.

"Being able to include the leadership of industry veterans such as Hurley Haywood and Dr. Jennifer Satterfield-Siegel to our Board of Directors is significant," stated Mike Helton, Chairman, The NASCAR Foundation. "We look forward to their support as we seek to expand the reach and relevance of The NASCAR Foundation across the U.S. while continuing to grow its impact for children."

Haywood, a legendary endurance racing driver, is widely known for winning the Rolex 24 At DAYTONA five times, the 24 Hours of Le Mans three times and 12 Hours of Sebring twice. He is credited with the 1988 Trans-Am title, two IMSA GT Championship titles and 23 wins, three Norelco Cup championships, a SuperCar title and seven IndyCar starts. Haywood built his career and made history behind the wheel of a #59 Brumos Porsche, racing for the Jacksonville, Florida-based team for over 40 years. Haywood served as Chief Driving Instructor for the Porsche Sports Driving

School for many years and remains active in an honorary capacity for the school today. He also serves as an Ambassador for Porsche participating in many appearances and events worldwide.

"Becoming a part of The NASCAR Foundation has incredible meaning to me," stated Haywood. "While I may have spent my career in sports car racing, my love for all forms of motorsports is great and I consider the work of The NASCAR Foundation to be so important to children today."

Dr. Jennifer Satterfield-Siegel, a Board-Certified Pediatric Dentist and NASCAR fan, grew up and currently lives in Indianapolis, Indiana. She is a member of the Payton Manning Children's Hospital Craniofacial Team as well as treating patients in her private practice. She and her husband co-own Rev Racing, the exclusive manager of NASCAR's Drive for Diversity Program. She is a former recipient of NASCAR's Drive for Diversity Industry Ambassador Award. Her volunteer and business accomplishments have been recognized by the March of Dimes, Links Inc., the Indianapolis Business Journal, NAWBO, Jack and Jill of America, and the Coalition of Black Women, among others.

"I am a huge NASCAR fan and participate in the sport on many levels," stated Satterfield-Siegel. "Working with The NASCAR Foundation feels like a natural fit as I continue working to impact the lives of our nation's youth."



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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THEME: SUPER BOWL

ACROSS

- *Starr of Super Bowl I and MVP
- Epsom or ...vian-les-Bains
- Mexican money
- Gulf V.I.P.
- Biblical pronoun
- Competitive musher, e.g.
- Saintly glow
- From the sky and often damaging
- Early anesthetic
- *Halftime show performer
- Photo editing option
- T. S., poet
- Chi forerunner
- *Team with most consecutive Super Bowl appearances
- Swindles
- Even, to a poet
- Slanting characters
- Cough syrup balsam
- Travels by air
- "What's up ___?", asked by Bugs Bunny
- Southeast Asia org.
- German currency
- Wb, pl.
- 9 to 5, e.g.
- Substitute, two words
- Express a thought
- Hitherto
- Winter "fever"?
- Brown on "Doctor Who"
- *He has most Super Bowl appearances as a coach
- Plural of #38 Across
- Norse deity

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- Thai currency
- Wet nurse
- Rub the wrong way
- Gardener's little helper
- British soldier's parade hat
- *P in PAT
- "___ Lang Syne"
- *Team with most Super Bowl appearances
- Reverberating sound
- Slowly leak
- NHL great
- Opposite of atheist
- Short version
- ___ Island off Manhattan
- Nervous twitch
- Knockout
- Below, prefix
- *Player with most Super Bowl points scored
- Warm down-slope wind
- Distress signal
- Phoenix team
- Flock members
- Port of Yemen
- Tennis shot
- *Jim Nantz's partner
- Savory jelly
- A must for a comedian
- Williams and Wright
- Natural theology
- Answer to "Where are you?", two words
- Surrendered land
- Spy's other name
- Feline vibration
- Albany-Buffalo canal
- Cowboy's necktie
- Pelvic parts
- Big letters
- Proposal joint
- "I" mania

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CAROLINA PAINTING & Remodeling, Pressure Washing, Painting, Home Repairs, 28 Years Experience in WNC. Home (828)349-9087, Cell (828)371-9754.

GRADING, FINISH GRADING Hydroseed, Driveways, Roads, Hauling, Land Clearing, Chipper. Install Septic Systems, Retaining Walls, Rock Work, Boulders, Patio, Perez. (828)524-8650, (828)347-6793 Excellent References.

NEW CREATIONS Landscaping LLC. Landscaping Projects, Cleanup, Annual Color, Mulch, Pine Straw, Aerating, Fertilizing, Hardscapes, Steps, Retaining Walls, Grading, Gravel, Design, Grounds Maintenance and Much More! Licensed & Insured, Free Estimates (828)524-6959.

HANDYMAN HOME REPAIRS Carpentry, Pressure Washing, Gutter Cleaning, Decks, Drywall, Painting, Electrical/Plumbing, Repairs of any kind. 40 Years, Fast/Reasonable/Reliable. (828)332-7247.

CRANE BROS. WELL Drilling, 6" Drilled Wells for Farms Homes and Industries, Free Estimates. 248 Crane Circle, Franklin. (828)524-4976.

STALLSWORTH PAINTING Interior/Exterior, Pressure Washing, Handyman, 35 Years Experience. (239)860-0117.

GARY BROWNING'S HOME Repairs, Decks, Pressure Washing, Interior Remodels, Painting, Etc. No Job Too Small, Prompt Response. (828)342-4039.

FOR YOUR WINTER DRAFTS Painting, Remodeling, Fix Everything. Call Tony (828)200-7570 or (828)526-5984 Leave Message.

PROFESSIONAL KNIFE and scissor sharpening Mon-Sat. Kitchen Sink Inc. 72 E. Main Street, Franklin (828)524-2956.

SQUID'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR & Service, 867 Highlands Rd., by Franklin Flea Market. (828)342-5135.

Help Wanted

OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA Highlands NC. \$500 sign-on bonus for Bellman, Housekeeping and Dishwashing! Now recruiting for Bellman, Dishwashers, Housekeepers, Turndown Attendants, Cook, Pastry and Bread Cook, Servers, Bussers, Host/Hostess, Spa Concierge, Spa Attendant, Cosmetologist, Front Desk, Night Audit, PT Graphic Designer. Benefits offered after 90 days employment Apply online: www.oldedwardsinn.com/careers

COMPANION HEALTH CARE is needing CNA's, special opportunities are available with this position. Call Donna for more information, it will be worth the call. (828)524-6444.

HIGHLANDS COVE is Looking for a Part-time/Full-time Security Guard/Gate Attendant. Third Shift. Call (828)526-9026 to schedule on appointment.

COMPANION HEALTH CARE is in need of a part-time RN, Flexible Schedule, More Information. Call Donna (828)524-6444.

Wanted

COMPANION HEALTH CARE is in need of a part-time RN, Flexible Schedule, More Information. Call Donna (828)524-6444.

Real Estate

FOR SALE BY OWNER 4 Lots in Gated Community. Unrestricted, Long Range Views, Good Roads, 6 Miles From Town. (828)421-4582.

FIXER UPPER BY OWNER 3BD/2BA doublewide manufactured home on .61-acre lot. Owner Financing. Great potential for handy homeowner. Drive by at 1337 Hidden Hills Road, Franklin then call or text your email address for details. \$55,000. (828)346-1200.

Rentals

OFFICE SPACE High Speed Internet, Convenient In-town Location. Ample Parking, Waiting Area/Bathroom. \$275/monthly. Plus Utilities. Call (828)421-7013.

Misc. For Sale

MILITARY SURPLUS W/C Pants/Shirts, Jackets. Military Boots On Sale. Cold Weather Clothing, Field Gear, Sleep Bags, Packs, Bags. (828)349-3140.

FARMERS MARKET Winter Season 10-12, every Saturday. Please Come Out and Support Your Local Farmers Market. Winter Vegetables, Honey, Fresh Chicken, Artisan Breads, Pastries, Preserves, Handcrafted Soaps, Eggs, Large Assortment of Cookies. 200 Block East Palmer.

Community Fundraisers

REACH FOR BARGAINS in Heritage Hollow, open Tues.-Sat. 10am-3pm. Benefits Victims of Domestic Violence. Information call (828)369-2040.

CARENET THRIFT STORE 45 Macon Center Dr., Franklin, Open Tuesday and Thursday. 100% of proceeds benefit the Mission of CareNet to help bridge the gap during times of crisis for families in Macon County. (828)349-9064.

DRIVE-THRU CHILI Dinner Fundraiser for Smoky Mountain Competition Cheer Saturday, Jan. 30, 4 to 7 p.m. at the Jackson Co. Rescue Squad Building, 327 County Services Park, in Sylva. Meal is \$8 and includes chili (with toppings), cornbread, drink and dessert. Proceeds to go toward the competition fees for youth cheerleaders that represent the Jackson, Macon, Swain and Haywood counties. For more information or to pre-order, please contact (828)506-1419.

YOUR AD could be here. Call (828)369-6767 for details.

Motor Vehicles

AUTO PARTS/COLLISION Parts: Bumpers, Fenders, Headlights and Used Parts, Motors, Transmissions, Accessories. Installation Available. Franklin Body Shop. (828)524-7494.

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P.O. Box 81 • 851 Lake Emory Road
Franklin, NC 28734

Shelter Wish List

- Cat Litter • Rice
- Laundry Detergent
- Low Sodium Vegetables (No Corn)
- Low Sodium Beef or Chicken Broth
- Canned Dog & Puppy Food
- Canned Cat Food

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CARS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
1997	Chevrolet	Camaro	16,606
2019	Chevrolet	Cruze	14,078
1972	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	91,171
2018	Chevrolet	Impala	8,465
2018	Chevrolet	Malibu	41,816
2017	Chevrolet	Malibu	66,094
1930	FORD	MODELA	78,269
2002	Honda	Accord	217,842
2019	Hyundai	Elantra	36,506
2015	Mercedes-Benz	GLA 45 AMG	36,582
2020	Nissan	Altima	38,911
2019	Nissan	Sentra	38,658
2019	Toyota	Corolla	27,529

TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2020	Chevrolet	Colorado	4,769
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	40,758
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	13,389
2019	Chevrolet	Colorado	3,987
2020	Chevrolet	Colorado	884
2019	Chevrolet	Colorado	6,928
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	11,584
2017	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	41,705
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	51,696
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	37,411
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	9,141
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	6,147
2013	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	201,568
2014	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	114,700
2005	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	168,369
2000	Dodge	Ram 1500	113,743
2020	Ford	F-150	23,354
2016	Ford	F-150	73,912
2018	Ford	F-150	27,491
2018	Ford	F-150	25,711
2014	Ford	F-150	130,556
2016	Ford	F-250	190,904
2019	Ford	Ranger	2,749
2014	GMC	Sierra 1500	54,681
2020	GMC	Sierra 1500	16,221
2019	Nissan	Frontier	39,039
2020	RAM	1500	25,556
2020	RAM	1500 Classic	18,621
2016	RAM	2500	128,642
2018	Toyota	Tacoma	35,770

VANS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2017	Buick	Encore	43,236
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	26,234
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	21,036
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	48,398
2016	Chevrolet	Equinox	107,191
2016	Chevrolet	Suburban	112,779
2016	Chevrolet	Suburban	51,472
2015	Chevrolet	Traverse	101,068
2017	Chevrolet	Traverse	91,551
2018	Chevrolet	Traverse	17,683
2017	Chevrolet	Traverse	37,692
2015	Chevrolet	Trax	135,060
2019	Ford	Edge	45,478
2018	Ford	Explorer	49,476
2000	Ford	Explorer	229,025
2014	GMC	Terrain	82,762
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	37,969
2020	GMC	Yukon XL	25,411
2016	GMC	Yukon XL	88,073
2019	Jeep	Cherokee	9,020
2019	Jeep	Cherokee	38,039
2004	Jeep	Liberty	130,097
2016	Jeep	Renegade	85,600
2019	Jeep	Wrangler	6,867
2018	Jeep	Wrangler JK	47,132
2017	Jeep	Wrangler Unlimited	88,737
2018	Jeep	Wrangler Unlimited	52,471
2016	Kia	Sorento	73,214
2019	Kia	Sorento	21,976
2016	Land Rover	Range Rover Sport	55,302
2016	Lexus	GX 460	81,717
2017	Lexus	GX 460	39,179
2018	Mitsubishi	Outlander	49,318
2019	Nissan	Rogue	39,871
2017	Nissan	Rogue	86,430
2018	Volkswagen	Tiguan	19,002

SUV

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2016	Dodge	Grand Caravan	102,307

BIKES & RECREATION

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2004	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ROAD KING	9,778
2019	KAUFMAN	TRAILER	
2019	POLARIS	SLINGSHOT SL	

PRE-OWNED VEHICLES