





FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER



Volume 38 Number 24

The Franklin Farmer's Market has been a presence in downtown Franklin for many years offering a variety of homegrown goods. Vendors meet every Saturday morning at 200 East Palmer Street from 8 a.m. to 12 noon throughout the season and feature produce, baked goods, preserves, soaps, honey, plants and much more. Photo by Betsey Gooder

## Macon set to have largest voter turnout in history

**Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer** 

October 29, 2020 • 24 Pages

The 2020 Presidential Election is on track to have historic turnout rates with more than 43 percent of registered voters in the state already casting their ballots. More than 3.1 million people in North Carolina have cast their ballots as of Monday morning, according to state data. In Macon County, as of Monday nearly 48 percent of registered voters in the county had already cast their ballots.

Over the same time period in the 2016 Presidential election, North Carolinians had not yet hit the million mark for early voters, however the early voting period was also a week shorter in 2016. Nearly 70 percent of North Carolinians voted in 2016.

About 780,000 people have cast absentee ballots, either by mail or dropping them off. That's about four times as many people who voted absentee in the last presidential election.

A record number of people in North Carolina have requested absentee ballots this year because of concerns over



A steady stream of voters have filed in and out of the community building since Oct. 15 when early voting began. The last day for early voting is Oct. 31, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

possible exposure to the coronavirus.

All by-mail ballots must be returned in person or have a

See TURNOUT page 2



www.themaconcountynews.com

### HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Hometown Spirit of Fall with Downtown Franklin Merchants Saturday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sidewalk Sale, Music, Costumes, Crafters and Candy. Safe Kids Teal Pumpkin, 3-4 p.m.; Trick or Treating, 4-7 p.m.

Teal Pumpkin Trick or Treating Downtown Saturday, Oct. 31, from 3 to 4 p.m. Safe Kids Macon County and Franklin merchants are partnering to provide nonfood treats for children with food allergies or who for some reason may not be able to have candy on Halloween. Look for the Teal Pumpkin in the window.

Trick or Treat on Bidwell Street Saturday, Oct. 31, beginning at 5 p.m. The residents of Bidwell Street decorate it up right for Halloween.

Drive-Thru Trick or Treating at The Fun Factory, 5-7 p.m., 1024 Georgia Road Franklin.

Addams Family Trick or Treat Movie Party Friday Oct. 30; Treats, 6:15 p.m.; Movie, 7 p.m., at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Come dressed in your favorite costume and enjoy treats and games prior to an outdoor showing of the hilarious animated comedy, "The Addams Family Movie." Patrons are encouraged to bring lawn chairs to sit in a designated socially distant area near the movie screen. Curb hop concessions will be available. Admission charged. Visit greatmountainmusic.com for ticket info.

Spooky Habitat Re-Store Trick or Treat from noon to 1 p.m. Adults get 10% off merchandise. Bring hygiene items for REACH collection drive, 56 West Palmer Street, Franklin.

Halloween Scavenger Hunt sponsored by the Macon County Public Library. The Children's Department at the Macon County Public Library will be displaying special Halloween signs in various shops downtown for a fun scavenger hunt. Pick up your scavenger hunt at the library – call (828)524-3600 for curbside pickup or to make an appointment. The Halloween signs will be on display in 10 downtown shops through Saturday, Oct. 31. Turn in your completed scavenger hunt and get your prize at the library. The library is located at 149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin.

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SMOKY MOUNTAIN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS 1028 Georgia Rd • Franklin, NC

Local 828.524.1598 • Toll Free 866.273.4615 GreatMountainMusic.com

## TURNOUT

#### Continued from page 1

postmark on the return envelope by 5 p.m. Election Day, Nov. 3.

As the current rules stand, ballots must arrive at county boards of election before Nov. 12 and postmarked on or before Nov. 3. North Carolina is among a handful of states whose deadline for absentee ballots had been contested in court. In Pennsylvania, the Supreme Court ruled that ballots could be accepted three days after the election. A court ruling on Monday said that Wisconsin can count only those absentee ballots that arrive by Election Day — even if they were mailed days earlier. In Michigan, ballots postmarked by Nov. 2, can be counted if they arrive by Nov. 17. In Minnesota, ballots postmarked Nov. 3 will be counted through Nov 10

Historically, voters in North Carolina have had three days for absentee ballots to reach their county's elections board.

To date in Macon County, 9,896 residents have voted. About 2,000 of those votes are Democrats and about 5,000 of those votes are Republican. Another 3,000 votes cast in the county were by unaffiliated voters.

While Republicans lead the way in ballots cast in-person during early voting, Macon County Democrats have voted absentee by mail in larger numbers. According to the Macon County Board of Elections, of the just over 3,000 absentee votes received by the county board, 1,271 votes were Democrat, 842 were Republican, and 942 were Unaffiliated.

In 2016, just 69 percent of registered voters cast a ballot meaning if Macon County stays on trend, 2020 will see the largest voter turn out on record. Macon County has more than 25,000 registered voters.

Early voting will continue at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building on Georgia Road through Saturday, Oct. 31 when the polls close at 3 p.m. Election day will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. On Election Day, voters will cast their ballots at their designated precinct locations between 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

#### Polling Places in Macon County

- North Franklin - Franklin Town Hall - 95 Main Street - South Franklin - Macon County Public Library - 149 Siler Farm Rd

East Franklin - Macon County Environmental Resource Center - 1624 Lakeside Drive

- Iotla - Macon County Airport - 1241 Airport Road

- Union - Macon County Community Building - 1288 Georgia Road

- Millshoal - Holly Springs Community Building - 2720 Cat Creek Road

- Sugarfork - Pine Grove School - 38 Peeks Creek Road

- Ellijay - Cullasaja Gorge Fire & Rescue - 104 River Road

Cartoogechaye - West Macon Fire and Rescue - 564 Charles Nolen Road

Highlands

Rd, Otto

Rd, Scaly Mountain

- Nantahala - Nantahala EMS Building - 1096 Junaluska Road, Topton

Burningtown - Old Burningtown Fire Department-30

## FPD offers tips to reduce incidents of neighborhood crime

Investigator Mark Foster with the Franklin Police Department has compiled a list of crime tips. The past couple of months has seen a rise in the number of incidents in the Franklin area that will likely continue to go up, as the holiday season approaches, he said.

"These tips would be helpful to the community to bring down the number of incidents in our area," said Foster. "With your help, let's all work together to make Franklin a safer community."

#### Crime Watch Tips

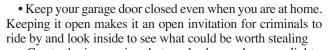
Always pay attention to your surroundings

• Walk around your home with the eyes of a burglar. Look for weaknesses - sliding doors that could be jimmied off the track, glass that could be broken to gain entry, window air conditioners that could be easily removed, and so forth. In your walk around the outside note any items that are in view that could be tempting to a burglar.

· Secure your yard. Trim bushes and trees to discourage burglars from using them as hiding places. Avoid planting low shrubs in front of windows.

• Keep a porch light or an outside security light on at night.

• Keep all doors locked, and always use the deadbolt as a deterrent. Keep windows locked



 Create the impression that you're home: leave on lights, the radio or the television. And it you're going on vacation for a while, don't advertise your absence. Don't post photos on social media, arrange for someone to pick up your mail, mow the lawn set out the trash cans on pick up day.

· Make sure all your valuables have some sort of identification on them. Take photos and keep a record of the serial number.

• If you go out waking for exercise, or just to get fresh air, it is always better to walk with someone else.

• When walking to your car have your keys in your hand, with most cars today are equipped with alarms.

• If anyone follows you, look confident and let him or her know you are aware of their presence.

Keep the doors to you vehicle locked.

• Keep purses, phones and other valuables hidden inside your vehicle.

• When traveling make sure all valuables are out of sight. • When shopping don't leave your purse in the shopping cart

or set your purse down on a store counter.

Keep a cell phone with you at all times.

#### Need to Deposit Your Hard Earned Cash? No FEE to Deposit Cash! ountain HomeMinders Open a FREE Personal or Business Checking Account at Nantahala Bank, sign up for eStatements and there are no FEES! We'll even give you your first set of standard checks FREE!

Peace of Mind in the Mountains HomeWatch and Home Maintenance Services for Seasonal/Absentee Homeowners. Proudly serving the communities of Franklin, Lake Nantahala, Highlands, Cashiers and Lake Glenville



Peace of Mind In The Mountains

Loretta Peake Newton still believes that personal care and attention to your property is what you want.

828-421-4744 MountainHomeMinders@gmail.com MountainHomeMinders.com

- Highlands - Highlands Civic Center - 600 North 4th St,

- Flats - Scaly Mountain Fire Department - 169 Hale Ridge

- Smithbridge - Otto Community Building - 60 Firehouse

Daves Creek Road - Cowee - Cowee School - 51 Cowee School Drive

Franklin, NC 28734 102 Hwy 64 East Hayesville, NC 28904 86 Hiwassee Street Murphy, NC 28906 NMLS# 761977 FDIC LOLAL HOUSE

120 Siler Road

The difference between a college graduate and a college dropout could be something as simple as a broken laptop, a failed well pump or need for childcare.

It could also be a scholarship that provides the extra tuition a student might not otherwise be able to afford for a particular semester at Southwestern Community College.

Through a wide variety of student scholarships and funding initiatives, this year the SCC Foundation has been able to award a record-breaking \$200,000 in financial support during a time of uncertainty and hardship when students need it more than ever.

For 2020-21, the SCC Foundation awarded 142 individual scholarships totaling \$172,000; supported 33 students through their Student Emergency Fund totaling \$7,000; and

provided \$21,000 toward the New Century Scholars.

While the SCC Foundation relies heavily on private donors to support students, more than \$16,000 came directly from the donations of SCC faculty and staff.

"We are thrilled to have reached yet another milestone within the SCC Foundation by changing a record number of student lives through scholarship support this year. We've seen significant philanthropic momentum externally and also internally, with 62 of our own employees making gifts to support our students," said Brett Woods, Director of the SCC Foundation. "We are crafting a new culture of philanthropy. We are grateful, we are appreciative and on behalf of our students, we thank our donors for making this record-breaking year possible."

Seven years ago, the SCC Foundation was only able to help one out of every five students who applied for financial assistance. For the current academic year, SCC was able to assist al-

Jasmine Cline of Robbinsville is one of the SCC Foundation's Student Success Scholarship recipients this year and a student in SCC's Occupational Therapy Assistant program.

most half (128 out of 270). That means 50 percent of qualified

applicants still aren't receiving assistance.

"One of my top priorities when I arrived here in 2011 was to find a way to fund and award more student scholarships, and the SCC Foundation has done a wonderful job of doing exactly that," said SCC President Dr. Don Tomas. "It's gratifying to see so many more students getting the financial help they need, and we are so thankful to all of our donors for making this happen. Our work continues to provide scholarships for each student who applies for financial assistance."

Lisa Leatherman, who currently serves as chair of the SCC Foundation, is optimistic about SCC's ability to bridge that gap and continue serving more students than ever.

"SCC and our Foundation are only as strong as the communities we serve," said Leatherman. "Financial support provided by donors in Jackson, Macon, Swain and surrounding counties support and sustain a vibrant and growing workforce for our state and the Western North Carolina region."

Jasmine Cline, a student in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program and one of this year's Student Success Scholarship recipients, credits the Foundation's support as a key part of her success.

"The scholarship I've received has freed and enabled me to pour all of my attention into my studies and becoming great at my passion, which is caring for others," said Cline. "I truly can't thank the donors and everyone at SCC enough for this opportunity. It's such a weight off my shoulders."

To support students or learn more about the SCC Foundation, visit https://www.southwesterncc.edu/Foundation.



• Garden Center Open – Seeds for your Garden, Flowers and all your other Garden needs

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SPIRIT OF FALL Trick or Treat with the Downtown Merchants SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 
TOAM – 7PM SIDEWALK SALE, MUSIC, COSTUMES AND CANDY! SAFE KIDS TEAL

## PUMPKIN AT 3PM TRICK OR TREATING 4PM - 7PM

If your family, business, church, non-profit organization, etc. is interested in passing out treats, please contact Gwen Taylor at 828.524.5676 to reserve a table, at no charge.





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## Hunter's Mountain Ride for Teen Challenge surpasses expectations

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

While at least 50 drivers enjoyed motoring around Macon County on a cool, fall day, the Oct. 3 Hunter's Mountain Ride and silent auction was about more than just enjoyment. The annual fundraiser generated more than \$12,000 through donations, a silent auction, and t-shirt sales for Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center.

Said Tony Curtis, president of Curtis TV Inc., and one of the fundraiser's organizers, "One hundred percent of the money raised goes to Men's Teen Challenge for daily expenses, upkeep, and improvements to the property. Our goal is to help restore lives and families in hopes to prevent Hunter's tragedy from happening to other families."

Tony and Monica Curtis lost their son, Hunter, in 2016. The native Franklin couple began hosting Hunter's Mountain Ride as a way of bringing awareness of the local help that is available to young people struggling with addictive behaviors.

"What a blessed day," described Monica

Curtis. "We want to thank everyone who prayed, participated, donated, and supported Hunter's Mountain Ride this year. We surpassed what we thought

for Hunter Curtis - with monies supporting Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center.

was possible with the restrictions on us due to COVID. We know Gods' blessings were on this event. Hunter would be so proud to know how his memory is helping so many."

From left, Derik Breedlove, Morgan Curtis, Monica Curtis and Tony Curtis all participated in the 2020 Hunter's Mountain Ride, a fundraiser - named

Added Tony, "Hunter was a Christian with a huge heart, he would always help someone in need if he could ... he would so proud to see the lives being changed in his memory. We believe that with God's intervention, this is possible, which is why we support this program. If it changes one life, it is worth the effort. We also hope to raise awareness about addiction

and to raise awareness about this

facility and to give hope to those praying for their own family member or friend consumed by addiction."

Many individuals volunteered time and gave money to the event. Businesses that contributed resources, auction items, and monies to Hunter's Mountain Ride include: Appalachian Ace Hardware, Kitchen Sink, Inc., Ms Lois Restaurant, Rockin Rollie Pollies Restaurant, Holland Car Wash, Haywood Smokehouse Franklin, The Lodge at Cat Creek, Doug Houston - Sr Mortgage, Luxury Therapeutics, Old School Knife Works, Jennings Building Supply, Ultimate Truck & Golf Cars, Carolina Mini Mart, Ingles, Walmart of Franklin, Fox Mercantile, Spa Siobhan, Lowe's of Franklin, CurtisTV-Radioshack, Three Eagles, Franklin Chamber of Commerce, Macon Rental Company, and Macon County Fairgrounds.

Anyone who could not participate in this year's Hunter's Mountain Ride but who wants to donate to Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center can give online at www.mtcots.com. Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center is a faith-based, 12-month residential addiction recovery program.



Cars of all kinds, including police cars, were part of the motorcade for Hunter's Mountain Ride on Oct. 3 that began at the fairgrounds and ended at Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies.











## Hill bequeaths to Rotary Club

David S. Hill, O.D., passed away on March 27, 2020, at the age of 64. A longtime Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow, David included The Rotary Club of Franklin in his estate planning. Shown here is Joe Collins, estate attorney, presenting Bill Swift, Rotary Club President, with a check for \$22,000 payable to the Roy Rickman Scholarship Fund. Also present were Rotarians Susie Ledford, Vic Perry, Robin Jenkins and Tommy Jenkins, who were longtime friends and classmates of Hill and Collins.

## **DMV** issues two millionth REAL ID

reached a milestone with the issuance of its two millionth REAL ID license or ID enhancement late last week, more than a year before the REAL ID Act will go into effect.

Starting Oct. 1, 2021, federal agencies will require a REAL ID, U.S. passport or another form of federally-approved identification to board commercial airlines and to enter many federal buildings or facilities. The original date was Oct. 1 of this year, but it was delayed a year last spring due to COVID-19.

A REAL ID is optional and not a requirement, but depending on one's situation, it could make flying domestically or entering federal facilities easier by not requiring you to

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles carry multiple identification documents.

Obtaining the REAL ID enhancement is easy. If you need to renew your license or ID card, are getting either one for the first time, or just want to upgrade what you already have, it requires additional documentation. Details on what is required can be found on the REAL ID section of the DMV website. The current process requires making an appointment at a license office, which can be done online on the DMV website.

Once someone has a REAL ID, noted by a gold star in a corner of your license or ID, it remains in effect even when it is time to renew, so you will not have to show the additional documentation again.



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## In President Trump's world

#### John Kelley, Chief of Staff, Marine Corps

general says about Donald Trump: "The depths of his dishonesty is just astounding to me. He is the most flawed person I have ever met in my life."

#### James Mattis, Secretary of Defense,

Marine Corps general said about Donald Trump: "I was basically directed to do something that I thought went beyond stupid to felony stupid, strategically jeopardizing our place in the world and everything else, that's when I quit." "Donald Trump is the first president in my lifetime who does not try to unite the American people-does not even pretend to try. Instead, he tries to divide us."

Over 225,000 have died of COVID-19. The United States has 4% of the words population but has 20% or the worlds deaths. By far the worst result of any industrialized nation, and it is getting worse.

The U.S. saw its largest ever decline in the number of business owners between February and April, as at least 3.3 million shut their doors. Unemployment is at historic high levels. President Trump says he has created the greatest economy in the history of the world.

5 hurricanes in the Atlantic at one time. The worst fire season in history. Historic floods in middle America. The hottest year on record. Scientist say Climate Change is happening now. Trump says "I don't think science knows, actually."

Over 100 million have a pre-existing medical condition. If the President has his way the insurance company will once again charge you a higher premium. The new "Health Care Plan" he has been promising for over 4 years is nowhere in sight.

## Don't like President Trump's world? Vote for change on Nov 3rd

Paid for by the Macon County Democratic Party (www.macondems.org)

VOLUME 38 NUMBER 24 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2020

## MoveMore Fitness opens in larger location

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the grand opening of MoveMore Fitness.

MoveMore Fitness is Franklin's premier 24/7 access fitness center. In addition to free weights and cardio equipment, they specialize in group training, personal training and nutrition coaching. MoveMore is located at 41 Bates Crossing, just behind the new Ingles on Georgia Road and is owned by Travis and Lindsay Wright, with Matt Harlfinger acting as the General Manager.

MoveMore offers group training classes such as kickboxing, functional training, pilates, spin and even aerobic dance class. Group sessions start as early as 5:15 a.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. Memberships are sold in a as 1) 24/7 keycard access, 2) group training sessions or 3) a combination of both. The gym offers competitive rates and discounts to emergency service personnel and teachers.

"I started MoveMore in my basement as a way to help women, particularly mothers, to reduce stress and feel good about themselves through daily movement. God has blessed this venture tremendously and we've been able to expand into our now 7,000 square foot space. MoveMore's main goal is to encourage lifelong habits that keep our community healthy and thriving," said Lindsay.

Visit movemorefitness.com or call/text us (828) 333-7287.



MoveMore Fitness owners Lindsay and Travis Wright recently cut the ribbon on their new location at 41 Bates Crossing, just behind the Georgia Road Ingles.



I am running for NC House District 120 that includes Cherokee, Clay, Graham, and Macon counties.

I am a fifth-generation Maconian and am very proud to be from Western North Carolina. In 1999, I started National Communications, Inc. (NCI) with one technician. Since then, NCI has grown to become a regional company providing installation and maintenance of all types of low voltage communications systems.

I am currently serving as a Macon County Commissioner, liaison to several other boards, and am a past board of Trustee member at Southwestern Community College. I live on our family farm where we have registered black Angus cattle and I am on the local Farm Bureau Board. I am a member of First United Methodist Church. I am married to Janet Taylor Gillespie, who is also a Macon County native. We have one son, Logan.

I will bring these experiences with me and I will be your voice to represent you with interity and enthusiasm. I look forward to the opportunity to represent the citizens of Clay, Cherokee, Graham, and Macon counties and I respectfully request your vote on November 3.

Thank you,



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Karl Gillespie



Sonny's Music Lounge is now open at 203 Sloan Road, Franklin.

## New one-stop music shop opens

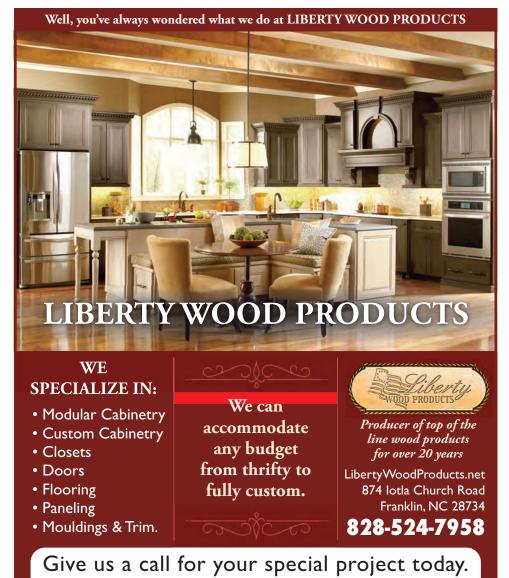
The Franklin Chamber of Commerce wel- small concerts, video and audio recording or comes Sonny's Music Lounge to the Franklin a place for your band to rehearse," said business community with a ribbon cutting Owner Ronda Drake. celebration. Located at 203 Sloan Road, Sonny's is a musician's dream. A one-stop music shop with Nashville pedigree

Sonny's is more than a music store.

"We offer instrument sales and consignments, lessons, sound and lighting equipment drop by for a tour or discuss the services they rental, DJ services, a fully equipped stage for offer.

Sonny Curtis, one of country's legendary steel guitar players' family here in Franklin has opened this museum/music store in honor of him.

The staff at Sonny's invites the public to



## **Chamber welcomes Select Bank & Trust Branch**

Select Bank & Trust was recently welcomed into the Franklin business community and the Franklin Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting celebration. Select Bank & Trust is located at 30 Hyatt Road, the former location of Entegra Bank.

Select Bank & Trust was founded in 2000 and is headquartered in Dunn, N.C., offering a broad range of retail, small business and commercial banking products and services. Select serves communities in North and South Carolina and Virginia through 22 fullservice banking offices. While their presence in these communities and the markets surrounding these communities is important, Select is committed to offering banking services that allow thier customers to bank on their own schedules from wherever they are.

Their goal is to provide a common-sense approach to banking with knowledgeable staff and great products and services.

"Our goal for some time has been to further expand the markets. This branch, and the recently converted ones in Sylva and Highlands will serve as an expansion of our

footprint into Western North Carolina. Finding established locations with experienced employees in communities like these fit into our strategic plan perfectly and we are looking forward to serving these new customers. It is a tough time in our nation and world right now and we hope to continue to be a source of assistance and education for our customers,



Pictured is the Franklin branch team (L-R)Clinton Durham, Chelsea Mathis, Cathy Shook, Ashley King, Meka Ashe and Cindy Crawford. Not pictured, Betty Tison.

footprint wide. We are extremely proud of our newest employees for making this transition during this difficult time in our communities" said CEO & president, Bill Hedgepeth.

The public is invited to drop by and visit with Branch Manager Meka Ashe and her staff, call (828)524-1000 or visit www.SelectBank.com for more information.





## HEALTH INSURANCE SPECIALISTS OPEN ENROLLMENT IS NOW!!!!

Medicare Plans and Part D: October 15 – December 7

- > Under 65 (Tax Credit Eligible) Plans: November 1 December 15.
- > For most people, this is the only time of year to enroll or change.

## Changes take effect January 1, 2021

We Can Help You with a new plan or help you renew your existing plan at no additional cost to you. You only pay the plan premiums.

We Represent All the major carriers and products available in Macon County and surrounding areas. **Call Now!** We are booking appointments for all Medicare beneficiaries and under 65 customers.

BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina





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## Harris Regional develops care program for breast cancer patients

**Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer** 

In 2020, an estimated 276,480 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women in the U.S., along with 48,530 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer. Women are not alone in the fight against breast cancer. About 2,620 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in men in 2020 and a man's lifetime risk of breast cancer is about 1 in 883. A women's lifetime risk of breast cancer is 1 in 8.

In North Carolina, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for women with an average of more than 6,000 N.C. women diagnosed annually and more than 1,000 who will die from the disease.

In conjunction with October serving as National Breast Cancer Awareness month, Harris Regional Hospital is working to educate residents across Western North Carolina about recent expansions that allow individuals diagnosed with breast cancer to receive comprehensive, high-quality care close to home.

Harris Regional Hospital's goal of developing a comprehensive care program for breast cancer patients started in June when Dr. Allison Palumbo joined the healthcare system as a general surgeon with Harris Surgical Associates.

Dr. Palumbo joined Joshua Pratt, DO and Eric Reitz, MD in providing general surgery services to Jackson, Swain, Graham, and Macon counties as well as the surrounding region. While Dr. Palumbo is an experienced general surgeon, she specialized in breast surgical oncology, including breast cancer genetics and high-risk breast cancer screening.

"I am excited to be joining the team at Harris Surgical Associates and am proud to be part of a program that has the same leading technology and expertise that some of the largest healthcare facilities in the country."

Dr. Palumbo brings her extensive training in lumpectomy as well as skin-sparing and nipple-sparing mastectomy techniques to the patients of Western North Carolina. She graduated from Marshall University School of Medicine in Huntington, W. Va., and completed a general surgery residency at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Palumbo served in the United States Air Force as a general surgeon at MacDill Air Force Base. Dr. Palumbo was deployed to Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan where she served as chief of general surgery for the country's largest hospital. Dr. Palumbo received multiple awards for her military service, including the Air Commendation Force Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the NATO Medal. In addition to serving in the USAF, Dr. Palumbo received extensive training in breast surgical oncology during her time in Tampa, Fla., and practiced at St. Joseph's Hospital and Lakeland Regional Medical Center.

"Dr. Palumbo brings specialized training in advanced breast surgical oncology that aligns with Harris Regional Hospital's investments in 3-D mammography and our renovation and addition at the Harris Regional Cancer Center. Dr. Palumbo will be a great complement to the general surgery team, joining Dr. Pratt and Dr. Reitz," said Steve Heatherly, CEO of Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital.

According to Dr. Palumbo, the state-ofthe-art technology and equipment she utilized during her tenure working in Tampa, Florida was some of the most advanced in



Dr. Allison Palumbo

the industry — and she was pleased to learn that Harris Regional Hospital has invested in the same equipment.

The advanced technology Dr. Palumbo is referring to is a 3D Mammography System. The system captures images of the breast from multiple angles to ensure a more complete and accurate scan. This allows for earlier and more effective detection of breast cancer and helps reduce the number of return visits caused by false positives.

"We are thrilled to be able to offer this state-of-the-art technology and further enhance the high-quality care we provide to the women in our community," says LaCrystal Gordon, MSN, RN, Chief Nursing Officer at Harris Regional Hospital. "Our 3D mammography service will help make it possible to detect breast cancer in earlier stages so that treatment can begin sooner, giving our patients a greater chance of beating the disease."

A 3D mammogram, also known as digital breast tomosynthesis (DBT) or "tomo," is a type of digital mammography that follows the same basic procedure of standard 2D digital mammography. This advanced procedure requires no additional breast compression and lasts just a few seconds longer than standard 2D digital mammography.

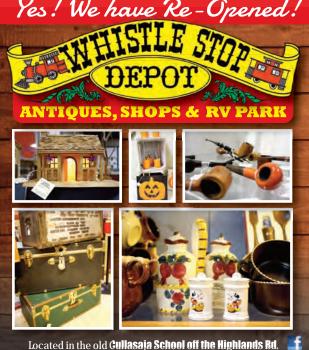
Between the 3D mammogram capability and Dr. Palumbo's expertise, Harris Regional Hospital will be able to diagnose, detect, and treat breast cancer in patients from beginning to end.

"When someone is diagnosed with breast cancer, it is understandably a scary experience," said Dr. Palumbo. "Being able to treat patients wholly from beginning to end allows patients to stay close to home and close to their support networks of family and friends. Having that support can make all the difference during treatment.

Dr. Palumbo noted that beyond diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, Harris Regional Hospital has also recently added a skilled plastic surgeon that helps with recovery.

"We have regular meetings where we are able to discuss treatment plans and progress of patients," said Dr. Palumbo. "Because all doctors are working in the same facility, the communication and group approach to treatment for patients is quick and effective.Standard 2D digital and 3D mammograms can be scheduled at Harris Regional Hospital by calling 844.414.DOCS. For more information on breast care services available at Harris Regional Hospital, visit MyHarrisRegional.com





Located in the old **Cullasaja School off the Highlands Rd**. 145 145 River Rd., Franklin, NC • (828) 349-1600 whistlestopantiquesnc.com

# Dogwood Health committed to addressing substance abuse

In keeping with the agreement with the NC Attorney General's Office, Dogwood Health Trust will provide \$5 million per year for five years for the purpose of funding programs and services dedicated to addressing Substance Use Disorder (SUD) for residents of Western North Carolina. Approximately 52,000 people in WNC struggle with substance use disorder and almost half (47.4%) of adults living in the region report that their lives have been negatively affected by substance misuse. To date, Dogwood has awarded 20 grants totaling approximately \$3 million and is on track to meet their \$5 million commitment by the end of 2020. For a full list of grantees to date, visit www.dht.org/substance-use-disorder.

"Our overarching goals are significant," said April Bragg, PhD, Sr. Impact Officer for Substance Use Disorder with Dogwood Health Trust. "We want to reduce opioid deaths for the region by 40% in 2020; that is quite bold especially considering the current pandemic." Bragg says that as part of the organization's commitment to equity, Dogwood also wants to reduce substance use among minority populations and teens. In addition, Dogwood will work to deliver one or more substance use disorder-related programs to every county within the 18-county and Qualla Boundary region of Western North Carolina over time.

Dogwood's strategies to prevent opioid overdose fatality include supporting efforts around syringe exchange, naloxone availability, and medication assisted treatment (MAT). Dogwood has awarded five grants to expand syringe exchange programs, two to improve the availability of naloxone, and seven to support and expand MAT programs. The estimated impact of those specific grants, measured in terms of lives saved from overdose death, aligns with the goal of a 40% reduction overall. Partners like Steady Collective, Buncombe County Health and Human Services, WNCAP, Appalachian Mountain Community Health Centers (AMCHC), and MAHEC routinely provide updates to Dogwood in order to track projected impact in the community

AMCHC is a federally qualified health center with six locations in Buncombe, Cherokee, Graham and Jackson counties. AMCHC integrates behavioral health into the primary care setting, with a focus on serving vulnerable and high-risk populations, many of whom may be homeless or newly housed, or struggling with SUD. To reach these groups, AMCHC utilizes Peer Support Specialists and a Mobile MAT program to provide medical and emotional support, SUD care and prevention, and assistance with medications and appointments.

With COVID-19 safety precautions, AMCHC's Mobile MAT program faced challenges in connecting patients in-person with a clinician, psychiatrist, or prescriber. With support from Dogwood, AMCHC was able to purchase iPads with hot spots to use in their Mobile MAT program. This allowed the Peer Support Specialists to easily facilitate a visit with a mental health professional, a primary care physician, or a counselor. The grant also covers costs associated with uninsured patients, visits with therapists, and some medications.

"The first five months have gone extremely well," said AMCHC physician Dr. James Hartye. "Now, we're looking at expanding the program into the far west counties, starting with Cherokee." Hartye notes that they're currently testing the technology to see how well it can perform in areas with less reliable internet service.

Dogwood Health Trust is a North Carolina nonprofit corporation with the sole purpose of improving the health and well-being of all people and communities of Western North Carolina. Dogwood Health Trust was created from the net proceeds of the sale of Mission Hospital and focuses on innovative ways to address the many factors that contribute to overall health and wellness. To learn more, visit www.dht.org. Mountain Medical Directory Quality Care for a Healthy Life

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## What's new on the plateau

#### Patrick Taylor - Highlands Mayor

We have had a good early voting turnout. I hope everyone will cast a ballot either during early voting which ends at 3 p.m. on Saturday, or on Tuesday, Nov. 3, Election Day. As I have said before, we need a strong turnout to let officials at the Macon County courthouse know we vote on the plateau. I would love to see a 100% turnout, or there about.

The staff at Town Hall has been getting calls about the bear resistant toter requirement. The ordi-

Patrick Taylor

nance requiring these toters was passed by the town board in August 2019. Implementation of the ordinance was scheduled for Aug. 1, 2020, in other words, a year from the time of passage. In August this deadline was postponed in order to give some folks an opportunity to get toters that were on back order. There seems to still be a back order of the small 30 gallon toters. Implementation of the ordinance has again been rescheduled to Nov. 16. I want to thank the overwhelming number of residents who purchased the bear resistant toters months ago.

Last week the kickoff of the Highlands Community Plan went very well with a 73% attendance at several stakeholder meetings. There will be more meetings to follow, including ZOOM sessions. It is critical that residents participate in this process which will set the vision for Highlands for the coming decade. I completed the community survey this past week. I encourage everyone to go to the town website and click on the Highlands Community Plan to access the survey. The survey is well designed and takes only a few minutes to complete. As I have said, this will not be an elected officials plan, but rather a community and citizens' plan. During this planning process, my goal is to cu tback on the talking and listen to the Highlands stakeholders participating in the process.

From all incoming reports, we may be facing a national surge in COVID-19. It will be more important than ever to practice the 3 Ws. They are; wash hands frequently, wait and social distance, and wear a mask in public places. We have seen very high participation in mask wearing in businesses and on commercial sidewalks. Again, let me stress that the wearing of masks on sidewalks and streets in residential zones is not a part of the town mask ordinance. The mask wearing requirement applies to businesses and on sidewalks in commercial zones.

I have been in conversations with folks at the Highlands Chamber of Commerce concerning holiday events. These events will not be like they have been in past years due to COVID-19.

There will be a Christmas Parade, just at a different time and format. Details will be announced soon. Highlands will continue to have beautiful Christmas lights throughout the town, but the town lighting will be modified. Representatives of the chamber will be presenting specific plans at the November town board meeting.

## Letters to the Editor

#### Yahweh is the one and only true God

Henotheism is the belief in one supreme deity without denying the existence of other lesser gods.

St. Thomas, one of the 12 disciples of Jesus Christ, is also known as "doubting" Thomas because of his initial refusal to believe that Jesus had risen bodily from the grave. This is despite being a witness to many miracles performed by Jesus Christ throughout their three years together. The confession of St. Thomas bears powerful testimony to the deity of Christ. He saw Jesus turn water into wine, heal a crippled man, feed 5,000 men with only five loaves and two fish, give sight to a man born blind, raise a dead man with the stench of having been dead for four days, and many other miracles.

Yet when it came to the ultimate test of faith, he along with the other 11 disciples abandoned Christ and fled for their lives. They remained in hiding after He was arrested by the Romans who turned him over to Pontius Pilate. Pilate then turned Him over to the Jews for their verdict. Jesus was crucified.

Three days later, he rose from the dead. This was witnessed by the disciples, except Thomas, and about 500 others.

A couple of weeks later, He again appeared to the disciples. This time, Thomas was present. Now Jesus knew that Thomas had refused to believe that He was indeed risen despite the witness of the other disciples who had already seen Him. "They [disciples] told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he replied, 'I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side.'" (John 20:25 NLT)

Instead of criticizing him for his lack of faith, Jesus willingly and lovingly provided him with what his fledgling faith required. He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve but believe."

There is no record that Thomas actually did what he had insisted he must do, and Jesus invited him to do. Instead, with a giant step he moves from the state of unbelieving to the state of believing. Suddenly, he is convinced that the one whom he sees is the risen Lord, the very same Jesus whom he knew after being with him for three years. Unhesitatingly, without any more words, explanations or apologies, he responds with an astonishing confession of faith: "Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'" (John 20:28). This declaration of faith is unique. No other disciple in the Gospel narratives used such an advanced creedal formula for expressing faith in Christ, who is now called Lord and God. I wish I could have heard the inflection in his voice when he uttered those words!

Thomas' confession of faith assigns to Jesus the attrib-

utes of Lord and God, as used in the Old Testament for Yahweh, the one and only God. Thus, now Jesus is addressed in the same way. The change is radical. It is interesting to note that Thomas, the skeptical, unbelieving and tough disciple, utters at the very end of the Gospel of John, a superb declaration of faith which matches, in a variation, the majestic opening lines of the same Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). This Word became flesh and dwelt among us (Jn. 1:14), was crucified and risen, and now in John 20:28 is acknowledged as Lord and God.

With this confession of Thomas, despite its utter brevity, we have a supreme pronouncement of who Christ is. He is much more than a henotheistic lesser god. He is the one and the only true God.

As the writer to the Hebrews put it, "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he (the Son, or Jesus) sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs." (Hebrews 1:1-4)

'You are my witnesses," declares the Lord (Yahweh),

"and my servant whom I have chosen,

that you may know and believe me

and understand that I am he.

Before me no god was formed,

nor shall there be any after me.

I, I am the Lord (Yahweh),

and besides me there is no savior." (Isaiah 43:10-11)

Ed Hill - Franklin, N.C.

#### Who is responsible for the tunnel at the border?

I was reading a very interesting artical where U.S. authorities have dicovered an unfinished and unusually sophiticated tunnel running from Mexico to the U.S. underneath the border wall. Only measuring only 3ft wide and only 4ft high, the tunnel has a railway, ventilation, water lines and electric lights. Angel Ortiz with Homeland security, said its builders must have been highly skilled, because the sand in the area is very loose and most tunnels end up caving. The tunnel was found when agents noticed a sinkhole opening up near the border wall. This is not first tunnel that has been found going under the border wall. So much for the wall. That sure took some money. Where is it comeing from. Any one that is that highly skilled, sure don't donate their time. I bet is cost more money that the wall.

Kathy Whitley – Franklin, N.C.



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## **Rabun Gap dedicates Alexander Chudacoff Outdoor Classroom**

Students, faculty, administrators, and supporters gathered Friday, Oct. 16, for the official dedication of the Alexander Chudacoff Outdoor Classroom at Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School.

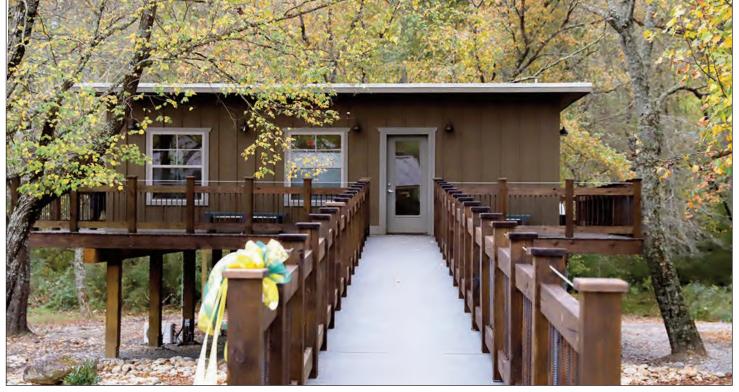
The 1,000 square-foot outdoor classroom is nestled in the trees behind Rabun Gap's Niles Bolton Middle School Complex. The new building includes a large wrap-around deck of 900 square feet, direct access to the creek, and expansive indoor and outdoor areas for students to work on projects.

"Projects like this just don't happen randomly. It takes a vision from faculty, commitment from supporters, and passion from our students," said Head of School Jeff Miles. "Our faculty are engaging with this space and its natural surroundings in so many creative ways. I am excited about the future of this classroom and am grateful for the supporters of this project who have ensured engaged learning and discovery for generations to come."

Local Rabun Gap families and neighbors helped make the vision for an outdoor classroom at the Middle School a reality by supporting the full cost of the project with charitable gifts. Local businesses Vulcan Materials and Highlander Build + Design were also key partners in the project.

The initial lead donor was the late Helga Loenne who made the gift in memory of her son, Alexander Chudacoff, who had a passion for science and the environment and who passed away at age 21. Ms. Loenne was inspired by the opportunity to honor his life in a way that gives students the chance to learn about and engage with nature.

A dedicated outdoor classroom space at Rabun Gap has



Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School dedicated the Alexander Chudacoff Outdoor Classroom on Friday, Oct. 16. The new classroom, located at the Niles Bolton Middle School Complex on Betty's Creek Road, offers 1,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor space for hands-on learning.

been a dream of Mr. Jonathan BySura, longtime middle school science teacher and experiential education coordinator. BySura has built a science curriculum that embraces hands-on learning and natural discovery. The Alex Chudacoff Outdoor Classroom will serve as a hub for the growing science program at the Middle School, as well as offer space for classes and projects involving students of all ages at

Rabun Gap.

"For me, this building represents opportunity. It's the core building block of what has already been established as an outdoor program at Rabun Gap Middle School. Thank you for creating the beating heart to a program that will blossom into what I believe will be the best science program in the country," said BySura.

#### TO THOSE WHO ARE UNDECIDED

#### If you believe:

- Permanent one-party rule is desirable.
- Big cities should always determine who becomes President.
- The judiciary should be stacked to ensure the "correct" ruling.
- There is no need to be concerned about election irregularities involving "privileged" candidates
- It is good for giant corporations to restrict and control the flow of information rather than allowing a free exchange of ideas. (Bernie bros where are you on this?)
- Government corruption is no problem and the less looked into the better.
- People's convenience outweighs a child's life.
- Violence, bullying and intimidation are legitimate forms of political discourse
- Billionaires should buy elections.
- Open borders are good
- Foreign influence in government is nothing to be concerned about.

#### VOTE DEMOCRAT

#### If you believe:

- Hatred and envy will never build a good and just society.
- Racism is still racism regardless of the color or lack thereof.
- The goal of education is education and free inquiry, not indoctrination & group think.
- A person is innocent until proven guilty.
- People without accountability are prone to corruption.
- The mainstream press has been derelict in its duty.
- Tech giants should not be allowed to run the government.
- Religious convictions are not bigotry but anti-religious animus is.
- · We should not encourage organized crime by having open borders.
- Peace is preferable to war if there is a way to avoid it.
- Our leaders should not be in a position to be blackmailed.

#### VOTE REPUBLICAN

Paid for by David Parker

#### Dear Editor,

In normal times, we are not unduly impacted by the actions of our elected officials, whether they are state officials, or national officials. But these are not normal times. Few people on the planet questioned the rationale of closing down our economies to save the world from a deadly pandemic, especially after seeing the horrific video images coming out of Communist China. But, now that we know that the so-called 'pandemic' is hardly deadly, with 99.75% recovering, it seems that we would benefit in every way imaginable by returning to normal activities, allowing our children to play without masks, and stop pandering to fear.

The path for North Carolinians couldn't be clearer. If we re-elect Roy Cooper, we are headed for more and more draconian measures, with his advice just five days ago to snitch on people in our community who are not wearing masks. He appears to be following a political agenda that is probably illegal, as the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that executive orders by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to combat COVID-19 are unconstitutional and invalid. Thus Gov. Cooper's directives should be challenged in our courts too. Or we can elect Dan Forest governor on November 3rd, and see our path quickly come back to more normal, reasonable behavior, based upon ideas of attaining herd immunity, sooner rather than later.

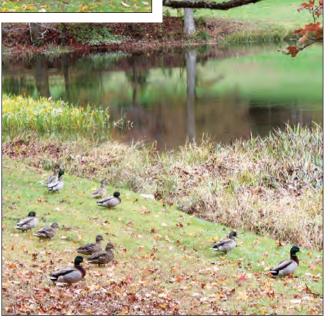
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## Fall lingers in the mountains











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The board of advisors of the Macon County Community Foundation recently announced \$14,020 in local grant awards from its community grantmaking fund.

This year the board granted:

• \$2,500 to the Fontana Regional Library for books for childcare centers

• \$500 to the Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust for the Kids in Nature program

• \$1,000 to the Macon County Care Network for general operating support

• \$1,500 to the Macon Program for Progress for community car seats

• \$1,000 to the Meridian Behavioral Health Services for interpretation services

• \$520 to Mountain Projects for advertising the Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment Period in 2021

 \$2,500 to Pisgah Legal Services for the Plateau Poverty Law Initiative

• \$1,500 to REACH of Macon County for the Scholastic Advancement Initiative

• \$500 to the Thirtieth Judicial District Domestic Violence-Sexual Assault Alliance, Inc. for the WNC Elder, Veteran and Victims with Disabilities Program

• \$2,500 to the Vecinos, Inc. Farmworker Health Program for insurance coverage support

Lisa Leatherman, board president, thanked the community for its continued support of the Macon County Community Foundation. "We are proud to support these nonprofit programs that are so vital to the community," she said. "We are grateful to the many generous individuals and organizations that have supported our work to inspire philanthropy across our community."

For further information, contact NCCF Community Leadership Officer Colby Martin at (828) 358-0030 or cmartin@nccommunityfoundation.org or visit the NCCF website at nccommunityfoundation.org.

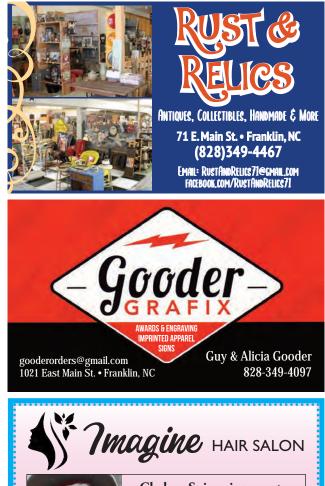
#### About the Macon County

#### **Community Foundation**

The Macon County Community Foundation is a growing family of philanthropic funds, source of grants for local causes, partners for donors and affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation (NCCF). The MCCF was founded in 1991 and is led by a local volunteer advisory board that helps build community assets through the creation of permanent endowments, makes grants and leverages leadership—all for the benefit of Macon County.

The MCCF board advises the Macon County Community Fund, the unrestricted community grantmaking fund, to support local needs. The competitive grants program is held annually. Advisory board members live and work in Macon County, positioning them to strategically leverage resources, meet local needs and access opportunities. In addition to Leatherman, board members include: Claire Suminski (secretary), Louise Henry, Regina Lupoli and Karen Stiwinter.

The Macon County Community Foundation, through the NCCF, makes it easy to become a philanthropist, whatever your means or charitable goals. You can open an endowment for your favorite cause at any time - or contribute to an existing fund in any amount. Tax-deductible contributions, made payable to the Macon County Community Foundation, can be mailed to the North Carolina Community Foundation, 3737 Glenwood Ave. Suite 460, Raleigh, NC 27612. Contributions can also be made online at nccommunityfoundation.org.



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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 October 20 - 25. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

#### Macon County Sheriff's Department

#### October 20

Douglas Keyworth Jr., was charged with trespass of real property. Stephanie Robbins made the arrest.

#### October 21

Dustin Louis Swafford, was charged with burglary/breaking and entering. Emileigh E. Sands made the arrest.

Charles Samuel Carpenter, was charged with assault on a female. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Nicholas Scott Harvell, was charged with domestic vio-

lence protective order violation. Mike Langley Sr. made the arrest.

#### October 22

Dakota Charles Mathis, was charged with breaking and entering, larceny of a motor vehicle, larceny, destroying criminal evidence, possession of stolen goods/property, burning personal property, injury to personal property, injury to real property. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

Brett Willard, was charged with failure to appear. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Baltasar Castanon Espinoza, was charged with failure to appear. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Timothy Warren Dryman, was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

#### October 23

Antonio Ortega Gallardo, was issued warrant service. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

#### October 25

Christopher Lee Mathis, was issue warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

## Survive a frightful night by traveling sober

To help spread the message that Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving, the N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program is teaming up with law enforcement, traffic safety officials and crash survivors to remind everyone of the dangers of drunk driving.

In a video release, NCGHSP alerted the public that officers will be out conducting increased patrols through Nov. 1 to identify and remove impaired drivers from our roads during the annual Halloween "Booze It & Lose It" campaign.

"We want North Carolinians to have a fun night on Halloween, but to also stay safe and make responsible choices," said state Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette. "In today's world, there are many



Smithfield, 11/10/2019, Impaired driving crash claims Grandmother and teen.

options available to drivers to help them get home safely if they have been drinking. If you have ingested any impairing substance: alcohol, pills, marijuana or something else, do not drive. If you know someone who is impaired, don't let them get behind the wheel. If you see an impaired driver, call 911. And always wear your seat belt, it's your best defense against impaired drivers."

The video also included the account of teenagers who survived a crash last year, but tragically lost their friend and grandmother due to the actions of an impaired driver.

Sadly, their story is an all too familiar one. Consider these frightening facts:

• In 2018 around the U.S., 231 children 14 and younger were killed in drunk-driving crashes.

• Almost half of fatal vehicle crashes over the Halloween weekend involve an impaired driver.

• About one quarter of pedestrian deaths on Halloween night involve an impaired driver.

"Despite COVID-19 we're certain people will be gathering and drinking all Halloween weekend, and we need every single partygoer to plan their sober ride home in advance," said NCGHSP Director, Mark Ezzell. "Last year, 35 people lost their lives on North Carolina roadways during the week of Halloween, and nine of those deaths were caused by impaired drivers. We don't want that to happen this year." Of the 1,442 fatalities on North Carolina roadways in 2018, 411 of those involved an impaired driver. Impaired driving isn't just an issue here, explained Sarah Searcy, Bicycle & Pedestrian manager at the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at N.C. State University.

That's more than one in every five children who died in traffic crashes that year.

"Nationwide, 36,560 people were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2018, and 29 percent of those fatalities occurred in crashes during which a driver had a blood alcohol concentration over the legal limit of .08," Searcy said.

Drivers should also keep an eye out for pedestrians, whether they are children or adults who have had too much to drink. Walking while intoxicated can also be deadly, as pedestrians not paying attention to their surroundings are at greater risk of getting hit by a vehicle.

Safe driving is a lifelong commitment. Follow our social media accounts: @NCGHSP on Facebook and @NC\_GHSP on Twitter and Instagram for frequent safe driving tips.



#### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**Macon County Public Library Children's Department Halloween Scavenger Hunt in Downtown Franklin** will be held through Oct. 31. Pick up your scavenger hunt at the library. The Halloween signs will be on display in 10 downtown shops. Turn in your completed scavenger hunt after Oct. 31 and get your prize at the library. Prizes for each participant will include a small bag of candy and a glow stick. For curbside pickup or to make an appointment to pick up scavenger hunt, call (828)524-3600.

**Pine Grove Baptist Church Trunk or Treat** will be held on Wednesday, Oct 28, 7 p.m. in the church parking lot.

**Main Street Merchants Teal Pumpkin Trick or Treating** in downtown Franklin on Saturday, Oct. 31, 3 to 4 p.m. Non-candy treats will be handed out by merchants.

**Bidwell Street Homeowners Trick or Treating** will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, 5 to 8 p.m.

Franklin Covenant Church Free Curbside Hot Lunch and Food Pantry will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The church is located at 265 Belleview Road.

Drive Through Halloween at Highlands Plaza Parking Lot next to Bryson's will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m. Hosted by the Literacy and Learning Center, The Bascom, Hudson Library, and Highlands Chamber.

**Drive Thru Trick or Treating at the Franklin Fun Factory** on Saturday, Oct. 31, 5 to 7 p.m., 1024 Georgia Road.

**Nantahala Hiking Club** will take a moderate 4.5 mile hike on Saturday, Oct. 31, with an elevation change of 600 ft., from Deep Creek to Indian Creek in Smoky Mtns. Nat'l. Park, following Deep Creek to the Sunkota Ridge crossover and down Indian Creek, passing Indian Creek Falls and returning by Deep Creek. Meet in Bi-Lo parking lot at 9 a.m. Visitors welcome to attend. For more information or reservations, call leader Gail Lehman, (828)524-5298.

American Red Cross Blood Drives in Highlands on Monday, Nov. 2, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Community Bible Church, 3645 Cashiers Rd. In Franklin, on November 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lowe's 0717, Georgia Highway. Make appointments by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, call (800)733-2767 or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

**All A.A. meetings** in the greater Franklin area including Otto have been suspended until further notice. To speak with a member of A.A. call (828)349-4357 or (828)837-4440 or visit www.aawnc80.com.

**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 childcare 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.

**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** new 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.

**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** is 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.



#### CHURCH HAPPENINGS

**First Alliance Church** is holding Sunday services in person and on Facebook at 10:30 am. Senior Pastor Scott Eichelberger will deliver the message from Revelation 20:1-10. Special Music provided by Tripp Lewis. Sunday School for all ages has resumed at 9:30 am. The church is located in Franklin at 31 Promise Lane (off Womak next door to Trimont Christian Academy). For more information, call the church office at (828)369-7977.

Victory Baptist Church on Sunday morning Nov. 8, at 10 a.m., wil host an hour of special music from the Ambassador Music Ministry Team directed by Mr. and Mrs. Duane Ream. At 11 a.m., the Music Team will sing again followed by a message by Dr. Alton Beal, president of Ambassador Baptist College. Victory is located midway between Dillsboro and Franklin on highway 441. Everyone is welcome.

**Franklin First United Methodist Church** meets on Sunday, at 8:30 a.m. for in-person worship or online on Facebook Live at Franklin First United Methodist Church. Note that COVID-19 health protocols are being followed for in-person worship. Plan to arrive early for check-in; masks are required. The church is located at 66 Harrison Ave. Senior pastor is Rev. David Beam. For more information, call (828)524.3010 or visit 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 now having in-person Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. inside the church building with the Reverend L. E. Angel. Everyone is welcome.

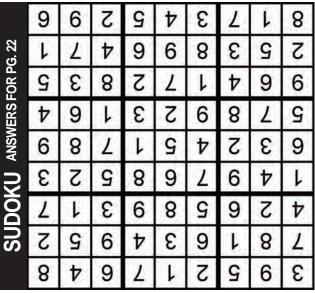
**West Franklin Church** services are held on Sunday, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The church is located on Sloan Rd. next to the Forest Service Office.

**Prentiss Church of God** is discontinuing its 9 a.m. service and will only have one Sunday worship service in its sanctuary begnning at 10:30 a.m. Social distancing is observed and safety measures are in place. Pastor Kevin Chapman invites the community to attend. 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 for you or whoever you request prayers for. 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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## FATCC adds three new community supporters

The Franklin Appalachian Trail Community Council fee Haus & Pub). (FATCC) welcomes three new members to its family of community supporters: Bent Willow Baking Co., Chica and Sunsets Hostel, and the Sapphire Inn. These newest members join the extensive list of businesses that have become Appalachian Trail Community Supporters with each having an Appalachian Trail Community logo on its front door, denoting their support of the Appalachian Trail and the Town of Franklin. Welcoming these newest members of the FATCC are Kristina Moe (representing the Macon County Public Library), Debi Gedling, (representing the Nantahala Hiking Club), and Natasha Sebring, (owner of The Rathskeller Cof-

The FATCC usually meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 10 a.m. at members' facilities, although monthly meetings have been temporarily suspended. When meetings resume, anyone with an interest in the Appalachian Trail and Franklin is welcome to attend.

For additional information, contact Debi Gedling at debigedling1227@gmail.com visit or franklinchamber.com/hiking/.

For information from the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, go to https://appalachiantrail.org/explore/communities/ franklin-n-c/.





FATCC welcomes The these new members: Bent Willow Baking Co., Chico and Sunsets Hostel, and Sapphire Inn. In the top photo (L-R), Kristina Moe, Bethany McCall, owner of Bent Willow Baking Co, and her daughter, Wren, Debi Gedling, and Natasha Sebring. Middle, Kristina Moe, Jen and Greg Seymour, owners of the hostel, and Debi Gedling. Bottom photo is Natasha Sebring, Frenchie Patel, owner of the Sapphire Inn, Kristina Moe, and Debi Gedling.



## Literacy Council of Highlands opens up afterschool enrichment programs

Last month, The Literacy Council of Highlands reopened its After-School Enrichment and Homework Helpers programs. The organization has been closed to the public for several months in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Literacy Council's after-school programs are free educational programs available to children in grades K-12.

During quarantine, The Literacy Council's staff worked from home, but were still actively reaching out to Macon County through online programs. From the Reading Room is an ongoing YouTube series in which staff and friends of The Literacy Council read books aloud on video. E.S.L. Online is an online series in which E.S.L. instructor Faviola Olvera teaches English as a Second Language on video. The Literacy Council also offers Virtual Tutoring with Senior Programs Manager, Anna Norton, through Zoom.



In preparation for the reopening of After-School Enrichment and Homework Helpers, The Literacy Council has been working with the Macon County Health Department to implement new precautionary procedures to avoid any infection among staff and participants. These procedures include increased disinfecting and cleaning of the facilities; enforcing mask-wearing at all times; personal "learning packs" for each child, which are disinfected (bottom photo); and social distancing.

Members of the Literacy Council are excited to resume their programs in-person, reaching out to children who have an extra academic need in any and all subjects.

"We are being extremely diligent in our care of anyone who enters the building in order to decrease any risk of COVID-19 infection, and I am so thankful for our staff and teachers who are dedicated to supporting the children who need our help," commented Executive Director Bonnie Potts

The Literacy Council will be open for After School Enrichment and Homework Helpers Monday-Thursday. One-on-one tutoring will still be virtual, but students are welcome to come to The Literacy Council to video chat with their tutor. Early intervention reading continues to

be offered to the youngest residents of Macon County through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. To sign up for any of The Literacy Council's programs, visit www.maconncliteracy.org,



The Literacy Council in Highlands is now open for afterschool programs available to students in grades K-12. The office is located at 675 S. 4th Street, Highlands.

and fill out an application. Call The Literacy Council at (828) 526-0863 for more information. The Literacy Council office is located at 675 S. 4th Street, Highlands.



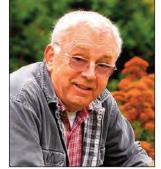


## Euonymus a fun plant to add to your garden

Dr. Bob Gilbert – Columnist

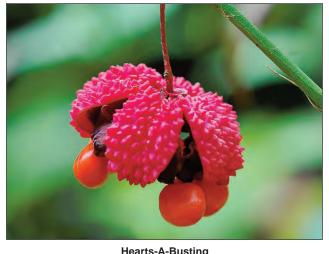
I do not often think about plants as humorous or cute. But just recently we found one that evokes both those reactions.

This is a fairly common native shrub but it is often hidden in the woods by faster growing trees and shrubs. What we found was Euonymus (u-on-amtus) americanus, commonly called Hearts-A-



Dr. Bob Gilbert

Busting, but is also referred to as Strawberry Bush, American Strawberry Bush, Busting-heart and Hearts-busting. A country lady friend called it Red Eye and Bloody Bones. All of these names refer to its fiery red seeds which are called aril which is defined as a fleshy seed coat. The blooms are small and unremarkable. Euonymus translated means "good plant." This applies to its overall appearance. But this "good plant" has seeds that are considered poisonous to both livestock and humans. It is curious that wildlife like deer and birds can tolerate the seeds when eaten. And Hearts-A-Bust-



-A-Busting Photos by Karen Lawrence

tings can be rooted easily even without rooting hormone. The bright red seeds, its main feature, are found within an orange-red open capsule.

This plant is easily grown and would help create a differ-

ent look in a native garden when other plants are starting to decline. Plant it next to a garden bench or path to make sure it is not missed in the fall. Light to full shade would be perfect. It is not a rapid grower and is fairly well behaved. What little pruning that is needed is best done in the winter. You can add a little humor to your garden with Euonymus americanus. Jimmie Dale Gilmore sings a song call "Hearts-A-Busting."

Dr. Bob Gilbert is cofounder of Smith Gilbert Gardens in Kennesaw, Ga., now lives in Franklin.

Karen Lawrence is a professional wildlife and horticultural photographer from Franklin.





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133 East Palmer Street, Suite 101 Franklin, NC 28734 ing is not a particularly handsome shrub. It grows only to 4-6 feet. It is hardy from Zones 4-8. Its stems are green and round making identification easy even in the winter. Fall leaf color is a disappointing yellow.

Franklin residents are all familiar with a close relative Burning Bush- Euonymus alatus, that were heavily planted years ago in our four lane highway medians. It is easily identified by its square stems that have brown corky wings. It is also very invasive from seed dispersal making it a questionable "good Plant." Its leaves turn a striking red in the fall.

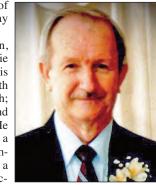
It has been reported that propagating americanus from seed has a low success rate. However semi-hardwood cut-



#### **David Walter Smith**

David Walter Smith, 83, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2020.

He was born in Binghampton, N.Y., to the late Minard and Effie Yocum Smith. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Andrea Marie Smith; brothers, Kenneth, Marty, Leo and Donald and sister, Joan Smith. He worked for IBM for 28 years as a Computer and Robotics Programmer and 14 additional years as a Contractor. His most proud accomplishment at IBM was the honor of working with NASA on



**David Walter Smith** 

the Apollo Moon Landing. He enjoyed fishing, bowling on leagues, playing cards and going to Cherokee. He also enjoyed renovating homes, while living in Raleigh, he was very proud of the 1895 home he remodeled. He was a past Master Mason at Masonic Lodge 742 in Mint Hill, N.C. He proudly served his country in the Army from 1955-1958.

He is survived by his children, Gail Smith, David Smith (Crystal), Tricia Sims (Tom English), Cara Smith (Shane Burrell), Kim (David) O'Conner, Christopher Glekas (Louie Palombi), Jeremy Glekas, and David Glekas; 13 grandchildren, Jennifer Burnette, Michelle Burnette, Heather Smith, Haley Smith, Hayden Smith, Meredith Blankenship, Chandler Sims, Riley Sims, Josie English, Bryant Burrell, Stephanie Spring, Tanner DeWolf and Jonah Glekas; sisters, Helen Meddleton and Molly Lightner; also surviving are numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In keeping with Mr. Smith's wishes, the funeral will be a private service held at a later date.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

#### Clydie Oldham Slagle

On Oct. 21, 2020, the Lord called home one of his angels to her well deserved place in Heaven. Clydie Oldham Slagle, 92, was born in Chatham County to the late Clyde Oldham and Martha Jones Oldham White. Surrounded by her family, her passing came after a valiant battle with several medical issues. She was preceded in death by her husband of 32 years, Siler Slagle; her stepfather, Phil White, her sister, Myrna Womble, her brother J.R. White, her son-in-law Al Slagle, and her first husband Carl Meacham.



**Clydie Oldham Slagle** 

She attended school in Pittsboro, Organe ortaning Stager N.C., and spent the first 50 years of her life in Chatham County raising her four children and working at the UNC Dental School. She later met and married Siler and moved to Western North Carolina where she spent the last 42 years of her life surrounded by the beauty of the Cartoogechaye community and the Slagle farm. While here she worked with the Macon County Health Department for 12 years prior to retirement. Her love of her life was her family and spending time with them. She enjoyed crafting, gardening, reading, her church life, and being with nature. She was a friend to anyone she got to know and developed lasting bonds with people in her community early in life near Chapel Hill and later in Franklin.

She leaves behind Carlene (Luther) White of Chapel Hill, Candace Slagle of Franklin, Wayne (Amy) Meacham of Pittsboro, Gary (Cindy) Meacham of Chapel Hill; step-daughters, Kathy Slagle (Danny) Tinsley of Franklin, and Christine Slagle (Robert Martin) of Black Mountain; 13 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the devoted people from Hospice especially Sherry Dills, Lisa Dozier, and Elizabeth Thomason for their loving care of Clydie.

A private family service and burial will be held.

Memorials may be made to KIDS' Place, 330 W. Main St, Franklin, NC 28734 or Memorial United Methodist Church, 4668 Old Murphy Rd., Franklin, NC 28734.

Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneral-home.com.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the Slagle family.

Charles Eugene Hudman of Franklin, N.C., passed away Oct.

25, 2020. "Charlie" served his beloved nation in the US Navy and loved

his career with General Electric. He will be missed by his loving wife, Marlene Benaquisto.

No services are planned.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the Hudman family.

Online condolences may be made at www.moffittfamilyfuner-alcare.com.



## NC Medicaid hits 1.1 million Telehealth visits since March

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) has announced a milestone in the use of telehealth and telephonic visits by NC Medicaid enrollees during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since establishing telehealth flexibility policies in early March, NC Medicaid has processed claims for approximately more than 1.1 million telehealth and 350,000 telephonic visits.

"Improved telehealth supports our vision of a sustainable, person-centered and innovative NC Medicaid," said NCDHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen, M.D. "We've seen during the pandemic how telehealth is allowing many North Carolinians to get the care they need, and we are building a foundation that will last long after the pandemic ends."

Telehealth, the use of two-way, real-time interactive audio and video to provide care when participants are in different physical locations, has offered many benefits to NC Medicaid enrollees and providers throughout the pandemic. NC Medicaid enacted close to 400 flexibilities since March to reduce unnecessary potential COVID-19 exposures.

Telehealth has emerged as a critical tool to connect enrollees with needed services, especially for behavioral health. Visit types that have seen the highest levels of telehealth and telephonic visits include behavioral health as well as speech, language and hearing services. From March through the middle of August, 54% of behavioral and social service visits were telehealth or telephonic. During the same time period, 48% of speech, language and hearing service visits were delivered via

telehealth.

"Telehealth policies are all about being responsive to the challenges people may be facing and prioritizing their health and well-being," said NC Medicaid Director Dave Richard. "The COVID-19 pandemic is an extraordinary event that is taking a toll on people's mental health. It's encouraging to see higher levels of behavioral telehealth services - that means people are getting the care they need."

The increasing adoption and familiarity of telehealth has resulted in Medicaid creating permanent policy changes to make telehealth an enduring component of person-centered health care delivery in North Carolina.

NC Medicaid enrollees' embrace of telehealth services has varied widely by geography. For example, more than 45% of Medicaid visits in Washington County since the pandemic began have been delivered through telemedicine. Meanwhile, in Gates County, where broadband access is a challenge, telehealth use levels were only around 2%. At least one in five NC Medicaid beneficiaries have used a telehealth or virtual service since the beginning of the pandemic.

Current levels of telehealth use by NC Medicaid enrollees have been declining slowly since their peak in April though remain at much higher levels than before the pandemic.

In addition to telehealth behavioral health options specifically for Medicaid enrollees, NCDHHS offers a Hope4NC Helpline (1-855-587-3463) to support mental health and to help individuals cope and build resilience.

## Rain delays playoff race for third straight day in Texas

**Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service** 

After spending the better part of Tuesday trying to dry the pavement at Texas Motor Speedway, NASCAR was forced to postpone the Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500 NASCAR Cup Series Playoff race for the third consecutive day. The event is scheduled to resume at 3 p.m. ET Wednesday (to be broadcast on NBCSN, PRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

With 52 laps completed on Sunday, the race was set to resume at noon, but rain frustrated attempts to start the event in daylight hours. A brief window developed Tuesday evening, but a persistent mist foiled track-drying efforts once again and forced postponement until Wednesday.

According to NASCAR, if the race – the second event in the Round of 8 in the Playoff – is run on Wednesday, the schedule for the Round of 8 finale weekend at Martinsville will remain intact.

Harrison Burton wins NASCAR Xfinity race at Texas with thrilling pass off final corner

With a dramatic pass of the final corner in Saturday's O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 at Texas Motor Speedway, Harrison Burton stole the victory from Noah Gragson, who would have clinched a spot in the NASCAR Xfinity Series Championship 4 Round with a win.

Having recovered from a spin that caused the sixth of 10 cautions on Lap 107, Burton passed Anthony Alfredo for the second position on Lap 198 of 200 and took off in pursuit of Gragson, who had taken the lead on Lap 186.

Burton, who had run down Gragson to win the second stage of the race-his first stage victory of the season-closed quickly on the final lap and shot past Gragson's No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet off Turn 4. Burton's No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota streaked across the finish line .445 seconds ahead of Gragson's Chevy.

We had such a fast race car," Burton said after climbing from his car on the frontstretch. "I've never driven anything harder than that last corner in my life. I don't know how it stuck. I lost my voice—I was screaming. Gosh, that's

special. I've never spun out and come back and won, so that's cool.

"We were obviously pushing the limits all day... of speed. That's kind of what we came to do, to be fast, to win our first stage of the year, which was a good sign, and our speedwhat we did on that last lap was incredible. I don't know how it happened, but I'm pretty damn glad it did. What a cool place to win. We're going home with cowboy hats.'

After a four-car wreck that KO'd the entries of Playoff contenders Justin Allgaier, Brandon Jones and Ross Chastain, Gragson grabbed the lead from Austin Cindric on the restart lap when Cindric's No. 22 Ford broke loose in the outside lane. Alfredo took second and Burton followed into third.

Though Burton, who was eliminated from the Xfinity Playoff in the Round of 12, had the fastest car on the track at the time, he had difficulty overtaking Alfredo. But once he took second with two laps left, he closed rapidly on Gragson.

"I feel like we had a fast car there," said a dejected Gragson. "I was a little tight on exit all day. Just frustrated at myself. I was pretty tight there at the end. I saw Alfredo holding Harrison off and thought we were getting away, I saw the 20 get by the 21 (Alfredo) and he ran me down in like two laps.

there. I don't know. Frustrated. But thankful for my guys, (crew chief) Dave Elenz, and the rest of this team. We'll go to Martinsville (next Saturday), I like that track. It had to be make or breaking your season right there."

The race fell apart for Allgaier, Jones and Chastain after the Lap 186 restart. Six Playoff drivers restarted in the top six positions, but, moments later, they were strewn through the field after Allgaier broke loose underneath Chastain to start a wreck that also collected Jones and Jeremy Clements.

"I tried to leave the 10 (Chastain) as much room as I could, but when he got to my quarter panel, I got loose, said Allgaier, who has had an antagonistic relationship with Chastain in the past. "(Then) he just decides to hang a left because he's aggravated and wrecks the whole field."

Jones and Allgaier were eliminated from the race and finished 25th and 26th, respectively. Chastain was able to continue and came home 16th.

But the wreck had a dramatic effect on the Playoff standings

Allgaier in third place is just eight points ahead of Jones in fifth, with seventh-place finisher Justin Haley between them. Chastain is 15 points below the cut line in sixth.

Chase Briscoe, who secured a spot in the Championship 4

Above, Harrison Burton, driver of the #20 DEX Imaging Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 at Texas Motor Speedway on Oct. 24,

At left, Harrison Burton, driver of the #20 DEX Imaging Toyota, celebrates his win with a burnout.

with his win last week at Kansas, finished 24th after a shock mount broke on his No. 98 Ford. Gragson is seventh, 24 points behind Haley, likely needing a victory in the elimination race at Martinsville. Ryan Sieg, who suffered suspension problems and finished 31st, is 43 points behind Haley.

Cindric finished fourth behind Burton, Gragson and Alfredo, with Brandon Brown rolling home in fifth. Michael Annett, Haley, Ryan Vargas, Josh Williams and Tommy Joe Martins completed the top 10.

NASCAR Hall of Fame to Postpone Class of 2021 Induction Ceremony

The NASCAR Hall of Fame has announced that it will postpone the Induction Ceremony and Induction Week events for the Class of 2021. The decision was made in partnership with NASCAR after very thorough and thoughtful conversations regarding how best to plan and execute one of the sport's most cherished moments while facing the ongoing uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

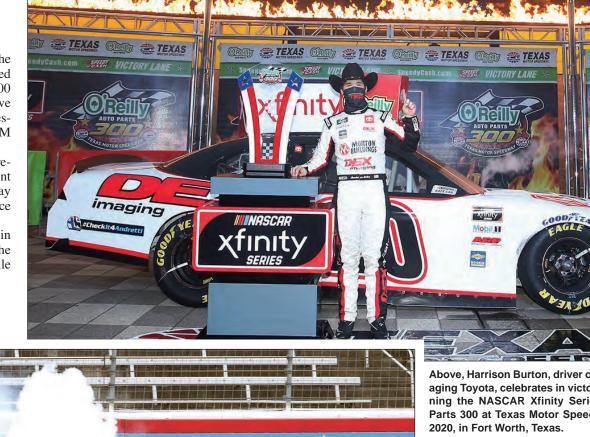
The Induction Ceremony, which was set to take place on Friday, Feb. 5, 2021, is now anticipated for early 2022. The Class of 2021 consists of Dale Earnhardt, Jr., Red Farmer, the late Mike Stefanik and Landmark Award recipient Ralph Seagraves.

The celebration annually draws fans, members and visitors from across the country to a variety of special events throughout the week at the NASCAR Hall of Fame, leading up to the official Induction Dinner and Ceremony. In addition to class Inductees and the Landmark Award recipient, the Squier-Hall Award for NASCAR Media Excellence is also recognized during the week's events.

To learn more about the NASCAR Hall of Fame, the Class of 2021 and current exhibits visit nascarhall.com.

"I knew he was coming. I just didn't expect him to get

NASCAR News







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

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

GREENTHUMB LAWN SERVICES Do you need Fall Cleanup? Lawn Maintenance, Landscaping, Leaf Blowing, Handyman Services. 16 Years Experience. Call (828)421-8847.

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

ALL AMERICAN TREE Service, Full Tree Removal, Stump Grinding, Pruning, Storm Cleanup, View Cutting, Excavating, Bush-Hogging, Gravel-hauling, Firewood. Fully Insured. Free Estimate. (828)506-8480.

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

**Help Wanted** 

OLD EDWARDS INN & Spa, Highlands NC Housekeeping and Dishwashing starting at \$13 per hour. Now recruiting for Housekeepers, Houseman, 2nd Shift Laundry, Turndown Attendants, Dishwashers, Sous Chef, Cook, Experienced Gardener Assis-Servers, Asst. Sommelier, tant, Host/Hostess, Bussers, Old Edwards Inn Rooms Manager, Bellman, Night Audit, Fitness Manager, Spa Attendants, Cosmetologist, Acorn's Warehouse Associate, Retail Sales Associate. 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

FREEMAN GAS has an opening for a CDL Driver for local delivery of propane gas in the Franklin, NC area. Must have Class B CDL and X endorsement, good driving record and be able to pass DOT physical and drug test. Excellent benefits, 401k, insurance, sick pay, uniforms. Apply in person Monday thru Friday 9am to 4pm at 616 Highlands Road Franklin, NC 28744.

EXPERIENCED GROUP EXERCISE Instructors Indoor Cycle, Barre or Group Exercise \$50.00 per hour. Must have at least 1 yr experience. Old Edwards Spa, Highlands NC Send Resume in PDF format to Kyra Russell krussell @oldedwardsinn.com

# Assistant Dietary Manager and Dietary Cook / Aides.

New pay structure offered along with a SIGN ON BONUS for Licensed Nurses and CNAs. Come check us out.

Apply in person Mon – Fri, 10am – 4pm, visit www.maconvalley.com to request more information, or call 828-524-7806.

3195 Old Murphy Rd., Franklin, NC

## Classifieds ) 20 words or less Each additional word is 20¢ Deadline on Mondays at 3 pm The Macon County



26 W. Main St. • Franklin, NC 28734 maconcountynews@gmail.com (828) 369-6767

Celebrating 23 Years in business! M-F 8-5 23Est. 1997 ASE <sup>(828)</sup> 369-2155

976 E. Main Street Franklin, NC

23

#### \$157,000. OBO. 3BR/2BA. Living room, dining room. eat-in kitchen honus room. New window participation of the set of the s

#### **Real Estate**

FRANKLIN NC WATERFALLS land for sale by owner. 70 ft falls, winding creek, mountain views. (total 6 acres with 3 separated geographical sites). Dividable via survey in half or thirds so you can sell two sites, keep one for yourself. private and serene, close to town. Sensible deed restrictions. Active septic permits. Easy access. Videos available. Call, text to: (352)250-4492. email to: tsmart@qate.net

4 UNIQUELY BEAUTIFUL Cullasaja Riverfront Lots, \$69K-89K, Water, Electric and septic permit provided, Eco Homes and RV Barns. Also South Facing 5 Acre Parcels \$49K-59K. (828)371-7940.

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

#### Rentals

3BD/2BA & 2BD/2BA Homes for Rent. Non-smoking. \$650. 1st & Last and Deposit. (828)634-6227 & (828)332-8456.

1BD/1BA APARTMENT \$550.00 First & Last Deposit. No Pets, Non-smoking. (828)524-9713.

#### **Motor Vehicles**

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

YOUR AD could be here. Sell your unwanted items in a classified ad. Call (828)369-6767 for details.

#### Misc. For Sale

SMALL A/C WINDOW UNIT 16"W, 13"H, 16"D. \$35. Stove/range 30"W,40"H,27"D, & range hood, buyer removes/disconnect range hood/stove. \$75 Refrigerator (white) 28"W,61"H,28"D.\$75. Recliner vinyl/brown. \$25. Up to 65" TV stand w/swivel bracket 54"L,24"H, 20"D. \$45. Foyer entry metal/glass table. \$60. Oak (acorn design) three-way mirror mounts on a dresser, hardware included 53"W, 46"H, 1"D. \$75. Cherry oak nightstand 28"W, 26"H, 26"D, \$75. Three wooden swivel bar stools (light oak). \$99. Cherry oak oval coffee table, \$99. Cherry oak headboard 68"W, w/frame, w/full-size mattress/box springs. \$125. Solid oak oval dining-room table-(2) Inserts & (2) Chairs in good condition. \$199. Paisley sage couch-90"L, (2) pillows. \$199. 1 1/2 cord firewood w/wood shed. \$295. Other small household items. Call or text Richard (352)257-7118. Social distancing compliance required. Bring help to load any items.

30" GE ELECTRIC STOVE Flat Top,<br/>Color Slate \$200 call (828)342-2543MILITARYSURPLUSBDUPants/Shirts, Boots, M65 Field Jack-<br/>ets Gortex, Parkers, Field Gear,<br/>Sleeping Bags, Much More!<br/>(828)349-3140.Much More!

FARMERS MARKET Fall Season 8am-Noon, every Saturday. Produce, Honey, Fresh Chicken, Artisan Breads, Pastries, Preserves, Handcrafted Soaps, Eggs, Peonies, Hydrangeas. Large Assortment of Cookies. 200 Block East Palmer.

DINING ROOM SET Table with Leaf, Pads, 8 Chairs, China Cabinet, Server, Cherry Wood \$350. Cash. Weslo Exercise Bike \$50 Cash. (828)524-9825. SILVER EAGLE SALE Full Sets 35 Coins. (828)226-1501.

#### **Community Fundraisers**

SON RISE MINISTRIES 462 Depot Street, Yard Sale, Friday, Oct. 30 Saturday, Oct. 31. Many New items. A portion of proceeds benefit missions and remote Churches in Rwanda.

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

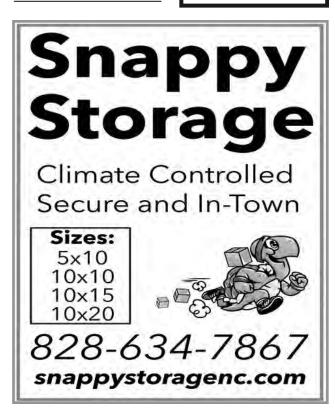
CARENET THRIFT STORE 45 Macon Center Dr., Franklin, Open Tuesday and Thursda. 100% of proceeds benefit the Mission of CareNet to help bridge the gap during times of crisis for families in Macon County. (828)349-9064.

ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR Friends of the Greenway, Saturday, November 4, 9-3, Safety precautions in place, greater vendor spacing, masks are required for vendors and FROG volunteers, encouraged for all others.

HABITAT RE-STORE 56 W Palmer St., Franklin. Furniture, Lighting, Plumbing, Building Materials, Doors & Windows, Appliances & More! (828)524-5273. Sylva Re-Store, 1315 W. Main St. (828)586-1800. Hours for both Stores Mon./Wed./Fri./Sat. 10-4pm.

#### Garage & Yard Sales

SON RISE MINISTRIES 462 Depot Street, Yard Sale, Friday, Oct. 30 Saturday, Oct. 31. Many New items. A portion of proceeds benefit missions and remote Churches in Rwanda.



#### Wanted

WANTED TO BUY U.S. and Foreign Coins and Currency. Top Prices Paid. Free Appraisal. Call Dan (828)421-1616. danhazazer@gmail.com

BUYING WILD GINSENG Open 4-8pm, Daily, Best price paid. Large amounts welcome. Call Ricky Teem (828)371-1802 or (828)524-7748.

#### Animals

MISSING CALICO CAT "Sugar", Female, Meadowbrook Dr., Area, Cash Reward Offered. Missed Dearly. (828)371-2525 or (828)371-2317.

VOLUNTEERS & DOG WALKERS Needed at Macon County Animal Services. 18 years and older. Call Debbie (941)266-7084.



## YOUR RV ROOF REPAIR SPECIALISTS







rolling acres of woodland and fields, this hilltop home offers mountain living just outside the city living plus a spacious loft, you'll enjoy an open concept living area, 4 large bedrooms, 3 full baths,



bonus room, large shop/gym, craft area, oversize double garage, 2 rock fireplaces, cathedral ceilings and lots of wood throughout. A screened porch off the master bedroom, decks and patios with 6 sliding doors for easy accessibility and space for a fire pit, makes a perfect home for entertaining or your personal retreat. MLS: 26017251 \$439,900



# ADD ANOTHER CHEVY TO YOUR DRIVEWAY.

#### **2020 TRAX**



2020 EQUINOX



**2020 BLAZER** 



**2020 TRAVERSE** 





\$3,7	<b>'50</b>	CASH ALLOWANCE <sup>1</sup>
	- PLUS	

CURRENT GM OWNERS GET AN ADDITIONAL

\$750 CASH ALLOWANCE<sup>2</sup>

\$4,750 CASH ALLOWANCE

- PLUS -

ON MOST MODELS<sup>1</sup>

CURRENT GM OWNERS GET AN ADDITIONAL

\$750 CASH ALLOWANCE ON MOST MODELS<sup>2</sup>

\$4,000 CASH ALLOWANCE

ON MOST MODELS<sup>1</sup>

CURRENT GM OWNERS GET AN ADDITIONAL

\$750 CASH ALLOWANCE ON MOST MODELS<sup>2</sup>

\$2,250 CASH ALLOWANCE

ON MOST MODELS<sup>1</sup>

CURRENT GM OWNERS GET AN ADDITIONAL

\$750 CASH ALLOWANCE ON MOST MODELS<sup>2</sup>

> YOUR HOMETOWN DEALER FIND NEW ROADS

1 Excludes select base trims. Monthly payment is \$13.89 for every \$1,000 you finance. Example down payment: 3.5%, Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new delivery by 6/30/20. @2020 General Motors. All rights reserved.



#### 

	- PRE-UWN	ED VENIGLES	
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2010 2015	Buick Buick	Enclave Encore	182,003 24,299
2015	Cadillac	CT6	29,695
2020	Cadillac	Escalade	26,141
2020	Cadillac	Escalade	35,568
2020	Chevrolet	Blazer	4,773
2018 2010	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Camaro Camaro	8,360 94,949
2010	Chevrolet	Colorado	4,769
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	40,758
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	13,389
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	37,779
2015 1972	Chevrolet CHEVROLET	Colorado CORVETTE	52,137 91,171
2019	Chevrolet	Cruze	14,076
2016	Chevrolet	Cruze Limited	111,129
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	26,234
2018	Chevrolet	Impala	8,465
2018 2020	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Malibu Silverado 1500	41,816 11,584
2017	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	41,705
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	51,696
2015	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	85,474
2015	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	71,489
2017 2016	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Suburban Suburban	28,879 112,779
2010	Chevrolet	Tahoe	17,985
2016	Chevrolet	Tahoe	61,375
2010	Chevrolet	Tahoe	130,038
2015	Chevrolet	Traverse	101,068
2017 2018	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Traverse Trax	91,521 29,099
2018	Chevrolet	Trax	10,745
2018	Ford	EcoSport	5,000
2019	Ford	Edge	45,478
2018	Ford	Explorer	49,223
2020 2016	Ford Ford	F-150 F-150	23,354 73.912
2018	Ford	F-150	27,474
2016	Ford	F-250	190,904
1930	FORD	MODELA	78,269
2019 2017	Ford GMC	Ranger Sierra 1500	2,749 43,356
2017	GMC	Sierra 1500	43,330 54,681
2011	GMC	Sierra 1500	133,450
2014	GMC	Terrain	82,762
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	37,969
2004 2019	HARLEY DAVIDSON Honda	ROAD KING Ridgeline	9,778 12,928
2019	Hyundai	Elantra	36,506
2019	Hyundai	Tucson	36,252
2003	Jeep	Liberty	218,554
2013	Jeep	Patriot	121,063
2017 2008	Jeep Jeep	Renegade Wrangler	48,579 29.480
2008	Mazda	CX-5	36,819
2017	Mercedes-Benz	Metris	57,091
2018	Nissan	Armada	51,321
2019	Nissan	Pathfinder	36,059
2019 2019	Nissan Nissan	Rogue Rogue	40,105 39,470
2019	Nissan	Sentra	38,658
2019	Nissan	Versa	35,717
2015	Porsche	911	8,616
2020	RAM	1500	25,556
2016 2020	RAM RAM	1500 1500 Classic	92,141 18,621
2020	Subaru	Forester	44,665
2019	Toyota	Camry	34,683
2019	Toyota	Corolla	35,775
2019	Toyota	Corolla	27,529
2018 2018	Toyota Toyota	Tacoma Tacoma	35,770 13,859
2018	Toyota TRAILMOBILE	HOMS	10,009

