



Macon Early College student and her service dog Atlas featured on CBS' Dream Team's 'Lucky Dog'

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Kristina Masta and her first service dog, Atlas Atticus, were featured Saturday, Nov. 16, on CBS "Dream Team's Lucky Dog" with animal trainer Brandon McMillan. The CBS segment was filmed a few months ago when the 15-year-old Kristina, a student at Macon Early College, and her mother, Michelle Masta, co-owner of Black Bear Paving & Construction, were in California during a service dog training session with McMillan as well as trainer Mike Herstik.

The 21-minute episode, which can be seen online on the CBS "Lucky Dog" site, conveyed how the young Masta became acquainted with Atlas Atticus, who they call Atlas, an Anatolian shepherd.

"A family got the dog to guard livestock," shared McMillan on the show, "but he was too nice." Atlas was much more of a "lover than a fighter," shared the narrator. The show included an interview with not only McMillan but Kristina and Michelle Masta.

"Half the game is getting the dog trained," McMillan told the Mastas. The show features some of Atlas's training process to get him ready for Kristina.

When Atlas Atticus is wearing his vest, he takes seriously his job as a specialized service dog for Kristina Masta, (right) who is pictured with her mother, Michelle Masta.

While the Mastas had owned a chocolate lab as a pet, they needed a service dog to assist Kristina with her depth perception issues due to the circumstances of her birth. Kristina was born prematurely weighing 1 pound, 1 ounce. She developed retinopathy of prematurity, which causes abnormal blood vessels to grow in the retina. While the eye disease can lead to complete blindness, Kristina describes her sight as "looking through wax paper with some small holes in it. You miss lots of stuff." Mostly, she explained that she is unable to see or detect changes in elevation, curbs, steps, etc.

Michelle began the quest for a service dog for Kristina five years ago, knowing that she would be allowed to have one when she turned 15. The challenge was to find a service dog trained for specific needs and not just as a general guide dog for the blind.

"Kristina's needs don't fit into the box," said Michelle. "To get the right service dog, we had to find someone who was dedicated to training the dog especially for Kristina."

Michelle searched all over the country and ran into many dead ends.

"Then one day we were watching an episode of 'Lucky Dog' and it dinged. I wrote to Brandon, we both did, and earlier this year we had some phone conversations. It turns out that there was a dog that was rescued that he thought would

See LUCKY DOG page 2

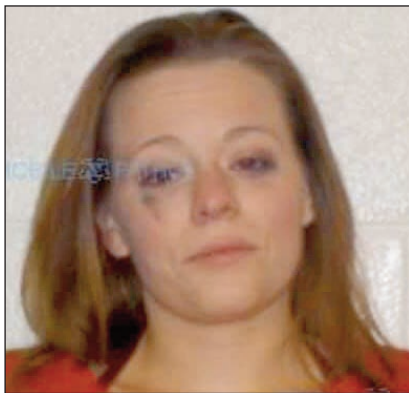
Woman in handcuffs escapes detention officers

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

A search for fugitive Katlin Fitzgibbons was launched Tuesday afternoon after Fitzgibbons fled the Macon County Courthouse.

Fitzgibbons appeared in Macon County Superior Court in front of Superior Court Judge Bill Coward this week for felony charges of larceny and possession of stolen goods. Fitzgibbons was also on the docket for probation violations stemming from the additional charges she has incurred since being placed on probation in 2017 for misdemeanor larceny. Fitzgibbons was also convicted of felony breaking and entering as well as felony larceny during Macon County's last Superior Court session held on Oct. 28. When she was convicted in October, she was given a suspended sentence of 24 months and placed on supervised probation. However on Tuesday, after being arrested again Monday for theft of ginseng, Judge Coward sentenced her to an active sentence of four months incarceration.

After being sentenced by Judge Coward on Tuesday, Fitzgibbons was escorted outside of the courthouse by



Katlin Fitzgibbons

Macon County Detention Officers. When detention officers went to unlock the transport vehicle, Fitzgibbons fled on foot and despite officers immediately pursuing her, Fitzgibbons was able to escape. Fitzgibbons was in a black long sleeve sweater or sweatshirt and was handcuffed.

Fitzgibbons was last seen running on Riverview Street and into the woods near Depot Extension. Following an extensive search by Macon County Sheriff's Office, Franklin Police Department and the North Carolina State Patrol, Fitzgibbons was unable to be located.

Law enforcement continued searching throughout the night and have been following up on all information received. As of Wednesday morning, Fitzgibbons was still at large.

Fitzgibbons is described as a 27-year-old female with brown hair and brown eyes. She is 5' 03" and weighs 105 lbs.

Anyone who has any information as to her whereabouts are encouraged to contact 911 immediately. Anyone found to be assisting her will face prosecution. Additional charges are now pending which includes felony escape.

IN THIS ISSUE



Page 4

Board hears plans for a new justice annex

828.369.6767
www.themaconcountynews.com
maconcountynews@gmail.com

LUCKY DOG

Continued from page 1

be perfect.”

The Mastas flew to California and Kristina immediately bonded with Atlas. According to American Kennel Club, Anatolian shepherds weigh around 100 pounds or more and are described as “smart, devoted, responsive, and adaptable.”

“He’s big,” said Michelle, “and Kristina is teeny tiny, but we started the training right away and flew back three more trips for about four to five days each trip. The dog had to be trained, but Kristina also had to be trained with the dog. And then Mike came to Franklin over the summer so that he could acclimate Atlas to the school and with Kristina in her daily life.”

The Mastas, natives of Atlanta, Ga., have had a home in



Atlas is an Anatolian Shepherd, who was trained in California by Brandon McMillan, of Lucky Dog fame, as well by trainer Mike Herstik.

Franklin for at least 10 years and three years ago they moved to Franklin full time. For years, Michelle and Kristina have used a designated voice signal, akin to “woohoo” when they became separated. For the last two months since Kristina has had Atlas, “we go into Wal-Mart and I don’t see her,” laughed Michelle. “She’s gone. He’s given her some independence.”

Michelle said the students and staff at Macon Early College have been “so supportive.” She added that she is glad her daughter is at a school of about 160 students versus her former school in Atlanta, where there were about 1,600 students. “The smaller school means there are people looking out for her,” she said.

The challenge is making sure students do not pet Atlas, who walks the halls with Kristina and lies beside her desk. When he has the service vest on, he knows he is working and takes his job seriously to protect Kristina from falls. However, both Michelle and Kristina asserted that at home, when the vest comes off, Atlas is a playful 2-year-old who enjoys running around the yard and rolling over on his back to get his stomach rubbed.

“We’re completely attached to him already,” said Michelle.

“He’s become like my fifth limb,” said Kristina.

Michelle said she hopes the ‘Lucky Dog’ episode and Kristina and Atlas’s story will raise awareness of the need for service dogs trained to meet specific needs. “There’s definitely a gap,” she said. “Not all people with disabilities fit into a box. It was frustrating and I felt helpless for a while because I wanted the best for my child, to provide her with a specialized service dog. But there just wasn’t one out there for her, or a trainer that we could find to be able to train a dog for her, until we found Brandon, Mike, and Atlas.”



When Kristina Masta takes his vest off, Atlas is able to be a playful and loving companion.

Experts in:
YOU

HARRIS
REGIONAL HOSPITAL
A Duke LifePoint Hospital

Leading you to better health.

At Harris Regional Hospital, we understand that your health care journey is unique. And that’s why we’re dedicated to being experts in YOU. From personalized orthopedic solutions to patient-centered heart care, we’re here for you every step of the way.

As a part of Duke LifePoint Healthcare, we have a wealth of expertise and resources to strengthen the already excellent quality of care our hospital delivers. At Harris Regional, we’re not just experts in health care. We’re experts in your health care.

Find a doctor today. 844.414.DOCS

MyHarrisRegional.com

This facility and its affiliates comply with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.
 ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-828-586-7000.
 注意:如果您使用繁體中文,您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請撥電 1-828-586-7000.

Old Edwards Hospitality is offering the following positions:

Immediate Full-Time On-Site Graphic Design and Layout Professional needed to join marketing department of Old Edwards Hospitality Group in Highlands, North Carolina. At least two years of print layout and design required. Keen eye for design, detail-oriented and proficiency in formatting for scannable content a must. Experience in CRM, email marketing, website updating and/or social media is a plus. Must have high integrity, sense of humor, consistently positive nature, interpersonal skills and work well as part of a close team. Full benefits. Possible subsidized housing. Position is 100% onsite in Highlands, NC, no exceptions. Please provide cover letter, resume and samples. References will be required.

Full-Time Temporary Marketing Position in Highlands, North Carolina Old Edwards Hospitality Group is seeking a marketing professional and graphic designer experienced in page layout and ad creation for both print and digital to fill a six-month position between approximately March 1 and September 31, 2020. At least two years of professional layout and design required. This position designs billboards, newspaper and magazine ads, digital ads and more for a high-end luxury brand. Some experience in website updating—or ability to learn—required (content management, not coding). Must have high integrity, sense of humor, consistently positive nature, interpersonal skills and work well as part of a close team. Position is 100% onsite in Highlands, NC, no exceptions. There is a possibility that this position could become permanent. Please provide cover letter, resume and samples. References will be required.

Please apply via email to pturnbull@oldedwardsinn.com with a current resume in PDF format, please.





71 CAT CREEK RD., FRANKLIN, NC 28734 - HWY. 441
828.524.0734 WWW.COUNTRYSIDECHEVY.COM



BLACK FRIDAY SALES EVENT

20% BELOW MSRP

ON SELECT 2019 CHEVY MODELS*

VISIT CHEVYBLACKFRIDAYSALE.COM FOR ELIGIBLE MODELS



2019 TRAVERSE
STOCK #T00711

\$11,312 BELOW MSRP²

ON THIS TRAVERSE PREMIER
\$8,837 PURCHASE CASH + \$2,475 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP



2020 EQUINOX NOW \$23,987
STOCK #T00822

\$4,233 BELOW MSRP²

ON THIS EQUINOX LS
\$3,205 PURCHASE CASH + \$1,028 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP



2019 TRAX NOW \$19,748
STOCK #T00948

\$4,937 BELOW MSRP²

ON THIS TRAX LT
\$4,358 PURCHASE CASH + \$579 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP



2019 SPARK NOW \$13,995
STOCK #213

ON THIS SPARK - PRICE INCLUDES
\$1,250 BONUS CASH + \$79 CUSTOMER CASH



2019 MALIBU \$6,335 BELOW MSRP²
STOCK #182

ON THIS MALIBU
\$5,247 PURCHASE CASH + \$1,088 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP



2019 IMPALA \$8,195 BELOW MSRP²
STOCK #T00808

ON THIS IMPALA PREMIER
\$6,795 PURCHASE CASH + \$1,400 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP

OR GET THESE OTHER CURRENT OFFERS

ALL-NEW 2019 SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB
STOCK #T00782



NOW \$31,794

20% BELOW MSRP | THAT'S **\$7,111** BELOW MSRP

ON ALL 2019 DOUBLE CAB PICKUPS³ | ON THIS SILVERADO DOUBLE CAB
\$5,750 PURCHASE CASH + \$1,361 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP

2019 SILVERADO 2500 HD CREW CAB
STOCK #T00880



\$5,063 TOTAL CASH ALLOWANCE
+ \$3,110 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP

ALL-NEW 2019 SILVERADO CREW CAB
STOCK #T00755



17% BELOW MSRP | THAT'S **\$9,487** BELOW MSRP

ON ALL 2019 CREW CAB PICKUPS³ | ON THIS SILVERADO CREW CAB LT ALL STAR Z71⁴
\$6,578 PURCHASE CASH + \$2,909 PRICE REDUCTION BELOW MSRP

\$8,173 TOTAL VALUE
NOW \$46,902

PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

CARS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2016	Chevrolet	Camaro	26,981
1972	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	97,171
2016	Chevrolet	Cruze	12,329
2009	Chevrolet	Malibu	170,852
2015	Chevrolet	Spark	66,107
2016	Dodge	Challenger	18,663
2015	Ford	Mustang	56,796
2018	Honda	Accord	21,075
2019	Hyundai	Elantra	28,554
2018	Hyundai	Sonata	28,195
2011	Hyundai	Sonata Hybrid	127,123
2011	MINI	Cooper	91,693
2017	Subaru	Forester	24,993
2014	Subaru	Forester	95,510
2017	Subaru	Outback	36,139
2014	Toyota	Camry	65,799
2018	Toyota	Camry	37,807

TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2001	Toyota	Camry Solara	228,066
2018	Toyota	Corolla	46,172
2009	Toyota	Matrix	145,354
2016	Ford	Focus	82,445
2017	Ford	Focus RS	42,584
2013	Ford	Fusion	110,655
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	1,302
2012	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	116,631
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	13,412
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	29,732
2017	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	40,014
2016	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	51,106
2007	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	261,123
2014	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	89,506
2006	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	210,299

SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2019	Ford	F-150	11,470
2017	GMC	Canyon	30,106
2015	GMC	Sierra 1500	54,289
2017	GMC	Sierra 3500HD	147,376
2015	RAM	1500	60,512
2014	RAM	1500	67,507
2019	RAM	1500	16,984
2017	RAM	2500	45,436
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	25,106
2014	Chevrolet	Equinox	82,136
2017	Chevrolet	Suburban	43,424
2018	Chevrolet	Suburban	42,645
2019	Chevrolet	Suburban	13,010
2015	Chevrolet	Tahoe	122,019

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2015	Chevrolet	Tahoe	84,089
2013	Chevrolet	Tahoe	136,908
2016	Chevrolet	Tahoe	15,869
2016	Chevrolet	Tahoe	70,915
2018	Chevrolet	Trax	7,684
2015	Chevrolet	Trax	44,810
2014	Dodge	Durango	100,373
2018	Dodge	Journey	19,855
2017	Dodge	Journey	28,253
2006	Ford	Escape	112,757
2011	Ford	Escape	74,179
2018	Ford	Explorer	37,229
2013	Ford	Explorer	167,270
2019	GMC	Acadia	13,433
2011	GMC	Yukon	82,237
2014	Hyundai	Santa Fe	98,609
2019	Hyundai	Santa Fe	31,168

VANS/BUSES

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2006	Ford	E-450 Cutaway	79,793
2018	Hyundai	Santa Fe Sport	38,962
2018	Hyundai	Santa Fe Sport	49,669
2019	Hyundai	Santa Fe Sport	45,960
2018	Jeep	Cherokee	108,463
2010	Jeep	Wrangler	52,067
2018	Jeep	Wrangler JK	22,648
2018	Jeep	Wrangler JK Unltd.	16,498
2017	Kia	Sportage	24,309
2018	Mitsubishi	Outlander	35,408
2019	Toyota	Highlander	25,810
2006	Chevrolet	HHR	166,016
2019	Nissan	Pathfinder	6,873

MOTORCYCLES

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2002	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ROAD KING	3,261
2007	HARLEY DAVIDSON	SCREAMING EAGLE	20,600



YOUR HOMETOWN DEALER

* Visit ChevyBlackFridaySale.com for vehicle eligibility. Offer available on select models and includes price reduction below MSRP and cash allowance. Not available on select badge trims, with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 12/21/19. See dealer for details. ² Based on 2019 Traverse Premier \$56,560 MSRP. Based on 2019 Equinox \$28,220 MSRP. Based on 2019 Trax \$24,685 MSRP. Based on 2019 Spark \$15,995 MSRP. Based on 2019 Malibu \$31,875 MSRP. Based on 2019 Impala Premier \$40,975 MSRP. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 12/21/19. See dealer for details. ³ Offer includes price reduction below MSRP and cash allowance. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 12/21/19. See dealer for details. ⁴ Based on All-New 2019 Chevy Silverado Double Cab \$28,905 MSRP. Based on All-New 2019 Chevy Silverado Crew Cab LT All Star Z71 \$49,930 MSRP. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 12/21/19. See dealer for details. ⁵ Based on \$55,075 MSRP. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 12/21/19. See dealer for details. ©2019 General Motors. All rights reserved.

New justice annex tops priority list in county's space needs analysis

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

While Macon County is just in the initial stages of reviewing its space needs analysis, County Commissioners did get an idea of the future infrastructure needs of county departments last week when Moseley Architects presented its report to the board.

"I was excited to finally learn that the space needs analysis (we should officially receive the actual report next week) is coming to fruition," said Commission Chair Jim Tate. "We received a brief overview at our Tuesday night meeting, and the results look promising. We will take this topic up in more detail in January as we enter into our budget discussion. It will be great to have an omniscient point of view and plan for our county facilities' current and future needs. The report will contain factual data that we can utilize and apply to an actual future game plan versus continuing to try and move forward based upon a knee jerk reaction."

The space needs analysis is just a starting point for commissioners to begin discussing future infrastructure needs of Macon County.

The goal of the report was to provide an orderly and objective assessment of department space needs, both current and projected over the next 20 years. To achieve this, Moseley Architects' efforts required audits of individual facilities, numerous interviews with department personnel, a general review of existing facility standards, observation of existing business practices, and access to various reports and findings or best practices to serve the citizens of Macon County in the most efficient and safe manner.

At the start of the study, departments were asked to project staffing levels over a 20-year period. Subsequent interviews allowed the project team to compare those projections across population growth projections and operational trends in similar counties. State en-



Photo by Vickie Carpenter

Moseley Architects recommends a new justice annex that would combine existing departments and consist of a new courthouse, a new detention center and Sheriff's Office all located on the same site. The new annex would allow the county to address non-compliance issues currently experienced at the detention center and provide enough beds for inmates into the future.

tities such as the court system are also subject to legislative changes mandating new personnel in the future.

County Manager Derek Roland noted that the report is a reference point for the county to begin long-term improvements to local government.

The report looked at 26 different buildings currently owned by the county and provided recommendations for re-use, renovation, and or demolition when considering growth projects over the next 20 years.

The report did find that in addition to needing a few new facilities, the county is also well positioned to consolidate and rework several existing properties to ensure efficient ongoing operations. The current state of county facilities includes several departments spread across multiple buildings. Consolidated facilities would allow the county

to rework existing properties for ongoing use, rather than purchasing additional land. In many cases, opportunities were identified for collaboration and sharing of existing spaces to foster best use of county resources. Several of the existing facilities across the county suffer from inefficient systems, poor layouts, and insufficient accessibility. In many buildings, such issues can be addressed and allow continued operation. Others are candidates for replacement or removal. Individual building conditions were also addressed in the report.

The projects were broken down into three tiers of importance with Tier I projects being the highest priority for the county.

Moseley Architects identified a New Justice Center as the top need for Macon County.

"The Justice Center would combine sev-

eral existing departments and consolidate various offices for efficiency, consisting of a new courthouse, new detention center and Sheriff's Office all located on the same site. The intent would be to reduce inefficiencies present in all existing facilities and to replace inadequate and unsuitable facilities. A new complex would address issues facing modern court facilities such as enhanced security, controlling prisoner movement, and enhancing the safety and efficiency of staff that the existing facility can no longer adequately provide. The new detention component is recommended to reduce risk currently posed to detention officers due to non-compliance issues and to provide enough beds for all classifications of inmates for the next 20 years. Additionally, construction of a new courthouse will allow the county to eliminate the leased space currently used for the Superior Court Judge's Office."

In addition to identifying what needed to be done, the report also suggested how it could be done. The project can be built in phases over the course of a few years with the new courthouse being Phase I; the New Detention Center as Phase II; and the New Sheriff's Office being Phase III. The new courthouse is the highest priority in order to free up space in the existing courthouse for other county departments.

"It was good to hear the overview of their findings and I am looking forward to receiving the full report," said Commissioner Karl Gillespie. "The space needs analysis along with Capital Improvement Plan will be valuable tools in identifying and prioritizing capital projects."

Over the next several weeks, the commission will receive the complete report from the architects and then review the recommendations. The space needs analysis likely won't come into play any further until budget discussions beginning in the Spring.

From Contract to Closing...

REAL ESTATE

Sales & Purchases
Refinance

-Exceptional customer service
-Accurate & On time closing
-Secure transfer of information
and funds

Gillette Law Firm, PLLC

(828) 634-7941

info@GilletteLawNC.com

133 East Palmer Street, Suite 101

Franklin, NC 28734

www.GilletteLawNC.com

Se habla Español

★ OPEN BLACK FRIDAY ★

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

HOURS: FRIDAY 9AM-5:30PM • SATURDAY 10AM-5:30PM



BENCHMADE



Old School
Otto, North Carolina

Knife Works

American Pride. Quality. Old School.

- Knife Handle Materials & Knife Blanks
- Stingray Leather Wallets & Belts
- Limited Editions & Custom Knives
- Kitchen Cutlery • Knife Supplies & Books

★ WE BUY KNIVES! ★

Over 5,000 Knives in Stock!

MON-FRI 9AM-5:30PM SAT 10AM-5:30PM

(828) 524-6842

8285 Georgia Rd. • Otto, NC 441 South
www.oldschoolknifeworks.com

10% OFF
STOREWIDE
SALE

Fate of rural hospitals more uncertain than ever

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Absent swift action by Congress this week, rural hospitals across the United States, especially in North Carolina, stand to lose billions of dollars in federal funding, which could result in an unknown number having to shut their doors and cease operation.

In 1981, Congress authorized money to assist hospitals defray the costs of caring for patients who couldn't afford treatment. In 2014, the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments covered more than half of uncompensated treatment costs for hospitals, which was around \$18.2 billion, according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Fast forward to 2019, the DHS paid out \$22 billion, nearly 60 percent of which came from the federal government.

The federal money reimburses hospitals for the care they provide to people who can't afford to pay and offsets the cost of care that hospitals provide to Medicaid patients that Medicaid does not cover. The federal cuts amount to \$4 billion this year and \$44 billion through 2025.

Congress has authorized those funds to continue through Nov. 21 — then they essentially disappear which would be detrimental for rural hospitals in America, specifically those in states such as North Carolina which did not elect to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act.

"North Carolina hospitals and health systems support the Disproportionate Share Hospital payment program and oppose any attempts to reduce funding for our most vulnerable," said Sara Crawford, Marketing and Public Relations for Harris Regional Hospital. "Further, cuts to the DSH program should be restored, especially for those states that did not expand Medicaid and continue to have a large uninsured population. For some, the Medicaid DSH cuts will mean they can no longer provide critical services, threatening local access to care."

Harris Regional Hospital is managed by Duke LifePoint, which also serves Haywood Regional Medical Center as well as Swain Community Hospital. While the three hospitals play a vital and necessary role in the community, they could potentially lose millions in federal funding.

Across the country, similar health systems face unwelcome choices about how to handle the looming funding cuts as a result of the elimination of Charitable Care funding.

Hospitals in the 14 states that did not expand Medicaid, which includes North Carolina, will be hurt the worst, because they already miss out on the extra federal money that comes

with expansion.

The current funding crisis originated with the Affordable Care Act's passage in 2010. The law's goal — to extend health care coverage to millions of Americans through Medicaid expansion and affordable commercial health insurance — would have meant less hospital spending for charitable care. So as part of the legislation, the federal government planned to begin decreasing DSH funding in 2014. However, in 2012, the ACA was changed to allow states to determine whether or not they wanted to expand Medicaid. For those like N.C. that did not expand Medicaid, they missed out on federal funding to close the gap for the uninsured or underinsured. Further changes to the ACA to eliminate the provision which required everyone to enroll in insurance also resulted in fewer people insured than originally predicted. Between those two amendments, the needs for continued Charitable Care funding continue. However, Congress has not voted to indefinitely continue providing the funding. Instead, Congress has voted four times to reauthorize the funding while other measures are considered, but the most recent of those reauthorizations expires on Nov. 21.

In addition to losing the federal funding provided by the Charitable Care fund, rural hospitals will also lose the matching state funds that follow the federal dollars. As one example, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services said that if the federal cuts go into effect this year, the state would reduce its contribution by \$47 million in addition to the expected \$98 million cut in federal money.

Congressman Mark Meadows, whose 17-county district stands to lose a significant amount of funding if the Charitable Care fund isn't reauthorized, said he has been diligently working with his colleagues to fund a solution.

"We're certainly concerned about Western North Carolina's access to hospitals, community health centers, and health clinics to receive care," said Meadows. "Unfortunately, healthcare consolidation is leaving more patients with fewer choices, hurting our rural areas — and we're looking at ways to address it."

While hospitals managed by Duke LifePoint are in risk of losing funding, both Macon County hospitals, Angel Medical Center and Highlands-Cashiers hospitals are safe. Because Mission Health System was bought out by the for-profit company, HCA earlier this year, the same federal funding isn't available to HCA for Charitable Care because of their for-profit status. HCA has its own Charitable Care Program, which is, in part, funded by the Dogwood Trust, which was established when HCA purchased Mission Health Systems.

Laura Gallier and SMPCC bring you "A Night To V.A.L.U.E."



Take your teen to dinner! Leave with a strategy to overcome oppressive thoughts, emotions, and habits.

- Purpose of sex and family
- Pornography and media
- Dating and relationships
- Gender ID & healthy attraction

What is this? A faith-based event on sexual integrity for tweens & teens. Leave inspired and encouraged about God's design for sexuality.

When? Nov. 22, 2019 @ 6:30pm

Where? First Baptist Church Of Sylva • 669 W Main St.

Tickets ON SALE NOW \$15.00 per person

Need more information?

Contact Beckie Langston, Community Outreach Director for Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center. 828.293.3600 or beckiecom@mysmpcc.com

FOR WOMEN WHO ARE MARRIED OR PREPARING



Blessed in the Bedroom

Facilitated by Laura Gallier
Learn more and register: beckiecom@mysmpcc.com

Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center is excited to bring you a faith-based event just for women!

When? Nov. 23, 2019 @ 10:00am \$10 per person

Where? Webster Baptist Church • 1955 Webster Rd, Sylva NC

- Factors & mindsets that sabotage arousal & sexual pleasure
- Communicating sexual needs to your spouse
- Practical ways to foster romance & mutual attraction
- Getting free from sex-related shame that hinders intimacy

L A Z B O Y

VAIL
Rocking Recliner
\$349

Limited quantities while supplies last

MACON FURNITURE MART
560 Depot Street, Franklin, NC 28734
www.MaconFurnitureMart.com • 828.369.8296

DIVA'S ON MAIN

24 E. MAIN ST.
FRANKLIN, NC
828.369.7300

Like finance & flexible hours?

Professional tax prep may be for you.

Enroll today at hrblock.com/class
828-524-7014

H&R BLOCK

Enrollment restrictions and course material fees apply. Enrollment in, or completion of, the H&R Block Income Tax course is neither an offer nor a guarantee of employment. See hrblock.com/class for more details. OBT#B13696 ©2019 HRB Tax Group, Inc.

Collins: Trip to Denmark will encourage students to broaden their horizons

Diane Peltz
Contributing Writer

Franklin High School's (FHS) Agricultural teacher Jenny Collins, has had a busy five years thinking about and planning a special trip for her Future Farmers of America students (FFA). Collins feels that by visiting other places students can learn about the agricultural practices away from home.

"I want to challenge my students, broaden their horizons and learn about another country's agricultural practices," said Collins.

Collins wanted to visit an English-speaking country so she started to research. She contacted Experience International (EI), a non-profit educational organization based in Bellingham, Wash. Their mission is "to embrace and create opportunities for international understanding and human resource development through technical and cultural exchange in a wide spectrum of disciplines including but not limited to agriculture and natural resources." Through working with them, Collins finally decided on a trip to Denmark.

Danish agriculture is among the most efficient and knowledge-based agricultural clusters in the world. Students will be able to visit some of the abundance of farms to learn more about sustainable farming, along with

meat processing plants and dairy farms. She and her students will visit some agricultural colleges and learn about their practices and FHS students will, in turn, get to speak to Danish students about American practices.

In order to finance this trip Collins and her students held many fundraising events, selling BBQ chicken and spaghetti plates, they held equipment sales, helped out with Deal's haunted corn maze, sold Christmas trees and Fieldale Chicken boxes.

Recently, Collins and several of her students went before the Macon County Board of Commissioners to speak about her trip to Denmark and the County Commissioners were impressed enough to award her \$7,730 to help offset the cost of the educational trip. Although Collins teaches agriculture at FHS, the lawyer for the school board has advised that this trip should not be a school-sponsored event due to liability issues. So the trip



Jenny Collins, agriculture teacher at Franklin High School, (right) is taking 14 students to Denmark in April to encourage students to become "locally and globally minded in the areas of agriculture." Sophomore Emily Bryson is one of the students who will be going on the trip.

will be under the direction of Collins as the group leader, utilizing Experience Interna-

tional.

The trip to Denmark is scheduled for April 9-17, 2020. Fourteen students will be traveling with Collins along with seven chaperones. The students range from sophomores at FHS to graduates attending Southwestern Community College, who are Collins' former students. One of the chaperones is also a former student of hers.

The trip costs \$2,200 per person and includes travel, accommodations, food and a tour guide from Experience International. Students going on the trip had to pay \$300 out of pocket toward the expenses, the remainder of the cost will be covered by fundraising money and the award from the county commissioners.

"The only reason this idea began was to benefit students, to encourage them to become locally and globally minded in the areas of agriculture," she said. "I encourage everyone to be advocates for agriculture; thank a farmer for the food you eat and the clothes you have."

Emily Bryson, a sophomore at FHS who will be going on the trip was asked why she wanted to go on the trip.

"Why not? What a wonderful opportunity it will be to visit another country and get to learn about their farming and agricultural methods," said Bryson.

**MAIN STREET
MERCHANTS**

invite you to

SHOP LOCAL

EAT LOCAL

ENJOY LOCAL

this Holiday Season.

THE STREETS OF FRANKLIN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

To my wife, my angel!

A guy going nowhere in life, adrift, I joined the Navy to see the world. Then, the good Lord sent me one of his angels to put me on the right track. She is my beautiful wife Joan T - my angel. My life became a new world with purpose. She took this young sailor's hand and for the next 67 years, guided us on a wonderful adventure. Joan, my love, these 67 years have been my wonderful dream. My respect and love grows daily. Your love made a man out of a kid. I'll shout to this world that you're my wife, my love, my angel. I'll always love you more than yesterday, today and forever. God bless, and, my angel - how about 67 more years?

Your loving husband,

Bill T.

Macon County Board of Commissioners throw in \$7K for international field trip

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Franklin High School Students participating in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) program will spend Spring Break traveling to Denmark.

Denmark is among the world’s largest pork exporters. For more than 100 years, the production of pigs and pork has been a major source of income for Denmark. Approximately 90 percent of the production is exported and is thereby essential to the Danish economy and the balance of trade. The Danish pig industry is a world leader in areas such as breeding, quality, food safety, animal welfare and traceability. A group of 14 students and six chaperones will be spending nine days will get to experience the swine industry first-hand.

FHS agricultural teacher Jenny Collins, co-teacher Devon Deal and agricultural students came before the board to make the funding request.

“I have advocated for agriculture in many different ways. First by allowing students to go to competition locally, and then to go forward in a regional setting, and then go to state, and then a few years later we went onto national competition,” said Collins. “My passion about five years ago was to keep building these students’ experiences in agriculture, and I thought it would be awesome if we could go on a trip, an international trip, that they could actually see agriculture in other countries and what’s going on because we import and

export all the time in our country.”

The FFA has raised \$26,000 of the \$44,000 needed for the trip. The group requested assistance from commissioners to help fund the once-in-a-lifetime trip. Commissioners approved providing \$7,730 out of the county’s contingency fund to help the students.

With the county’s allocation, the club will only have around \$10,000 remaining and will continue to hold fundraisers.

Commissioner Karl Gillespie expressed his support for the FFA, and their request for additional funding.

“They have done a fantastic job taking the program to another level. But, it is a proven fact, the statistics show that if you go on these type of trips, the kids that are on these trips, substantially more of them end up staying in agriculture because it’s a life changing event.”

While giving his support of the trip itself, Commission Chair Jim Tate did share concerns about the funding.

“I think it’s an issue of fairness with our taxpayer dollars that we’re spending. I think if we’re going to do it for y’all, then we have to do it for everyone moving forward,” said Tate. “So if this approves tonight and we have other groups come next month and the following month, the other groups know they’re going overseas, which I’m sure is going to happen. I just think we need to be prepared to do that as well.”



Sophisticut
HAIR SALON & DAY SPA

308 Depot St.
Franklin, NC
(828) 524-2419 or
(828) 524-3395

Sophisticut is pleased to announce the addition of Lexie Reilly. She is a certified lash extension technician and certified hair extensions specialist who also specializes in custom, luxurious facials, hair color and blonding, and offers lavish manicures and pedicures. Make an appointment with Lexie and get pampered, royal experience and treatment you deserve!



Best Prices on Jewelry & Jewelry Repairs in Town!

Open Tue–Fri. 9–5

Largest Selection of Gold & Silver Jewelry

Firearms & Ammo!

We Buy Gold & Silver

*FREE Watch Battery - 1 per customer

80 Olsen Dr., Franklin, NC
(828) 349-4653 • www.SMJNC.com



OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES IS NOW!

October 15 – December 7

There is no reason to do it alone.

- > 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, 2020

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



KEVIN CORBIN
CORBIN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC
(828) 524-7799 • thecorbinagency.com



Radiography students begin clinical rotations

As colors turn and leaves drop to the ground, fall marks a season of great change. Students in Southwestern Community College's Radiography program are feeling that change, too, as they prepare to begin their clinical rotations at hospitals across the region.

On their first set of rotations, these students will work under the direction of radiography professionals and will assist in the taking of X-Rays as well as other daily tasks.

Once students have earned their two-year associate degrees, they can choose to work in diagnostic x-ray departments, or they have the option to specialize in areas such as nuclear medicine, sonography, mammography, CT (Computed Tomography), radiation therapy or MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging). They can also continue their education at a four-year university.

"We're very excited about this group of first-year students," said Meg Petty, program coordinator

at SCC. "They'll get five semesters of academic and clinical training, and they're on track to graduate in May of 2021 with all the skills they need to begin a rewarding and prosperous career."

For more information about SCC's radiography program,



SCC radiography students who recently started clinicals are bottom row from left: Eric Fox of Murphy, Anna Hill (Sylva), Devona Reed (Whittier), Charity Jones (Franklin) and Radiography Program Coordinator Meg Petty. Middle row from left: Nicholas Rhodes (Franklin), Courtney Penland (Murphy), Kelsey White (Franklin) and Justina Bentivogli (Bryson City). Top row from left: Jacob Miller (Highlands), Adam Wright (Franklin), Jason Coggins (Sylva) and Devon Heenan (Cashiers).

contact Petty at mpetty@southwesterncc.edu or 828.339.4320.

Dr. Joshua Wu joins orthopaedic staff at Harris

Harris Regional Hospital is announcing that Joshua Wu, DO, has joined its staff and will be offering orthopaedic services to patients in Sylva, Franklin and the WNC region. Dr. Wu is the second orthopaedic physician to join Harris Regional Hospital this year as the hospital continues to grow its orthopaedic and sports medicine program.

"Dr. Wu has is an excellent addition to our hospital team," said Steve Heatherly, CEO of Harris Regional Hospital. "Orthopaedic care is a priority for Harris Regional Hospital and ensuring our patients have access to the care they need. Dr. Wu will help us strengthen our footprint in this region as the leading provider for orthopaedic and sports medicine care including outpatient rehab services for our adult and pediatric patients. Harris Regional Hospital and our providers strive to meet our region's evolving healthcare needs and making our



Joshua Wu, DO

community healthier."

Dr. Wu graduated from the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Spartanburg, S.C. He completed his residency at Riverside Regional Medical Center in Newport News, Va., and a fellowship at MAHEC in Asheville, N.C. Dr. Wu is a member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and the Christian Medical and Dental Association, to name a few.

Dr. Wu is board certified by the American Board of Family Physicians and the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians. In his spare time, Dr. Wu enjoys running, basketball, volleyball, flag football, traveling, reading and outdoor adventures.

Dr. Wu is now seeing patients at Harris Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine with locations in Sylva and Franklin.

Appointments can be made by calling (828)586-553.

Repeats
Upscale Consignment

NOW IN OUR 32ND YEAR

LADIES & CHILDREN'S CLOTHING - SHOES & ACCESSORIES

(828)369-9600

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-3pm
107 Highlands Rd., Franklin, NC

Millie's
USED BOOK STORE

Best Sellers, Inspirational, Westerns, Religious, Hardbacks, Cookbooks & so many more

1781 Georgia Rd., Franklin, NC • (828)369-9059

Open: Tues-Fri 10-5
Sat 10-2; Closed Sun & Mon

CUTTING EDGE
Tree Service

Stump Grinding • Chipping • Trimming
Topping • Lot/View Cleaning
Total Landscaping
Residential & Commercial
Firewood & Wood Chips for Sale
Serving WNC & North GA - Insured

828-421-2905

Blackberry
MARKET

BOUTIQUE & GIFTS

37 E. MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NC

25% OFF SALE

TOPS
PANTS
COATS
DRESSES
SWEATERS
VESTS

NOW OPEN

FURNITURE

FLIPS & MORE

304 Depot St., Franklin, NC
828-421-4449

Next door to Sophisticut • Open Thurs., Fri., Sat.

LeAnder's
The Best Small Jewelry Store in the Mountains. JEWELERS

- Estate Jewelry
- Fine Diamonds
- Precious Gems
- Watch Batteries

UP TO 70% OFF!

828.369.9440 38 E. Main St. • Franklin, NC

Mountain Medical Directory

Quality Care for a Healthy Life



McGEE DERMATOLOGY CLINIC

General Medical & Surgical Dermatology

Thomas P. McGee, Jr., M.D.

ABPS Board Certified in Dermatology

41 Macon Center Drive
(below Macon Bank headquarters)
Franklin, NC 28734

(828) 524-DERM/3376

New Patients Welcome!

NOW OPEN FRIDAYS



Same Day Crowns Now Available!

APPALACHIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATES

James F Melzer Jr, DMD
(828) 369-0618 (K-Mart Shopping Center)

Now a member of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC and Delta Dental provider networks

Gentle Dental Care

WE OFFER NO INTEREST PAYMENT PLANS WHEN QUALIFIED

NOW OFFERING COMPLIMENTARY 2813 PHA EXAMS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

- Endodontics
- Cleanings/ Oral Cancer Screening
- Periodontal Services
- Oral Surgery/Extractions
- White Composite Fillings
- Crowns/Bridges/ Implant Crowns
- Partial and Complete Dentures
- Teeth Whitening
- Occlusal Bite Guards

Charles A. Shaller, M.D.

A FULL-SERVICE EYE CLINIC

If you value your eye sight, trust a Board Certified Ophthalmologist.

Dr. Shaller is accepting new patients.

Cataract, Glaucoma & Diabetic Evaluations. Comprehensive Eye Exams. No Referral Needed. Full Service Optical Shop.

WE MATCH 1-800-CONTACTS PRICING

Charles A. Shaller, M.D.

**36 WESTGATE PLAZA
FRANKLIN, NC 28734
828.369.4236
FAX 828.369.0753**



Harris Regional Hospital
WELCOMES

Caroline Rooney, FNP
Family Medicine

Harris Family Care - Franklin
55 Holly Spring Park Drive
Monday - Friday
8 am - 5 pm

Welcoming new patients
Appointments may be made by calling
828.349.3550



Harris Regional Hospital
WELCOMES

Joshua Wu, DO
Orthopaedics

Harris Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine
68 Hospital Road, Suite 203, Sylva
55 Holly Springs Park Drive, Franklin
Monday - Friday
8:30 am - 5 pm

Welcoming new patients
Appointments may be made by calling
828.586.5531

Letters to the Editor

A Quiet Revolution: Is there an EV in your future?

Most homeowners and professional workers are used to and comfortable with using compact cordless tools. From drills to saws, to lawn mowers, leaf blowers and even chainsaws, folks are moving to battery operated tools to get work done. They offer quiet operation, no fumes, and portability, without the mess and danger of fuels. It was all made possible by the development of Lithium batteries which are powerful, lightweight and efficient. When I hold a lithium battery, I am just amazed that so much power can be stored in such a lightweight battery. And they can be charged over and over again with little loss of power. The move to battery operated vehicles or EVs has been slower to catch on even though we are used to many other products using batteries from our cell phones to computers and many tools as I mentioned. The first successful EV was developed in 1891!

I recently bought a used 2018 Nissan Leaf. I had a very serviceable Prius C that got 50-60 mpg, but I wasn't satisfied that it still had to be filled up with gas. So now I've entered the world of dedicated EVs or electric only vehicles. Hybrids save on gas because they can store energy in a battery lost when decelerating or braking. They are becoming quite popular. Having a full-time EV is quite another beast and I'm sure will take some getting used to. Granted, they can have a more limited range, though newer models can get you pretty far on a charge. I settled for an in-between model with a range of about 150 miles. This means it has a smaller battery and I assume would be cheaper to replace and the cost of the vehicle was considerably less as well. When you pull into a gas station to get your coffee or snack, you realize that you are missing out on what everyone else is doing: pumping gas into their tanks.

An EV doesn't have a tank, although the battery might be considered one. And instead of filling up with hydrocarbons, you are filling up with electrons. But there is much more one has to get used to with an EV. I have to stop worrying about oil changes, tuneups, air filters, alternators, starters, and mufflers to rust out, just to name a few. EVs are quiet and this may take some getting used to. They actually produce an audible noise to warn pedestrians. While you can't rev up the motor, they may be quicker off the starting line than their gas counterparts, as electric motors have lots of torque. And you can't even start the thing; it is just ready to go. The quietness is a little eerie. EVs don't have a transmission with gears, so there is no great noise as when you go into overdrive in a gas-powered car.

EVs have much fewer moving parts so there is much less to go wrong and less maintenance. There is a yearly battery check to keep the car under warranty. Besides that, there will still be tire rotations, wiper blades, and cabin air filter replacement. But certainly, won't I be able to have the brake pads or shoes replaced? Not likely, because when you brake in an EV, you are mostly recharging the battery, unless you

have to make a quick stop. So it will take some getting used to not worrying about my car, something I've always been good about. The extra money in my pocket though should help me feel better.

Planning a trip gets a little more complicated, but since there are few EVs on the road, I haven't had any trouble finding a charging station that wasn't available. Most stations charge, but there are some that are free. Filling your car up with electrons is not the same as filling it with gas. It takes time and depending on the charger system can take quite a while. Future systems may actually fill up a battery bank quicker than filling up your gas tank. Many grocery stores now have charging stations, so after I do my shopping I might sit and enjoy a cup of coffee and chat with a neighbor I haven't met before. Some EV models accommodate DC or direct current charging. These are fast chargers and may only take 30 minutes or so to fill-up. Level 2 chargers are 220-240 volts AC and can take considerably longer. If you are charging at home you may use a level one charger that uses household 120 AC current. This is the slowest rate of charge, but if plugged in at night while you sleep, this may be all that you need. Or you can install a 220 volt charger for a quicker charge. For most of our driving, EVs may be the answer, even used ones with more limited range. The average American drives only 29 miles per day according to AAA. This is well within the range of most EVs, new or used.

Driving an EV is a completely different experience as it feels so much smoother and quieter. My model has an E-pedal mode so that when you let up on the accelerator, the car slows down quickly; so you can almost drive without the brake pedal. There is no exhaust coming out the tailpipe; well, there is no tailpipe! It is referred to as a zero emissions vehicle but don't get misled. If it is plugged into an outlet supplied by your local utility, there are emissions from whatever is being burned to produce electricity. EVs are cheaper to run than their inefficient gas cousins which only use about 20 percent of the energy in a gallon of gas to move the car forward, the rest is heat that your radiator must get rid of. The price of electricity may be more stable than gas and if you charge during non-peak hours, in some parts of the country, the cost can be even less. EVs can also be charged with solar, wind and hydro that is fed into the grid, allowing them to use alternative energy.

Getting used to having an EV does mean planning your trip, however, the on-board navigation system can get you to the nearest charging station should you need a fill-up. While there is a lot to get used to in owning an all-electric vehicle, I think I will enjoy my experience of driving an EV even more, knowing that it may be helping the environment. I just hope it doesn't catch on so I'll have to wait my turn at the charging station.

If you think there might be an EV in your future, take a test drive, but be prepared for an all new experience. While new EVs can be pricey, used ones are quite affordable and older models with more limited range, may be just what you need to get around town. EVs may be just one more way that we can lessen our dependence on fossil fuels and begin a cleaner, brighter new future.

Paul Chew – Otto, N.C.

Facts quoted on Second Amendment, not opinion

In a recent letter to the editor, I attempted to simply and succinctly lay out how and why the Second Amendment came about. I did not attempt assert an opinion on how the Second Amendment should be interpreted today and any attempt to read into my letter a biased explanation of history is misguided.

In my letter, I cited a couple of well respected, published historians who wrote on this matter. These historians simply laid out the players involved in the writing of the Second Amendment and the chronologies of those efforts. The motivations assigned to the writers of the Second Amendment by these cited historians, and other historians not cited, are based on the researched and well-documented actions, writings, and statements of the Founding Fathers.

These historical evidences are generally accepted by most scholars as accurate and objective and thus this information can be referred to as facts.

Also, in this same letter, I referred to the National Guard as modern state militias. I based that on information taken directly from the National Guard web site at <https://www.nationalguard.mil/About-the-Guard/Army-National-Guard/About-Us/State-Mission/>

I will quote from that page,

“The Army National Guard exists in all 50 states, three territories and the District of Columbia. The state, territory or district leadership are the Commanders in Chief for each Guard. Their Adjutants General are answerable to them for the training and readiness of the units.

At the state level, the governors reserve the ability, under the Constitution of the United States, to call up members of the National Guard in time of domestic emergencies or need.”

The National Guard is certainly under the aegis of the Federal Government. But the right for States to autonomously deploy their local State National Guard units certainly allows these units to be referred to functionally as state militias.

John Barry – Franklin, N.C.

The Macon County News letters page is a public forum open to a wide variety of opinions. Letters are neither accepted nor rejected on the basis of the opinions expressed. Writers are asked to refrain from personal attacks against individuals or businesses. Letters are not necessarily reflective of the opinions of the publisher, editor or staff of The Macon County News.

The Macon County NEWS & Shopping Guide

26 West Main Street, Franklin, NC 28734
(828) 369-6767 • FAX: 369-2700

www.themaconcountynews.com

Email: maconcountynews@gmail.com

Deadline for display advertising is Friday at
4 p.m. Classified deadline Monday, 3 p.m.

Betsey Gooder, Publisher / Advertising Director

Teresa S. Tabor, Editor

Jay Baird
Advertising Representative

Shana Bilbrey Matt Nelson
Graphic Designer Graphic Designer

Vickie Carpenter, Classifieds/Photographer

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

Deena Bouknight Diane Peltz
Contributing Writer Contributing Writer

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

The publisher assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions of any advertisement or supplement beyond the actual cost of the advertisement or supplement. In no event shall publisher be liable for any consequential damages or any damages in excess of the cost of the advertisement or supplements. The Macon County News and Shopping Guide reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. No brokering of advertising space or supplements will be accepted without prior approval of publisher. Third Class Mailing Privileges Authorized at Franklin, N.C. 28734

With drug addiction comes unhappiness, brokenness

My name is James “Barry” Henson. I am and have been a resident of Macon County for around 10 years.

I am now 51 years old and I want to share a little bit of my life with everyone. For most of my adult life I have dealt with drug and alcohol addiction. I did not plan my life with an agenda of unhappiness and broken family life that comes with drug addiction. Over the years, I have had my share of each. Only to return to the culprit of drugs/alcohol, trying to find what I felt was missing or absent in my life. Maybe even happiness. From my bad decisions I have ended up in jail so many times I fail to be able to count. Only now I am facing a four-year prison term.

Thanks to God’s grace, and my family I feel that this is what I need. The sentence I have received on Oct. 28, 2019, is for 30-48 months for possession of meth and habitual felon. The judge was kind enough to give me a rehabilitation program to go to while I am incarcerated. I plan on using every option available while I am here to better my life. I feel I have a very good chance of becoming a good, productive man of this county. I hope and pray that the people of Macon County will accept my sincere apology for my past actions. I am serving time for my wrong doings and I want so bad to come home and given a chance to prove my sincerity of what I am saying.

I am thankful to still be in Macon and hope everyone will give me a chance to show that drug addicts are people that made bad choices but I want to do what is right and better my life and my family’s.

I thank my true friends for all their help and I thank my mother for never giving up on me and for her forgiveness.

James Barry Henson – Franklin, N.C.

Can’t believe what we’re hearing from Trump

I cannot believe what I hear from our president of these United States, to call a man that has been a member of Federalist Party since 1983. Donal Trump says he’s never a Trump Republican, he’s a man that stands for American values. Trump calls him “scum.” For a president he has no dignity whatsoever. He has no respect for his obligations for his high title, puts our country pretty low on the Totem Pole.

No. 2. Astronaut Kelly that spent time on the moon, going to run for Republican Senate, which I hope he wins, was on TV telling when they first started going up in space how well and clear it was to look down and see the earth. Now he says they don’t see the earth like they used to as there is a fog around the earth now. That should tell us something. But our Donald Turmp thinks it’s great that the ice is melting in the Arctic. There has got to be oil under there which lines his pockets with money. Look at California, has has such dry seasons the trees have gotten so dry and just dead. Trump says he’s going to cut federal aid in their time of need. The earth is getting hotter every year.

No. 3. He does not believe in gun control. The Second Amendment is over 200 years old. All they carried was a musket with powder, one shot at a time. You don’t use a

military assault rifle in your home for protection. Where are these young boys, just school kids, getting guns wanting to kill everyone. Should not be a question where all this hatred is coming from. Trump is not for the people. He thinks he is so far above the people he took an oath to serve. If Trump re-makes all of us in his image, no matter who takes the White House in 2020, he will have won. We cannot get down in the mud with him and wallow in the anger, hatred and vengeance. This is the most important election we have ever had, give it a lot of thought and weigh it out.

Kathy Whitley – Franklin, N.C.

Email letters to the editor to maconcountynews@gmail.com

Narcotics Anonymous offers hope for addiction

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) is a worldwide fellowship of people who desire to get, and stay clean from drugs. NA is a group of recovering addicts who follow a 12-step program patterned after Alcoholics Anonymous.

There are no dues, fees, or requirements for membership other than a desire to stop using drugs. NA is a spiritual but not a religious fellowship. NA is about more than attending meetings. It is about a new way of life. Nevertheless, meetings are the best place to start.

Schedule of local meetings:

– Attitudes Can Change Group - Mondays 7-8 p.m., and Fridays 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Presbyterian Church, 26 Church St., Franklin.

– Open Mind Group - Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-8 p.m., at Clayton Presbyterian Church, 150 N. Church St., Clayton, Ga.

– Not High Noon West Group - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 12-1 p.m., Sylva First Methodist Church (back entrance), 77 Jackson St., Sylva.

Find out more online at NA.org, or text a zip code to (855)227-6262 and receive a texted reply of all meetings near that location. To speak to a member, call the help line at (888)764-0365.

For more information or questions, call Diana at (828)226-9932.

Visit Us Online →

- Area News Coverage
- Additional Content
- Photo Galleries
- Classifieds

themaconcountynews.com



Macon County Schedule of Regular Meetings

Airport Authority — Last Tuesday, 4 p.m. at the airport.

Board of Adjustments — Meets only when necessary.

Board of Commissioners — Second Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the commissioners board room, courthouse, third floor.

Child Fatality Prevention Team — Meets quarterly as noticed.

Community Funding Pool — Meets from November to May as necessary.

Economic Development Commission — Third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., SCC Groves Building.

Farmland Preservation — Meets only when necessary.

Franklin/Nantahala Tourism Development – Meets quarterly on the second Thursday of each month at 4 p.m., (January, April, July, and October) at the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.

Health Board — Fourth Tuesday, at 6:15 p.m. at the Human Services Building.

Highlands Tourism Development – meets quarterly at 8:30 a.m. at the Highlands Chamber of Commerce in Highlands on January 25, April 19, July 19, and October 18.

Home Community Care Block Grant & Department on Aging Advisory Council — Quarterly at the Senior Services Building.

Housing Finance Corporation — Meets when necessary.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council — Second Wednesday, at noon at Macon Program for Progress Training Building. (No meetings in July and August)

Library Board — Meets bi-monthly on the first Tuesday at 4 p.m. at the Library. (February, April, June, August, October, December)

County Planning Board — Third Thursday, at 5 p.m. at Environmental Resources Center.

Recreation Commission — meets in February, April, June, August, October and December on the second Tuesday at 4 p.m. at The Robert C. Carpenter Building.

Rest/Nursing Home Advisory Committee — Meets quarterly.

Social Services Board — Third Wednesday, at 8:30 a.m. at the Human Services Building.

Transportation Advisory Committee — Meets quarterly on first Tuesday in March, June, September and December at 10 a.m. at Town Hall.

Watershed Council — Meets only when necessary.

Watershed Review Board - Meets only when necessary.

Other commissions/committees post notices as meetings are called and scheduled.

There's still time to create that special piece for Christmas! Call or stop in today for details.

Fire & Light
GLASS STUDIO
www.FIREANDLIGHTGLASS.com



(828) 349-4505
9788 Georgia Rd.
Otto, NC

WHY BATTLE THE CROWDS?
BLACK FRIDAY SALE STARTS ON THE 22ND!

BRYANT'S ANTIQUE MALL

Open:
MON - SAT 9AM - 5:30PM
SUN 11AM - 5:30PM



U-HAUL AUTHORIZED DEALER 

10114 GEORGIA RD., OTTO, NC
(828) 524-0280

PIANO TUNING
Professional Service Since 1985
Bob McCollum

The Music Doctor

828-507-5760





FRANKLIN OFFICE SUPPLY
• SINCE 2004 •

Get Your Calendars & Planners Today!

828.349.7468
HIGHLANDS RD
IN FRANKLIN



S.O.S. Paving LLC
s.o.s.paving.nc@gmail.com

FREE Estimates

- ✓ Driveways
- ✓ Asphalt Repair/Patching
- ✓ Parkings Lots
- ✓ Grading

Call Today: (828) 332-2722

Join us for

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thursday, November 28th
@ 2pm

Hickory Knoll
United Methodist Church
86 E. Hickory Knoll Rd., Franklin, NC

FREE! (Donations Always Appreciated)

Bring along your favorite holiday side dish or dessert to share with others.




Patricia Washington, Ronnie Beale recipients of community service awards at Elder Dinner

Patricia Washington of Franklin received the Emma Cline Moore Award for Community Service for her work in Franklin and the surrounding region. The award was presented by One Dozen Who Care, Inc. (ODWC) on Saturday, Nov. 9, at the Elder Dinner celebration held at the Jackson County Family Resource Center in Sylva.

A native of Texas, Washington has lived in and traveled in many regions of the USA. Her favorite quote, “You can do it!”, coming from her trail-blazing mentality and desire to encourage and empower people to reach their full potential professionally and personally, is a top priority in her life. Her innovative mindset, faith, understanding, fun-loving and relatable attitude provides a measure of peace and unity while she shares her “can do” spirit.

Washington is married to Edward Washington and together they have four daughters. They live in Franklin, where she enjoys church, family, watching competitive sports, and travel. She has received a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Education, as well as credentials in Child Development. While employed by the Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corps, Washington was instrumental in organizing and executing their first Head Start collaboration in Macon County, that pooled resources, cut costs, and enhanced services for both programs. This also led to on-the-job training for Job Corps students, diversification in the community, and years of collaboration between the two agencies. She has also been director for the Early Child Care Institute and the After-School Program at South Macon Elementary Schools. She once came out of retirement to co-pilot and coordinate the unique Special Uses Program for Lyndon B. Johnson Job Corps students with two or more years of college education to receive internship positions in the U.S. Forest Service upon completion of the Job Corps program.

Washington is currently vice president of One Dozen Who Care, Inc. and serves on the Budget and Finance Committee. She has been a board member of the Arts Council of Macon County, Banquet Table, Macon Leadership Council, Human Relations Council, and Unity for Development. She enjoys serving as an active member of Burgess Chapel Church.

The Elder Dinner is an event that brings together racially diverse elders in the community for good food, fellowship, and fun. The goal of the project is to recognize people in the far western North Carolina area who exemplify outstanding community service. The special Emma Cline Moore Awards



LaDonna West (L) with Patricia Washington, recipient of the Emma Cline Moore Award for Community Service.

are given each year to show appreciation to elder citizens as One Dozen Who Care, Inc. works with the community to “tear down walls that divide and build bridges within our far western counties,” says ODWC Executive Director Ann Miller Woodford.

The Community Treasure Award was presented to Commissioner Ronnie Beale. This award was presented in grateful appreciation for his outstanding service and devotion to the communities in far western North Carolina.

ODWC is very pleased to recognize Commissioner Beale for his outstanding community service by awarding him the Community Treasure Award. We say, “Thank you, Ronnie, for your continued commitment to serving all of the citizens in Franklin and the surrounding area.”

Currently serving his third term, Ronnie Beale was elected to the Macon County Commission in November 2006. He has been married to Cissy Beale for 37 years and together they have three children – Cara, Evan, and Barrett. Beale graduated from Franklin High School in 1973. Since 1980, he has owned and operated Beale Construction. He has served his community with distinction as the chairman and vice chairman of the Macon County Board of Commissioners and was named North Carolina County Commissioner of the Year in 2013. Some of his community services include serving on the board of directors of the National Association of Counties representing North Carolina on a national level, former Governor Pat McCrory’s Mental Health Task Force, Macon County Citizens for the Handicapped, as liaison for the Macon County Sheriff’s department and Macon County Schools, and on the board of directors of Entegra Bank.



Community youth leagues set the stage for future champions

Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer

Watch out Franklin High School Panthers. Here comes the Macon County Youth Football league. Facilitated by Coach Benjamin Waldrop and several other volunteers, children from ages 5 through 12 can join one of four teams. This season, the PeeWees was comprised of 15 players ages 5- 6; the Termites had 20 team members ages 7-8; the Mites team consisted of 45 players ages 9-10; and the Midgets were made up of 18 players ages 11-12.

Each of these teams has its own cheerleading squad. This year the PeeWees recruited 10 energetic 5- and 6-year-olds who learned several cheers and some halftime routines and a competition regimen, along with the 10 Termites who cheered their hearts out for their cohorts as did the 10 Mites and 8 Midget Cheerleaders.

Football games were played at Franklin High School every Saturday with several away games played throughout other counties. There were a total of eight regular season games for each of the four teams and a playoff game if the teams make it that far. When a football team goes to the playoffs and wins they then go on to a championship game.

And the Mites football team did just that. Not only did they finish the season, 9-1, but they won the Conference Title and the championship Cracker Bowl Title.

The PeeWees went 4-4; the Termites finished with 2 wins and 6 losses, and the Midgets closed out the season with 3 wins and 5 losses. Playing on a football team with

Pictured (front row, L-R) are Willow, Celeste, Samantha, Savanna, Mariam, Katie and Lydia; (back row) Coach Kim Sanders, Valerie, and Coach Kari Hurst.

such a small number of players on a team as was the case for the PeeWees, Termites and Midgets can be challenging, but nonetheless, every team tried their hardest and displayed mature attitudes even in the face of adversity.

The Cheerleaders were just as impressive. They supported their teams with enthusiastic cheers and several stunts. They, too, were able to compete in a Cheer Competition against neighboring counties' Cheer Teams.

PeeWee Cheer finished first at the competition, quite a feat for that young team. Termites unfortunately did not place, but they gave it their all nonetheless. The Mites finished an honorable second and the Midgets finished in fourth place even though their stunt flyer was unable to "fly" due to spraining her wrist during the last week of practice. Midgets coaches and cheerleaders scrambled on the last day of cheer practice to choreograph a different routine having only two hours to practice it. They displayed good sportsmanship and still managed to take home the fourth place trophy!

Football players and cheerleaders entering sixth grade are eligible to join the Middle School teams and go on to accomplish great things along the way.

It is due to the efforts of volunteers and board members that make this league happen.

COME SEE US FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS!



- CLOSINGS
- ESTATES
- Residential
- Criminal Bonds

David C Spivey, P.A.

587 W. Main Street, Franklin, NC

828.349.3377

office@philopa.com fax: 888.825.2213



Choose trained repair professionals.
Because safety matters.

828-524-8080

121 Phillips Street
Franklin, NC



BLACK BEAR PAVING

828.349.3390 or
828.332.8511

Franklin, NC

Serving All of
Western North Carolina

blackbearpaving@frontier.com

- Driveways
- Parking Lots
- Gravel Hauling
- Curbing
- Roadways
- Subdivisions
- Patching/Repair
- Grading
- Site Work

Bituminous Surface Treatment

(Known as Chip N Seal Paving)
30%-50% cheaper than asphalt!

Also offering
Riverstone Chip N Seal, which is a
great alternative to resurfacing!

GC License # - 75898



Free Estimates • 25 Years Experience

All Work Guaranteed



Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests November 11 - 18. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

November 13

Neal Ray Moore II, 42, of Franklin, was charged with failure to appear for misdemeanor larceny. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set. G. A. Wishon made the arrest.

Dewayne Calven Ward, 65, of Sylva, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set. Mike Langley Sr. made the arrest.

November 15

Erik Romer Madsen, 59, of Franklin, was charged with sexual battery, assault on a female. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Steven Chase Stanley, 26, of Franklin, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

November 17

Warran Tyler Harling, 22, of Franklin, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, resist a public officer, misdemeanor child abuse. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

November 18

Kathy Hernandez Escorza, of Franklin, was charged with driv-

ing while impaired. An unsecured bond of \$1,500 was set. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Kaitlin Sara Fitzgibbons, 27, of Otto, was issued a true bill of indictment. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set. Troy L. Burt made the arrest.

Jimmy William Rogers, 29, of Franklin, was charged with possession of a schedule I controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

Brent Wood, 28, was charged with resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement officer, aid and abet larceny, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of drug paraphernalia. An unsecured bond of \$2,000 was set. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

November 11

Rodney Alan Panther, 32, of Long Branch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle, obtain property by false pretense. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

November 12

Sasha Nichol Connor, 32, of Putuna Lane, was issued a governors warrant. No bond was set.

Johnny Ray Arch, 46, of Webster Rd., was charged with simple assault. A secured bond of \$200 was set.

Chasity Lynn Austin, 26, of Homespun Rd., was charged with conspire to commit felony larceny, larceny after break/enter, breaking and entering. An unsecured bond of \$10,000 was set.

November 13

Anthony Travis Arrwood, 33, of Saint James Place, Cullowhee, was charged with possession of stolen motor vehicle, motor vehicle theft, breaking and entering of a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Korrina Owle Perez, 18, of A Model Dr., Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for violation of court order. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Matthew Sampson Armachain, 26, of Hayes Lossiah Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, resisting a public officer, identity theft. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

November 14

Kenneth Wayne Edwards, 49, of Dillsboro Rd., was charged with misdemeanor probation violation. No bond was set.

Erik Sidney Davis, 28, of Thorpe Dr., Cullowhee, was charged with assault on a child under 12 years of age, assault on a female, injury to personal property, communicating threats, assault with a deadly weapon. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Sonia Margarita Reyes, 22, of Adam's Creek Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for simple possession for a schedule IV controlled substance. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Sarah Marie Arwood, 29, of Rush Rd., Clyde, was charged with simple assault. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Ariel Marie Fisher, 28, of Molasses Dr., was charged with possession of stolen property, possession of stolen goods/property. No bond was set.

November 15

Jordyn Sloan Morris, 21, of Old Cullowhee Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

November 16

Deanna Christine Johnson, 39, of Walter Ashe Rd., was charged with failure to appear on traffic violation. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Eddie Dwayne Potts, 48, of Cullowhee Mountain Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for possession of methamphetamine, probation violation, resist obstruct delay, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$56,000 was set.

Charles Robert Bumgarner, 30, of Bo Cove Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with simple assault, assault on a child under 12, communicating threats. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

November 17

Thomas Logan Shuler, 22, of Airdale Rd., was charged with damage to personal property. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Tyler Andrew Sutton, 26, of Thornhill Dr., was charged with flee/elude arrest with a motor vehicle. An unsecured bond of \$5,000 was set.

VISIT US ONLINE:
THEMACONCOUNTYNEWS.COM

The Macon County News & Shopping Guide
October 18, 2018 • 32 Pages • Volume 36 • Number 22 • FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER • 12,000 Prints

Commissioner Officers; DSS
Abraham Mahabir - Contributing

Election 2018

Commissioners' race highlights county's struggle to attract business, foster a qualified workforce

Blue Ridge
Widow of Veterans group
No Wrong
Go to the grass
Early voting

You are invited to enjoy the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner served 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Tartan Hall, First Presbyterian Church
26 Church Street • Franklin, NC

Take-outs available from Noon to 1:30 PM
For more info, call church office 828-524-3119

BAHÁ'Í FAITH
LIGHT OF UNITY

“...with perfect unity and peace, abide beneath the shadow of the Tree of His care and loving-kindness.”
— Bahá'u'llah

Weekly devotions and discussions in Franklin, open to all. Call 302-383-6835.
1-800-228-6483 www.bahai.us
Franklin • Murphy • Sylva • Waynesville

THE CLASSY FLEA
INDOOR FLEA MARKET
ANTIQUES, GOOD STUFF AND COOL JUNK

THURSDAY – SATURDAY 9AM – 5PM
2 MILES SOUTH OF FRANKLIN OFF US 441
40 VENDORS

TOMMY AND LYNN NICHOLSON
51 Union Otto Daycare Road, Franklin, NC
828-421-7782

WHISTLE STOP
DEPOT
ANTIQUES, SHOPS & RV PARK



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

the Flower Co.
Florist / Grower of
Specialty Cut Flowers

11485 Georgia Road, Otto, NC
1 mi. North of the State Line
828.524.2829
theflowercompanync.com

RUST & RELICS
ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, HANDMADE
CRAFTSMANSHIP & MORE!

71 E. Main St.
Franklin, NC
RustAndRelics71@gmail.com
[facebook.com/RustAndRelics71](https://www.facebook.com/RustAndRelics71)



OCC National Collection Week Nov. 18-25

This month, Holly Springs Baptist Church in Franklin and First Baptist Church in Highlands will be among 5,000 U.S. drop-off locations collecting shoebox gifts for children overseas during Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week, Nov. 18-25.

During this week, local families, churches and groups are transforming empty shoeboxes into fun gifts of hope filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items. The Samaritan's Purse project partners with local churches across the globe to deliver these tangible expressions of God's love to children in need. For many of these children, it will be the first gift they have ever received.

This year, Macon County area residents hope to be a part of collecting more than 20,000 shoeboxes for Western North Carolina to contribute to the 2019 global goal of reaching 11 million children in need.

"I love being able to see the local community rally together for a global purpose," said WNC Area Coordinator June Trull, who is the drop-off center coordinator for Operation Christmas Child at Holly Springs Baptist Church. "We see all ages getting involved – and more and more every year."

The remaining dates are as follows:

Holly Springs Baptist Church
Thu, Nov. 21: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 4-6 p.m.
Fri, Nov. 22: 3 to 8 p.m.
Sat, Nov. 23: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sun, Nov. 24: 1 to 6 p.m.
Mon, Nov. 25: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Coordinator: June Trull

366 Holly Springs Church Road
Franklin (828) 524-5564

First Baptist Church of Highlands

Thu, Nov. 21: 2 to 7 p.m.
Fri, Nov. 22: 2 to 6 p.m.
Sat, Nov. 23: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sun, Nov. 24: 1 to 6 p.m.
Mon, Nov. 25: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Coordinators: Sergio Barranco, Angelica Garcia
220 Main Street, Highlands
(828) 508-7466 or (828) 508-2695



For more information on how to participate in Operation Christmas Child, visit samaritanspurse.org/occ. Participants can donate \$9 per shoebox gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination. Online shoppers can browse samaritanspurse.org/buildonline to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish pack-

ing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has delivered more than 168 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories.

Zonta campaign seeks to end violence against women

Each year Zonta clubs in the U.S. and around the world call on individuals and local and national leaders to take action to end violence against women. 16 Days of Activism started after three sisters and political activists in the Dominican Republic who actively opposed the cruelty and violence of the Trujillo dictatorship were clubbed to death and dumped at the bottom of a cliff by the regime's secret police on Nov. 25, 1962. These sisters became symbols of the feminist resistance worldwide and the date was formally recognized by the United Nations in 1999 as the International Day for the End of Violence Against Women. Each year from Nov. 25 until Dec. 10 (World Human Rights Day) every individual is asked to take action to eliminate this violation of basic human rights both locally and beyond. From domestic violence and human trafficking to childhood marriage, our daughters, sisters and neighbors deserve to have the opportunities that most of us take for granted: to feel safe in their home and on the street, to attend school, to control their



own income and marry when and whom they choose.

Zonta advocates that violence against women is preventable and together women's voices will be heard and can change laws and attitudes for all women and girls everywhere.

Help support their efforts by supporting our local merchants who display our orange bow, by reporting suspected violence against women and by donating to Zonta Club of Franklin, PO Box 1492, Franklin NC 28744 or other organizations which are doing this important work.

'Reborn' kicks off holiday season this Friday

Petra Ballet Company will kick-off the holiday show season at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts as they present their signature Christmas dance piece, "Reborn," on Friday, Nov. 22. "Reborn" tells The Christmas Story from Mary's perspective through the dramatic presentation of dance. The evening will begin at 7 p.m. Adult tickets are \$14 and student tickets are \$10 each.

Petra Ballet Company is a professional non-profit Christian ballet company from Springfield, Mo. It was founded by Jason and Kim Raymond in 2008 when they had the desire to see the name of Jesus lifted up through excellence in the arts within their community. Jason serves as the executive director, while Kim serves as the artistic director, resident choreographer, and company dancer. All dancers are professionally trained and have a desire to use their gift of dance to bring glory to the Lord. They



are taught from a Christian perspective in a wholesome and safe environment to learn, be challenged, and grow. Instructors strive to provide technical excellence and teaching styles, as well as impart a passion for worship to the students.

With a strong background in classical ballet technique, Petra Ballet Company has a contemporary flare and uses all

forms of dance in their performances. Their mission is to exalt the name of Jesus through dance, revive hearts through worship, and make Him known through excellence in the arts.

They perform locally in Springfield, Mo., as well tour nationally. To purchase tickets to the majestic "Reborn" Christmas show, or to find out more information about this or any other show at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts, visit GreatMountainMusic.com or call (828) 273-4615.

Community Chorus to present Sunday concert

The Western Carolina Community Chorus will present a fall concert on Sunday, Nov. 24, at 3 p.m., in the First Baptist Church of Sylva. The concert will be conducted by Robert Holquist, and accompanied by Barbara Dooley, piano, and Lorie Meservey, organ. Entitled "Singers' Choice," most of the selections on the program were selected by members of the ensemble.

Some of the recommendations made were specific, such as Brahms' "How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place" from "Requiem," and "Seek Ye the Lord" by Roberts, featuring Marty Marshall as tenor soloist. Other requests being sung were more general, such as "something from musical theatre," resulting in a medley from "Carousel" by Rodgers and Hammerstein. "Something by Handel" led to a Chandos anthem, "Zadok the Priest." An advent setting of "Tidings of the Season" was specifically requested. Composed as a dedication to James and Barbara Dooley in 2005 by Dr. Bruce Frazier, retired WCU Professor of Music, the setting features two

flutists, performed by Sabrina Kumar and Emily Whitaker.

Now celebrating 50 years of music-making, the chorus was formed in 1970 by Dr. James Dooley to present performances of Handel's "Messiah" in Cullowhee and Waynesville. Since that time, more than 100 performances by the ensemble in the region have allowed choral musicians the opportunity to participate in a group that performs music from part songs to choral-orchestral masterworks. The chorus has often sung major works with the Asheville Symphony Orchestra, as part of the Artist-in-Residence programs at WCU, and with the Mountain Winds.

"This concert has a wide variety of musical styles, and is a reflection of the musical tastes and preferences of members of the chorus. I wanted to offer the opportunity to recommend selections which they enjoy singing, and there was a great response," Holquist said. The chorus is supported by the Jackson County Arts Council, WCU, and the NC Arts Council, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. For further information, contact Dr. Holquist at (828)506-5951.

Japanese dolls on display at library in November

Japanese dolls from the collection of Rachel Ohtani are on display in November at the Macon County Public Library.

Japanese dolls are related to history and culture, from the ordinary to the samurai and the geisha.

In general, when we hear the word, doll, we think of toys primarily made for children. Many Japanese dolls were also created for the purpose of entertaining children. However, throughout Japan's history, dolls have played important roles in serious cultural and traditional rituals such as holidays, funerals of royal families, rituals associated with indigenous religions, and performing arts.

Names of dolls are attributed to their creators, original places of creation, or processes and other technical methods employed to make them. Today there are a large number of doll collectors in the world and Japanese dolls are highly prized among them.

Displayed during the month of November are a small number of dolls representing only a limited kind of Japanese dolls collected by Rachel Parrish Ohtani of Franklin. She collected many of them while liv-



Rachel and Ted Ohtani

ing in Japan.

The library is located at 149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin. For more information, call (828)524-3600.



EATING OUT YOUR GUIDE TO AREA DINING



FRI., NOV. 22ND
PONY EXPRESS
 7PM

SAT., NOV. 23RD
THE REMNANTS
 7PM

L'Italiana
 — pizza, pasta & more —

828-349-0900 • 1505 HIGHLANDS RD., FRANKLIN, NC
 (FORMERLY CHRIS & CHARLIE'S)

Authentic Italian/Continental Cuisine

Lucio's
 RESTAURANT

BELLA VISTA SQUARE
 313 HIGHLANDS RD., FRANKLIN, NC
 828-369-6670 • LUCIOSNC.COM


Open for Dinner Wed-Sat, 5pm-Til

Dinner Specials
WED. AND THURS.

2 Entrées
only \$24.50

Choose two entrées from a select menu with unlimited salad & garlic rolls.

FRI. AND SAT.
CHECK OUT OUR
Chef's Special



WED. & SUN.
SENIOR DAYS - 8 MEALS
STARTING AT \$5.49

THURS.
KIDS' DAY -
KIDS MEALS \$1.99
w/ ADULT MEAL PURCHASE

FRANKLIN BYPASS WALMART

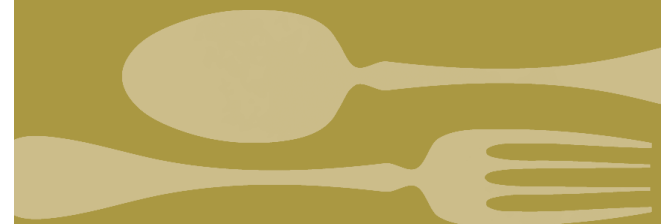


Hours: 

Mon - Thurs 11am - 8pm
Fri & Sat 11am - 9pm
Closed Sun

263 Holly Springs Plaza
 441 N. Franklin, NC
 (In the old Wal-Mart Plaza)

Delivery 828.369.9999



Poetic beauty and botanical choreography in a bog

Dr. Bob Gilbert – Columnist

There are some things in life you just cannot explain. I have always been attracted to a wild-flower called Grass of Parnassus. Every year late in the summer I begin looking for new colonies. I have even been able to get a few started along our small stream. The first one I spotted years ago was along a bank of a creek on Rainbow Springs Road. Closer to home several of us happened to find a colony along a small stream bed in front of a house that had been abandoned. The moist ground there is covered with sphagnum moss which means it could be classified as a bog or the remnant of one. This likely explains why the house was abandoned – constant moisture. The habitat that this plant prefers is a wetland-like a marsh, swamp, bog, fen or the banks of a stream. A fen is a marshy



Dr. Bob Gilbert

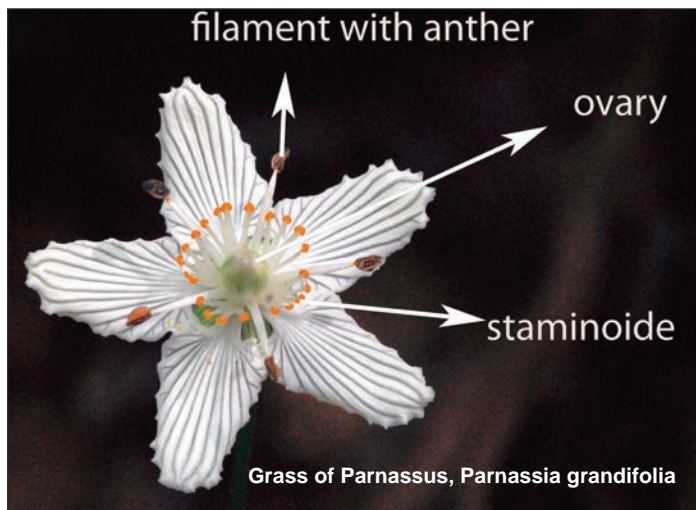
way to accurately tell the difference between the two species using just the leaves would be to have the two plants side by side for comparison. (See labeled photos)

A stamen is the male fertilizing part of flower. It consists of a filament (stem) whose end or tip has a swollen pollen laden structure called an anther. Also, there are other similar structures called staminodes that look like stamens but do not have an anther thus have no pollen. They produce nectar that attracts insects. The staminodes of Grass of Parnassus have orange nectar tips and are sterile.

Parnassus asarifolia has staminodes that are shorter than the stamens and the petals have 11-17 green veins. The leaves are kidney shaped.

Parnassus grandifolia has staminodes are longer than the stamens and the petals only have 5-9 green veins. The leaves are larger and pointed. This species is uncommon. I have only seen it once.

These plants have to be cross pollinated. They cannot be self-pollinated even though they have both the male and female parts. Each individual bloom has its own sequence. The receptacle of the ovary that receives pollen, the stigma, stays closed until all the



Grass of Parnassus, *Parnassia grandifolia*



Ants feed on the nectar of the staminodes on a *Parnassus asarifolia*. However, ants do not contribute to the flower's fertilization as very little of the pollen gets stuck to their bodies as they lack body hairs. Photos by Karen Lawrence

area that is subjected to flooding. Wet habitats make it a little easier to locate this plant as you know where to look. It has another common name: Bog-Stars.

There are some curious things about this plant. It is not a grass. Parnassus is a mountain in the center of Greece where this plant grows in a marshy area along with native grasses. Legend has it that the domestic cows on Parnassus seem to like the grass as well as these wild flowers. So, the local residents have made these plants honorary grasses by association.

The mountain of Parnassus is the mythical home of Zeus' nine daughters, the nine muses. They preside over the arts and sciences including music and poetry. Scottish poet Andrew Lang published a book of poetry he entitled "Parnassus." It became so popular that the term Parnassus now refers to a center of poetic and artistic activity. There is a modern poetry magazine called *Parnassus*.

Grass of Parnassus can reach up to eight inches. The flowers have five white petals with green veins radiating outward from the ovary which is in the center. The green veins are often called insect landing strips or nectar guides. They direct insects to the flower's nectar and pollen. Halfway up the flower stalk there is a single leaf that wraps around the stem which creates the illusion that the leaf has been perforated. That leaf form is called perfoliate.

There are 12 species of Parnassus world-wide and we have three in North Carolina: *asarifolia*, *grandiflora* and *carolina*. *Carolina* is only found along our coast. The most common one here is *Parnassus asarifolia*. This species has kidney shaped leaves that resemble the leaves of wild ginger-*Asarum canadense*. This explains its species name. The leaves of *grandifolia* are longer and more pointed.

There are some flower reproductive structure differences that are key in differentiating *asarifolia* from *grandiflora*. But it requires good eyesight and/or a hand or jewelers' lens. The only

pollen has been collected from its flower. The empty anthers drop off. This explains why we see a few examples of just filaments with nothing on the ends, no anther. Also, only one anther opens at a time which helps avoid the wasted effort of self-fertilization. Once all the anthers are empty the stigma opens so it can be fertilized with pollen from neighboring flowers collected by traveling bees, butterflies and flies. These insects are attracted to the nectar. Sooner or later they accidentally brush against the anthers whose pollen adheres to their body hairs. So, each insect carries pollen from many blooms. While feeding on nectar they will accidentally come in contact with an open stigma shedding pollen so it can travel down the stigma to the ovary. Seeds are produced and colonies form.

One of Karen's great photographs of *Parnassus asarifolia* shows ants feeding on the nectar of the staminodes. However, ants do not contribute to the flower's fertilization as very little of the pollen gets stuck to their bodies as they lack body hairs. In addition, ants cannot fly from bloom to bloom as do flies, butterflies or bees.

In the past extracts from these plants have been used as diuretics, sedatives, tonics and dried portions ground and applied to wounds to improve healing.

So, when close to a marshy wetland area look for these plants from September until mid-November. Notice if the anthers are still present or not. Observe the variety of insects feeding on the staminodes. At what stage is each bloom in its reproductive dance? Plus, your observations just might inspire poetic thoughts and a poem or two.

Dr. Bob Gilbert, now living in Franklin, is co-founder of Smith Gilbert Gardens in Kennesaw, Ga.

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



Deaths & Funerals

Julius George Shreve

Julius George Shreve, LCDR.RET.USN, of Franklin, N.C., died Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019.

He was born Jan. 3, 1933, in Erie, Pa., to the late Vivian and Irene (Doerrler) Shreve. He enlisted in the United States Navy where his career took him to duty stations in Norfolk, Va., Bermuda, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Key West, Fla., West Milton, N.Y., and Washington, DC.

He retired from his naval career in 1979 and moved to Port Charlotte, Fla., where he was employed by Barnett Bank. He and his wife Gerda made Franklin their home in 2006.

He was a long-time member of both the Franklin Amateur Radio Club and the Englewood, Fla., Amateur Radio Club and used the call sign, KA4JKY. George and Gerda enjoyed many RV adventures across the United States, as well as locally with their RV friends.

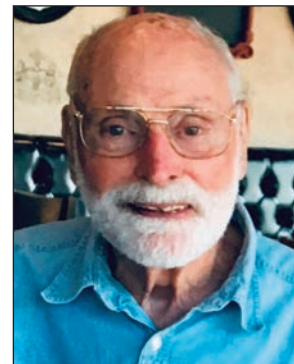
As members of the First Alliance Church of Franklin, he and his wife Gerda served as a greeters.

He leaves behind his wife of 65 years, Gerda L. Koffler Shreve of Franklin; his children, Deborah L. Indseth and husband Kris of Shinnston, W.Va.; George Steven Shreve of Port Charlotte, Fla., and Julie Stevens and husband, Glenn of Defiance, Ohio; and two grandsons, Justin Stryker of Manassas, Va., and Matthew Levell of Port Charlotte, Fla.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneral-home.com.



Julius George Shreve

Arthur W. Pitman

Arthur W. Pitman, 89, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019.

Born in Barnstead, N.H., he was the son of the late Fred T. Pitman and Harriet M. Lawrence Pitman. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean War (1951-1955) attached to Strategic Air Command (SAC). After leaving the military, he attended and graduated from the University of Colorado. He retired from Pratt and Whitney manufacturer of jet aircraft engines. After retirement he enjoyed traveling to foreign countries.

He was a member of the American Legion Post 108 for 59 years, receiving many commander awards. He attended and participated in over 800 military funerals with the VFW/American Legion Honor Guard and was instrumental in the construction of the Veterans Memorial of Macon County. He was very involved in the delivery of Christmas cheer to local needy veterans. He was a Boy Scout leader for many years and was an avid golfer.

He is survived by a brother, Fred A. Pitman (Jean); two sisters, Doris Gordon and Bea Knight, all of New Hampshire and numerous nieces and nephews.

A military service was held Wednesday, Nov. 20, in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Military Honors were conducted by the VFW Post 7339 and the American Legion Post 108 Honor Guard.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneral-home.com.



Arthur W. Pitman



Deaths & Funerals

F. B. Vinson Jr.

F. B. Vinson Jr., 88, passed into Glory on Nov. 12, 2019, at his home after a prolonged illness with his children by his side. He was born on Jan. 15, 1931, in Macon County to the late Franklin Brownlow and Eva Inez Vinson. He was married to the late Helena Brown Vinson for 60 years before her death on March 30, 2011.

He was a member at the Cartoogechaye Church of God. He was the owner of Vinson Backhoe Service. His greatest achievement was being Poppy Vinson to all his babies. He lived his life for the Lord and for his family, he was truly loved by all his family and friends. He will be greatly missed. He was a U. S. Airforce Veteran serving in the Korean War. He was preceded in death by his siblings, Hazel Carpenter, Veneta Wilburn, Mildred Cunningham, Eugene Vinson, and Gladys Brown.

He is survived by his two daughters, Karon Anderson (Jerry), and Teresa Holbrooks (Homer) of Franklin, N.C.; a son, Ronnie Vinson (Sherry) of Englewood, Tenn.; four granddaughters, April Anderson and Jennifer Anderson both of Franklin, Ashley Webb (Nathan) of Cleveland, Tenn., and Katelyn Vinson of Brandon, Fla.; two great-grandchildren, Anna and Austin Webb; two step-grandchildren, April Chastain (Tracy) and Brent Holbrooks (Sarah); seven step-great-grandchildren, Trey and Tye Chastain, Hope, Jack, Knox, Saylor, and Tripp Holbrooks.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Nov. 16, at Cartoogechaye Church of God with Rev. Phillip Cochran, Rev. Robert Dryman and Rev. Eddie Brewer officiating. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the Vinson family. Online condolences can be sent to www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Miriam Joanna Witzl

Miriam Joanna Witzl, 33, was received into the arms of our Lord and Savior Nov. 1, 2019.

She was born on Aug. 16, 1986, and grew up in Stockbridge, Ga.

During her adult life she lived in Jekyll Island, Saint Simons Island, Colorado and North Carolina.

She enjoyed everything about the outdoors, had a great respect for Mother Nature and could not walk any of us to the numerous waterfalls she had come to love and had a passion for photography, traveling and playing the piano.

She is survived by her father, Tony Witzl; her mother, Joanne Witzl; her sisters, Rebecca Watkins, Sharon Witzl-Scarborough; and her grandmothers, Mickey Witzl and Nicole Kidd; along with many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She is loved and will remain in our hearts forever.

In lieu of flowers, please donate on Miriam's behalf to The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center in Highlands, N.C., and/or the MADD organization.

The family will have two Celebrations of Life services for Miriam. Once a date has been set it will be announced.

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



F. B. Vinson Jr.



Miriam Joanna Witzl

Margie Ann Curtis

Margie Ann Curtis, 82 of Otto, N.C., went to her heavenly home on Friday, Nov. 15, 2019.

A native of Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Prince and Cora McCall Curtis. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by two sisters, Bernice Wood and Mary Phillips; and two brothers, Lennie Curtis and George Curtis. She devoted 30 years to Otto Elementary School, serving as secretary and driving a school bus. She loved all the children and was loved by all who knew her. She enjoyed word searches, cooking and working in her flower gardens. She was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church, where she served in various ways.

She is survived by one brother, Keith Curtis of Franklin; a niece, several nephews, great nieces, great nephews, great-great nieces and great-great nephews; and a very special great niece, Amanda Williams, who Margie considered her granddaughter.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Nov. 19, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Vic Greene, Rev. Janet Greene and Rev. Eric Henson officiated. Burial was in the Asbury United Methodist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Asbury United Methodist Church, PO Box 113, Otto, NC 28763.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Margie Ann Curtis

Charles Patrick Shelton

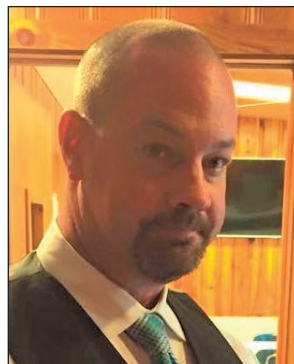
Charles Patrick Shelton, 42, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Nov. 15, 2019.

Born in Macon County, he was the son of Walter Lee Shelton and Yvonne Buchanan Shelton. He was a heavy equipment operator and a logger. He was a member of Ridgecrest Baptist Church.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by two children, Kyle Shelton and Ansley Shelton; step-daughter, Krystin Sherrill; sister, Sabrina Shelton; brother, Shawn Shelton and several nephews.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Nov. 20, at Ridgecrest Baptist Church. Rev. Guy Duvall, Rev. Phillip Cochran and Rev. Tommy Fouts officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Charles Patrick Shelton

William David Collier

William David Collier passed away Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019. Born in Marietta, Ga., he was raised in Franklin by the late Roy and Mary Greenwood Colier. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was an avid Clemson fan and golfer. He was also the "best Poppy in the world."

Surviving are his wife, Tracy Fitzgerald Collier; children, Chris Collier (Melissa), Zack Caulder (Heather), Austin Caulder; grandson, Brayden; siblings, Marilyn Roper (CB), Linda Campbell (Fred), Mildred Broad, Doug Welch (Irene), Roy Duane Collier (Carolyn), Phoebe Hastings (Mark); furbabies, Dixie Rose and Jayce; grand-dogs, Arya, Oaklynn, Cowboy; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m. at East Franklin Baptist Church. Rev. Gary McDaniel will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Carolina Boxer Rescue, PO Box 87, Hampstead, N.C. 28443.



David Collier

John S. Grant

John S. Grant, 79, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019.

Born in Chicago, Ill., he was the son of the late John and Elizabeth Smith Grant. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a daughter, Deborah Grant. He loved fishing and being the jokester of the family.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Linda Knippen Grant; two daughters, Christine Stawnczy and husband Steve of Illinois and Sandie Dendy and husband Stacey of Franklin; three sons, Robert Grant and wife Laura, Sean Grant and wife Shannon both of Illinois, and Timothy Ertl and wife Char of Tennessee; one sister, Betty Grelyak and husband Don of Illinois; 16 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

At John's request no services will be held.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



John S. Grant

MOUNTAIN RUSTICS
CUSTOM WOODWORKING
TABLES BEDS CABINETS
96 BUSINESS PARK DRIVE, FRANKLIN, NC
LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE WELCOME CENTER
THE TABLE CO 828.342.0589

Going Places Travel
Flustered with trying to book your own vacations?
Let us do all the work for you! It doesn't cost you any more to use our services. We have access to the best deals and the expertise to get you more for your money! Try us out today! FREE Quotes!!
244 Porter St. • Franklin, NC 828.369.5999

CORNERSTONE MEMORIALS
DOYLE YORK, Owner
Located at Rabun Flea Market
(706) 746-2548
(706) 746-9977
Please Call For Appointment
(706) 746-2837
134 Market Circle • Rabun Gap, GA 30568

Kyle Busch notches second NASCAR Cup championship

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

HOMESTEAD, Fla. – With a flair for the dramatic and a car that asserted its superiority after a blood-red Florida sunset over Homestead-Miami Speedway, Kyle Busch claimed a milestone victory in Sunday's Ford EcoBoost 400—along with his second Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series title.

At the same time, Busch emerged from the shadow cast by doubters who discounted the chances of the driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota, who hadn't won a race in NASCAR's top series since the June event at Pocono Raceway.

Other than seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson, Busch is now the only active driver with more than one title. Finishing 4.578 seconds ahead of JGR teammate Martin Truex Jr., who was thwarted by a colossal mix-up on pit road after leading 8 of the first 120 laps, Busch is the first driver to win multiple titles under NASCAR's elimination Playoff format.

"Everybody always says you never give up," said Busch, who picked up his 56th victory, breaking a tie with NASCAR Hall of Famer Rusty Wallace for ninth all-time. "We're no different. We just do what we can do each and every week.

"Sometimes we may not be the best. Sometimes we may not have the right track position. Today we had a really good car, and I could race around and move around. That's what's so special about Homestead-Miami Speedway, is the ability to put on a show.

"I felt like we did that there racing those guys. I know it kind of dulled out towards the end. It was exciting enough from my seat. It was a lot of fun to cap off such an amazing year."

After a cycle of green-flag pit stops, Busch led the last 45 laps. Crew chief Adam Stevens called the No. 18 Camry to pit road on Lap 210, and Truex didn't pit for service until four laps later. With four extra laps on new tires, Busch cycled out to a lead of nearly 11 seconds, and though Truex, the 2017 champion, cut the margin down to fewer than five seconds, he ran out of time.

Truex already had lost his track position during a green-flag stop on Lap 120, when his crew bolted right-side tires to the left side of the car and vice versa. That rare mistake forced Truex to return to pit road under green, dropping him to 13th in the running order, one lap down.

Though Truex regained his lap under the only incident-related caution of the race—for John Hunter Nemechek's spin on Lap 136—he was never in position to challenge Busch for the win.

"Yeah, ultimately it was the loss of track position that bit us," Truex said. "We restarted the third stage in third, and really wish I could have been either second or fourth. I got blitzed on the outside by the 20 (third-place finisher Erik Jones) and the 22 (fifth-place Joey Logano) and a couple of those guys, and then I had to just run the crap out of my right front to get back by them, and I got tight on that run, and it took me for-



Kyle Busch, driver of the #18 M&M's Toyota, lifts the trophy high after winning the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Championship and the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Ford EcoBoost 400 at Homestead Speedway on Nov. 17, 2019, in Homestead, Fla.



ever to just get by a few cars.

"Ultimately, it came down to track position, and I felt like if I could have been up front and controlled the race, I could have drove away from them."

Given the way the race played out, the other two Championship 4 contenders—Kevin Harvick and Denny Hamlin—weren't factors in the run to the finish. Harvick's No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford had excellent short-run speed, but the event stayed green for the final 101 laps, nullifying his strength on restarts.

Hamlin had to make an extra pit stop in the final run to pull tape from the grille of his No. 11 JGR Toyota to prevent the car from overheating. Under the Playoff format where he highest finishing of the Championship 4 drivers is crowned the cham-

pion, Harvick came home fourth, 14 seconds off Busch's pace. Hamlin was 10th, the last driver on the lead lap.

In an odd way, the 2019 run to the title seemed similar to the 2015 championship season, as far as Stevens was concerned. Busch missed the first 11 races that year because of injuries suffered in a crash in the season-opening NASCAR Xfinity Series race at Daytona.

He won four races in a five-event stretch shortly after his return. Then he won at Homestead to secure the Cup trophy.

"We had a cold spell there," Stevens said of this year's five-month drought. "It's been well documented, believe it or not. Quite a few questions about it. Felt a little bit like 2015 to me. Take the broken legs out of the equation. We were hot early in 2015 when Kyle came back. We didn't win since Indy that year, then came to Homestead and got the job done.

"You got to remember, too, we're in such a unique situation, as a competitive team that runs up front with the goal of winning the championship every year. Everything we do is to make that happen, right? To win the regular season points championship, then try to maintain that and get to Homestead—that's what it's all about."

- Replacement Windows
- Storm Windows
- Under Deck Roof Systems
- Mobile Home Roof Over
- Screen Rooms
- Sun & Vinyl Rooms
- Patios
- Awnings
- Carports
- Retractable Awnings
- Retractable Screens



Install yourself, or professional installation available

(828) 524-8074 | 791 Highlands Rd. • Franklin, NC



AWARDS & ENGRAVING
IMPRINTED APPAREL
SIGNS

gooderorders@gmail.com
1021 East Main St. • Franklin, NC

Guy & Alicia Gooder
828-349-4097



CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES

CRANE BROS.
WELL DRILLING, INC.

Phone (828) 524-4976
Fax (828) 524-9567

6" Drilled Wells for Farms
Homes and Industries

248 Crane Circle
Franklin, NC 28734

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT
CROSSWORD

THEME:
STATE CAPITALS

ACROSS

- 1. Ten Commandments word
- 6. Problem with concentrating, acr.
- 9. Black sheep's gift
- 13. "The game of unspeakable fun!"
- 14. "Fancy that!"
- 15. One Direction's "Truly, ____, Deeply"
- 16. Consumed, two words
- 17. Finish, with "up"
- 18. Extra software
- 19. The Lovin' Spoonful's "Do You ____ in Magic"
- 21. *Badger State capital
- 23. Snow runner
- 24. Boris Godunov, for one
- 25. Every American's uncle?
- 28. Aquarium organism
- 30. Hound or plague
- 35. He sacrificed a rib?
- 37. Nordic native
- 39. Singular of salpae
- 40. Sites
- 41. Joker or Batman, e.g.
- 43. Olympic one is 50 meters long
- 44. Terminate mission
- 46. Boor
- 47. If it fits...
- 48. *Centennial State's capital
- 50. Form of approval
- 52. As much as this and a leg
- 53. Sainly glow
- 55. Rub the wrong way
- 57. *Pine Tree State capital
- 61. *Garden State capital
- 65. Idle talk
- 66. Morning condensation
- 68. Ile de la Cite river
- 69. Painter Degas
- 70. U.N. workers' grp.
- 71. Samurai dagger
- 72. Fraternity recruitment season
- 73. Dog tags
- 74. Ancient Greek building for entertainment

- 1. Bayonet wound
- 2. Angie Thomas' "The ____ U Give"
- 3. Killed by Cain
- 4. Jazz musician Armstrong.
- 5. *Sunflower State capital
- 6. Fit of shivering
- 7. * ____ Moines
- 8. Regards
- 9. Dry riverbed
- 10. Bookie's quote
- 11. Mishmash
- 12. Country singer Loretta
- 15. Hot curry dish
- 20. Mexican revolutionary
- 22. "I see!"
- 24. Food thickener
- 25. Type of bar
- 26. Acrobat maker
- 27. Wine from M,connais
- 29. Chutzpah
- 31. What Kanye does
- 32. *Greeting in Honolulu
- 33. Animal trail
- 34. *Beaver State capital
- 36. Type of missile
- 38. *St. ____
- 42. It can lead up or down
- 45. Movie preview
- 49. Hard to escape routine
- 51. Faster than allegro
- 54. Forearm bones
- 56. Work the dough
- 57. Copycat
- 58. Pakistani language
- 59. Silences
- 60. *Salt Lake City State
- 61. A child's "terrible ____"
- 62. Pitchfork part
- 63. Aware of

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
19					20			21	22					
			23					24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33	34
35			36			37			38		39			
40						41			42		43			
44				45		46					47			
48					49		50			51		52		
				53		54			55		56			
57	58	59	60					61			62	63	64	
65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				

Your Family Deserves The **BEST** Technology... Value... TV!...

\$59.99 MONTH for 24 months
190 Channels

CALL TODAY Save 20%!
1-888-416-7103

Offer ends 11/14/19. Savings with 2 year price guarantee with AT120 starting at \$59.99 compared to everyday price. All offers require credit qualification, 2 year commitment with early termination fee and a \$3.99 pay. Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/ Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification. Fees apply for additional TV: Hopper \$15/mo., Joey \$5/mo., Super Joey \$10/mo. All new customers are subject to a one-time, non-refundable processing fee.

Upgrade to the Hopper® 3 Smart HD DVR

- Watch and record 16 shows at once
- Get built-in Netflix and YouTube
- Watch TV on your mobile devices

Hopper upgrade fee \$5/mo.

Add High Speed Internet

\$14.95/mo.

Subject to availability. Restrictions apply. Internet not provided by DISH and will be billed separately.





© StatePoint Media

- 64. Ne
- 67. Old age, archaic

HAULING

- DIRT
- GRAVEL
- MULCH



Otto • Dillard
Franklin

(828) 349-1449

Have a Drinking Problem?
We can help.



Contact
Alcoholics Anonymous
828-349-4357
www.aawnc80.org

 **FAMILY AUTO CARE**

Complete Auto Repair Shop





(828) 369-2155

976 E. Main St.
Franklin, NC

Mon.-Fri. 8-5
Since 1997



SUDOKU ANSWERS ON PG. 15

The support you need to find quality
SENIOR LIVING SOLUTIONS

A Place for Mom has helped over one million families find senior living solutions that meet their unique needs.

There's no cost to you!

CALL (855) 439-6734

! We're paid by our partner communities



					8	9	
	9		3				4
		8			6	3	
	1			7			6 4
		6	2		1	5	
9	5			6			8
		4	8			6	
	6				5		1
	3	9					

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



ED'S METAL ROOFING
ROOFS REPAIRS CONSTRUCTION

Offering continued care for your house
 Lifetime warranties on all new metal roofs
 Serving Macon County and surrounding areas
Call for Free Estimate
828.524.9637



Perez Construction
Grading Land Clearing • Septic Systems
 Rock Work Retaining Walls • Patio Pavers
SEA WALLS
 Licensed & Insured Free Estimates
828-524-8650 • 828-347-6793

Jerry Zeus Stilwell, Jr.
 PROPRIETOR
 Cell: 828.342.8416

ZEUS' RIDGECREST AUTOMOTIVE
 * We Service Both Foreign & Domestic Vehicles! *



5796 Sylva Road • 441 North • Franklin, North Carolina 28734
TEL: 828.349.2800 Email: zeuss347@hotmail.com

SEASON ENDING SALE!

IN STOCK ITEMS



Don't Forget to Winterize your Lawn & Garden Equipment

MACON RENTAL CO.
 SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS • PARTS
 537 W. Main Street • Franklin, NC
 828-524-8911 • maconrentalco.com

Hours:
 Mon.-Fri. 7am-5pm
 Sat. 8am-Noon

SALE OR RENT \$800/ or buy 3BR/2.5BA with 2 Fireplaces and DOUBLEWIDE 4BR/3.5BA, 3000sqft. MUST SELL W...
 \$157,000. OBO. 3BR/2BA. Living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen, bonus room. New window...
 3 BEDROOM PLUS ROOM decks, storage, fully furnished, many...
 Need room? This home has plenty! \$269,900. On the web...
 3BR/2BA/2000sqft factored Home, Ho...
 \$129,900. For mo... please contact. Ow...

The Classifieds

Services

CNA TRAINED Caregiver, In Home Aid, Run Errands, Dr. Appointments, Light Housekeeping, References. Over 10 Years Experience. (828)342-3750.

CLEANING ORGANIZING PACKING Holiday Help. Deep Cleaning, Decorating, Fast, Efficient, Dependable. Great References. Mountain Area Property Services. (828)550-4585.

DO YOU NEED your deck or house pressure washed, re-modeled, painted inside or out? Call Steve for estimate (828)421-8639.

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

GREENTHUMB LAWN CARE Mowing, Landscaping, Handyman Services, Fall Clean-up, Leaf Blowing, Gutter Cleaning, Reasonably Priced. (828)421-8847.

CAROLINA PAINTING & Remodeling, Pressure Washing, Painting, Home Repairs, 28 Years Experience in WNC. No Job Too Small. Home (828)349-9087, Cell (828)371-9754.

SQUID'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR & Service, Get your lawn equipment ready for Spring. 894 Clarks Chapel Road, Franklin (828)342-5135.

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

MONITOR & TOYOSTOVE Vented Heaters Service/Repair, 31 Years Experience Serving Macon & Jackson Counties. Leon (828)349-3949.

C & C PUMPS Well Pump Sales, Service & Installations. Iron Removal Filter Systems. Call David Cheek (828)369-5176.

GUTTER & DOWNSPOUT Cleaning and Repair. New Installation, Leaf Guards. No Job Too Small, Free Estimates. (828)524-5475.

NEW CREATIONS Landscaping LLC. For all your landscaping design & installation needs! Fall cleanup, lot clearing, driveway repair, grounds maintenance, firewood, retaining walls, Aeration, we do it all! Insured. Free estimates. (828)524-6959.

ELITE HAULING SERVICES Fall Special, Leaf Blowing, Waste, Junk, Debris, Building Material and Construction Clean-up. Loading Service Available. Commercial/Residential. Licensed/Insured. (772)559-7874, (828)321-9811.

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

MELTON'S ROOFING and Gutter Cleaning. Give Us a Call at cell# (828)421-6712 With All Your Roof and Gutter Needs.

PAINTING & STAINING Residential, Interior/Exterior, Repaint, Pressure Washing, Deck Repair, Locally Owned & Operated, Franklin/Highlands Area, 30 Years, Excellent References, Free Estimates, Insured, Chandler Contracting. (828)369-5104, (828)226-3792.

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.

GRAVEL*GRAVEL*GRAVEL Franklin, Otto, Dillard, Jackrabbit Hauling (828)332-8283.

Help Wanted

LOOKING FOR AN experienced automotive technician. Pay depends on experience. Must have drivers license, and basic vehicle mechanical tools. Apply in person at 976 East Main St, Franklin.

OLD EDWARDS Hospitality has the following positions open: Restaurant Four65: Part-time servers, full-time Hostess, AM/PM Sous Chef, Cook and Utility/Dishwasher needed. Old Edwards: Assistant Pastry Chef, Night Audit/Security, Front Desk, Bellmen, Front Desk Supervisors, Male/female spa attendants & concierge, Housekeepers, Laundry, Experienced servers & server assistants. Please send resume in pdf format to pturnbull@oldedwardsinn.com or apply online at www.oldedwardsinn.com/careers,

www.themaconcountynews.com

WE ARE SEEKING an experienced and passionate paralegal/legal secretary to join our busy team in a full-time role. Our office is a well-known and respected law firm specializing in real estate transactions located in Cashiers NC, that offers excellent benefits. This position requires attention to detail, ability to work under pressure and deadlines and great communication and organizational skills. The right candidate will be a friendly, dedicated team player. In return, you will get the opportunity to work with a great, hard-working team where you will expand your skills and knowledge in the industry. Send resume to snorris@cashierslaw.com.

COMPANION HEALTH CARE Now Hiring: CNA's and Experienced Caregivers Needed for in Home Care. \$300 Sign on Bonus. Call (828)524-6444.

Classifieds
 The Macon County NEWS & Shopping Guide
\$8.00 20 words or less
 26 W. Main Street • Franklin, NC 28734
 (828) 369-6767



FLOWERS LAWN CARE

LEAF REMOVAL
 GUTTER GUARDS/CLEANING
 PRESSURE WASHING
 AERATION OVERSEEDING
 HOLIDAY DECOR & LIGHT HANGING
 SNOW REMOVAL
828.332.7425



DUVALL OF FRANKLIN
 SINCE 1986

1988 Lake Emory Road,
 Franklin, NC 28734
(828) 349-4300
www.duvallautos.com

The Classifieds

Real Estate

FOR SALE BY OWNER 12.71 Acres, Stream, 4 acres grass then woods, Long Range Views, Good Road, Will Divide. (828)421-4582.

Rentals

3BR/2BA HOUSE Located on Corbin Rd., Nice Yard. Full Basement. \$1,200/per Month, One Year Lease with Deposit and References. Never had Pets or Been Smoked In. (828)371-2218.

UNIQUE RENTAL HOME in Ridgecrest Heights - Main house: 3BD/2BA, stackable washer - dryer, and an attached 1br, 1 bath 2 story Apt. With washer/dryer. \$1400 per month, \$1,400 security deposit, Electric is metered to the 3/2. 3/2 Tenant could rent Apt. for at least \$600+ includes utilities. Available 12/15. One year lease. (828)371-6844.

STUDIO APARTMENT Close to town, \$550/monthly, \$350 Security Deposit, Water, Garbage Included. No Pets. Non-smoking (828)371-6844.

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

Commercial Rentals

PRIME DEPOT ST. SPACE for Rent in Franklin: 15K total, 10K retail, 5K warehouse. Call (828)371-2222 for more details.

Misc. For Sale

FARMERS MARKET Winter Season 10am-Noon, every Saturday. Produce, honey, trout, artisan breads, pastries, roasted coffee beans, preserves, handcrafted soaps, eggs, peonies, lamb, microgreens. 200 Block East Palmer.

CNC MACHINE Purchase in Spring. Cost \$1,800, Asking \$1,500 will Throw in about \$200 worth of Drill Bits. (828)524-7863.

AMMUNITION FOR SALE Shotgun, Rifle & Pistol. Some Reloading Supplies. 80 Olsen Drive. Franklin, NC 28734. (828)349-4653.

GOT STUFF? Advertise it in The Macon County News in print and online for as little as \$8 per week. Call (828)369-6767 for details or to place your ad.

Motor Vehicles

2005 CHRYSLER CROSSFIRE 2 Seater Hardtop built on Mercedes foundation, V6, Automatic, 105K miles, AC, Garage Kept, No Rust, \$5000. (828)369-2278.

1995 4WD TOYOTA 4RUNNER \$3,800. (828)371-5005.

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

Auctions

TOOL & EQUIPMENT AUCTION, Saturday Nov. 23, 10 a.m. Huge Auction, all kinds of tools & equipment. Partial listing including: Small Kubota excavator, John Deere farm tractor, Ford farm tractor, wood splitter, dump truck, trailers, farm implements, large selection of tools, pocket knives (Case, Hen & Rooster, etc.), farm gates, rubber mats, huge selection of hand tools, hardware, & More! Don't Miss This Auction! For pictures and more info, visit www.boatwrightauction.com or call (828)524-2499. Boatwright Auction, 34 Tarheel Trail, Franklin NC. NCAL Firm 9231v

FANTASTIC AUCTION Tuesday Nov. 26, 5:30 p.m. Something for Everyone! Huge selection of quality furniture, smalls, primitives, glassware, artwork, quilts, antiques, housewares, & More! Don't Miss This Auction! For pictures and more info, visit www.boatwrightauction.com or call (828)524-2499. Boatwright Auction, 34 Tarheel Trail, Franklin NC. NCAL Firm 9231v

Animals

FREE FEMALE CAT To a good home, "Bella" 1 year old, gray short hair with spots of orange, calico. She comes with perches, scratchers, beds, tons of toys, large pet carrier large litter box, plastic food storage container (828)242-7760.

Community Fundraisers

REACH FOR BARGAINS in Heritage Hollow is open Mon.-Sat. 10am to 4pm. Proceeds benefit victims of domestic violence. For more information call 369-2040.

CARENET THRIFT STORE 268 E. Palmer St., Franklin, Hours, Monday through Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm. Proceeds benefit families in crisis. (828)349-9064.

HABITAT RE-STORE 56 W Palmer St., Franklin. Furniture, Lighting, Plumbing, Building Materials, Doors & Windows, Appliances & More! Hours 10am-4pm Mon.-Sat. (828)524-5273.

Musical Instruments Repaired
REASONABLE!



Buy, Trade & Sales Lessons
Call Peter (828)524-1010

WE PROVIDE YOU DECIDE



Plus Hundreds More!

LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 1998

Anglin 9957 Georgia Rd. Otto, NC
RV • TRUCK & TRAILER 828-349-4500

Felix's Tree Expert, LLC

For All Your Tree Needs!

- Complete Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Firewood Delivery/Mulch

Accepting All Major Credit Cards

Insured & Reliable • Call Us Today for FREE ESTIMATES
(828) 200-1052

TreeServiceFranklinNC.com


FRUSTRATED WITH LOW RATES ON YOUR CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSITS?

3.9% interest rate GUARANTEED

(Rates subject to change without notice)

- No up-front sales charges or fees!
- Tax deferred interest!
- 100% of your deposits earn interest!

For more information call:
Jeff Cloer
Wayah Insurance Group
295 E. Palmer St, Franklin, NC
(828)524-4442 ext. 237
www.wayah.com



WAYAH INSURANCE GROUP
Trust our Experience, Strength, and Service

UNIQUE PROPERTIES
REAL ESTATE
(828)371-8544
mtpropertiesofwnc@gmail.com



Matt Iannuzzi
Broker/Associate

PALMER STREET MALL
10 W. PALMER ST., FRANKLIN, NC

- #43 - Porter Street access with this 800+ SF office or retail space. Carpet down. \$800 per month lease.
- #45 - High visibility office or retail space available. 1,300+ SF. Two entry doors. Lots of windows equals bright natural light. Carpet down. \$1,000 per month lease.
- #16 - West Palmer Street. 600+ SF. Great location on the front of Palmer Street Mall. \$550 per month lease.
- 143 Porter Street. 2,000 SF bank building. Drive thru. Ample parking. Great condition, ready to move in. \$2,500 per month lease.

Ultimate Truck Accessories & Golf Cars

Leather interior SUNROOF \$22,995
AWD 2013 RANGE ROVER SPORT 86k miles!

Leather interior SUNROOF \$24,995
2012 RANGE ROVER AWD AUTOBIOGRAPHY SUPERCHARGED 78k miles!

Leather interior SUNROOF \$4,995
2008 BMW 328i 164k miles!

PRICES SLASHED!

THE HOME OF **Rhino Linings**
NATION'S #1 SPRAYED-IN BED LINER

555 Wells Grove Rd. | Franklin, NC | 828-349-5255
ultimatetruckaccessoriesonline.com

By starting at SCC,
you can save more than

\$13,000 over two years.*

*compared to most public, in-state universities



What will you
do with the
extra cash?



I'm going
to **invest in**
my future!



ENROLL TODAY FOR SPRING CLASSES!

 **Southwestern**
C O M M U N I T Y C O L L E G E