

Designer adds 'flare to the square'

Brittney Lofthouse
 Contributing Writer

It has been a longtime dream of April Chastain's to design and decorate the town of Franklin's Christmas Tree erected each year in the middle of Main Street. Chastain is the owner of April's Flowers in Franklin. This year, that dream became a reality and she was able to put her artistic spin on the holiday staple.

"I have dreamed for years of getting my hands on that tree," Chastain joked. "I would drive by and think — one day! It has always been so beautiful, but I wanted to do just a bit more beauty to our town, it deserves it."

"April Chastain assisted the Town with decorating the Christmas tree this year. Ms. Chastain has expressed an interest for quite some time to help the Town with the design of the tree," said Franklin Town Manager Summer Woodard. "The tree turned out beautiful thanks to all involved."



April Chastain adopted a "hands-on" approach to her re-design of the town tree personally placing the ornaments near the top from a bucket truck high above the ground.

Photo by Vickie Carpenter

When Chastain got the go ahead from the town at the beginning of September, she immediately got to work designing the tree.

"I always ask the Lord to bless my hands when I start any

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Floral designer April Chastain looks over a drawing of the one of the designs she came up with for the town's Christmas tree.

Former Franklin band members marching in 2019 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Brittney Lofthouse
 Contributing Writer

Western Carolina University's Pride of the Mountains Marching Band is headed to New York City on Saturday, Nov. 23 to be one of the 11 marching bands performing in this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Four former Franklin High School students will be among the 540-member band taking part in the performance.

Austin Jones, who graduated from FHS in 2017, said he couldn't be more excited about the once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"When I first heard we would perform in the Macy's Thanksgiving day parade I was so excited," said Jones. "The Pride of the Mountains performed at Macy's in 2014 and I was jealous because I thought it was so cool. I never thought I'd be able to be in the parade but I'm honored that I'll be able to perform in front of millions of people."



Former Franklin High School band member Austin Jones will march in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as a member of WCU's Marching Band.

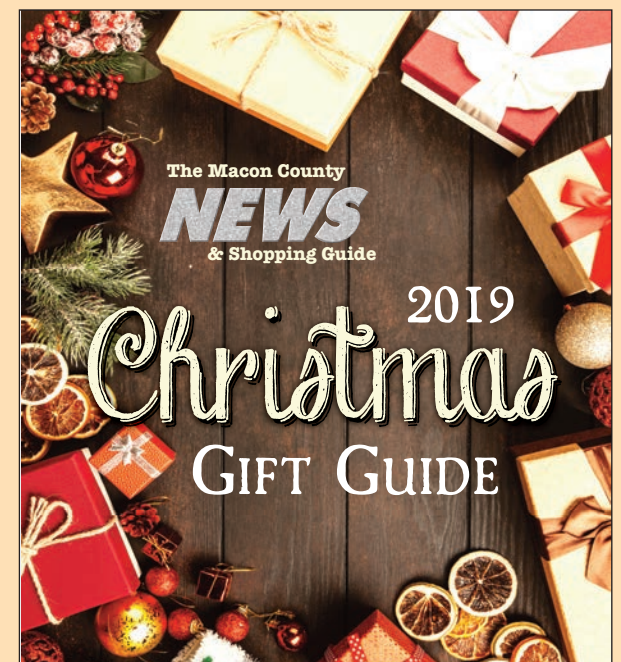
Jones first joined the school band in fifth grade, making this his 11th year playing the trumpet. Jones refined his trumpet-playing technique while attending Southwestern Community College before transferring to Western Carolina.

"What I'm looking forward to the most is marching down New York hearing all the people cheer for us and having them experience what a 540-member band sounds like," said Jones. "We will be the largest band to ever perform in the Macy's parade."

Jones is right, according to Macy's website, with 540 members, WCU, which is one of two college bands performing this year, is the largest band in the parade's 95-year history. Jones will be joined by the former FHS students, Shelby Frazier, Allen Martin and Emily Corrado who also perform with the band.

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IN THIS ISSUE



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DESIGNER

Continued from page 1

and all designs and projects and boy, does he," said Chastain. "He actually gave me three designs for the tree this year."

Chastain and her team ultimately picked a design that meshed best with the town and the designs that are blanketing Main Street this holiday season.

"After I worked out a design, I met with my champions, my girls at the shop, and the plan-


ning began. Let me just say, I couldn't do this life without them. They help bring my visions to life, it really is true that you are only as good as your team. We decided to do the tree in thirds. We decided to do 48 of each different ornament we selected."

Chastain said to come up with the number of ornaments needed to decorate the massive tree, she asked her math teacher friends, Mr. and Mrs. McAllister for their input. After working on the dimensions, the teachers said they planned to use the Christmas Tree project as an example for their students as a way to show how math is relevant in every day life.



"I feel extremely blessed, humbled, and honored to be able to share what the lord has blessed me with for a town I love so much," said Chastain. "These times and experiences I will treasure and hold close to my heart forever."

Chastain said while she and her team designed it, town employees certainly deserve recognition for helping bring the project full circle for the town of Franklin.



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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
2019	Ford	F-150	11,470
2015	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
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	Dodge	Grand Caravan	69,789
2019	Chevrolet	Express 3500	20,232

MOTORCYCLES

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2014	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
2002	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ROAD KING	3,261
2007	HARLEY DAVIDSON	SCREAMING EAGLE	20,600

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PARADE Continued from page 1

Jones said he couldn't have been prepared for such a monumental performance which will include Bon Jovi's "Living on a Prayer" and Journey's "Don't Stop Believing," without the help of his FHS Band director, Buddy Huckabee.

"What helped me get prepared for WCU would be the help of Buddy Huckabee," said Jones. "He is a great teacher and mentor. He prepared me by giving the band an advance show drill and music. During concert band he would give us college level music. That really helped me transfer into a college marching band."

This isn't the first time the WCU Marching Band has marched in the Macy's Parade. The band made its debut in 2014. Led by David Starnes, WCU director of athletic bands, the group was notified in April 2018 of their invitation to the 2019 parade. At that time, Wesley Whatley, creative producer for the Macy's parade, came to campus to deliver the good news.

"On behalf of the band selection committee, Macy's is incredibly proud to welcome back Western Carolina University to the streets of New York City," Whatley said. "David Starnes runs a program known for its artistic storytelling, big sound

and highly engaging field shows. The Macy's parade audience has a lot to look forward to when the Pride of the Mountains marching band returns to our parade in 2019."

Bands who have previously appeared in the parade must wait at least five years before reapplying. But the WCU band is special, Whatley said. "In most cases, it takes much longer for a group to receive another invitation, if at all," he said. "WCU is a rare case — delivering such a special combination of artistry and big university sound that the committee couldn't resist welcoming them back as soon as possible after the band's five-year hiatus."

Besides participating in the parade, the group will take in two Broadway musicals, see the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, visit the 9/11 and One World Trade sites, and enjoy a harbor cruise. The students will spend Thanksgiving with more than 950 family, friends and bandmates at the Marriott in Newark, N.J.



The Pride of the Mountains marches through New York City during the 2014 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.



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Legislators take no action for Medicaid Managed Care; DHHS suspends implementation, enrollment

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has announced that because the NC General Assembly did not take needed action, managed care implementation and open enrollment for NC Medicaid must be suspended. The General Assembly adjourned last week without providing required new spending and program authority for the transition to managed care. Managed care will not go live on Feb. 1, 2020.

With managed care suspended, NC Medicaid will continue to operate under the current fee-for-service model administered by the department. Nothing will change for Medicaid beneficiaries; they will get health services as they currently do. Behavioral health services will continue to be provided by Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations. All health providers enrolled in Medicaid are still part of the program and will continue to bill the state through NCTracks.

Open enrollment had begun for part of the state in July and launched statewide in October. The Medicaid Managed Care Call Center (833-870-5500) will stay open through Dec. 13, to answer questions but will no longer enroll beneficiaries in a health plan. Beneficiaries can continue to contact the Medicaid Contact Center (888-245-0179). Notices will be sent to beneficiaries informing them to con-

tinue accessing health services as they do now, rather than through new health plans.

The suspension of work and the wind-down process has already begun. The department will not decide on a new go-live date until it has program authority within a budget that protects the health and safety of North Carolinians and supports the department's ability to provide critical oversight and accountability of managed care.

Both the conference and transformation mini budgets passed during this year's legislative session and vetoed by Governor Roy Cooper left the department vulnerable to an unprecedented cut that would have had a crippling effect on its ability to provide services that protect people's health and safety and moved the department out of Raleigh to Granville County.

In 2015, the NC General Assembly enacted legislation directing DHHS to transition Medicaid and NC Health Choice from fee-for-service to managed care. Under managed care, the state contracts with insurance companies, which are paid a predetermined set rate per person to provide all services. The department was on track to go live Feb. 1, 2020. New funding and program authority was required from the General Assembly to meet this timeline.

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Group seeks to send care packages to troops

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

Four years ago, one Macon County family set out to do something special around the holidays for men and women serving in the military. Dave and Vanessa Linn, along with their two children partner with South Macon Elementary School to “adopt” local families serving overseas and send them care packages during the holidays.

“We have been sending packages to various troops as a ‘Thank you’ for their service for the past four years during the holiday season,” said Dave Linn. “South Macon Elementary students create holiday cards/pictures and various residents of Macon County have given their support by creating holiday cards or donating various goodies for the troops.”

The Linn family got the idea when Dave’s cousin was stationed in South Korea and his troop had limited access to various U.S. goods like ESPN magazines, Newsweek and etc.

“We knew the troop would not be home for the holidays because they were scheduled to serve for two years in South Korea,” said Linn. “So, we decided to fill a box with holiday cards, personal hygiene products, cookies, magazines and puzzles.”



After that first year, the care packages grew to include more service men and women and became a community project with local students and other families collecting items for the troops.

“We create one package that is filled with the items and a simple letter of ‘Thank you’ and explaining to share with each other,” said Dave.

This will make the third year South Macon Elementary students have partnered with the Linn family. Dave hopes other schools will also consider adopting a troop for Christmas. Last year’s troops stationed in Iraq even sent the students at South Macon a “Thank you” letter and explaining how it helped the troop through the holiday season.

“We encourage all the schools of Jackson and Macon County to get involved and adopt a troop this holiday and create a bond with a troop, where the students can become ‘pen-pals’ and learn about a

soldier’s daily life,” said Linn. “We are always looking for donations to add to the box and we are always looking for support to help send more than one box to an overseas troop each holiday. We should never forget the men and women who are fighting and serving to protect our freedom each day.”

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a box to be mailed out, e-mail bringingit2life@gmail.com before Dec. 13.



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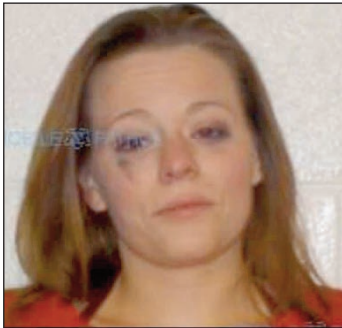
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Fitzgibbons back in custody

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

After escaping custody on Tuesday afternoon, Kaitlin Fitzgibbons was re-arrested on Thursday afternoon by the Macon County Sheriff's Office.

Fitzgibbons had just been sentenced to four months of active jail time, as Judge Bill Coward had rescinded a 90-96 plea. In North Carolina, NCGS 90-96 provides options for a conditional discharge for certain drug crime offenders. Following the sentence, Fitzgibbons was escorted outside of the Macon County Courthouse on Tuesday afternoon. While a detention officer unlocked the transport van, Fitzgibbon slipped loose of one of the handcuffs, which were handcuffed in the front of her body and escaped on foot.



Kaitlin Fitzgibbons

A search was immediately launched and a perimeter established. Law enforcement was able to follow up on several leads by members of the community, which led to Fitzgibbons being captured Thursday morning. In addition to Fitzgibbons, Richard Owens was also taken into custody for aiding her.

Fitzgibbons was already facing felony counts of possession of stolen goods as well as felony possession of ginseng and felony larceny as well as pending felony possession of methamphetamine. She now faces additional felony charges for fleeing custody.

Fitzgibbons and Owens were taken in front of Superior Court Judge Bill Coward on Friday to receive a bond for their new charges. Fitzgibbons is being held on a \$200,000 bond and Owens is being held on a \$30,000 bond.



Kimsey to celebrate milestone birthday with drop-in party

A Drop-In Party for Becky Reece Kimsey's 80th birthday will be held Saturday, Dec. 7, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Cartoogechaye Church of God Fellowship Hall, 108 Charles Nolen Road. Family and friends are invited.

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Resource Fair Dec. 6

The Macon County NCWorks Career Center is sponsoring its inaugural NCWorks Community Resource Fair from 2-4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6, at the Macon County Public Library.

Paula Alter, Career Center Manager for the Macon, Jackson and Swain County NCWorks Career Centers says that this new, collaborative event has been one of her goals since taking on the manager role.

“This is an excellent opportunity for our residents to interact with 22 resource organizations in one convenient location. It will also allow these organizations to interact with each other and become better informed of available services. Our event mantra is ‘Be connected. Feel empowered. Get informed. Leave with hope.’ There’s no question that it takes all of us, working in partnership, to help our residents become job ready and overcome potential barriers in keeping a job. If successful, we plan to make this an annual event.”

A Manna Food Bank Pop-Up Market will also be onsite. Other participating community resource organizations include:

- CareNet
- Comfort Keepers/Companion Health Care
- Department of Social Services (DSS)
- Full Circle Recovery
- Hights
- KIDS Place
- Legal Aid
- Macon County NCWorks Career Center
- Macon Program for Progress
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- Manna Food Bank
- Mountain Projects
- New Beginnings
- No Wrong Door
- Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center
- Southwestern Community College
- Teen Challenge of the Smokies
- Webster Enterprises
- Veterans Services
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Additional information on the resource fair or NCWorks Career Center may be obtained by visiting the Franklin career center, calling 828-369-9534 or visiting www.ncworks.gov.

‘Food and Farming Business Summit’ set Dec. 2

In a changing world and economy, it can be challenging to keep up with the best practices and trends that will grow and sustain your business. The Small Business Center (SBC) at Southwestern Community College can help.

Experience the “Food and Farming Business Summit,” a one-day conference developed specifically with food, beverage and agriculture-based businesses in mind. It will be held from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 2.

Eight sessions will be offered throughout the day, with topics including: food manufacturing safety and law, how to launch a new food business, bookkeeping and tax basics, agricultural marketing and agritourism.

In “Business Readiness for New Food Businesses,” attendees will receive a comprehensive checklist that includes everything from items needed to get started to marketing strategies to pricing. Learn about market entry and essential “to do’s” for starting a small food business. Case studies of local success stories will be provided, along with one or two failures to learn from.

“Is Agritourism an Opportunity for Your Business?,” will explore ways to expand farm operation through guest experiences. The United States Department of Agriculture recognizes agritourism as the top opportunity for working farms in America to diversify and create new revenue streams. Attendees will gain an understanding of the industry’s best practices centered around safety, liability and marketing, and get insight into enhancing existing farm operations and engaging customers.

The conference is co-sponsored by the NC State Extension, emPOWERing Mountain Food Systems and Blue Ridge Food Ventures.

The event is free and lunch will be provided. Both prospective and existing agricultural business owners are encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is required: <http://bit.ly/agribusi->



Lisa McBride, Jackson County Farmers Market manager, with Tiffany Henry, director of SCC’s Small Business Center.

nesssummit.

‘Human Resources Summit’ set for Dec. 9

Southwestern Community College’s Small Business Center is offering a “Human Resources Summit” from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9 to teach business leaders efficient and effective practices for managing human resources. The one-day conference will be held on the Jackson Campus.

Eight sessions will be offered throughout the day, with topics including: interviewing done right, coaching employees to get great results, being a leader versus a manager, confident em-

ployee termination through solid documentation and purposeful employee onboarding.

If you’re involved with recruitment and selection of employees, and are looking to improve your interviewing skills, the “Interviewing Done Right” session is for you. You’ll learn how to conduct interviews that are legal, fair and well-structured, as well as how to evaluate the information you’ve obtained from interviews to select the best candidate.

In “Coaching Employees to Get Great Results,” you’ll learn that coaching employees is not just about conducting an annual review or calling someone out when a mistake has been made. Instead, coaching your team by regularly discussing performance and expectations is a less-stressful, more-consistent and more hands-on approach. It allows you to work with your team to define objectives and clear steps to achieve them. In this session, you’ll learn how to deliver regular, relevant feedback and how to communicate clear performance expectations.

The event is free. Pre-registration is required: <http://bit.ly/HRSBC>.

For more information about any of the services and seminars offered by SCC’s Small Business Center, contact Henry at t_henry@southwesterncc.edu or 828.339.4426.

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Four tips for flu season

You know the signs. The thunderous cough. The pounding headache. The full-body fatigue.

It's the flu. Last fall and winter, influenza sickened roughly 40 million Americans and killed 60,000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This year's flu season is nearly upon us. Here are four tips to stay healthy.

1. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. People should get the flu vaccine early. Every year, this shot prevents up to 6.7 million flu cases, 87,000 hospitalizations, and 10,000 deaths. The vaccine also helps makes the flu less severe for those who do catch it.

The CDC recommends obtaining a flu shot no later than the end of October. The treatment takes around two weeks to become fully effective, so there's no time to waste.

2. Your mom was right: If you do fall ill, remember your mother's advice. Drink lots of fluids. Juice, Gatorade, herbal teas, and chicken soup can help fight dehydration. Menthol ointments and humidifiers break up mucus and make it easier to breathe. These treatments aren't fancy, but they provide real relief.

3. Remember that antibiotics won't help. Influenza is caused by a virus. Antibiotics, which only treat bacterial infections, are completely useless against viruses.

Not all patients realize this. Many clamor for antibiotics at the first sign of flu-like symptoms.

Such antibiotics won't make people feel any better. In fact, needlessly taking antibiotics increases people's risk of future infections. It gives bacteria an opportunity to evolve and become immune to treatments – a phenomenon known as "antimicrobial resistance."

4. Antibiotics come with risks. Antibiotic overuse accelerates the spread of drug-resistant bacteria known as "superbugs," which already kill over 160,000 Americans every year.

To fight these superbugs, Congress is currently considering the Developing an Innovative Strategy for Antimicrobial Resistant Microorganisms Act, or DISARM. This bill would incentivize hospitals to use antibiotics appropriately and sparingly. It would also encourage researchers to develop new antibiotics.

So remember – get your shots early, follow your mother's advice, and don't jeopardize your health by needlessly taking antibiotics.

Greg Frank, Ph.D., is the director of infectious disease policy at the Biotechnology Innovation Organization.

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Letters to the Editor

The change of seasons

With the spell bound beauty of fall's color, the horizons we view are nature's canvas of deep reds, vibrant shades of orange with the mix of yellow splashing our mountains with such beauty, many are spellbound by the magnificence of what it is we see. It's truly a picture worth a thousand words, but a thousand words are only a beginning of what we feel and can explain.

Fall is the grand finale and a closing of the year's end. This splendor of colors give way as each individual leaf falls and blankets the forest floor, and when the last and final leaf has fallen, it is then again that we can truly see the forest for what it is. Bareness of black and grays of both small and great timbers that sit patiently still in wait of another new season, in hopes of a renewed life of growth, strength and warmth.

Humanity's beauty parallels itself in much the same ways, the various colors show themselves in areas of diverse unselfish and sacrificial love and kindness towards not only those closest to us, but many times the ones we have never known or know little of. The helping towards the elderly with the simplest task, tipping the fast food person who is spellbound when they receive it, being patient with those who try expressing themselves but have difficulty in doing so.

Protecting the innocent from harm even when many turn a deaf ear to their cry. In part, the beauty and color of what makes humanity the splendor of what we all should be is to be learned and passed on to others. Philippians 4:8 says this well: "... fill your minds and meditate on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious – the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you have learned ...". Learning to do and be right towards others comes by instilling these noble causes internally so it becomes what and who we are. If we could take this to heart and share all that is good, true, and noble, we would dispel the things that make humanity so vile and evil.

But just as in the last leaf falling we ourselves are exposed to what we really are, darker and grayer in waiting for something better, but better never seems to come. We lose more of our strength in good, love and kindness, for it has always been easier to follow darkness than light, even when darkness seems not so dark. Faith is something we all share in, but there is a faith which is true, good, loving, kind and is built on someone, Christ, not something which changes as the seasons change. I know of nothing which brings humanity closer to humanity through faith in the one who gave himself for humanity. We have much to be thankful for and someone greater to be thankful to.

Deni Shepard – nds13@frontier.com

Country's condition no longer matches Constitution

You have doubtlessly heard the phrase, "United We Stand - Divided We Fall." The expression is attributed to the ancient Greek Storyteller Aesop, both directly in his fable, "The Four Oxen and the Lion," and indirectly, "The Bundle of Sticks."

Similarly, the Founders also deduced that economic inequality would destroy America's democracy. And now many of us are wondering, can the Constitution save us?

As numerous other writers have alluded, long before Donald Trump came on the scene, America was already mired in a constitutional crisis, one that crept up on us ever so stealthily, as historical transformations are prone to do.

The reason, as Ganesh Sitaraman (Professor of Law at Vanderbilt Law School, and senior fellow at the Center for American Progress) explains, "Our Constitution wasn't built for a country with massive economic inequality and deeply entrenched political divisions." During America's greatest crises, the Civil War, the Great Depression, perhaps the present moment (events the Founders could only dimly imagine), the social conditions within the country no longer matched the Constitution.

It is believed by many (including Sitaraman) that the Founders clearly understood that if severe economic inequality emerged, their democratic experiment would collapse. The rich would gradually take over the government and pass laws benefitting themselves at the expense of everyone else.

When America's wealthy began to "plunder the poor" (as a Virginia politician warned in 1814) it would be "slow and legal." Sooner or later, the masses would respond, but not through a violent uprising. Instead, they would turn to a personage (a notable character perhaps), a celebrity, who would (instinctively and precisely) know how to manipulate their resentments.

As the wealthy rig the system in their favor, it gets harder to tax the rich, break up monopolies, help working families, and (importantly) reduce the influence of money in our politics. As social divisions become more entrenched, it becomes easier (as we are now experiencing) to keep everyone divided through fear mongering and scapegoating. Our Constitution requires equality and solidarity and once those are destroyed, the Constitution contains no mechanism to restore them.

The foundations of participatory democracy must also be rebuilt by enabling more Americans to vote. Only then can we hope (as Sitaraman puts it) "to rediscover a sense of common purpose that the Founding Fathers knew was a prerequisite for their experiment to succeed."

Our greatest hope, ironically, may rest in the very savagery and viciousness of our political climate, which many of us have come to detest. The American people might not think of what we're experiencing as a "constitutional crisis," but they surely understand what our leaders have failed to recognize (or at least won't admit): The system does not work anymore.

Therefore, something radical has to happen. This realization, this knowledge, above all, is perhaps the one thing that the majority of the citizens of our deeply divided country still have in common.

David Snell – Franklin, N.C.

People still looking for kings and queens

For the life of me, I just can't understand why so many people don't like President Trump. Even allowing for the Socialist propaganda spewing out of fake news I often wonder why people could be so gullible.

Watching part of the "Cinderella" movie the other day brought this home to me. The movie "Cinderella" as you may know is filled with pomp and circumstance and a handsome prince displaying regal attire. Simply put, people are looking for a King, or a Queen, if you prefer.

Trump is not a handsome regal prince nor is he a king. He's simply a successful businessman and is definitely not a politician. Not being a politician he is not subject to being bribed as many of them are.

We might compare him to a supervisor leading a construction crew to build a bridge. In this case, he's building a country and keeping us prosperous. His program has been remarkably successful and there are more jobs out there than we have people willing to work.

Throughout history, humans have searched for gods. Failing to find a god, people then turned to relying on kings or queens to lead them.

The great Pharaohs of ancient Egypt sold themselves as gods or related to gods. Even now, Kim Jong Un of North Korea has his people believing he is at least a relative of a god.

We had better wake up and quit looking for some handsome prince to come along and save us. Trump is life's reality, corruption free and a very successful businessman but just like you and me. It is a shame he walked into an incestuous swamp filled with corruption not much different than the mobsters of old that ran much of this country.

Personally, I'll stick with people like Donald Trump any day.

Bob Wilson – 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.

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The Macon County
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2019

Christmas

GIFT GUIDE



Help local shops and restaurants succeed on Small Business Saturday

Gregg Thompson - Director NFIB

I'm no Scrooge, but I usually don't like Christmas shopping. I love buying things for people, but I don't like the crowds or the lines or the generic merchandise they stock at the chain stores.

That's why I like Small Business Saturday.

Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, is the opposite of Black Friday.

Black Friday, of course, is the unofficial start of the holiday season, although it seems like the Black Friday sales started the second the last trick-or-treater left the porch. Black Friday is all about moving merchandise. Stores open early and close late. People fight crowds and stand in line to save a few bucks on slow cookers and smart TVs. Black Friday is noisy and stressful.

Small Business Saturday, on the other hand, is about supporting your friends and neighbors. It's about buying gifts and enjoying meals who can't get from one of the national chains.

Of course, Small Business Saturday isn't just about spending money at brick-and-mortar stores; 42 percent of people who said they went out last year on Small Business Saturday said they spent part of the day shopping small online, too.

Small Business Saturday began as a sales

promotion 10 years ago to help independent businesses bruised by the Great Recession. In the decade since it has become one of the busiest shopping days of the year.

Small Business Saturday began when many Main Street businesses were struggling to recover from the Great Recession.



Now in its 10th year, Small Business Saturday has become a national event, an opportunity for people to support the small, independent businesses that make their communities strong. Over the years, Small Business Saturday spending has now reached a reported estimate of \$103 billion since the day began in 2010 — that's \$103 billion over 9 days alone.

Last year, two-thirds of small businesses surveyed by American Express and NFIB planned to participate in Small Business Sat-

urday.

Small businesses expect an average of 29 percent of their annual sales to come during the holiday shopping season, according to the survey by American Express and NFIB. Fifty-six percent of small business owners surveyed last year by American Express and

NFIB said Small Business Saturday gives their holiday sales a boost.

Here are some of the ways shops and restaurants can make the most of Small Business Saturday:

- Stay on top of your social media. If you're on Facebook or Twitter or Instagram or Pinterest, post often and promote any Small Business Saturday deals. Use the hashtags #ShopSmall and #SmallBizSat so shoppers can find you easily.
- Showcase merchandise that would

make a great gift. Group items on a table with a sign saying it would be the perfect gift for Mom or the grandparents, for example. Restaurants can offer Small Business Saturday specials and gift cards.

- Offer doorbusters. Chain stores know a great way to drive shoppers to their stores is by offering exclusive deals at different times of the day. There's no reason a small business can't do the same thing.

- Partner with nearby businesses. Pool your resources to buy advertising promoting the neighborhood as a shopping destination or team up with other merchants on in-store promotions. For example, if someone buys a shirt at one shop, tell them about the great deal on shoes next door.

- Don't forget to tell your regular customers about Small Business Saturday. Put a sign in your shop and flyers in bags reminding folks to come back the Saturday after Thanksgiving for exclusive deals. Create and download free custom marketing materials at <https://amex.co/36yU2oE>.

"With the right planning, independent stores and restaurants can turn Small Business Saturday into an opportunity that will pay off throughout the year," Thompson said.

NFIB is the state's leading small-business association. To learn more, visit www.NFIB.com/NC and follow @NFIB_NC on Twitter.

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Franklin's Annual Christmas Parade downtown on December 1

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce is putting the finishing touches on the 2019 Christmas Parade in anticipation of another great event that, along with Winter Wonderland, will officially ring in the holiday season. The parade will be held Sunday, Dec. 1, beginning at 3 pm.

Entries will line up along Church Street beside First Baptist Church. The parade route will begin by pulling out beside Town Hall. The route will proceed down Main Street turning left at the Lazy Hiker Brewing Company onto Porter Street. Then turn left onto Palmer Street disbanding at Highlands Road. Each entry can choose their own location to disband.

"The Magic of Christmas" is this year's theme in whatever creative entries community members and participating businesses can muster. Please remember no Santas are allowed on any float other than the traditional Santa float that signals the end of the parade.

The Suminski Family is this year's Grand Marshal. The Suminski Family relocated to



Franklin, from Lincoln, Neb., in 1991 to take over the family's wholesale parts supply business. While homeschooling their four children, they became actively involved with

Macon County 4-H. In 2015, their family began writing children's books and in 2017 started the Suminski Family Books Foundation. Faith, family, diligence and love are

Holiday Sweater Dash to Franklin. This is a benefit for Macon County Care Network and will be hosted before the start of the Christmas Parade.

at the core of their books and the foundation. For the last two years they have spear headed a nonprofit film fest at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts to help strengthen community through supporting local nonprofits. The family expresses deep gratitude for being a part of this Western North Carolina community and gives God the glory.

The Suminski family is also involved in the following organizations: Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center, Mountain Valley Fire Department, Folk Heritage Association of Macon County, Women's History Trail, Mentoring Connections... Lunch Buddy program in the Macon County Schools, Read2Me, Western Carolina University... Project Discovery and Franklin Family Fellowship.

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The Dash starts at 2:45 p.m. Registration is available at the Franklin Chamber of Commerce or at 2 pm in the parking lot of Franklin Town Hall on the day of the race. Entry fee for the dash is five canned goods per "Dasher." Finishers of the Dash will receive a completion certificate. Pets are invited to take part in the dash but must be on a leash at all times. Pet owners are encouraged to dress up their pets in an ugly sweater.

Due to safety concerns, candy will be passed out by folks walking alongside their float entry. The Parade Committee reserves the right to remove any entry it deems inappropriate or unsafe.

For additional information, contact the Franklin Chamber of Commerce by calling 828-524-3161



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Town of Franklin kicks off the holiday with Winter Wonderland

The Town of Franklin will officially welcome the holidays during Winter Wonderland a two night event held in downtown Franklin. This celebration of the holiday season will be held on consecutive Saturdays, Nov. 30, and Dec. 7 from 5:00 to 8:00 each evening.

"Saturday, November 30th is Small Business Saturday and what better time to kick-off our downtown celebration of the holidays," said Town of Franklin Mayor Bob Scott.

The Small Business Saturday initiative, headed by American Express, shifts the focus from Black Friday and Cyber Monday to supporting small, local businesses. The Town of Franklin is proud to again be a Neighborhood Champion of Small Business Saturday.

The first night of Winter Wonderland is packed with activities including live music, roving holiday characters, Franklin's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and a merchant sponsored candlelight service. Music will begin around 6:30 p.m. at the Gazebo on the Square featuring the White Sisters. Their performance following by the tree lighting and candlelight service.

"Winter Wonderland is a great, family-oriented celebration of the holiday season and we have plenty of free activities for all ages to



enjoy," said Woodard.

Both nights of Winter Wonderland will feature many free activities this year including carriage rides in an elegant vis-a-vis carriage, hay rides, and a miniature train that will give passengers, both youngsters and adults, a ride through downtown Franklin.

Downtown Merchants will also be open late offering great shopping and plenty of great gift ideas for the holidays. Plus, many

will offer free refreshments such as hot cider and delicious treats for their patrons. In addition, select businesses will feature living window displays depicting different scenes of the holiday season.

Of course, no holiday celebration would be complete without a visit from the Jolly Ole Elf himself, Santa Claus! Santa will be out on the streets and visiting merchants spreading holiday cheer from 5:00 to 8:00

p.m. both nights of Winter Wonderland.

As a reminder, Main Street will be closed to vehicular traffic both nights of Winter Wonderland with parking along Main Street closing at 4:30pm. The detour will be clearly marked. Plenty of free parking is located throughout the downtown area.

"The Town of Franklin has worked hard to create an event that celebrates not only the holidays but the spirit of our small town.



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This is a great family event and we look forward to seeing familiar faces and visitors from all over the area here in Franklin, North Carolina for Winter Wonderland on Saturdays November 30th and December 7th," said Mayor Scott.

Winter Wonderland is sponsored by the Town of Franklin. For additional information, visit www.Townof-FranklinNC.com or call (828) 524-2516. You can also follow along on Facebook @FranklinNCEvents.



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Hard Candy Christmas Arts & Crafts Show a mountain tradition

The 32nd Annual Hard Candy Christmas Arts and Crafts Show, a mountain Christmas tradition, is coming the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 29-30, Western Carolina University Ramsey Center in Cullowhee. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., each day.

The "Hard Candy Christmas" is not really about candy at all. It harkens back to the time when, as growing up, most mountain children received, at least, Christmas stocking with an apple, orange and sticks of peppermint candy. The best presents were handcrafted and the Christmas tree was a cedar, found along the roadside. A lot has changed over the years but memories of gingerbread cookies, twinkling lights and family gatherings still inspire Doris Hunter, show producer and mountain girl. She still believes the best presents are handcrafted with love, one piece at a time.

This show opens the mountain Christmas season with original art and crafts, fresh mountain greenery wreaths, gingerbread ornaments and live guitar music from Ronnie Evans.

About 100 local and regional artisans will be selling their handiwork. Categories in-



Betty Hall Spivey's Father Christmas dolls will be featured at this year's show. She has been making Christmas characters for many years. Collectors line up to see what her newest creations will be. "I can not remember when I wasn't creating something," Betty says. "My fascination with Christmas is what inspired me to start creating dolls."

clude clay art, rustic wood craft, master jewelers, quilts, fine art, goat milk soap and heirloom ornaments for the tree.

Exhibitors from Macon County include: Jerry Stanley - Western Red Cedar outdoor furniture; Bev Borchadt - quilts and em-

broidered towels; Janet Anderson - fused glass and ornaments; Rebekah Brown - carved eggshells; Rhonda Barnes - crocheted heirlooms; Wesley and Jan Benton - demonstrating wood-turning; Betty Cabe - heritage Santas, bears and corn shuck art; Lawrence and Michelle Cooper - River Birch Bees; Laura Craig - goat milk soap; Kaysea Crowe - Christmas fabric art; Dennis Deitz country illustrations; Sandy DeNiar - painting on recycles; Debbie Fouts - pebble art; Connie Gregory - pinecone wreaths; David Hurd - cutting boards; Mark and Susan Kennedy - quilted purses/photography; Carol M. Pitts - basket demo; David & Silvia Pruitt - little mountain houses and churches/handwork; Jason Rizzo - photo art; Denny & Bonnie Wallace - Christmas decorations; Steve & Karen Waldroop - western-themed woodcraft; Carl Winter - wood turning; and Roy Owenby - novels.

For all the information, visit the web site www.mountainArtisans.net. Admission for adults is \$5; children under 12 free.

Free convenient parking and concessions available.

Contact Doris Hunter, show producer at djhunter155@gmail.com.

BLACK FRIDAY ALL WEEKEND

November 29th – December 1st

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Cowee Christmas

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

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Arts Council of Macon County Holiday

ArtSaturday: Free crafts and activities for kids. Macon Faces Face Painting.

Folk Heritage Association of Macon County Sponsoring "Grandpa's Woodshop".

*Santa will be making a stop at Cowee School Cafeteria and handing out free kid's books from **Read2Me** 12pm - 3pm.*

*Decorate and eat cookies with the **Cowee Community Development Organization** Grandmas in the cafeteria at "Grandma's Kitchen"*

Live music and a delicious soup, bread and dessert meal by Chef Jim Kinard.

Come build some homespun memories at Macon County's own Heritage Center at Cowee School honoring and remembering Grandparents and the impact they make on our lives.

For more information contact Claire Suminski
 Claire@dometrics.com or 828.342.9071

CoweeSchool.org

*Thank you to these additional organizations:
 Cowee Quilters • Smoky Mountain Quilters Guild
 Suminski Family Books Foundation*



The Studios of Cowee

Cowee Pottery School
 Cowee Textiles - Teresa Bouchonnet
 Houghlum Fine Art - Jon Houghlum
 Down Memory Lane Toy Museum - Jim Geary
 Portrait Legacies - Cynthia Kinard
 Cherokee Room
 Alarka Expeditions - Brent & Angela-Faye Martin

Vendors

Brenda Gardner: Christmas Stockings & Wood Bowls
 Brenda Lee: Christmas Wreaths
 Brenda Thorn: Painted Vintage Windows & Glass
 Carmen Holland: Kingfisher Pottery
 Chetna Handoo: Handmade Jewelry
 Christine Rosebaugh: Keeping Out of Trouble
 David & Sylvia Pruitt: Another Place in Time
 Donna Gains: Goat Cheese
 Emily McBride: Bowl Cozies & Earrings
 Jeannie McPhail: Local Author
 Jodie Zoellner: Crafts and Jams
 John & Cathy Sill: Books and Gifts
 Kathy Tinsley: Woven Goods
 Krista Skrede: Felted Goods
 Laura Craig: Shade Tree Soaps
 Lexi Evans: Knit Goods
 Marcia Barnes: Local Children's Author
 Mike Holden: AWC Woods
 Nancy McKoviak: Earrings from Decorative Tins
 Parker Adams: Wood Working
 Theresa Spinnersen: Fiber Spinning and Knitting
 Tonya Vannoy: Repurposed Tins

Live Music

Wyatt Duvall, Lionel Caynon & Bobbie Contino
 Phil, Sally, & John: Dulcimer Trio
 Ronnie Evans & Tom Estes
 Stewart & Metz on Guitar & Flute
 White Sisters & Seeds of Faith at Rickman Store

Fraser Fir Cafe

Tuesday, Dec. 3 2019 • 4-6:30pm
 Casual Chili Supper & All the Fixings \$8

Thursday, Dec. 5 2019
 Chef Kinard's Low Country Shrimp Boil \$30
 First Seating 4:30pm • Second Seating 6pm

Special Cowee School Fundraiser
Includes a Cowee Pottery School ornament or pendant
Live Music with Stewart & Metz and selection of Asheville Ginger Brews
Purchase tickets online at CoweeSchool.org

THE BALSAM BEE

Free Parking and Admittance: Old Fashioned Sewing Bee

Tuesday, Dec. 3 2019 • 4-6pm
Thursday, Dec. 5 2019 • 4-6pm

Enjoy live dulcimer music by Phil, John and Sally. Make new friends and catch-up with old ones, breathe in the Balsam and relax. Help cut up Balsam, stuff and sew up pillows and do some early Christmas shopping. It's the Balsam Bee at Cowee!

Kids, come make a free wooden toy or gift At Grandpa's Woodshop
Brought to you by Folk Heritage Association of Macon County



Christmas Calendar of Events

FRANKLIN

November 28

Cold Turkey 5K and Little Turkeys Fun Run (10-Under) Thanksgiving morning to benefit KIDS Place. Register through raceentry.com for Cold Turkey 5K or email bringin-git2life@gmail.com to request a race form.

November 30

Winter Wonderland, Franklin's holiday celebration is held two Saturday nights in downtown Franklin, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, 5:30 p.m., and will feature living window displays, free wagon rides, tree lighting ceremony, music and more.

December 1

Franklin's Annual Christmas Parade, Downtown Franklin, 3 p.m. The parade will feature fire trucks, EMS, police cars, floats, trucks, cars and walkers. For more information, contact the Franklin Chamber at (828)524-3161.

Ugly Holiday Sweater Dash for all ages before the start of the annual Christmas Parade. The entry fee is five canned goods or hygiene products. Register at Franklin Chamber of Commerce or on the day of the event starting at 2 p.m. You don't have to be a runner to join others for the dash.

December 3 & 5

Balsam Bee at Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center. Tuesday, Dec. 3, and Thursday, Dec. 5, 4-6 p.m. Live dulcimer music, cookies, conversation with friends and neighbors, and help cut up Balsam, stuff and sew up pillows, and do some early Christmas shopping.

December 5

Dove Award-nominated recording artist, songwriter, filmmaker and award-winning author Andrew Peterson presents his "Behold The Lamb Of God" tour at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m. Peterson and his band recount the Christmas story through song. For information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.

December 6

Pictures with Santa, 5-6:30 p.m. at Franklin Chamber of Commerce. Have pictures taken with Santa and receive an email copy of the photo via email or file share. Free event. Franklin Chamber of Commerce and Welcome Center, 98 Hyatt Road, Franklin. (828)524-3161

December 7

Cowee Christmas, 10 a.m. Historic Cowee School - Arts & Heritage Center, 51 Cowee School Drive, Franklin. Everyone is invited to stop by. Grandpa's Woodshop, cookie decorating, Santa Claus, and free activities and crafts for kids all day. For more info, (828)369-5595.

Winter Wonderland, Franklin's holiday celebration, 5:30 p.m., in downtown Franklin will feature living window displays, free wagon rides, tree lighting ceremony, music and more.

December 8

CareNet Benefit Concert, 3 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 26 Church Street, Franklin. Admission to the concert is free with a love offering being taken for CareNet. FPC-Franklin will match the first \$1,000 in dona-



tions. For more information, contact the church office at (828)524-3119.

December 8

Betsey's School of Dance presents "Santa's Sleigh Ride" at 3 p.m. at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. For additional information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.

December 10

Steven Curtis Chapman Acoustic Christmas with Jillian Edwards, 7:30 p.m., at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. For information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.

December 13

Leann Rimes, You and Me Christmas Tour, 7:30 p.m., at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. For information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.

December 19

SMCPA's Singing Christmas Card, a Celebration of Family, Friends, and Music, 7 p.m., at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts, 1028 Georgia Road, Franklin. Join family and friends as the community comes together to enjoy stories and songs of the Christmas Season. Presented by the Overlook Theatre Company. For information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.



December 20

The Polar Express Movie and Pajama Party at 7 p.m. at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Visitors are greeted at the door by a railroad conductor with a golden ticket and are able to meet Santa, enjoy concessions and admire holiday decorations. Pajamas, pillows, blankets and stuffed animals are encouraged. Doors open at 6 p.m. for pictures with Santa. For information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.

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December 21

Christmas Back Home with Scott Thompson, 7 p.m. at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Scott Thompson and an eight-piece, all-star band of musicians offer a new take on timeless holiday masterpieces. A classic Christmas show with a twist, Christmas Back Home will win its way into your heart as a new family tradition. For information and tickets, call (828)524-1598 or visit www.greatmountainmusic.com.



HIGHLANDS/CASHIERS

November 29

Santa On the Green, 2-5 p.m. Children of all ages are invited to come and tell Santa Claus their Christmas wishes. Visitors to The Village Green in Cashiers enjoy twinkling light displays and festive decorations from Thanksgiving Weekend until New Year's Day.

Cashiers Christmas Tree Lighting, 5-6 p.m., at The Village Green. Holiday music, s'mores and more!

November 30

Highlands Tree Lighting, 6 p.m., at Kelsey Hutchinson Park, Pine Street, Highlands.

November 30

Join the Cashiers Historical Society on Saturday, November 30 or Saturday, December 7 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for Christmas at Colonel John's Cabin. Enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, crafts and more. Zachary Tolbert House, 1940 Hwy 107 S, Cashiers.

December 7

Highlands Olde Mountain Christmas Parade, Downtown Highlands, 11 a.m.

December 14

45th Annual Cashiers Christmas Parade 12 noon. Theme is "All Things Bright & Beautiful, All Creatures Great & Small."

JACKSON COUNTY

November 29

Sylva Christmas Tree Lighting 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Gather at the fountain by the Historic Courthouse steps. Tree lighting concert by Summer & Bray of Mountain Faith.

November 29 & 30

The 32nd Hard Candy Christmas Arts & Crafts Show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Ramsey Center on Western Carolina University's campus. "A Mountain Christmas Tradition" the show features over 100 regional artisans. Admission is \$5 for adults, children under 12 - free. For more information, call (828)524-3405.



November 30

Photos with Santa, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Sundog Building on Main Street.

December 1

Sylva Christmas Parade 3 to 4 p.m. Parade will start at the Historic Courthouse and go down Main Street.

School of Music's Sounds of the Season, 4-6 p.m., WCU's Performance Hall at Bardo Arts Center. Presented by the students and faculty of the WCU School of Music, this surround-sound experience features many different ensembles performing from various locations around the auditorium. Santa will make an appearance at the end, and the concert concludes with an audience sing-along of popular carols. Proceeds from this event go to benefit student scholarships.

December 5

Kris Kringle Mingle, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Have your photo taken with Santa Claus, Rudolph and Santa's Elves. Enjoy apple cider and snacks while listening to holiday music. Stay and see the Dillsboro Christmas tree lighting at 5:30 p.m. and the ribbon cutting celebration for the opening of Santa's Parlor.

December 7

Breakfast with Santa 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at Jackson Senior Center. Free admission for children ages 10 and under.

December 6, 7, & 13, 14

Dillsboro Lights and Luminaries, 5 to 9 p.m. Journey back to the days of yesteryear. Experience the magic as the entire town is transformed into a winter wonderland of lights, candles, laughter and song. 2500 luminaries light your way to shops and studios. Horse and buggy rides available each night. Shopkeepers provide live music and serve holiday treats with hot cider and cocoa. Carolers sing and children visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Free parking and shuttle service from Monteith Park.

December 8

Sounds of the Season at 3 p.m. Sounds of the Season is a holiday tradition which showcases the students and faculty of the WCU School of Music in a unique "surround sound" presentation. The family-friendly concert concludes with a holiday sing-along and an appearance by Santa Claus.

December 11

Mountain Winds Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m., in the Recital Hall, Coulter Building at Western Carolina University.

olina University.

December 22

Christmas in Cashiers, an evening of holiday readings and music at 7 p.m. at The Albert Carlton Cashiers Community Library. Light refreshments.

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T0781 2019 RAM 1500 Rebel Crew Cab 4X4	\$57,165	\$51,015	-\$1,500	\$49,515*

*Plus tax, tag, title, doc. & NCSI through 12/2/2019. See dealer for details.





Buy a Tree. Change a Life. ministry helps children locally, globally

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

Buy a Tree. Change a Life. is a national 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2012 that Prentiss Church and a host of Macon County sponsors have made their own. The sole goal of the organization is to help children globally and locally by way of an annual Christmas tree sale.

This week, the fourth annual local sale takes place beside Crabtree General Store and Coffee Vault on the Town of Franklin square. Because a local sponsor has provided funds for administrative costs, volunteers offer their time, and funds have been donated to purchase the trees, most of the money raised from the sale of the Fraser firs goes directly toward helping children.

Samuel Crabtree, one of the family owners of the store, said Buy a Tree is a cause worth supporting. "It's such a great mission organization to help children locally and in Cambodia."

A percentage of Christmas tree sales is used to purchase backpacks for school-aged children in Macon County. The remainder supports ongoing efforts in Cambodia: building projects, clothing, education, orphans, food, and more. Kevin Chapman, pastor at Prentiss Church, explained that since Cambodia was ravaged by the Khmer Rouge regime under the leadership



Jim Bell (left) has been on mission trips around the globe for many years, but this past year was his first visit to Cambodia through the Buy a Tree. Change a Life. effort. Bell especially has a heart for children also volunteering in the AWANA program at Prentiss Church. Above, trees will be for sale Friday, Nov. 29, at Crabtree General on Church Street in downtown Franklin

of Pol Pot and 2 million people lost their lives, the country has recovered gradually with the assistance of mission teams that work alongside Cambodians to promote life skills and trades to encourage self sufficiency and economic stability.

Jim Bell, a member of Prentiss, has been doing global mission work through his own mission organization, Carpenters Hands, for

several years. However, he volunteered with Buy a Tree last Christmas and traveled to Cambodia for the first time this year with three other team members from Macon County. Chapman, Randy Stoudemire, and Nick Page were there with Bell for 10 days.

"It's an outstanding, incredible organization that does a tremendous amount of good in Cambodia," he said. "I was able to see for myself

the schools, orphanages ... how well they are run. The organization is educating children and sending them on to have more potential in their lives... to become leaders and help educate others in their country. Plus, Buy a Tree. Change a Life. focuses on the orphans no matter if they age out. The organization teaches them how to garden, farm, grow vegetables ... I had seen pictures of the work being done there, but until you actually touch the soil and meet the people, you truly have no idea.

He added, "If the opportunity presents itself, I will go back - just to see the progress of what's happening there. It's all God. Nothing to do with us."

Crabtree said he already has his "calendar marked" for the 2020 mission trip to Cambodia. It will be his first.

"There are needs here as well," said Crabtree, "but I know the needs there are different."

The local Buy a Tree effort last year resulted in the sale of 225 trees and around \$20,906.91



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raised.

Nationally, Buy a Tree. Change a Life. experienced sales of 11,000 trees in 44 churches across 15 states and a total of \$621,401 raised, according to Kelly Johnson, director. "It is so important for churches to reach outside of their walls to help people. Something really wonderful happens when we take the focus off of ourselves and turn our efforts to serve others. Most of the time, the people giving and serving at Christmastime selling trees with this project will never see the children they are helping, but the trees they are selling will continue to have an impact on children all year long. When we reach out and help in practical ways to people we don't even know, we are being the hands and feet of Jesus!"

The Buy a Tree. Change a Life. lot opens this Friday, Nov. 29, and will stay open until all the trees are gone. Trees sell for \$30 and up.



Above, A portion of the proceeds from Buy a Tree goes for backpacks for children in Macon County some of which were distributed at a Safety Town event sponsored by local law enforcement. Last year, Prentiss Church distributed more than 300 backpacks stocked with school supplies. At left, Randy Stoudemire takes a selfie with children at the Takem Village in Cambodia.

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6th annual old fashioned Cowee Christmas set for Saturday, Dec. 2

Over the River and Through the Woods to Cowee School we go! Come experience an old-fashioned Christmas at Cowee School, Arts & Heritage Center, on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Parking and admission are free. Fun and exciting free crafts for kids throughout the day. Stop on by for a cozy, joy-filled kick off to the holiday season at Cowee School, Arts and Heritage Center.

The studios of Cowee will be open with special activities. Cowee Pottery School will have pottery and kiln fired clay ornaments for

sale, featuring specially designed clay cookie jars and plates with homemade holiday cookies for sale.

"Down Memory Lane Toy Museum" brought to Cowee School by Jim and Sandy Geary features old timey toys on display and toys for sale. Cowee Textiles will have demonstrations of fiber related arts and items for sale; Cynthia Kinard and Jon Houglum's Art Studios will be open with paintings available for purchase and viewing. And don't miss Cowee School's latest addition, Alarka Expeditions.

Looking for some locally made gift ideas? There will be homemade pottery, jewelry and crafts for sale throughout the day. While you shop, listen to sounds of Christmas featuring local musicians: Piano music by Lionel Caynon; Dulcimer Trio, Phil, John and Sally; fiddler Richard Tichich; Wyatt Duvall playing his banjo; and The White Sisters and Seeds of Faith at neighboring Rickman Store.

Stop by the community room and try your hand at quilting with the Cowee Quilters. Smoky Mountain Quilters will have special offerings, along with Shade Tree Soaps and Knit Goods by Christine Rosebaugh. The Women's History Trail will have a display, coffee, tea and



delicious sweets for sale. They are also offering gift jars of soup mixes for sale in the school auditorium, next to the Balsam Bee shop.

Santa's Helpers from Read2Me will be in the cafeteria, helping Santa pass out free books to children.

The Arts Council of Macon County will be hosting its annual "Holiday ArtSaturday Free Arts and Craft for Kids" from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Face painting by Mary Bennett of "Macon Faces Face Painting" will also be

there. Children can visit the Arts Council area in the auditorium and make a card, a special holiday box and decorate a swag at no cost to take home and enjoy with their families.

There are more fun things for kids to do at Cowee Christmas. Visit Grandpa's Woodshop with Paul Chew and Mike and Ciara Holden, and make a wooden hand crafted item, suitable for play or for gift giving. Then visit Grandma's kitchen, located

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in the cafeteria sponsored by Cowee Community Development Organization and decorate a home baked cookie to eat or take home.

If you need a great smelling freshly made Balsam pillow or evergreen swag for your home, Cowee School will have them for sale as a fund raiser. For those who get hungry or thirsty during Cowee Christmas, there will be a delicious lunch of homemade soups, bread and dessert, made by Jim Kinard, in the Cowee School Dining Hall.

Don't miss this wonderful free heritage event at Cowee School on Dec.1, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. For more information, contact Claire Suminski at (828) 342 9071, send email to Claire@dometrics.com, or visit the Cowee School website at www.coweeschool.org.




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Macon County community shows up big for others at the holidays

Brittney Lofthouse - Contributing Writer

Lifting up others can be personally gratifying and what better time than Christmas to reach out to those less fortunate? It may be a single working parent struggling to make ends meet, a family with dad working and mom going to school full time, or an elderly person living alone on a fixed income with no one to share the holidays with.

Macon Program for Progress networks services and involves community partners to reach families in need during the Christmas holidays. MPP's Holiday Angels is taking applications for eligible families and sponsors through Dec. 2. Priority goes to low-income eligible adults 65 and older, special needs adults, or parents with full custody of children birth through age 12 years old. Eligibility is based on Federal Poverty guidelines and applicants must provide valid proof of all household income.

Holiday Angels is self-supporting and operates with donations and sponsorships. In the past, sponsors have included churches, clubs, businesses, individuals, and special groups. Monetary donations have even come from caring residents with seasonal homes in Macon County but live in another state.

If you have questions, contact a member of the Holiday Angels committee at (828)524-

4471.

Macon County's Shop with a Cop program has been operating for 23 years, providing Christmas for families in need. Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland and his wife Marci started the program 23 years ago, after learning of a family in need in the care of the county's department of Social Services. From there, the program has continued to grow and with the support of the community, which 100 percent funds the project, has been able to reach hundreds of children in Macon County.

With a growing need of children applying for the program each year, community support and fundraisers have become vital in ensuring the program continues. On Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10-2, the Macon County Sheriff's Auxiliary will be teaming up with the Macon County Republican Party to host a gift wrapping fundraiser at the Republican Party headquarters. Candidates for office in 2020 will be volunteering their time to wrap Christmas presents for a donation to Shop with a Cop.

"If you are like me and don't like wrapping Christmas presents, we will have all the supplies you need and volunteers to wrap them for you," said Anne Taylor, co-chair of the MCSO Auxiliary. "All we ask is that you make a donation, anything you would like, for the Macon County Shop with a Cop program."

In addition to the Dec. 7 event, the auxiliary will be holding a second gift wrapping

fundraiser on Saturday, Dec. 21, at the Macon County Community Building. Community volunteers will have tables set up for individuals to bring in their Christmas presents and have experts wrap them, for a donation to Shop With a Cop.

The holiday season is an especially difficult time of year for many families, but the folks at REACH of Jackson and Macon County are hoping that the community can come together to make this Christmas a little more special for the families having to spend the holiday in their shelter.

At any given time, REACH has up to a dozen families staying at the shelter, which can be extremely hard during the holidays. Last year, the community came together to sponsor 17 different families, which totaled more than 60 individuals.

Despite the shelter typically being full at Christmas, the staff at REACH encourage the families to go about business as usual and keep things as normal as possible for the children staying at the shelter. Gifts that are donated by volunteers are asked to be unwrapped, so the parents can wrap the toys to still have the opportunity to be part of their children's Christmas.

While REACH staff is keeping the kitchen stocked and the halls decked in hopes of giving the families in the shelter a sense of holiday spirit, the community is encouraged to help en-

sure that each family can wake up on Christmas morning with something special under their tree.

For folks who want to help but may not want to sponsor a family, because there are so many children at the shelter, any donation of crafts, activities, or gift cards for things such as the movies, skating, or holiday events would be very appreciated.

Ongoing needs, such as diapers, laundry and day-to-day items, used at the shelter throughout the year are always welcome donations as well.

The clients at the REACH shelter make up 15 percent of the overall clients served by REACH. The organization assists many people in the community through court advocacy, life skills, crisis intervention, prevention programming, rape crisis, and other services. REACH also helps to support current community clients with any needs they have during the holiday season.

For those wanting to sponsor a REACH family, coordinators will assign volunteers a family and will be provided with ages, sizes and a "wish list" of wants and needs to help shop for the holidays.

To sponsor a family staying in the shelter, contact project coordinators Ruby Lawrence in Jackson County at (828)586-8969 or Jessie Swinkford in Macon County at (828)369-5544.

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Take sweets to next level with rich, creamy Black Forest Cake

No holiday gathering is complete without dessert, and you can take your sweets to the next level with this rich, creamy Black Forest Cake recipe.

Tart cherries and whipped cream are combined with Domino Golden Sugar – a less processed option which is made from pure cane sugar and works cup-for-cup just like white sugar, but with a golden color and distinct hint of molasses flavor – for a contrasting profile to put a spin on a seasonal classic.

Find more holiday dessert ideas at dominosugar.com.

Black Forest Cake

Servings: 8

Cherry Filling:

- 1/2 cup Domino Golden Sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/2 cup water or unsweetened cherry juice
- 2 cups fresh or frozen pitted tart (Montmorency) cherries
- 2 tablespoons cherry brandy (optional)

Cake:

- 1 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup butter, softened



- 1 1/2 cups Domino Golden Sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk

Stabilized Whipped Cream:

- 1 teaspoon unflavored gelatin
- 2 tablespoons cold water
- 2 cups (1 pint) heavy whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons Domino Golden Sugar

Chocolate curls or shavings, for garnish (optional)

To make cherry filling: In medium saucepot, whisk sugar and cornstarch with water or juice then bring to boil over medium heat. Stir in cherries and cherry brandy, if desired, and boil 2-3 minutes, stirring, until sauce is thick and translucent. Drain cherries from sauce and set both aside.

To make cake layers: Heat oven to 350 F.

Line bottoms of three 8-inch round cake pans with parchment paper. Grease and flour bottoms and sides.

In medium bowl, sift flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt.

In mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar 2 minutes on medium speed. Add eggs and vanilla; beat 1 minute. Stir in flour mixture and buttermilk.

Pour batter evenly among cake pans and bake 20-22 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Cool and remove layers from pans.

To make stabilized whipped cream: In small pan or microwaveable bowl, combine gelatin and cold water; allow gelatin to bloom. Heat until gelatin melts and dissolves; set aside.

In chilled bowl, whip cream with chilled beaters until soft peaks form. Add sugar and gelatin; beat until stiff.

Prick tops of two bottom layers with fork and brush cherry filling over layers. Sandwich bottom layers with a 1/4-inch-thick spread of stabilized whipped cream. Sandwich second and top layer with same whipped cream. Spread remaining whipped cream over top layer and sides.

Garnish with shaved chocolate, if desired, and decorate with any remaining whipped cream.

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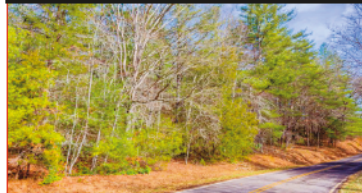
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 TeresaMurray@remax.net

MLS#26012579 \$290,000



Charming Log Cabin in Watauga Vista at 2900+ ft elev. in gated community overlooking USFS. 2800 sq. ft. Open floor plan w/vaulted ceilings, wood floors, kitchen w/granite countertops. LR offers wall of windows to enjoy the view plus deck to enjoy the scenery. Upstairs loft + Rec Rm downstairs w/full kitchen & bath. Come take a look!

MLS#26013119 \$52,500



TAKE A LOOK! Lots of potential w/great 5 acres unrestricted tract with access to off-paved road. Land is wooded & lays well. Very convenient to town & shopping. Great for residential or park your RV/Camper here. SO many possibilities!

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Stunning custom home on ridgetop w/beautiful views, massive master BR w/en-suite & separate office, Chef's kitchen w/ig island & granite counters. Attached double garage, lot of decking to enjoy outdoors & views. Too many upgrades to list, call for more info!

MLS#26013552 \$349,000



Mountain dream home at ABOVE THE CLOUDS - stunning mountain views! Vaulted ceilings, lots of windows & decks to enjoy the views - 18 ft. stone FP. Gas log FP in Master. Outdoor spa, heated floors in Grand Room, Kitchen & DR. Beautifully furnished & everything stays. Walking trails on property. Successful vacation rental. Inc. separate buildable lot.

MLS#26013741 \$349,900



Creekfront spacious serene mountain retreat! 300+ ft. on Middle Creek. 3BR/3BA main level living. Open LR/DR/Kitchen w/stone wood burning FP & vaulted ceiling. Huge Master BR w/en-suite. Possible in-law qtrs. downstairs & double garage. Beautiful exterior rock work & landscaping. Lot of exterior decking to relax & enjoy the mountains.

MLS#26014225 \$219,000



Nice Traditional home w/privacy & mtn. views - Wood floors, fire place, 2 Master Suites on Main level, finished basement. Paved access & adjoins USFS - furnishings included.



Becky Ramey
 Owner/Broker
 828-421-2357

BeckyRameyNC.com
 BeckyR@remax.net

MLS#26014056 \$229,900



Gibson Cove Estates 3BR/2BA remodeled home built in 2010 on 1+acre. Main level living, paved to the door. New hardwood floors, kitchen appliances & many updates. Wood burning FP in LR, all bedrooms have walk-in closets! Back deck w/breathtaking views! This one is move-in ready!

MLS#26013564 \$1,695,000



Breathtaking 5BR/4BA custom home w/timber frame, vaulted ceilings & multiple FP. Classic elegance w/modern conveniences, inc. custom kitchen w/wood fire pizza oven & butlers pantry. Studio apt., custom pool, 2 fire pits & barn on property. Too many stunning features to list - one of a kind!

MLS#26013961 \$319,900



1st time on market! 4BR/3.5BA home in Mill Creek CC. w/privacy on 2 acres, views from front & back. Hardwood floors on main level, LR w/wood burning FP, formal dining + eat-in kitchen. 2 lg. covered decks, 2 car garage, workshop & many extras in this lovely golf course community.

MLS#26013427 \$159,900



2BR/2.5BA + bonus room home w/+1800 sq. ft. in Otto. Open concept living w/vaulted ceilings & covered deck. Master on main level, family room on lower level w/wood burning FP. Newer roof & updated kitchen & windows. Lovely features in this home.

MLS#26013708 \$179,900



Lovely 2BR/2BA home in Matlock Creek area w/views of pasture on 2.8 acres. Main level living w/brick FP + stone FP w/woodstove insert, family rm on lower level. Dining has lots of windows, 2 screened porches, nice yard & garden area. Owner financing avail. Move-in ready home.

MLS#26012532 \$139,900



Charming 3BR/2BA cottage on .84 lot in Franklin, close to shopping & dining. Main level living w/hardwood floors & easy access to large deck, perfect for entertaining. Lg. master w/en-suite, newer appliances in kitchen. Flat back yard w/storage bldg. This is a must see!



June Tassillo
 Owner/Broker
 828-371-2339

JunesRealtor.com
 JuneTassillo@gmail.com

MLS#26011669 \$169,000



2BR/2BA Villa in Mill Creek CC. Screened deck, one level living w/open floor plan & wood burning FP. End unit w/privacy, backs up to USFS. New roof and paint. Lg. carport, no grass to mow. Great vacation home or rental property.

MLS#26013469 \$535,000



Custom-built 3BA/4BR in Trimont Mtn. Estates w/awesome views. Two levels of wrap-around covered deck, great for outdoor entertaining. Main level living, Gas log rock FP, split bedroom & open floor plan. Lg. kitchen w/pantry, granite counters & plenty of cabinets. Lower level has 2 bonus rms + kitchen/dining/LR/BR & full bath. This house has everything for lg. family retreat!

MLS# 26011723 \$1,650,000



Remarkable custom log home - +4,600 sq. ft. Enjoy sounds of waterfall - +4.5 acres w/creek - massive engineered landscaping that allows you to walk to waterfall w/rock fire pit. Spectacular views of Balsam Mtn. Preserve. Eat-in kitchen & formal DR on main level. Lg. LR w/massive log structures throughout. Glass elevator takes you to all 3 levels. Exceptional mountain living!

MLS#26013213 \$105,000



1BR/1BA condo in beautiful Mint Lake at Mill Creek CC. Open concept w/wood burning FP, vaulted ceilings & screened deck overlooking golf course. Perfect vacation rental or 2nd home w/golf out the back door! Well-maintained unit - ready to move in!

MLS#26010878 \$399,900



JUST REDUCED! Log home w/ 4,000 sq. ft. on 12+ unrestricted acres of privacy. Updated stained outside logs & hardwood floors. Metal roof, vaulted ceilings, rock FP, nice kitchen & 2 covered decks. 2-car detached garage w/screened breezeway + detached 3-car workshop. Full 1BR/1BA apt. w/ garage on lower level. Also could be bought with 26 +/- acres for \$449,900.

MLS#26013050 \$299,900



Amazing custom 3BR/3BA + 2 bonus rooms on 1.27 acres in Ellijay. Main level living w/hardwood floors, stacked stone gas FP & great covered deck for entertaining. Lower level has family/craft room, office, storage, full bath & workshop. Beautifully landscaped. Must see this one!

Rickman Store closes season with Christmas celebration December 14

After eight months of festive weekly gatherings, the historic Rickman Store will close its doors for the winter on Saturday, Dec. 14, with a special holiday celebration and, as it has become tradition, the Nikwasi Dulcimer Players will open the day with a performance at 11 a.m. followed by a sing along Christmas caroling session and the traditional Music Jam at 1 p.m.

The Friends of the Rickman Store (FORS) thank the community for all the support throughout the year and invite all to a full day of fellowship. "It has been a great year that confirms the importance of preserving the past and present of this historic building" said FORS volunteer Elena Carlson, who particularly thanks new volunteers for joining the efforts of Mainspring Conservation Trust in keeping this historic building open to the community.

The historic Rickman Store is located on 259 Cowee Creek Road, seven miles north of Franklin by Hwy NC 28. Additional parking is available at the Macon County Heritage Arts Center at Cowee School. For more information, call (828)369-5595 or follow Friends of the Rickman Store on Facebook.



Mainspring adds to public preserve

Mainspring Conservation Trust has added to their conserved Tessentee Bottomland Preserve property in southern Macon County through a purchase of adjacent farmland owned by Teresa Seay and her sister, Susie Seay Woleslagle.

The 43 acres joins the Preserve's bottomland and river bluff land to now total more than 112 acres. The Preserve, which is open to the public, has grown in sections through the years, totaling four transactions beginning in 1999.

The Seay pasture includes 3,900 combined feet of Little Tennessee River and Tessentee Creek frontage. In 2015, Mainspring and the Seay family worked to restore more than 2,000 feet of Tessentee Creek that lies between both properties, including reconstructing the stream channel to a more stable sinuosity and cross section, followed by sloping, matting and replanting the banks with suitable native shrub and tree species.

"Our father and mother, Roger and Bobbie Seay, purchased the Tessentee tract in the early 1990s, when their beef cattle op-

eration required more pastureland," Teresa says. "We both can remember him being particularly proud of the hay production from this beautiful piece of land."

Executive Director Sharon Taylor said she was thrilled that Teresa Seay reached out to Mainspring. "Many times we don't learn an important conservation property is for sale until it's too late," she says. "We're honored the family initiated the conversation with us first, so we could explore conservation options for the land."

Currently leased to a farmer and home to a herd of beef cattle, Mainspring will continue to contract the land for that purpose on a year-to-year basis. Taylor says she's glad the land will always be conserved, either as farmland or, in the years to come, in a more natural state for the public to visit and enjoy. "Our goal is to conserve the waters, forests, farms and heritage of the region, so either use of this beautiful floodplain property fulfills our mission," she says.

To learn more about Mainspring, visit www.mainspringconserves.org



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'Best of the West' Gallery Walk at The Bascom

Through Jan. 6, 2020, The Bascom presents Best of the West in its Bunzl Gallery.

Long before Europeans settled in the "New World," indigenous peoples were inspired by their dramatic natural surroundings to incorporate both literal and stylized motifs in their pottery, baskets, weavings, jewelry, and beadwork. This inspiration has been transferred through generations and has been both preserved and transformed as new forms of media have emerged. The tendency to romanticize the frontier experience as well as the cultures of Native Americans in the West has given way over time, particularly in the medium of photography, to stark depictions of the ravages of the same untamed nature which also inspired depictions of glorious sunsets and dramatic canyons. This exhibition presents a survey of the artistic works inspired by both the romanticism and reality of the American West, which has inspired man's creativity for millennia.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, at 3 p.m., The Bascom invites the public to join us as Seth Hopkins, executive director at The Booth Western Art Museum, gives a Gallery Walk, talking about the works on display in The Best of the West. Light



The Bunzl Gallery at The Bascom in Highlands is featuring artistic works of the American West through Jan. 6, 2020.

hors d'oeuvres will be served.

The Bascom: A Center For The Visual Arts offers admission free exhibitions year round. Visit the exhibition galleries Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. The Bascom is located at 323 Franklin Road, Highlands, just across the covered bridge.

WCU's School of Music to present the annual 'Sounds of the Season' concert December 8

The annual "Sounds of the Season" concert will be presented by Western Carolina University's School of Music on Sunday, Dec. 8, in the John W. Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center.

The holiday musical tradition begins at 3 p.m. and will include performances by WCU's Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, University Chorus, Concert Choir and Civic Orchestra, along with Balsam Brass and the Cullowhee Wind Quintet.

The family friendly concert concludes with a holiday sing-along and an appearance by Santa Claus.

"The performance is enjoyable for everyone and is always one of the most popular events on the calendar," said Lyn Ellen Burkett, WCU assistant professor of music and an event organizer. "The holiday spirit just comes alive through the songs by ensembles, large and small, and magic fills the air."

A ticketed event, proceeds benefit the School of Music Scholarship Fund.

Tickets are on sale now, with purchases made before Friday, Nov. 15, set at \$15 for adults; \$10 for WCU faculty and staff, and those 60 and older; and \$5 for students and children. Tickets after that date will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for WCU faculty and staff, and those 60 and older, while students and kids remain at \$5. Group rates are available for advance purchase only.

For tickets, call 828-227-2479 or go online to <http://arts.wcu.edu/sos>.



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Deaths & Funerals

Barbara Burns Bradley

Barbara Burns Bradley, 80, of Otto, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2019.

Born in Athens, Tenn., she was the daughter of the late Arlie Taylor and Catherine Morrow Burns. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Donald Burns and grandson, Michael Lee Geiger. She enjoyed crocheting and baking and attended Mulberry United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years, George Andrew Bradley; son, Michael Taylor Geiger (Donna) of Otto; stepson, Shane Cunningham (Jamie) of Franklin; four grandchildren, Patricia, Kevin and Adam Geiger and Destiny Lee; and three great grandchildren, Milenna Frazier, Hailey Riddle and Gavin Riddle.

No services will be held. Memorial donations can be made to Appalachian Animal Rescue, PO Box 81, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Daphne Shepherd Green

Daphne Shepherd Green, 96, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2019.

Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Mamie Shepherd. In addition to her mother, she was preceded in death by her first husband, Crawford Jones; second husband, Lee Green; a daughter, Phyllis Grindstaff; brothers, Perry Shepherd and Walter Shepherd; and sisters, Eula Green, Joann McGaha, Ann Bogan, Imer Hedden and Beulah "Pennie" Hedden. She retired from Belden and was a member of Franklin Church of God. She enjoyed ceramics with good friend, Beatrice Deweese and listening to gospel bluegrass music.

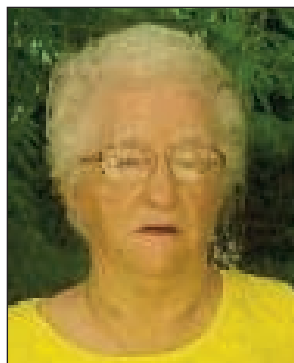
She is survived by seven children, Paul Shuler (Ernestine) of Franklin, Hazel Scott of Franklin, Lonnie Jones (Wanda) of Otto, Jerry Jones of Franklin, Sue Darnell of Rabun Gap, Ga., L.R. Jones of Winter Haven, Fla., and Rachael Guthrie (Richard) of Franklin; 11 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held Friday, Nov. 22, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Ronnie Branson, Rev. Gene Hawkins and Jerry Jones officiated. Burial was in the Shepherd Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Richard Guthrie, David Yonce, Bennie Reynolds, Joe McGaha, Roger Shepherd and Jim Green and Ronnie Beale.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Daphne Shepherd Green

Eva Luz Sundeck

Eva Luz Sundeck, 82, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Monday, Nov. 18, 2019.

Born in Manhattan, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late John Cardona and Alfonza Henriquez Cardona. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John Zinkand and a brother, Robert Cardona. She enjoyed cooking, sewing and spending time with family. She was kind and loving to everyone she met, could strike an in-depth conversation with anyone and everyone and had a funny and humorous wit.

She was the devoted mother of seven children, Linda Lavalley, Tommy Zinkand, Reva Sanders, Eric Zinkand, John Zinkand, Roy Zinkand and Guy Zinkand; and devoted grandmother to 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Friday, Nov. 22, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Wesley Price officiated.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Eva Luz Sundeck

Bobby M. McCall

Bobby M. McCall, 77, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019.

Born in Macon County, he was the son of the late George Bulen McCall and Eva Gregory McCall. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Blanche Velma McCall; sister, Lucille Harris and brothers, Arland McCall, G.B. McCall, Charles "Dink" McCall and Bill McCall. He was a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran and retired from General Motors. He was a lifetime member of VFW Post 8236 in Flint, Mich., and enjoyed taking care of his yard.

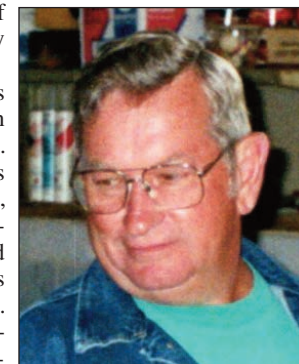
He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Carolyn Setser Waters; two children, Donna Snider of Swartz Creek, Mich., and Rhonda Morgan of Adison, Ala.; two sisters, Rosa Lee Bradley of Franklin and Marcella Ayers of Dallas, Ga.; seven grandchildren, Boyd Browning, Sarah Lara, Lori Banks, Jenna Bailey, Bianca Arnold, Sophia Waters and Stella Bo Waters; 12 great grandchildren and stepson, Samuel Waters.

Funeral service was held Monday, Nov. 25, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Vic Greene and Kenneth McCaskill officiated. Burial was in the Sugarfork Baptist Church Cemetery. Military Honors were conducted by the VFW Post 7339 and the American Legion Post 108.

Pallbearers were Scott McCall, Gary McCall, Dean McCall, Jeffrey McCall, Terry Bradley and Darryl Ayers. Honorary pallbearers were Carnell Moore, Kirk Schiner, Carroll Moore, Dale Morgan, Harold Clark, and Tanner Moore.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Sugarfork Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, C/O Doug Thompson, 287 Sugarfork Road, Franklin, NC 28734.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



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Donna Nickel

Donna Nickel, 65, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Nov. 15, 2019, surrounded by her loving family.

Born in Ft. Myers, Fla., she was the daughter of the late Gene and Wanda Johnson. She was co-founder of "The Walk" skateboard ministry and was a strong witness of her faith in Jesus Christ. She enjoyed crocheting, reading, sewing, and making wreaths and flower arrangements. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt and "Mom" in spirit to countless others. She worked for Macon County Schools at East Franklin Elementary as a library technology assistant.

She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Douglas Nickel; her daughter, Jennifer Nickel Phillips (Zach); her son, Johnathan Nickel (Catharina); her granddaughter and "sunshine" Willow Mae Phillips ("I got you SheiShei"); and her sisters, Suzanne Keen and Marla Rochelle. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, Gene and Wanda Johnson, and her brothers, Eugene "Jim" Johnson and Terry Johnson.

A Celebration of Life is planned for Dec. 7, at 2 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church, 66 Harrison Avenue, in Franklin. A time of sharing and fellowship will follow.

In memory of Donna, and in lieu of flowers or gifts, donations may be made to the Donna Nickel Memorial Scholarship at Western Carolina University, One University Way, 201 H. F. Robinson Building, Cullowhee, NC 28723 (make checks payable to "WCU Foundation" and in the memo line write "Donna Nickel Memorial Scholarship").

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Daniel Jay Yoder

Daniel Jay Yoder, 29, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019. He was born Nov. 30, 1989, in Sarasota, Fla., to Tammy Boettger and the late Bryan Yoder. He worked at Thai Paradise, he loved fishing and watching movies and was always wanting to help people.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by two brothers, David S. Yoder and Derek Yoder of Florida.

His family would like to extend a sincere thank you to Shannon McConnell, Keo and Phet Khioukhom, Tyler and Angel Brooks, and the Thai Paradise employees.

Daniel was loved and will never be forgotten.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving Daniel's loving family.

Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.



Donna Nickel

Sally Kesler

Sally Kesler died Nov. 16, 2019, at her home in the Cartoogechaye Community of Macon County. She was born in Lowell, W.Va., May 28, 1925, to parents Blake and Dorothy Gwinn Kesler who predeceased her as did her only brother, George Kesler. She described a childhood of a love of nature, living close to the earth in a rural and lovely setting along the Greenbrier River, and an appreciation of careful and exacting craftsmanship on the part of her father particularly.



Sally Kesler

She received her BA in Fine Art from Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) in 1948. She went on to the Penland School of Crafts led both by her interest in weaving and by Helen Freas, a professor on campus and the niece of Lucy Morgan, founder of Penland School of Craft. Subsequently, she re-located to North Carolina to the Franklin area to teach crafts and support the work of Rev. Rufus Morgan in his vision for a community health center and craft education center. She and her friend Frances Barr Cargill initiated programs in the community for children and adults alike. Although she enjoyed this work, she soon realized she needed and wanted to develop her own voice in art and have a career that would support her financially.

At Penland School she had met screen printer and designer Emmy Zweybruck who told Sally that if she wanted to learn the craft of screen printing that she should apprentice with Pauline Granichstaden of Boston. Sally applied, was accepted, and spent two years under the guidance of Ms. Granichstaden at the Wellesley Art Studio.

In 1950, Sally returned to Cartoogechaye, a beloved community that reminded her very much of her home in West Virginia. She continued her work of teaching crafts, particularly weaving, and for well over 50 years welcomed weavers each week to learn the craft. Now an accomplished screen printer she was accepted into the Southern Highland Guild and for many years exhibited her prints and woven work at Guild fairs in Gatlinburg, Tenn., and Asheville, N.C. Not only did she become well known for design and skill but also the addition of original poetry and prose to her pieces. Her commitment to the Nonah Craft Center led to its acceptance into the Southern Highland Handicraft Guild as an Education Center in 1955.

Other interests and passions soon led Sally to help found the Nantahala Hiking Club, to become a 4-H leader in the community and to work in community development. For many years she helped "publish" a community newsletter, "The Cartoogee-Jay-Bird." She joined St. John's Episcopal Church, was church organist, and enjoyed gardening and landscaping the church grounds. A knowledgeable botanist and naturalist she also helped establish the Franklin area Greenway. Sally's great love for "little green growing things" kept her outdoors as much as possible, gathering old friends and new to ramble with her through the woods in search of the most elusive seasonal blooms.

She is survived by nieces and nephews, Janlynn Fussell (Wayne), Susan Brooks (EM), Bob Kesler (Tara), Jim Kesler (Suzi), Buck Kesler (Deanna), and her sister-in-law, Jeanne Kessler and many great nieces and nephews, all of Virginia. The whole family gathered with many local friends and neighbors to celebrate her 90th birthday in 2015 in Cartoogechaye.

She leaves behind many friends, a community, and a church family at St. John's Episcopal Church who loved her very much and will miss her immensely.

A memorial service will be held locally at St. John's Church on Friday, Dec. 6, at 11 a.m., with a reception following. Interment of ashes will take place in Lowell, W.Va., in the spring. Memorials may be made to St. John's Episcopal Church, 542 St. Johns Church Road, Franklin, NC 28734.

Many thanks to her caregivers: Michelle, Carolyn, Angie and Veronica and the staff of Four Seasons Hospice who made her last months peaceful and comfortable.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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Seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson announces retirement after 2020 NASCAR season

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - Jimmie Johnson's two young daughters Genevieve, 9, and Lydia, 7, introduced their father and his team owner Rick Hendrick to a sizable audience of Hendrick Motorsports teammates, Johnson's family and friends and the motorsports media gathered outside Charlotte, N.C. Thursday afternoon. His children's involvement in this important event was a fitting life-bridge for Johnson's retirement press conference.

The seven-time NASCAR Cup champion announced Wednesday that the 2020 season will be his last fulltime competitive run in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series. His time afterward will instead be focused on his young daughters, his family – with the opportunity he's created to enjoy a well-lived, duly-celebrated life as a sports legend and genuinely good guy.

And if a racing opportunity comes up here or there that he can't pass up, well Johnson conceded he would definitely be game.

Johnson, 43, took the stage Thursday dressed in a suit, sitting alongside the only Cup team owner he's ever had, in Hendrick. The tone of the media opportunity was as much pride in what he's accomplished both on and off the track as it was setting expectations for his final season.

That part is easy. It's never wavered.

"Next year is not a 'mail it in' year," Johnson said. "We're going to win races and contend for a championship."

After the 2020 finale in Phoenix, however, the driver of the No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet conceded, "I feel like I need to take a deep breath."

He can expect the exhale to be good and satisfactory. Johnson's personality has always been easy-going and he appeared every bit content with this huge career decision. He has turned in a masterful career.

Johnson's 83 Cup Series victories are most among active drivers and sixth all-time – only one trophy behind Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip on the all-time wins list. His seven series championships tie an all-time best mark set by NASCAR Hall of Famers Richard Petty and the late Dale Earnhardt.

In fact, Johnson earned his titles in a time of ever-evolving championship formats that sometimes felt as if they were designed to slow his dominance. However, even that failed to affect his excellence. And those five consecutive Cup trophies he earned from 2006-10 is a mark of success unequalled by anyone in the sport.

And yet for all the trophy-hoists and championship celebrations, Johnson has always remained that humble, friendly 'good guy' from El Cajon, Calif. – a popular kid in his small hometown outside San Diego whose talent and focus has now made him one of his sport's absolute greatest competitors.

And he's coupled that with a devotion to helping others –



At 83 Cup Series victories, Jimmie Johnson, driver of the #48, is only one trophy behind Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip on the all-time wins list.

from building homes in his hometown to granting money to schools across the country.

His 'good guy' exterior – the genuine smile, fun personality and caring heart – has nicely belied the will and drive to succeed above all others. To be one of his sport's historical markers. To win.

Johnson said he has been contemplating his decision to step away for months, but only told Hendrick three weeks ago. He conceded he did discuss retirement with a few other longtime NASCAR Hall of Famers such as Rusty Wallace and Mark Martin. And, of course, he spoke with his good friend, newly inducted NASCAR Hall of Famer Jeff Gordon, who influenced Hendrick to hire Johnson back in 2002 and then raced his fellow Californian door-to-door for titles throughout the last two decades.

Johnson smiled as he recalled telling his young daughters his big news.

"Lydia was eating pancakes at the time and just asked me to pass the butter," Johnson laughed.

His older daughter, he said, has been "processing it - she just wants dad to be happy."

"It's been interesting because I had worked through my head space and so I'm a little further down the road and so excited about where I am today," Johnson said. "I'm really excited and just ready to get 2020 started. We're going to have a good time."

He continued, "When I look back on the years I've had so

far in NASCAR, I fall back to the experiences and the people. Those are the memories that come to mind not holding a trophy in Victory Lane or being on stage in [past championship banquets] Las Vegas. It's the people."

His longtime team owner Rick Hendrick had heartfelt difficulty trying to recall just one single special competitive moment with Johnson – a win or a championship.

"He's represented this sport as a true champion," Hendrick said. "You never had to make any excuses for Jimmie Johnson. He was always on his mark. He never embarrassed anybody and he is just a role model for kids and a role model for drivers. And an athlete I don't see in any kind of sport, that much committed to his job and to his family."

"Everybody knows he's a special guy and on top of that he's one of the very greatest that's ever driven a [NASCAR] car. So I'm just very blessed that I could have a guy like that. Thank you Jeff [Gordon] for pushing him along to win all the races and all the championships for us."

Throughout his time taking questions Thursday, Johnson reiterated that he is not 'retiring'. He said he was excited about opportunities to try different series, mentioning his off-road background and smiling as he noted that even the World of Outlaws had reached out via social media yesterday with an open invitation.

As the expected questions arose asking Johnson to recall his greatest win or most sentimental championship, fans may be surprised to know that he considers his very first victory – in 2002 at Fontana, Calif. in his 13th start as a Hendrick full-timer – to be most special.

He didn't even hesitate.

"For me I go to the first, my dream was to be a Cup driver and to win a race, that was the top for me, so to be able to do that in my home track in my 13th start, that was a very, very special moment," Johnson said.

Having just made his decision public this week, Johnson conceded it was still early to think about his life without the daily grind of a 38-week racing schedule, much less process his place in racing history.

But there was an unmistakable theme in Johnson's heartfelt answers Thursday. And for as competitive as Johnson is, as successful as he is, it was striking that Johnson's most fond memories are as much about the people he's celebrated with as the thrilling accomplishments he's celebrated.

"Legacy-wise, I feel that I'm a people person and I've built a lot of extremely meaningful relationships in this industry and this garage area," Johnson said. "Go back to my younger years and the teams I've raced with, there's always been that feeling there, a friendship, a bond and respect. So ultimately, it's that respect and being one of the good guys out there on the track."

"When I look back at my 18 years so far, my mind goes to those memories and the people I shared those memories with not standing and holding a trophy somewhere. It's much more that headspace of being remembered, not stats. It's more of that heartfelt thing than stats."

At the end of the 45-minute press conference Thursday, after all the questions, the praise and the perspective, Johnson took the time to speak last. He thanked everyone from longtime friends, teammates, Hall of Famers he looked up to, his family and his friends.

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- 8. 252 gallons of wine
- 11. Soprano's song, e.g.
- 12. Pakistani tongue
- 13. Word with foster or health
- 14. Lancelot and Mix-a-Lot
- 15. Unstable particle
- 16. Orangutan, biologically speaking
- 17. *Car safety invention
- 19. Caspian Sea, e.g.
- 20. They flock together?
- 21. "___ the ramparts..."
- 22. *Risqué garb named for atoll
- 25. *Bakelite was first one made from synthetics
- 29. RNs' org.
- 30. Like a pumpkin on Halloween
- 33. €
- 34. "To Kill a Mockingbird" protagonist

- 36. Columbus Day mo.
- 37. Unlock
- 38. Without, in Paris
- 39. Limestone landscape forms
- 41. Broke bread
- 42. *Synthetic for a diabetic
- 44. Putin's currency
- 46. *Willis Carrier's invention conditioned it
- 47. *Aspartame-based sweetener
- 49. Hard tale to believe
- 51. *Scuba diver's gear
- 54. "It's still Rock and Roll" to him
- 55. The Colosseum, e.g.
- 56. Stage part
- 58. Bohemian
- 59. Gold coating
- 60. Fishing rod attachment
- 61. Sticky stuff
- 62. Make a choice
- 63. Big Bang's original matter

DOWN

- 1. Military hospitals

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- 2. Fleur-de-lis
- 3. Irish word for Ireland
- 4. Sushi restaurant "burner"
- 5. Set straight
- 6. Objects of worship
- 7. Fourth down option
- 8. *Little Willie or T-34
- 9. Egg on
- 10. Opposite of paleo-
- 12. Perugia region
- 13. Make less refined
- 16. Court bargain
- 18. Touch of color
- 21. Antediluvian
- 22. Low in La Scala, pl.
- 23. Relating to Quechuan people
- 24. Unstable mesons
- 25. Four-legged friends
- 26. ___ Ligation
- 27. All worked up

- 28. Apple leftovers
- 31. Multicolored horse
- 32. *Acronym that revolutionized TV-watching
- 35. But not always
- 37. Like some suspects?
- 39. Creme de cassis plus wine
- 40. Like Ferris Bueller
- 43. Monet's water flower
- 45. Out of focus
- 47. Provide with gear
- 48. Cover with a story to tell?
- 49. Beginner
- 50. Charlie Parker's sax
- 51. Golden Fleece ship
- 52. Season to be jolly
- 53. High school club
- 54. *Air___, vehicle restraint
- 57. Freddie Krueger's street



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SLIGHTLY USED TIRES & Wheels 285/70R17 Goodyear Adventure "E" Tires mounted on MTT Classic Series Sidebitter II 7-spoke wheels. \$1,700 New, Asking \$950 OBO, Cash Only Jay (832)655-2460. located in Franklin.

Motor Vehicles

2005 CHRYSLER CROSS-FIRE 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.

Rentals

2BD/2BA/FURNISHED HOUSE Weekly or Monthly up to 6 months, 1250 sq ft, spacious kitchen, island, s/s appliances, LR with gas log F/P, new interior, exterior paint, carpet, central heat/air, double carport, private. Includes yard maintenance, electricity, gas, WiFi, DirectTV and internet. Call (828)342-6683. \$1,200 per month. No pets or smokers.

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.

LAND PRIDE RCR1542 42" Bush Hog. Used once. Excellent condition, like new. \$550 or best reasonable offer. (828)369-3402

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.

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

Misc. For Sale

20x20 CARPORT For Sale! \$700. You Must Move! (828)421-1617.

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

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.

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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.

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