

Republicans sweep local races; Cawthorn, Tillis, Cooper win

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

While it may be weeks before the country knows who the 46th President of the United States is, several local and state elections were solidified Tuesday night.

In Macon County's only contested Board of Commissioner seat Republican Josh Young comfortably secured his seat with 73.37 percent of the votes compared to Democrat Betty Cloer Wallace's 26.63 percent.

"I am excited for the opportunity to serve the people of Macon County," Young said Tuesday night. "It is not a position that I will take lightly. I am honored and humbled at this opportunity."

Paul Higdon was also re-elected to the board of commissioners, running unopposed.

Macon County Board of Education incumbent Jim Breedlove was re-elected with 47.22% of the votes compared to Matt Mason's 31.21% and Emily Ritter's 20.12%. Breedlove, who has spent the last 12 years on the board of education, said that while this term will be his last, he has much he still wants to accomplish.

"I am deeply appreciative and very humbled by the level of support shown to me by the many voters in our community," said Breedlove. "I will stand by my ongoing pledge and promise to always be guided by the principle of making decisions that are in the best interest of the students. I value and welcome your



Karl Gillespie (L) and Kevin Corbin were both victors on Election Day. Gillespie is headed for the N.C. House and Corbin is the new state senator for District 50.

comments and suggestions both now and in the future as we move forward together in strengthening education in Macon County."

The Highlands representative on the board of education will see a new face in Hilary Wilkes, who ran to replace Stephanie McCall. Wilkes ran unopposed and secured 97.62 percent of the votes, with 2.38 percent of the votes being attributed to write-in candidates.

Melissa Evans, who represents the Nantahala area on the board of education, was also re-elected after running unopposed.

Western North Carolina's representatives in the North Carolina General Assembly will live just a few miles apart in Macon County as both Kevin Corbin and Karl Gillespie won their campaigns for the Senate and House of Representatives respectively.

Republican Kaleb Wingate, former prosecutor and attorney from Haywood County, secured his seat as District Court Judge over Swain County Democrat Justin Greene.

The United States House of Representatives District 11 seat was called early as 25-year-old Republican Madison Cawthorn defeated Democrat Moe Davis 54.52 percent to 42.36 percent.

See ELECTION page 3

Couple commended for support of FPD

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

A positive commendation launched the Nov. 2 Town of Franklin Council meeting. Police Chief Bill Harrell introduced Howard and Debbie Shiffman and presented them with two civilian recognition certificates for their "staunch support of public safety," explained Chief Harrell. "They told me they wanted to help the police department in any way they can, and they are serious about it. Their support has been a blessing."

Due to a generous donation, the Franklin Police Department is able to "reignite," according to Chief Harrell, a K9 unit program. A new police dog is currently being trained by a handler.

"It takes a community," expressed Howard Shiffman. "First responders are all heroes in our eyes, and we want to support this town ... leave it better."

Commented Mayor Bob Scott to the Shiffmans: "We are proud of you and it means an awful lot to the police

See TOWN COUNCIL page 2



Police Chief Bill Harrell presented a commendation to Howard and Debbie Shiffman at the Nov. 2 Town of Franklin Council

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Highlands passes 'don't feed the bears' ordinance

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TOWN COUNCIL Continued from page 1

department and to the town.”

Following the presentation of the Civilian Commendation Recognition was an updated report from the executive director of the Nikwasi Initiative, Elaine Eisenbraun. A recent survey of 142 respondents determined that many people not only support the historic, heritage, and cultural aspects of the Nikwasi Initiative and efforts such as the recent construction of the Nikwasi Mound kiosk on Main Street, but they also want to “learn more” about the area’s culture and history, pointed out Eisenbraun.

“We have a rich history here ... it’s fantastic ... and people want to know more. That’s encouraging,” she said.

The Nikwasi Mound kiosk is slated to be a part of the Cherokee Cultural Corridor.

COVID-19-motivated changes to Veteran’s Day and Winter Wonderland events were also discussed by the council. Town Manager Summer Woodard told the council that a limited attendance recognition program will be hosted by Special Liberty Project, which recently made its home in Franklin (see Oct. 15 issue of Macon County News). “It will be scaled down, but will have color guards, a short program, and more,” said Woodard.

The Christmas tree lighting will take place Nov. 28, with social distancing and masks required for attendees, and a live streaming feed of the activity. The annual Winter Wonderland is also scheduled for Nov. 28, and again for Dec. 5, but the pandemic is prohibiting such regular attractions as carriage and train rides. Main Street will be closed and retailers will have shops decorated. Plus, just as what occurred for fall, the gazebo square will be decorated with a “larger display” this year for photo opportunities, shared Woodard, since holiday activities are minimized.

Vice Mayor Barbara McRae brought the council up-

to-date on Ray’s Chapel, a fading African American “treasure” in need of saving. (See June 25 Macon County News) McRae explained that not only does the site have historic significance as the first official black church in the area, but also because a Capt. William Addington returned from the Civil War and gave land for the AME Zion Church.

“Most likely he was interested in healing relationships,” said McRae, who has embarked on extensive research into Ray’s Chapel. She referred to the structure as “a little humble building, a former church and school, that has much significance, including as a church that led the way for women’s leadership roles.”

McRae said she believes the town and the community should get behind the restoration of Ray’s Chapel, located on Green Street, because 1) “few African American structures exist;” 2) “it tells the story of the surrounding neighborhood’s experience in Macon County;” and, 3) it will inform the community about the former slaves, Matt and Nan Ray, who started the church and what they contributed to the area. McRae said that Nan Ray lived to be 101 and her grandson, Eddie Ray, is in his 90s and is a world renown musician.

The Town of Franklin Council was apprised by resident Morris Stamey of a water line extension request for 154 Morrison Church Road; a Cross Connection and Back Flow Policy by Town Engineer Nathanael Moore; and, the Franklin Fire Department Sub-Station by Town Attorney John Henning Jr.



Throughout the fall, the Nikwasi Mound educational kiosk, which is part of the Cherokee Cultural Corridor, was installed and the final landscaping completed. Nikwasi Initiative Executive Director Elaine Eisenbraun explained at the Nov. 2 Town of Franklin Council meeting that the kiosk is a first-step in the Nikwasi Initiative beautification process that will take place around the ancient Native American mound.



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ELECTION

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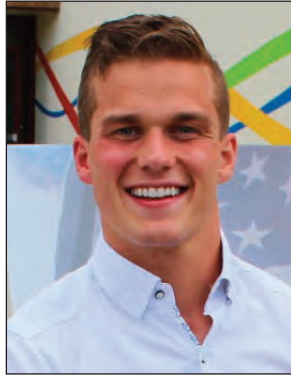
Cawthorn's victory makes him the youngest member to ever serve in Congress, meeting the minimum age requirement during his campaign.

North Carolina's governor race was also definitively determined with Democrat incumbent Roy Cooper winning re-election with 51.48 percent of the votes to Dan Forest's 47.06 percent. The Lieutenant Governor seat was decided 51.66 percent to 48.34 percent of the vote with Republican Mark Robinson becoming the first African American Lieutenant Governor in the state's history.

For United States Senate, Republican incumbent Thom Tillis has claimed victory with around 100,000 votes more than Democrat Cal Cunningham, however Cunningham has not conceded as all mail-in ballots have not yet been counted.

The North Carolina race for president remains close, as expected, with fewer than 100,000 votes separating President Donald Trump and Vice President Joe Biden. North Carolina is one of the last states to call the election, holding crucial electoral college votes that could ultimately decide the election.

Macon County has 27,162 registered voters with 76.4% turnout for this election, the highest in 20 years. Macon



Madison Cawthorn
Photo by Vickie Carpenter

County chose Donald Trump for president over Joe Biden 14,152 to 6,213; Thom Tillis for senator over Cal Cunningham, 13,352 to 6,230; Madison Cawthorn for U.S. Representative over Miles Davis, 13,899 to 6,040; Dan Forest for governor over Roy Cooper, 13,277 to 7,044; Kevin Corbin for N.C. Senate over Victoria Fox, 14,751 to 5,496; Karl Gillespie for N.C. House over Susan Landis, 14,165 to 5,872; Josh Young for Board of Commissioners over Betty Cloer Wallace, 14,709 to 5,339; and Jim Breedlove for School board with 8,138 votes over Matt Mason with 5,551 votes and Emily Ritter with 3,468 votes.

North Carolina has a deadline of Nov. 12 to count absentee ballots postmarked by Election Day Nov. 3. Canvass will be on Nov. 13.



Kevin Corbin addresses family and friends at the after party celebrating his election to the N.C. Senate.



Voter turnout was heavy all through this election cycle with more than 76 percent of registered voters casting a ballot either by early voting, absentee ballot or in-person on election day.

Photo by Vickie Carpenter



2020 has turned out to be a challenging year. Due to the fact that the chamber has not been able to hold any of our annual events, we are excited to announce with a few tweaks, we will be able to host this year's Christmas Celebration.

We have extended the route to include the Highlands Road which will give spectators the opportunity to self distance. We still must follow state restriction, therefore, no walkers will be allowed and nothing can be passed out including candy and flyers.

We are asking our local business to participate and help make this year's celebration the best yet. This event will kick off the holiday season and help to lift everyone's spirit.

Participant applications are available at the Franklin Chamber. Call 524-3161 or drop by and pick up an application for your church, organization or business. Application fees are \$25 and payable to the Franklin Chamber.

Commercial floats are also available for rent. For more information, call Diane at 524-3161. Spectators please social distance and wear masks.

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The Parade Committee reserves the right to remove any entry it deems inappropriate.

Deadline for entries is Wednesday, November 25, 2020

THANK YOU and MERRY CHRISTMAS

Finding housing for homeless greatest challenge for MNB

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Beginning in 2019, but especially in 2020, homelessness became a greater challenge in Macon County – but not for expected reasons such as struggling businesses and a shaky economy. Homelessness has increased, yet the number of people Macon New Beginnings (MNB) is helping has decreased due to a housing shortage.

“It’s taking us six, eight, 10 months or more to find places for people to live,” said Bob Bourke, president of MNB. He, along with his wife, Debbie, his 86-year-old mother, Evelyn, and five dedicated volunteers take phone calls from people in need throughout Macon County.

“Housing has dried up, so people are couch surfing, staying with friends, or sleeping in cars, the woods, or tents.”

In 2018, MNB helped 368 people; in 2019, the organization helped 229. So far this year, MNB has been able to help only 133.

The main goals of MNB are to aid the area’s homeless in a variety of ways, but mostly to help them secure a roof over their heads. Bourke and his volunteers process phone calls and paperwork for people in

need. Clients undergo a background check and are often directed to appropriate resources for assistance that MNB does not provide such as Appalachian Community Services or Meridian Behavioral Health Services if they are suffering from mental-health-related issues; REACH for domestic violence issues; or, NCWorks or Southeastern Community College (SCC) for assistance with interviewing and securing employment.

But with at least 60% of Macon County made up of “second-home people,” according to Bourke, the local housing market is experiencing an unexpected boon – and that drives property values even higher.



“A few friends decided to sell their homes recently and anticipated needing a few months to a year to sell, but they sold their homes within hours of listing them, and one home sold for \$15,000 above the

asking price.”

Higher sales prices on homes drive rent prices. Even on a home that has holes in walls and floors and no insulation can cost renters \$500 to \$800 per month, and landlords are requiring more than just a security deposit because competition is high in the rental market, according to Bourke.

And then there are the chronically homeless that make up about 10% of MNB’s clientele. “Landlords and motels have blacklisted some of them because they have not taken care of the places where they’ve rented. So that makes our jobs harder when they need a place to stay. And with winter coming on, many of these

ferently now than what you were doing the last time you were here?”

“It doesn’t have to be a major step or change,” said Bourke, “but they have to make changes if they are going to improve their lives.”

MNB does not pay clients’ living expenses, fines, etc., but it will temporarily subsidize emergency sheltering, such as when temperatures drop, or assist with getting clients into housing initially and paying some utility bills. Volunteers help clients establish a budget as a necessary life skill.

Many clients seek MNB’s assistance due to job loss or home loss from fire or a natural disaster. Sometimes, in the case of one SCC student, loss of family and income sparked a domino effect and resulted in no incoming support or ability to pay for basic necessities. When the Easter Sunday 2020 mudslides occurred in Macon County, MNB was able to eventually find housing for the individuals affected.

Bourke said he has presented to both the Town of Franklin council and Macon County Commissioners possible solutions to the area’s homeless dilemma, but no overall effort has yet been solidified. “So we are just going to help people as much as we can for as long as we can.”

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we are just going to help people as much as we can for as long as we can.”

He asserted, however, that while more housing is needed, the roots of homelessness can and are being addressed by churches, the community, and local officials.

“So many people have been great to us ... the police, churches, businesses, people in the community,” said Bourke, “but so much can be accomplished by more people coming alongside the homeless and building relationships to learn what got them where they are and to guide them in the right direction.”

Bourke shared that it took several years of relationship building to get one addicted man into the safety of housing after the man experienced extreme cold and frost-bite and had to have some of his toes amputated. “He hasn’t worked out all his issues, but I’ve taken time on this relationship.”

Besides the overwhelming problem of lack of housing, Bourke foresees dropping temperatures – combined with an end to the moratorium on utility bill payments and decreasing COVID-19 aid – to create a “perfect storm” 2021 homelessness crisis. Plus, instead of saving pandemic stimulus money or using it to pay ahead on bills, some clients have squandered their checks.

“I feel like the funds we have right now will get used up quickly if homelessness increases over the coming months,” he said. “Right now the majority of our donations come from seven area churches as well as from individuals and loyal businesses. Donations did slack off for a while because of the pandemic, but they are picking up somewhat. Future donations will help us help the homeless with all kinds of circumstances they might find themselves in.”

Bourke, who founded MNB five years ago but has been involved in the homeless crisis for several years, retired from a career at Drake Enterprises and currently farms his land. “Helping the homeless was not on my bucket list,” he admitted. “But I prayed and prayed for God to lead me and the next thing I knew I was helping homeless folks.”

He pointed out that while the success stories stand out, such as being able to provide “rapid rehousing” without bogging clients down in bureaucracy, the frustrations are many, such as knowing clients are still sleeping out in the elements or in makeshift shelter situations night after night while he and volunteers wait for adequate housing to become available.

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Franklin Chamber of Commerce welcomes new accounting firm to Hyatt Road location

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce welcomed a new accounting firm, Argent Accounting located at 98 Hyatt Road in Franklin.

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Trevor Vernon or Bryan Robinson may be reached at (828)342-6984 or visit www.ArgentAccounting.com for more information or for an opportunity to talk about your accounting needs.

Stewart Communications opens new marketing firm in Franklin

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce joined Morgan Stewart recently to celebrate the opening of Stewart Communications with a ribbon cutting ceremony,

Stewart Communications specializes in marketing, public relations, crisis management, media relations and special events. The company works to grow your business, manage your reputation and improve our community.

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Use of groundbreaking drone work to continue at NCDOT

The N.C. Department of Transportation plans to continue working with its federal partners to find new and innovative ways to use drones for critical transportation needs.

The Federal Aviation Administration announced Friday that NCDOT will be one of the participants in BEYOND, the FAA’s new drone program that replaces the Integration Pilot Program, or IPP, that ended in October after a three-year run.

“Drones are going to be an increasingly important part of our transportation system, and we need to make sure our state and our country are ready for them,” said North Carolina’s Transportation Secretary Eric Boyette. “The tremendous advancements we’ve seen over these past few years laid the groundwork for safe and integrated drone usage, and we’re excited to continue this important work into the future.”

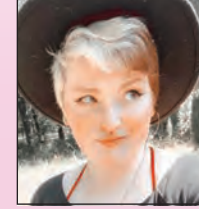
NCDOT’s participation in the FAA IPP has focused on using drones for package delivery and infrastructure inspections, while working out many of the challenges faced when using drones for flights beyond the visual line of sight and flying over people.

In North Carolina, officials will use BEYOND to improve upon many of the achievements from the IPP program. Those achievements included:

- The groundbreaking use of drones to document road conditions after Hurricane Florence;
- The establishment of the country’s first routine commercial drone delivery service;
- The use of drones to deliver medical supplies at WakeMed Hospital in Raleigh, Novant Health near Charlotte, Wake Forest Baptist Health in WinstonSalem and Vidant Healthplex in Wilson;
- The first public demonstration of a passenger drone in North America;
- Delivery of food and other small goods by drone from a Walmart in Fayetteville;
- Issuance of the nation’s first waiver allowing drones to be flown beyond the visual line of sight to conduct bridge inspections.

More than half of all flights completed nationwide under the IPP were flown by the North Carolina team. NCDOT partners flew more than 3,400 medical delivery flights, and NCDOT completed more than 300 flights in response to natural disasters.

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November is Family Caregivers Month

November is National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and National Family Caregivers Month. The Alzheimer's Association's Western Carolina Chapter and Eastern North Carolina Chapter are marking these events by recognizing and honoring the 479,000 family members and friends across North Carolina who are currently caring for a person living with Alzheimer's.

than most people think. Even little acts can make a big difference. The Alzheimer's Association offers the following suggestions for supporting a caregiver. For more information, visit alz.org/honor.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly challenging for Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers during the past eight months. Many of these caregivers have experienced a reduction in outside care and support services, including adult day services, home health care and reduced support from family and friends in wake of social distancing protocols. In addition, many caregivers have had to find new and creative ways to engage their loved ones during quarantine.



How to Support an Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver

"During this month and throughout the year, we celebrate the heroic contributions of Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers, while also raising awareness about the unique challenges caregivers face," said Katherine L. Lambert, CEO of the Western Carolina Chapter. "Never have the efforts of caregivers been tested more than during the past eight months. That is why we are committed to supporting these additional challenges they are facing."

- **Learn:** Educate yourself about Alzheimer's disease – its symptoms, its progression and the common challenges facing caregivers. The more you know, the easier it will be to find ways to help.

- **Build a Team:** Organize family and friends who want to help with caregiving. The Alzheimer's Association offers links to several free, online care calendar resources that families can use to build their care team, share takes and coordinate helpers.


- **Give Caregivers a Break:** Make a standing appointment to give the caregiver a break. Spend time with the person living with dementia and allow the caregiver a chance to run errands, go to their own doctor's appointment, participate in a support group or engage in an activity that helps them recharge. Even one hour could make a big difference in providing the caregiver some relief.

- **Check In:** Many Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers report feeling isolated or alone. So start the conversation – a phone call to check in, sending a note, or stopping by for

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a visit can make a big difference in a caregiver's day and help them feel supported.

- **Tackle the To-Do List:** Ask for a list of errands that need to be run – such as picking up groceries or prescriptions. Offer to do yard work or other household chores. It can be hard for a caregiver to find time to complete these simple tasks that we often take for granted.

- **Be Specific and Be Flexible:** Open-ended offers of support (“call me if you need anything” or “let me know if I can help”) may be well-intended, but are often dismissed. Be specific in your offer (“I’m going to the store, what do you need?”). Continue to let the caregiver know that you are there and ready to help.

- **Help for the Holidays:** Holiday celebrations are often joyous occasions, but they can be challenging and stressful for families facing Alzheimer's. Help caregivers around the holidays by offering to help with cooking, cleaning or gift shopping. If a caregiver has traditionally hosted family celebrations, offer your home instead.

- **Join the Fight:** Honor a person living with the disease and their caregiver by joining the fight against Alzheimer's. You can volunteer with your local Alzheimer's Association chapter, participate in fundraising events such as Walk to End Alzheimer's and The Longest Day, advocate for more research funding, or sign up to participate in a clinical study through the Alzheimer's Association's Trial Match.

In 2019, friends and family of those with Alzheimer's in North Carolina provided an estimated 545 million hours of unpaid care, a contribution valued at \$7.1 billion. According to the 2020 Alzheimer's Association Facts and Figures report, 83 percent of the help provided to older adults in the U.S. comes from family members, friends or other unpaid

caregivers. And nearly half of all caregivers (48 percent) who provide help to older adults do so for someone with Alzheimer's or another dementia. Caregivers of people with dementia report providing an average of 92 hours of care per month.

As part of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and National Family Caregivers Month, the Alzheimer's Association's Western Carolina Chapter and Eastern North Carolina Chapter are offering free virtual education programs and online support groups to help all North Carolina caregivers and their families. For a complete list of upcoming virtual programs or to register for a class, visit alz.org/northcarolina/helping_you/virtual-offerings or call 800-272-3900.

Additional Facts and Figures: (<http://www.alz.org/facts/>)

- Alzheimer's disease is the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States.
- Every 65 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's.
- An estimated 5.8 million Americans are living with the disease, including 170,000 North Carolina residents, are living with Alzheimer's, a number estimated to grow to as many as 14 million by year 2050.

About the Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

Commissioners providing flu shots for uninsured individuals

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Macon County Commissioner Karl Gillespie explained that a recent meeting resulted in the board approving “an amount not to exceed \$10,000, contingent on Board of Health approval,” to be used to administer flu shots for uninsured individuals in Macon County from October through November.

“We are incredibly grateful that the commissioners saw the need to provide this service to Macon County citizens,” said Macon County Public Health Director Kathy McGaha. “By achieving greater flu vaccine coverage throughout Macon County, it will take some of the burden away from physicians and clinics in having to deal with both COVID-19 and flu outbreaks.”

“While I cannot speak for all the commissioners, I think the general consensus was ..., it would be money well spent,” added Gillespie.

Macon County Public Health is currently conducting drive-thru flu vaccination clinics most Wednesdays from 2-5 p.m. at 1830 Lakeside Drive. No appointment is necessary. The remaining flu shot clinics are scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9, and Wednesday, Nov. 18.

Criteria to receive a flu shot involves filling out simple paperwork and acknowledging to medical personnel any allergies. No photo identification is necessary. Macon County employees and/or residents are eligible. The insured can also receive a flu shot and Macon County Public Health will file with the individual's insurance company; and, since there is no co-pay on flu shots, insured participants essentially receive a flu shot at no cost.

Recipients can follow up with Macon County Public Health medical personnel or their private physicians if there are issues or questions after receiving the flu shot.

McGaha said of the continued clinics, “Our hope is that our community will step up and be a hometown hero to protect their community.”

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor - Highlands Mayor

Bids have been opened for the lease and operation of the Highlands fiber optic network which is in the final stages of construction. The town received complete bids from NC Broadband Group, BalsamWest and Hotwire.

The next step will be to select the best bid and move forward with developing and signing a 25-year contract. The board started this process last Tuesday with a special meeting to review the bids. The process of selecting an operator will continue without delay. This selection process will also be on the agenda of the November board meeting. I anticipate additional special meetings to address contract issues.

The town has been working to build a fiber optic network for over five years. This initiative is called the Highlands Smart Cities Project. With fiber to the home (FTTH), this community will be in a strategic position for the future. Frankly, WNC communities are continuing to struggle with full broadband access. This project is a smart city project in that residents, businesses and the town will eventually be able to monitor and manage utilities like water and electric. The town electric and water systems will be enhanced by this monitoring system, and residents will have similar options within their homes.

I believe there are several issues to be considered in selecting the private provider. First, revenues from the lease need to pay back the investment that the town has made in constructing the network. Second, the services need to be reliable and include various options for customers. When the town started the project five years ago the goal was to have an open network. Consequently, we attempted, unsuccessfully, to do a 10-year lease with Wide Open Networks. Since that time I have come to realize that almost any network that provides ample broadband is an open network for consumers. For instance, there are many options available right now for streaming TV channels. For customers, changing TV streaming service is just a click away on the internet. Finally, I hope we can find a network operator that will be a good community partner by providing services that promote community interaction and engagement.

We anticipate the network being completed by the end of the year. Rainstorms have slowed work down. Currently, the contractor is doing the tedious task of fusing the glass fiber together to unify the network. The contractual agreement for the provider may take about as long to complete. Once the contract is signed the company will have to begin staging and setup an office. That process may take as long as three months, so new customers will follow sometime in the first or second quarters of the new year.

On another note, road paving projects funded for this year's budget got underway this week. It should take a week or two to complete the paving. The contractor has as many as 10 trucks delivering the asphalt needed for paving a road. The paving should move rather fast, barring no rain and storm events.



Patrick Taylor

A few hard truths about things that won't change

John Whitehead – The Rutherford Institute

The American people remain eager to be persuaded that a new president in the White House can solve the problems that plague us.

Yet no matter who wins this presidential election, you can rest assured that the new boss will be the same as the old boss, and we — the permanent underclass in America — will continue to be forced to march in lockstep with the police state in all matters, public and private.

Indeed, it really doesn't matter what you call them — the Deep State, the 1%, the elite, the controllers, the masterminds, the shadow government, the police state, the surveillance state, the military industrial complex — so long as you understand that no matter which party occupies the White House in 2021, the unelected bureaucracy that actually calls the shots will continue to do so.

In the interest of liberty and truth, here are a few hard truths about life in the American police state that will persist no matter who wins the 2020 presidential election. Indeed, these issues persisted — and in many cases flourished — under both Republican and Democratic administrations in recent years.

Police militarization will continue. Thanks to federal grant programs allowing the Pentagon to transfer surplus military supplies and weapons to local law enforcement agencies without charge, police forces will continue to be transformed from peace officers to heavily armed extensions of the military, complete with jackboots, helmets, shields, batons, pepper-spray, stun guns, assault rifles, body armor, miniature tanks and weaponized drones.

Overcriminalization will continue. In the face of a government bureaucracy consumed with churning out laws, statutes, codes and regulations that reinforce its powers and value systems and those of the police state and its corporate allies, we will all continue to be viewed as petty criminals, guilty of violating some minor law.

Jailing Americans for profit will continue. Although the number of violent crimes in the country is down substantially, the number of Americans being jailed for nonviolent crimes such as driving with a suspended license is skyrocketing. This is largely due to a scheme that encourages incarceration in private prisons for the sake of profits, while causing millions of Americans, most of them minor, nonviolent criminals, to be handed over for lengthy prison sentences which do nothing to protect society or prevent recidivism.

Endless wars that enrich the military industrial complex will continue. Consider that since 2001, Americans have spent \$10.5 million every hour for numerous foreign military occupations, including in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Police shootings of unarmed Americans will continue. Americans are now eight times more likely to die in a police confrontation than they are to be killed by a terrorist, while police officers are more likely to be struck by lightning than be made financially liable for their wrongdoing.

SWAT team raids will continue. More than 80,000 SWAT team raids are carried out every year on unsuspecting Americans for rel-



John Whitehead

atively routine police matters. Nationwide, SWAT teams have been employed to address an astonishingly trivial array of criminal activity or mere community nuisances including angry dogs, domestic disputes, improper paperwork filed by an orchid farmer, and misdemeanor marijuana possession, to give a brief sampling.

The government's war on the American people will continue. You no longer have to be poor, black or guilty to be treated like a criminal in America. As a de facto member of this so-called criminal class, every U.S. citizen is now guilty until proven innocent.

Government corruption will continue. Our so-called government representatives do not actually represent us, the citizenry. We are now ruled by an oligarchic elite of governmental and corporate interests whose main interest is in perpetuating power and control.

The rise of the surveillance state will continue. Coupled with the nation's growing network of real-time surveillance cameras and facial recognition software, soon there really will be nowhere to run and nowhere to hide.

Government tyranny under the reign of an Imperial President will continue. More than terrorism, more than domestic extremism, more than gun violence and organized crime, the U.S. government has become a greater menace to the life, liberty and property of its citizens than any of the so-called dangers from which the government claims to protect us. This state of affairs has become the status quo, no matter which party is in power.

The government's manipulation of national crises in order to expand its powers will continue. Whatever the so-called threat to the nation—whether it's civil unrest, school shootings, alleged acts of terrorism, or the threat of a global pandemic in the case of COVID-19 — the government has a tendency to capitalize on the nation's heightened emotions, confusion and fear as a means of extending the reach of the police state.

The bottom line is this: Nothing taking place on Election Day will alleviate the suffering of the American people. Unless we do something more than vote, the government as we have come to know it—corrupt, bloated and controlled by big-money corporations, lobbyists and special interest groups — will remain unchanged. And “we the people”—overtaxed, overpoliced, overburdened by big government, underrepresented by those who should speak for us and blissfully ignorant of the prison walls closing in on us — will continue to trudge along a path of misery.

These problems will continue to plague our nation unless and until Americans wake up to the fact that we're the only ones who can change things for the better and then do something about it. If there is to be any hope of restoring our freedoms and reclaiming control over our government, it will rest not with the politicians but with the people themselves.

After all, indeed, the Constitution opens with those three vital words, “We the people.”

What the founders wanted us to understand is that we are the government. There is no government without us — our sheer numbers, our muscle, our economy, our physical presence in this land. There can also be no police state — no tyranny — no routine violations of our rights without our complicity and collusion—without our turning a blind eye, shrugging our shoulders, allowing ourselves to be distracted and our civic awareness diluted.

No matter which candidate ultimately wins, the citizenry and those who represent us need to be held accountable to this powerful truth.

The Macon County NEWS & Shopping Guide

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NCDHHS offers funds for programs to prevent opioid overdoses in former inmates

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services released a request for applications to fund up to \$10.6 million in community-based projects to prevent opioid overdoses for people who are involved in the justice system. "The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly difficult for people who struggle with substance use disorders, and this funding will help us reduce overdoses in our state," Gov. Roy Cooper said. "These programs can make a big difference, but we know that the best way to ensure people without coverage can get the treatment they need is expanding Medicaid to more than half a million working North Carolinians."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, North Carolina has seen a resurgence in another epidemic — the opioid overdose crisis. Since March, North Carolina has seen a 24% increase in emergency department visits for opioid overdoses. Individuals exiting incarceration with substance use disorder are particularly vulnerable to an overdose. According to data prior to the pandemic, formerly incarcerated individuals are 40 times more likely than other North Carolinians to die of an overdose in the first two weeks of re-entering the community. For many residents, COVID-19 has further complicated navigating returning to their community from prisons or jails, as many service providers have shifted the way they operate or now have limited services or hours.

Connecting a person to evidenced based addiction treatment, either before they are incarcerated or once they are leaving jail or prison and re-entering the community, can prevent overdoses and reduce a return to incarceration. This funding opportunity will advance key strategies in the Opioid Action Plan to address the needs of people involved in the justice system, while alleviating pressure on jails and prisons across North Carolina during the COVID-19 pandemic. Community-based organizations, local law enforcement agencies, substance use disorder treatment providers, and others, may apply for grants of up to \$350,000 per year for two years to:

- Create and expand pre- and post-arrest programs to divert people with substance use disorders from jail to appropriate treatment options,
- Create re-entry programs that help connect people to care upon release from incarceration

The grant will additionally award one technical assistance provider to advise and support statewide justice-involved overdose prevention initiatives, and foster peer to peer learning between groups awarded through this grant.

"Substance use disorder is a disease; treatment works and not only saves lives, but reduces recidivism, supports families, and contributes to the economy — it's simply the right thing to do," said Kody H. Kinsley, Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.


This funding opportunity is the first of two RFAs that will fund programs to support justice-involved initiatives. A second RFA will be released in January 2021, which will fund complementary programs.

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HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION IN FRANKLIN

The Franklin community went all out for Halloween with costumed trick or treaters bombarding the streets of downtown Franklin along with the traditional assault on Bidwell Street. Main Street was closed to traffic to allow safe movement for families to hit the stores up for their share of Halloween treats. Bidwell Street was festooned with scary scenery and spooky characters as homeowners sought to upstage their neighbors' display. Photos by Ellen Randall & Betsy Gooder



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Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests October 19 - November 1. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

October 27

Connor Christian Sim, was charged with fugitive from out of state felony burglary, possession of stolen goods/property. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Griffin C. Sanders, was charged with assault on a female. Michael R. Hollifield made the arrest.

Steven Blake Edwards, was charged with failure to appear. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Pete Edward Ives, was charged with assault by pointing a gun. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Nichola Braden Lamb, was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver heroin. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Brooke Amara Legace, was charged with possession of heroin. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Coray Steven Bledsoe, was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver heroin. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

October 29

Hank Riley Galloway, was charged with felony larceny. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

Jessica Lee Roberts, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, forgery of an instrument. Stephanie Robbins made the arrest.

October 30

John Tye Jr., was charged with failure to appear for breaking and entering, possession of a firearm by a felon. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

October 31

Sarah Lynn Webb, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

Adam Force, was charged with simple assault. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Tony Vito Middleton, was charged with simple assault, assault on a government official/employee. Michael R. Hollifield made the arrest.

November 1

Frank William Middleton, was charged with simple assault, assault and battery or participates in simple affray. Michael R. Hollifield made the arrest.

Jennifer Lynn Nations, was charged with burglary/breaking and entering. Emileigh E. Sands made the arrest.

Michael J. Crews, was charged with contempt of court. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

October 24

Michael Reece Herndon, 38, was charged with driving under the influence. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Of-

ficer Evans made the arrest.

Michael Ryan Crippen, 22, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. A \$500 bond was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

October 25

Morgan Corissa Cowart, 25, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

October 27

Levy Roland Mock, 44, was charged with sexual battery. An unsecured bond of \$3,000 was set. Officer Bingham made the arrest.

Stephanie Larsen, 27, was charged with simple assault. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Officer C.T. Chastain made the arrest.

October 29

Matthew Devon Perkins, 27, was charged with forgery of instrument, misdemeanor larceny, possession of drug, driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, fugitive probation violation. Officer G. Hovis made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

October 19

Darryl Ray McAuley, 55, of Whittier, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

David Jason Johnson, 38, of Beaver Rd., Lake Toxaway, was charged with felony probation violation, failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$23,000 was set.

Brad Steven Ohlson, 55, of Mill Creek Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon. An unsecured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Charles Shannon Bryson, 47, of Rivendell Rd., was charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle, motor vehicle theft. An unsecured bond of \$1,000 was set.

October 20

Samantha Marlow, 52, of Hicks Ridge, Blairsville, Ga., was charged with communicating threats, misdemeanor stalking. No bond was set.

Michael Scott Harrell, 25, of River Walk Apartment, was charged with felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance, simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Charles Edward Henson, 42, of Laurel Knob Rd., Cashiers, was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, simple possession of a schedule III controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Angela Crystal Martinez, 41, of 70 Denim Lane, Tuckasegee, was charged with resist/obstruct or delay. No bond was set.

October 21

Nicholas Armando Martinez, 26, of Blanton Dr., Franklin, was charged with damage to real property, damage to personal property, resisting a public officer, assault on a female. No bond was set.

William Garret Pannell, 20, of Cornflower Lane, was charged with failure to appear for possession of heroin, maintain a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Lindsey Nicole Adams, 25, of Walter Ashe Road, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

October 22

Ronald Jamal Billings, 27, of Appleton Dr, was charged

with destruction/damage/vandalism of property, arson. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Kimberly Ann Santy, 39, of Calendar Ct., was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Krystal Rae Miller, 37, of Clay Haven Heights, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property. No bond was set.

October 23

Amber Nicole Simon, 26, of Cullowhee, was charged with breaking and entering non-forcible, breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, larceny of a motor vehicle, resisting a public officer, communicating threats, injury to personal property. A secured bond of \$8,000 was set.

Nicole Marie Raber, 38, of Petunia Lane, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine.

October 24

Dustin Lyle Jones, of Skyland Dr., was charged with failure to appear for larceny. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

October 25

Carolyn Elizabeth Keck Loftis, 30, of Snapdragon Lane, was charged with littering not over 15 lbs, misdemeanor larceny, felony larceny, damage of property, possession of stolen property, larceny of chose in action. A secured bond of \$8,000 was set.

October 26

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

Jadam Elizabeth Valrie Martin, 22, of Utopia Dr., Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for simple assault. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Shelli Day Lowery, 26, of Robin Lane, Bryson City, was charged with resisting a public officer, carrying a concealed gun. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Jason Carroll Lowery, 37, of Robin Lane, Bryson City, was charged with attempted larceny. An unsecured bond of \$2,500 was set.

October 27

Antonio Lamont Smith, 48, of Hornbuckle, Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for misdemeanor probation violation, misdemeanor larceny, misdemeanor probation violation. A secured bond of \$11,000 was set.

Amber Carol-Leigh Bradley, 30, of John Larch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$9,000 was set.

Kenneth David Groat, 38, of Iron Mountain Dr., was charged with statutory sex offense with a child less than or equal to 15, indecent liberties with a child. A secured bond of \$200,000 was set.

Randal Eugene Fowler, 54, of Hive Rd., Glenville, was charged with communicating threats. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

October 28

Wayne Jerry Mathis, 58, of Triangle Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with violation of a court order, domestic criminal trespass. No bond was set.

Travis James Gregg, 43, of Arnold Branch Rd., Franklin, was issued an out of state fugitive warrant. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Kevin David Ritchie, 31, of Hayfield Dr., was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Macon County Animal Control is Limiting Services until at least Nov. 9, due to staff members testing positive for COVID-19. Macon County Animal Services will continue to provide essential services including conducting bite investigations and caring for and treating animals in their care. Macon County Animal Service's lobby will be closed to the public. Animal surrenders, adoptions, stray animal pick-up, and responding to nuisance calls is discontinued until Nov. 9. Those who are looking to adopt or re-home animals may reach out to Appalachian Animal Rescue Center.

Franklin's Mobile Museum, formerly Arduino Club, will meet on Saturdays at 1 p.m., starting on Nov. 7, at the Wesley Park pavilion, at 573 NE Main St. They will discuss and work on various science themed museum exhibits. The exhibits will travel around the region to area schools. Masks are required. For more information, go to franklinmobilemuseum.com.

The Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 4.5 moderate to strenuous hike on Saturday, Nov. 7, with an elevation change of 300 ft., to Rhapsody and Aunt Sally Falls in the northeast corner of Panthertown Valley. The hike begins going gently downhill, crosses a couple of creeks, then goes steeply downhill to the base of the falls. A spur trail goes off to Aunt Sally Falls. Meet at Cashiers Rec. Park at 10 a.m., drive 40 miles round trip. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information or reservations, call leaders Mike and Susan Kettles, at (828)743-1079.

Nantahala Hiking Club Awards Banquet will be held on Sunday, Nov. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m., at the Tassee Shelter on the Greenway. Bring your own brown bag lunch, chair and blanket.

Franklin First Presbyterian Church Community Thanksgiving Meal will be held on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 12 noon to 2 p.m. Traditional dinners of turkey, fixings and dessert will be offered as take-out meals in a curbside pickup from Volunteers stationed in front of the FPC Chapel on 26 Church St. Dine-in service will not be provided. Diners will not include beverages or utensils and patrons do not need to call the church to reserve meals. Cars should enter Church Street from lotla Street and exit onto Harrison Avenue. The public is asked to stagger arrival times during the two-hour meal service to minimize traffic and wait times.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Olive Hill Church Outdoor Autumn Praise and Worship Service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7, 1 p.m. Open gospel mic and testimonies, food and refreshment. Pastor Keith McWhite invites the community to attend. The church is located at 2389 Olive Hill Road.

Spiritual Light Center will host Dr. Faye Streiff on Sunday, Nov. 8, at 11 a.m. Dr. Streiff has her doctorate in Naturopathic Medicine and is well-versed in Arurvedic medicine and herbology, owning and operating an organic farm north of Franklin. She has taught classes from her farm on many topics. She will speak on "The Truth is Within You." The center is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., Franklin.

Grace Baptist Church Harvest-time Revival Nov. 15-20. On Sunday, Nov. 15, 10:30 is Homecoming with speaker Carl Carpenter, special music by Blood Bought Quartet. On Monday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m., the speaker will be Pastor Chris Rumpfelt with special music by Mountain Faith. On Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m., Pastor Chris Rumpfelt is the speaker with special music by Face of Grace. On Wednesday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m., speaker will be Pastor Chris Rumpfelt, special music by Teen Challenge. On Thursday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., speaker will be Pastor Ralph Sexton. On Friday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m., speaker will be Pastor Ralph Sexton, with special music by The White Sisters. The church is located at 139 Setser Branch Rd.

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

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

Franklin First United Methodist Church meets on Sunday, at 8:30 a.m. for in-person worship or online on Facebook Live at Franklin First United Methodist Church. Note that COVID-19 health protocols will be followed for in-person worship. Plan to arrive early for check in, masks are required. The church is located at 66 Harrison Ave. Senior pastor is Rev. David Beam. For more information, call (828)524.3010 or visit www.firstumcfranklin.org

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

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

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

SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

ELKS	ARM	ULNA	DR	CO	CO	RO	OL	NA
SCOTS	EMU	AG	ATE	EM	SC	HE	ME	ES
KEEP	RE	VE	IL	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES
WANT	LIC	VE	IL	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES
ODIN	TOR	VE	IL	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES
RIME	SC	AL	LA	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES
DEBAR	ON	US	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES	ES
SUITED	DE	PT	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES	ES
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COAT	ME	TR	IOS	RE	SC	HE	ME	ES
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Highlands Land Trust offers Brushy Face Preserve trail guide and map

Spending time outdoors, especially in green spaces, is good for you. It can lower a person's stress levels, decrease blood pressure and reduce the risk of asthma, allergies, diabetes and cardiovascular disease, while boosting mental health and increasing life expectancy according to a June 2019 *New York Times* article.

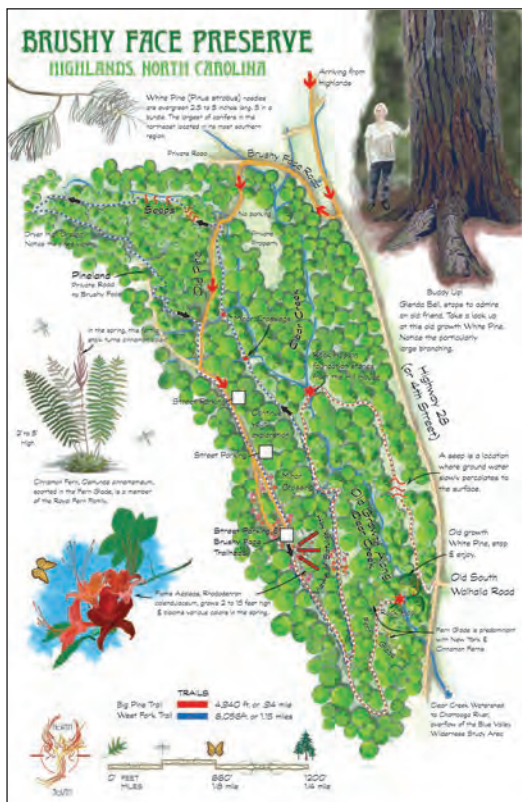
Many of us are finding comfort these days by spending more time enjoying the outdoors. How lucky are we to live here with so many natural amenities right in our backyard? And now, one of Highlands lesser known treasures, Brushy Face Preserve, can be explored using Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust's new trail guide and map. Visit www.hicashlt.org to download.

Nestled amongst some of the world's oldest mountains, located on the Atlantic Ocean side of the eastern continental divide, Brushy Face Preserve is home to diverse flora and fauna including old growth forest, which contains some trees estimated to be more than 200 years old. Hikers can traverse this moderate trail which

offers a gentle grade, two creek crossings via a rock hop, a lush fern glade and forest understory largely populated with flame azaleas. The preserve is only about a 10 minute drive from downtown Highlands and boasts plenty of parking.

The best part about this secluded forest oasis is that it will be conserved forever thanks to a collection of families who chose to protect it. In 2001, the Brushy Face Mountain Consortium was formed and 75 acres were given to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust in 2015 to be conserved in perpetuity. Since taking ownership, Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust's Ameri-Corps-led volunteers have built the entire trail by hand. What better time or place to socially distance while connecting with your loved ones and with nature.

To learn how you can contribute, contact julie.hitrust@earthlink.net. To learn more about our mission to conserve our valuable natural resources for all generations visit www.hicashlt.org.



Highlands ordinance: 'don't feed bears'

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

According to the National Park Services, black bears become more active and bolder in the fall because they are on the hunt for food. The goal is to store up reserves and put on weight for winter hibernation. And while many people understand National Park Services' warnings to "not feed the bears," because "bears that eat human food can lose their preference for natural food sources and their fear of humans," some people purposely feed bears or leave trash out.

At the recent Town Board meeting, Highlands' Mayor Pat Taylor presented an ordinance against feeding wild animals.

"I have been told that there are some owners of VRBO rentals who have encouraged their renters to throw leftover food into their yard so they can have a 'bear photo experience' while they are here, which means they are consciously feeding the bears in town."

Bears have historically been more active and present in Highlands, but they are also spotted in Franklin and have even gone onto Main Street. The Town of Highlands has already mandated bearproof garbage cans throughout the town.

The new ordinance reads:

a) Intentional feeding of bears is prohibited



Bears are attracted to garbage and food left out around people's homes, especially during fall months when they are trying to gain weight and store up food reserves for winter hibernation.

within the town of Highlands.

b) Leaving food, garbage or any other substance in any manner that attracts or allows bears access is prohibited in the Town of Highlands.

Sec. 3-5. – Violations.

Violations of this subsection shall be punishable by a civil penalty of two-hundred and fifty dollars (\$250).

Sec. 3-6. – Enforcement.

Officers of the Highlands Police Department and/or North Carolina Wildlife Officers are responsible for enforcing this ordinance within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Highlands.

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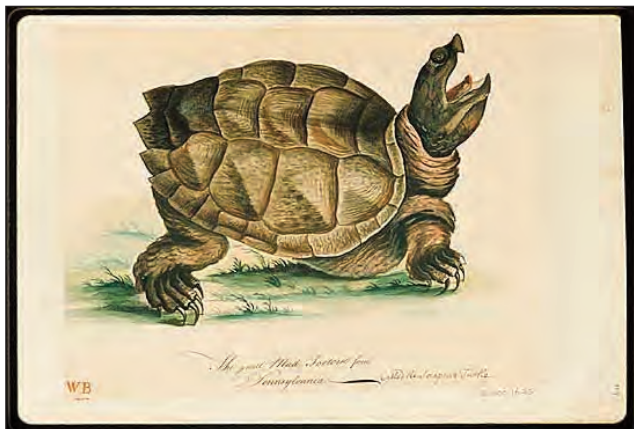
‘Reimagining Bartram’ art reception Friday at library

Macon County Public Library is hosting Reimagining Bartram Art Reception Friday, Nov. 6, from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Several local artists have been reimagining 18th century explorer William Bartram's artwork and what he saw and wrote about while visiting the area.

Art inspired by Bartram will be on display in the Meeting Room and the Living Room areas of the library in order to encourage social distancing while viewing the art. Art will be on display in the library throughout the months of November and December, then will move to the Highlands Biological Station and Nature Center next year. Call the library at (828)524-3600 for an appointment Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors will be able to meet and visit with some of the artists, and the patio area will be open for a brief talk about Bartram and the exhibit.

Masks are required to be worn in the library at all times.



Native American Heritage Month still on schedule to be celebrated at WCU

November is Native American Heritage Month and events adhering to pandemic protocols have been scheduled for Western Carolina University.

Many of the events will be held virtually, with the recognition intended to provide a platform for native peoples to share traditional culture, music, crafts, dance and concepts of life, as well as raise awareness of their history and challenges. The monthlong activities are sponsored by the Cherokee Center, Cherokee Studies Program, Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Programs, Intercultural Affairs Department and Digali'i i Native American Student Organization.


“This month is an important opportunity to share our cultural values and recognize our place within regional history and the campus community,” said Sky Sampson, director of the Cherokee Center, the university’s office for tribal outreach and partnership development, with a broad range of services, including college applications and alumni engagement. “This year, many of the events that traditionally involve gatherings of people will still occur, only in social media and online platforms, or in safe, limited capacity settings.”

Throughout November, WCU will host “The Art of Native Photography Exhibit” in the Intercultural Affairs gallery in the A.K. Hinds University Center. Other scheduled activities include Tribal Identity in Public Settings panel discussion, 5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, on Facebook Live and a Native American Heritage Festival, as a social media event, Tuesday, Nov. 17.

WCU’s Cherokee Center is located at 1594 Acquoni Road, Cherokee, and is the headquarters for communication between WCU and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. For more information, contact Sampson at snsampson@wcu.edu or (828)497-7920.



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Proper storage extends life of leftover seeds

Melinda Myers – Columnist

As you pack away the garden hose, tools and other supplies or transition to your winter garden, do not overlook those leftover seeds. Proper storage can extend their life so you will need to buy fewer seeds next season. With another shortage of garden seeds predicted for 2021 you will be glad you did.

Leave the seeds in their original packet whenever possible. It contains all the information you need to make planting easier and increase your success next season.

Place the seed packets in an airtight container such as a recycled jar or plastic storage container. If you have lots of seeds, consider organizing them as you pack them away for winter.

Arrange them alphabetically from A to Z using dividers for each letter of the alphabet or organize them by planting season. Group seeds to be started indoors together and those that go directly in the garden by the month they should be planted.

Seal the lid on the container and place in a cool, dark location. The refrigerator is perfect, providing consistently cool temperature that increases seed storage success.

The longevity of a seed not only depends on proper storage, but also varies with the type of seed.

Eggplant, muskmelon, and Brussels sprouts will last five years or more while onions and parsnips may only last a year. Give leftover flower seeds the same care. Heliotrope, verbena, sweet William, geraniums, and Shasta daisies typically last one or two years.

Impatiens, Geums and Tithonia (Mexican sunflower) usually maintain viability for two years while ageratum, alyssum, amaranth and yarrow can last four years or more.

Take an inventory of your seeds as you pack them away in storage. Reference this list as you begin planning next year's garden. You will be able to see what seeds you already have



Leave leftover seeds in their original packet whenever possible and store in an airtight container for next season. Photo Melinda Myers, LLC

and focus on those you need.

If you have extras or seeds you do not plan to use, consider sharing some with a friend. Most of us do not need to plant all 20, 30 or more seeds in a packet. Sharing and trading with friends or donating to schools, community gardens, master gardeners, or other groups that may lack the resources to buy their own seeds is a great way to make a difference. Everyone will save money while growing beautiful and productive gardens.

Do not discard older seeds. They often outlast the average and continue to sprout at an acceptable level. You can test the seeds prior to planting. Just take ten seeds and wrap them in a damp paper towel. Then place in a plastic bag and wait to check for sprouting in a week or two. If all the seeds sprout, you can plant according to the packet. If only half sprout, you need to seed twice as thick.

Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Visit www.MelindaMyers.com.



Deaths & Funerals

Jacob David Bilodeau

Jacob David Bilodeau, 26, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020. He was born to Candace Johnson Askew and the late David Francis Bilodeau on Dec. 5, 1993, in Fulton County, Georgia.

As a child he was a member of the Branchville Christian Church and the church youth Group, and Boy Scouts of America. He loved playing with Legos as a child and building big objects. He always enjoyed being outdoors, playing baseball and soccer. He loved cats and dogs, hanging with his friends and listening to music.

He is survived by his parents, Brad and Candace Askew; four siblings, Ray Wainscott (Kathryn) of Blue Ridge, Ga., Stephen Askew (Emily) of Lexington, S.C., Rachel Faris (Kevin) of Cumming, Ga., and Chavela Bryant (Page) of Lexington, S.C.; grandparents, Charley and Janice Speir of Fayetteville, Ga.; two uncles, Rick Johnson (Sara) and Randy Johnson; three aunts Susan Harris, Vickie Page and Patti Parrish (Charles); nieces and nephews, Tamara Gump (Drew), Kaden Bryant, Tristen Bryant, Harper Anderson, Everleigh Anderson, Tinsley Askew, Colton Faris, Maxx Faris and Cole Faris; many cousins; and his beloved dog, "Lucy." In addition to his father, he is preceded in death by his grandmother, June Johnson (Nanny); grandfather, Albert Johnson (Papa); and grandmother, Betty Johnson (Grinny)

A funeral service was held Saturday, Oct. 31, at the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with Rev. Wayne Manning officiating.

The family ask in lieu of flowers that donations be made to: Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America PO Box 424053 Washington, DC 20042.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Bilodeau family.

Online condolences at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

Earl Sanders

Earl Sanders, 86, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, Oct. 31, 2020. He was born in Macon County, North Carolina, on March 12, 1934, to the late Sam D. and Callie S. Sanders. A veteran of the U.S. Army, he served two years in the infantry at Fort Ord in California. He owned and operated Franklin Top Shop from 1976 until retiring in 1999. In his spare time he enjoyed gardening, farming, reading, working in his metal shop and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Christine Pressley Sanders of the home; three sons, Tony Sanders, David Sanders (Felisa) and Mark Sanders (Reva) all of Franklin; and four grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Jesse Scott and two brothers, Lewis Sanders and Mack Sanders.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Sanders family.

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



Jacob David Bilodeau



Earl Sanders



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To our dear friends

The family of Patti McClure,

would like to thank you for all your support and kindness over the years, particularly during the time of Patti's passing. We felt so loved and honored for the time you took to send cards or flowers, make a call or visit, or bring food. For being a part of or attending Patti's Celebration of Life Service and for your gifts of love, thoughts and prayers we will forever be grateful. We will miss her every day, but friends like you will make the days brighter. A special 'thank you' to the First Methodist Church, to Dr. Helms and his staff, to Dr. Barrier and his staff, to Larry Buchanan and the staff of Macon Funeral Home and for Phil Drake and the folks at The Smoky Mountain Performing Arts.

With Much Love and Appreciation,
Sam, Skip, Chad, Max and all of Patti's Family

Hardin 'Junior' Gribble

Hardin "Junior" Gribble, 71, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, Oct. 31, 2020.

Born in Macon County, he was the son of the late Hardin A. and Mary Rogers Gribble. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Doris Owens, Robert Gribble, and Mary Anne Gribble. He was a heavy equipment operator who worked hard building roads. He proudly served his country in the Army during the Vietnam War. He was a member of the Union United Methodist Church. He enjoyed fishing, camping, hunting and just over all being outdoors. He loved life and his dogs.

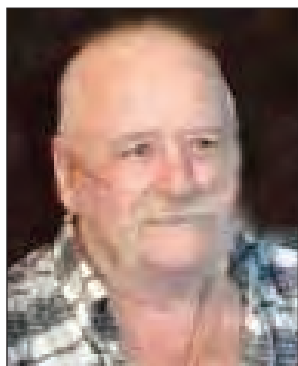
He is survived by his loving wife, Karen Byers Gribble; children, Jeremiah Gribble, of Franklin, Theresa Townsend, Christal Spaulding, Holly Lanning, Angela Lanning, and Shawn Byers; twin sister, Helen Short of McBee, S.C.; sisters, Lana Hires and Betty Accord, both of Franklin, and Carol Pollock, of West Palm Beach, Fla.; and two grandchildren, Cody Byers and Joshua McMahan.

No services are planned at this time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Vietnam Veterans Association, Chapter 994, C/O Dick Sheenan, 249 Sloan Road, Franklin, NC 28734

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Hardin 'Junior' Gribble

Carmen Joy Trine

Carmen Joy Trine went to be with the Lord, on Oct. 26, 2020, while under hospice care. She was born in Michigan, started her family in Florida, then resided in Franklin, N.C., for over 30 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Vic Trine and her daughter, Joy Blondun.

She is survived by her children, Tina Romanowski (Albert), Robin Haase (Ron), Cathy Langereis (Paul), Randy Trine, Ronald Trine, Richard Trine (Dem) and her son-in-law, Glenn Blondun (Kim); 18 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren; her siblings, Jeanne Vaughters (Bill), Jane Anne Walker, Randy Coulter (Sharon), Diane Gass and Caralie Knable; along with many dear nieces and nephews.

She loved life and had the opportunity to accomplish many things. She was a CNA at Angel Hospital, a Hospice volunteer coordinator, a bank loan officer, and a bus driver. She was an active member of her church, a Mahjong instructor, a Franklin Garden Club member, and a volunteer at the Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Center. She loved parties, storytelling, card playing, poetry, hats, adventure, children, laughter, hospitality and reading the Word daily. She also helped others by opening her home, hosting grand parties to celebrate holidays or important events and giving of herself and her blessings to others. In her 50s and 60s, she kept her grandchildren for a month every summer. She shared the wonders and beauty of the Smoky Mountains with them. This included chores, sliding rock, singing, gardening, berry picking, bungee jumping, Picken's Nose, Jack Rabbit, Standing Indian, Deep Creek, Nantahala white water rafting, and ruby mining. She will be greatly missed for the impact she had on so many she knew and loved.

A memorial service was held Sunday, Nov. 1, at First Alliance Church of Franklin.

In lieu of flowers, gifts can be sent to First Alliance Church of Franklin, 31 Promise Lane, Franklin, NC 28734; Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center, 226 E. Palmer St., Franklin, NC 28734; or Hospice House Foundation of Western North Carolina P.O. Box 815, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Carmen Joy Trine

Doris Teague Mottinger

Doris Teague Mottinger, 82, died peacefully at her home surrounded by her family in Burlington on Oct. 30, 2020. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elmon Marion and Wilma Moffitt Teague, her infant son, Stephen Teague and husband, Walter T. (Pete) Mottinger.

She was born on a farm in Macon County near Franklin, N.C. She was a graduate of the Women's College of UNC (UNC-G) with a degree in Home Economics and was an active member of the ADK sorority. She was a teacher with Alamance/Burlington School System for 30 years. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, active in Sunday School and Circle 4 and served as a deacon. She and her late husband Pete also enjoyed working with the Furniture Ministry.

After a medical mission trip to Peru, her life was transformed in meeting the Vargas family as well as their community of friends and family. Her special Peruvian children called her "Mama Doris." They include Elizabeth, Victor, Hans, Robinson, Leslie, Daniel B. and Daniel C. This inspired her to take Spanish classes for more than 15 years. She was passionate and involved in the lives of her treasured Peruvian children.

Family was extremely important to her and she treasured the family reunions and holiday time. She was able to travel on many adventures with her children and grandchildren, most recently including Alaska, Hawaii and London.

In first meeting Doris, you were greeted by her warm smile and would be surrounded with laughter. She brought humor to all situations.

She is survived by her sons, Kenneth Vincent Mottinger and Walter T. (Ted) Mottinger IV, daughter-in-law, Michelle Harris Mottinger; cherished grandsons, Zachary Harris and Matthew Stephen Mottinger; her sister, Frances Teague (Jim) Tate; brother, James M. (Carolyn) Teague of Burlington N.C.; nieces, Connie Tate Adams, Katherine Tate Parker, Susan Teague Reed; and nephews, Ed Tate and Mitchell Teague.

A graveside service was held at Pine Hill Cemetery on Tuesday Nov. 3.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, c/o The Furniture Ministry, 508 West Davis Street, Burlington, NC 27215.

Condolences may be offered at www.richandthompson.com.



Doris Teague Mottinger

Lillian Ann Nauheimer

Lillian Ann Nauheimer, 77, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Monday, Oct. 26, 2020.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late Serafino and Mary Gullo Egitto. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her two brothers, Anthony and John Egitto.

She enjoyed crocheting, painting, painting ceramics, cooking, baking and researching ancestry. She was of Italian descent, she treasured and kept alive her Italian traditions. She enjoyed going to Italy to meet family. She started the Vagabond Camping Club where she enjoyed coordinating trips and activities.

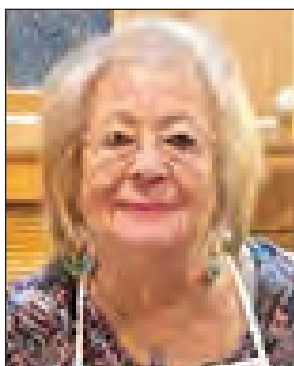
She is survived by her husband of 59 years, George Nauheimer; children, Coleen Nauheimer Ortiz (Todd), of Franklin and Tim Nauheimer (Marie), of West Islip, N.Y.; and three grandchildren, Christian, Christie and Vincent.

A memorial service was held Sunday, Nov. 1, at Macon Funeral Home. A time of gathering will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, at www.diabetes.org.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Lillian Ann Nauheimer

Michael Lee Sprinkle

Michael Lee Sprinkle, 54, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Monday, Nov. 2, 2020.

He was a lifelong resident of Franklin, born in Macon County to the late John and Anna Elizabeth Candler Sprinkle. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Doris Ann McCoy and Hilda Heine, and a brother, James "Jimmy" Larry Sprinkle.

He was a very talented flooring installer. He enjoyed cooking, raising a garden and canning. He attended Mt. Sinai Assembly of God.

He is survived by his daughter, Elizabeth Leigh Sprinkle of Athens, Ga.; siblings, Mary Sue Tedder, Janet Rowland (Marty), John Sprinkle (Jean) and Bill Sprinkle (Cathie), all of Franklin; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, Nov. 5, at 2 p.m., in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home with Rev. Davis Hooper officiating. Burial will follow in the Woodlawn Cemetery. The family will receive friends one-hour prior.

Due to COVID restrictions, the family will not be gathering prior to the visitation, social distancing will be practiced, and masks should be worn.

Pallbearers will be Keith Rowland, Keith Hagan, Sam McRae, Scott Alderson, Eric Ensley, Tim Teague, Mike Connor and Robert Moore.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Macon Funeral Home to help with funeral expenses.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Michael Lee Sprinkle

James Floyd Maney

James Floyd Maney, 78, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Tuesday, October 27, 2020. He was born in Clay County, North Carolina, April 8, 1942, to the late Weldon Maney and Ada Ellis Maney. He worked in the tree and lawn service.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Maney; a sister, Joyce Ann Maney of Bryson City; a brother, Harry Maney of Seneca, S.C. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by a daughter, Patricia Maney; a son, William Maney and a brother, Fred Maney.

No services are planned.

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

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Chase Elliott wins thrilling Playoff race at Martinsville; advances to Championship 4

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

Chase Elliott cruised to an impressive 6.577-second victory over Ryan Blaney Sunday in the Xfinity 500 at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway for the most clutch victory of the 24-year old's young career – earning a position in next week's NASCAR Cup Series Championship 4 season finale.

Equally as dramatic was a failed last lap pass for position that has eliminated the regular season champion and nine-race winner Kevin Harvick from advancing to that final round. Harvick had to pass 2019 series champ Kyle Busch for one position – one point – to be able to advance to next week's title race and instead the cars crashed after making contact. Harvick ended up 17th, eight points shy of a Playoff berth.

With his victory, the Hendrick Motorsports driver Elliott joins Team Penske's Joey Logano, who advanced to the title race with a victory two weeks ago at Kansas. Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin, a seven-race winner, raced his way into the Championship 4 with an 11th-place finish at Martinsville and Logano's Team Penske teammate Brad Keselowski, who finished fourth Sunday, was the final driver to earn a championship opportunity.

"Just so proud," said Elliott, who was ranked sixth in the championship, 25 points below the cutoff line entering the race and was in a must-win position to earn his career first chance at NASCAR's most prestigious championship. "To be backed into a corner like that and have to win tonight, I feel like that's what we've been missing these past four of five years. To perform when we don't have a choice. And to do that tonight, I couldn't ask for a better night. It's just unreal."

Elliott, who led a race best 236 of the 500 laps, took the lead for good with 43 laps remaining after passing Martin Truex Jr., who thought he had a loose wheel. Truex, who also needed to win to advance to the Championship 4 for the fourth straight year, nursed his car home in 22nd place instead.

After taking the lead, Elliott was able to drive away from the field and the three Team Penske teammates Blaney, Logano and Keselowski who finished second, third and fourth, respectively. Playoff drivers Kurt Busch and Alex Bowman – both needing a victory to advance – finished fifth and sixth, followed by Harvick's Stewart-Haas Racing teammates Aric Almirola and Clint Bowyer. Matt DiBenedetto rounded out the top 10.

Ultimately eight points separated Keselowski from Harvick after the checkered flag, but it was a long, tense day of math and motivation for both former series champs. Had Harvick been able to pull off that last lap pass on Busch, he would be challenging for a title instead of Keselowski.

Harvick had a tire go down early in the race causing him to make a green flag pit stop and lose two laps putting him in catch-up mode on the half-mile Martinsville track - one of the most challenging venues on the circuit.

"Everybody kept battling there and I tried to run into the door of the 18 as a last-ditch effort there and spun him out there so sorry to put him in the middle of trying to gain a point. Not a great three weeks. It didn't go our way. We fought for everything we had and it just came up short," said Harvick.

While Hamlin, who will be making his second consecutive Championship 4 appearance, said as excited as he was to make the



Chase Elliott, driver of the #9 NAPA Auto Parts Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Xfinity 500 at Martinsville Speedway on Nov. 1, 2020 in Martinsville, Va.

title round, he still felt badly that after a season like Harvick had, that he ultimately would not be championship-eligible. The two won 15 of the 35 races.

The Season Finale 500 at the one-mile Phoenix Raceway takes place next Sunday at 3 p.m. ET (NBC, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

Martinsville's victor Burton snatches another Xfinity Playoff win Harrison Burton may have fallen out of championship contention weeks ago, but the 20-year old is driving every bit like one right now earning his second consecutive NASCAR Xfinity Series victory Saturday afternoon in the Draft Top 250 at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway.

The driver of the No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota held off veteran and NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff contender Justin Allgaier by a mere .355-seconds and led the final 53 laps of the race to become the youngest winner (20 years, 22 days) in series history at the famed half-mile track – bettering his own father Jeff Burton's mark (23 years, two months, 24 days).

Burton's 81 laps out front on the day was best in the field and his win was the rookie's fourth on the season. It came in the series first race at Martinsville Speedway since 2006.

"Great race car and best team in the garage," Burton excitedly told his father, a broadcaster on the NBC race telecast as he made his way to the finish line for a victory burnout.

And while it was an important personal triumph for the second-generation driver, Burton's victory had an important impact on the ultimate championship battle - three of the final four championship-eligible positions were decided by points. Allgaier's runner-up effort was good enough to allow him to transfer to the title round next week at Phoenix, joining Saturday's 10th-place finisher Austin Cindric, 12th-place finisher Justin Haley and seventh-place Chase Briscoe, who had already advanced with a win two weeks ago.

Crossing the line just behind Burton and Allgaier to round out the



Harrison Burton, driver of the #20 DEX Imaging Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series Draft Top 250 at Martinsville Speedway on Oct. 31, 2020 in Martinsville, Va.

top five Saturday were Noah Gragson, the winner's cousin, Jeb Burton and Ross Chastain – with Gragson and Chastain falling just short of advancing into the Championship 4 round. Brandon Jones (ninth place) and Ryan Sieg (11th place) also failed to earn a position in the Championship 4.

Those motivated to earn a title shot certainly put in the effort, however. Gragson won the Stage 1 and led 23 laps on the day. Chastain won Stage 2 and led 31 laps on the afternoon.

Pit strategy ultimately played a big role, however. Non-championship contenders such as Burton and veteran A.J. Allmendinger, who led 68 laps, were able to gamble on pit stop timing and track position. Allmendinger had the lead after the Stage 2 restart and he and Burton were the only two drivers to trade the top position from there on out while the early leaders navigated back up through the field in traffic.

Of the four drivers who have advanced to decide the championship next week at Phoenix, Allgaier is the only one with previous experience in the Championship 4. This will be the 34-year old driver of the JR Motorsports No. 7 Chevrolet's fourth chance to earn the title. His previous best championship finish in this Playoff format was third – both in 2016 and 2017. He is a three-race winner this season.

Briscoe, 25, who has a series best nine victories in the No. 98 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford, has a best championship finish of fifth – last year. Cindric, the regular season champion and a five-race winner in the No. 22 Team Penske Ford, is also making his Championship 4 debut. His previous best showing was sixth place in last year's championship. Haley, 21, the driver of the No. 11 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet and three-race winner in 2020, will also be making his Championship 4 debut.

The NASCAR Xfinity Series will decide the 2021 championship, Saturday, Nov. 7 in the Desert Diamond Casino West Valley 200 at Phoenix Raceway (at 5 p.m. ET on NBCSN, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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THEME: PROVERBIALY SPEAKING

ACROSS

- 1. Bornean ape
- 6. Casino's pull
- 9. Elbow-wrist connection
- 13. Paralyzing disease
- 14. Pigeon sound
- 15. Teething drops
- 16. Mary's subjects (1542-1567)
- 17. Ostrich-like bird
- 18. September stone
- 19. *One responsible for someone else's welfare
- 21. *Both rodents and humans like to come up with these
- 23. Name fit for a king
- 24. Wedding cover
- 25. Like a dim star
- 28. Head vermin
- 30. *Like the schemes of a fool, biblically speaking
- 35. Thor's father
- 37. Cleopatra's necklace
- 39. Blood carrier
- 40. Ice on a window
- 41. Famous Teatro alla

- 43. Took to court
- 44. Prevent
- 46. Burden of proof
- 47. Leprechaun's land
- 48. Fit
- 50. Cabinet div.
- 52. Steadfast Soldier's material
- 53. Letter before kappa
- 55. European Economic Community
- 57. *It increases love and friendship
- 61. *It will cause additional harm
- 64. Raccoon relative
- 65. Short for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC
- 67. Huey, Duey and Louie, e.g.
- 69. #41 Across location
- 70. Prior to, pref.
- 71. Organ swelling
- 72. Benevolent fellows
- 73. African tam-_____
- 74. English county

DOWN

- 1. Roman goddess of plenty
- 2. *It's just as unpleasant as a hard place
- 3. Sunburn soother
- 4. Fertilizer ingredient
- 5. Luke's teaching, e.g.
- 6. Laptop manufacturer
- 7. Data storage acronym
- 8. *Cowards are sometimes compared to this
- 9. Encourage

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- 10. Good earth
- 11. Sound on a scale
- 12. Saloon selections
- 15. Perennial garden flower
- 20. Signs for escape
- 22. Post-Soviet Union alliance, acr.
- 24. Covered porch
- 25. *Can't use these to break a skeleton
- 26. Farewell, to ami
- 27. Nimbus, pl.
- 29. Gabrielle Chanel's nickname
- 31. *Keep it clean to stay out of trouble
- 32. *It's tastier if one is not allowed to have it
- 33. First cradles
- 34. Filled with cargo
- 36. Like whiskey right out of bottle
- 38. Classic board game
- 42. Colorado ski resort
- 45. Curb, two words
- 49. Disney dwarf
- 51. ACT taker, e.g.
- 54. Dangle a carrot
- 56. Miss Muffet's meal
- 57. "The Road Runner" corporation
- 58. Skin infection
- 59. #13 Across conqueror
- 60. J.F.K. postings
- 61. Bookkeeping entry
- 62. *Don't make inquiries if you don't want to hear this
- 63. Hefty volume
- 66. Chapter in history
- 68. Coltrane's woodwind

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Animals

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

Community Fundraisers

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

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

ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR Friends of the Greenway, Saturday, November 7, 9-3. Safety precautions in place, greater vendor spacing, masks are required for vendors and FROG volunteers, encouraged for all others.

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

Anglin 828-349-4500
RV • TRUCK & TRAILER 9957 Georgia Rd. Otto, NC
In Otto since 1998

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WRITE YOUR OWN CLASSIFIED AD

Ads starting at \$8 a week
Each additional word is 20¢

Deadline Monday at 3 p.m.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Number of Insertions: _____ Starting Date: _____
Bold (add \$1): [] _____

(Numbers, abbreviations and initials count as words)

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	\$8.20	22	\$8.40
		23	\$8.60
		24	\$8.80

CIRCLE CATEGORY

- Animals • Auctions/Antiques
- Boats & Campers
- Business Opportunities
- Help Wanted • Position Wanted
- Commercial Rentals
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Miscellaneous for Sale
- Mobile Homes • Motor Vehicles
- Real Estate • Rentals
- Services • Wanted

How To Write an Effective Ad

Be clear and factual, state what you are selling, or what service you provide. Include the size, color, condition, year, make and model, price and phone number.

The Macon County
NEWS
& Shopping Guide

Bring by the office at

26 W. Main Street • Franklin, NC

or FAX at (828)369-2700 or

EMAIL: maconcountynews@gmail.com

(828) 369-6767

UNIQUE PROPERTIES
REAL ESTATE
(828)371-8544
mtipropertiesofwnc@gmail.com
Matt Iannuzzi
Broker/Associate

Sitting on almost 9 rolling acres of woodland and fields, this hilltop home offers mountain living just outside the city limits. With 2-level living plus a spacious loft, you'll enjoy an open concept living area, 4 large bedrooms, 3 full baths, bonus room, large shop/gym, craft area, oversized double garage, 2 rock fireplaces, cathedral ceilings and lots of wood throughout. A screened porch off the master bedroom, decks and patios with 6 sliding doors for easy accessibility and space for a fire pit, makes a perfect home for entertaining or your personal retreat. MLS: 26017251 \$439,900



TOYS FOR TOTS



November 14th
10 am - 3 pm

Cruise In and Benefit

Everyone Welcome!

- 🚗 Classics
- 🚗 Hot Rods
- 🚗 Antiques
- 🚗 Street Rods
- 🚗 Motorcycles



Bring a new unwrapped toy!

Join us for a good time and fun for the whole family!



**COUNTRYSIDE
CHEVROLET.**
FRANKLIN, NC

71 Cat Creek Road
Franklin, NC 28734

www.countrysidechevy.com

(828)
524-0734

— PRE-OWNED VEHICLES —

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2006	BMW	330	98,000
2010	Buick	Enclave	182,003
2015	Buick	Encore	24,299
2017	Buick	Encore	43,232
2018	Cadillac	CT6	29,695
2020	Cadillac	Escalade	26,141
2020	Cadillac	Escalade	35,568
2018	Chevrolet	Camaro	8,360
2010	Chevrolet	Camaro	94,949
2014	Chevrolet	Camaro	104,018
1997	Chevrolet	Camaro	16,606
2020	Chevrolet	Colorado	4,769
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	40,758
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	13,389
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	37,779
2015	Chevrolet	Colorado	52,137
1972	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	91,171
2019	Chevrolet	Cruze	14,076
2016	Chevrolet	Cruze Limited	111,129
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	26,234
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	21,029
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	48,392
2018	Chevrolet	Impala	8,465
2018	Chevrolet	Malibu	41,816
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	11,584
2017	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	41,705
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	51,696
2015	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	85,479
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	34,952
2015	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	71,489
2017	Chevrolet	Suburban	28,879
2016	Chevrolet	Suburban	112,779
2017	Chevrolet	Suburban	61,868
2019	Chevrolet	Tahoe	17,985
2016	Chevrolet	Tahoe	61,375
2010	Chevrolet	Tahoe	130,038
2015	Chevrolet	Traverse	101,068
2017	Chevrolet	Traverse	91,521
2018	Chevrolet	Traverse	17,676
2018	Chevrolet	Trax	10,745
2018	Ford	EcoSport	5,000
2019	Ford	Edge	45,478
2018	Ford	Explorer	49,223
2020	Ford	F-150	23,354
2016	Ford	F-150	73,912
2018	Ford	F-150	27,491
2018	Ford	F-150	25,105
2016	Ford	F-250	190,904
1930	FORD	MODELA	78,269
2019	Ford	Ranger	2,749
2017	GMC	Sierra 1500	43,356
2014	GMC	Sierra 1500	54,681
2011	GMC	Sierra 1500	133,450
2014	GMC	Terrain	82,762
2016	GMC	Terrain	45,573
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	37,969
2004	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ROAD KING	9,778
2019	Honda	Ridgeline	12,928
2019	Hyundai	Elantra	36,506
2019	Hyundai	Tucson	36,252
2019	Jeep	Cherokee	9,020
2013	Jeep	Patriot	121,063
2017	Jeep	Renegade	48,579
2016	Land Rover	Range Rover Sport	55,302
2019	Mazda	CX-5	36,819
2017	Mercedes-Benz	Metris	57,091
2018	Nissan	Armada	51,321
2019	Nissan	Pathfinder	36,059
2019	Nissan	Rogue	39,871
2019	Nissan	Sentra	38,658
2019	Nissan	Versa	35,717
2020	RAM	1500	25,556
2016	RAM	1500	92,141
2020	RAM	1500 Classic	18,621
2018	RAM	2500	57,549
2000	Saturn	SL1	140,571
2017	Subaru	Forester	44,665
2019	Toyota	Camry	34,683
2019	Toyota	Corolla	35,775
2019	Toyota	Corolla	27,529
2018	Toyota	Tacoma	35,770
2018	Toyota	Tacoma	13,859
2009	Toyota	Yaris	98,144