

The Macon County

NEWS

*Free
independent
weekly*

& Shopping Guide


BLESSINGS AT CHRISTMAS TIME

*May the coming season bring tidings of harmony
and joy to you and your loved ones and may the
new year bring you health, happiness and prosperity.*

Macon County News will be closed Friday, Dec. 25 - Sunday, Jan. 3

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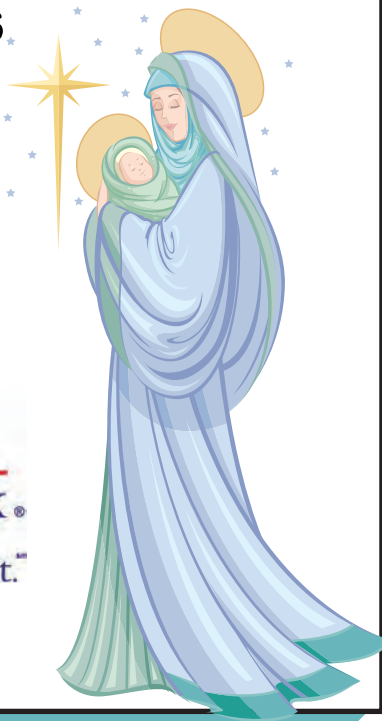
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For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name
shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

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COVID vaccine arrives in Franklin

Mission Health received its first shipment of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine last Thursday and began vaccinating front line employees Friday morning in accordance with the CDC tiering system. This guidance from the CDC prioritizes healthcare workers most at risk for contracting COVID-19 and includes staff at Mission Hospital in Asheville, along with staff at the five regional hospital locations.

The first shipment of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine arrived and was administered at Angel Medical Center on Saturday, December 19. A total of 117 frontline healthcare workers at Angel Medical Center received the vaccine during the four hour clinic. The first to be vaccinated was Angel



Angel Medical Center ICU/Medsurg Team Leader, Tommie Blalock was the first to receive the Pfizer Covid-10 vaccine.

Medical Center ICU/Medsurg Team Leader, Tommie Blalock. "It was awesome to go first," commented Blalock.

Mission Health has received its first shipment of the Moderna vaccine and word of a next batch of the Pfizer vaccine. This could mean that Mission will have an additional 3,000-plus doses for distribution starting next week and more shipments are expected.

For additional information regarding the availability of COVID 19 vaccinations as well as the phased approach to administering the vaccination, please access the NC DHHS COVID 19 website at <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>; or visit Missionhealth.org/covid.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from the
TOWN OF FRANKLIN

In the spirit of the season, we'd like to wish all our friends and neighbors a happy, healthy and meaningful holiday season.

Bob Scott, Joe Collins, David Culpepper
Dinah Mashburn, Barbara McRae,
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Homeschooling gains more attention in season of virtual learning

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Before virtual schooling at home became a pandemic mandate this past spring, at least 500 Macon County families chose homeschooling over public schooling. Perhaps at no other time in modern history has there been so much discussion regarding a child's education; yet, COVID-19 has hyper-focused attention on the idiosyncrasies involved in virtual schooling at home versus homeschooling.

"Virtual schooling is not homeschooling," asserted Jocelyn Lister, a homeschool graduate, mother of four homeschooled children, and an organizer of homeschooling groups and sites. "[Virtual school] is schooling at home, but homeschooling has an entire philosophy behind it. With virtual schooling, you are still on the teacher's schedule and using their lesson plans ..."

While schooling children at home has always been an option in America, the concept of modern homeschooling became something of a movement in the 1970s. Gradual departure from a classical education, limited access to quality public instruction in some regions and cities, job constraints, religious convictions, and more are all reasons some families have chosen homeschooling over public schooling. And, numerous books like

"The Well-Trained Mind," "Charlotte Mason's Home Education," and "Re-thinking School" have motivated and encouraged parents to depart from what has become a governmental education norm.

"Homeschooling has many different methods, but all of them boil down to one thing: Doing what is best for each individual child and family," explained Lister. "Children can go at their own pace, whether faster or slower, and not have to stay at pace with 20 other children. School days go faster with one-on-one attention, and if a topic is harder, a child can stay on it as long as needed. Homeschooling consists of choosing your own schedule, choosing your own focus, and slowing down or speeding up as your child needs. Homeschooling is an entire lifestyle. It's spending every day with your kids, building memories, and relationships as well as learning together."

However, virtual schooling at home – which became a full-time reality in the spring due to the shelter-in-place mandate, and has continued through fall 2020 for some children – has afforded families the option of implementing aspects of homeschooling to supplement virtual schooling curriculum and enhance learning from home.



Angela Walker is the youth services librarian at the Macon County Public Library. Walker works with homeschooling families providing resources to enhance learning at home. Photos by Vickie Carpenter

questions about homeschooling or they are wanting to supplement their child's online learning by checking out books. There has definitely been an increase in reading, at least from what I'm seeing," said Walker.

Walker is able to not only give interested families education theme bags of games, activities, book suggestions and more if families pre-register online so that she knows how many to make, but she provides a folder of printable materials to aid in homeschooling and virtual schooling at home.

"We are even helping families with resources about getting their teens ready for college, preparing for driver's education, and more," said Walker. "The library is a main resource for education or extending education as well as strengthening skills, like reading."

With so much uncertainty and ongoing schedule changes in response to COVID-19 cases, Macon County students and their families who have chosen full-time virtual schooling at home, as well as students who must school at home at least one or more days a week, can tap into all that the homeschooling community offers, according to Lister.

In fact, according to Angela Walker, a youth service librarian at the Macon County Public Library, children's books and education resources have become increasingly popular this year.

"A lot of families are coming in asking

She added that Macon County is replete

...Tis The Season To Be Thankful!

It may be cold outside, but our spirits are warmed as we recall the many fine folks who we've had the pleasure to meet this year.

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From the Staff & Board of Directors of
The Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce.

with support and connection groups. “Obviously, at this time, many of them are having to modify what they do or are not meeting right now,” she said. “But I have an email list that I run called YMCHÉ (Young Macon County Home Educators). We send out local items of interest to homeschoolers and usually organize Homeschool Mom Nights Out throughout the year.”

She shared that Franklin Homegrown Families is an elementary students and young middle schoolers (but all ages are welcome) “low-key” social group. Pre-COVID-19, but currently on temporary hiatus, Franklin Homegrown Families organized social time/playdates, fun field trips involving activities such as swimming, hiking,

Oconaluftee Indian Village, a tour of WLOS TV station, ice-skating, Macon County Historical Society, and more.

And then there are more academically based homeschool co-ops like Macon G.E.M.S., which stands for Growing, Educating, Mentoring and Supporting. This group meets every Thursday and is designed for ages 5 to high school so that subjects like science and history can be learned and studied together. Classical Conversations, a national program, has a chapter in Franklin. Classical Conversations meets

weekly to provide co-op type classes, for ages 4 through high school, in areas of history, science, math, Latin, English, geography, and the arts.



One of the resources Walker utilizes with the homeschoolers is a microscope purchased with grant funds from NASA.

“I moderate a Facebook group called Macon County, NC Homeschoolers, which can be a great resource,” said Lister. “Also, there is a statewide support organization – NCHE (North Carolina Home Educators), and we are lucky enough to have our regional liaison right here in Franklin.”

Lister said that Macon County has been supportive of homeschooling as an education choice.

“In normal times our community is very homeschool friendly, with a 4H program with many classes, daytime classes at New Visions Gymnastics, the library for homeschool clubs, The Fun Factory with its special homeschool day every other month, etc. We also have an annual Used Curriculum Sale and Homeschool Fair in the summer that I help organize.”


Curriculum for homeschooling runs the gamut. Homeschooling families can choose to purchase books and online instruction from one source, such as Abeka, Sonlight, BJU Press, Veritas, and others – or they can select different formats to fit each subject and child’s learning style. Walker and Lister explained that there is guidance for what

might work. And, with the abundance of library resources, and free (to library cardholders) UniversalClass offerings in a wide variety of subjects for all ages, homeschooling can be a free or inexpensive education option.

Besides a strictly classical education that may include significant doses of rhetoric, logic, and ancient-to-modern history, there are various philosophies of education, including biblically-based, experiential, and pod- or co-op modeled.


Although each state is different in terms of what is required to homeschool, Lister shared, “You must keep records on file in your home for at least one year (I would recommend pretty much forever) and include vaccination records or waiver. That’s pretty much it. Check out the Division of Non-Public Education for more: <https://ncadmin.nc.gov/public/home-school-information>.”

Walker conveyed that no matter what education path families are on, supporting one another and tapping into all the resources available in the community is a win-win for everyone involved.



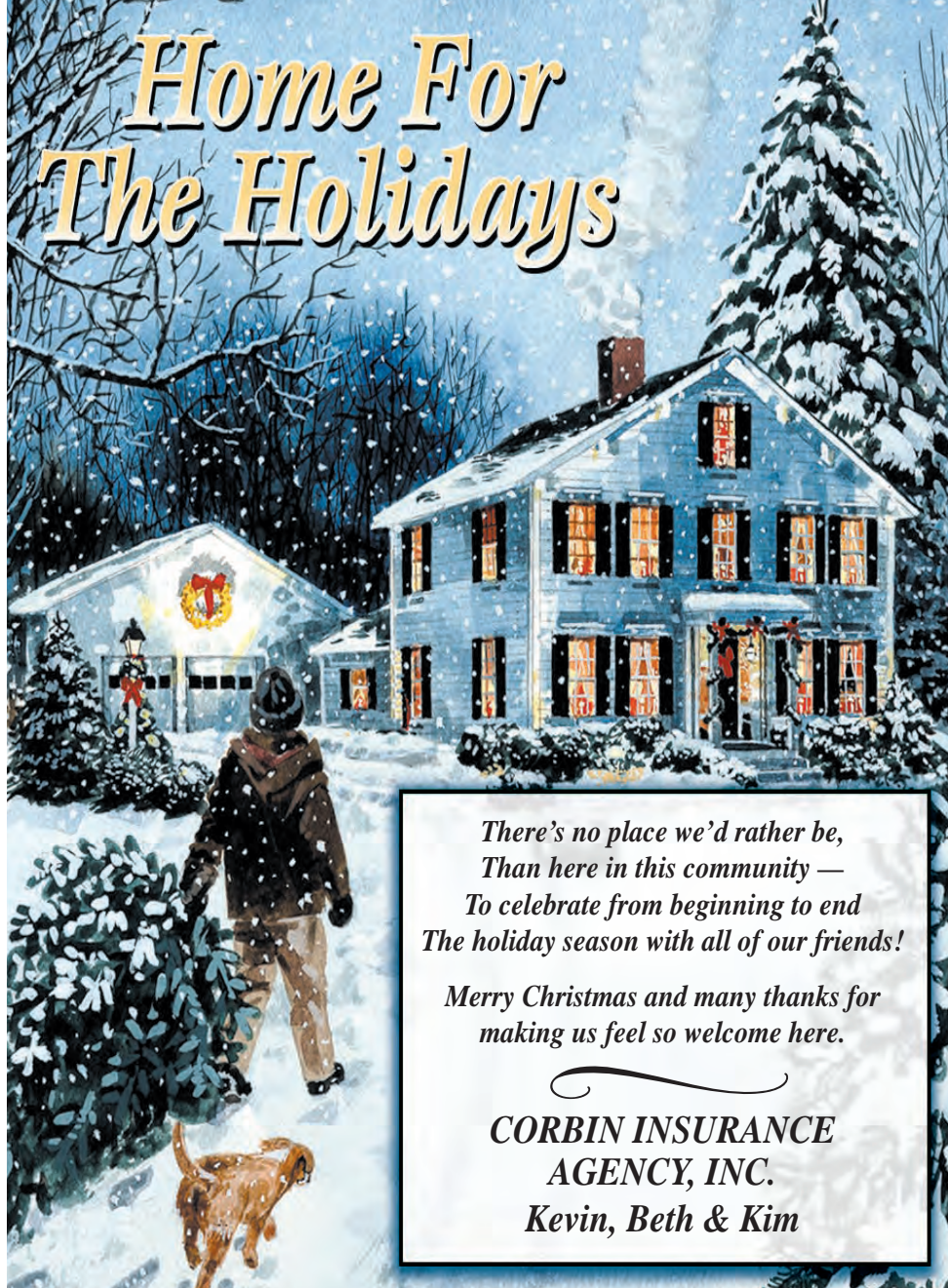
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New Year!
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Pat Tippett
Stephanie Hall
Pat Bell
Brooklyn Hoagland
& Wanda Baker*



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Home For The Holidays



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Macon residents organize gift drive for local nursing homes

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

As news broke that several local nursing home facilities began to battle COVID19 outbreaks this week, local residents turned to social media to do something special for residents who may not be able to spend the holidays with their loved ones.

“My friend Jamaica Taylor tagged me in a post about the need at Grandview Manor,” said Amanda Shaw, owner of Macon Rental. “She has relatives that work there and heard that everyone was in need of a little joy. She knows that this is the sort of thing I like to help with and I immediately reached out to my friend Summer [Kelly] who always steps up. But we couldn’t just do one care home knowing they all need help this year.”

Shaw, who regularly goes above and beyond to give back to the community and spearheads efforts such as ensuring the school system had bags and supplies to provide meals to children this Spring when



items and Bi-Lo and Lowe’s also donated many items.

AT YEAR’S END...

Before the Calendar starts anew, we’d like to extend our thanks to each one of you.
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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our many good friends and neighbors.
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“We have collected all sorts of wonderful stuff including slippers, socks, pjs, large print puzzle books, treats, all types of self care items, and stuffed animals,” said Shaw. “Several people and churches have donated money as well —not a bad haul for less than a week, all thanks to the generosity of many.”

All together the community came together to provide 210 care packages for the residents of the Franklin House, Grandview Manor, and Macon Valley Nursing Center. There were also additional donations to provide gifts for staff members. All donated items not used for the 210 packages in Macon County will be donated to care homes in Sylva.

school abruptly went virtual, made a post on her Facebook page inviting anyone who wanted to spread some holiday cheer at local nursing homes to help organize the donation drive.

“The best thing about Facebook is the reach it has through out communities,” said Shaw. “So on Tuesday when we started mentioning it we immediately got donations.”

Individuals and businesses began reaching out to Shaw and Taylor as well as Kelly to make the holiday gifts a reality. Dodge Packaging helped by getting a lot of the bulk items to gift such as lotions and individuals donating cards from students to treats, to special holiday decor. Laura Tallent helped collect





The Greatest Gift of All

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The Pastor of Walnut Creek Baptist Church (Franklin, NC) is calling for everyone to unite in a universal mission of

Prayer

Sunday, December 27th, 10:15am

Let's band together as God's people and have a day of prayer for the Coronavirus, our elected officials, the riots and unrest, and for Revival in the United States.

2 Chronicles 7:14

Highland Brewing Company raises \$25K to benefit hospitality community

Highland Brewing Company raised \$25,000 for 12 locally significant non-profits supporting the hospitality community through their "Give Back with Gaelic" campaign. The campaign launched in September with the brewery committing to give a portion of the proceeds from sales of Gaelic Ale, the brewery's flagship amber ale. The program nearly doubled the initial fundraising goal with matching contributions from the brewery's distributors.


"Hospitality at its core is a showing of generosity and goodwill," said Highland Marketing Director, Julie Funke. "This campaign honored those fundamentals, and we are proud to help take care of our own when they need it most."

Funds raised will be divided based on Gaelic sales in each locality between the following organizations:

- NC Restaurant Workers Relief Fund
- United Way Central Carolinas (NC)

- Second Harvest Food Bank (NC)
- Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC
- Loaves and Fishes (SC)
- United Way Piedmont (SC)
- The Lot Project (SC)
- South Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association
- Virginia Restaurant and Hospitality Relief Fund
- TN Action for Hospitality
- Giving Kitchen (GA)
- CORE (FL)

Highland will present the funds to the non-profit organizations the week of Dec. 20. While the Give Back with Gaelic campaign packaging will switch back to Gaelic's original packaging after the close of the campaign, the brewery's commitment to the community and the ideals of hospitality remains a year-round priority. For more information on this campaign, visit www.highlandbrewing.com/giveback.



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School board calls special meeting Dec. 30

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

The Macon County Board of Education will hold a special called virtual meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 30, to discuss plans for moving forward with face to face instruction after the Christmas break.

Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin warned board members that with COVID19 cases continuing to rise in Macon County, the district would monitor cases to determine if returning for face to face instruction is a safe choice in January.

Macon County Public Health Director Kathy McGaha spoke to the board last week to voice her concerns with school returning in January.

“We are seeing an uptick in positive cases throughout the community and I have expressed some concerns with school being in session face to face right now,” Macon County Public Health Director Kathy McGaha said Monday night during the Board of Education meeting. “Most of the transmission we are seeing is in the community, it is not in the schools, however, we are seeing an increase in the positivity rate. We have come to the conclusion that we are going to take this on a day by day basis to see if we need to go virtual.”

The board voted to allow Highlands to spend the first week after the Christmas holiday in virtual instruction at the request of school administrators, something Dr. Baldwin said might need to be considered districtwide.

“We will not hesitate to close one or more schools depending on the number of cases at any of our school locations,” said Dr. Baldwin. “In addition to Highlands being approved to conduct remote instruction the first week of school after the Christmas break, we will stay in contact with the health department, and should we see an increase in cases over Christmas break, I hope that parents will understand that we may open schools on January 5 as a district in remote instruction.”

To give parents and staff time to prepare, the school board anticipates making a decision during the Dec. 30 meeting.

School districts across the state have made announcements that they will be returning to virtual instruction at the

beginning of the school year, due to an anticipated increase in COVID19 cases associated with holiday gatherings. An increase in cases both in Macon County and across North Carolina have been attributed to gatherings following the Thanksgiving holiday, which is expected to continue with Christmas.

As of Monday, Macon County had more than 200 active positive COVID19 cases, with the most significant increase coming in the last week. Macon County received the first shipment of vaccines on Saturday, and Angel Medical Center has begun vaccinating its frontline workers.

Executive order allows for to-go or delivery sales for mixed beverages

Governor Roy Cooper signed Executive Order No. 183 Monday authorizing the North Carolina ABC Commission to permit the delivery or carry-out of mixed beverages as an alternative to on-site consumption. This Order went into effect Dec. 21, at 5 p.m., and will run through Jan. 31, 2021.

“This order will help people avoid settings that can contribute to increased viral spread while giving restaurants and bars a financial boost that they need right now,” said Governor Cooper. “With cases and hospitalizations high around the country, let’s all do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19 while supporting local, small businesses safely.”

Under this Order, establishments holding certain permits from the ABC Commission, including restaurants, hotels, private clubs, private bars, and some distilleries, are allowed to sell mixed beverages to-go or for delivery. These businesses, delivery service providers that contract with these businesses, and purchasers of mixed beverages to-go must follow the restrictions in the Order and any additional restrictions and guidance established by the ABC Commission.

The Modified Stay at Home Order remains in effect and the sale of alcohol for on-site consumption must still cease at 9 p.m. Businesses subject to the Order may continue to sell mixed beverages for off-site consumption until their business closes and in accordance with other applicable laws and regulations.

The Council of State concurred with this Order.

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

This is the Advent Season in the Christian calendar, a time of hope, joy and anticipation. I share that hope, joy and anticipation for our town as we move into the new year. I anticipate a better year than the past one.

I have faith in the resiliency of our residents and their determination to make Highlands even better in the future. The huge response to the Highlands Community Plan Survey gives me hope.

The folks guiding our comprehensive plan are excited that almost 900 people have taken the survey. If you have not done so, please go to the town website and spend a few minutes to take the survey while maybe sipping a festive glass of eggnog. It is vital that we get input from a cross section of residents, whether they are full time or seasonal residents. Folks living in and around the town are also encouraged to respond. We all have a stake in the future of Highlands. Taking the survey is similar to voting. If someone fails to respond, then it is hard to be critical of the outcome.

In the early part of this year the results of the survey will be made public, even before the final comprehensive plan is completed toward the end of 2021. I look forward to the survey results and anticipate the planning board members to begin dissecting and analyzing the data. I will support this process because I suspect there will be important data that needs review as soon as possible.

I also have the hope that our business community will return to some level of normalcy this coming year. The food and entertainment sectors have taken a big hit in 2020 and a recovery is very much needed.

With the economic recovery, I hope the town board and staff will be able to develop a budget that meets the community's critical needs. Paving of roads should continue as a priority, and other infrastructure needs have to be addressed next year and into the future. One of my favorite projects that was delayed because of restraints of this past year was the conversion of street lights from halogen to LED lights. LED street light units can be dimmed or increased to meet the needs of the space, especially in neighborhoods.

Other hopeful items on the horizon will be the completion of the Highlands Smart Cities fiber network and a review of short term rental policies. I know there are differing points of view concerning STRs, but I believe the town is long overdue in addressing this issue.

Finally, I am hopeful with the advent of the COVID-19 vaccines. I use the word advent because the rollout of these life-saving vaccines is a hopeful sign and taking place as I write this piece. Having a large part of the population vaccinated could help us get back to a normal life style. When my time comes as a member of the 65 and older group, I will take the vaccine.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. While this has been an infamous year in many ways, we all have hope and a lot to look forward to this coming year.

Letters to the Editor

Tis the season for neighbors helping neighbors

In this season of giving, my friend and I witnessed a very charitable act Saturday afternoon.

While sitting in our car eating lunch, we noticed a white car in front of us with a man trying to jack up his flat, right rear tire. He got down on the ground but the jack didn't seem to work. Pretty soon, a gray truck stopped in front of the white car and three men stepped out and proceeded to assist the man with the flat tire. It all took place in about 15 or 20 minutes, but it struck me as such a charitable act of complete strangers helping their neighbor.

Thank you Lord for small but big blessings!

Betsey Gooder – Franklin, N.C.

Local postal workers are 'Our Heroes'

There is a sign at the entrance of the Post Office, it says "Our Heroes" showing up everyday dealing with our postal needs. If you've visited the Post Office these past few weeks, holidays are an extremely busy time for the postal staff. God bless them for their strength and pleasant attitudes in dealing with long lines while apologizing to customers having to wait!

Well done, we all thank you! I hope you and your families have a blessed Christmas and a healthy Happy New year. You earned it!

With respect,

William Trapani – Franklin, N.C.

The best Christmas gift ever

This Christmas season, I have been privileged to once again work for the great shipping company, United Parcel Service, as a delivery driver. One day, I was delivering a long, bulky, very heavy package. I was wondering how I would ever get it to the front door, because there was no garage, and I couldn't get very close. As I was unloading it, a high school-age boy walked by on his way home from school and asked me if I needed any help carrying it. After graciously accepting his offer, I instructed him on safe handling techniques. We easily carried the box together, and placed it carefully on the front doorstep. I thanked him for the help. He said, "No problem. I just felt like that was what the Lord Jesus Christ would want me to do." I believe that was no coincidence. God had sent this young man just when I needed him.

In a similar way, God saw man's greatest need, and sent Jesus to be born as a man, as predicted by the prophets hundreds of years prior. He had created man perfect, but with a free will. Man chose to rebel against God. The result was death, disease and suffering for all of us, including even the

innocent animals. But God, who is rich in mercy and love, determined that He would redeem us (buy us back from slavery). In Old Testament times, the sacrificial lamb offered as a sin offering, had to be without blemish. It could then provide a temporary atonement (covering) for the people. But Jesus was born to live a sinless (unblemished) life so He could qualify as a sin offering for all of us. Then He allowed sinful men to put Him to death to pay the penalty for your sin and mine. After three days, He rose from the dead, just as He had predicted.

In His birth, life, death, burial and resurrection, Jesus Christ gave mankind the greatest gift ever – deliverance from the power of death, and a promise of eternal life for all who place their trust in Him. But you must accept the gift! The best way to celebrate His birthday, is to receive His gift to you! The only requirement is that you must repent (turn 180 degrees) from your sin and ask Him for forgiveness. Then He will give you eternal life in the place He has gone to prepare for His people.

Ed Hill – Franklin, N.C.

SHP working to keep drivers safe during holiday travel

With the holiday season in full swing, the State Highway Patrol will be looking to curb the unexpected increase in fatal collisions experienced in 2020. The anticipated increase in vehicle traffic over the coming weeks will require drivers across North Carolina to practice safe driving habits on our state's roadways.

Last year, troopers responded to 2,970 collisions between the dates of Dec. 24 through Jan. 2. Among those collisions, 745 were injury related and 27 resulted in a fatality. This year, the SHP hopes to decrease the number of collisions during the same time frame by focusing on violations such as excessive speeding, reckless driving, following too close and impaired driving.

"This time of year brings about so much joy for many living in our great state," said Colonel Glenn McNeill Jr., commander of the State Highway Patrol. "We must pause though, and recognize that there are others who feel grief from a lost loved one due to a traffic collision and this fact drives our agency to work even harder to stop these needless occurrences from taking place."

Among the enforcement efforts is the ongoing 2020 Holiday Booze It & Lose It Campaign that runs through Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021. This important enforcement campaign organized by the Governors Highway Safety Program brings together law enforcement partners from across our state. For educational efforts, the Patrol has taken to a lighthearted approach to sharing safe holiday driving tips with the release of a Christmas PSA. The PSA can be obtained by visiting the SHP Facebook page or clicking the provided YouTube link https://youtu.be/o_Gy-BGBDKLU

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Contributing Writer

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Contributing Writer

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Education should train thinking abilities of young minds

A few words about educating children. Mostly about education of the children before schools were made an organ of governance. About education when it was done at home or in a private school.

Nowadays, many parents who decide to homeschool their children add the Bible to the government's curriculum and think they have improved their children's education. They have, but by very little compared to the room that exists for improving the government's curriculum.

Before government schools, the purpose of educating children was to train the thinking abilities of their brains, not to develop dull-minded workers for capitalist conglomerates. Not to develop indoctrinated voters for political parties.

In those days, more than 2,000 years of experience had demonstrated the courses that were taught, best for training the thinking abilities of young people.

A few of America's private schools still provide that training. A portion of America's home school parents give their children that training. I hear their numbers are growing.

There are publishers who specialize in providing materials for home schools. Among the materials they publish are materials that were determined during 2,000 years to be the best materials for training the thinking abilities of young people.

During those years, schools used works of literature best for exposing young minds to great thoughts by great minds – to produce a well-working mind, feed it well-crafted literature. Short selections from Homer's "Iliad" and Bible stories, were main sources of children's literature, then longer selections, then the whole thing. Before young people reached the senior years of their academy, they had read all of "Iliad," much of the Bible, the tragic dramas of ancient Athens, and much classical poetry.

During those times, schools used works of history best for exposing young minds to great analysis and interpretation – to produce a well working mind, feed it well-crafted literature.

The works of both history and literature, best for training the thinking abilities of young minds were selected by centuries of experience.

During those times, students did not dabble one year each in four different sciences. They spent four or more years studying one science – astronomy. Not surveying all of the knowledge contained in that one science. Instead, they thoroughly learned the foundational knowledge of astronomy. They were thoroughly instructed in how ancient astronomers deliberately and systematically developed new knowledge.

Thorough instruction in a few subjects gave better brain-training than shallow introductions to many subjects.

The arts determined best for training the thinking abilities of young minds were grammar, logic, rhetoric, arithmetic (capped with a course in number theory), geometry, astronomy, and music (theory and harmony).

The humanities determined best for training the thinking abilities of young minds, included literature, foreign language (Greek, Latin or both) introduction to philosophy, ethics (justice), history, and speeches. And not just any works in those subjects, but a select and recognized collection.

Composition, from about grade four through graduation was taught one or more periods each week, via an organized set of exercises know as the progymnasmata.

George Crockett – Franklin, N.C.

Editor's note: George Crockett has left a copy of a suggested getting started curriculum for new home school parents in the office at The Macon County News.

Are limitations science-based or just arbitrary?

One of Americas' most cherished family traditions is fast approaching, the gathering together of family to celebrate the Christmas season.

Unfortunately this season we have a problem. Because of the deadly pestilence of Covid-19 our family gatherings have been limited to 10 by our politicians. This brings up a serious question. Is this number based on a scientific study or is it simply arbitrary? If it is based upon a scientific study they must have taken into consideration the average square footage of an American home which is 2,598 sq. ft. which equates to 1 person per 26 s/f. Well, governor, if this is how you arrived at this number, can I have more family over if I have a larger than average home, and if I have a smaller home do I need to cut back on family members?

Another question comes to mind, if 1 person for every 26 s/f is acceptable to the politicians, why isn't it applied to restaurants for example. According to statistics the average full service restaurant allots 13.5 s/f per person. If 26 s/f per person is acceptable then every full service restaurant should be allowed to operate at 50% capacity with no problem, yet our politicians are closing them down completely in many cases.

Let's take this even further. Based on this number, every business in America should be allowed to operate under this formula. Why then, are they being closed?

Of course I'm being a bit facetious with this analysis but the conclusion is obvious! None of these restrictions are based upon scientific study or evidence but are strictly arbitrary and as such the politicians have no business telling the people who have risked their time, money and energy to establish a business to support their families, provide employment for others and contribute to the economy of our nation, that they cannot be open unless they approve. In addition, many of the restrictions are clearly unconstitutional.

American's entrepreneurs are not stupid and are not only capable of providing a safe environment for their customers but have an obligation to do so if they expect to be successful.

One more thing. The governor, in his infinite wisdom, has mandated a curfew from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Was this an arbitrary decision or is he privy to some scientific evidence that Covid-19 becomes extremely more contagious during that time frame?

America's business owners are beginning to protest and violate these restrictions, and because of the arbitrary manner in which they are being applied, they are certainly justified in doing so.

Marshall Miller – Franklin, N.C.

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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 December 11 - 19. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

December 15

Terry Jay Webb, 41, of Allen St., was charged with misdemeanor probation violation. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Randall Eugene Fowler, 55, of Hive Rd., Glenville, was charged with failure to appear for communicating threats. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

December 16

Michael William Rhinehart, 49, Devin Dr., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$40,000.

Amber Nicole Simon, 26, of Cullowhee, was charged with violation of court order, second degree trespass.

Blake Michael Wilson, 20, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule 1 controlled substance. No bond was set.

December 17

Leona Milner Bradley, 53, of Charley's Creek Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with harboring or aiding certain persons. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Christopher Robert Ballentine, 53, of Charley's Creek Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with failure to register address for sex offender registration, interference with electronic monitoring device. A secured bond of \$40,000 was set.

Phillip Olias Huff, 25, of Sunhollow Springs Trail, Cullowhee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a schedule IV controlled substance. No bond was set.

December 18

Jamie Ray Hornbuckle, 44, of Wrights Creek Housing, Cherokee, was issued an order for arrest for misdemeanor larceny. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Christopher James Sawdo, 36, of Dobson Ridge, Cherokee, was charged with felony probation violation out of county. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Mike Alexander Green, 40, of Peppermill Lane, was charged with larceny after breaking and entering, breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

December 19

Carolyn Elizabeth Keck Loftis, 39, was charged with felony probation of violation out of county, misdemeanor probation violation out of county. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Franklin Police Department

December 11

Michael Shane Bates, 39, was charged with motor vehicle theft, possession of a stolen motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set. Officer Norman made the arrest.

December 16

Rickey Anthony Caldwell, 36, was charged with motor vehicle theft. An unsecured bond of \$2,000 was set. Officer Norman made the arrest.

Barry Alexander Lawrence, 36, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. Officer Hovis made the arrest.

Steven Blake Edwards, 21, was charged with failure to appear for possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Officer Hovis made the arrest.

December 17

Brandon Michael Hart, 33, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$35,000 was set. Officer Bingham made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

December 14

Marcos Edmond Mundo, 39, of Olivine Place, was charged with all other offenses, assault on a female. No bond was set.

Taylor Nathaniel Wooding, 20, of Gardenia Lane, was charged with resisting a public officer, assault on a female, simple assault. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Glenn Daniel Carvalho, 67, of Skyland Dr., Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for assault by pointing a gun. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

David Ray Sims, 45, of Grassy Creek Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with second degree trespass, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Amber Nicole Simon, 26, of Cullowhee, was charged with second degree trespass, injury to personal property, resist/obstruct/delay,

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Christmas at the Hallers with 100,000 lights, lighted Trees, Animated Figures 6 to 9 p.m. nightly thru New Years. They are located at 607 Rabbit Creek Rd.

Otto Garden Club has canceled their December and January meeting. For any information contact Joan at (828)369-2801.

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 smccc.org

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

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

Uptown Gallery on Main Street 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.

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

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

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

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

First Alliance Church's Sunday Services begin at 9:30 a.m., with Sunday School for all ages. The worship service will be at 10:30 a.m., in the sanctuary. Rev. Terry Wilkes will deliver the message and Tripp Lewis will present a song solo. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane, Franklin (off Womack next door to Trimont Christian Academy). For more information, call the office at (828)369-7977. www.franklinma.com

Victory Baptist Church will celebrate the birth of Christ on Christmas morning, Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. Brother Gary Crisp will be the guest speaker. Services will be in-person and drive-in at Victory Baptist Church or virtual at www.mountainvictory.org Everyone is welcome to attend. Victory is located midway between Dillsboro and Franklin on Highway 441. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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

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

Franklin First United Methodist Church 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.

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



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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

DOWN

1: **TEST**
2: **RAPPS**
3: **BIRD**
4: **BLE**
5: **MA**
6: **ED**
7: **AM**
8: **LO**
9: **SSES**
10: **NUS**
11: **HOUSE**
12: **GASH**
13: **FI**
14: **HAT**
15: **ME**
16: **FRONT**
17: **OTTER**
18: **SAGA**

ACROSS

1: **AT**
2: **ES**
3: **LAN**
4: **CRAB**
5: **EDMA**
6: **MA**
7: **SH**
8: **UN**
9: **LAN**
10: **ES**
11: **MALE**
12: **ASH**
13: **AL**
14: **RO**
15: **FAM**
16: **EG**
17: **DI**
18: **RO**

Works of local artist express the realistic and the whimsical

Deena C. Bouknight, Contributing Writer

A lifelong artist, Pat Mennenger has accomplished a body of work that runs the gamut from pet and people portraits to educational curriculum illustrations to massive wall murals. Locally, she has contributed likenesses for the annual Veteran's Day portrait program and has served on the board of directors and as president for the Macon County Art Association, where she has been a member for 20 years. But most recently Mennenger offered up her talents for the Suminski Family Books' new publication series titled "Animal Stories."

Two of the books in the eight-book series are currently available, with publishing of the third planned for early in 2021. Mennenger became involved in the project after a friend of hers, Marilyn Miller, who resides at Franklin House, contributed illustrations for the second "Animal Stories" book. "Claire needed photos of Marilyn, which I had, and I got to talking with Claire and told her I did illustrations and she asked me to illustrate some of the stories for the next book. I even have a llama story that I will contribute as well."

Most of the illustrations Mennenger is working on for "Animal Stories" are in pen and ink and watercolor; one is in acrylic.

"Within a day I can usually accomplish an illustration," she said. "Watercolor tends to be faster. And it either works or it doesn't. You can blow the whole thing in one wrong move and

there's really no coming back."

Mennenger has had a fascination with art and illustrated works for as long as she can recall.

"I just remember as a



Pat Mennenger's latest art adventure involves drawing with permanent markers on lamp shades combined with pen and ink.

kid having really good memories of poring over the illustrations in the 'Dick and Jane' books. And I just loved looking at art in books when I was a kid. If I don't like a cover, I

moved to Franklin 20 years ago. In Tampa, her art became evident in public places such as Lowry Park Zoo, Lake Magdalene United Methodist Church, and Tampa Covenant Church; plus, she oversaw and participated in art exhibitions and competitions.

won't even pick it up."

Mennenger earned an associate's degree in business in 1964 and graphic art in 1989. The art talent is innate.

"But my mother insisted that I learn something practical, such as business, so I could take care of myself, but the art desire was always there. I've been drawing since I was a kid. I love doing pencil drawings, even now. But I love it all. My home studio has some of everything." Her preferred medium? "Whatever I'm working with at the moment."

Besides an art focus, however, Mennenger has also published two books, is a flutist, has taken prize-winning photography, and has taught (prior to the pandemic, and will teach again) art at the Uptown Gallery.

With three children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren Mennenger has enjoyed opportunities to create whimsical art. She illustrated "Priscilla Pig's Culinary Corn Crisis," and she wrote and illustrated "Adventures of Silly Tilly." Both books are for sale at Uptown Gallery, and, of course, she said, her children, grands, and great-grands have enjoyed the books.

Considered a "half-back," because she is a native of South Dakota but then lived in Tampa, Fla., for 18 years, Mennenger

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Her latest “art adventure” has involved drawing/painting with permanent markers.

“I did a teddy bear picnic scene on a lampshade for a granddaughter, born recently. And I have a folksy village scene on a lampshade at the gallery. I combine with pen and ink. I can get a precise image with the markers.”

Mennenger added she always has a variety of work on exhibit and for sale at Uptown Gallery on Main Street in Franklin. Plus, she is involved in what is referred to as “Thursday Painters,” an open-to-anyone painting session that resumes in January. “It’s for anyone interested in painting. We encourage and critique each other if someone wants that. No pressure. Just a way to be together painting and socializing. It keeps us from just doing it on our own.”



Artist Pat Mennenger says her favorite medium to work in is “the one I’m working in now.” Mennenger exhibits at the Uptown Gallery and teaches regular classes open to artists of all skill levels. Classes will resume in January.

Thursday Painters meets at the Environmental Research Center from 10 a.m., until “everyone goes home.”

Mennenger, looking forward to the publication of the third installment of “Animal Stories,” said, “I will just keep doing art because that’s what I do.”



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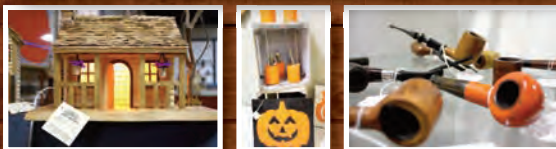


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Macon County law enforcement officers carry on with Shop with a Cop

Macon County law officers in keeping with a decades-long tradition provided Christmas gifts for children in Macon County. Macon County Sheriff's office, and Highlands Police took children to Walmart at staggered times to do some Christmas shopping. The Franklin Police department acquired lists from families, shopped and delivered the gifts to their homes. Because of the ongoing pandemic, the decision was made not to take the children for a meal as in years past, and officers pitched in to do the gift wrapping.

Submitted photos and photos by Vickie Carpenter



Officer Alisha Sellers, Gracee, Naaman, Rose and Grace Sellers



Officer Matt Bowman and Blake



Officer Leah McCall and Austin




Officer Gabe Bingham, Zavior, Greysom, and Officer Brandon Carter

Greetings of the Season

It may be a winter wonderland outside, but our hearts are filled with warmth as we reminisce about the wonderful year we've had serving all of you.

Thank you for your patronage.



All of us at the Macon County News wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas with all sincerity

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LOVE and PROSPERITY,

HOPE, CONTENTMENT and GOOD HEALTH,

HARMONY, GOODWILL and WEALTH

Macon County Board of Commissioners & County Employees



Officer Anthony Hopkins, Annalissa, Cassie, and TJ



Officer Christy Evans



Chief Andrea Holland, Steve Mason and Curtis Dowdle with John and Justin



Officer Eden White and Justin

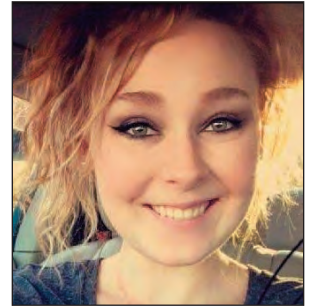


Officer Nick Lofthouse with Austin, Ila and Owen

Deaths & Funerals

Brittney Nicole Gossett

Brittney Nicole Gossett, 28, of Franklin, N.C., and Canton, Ga., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2020.



Brittney Nicole Gossett

Born in Kennesaw, Ga., she was the daughter of Matthew Kerry Gossett, of Woodstock, Ga., and Deborah Jean Gossett Davidson, of Canton, Ga. In addition to her parents, she is survived by her nana, Dorothy Crisp of Canton, Ga.; grandparents, William and Kathleen Gossett of Canton, Ga.; stepdad, Roy Davidson of Marietta, Ga., and her beloved dog and best friend, Tucker Joe. She also leaves behind numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins from North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida; along with many friends who love and miss her.

She worked as a bartender at Mulligans; and was licensed by the NC Board of Cosmetology as a nail tech. She loved art, particularly painting, being outdoors, gnomes, Harry Potter, Star Wars, and Baby Yoda. She loved cars, especially her red mustang.

She was preceded in death by her papaw, Benny Joe Crisp; great grandparents Lyman and Lassie Ledbetter, of Franklin, and the late Frank and Edna Crisp of Franklin, and the late Bobbie Dorton Gossett, of Georgia.

A private service will be held, with a larger celebration of life to be planned in the future. Rev. Jason Smith will officiate. Interment will be at a later date in the Mt. Zion cemetery in Franklin. Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneral-home.com.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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Deaths & Funerals

Robert Alan Wright

Robert Alan Wright, 85, of Franklin, N.C., and Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., passed away Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020.

He was a native of Meriden, Conn., and received his formal education in Connecticut and Michigan.

He had a successful career in the corporate offices of Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Corporation, first in Connecticut, then in Florida, having traveled abroad many times for the company in the last 10 years of his career.

He is survived by a son, Glen, and two daughters, Tami and Michelle, all of the Palm Beach Gardens area; and seven grandchildren and great grandchildren.

No services are planned at this time.



Robert Alan Wright

Elizabeth Ann 'Libby Ann' Dean

Elizabeth Ann "Libby Ann" Dean, 79, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020, at Harris Reginal Hospital in Sylva.

She was born March 31, 1941, to the late Oline and Reba Boston Stanfield. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by three brothers, Bob Stanfield, Richard Stanfield and Jim Stanfield.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years, Eugene Dean; a son, Johnathan Dean; and sister-in-law, Brenda Stanfield.

Also known by her friends as "Libby Ann," she lived her entire life in Macon County North Carolina. Libby's father was killed in France during WWII when Libby was five years old. She loved her family and enjoyed spending time with them. She was a homemaker and enjoyed keeping house and cooking and providing for her family. She was a seamstress with VanRaalt for several years and also worked in the office of APAC.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that donations be made to Toys for Tots at toysfortots.org/donate/toys.aspx

No services are planned at this time

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

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

James David Miller

James David Miller, 64, of Toccoa, Ga., passed away Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020. He was born July 23, 1956, in Highlands, N.C., to Mary Ruth Ledford Miller and the late Edwin Dillard Miller. He was a carpenter/builder and loved to fish and ride horses.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by two brothers, Edwin Lee Miller (Suzanne) of Tiger, Ga., and Jerry Dean Miller of Toccoa, Ga.; two sisters, Linda Higgs (William) of Spartanburg, S.C., and Minnie Schildhauer (Butch) of Monticello, Ga.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Walter Polk Morgan

Walter Polk Morgan, 80 of Asheville, N.C., died on Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020.

He was born in Macon County, the son of the late William Dooly and Pansy Maynor Morgan. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Barbara Rogers. He was a charter member of Skyland Baptist Church in Asheville and retired from Dupont where he was a powerhouse operator. He enjoyed fishing, camping, gardening, reading, baseball and had a love of music; particularly bluegrass and gospel.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dorothy Corn Morgan; two daughters, Donna Green of Arden and Janice Brackett (Tim) of Franklin; four grandchildren, Kyle Brackett, Brandon Green (Alesha), Tyler Brackett, and Ashley Lowe (Josh) surviving.

Funeral service was held on Friday, Dec. 4, at the Skyland Baptist Church in Asheville with Rev Robert Ponder will officiating. Burial was in the New Salem cemetery.

Pallbearers were Brandon Green, Alesha Green, Tyler Brackett, Kyle Brackett, Ashley Lowe, Josh Lowe and Daniel Grindstaff.

Memorials can be made to the NC Autism Society in honor of Kyle Brackett, 306 Summit St, Asheville, NC 28803.

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

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



Walter Polk Morgan

Richard Irving Bullis

Richard Irving Bullis, known by his family and friends as Dick, was born on Sept. 21, 1930, to James J. and Adelaide McKewen Bullis and passed from this life on Dec. 13, 2020.

He was known for being genuine and totally without pretense. He loved his country and did his patriotic duty by serving in the United States Navy during the Korean War aboard the USS Bon Homme Richard. He was a visionary who lived his motto: "You can't steal second base with one foot still planted on first." With a reputation built on honesty and integrity, he made his living as an advertising executive for the *St Pete Times* and had many successful ventures as a land developer.

Music and wood carving were two of his passions. His musical talents included his ability to play piano, guitar, and drums. He loved and lived music, especially Big Band and Jazz, and never missed an opportunity to tune in to The Lawrence Welk Show. His ability to make something beautiful out of a block of wood was amazing. He was an award winning wood carver. He was of the Episcopal faith.

He is survived by the love of his life, Jayne Carmody Bullis. Together, they celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary this year, a true testament to their love and devoted partnership in all things; their daughter, Suzanne B. Main (Glenn); two grandchildren, Natasha L. Main and Brittney Main; three great grandchildren, Seth Wilson, Malia Helton, and Khyalee Dixon; his sister, Virginia Nelson, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, J. Peter Bullis.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date in Buck Creek community. Burial and military rites will be at the Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery in Black Mountain, N.C.

In keeping with Dick's favorite cause, Memorials may be made to, Shriners Hospitals for Children—Greenville, 950 W. Faris Road, Greenville, SC, 29605.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve Dick's family.

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



Richard Irving Bullis

Dorothy Rose Crawford

Dorothy Rose Crawford, 102, of Franklin, N.C., died peacefully at her home on Monday, Dec. 21, 2020.

A native of Rogersville, Ala., she was the daughter of the late Thomas O. Rose and Mattie Greer Rose. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 74 years, John L. Crawford, a sister, Doris Rose Hudson, and her brother-in-law Thomas N. Higdon.

She attended David Lipscomb College and earned her BA from George Pepperdine College in Los Angeles. While earning her Masters in Social Work at UNC Chapel Hill, she met her future husband John L. Crawford whom she married on March 12, 1942, in Victoria, Texas, where John was a pilot in the US Army Air Corps during WW II.

She was a social worker in Davidson County, N.C., and Lauderdale County, Ala., before becoming a social worker in Macon County in 1952. She was appointed director of Macon County Department of Welfare in 1958, a position she held until her retirement on June 30, 1984.

She was an active and long-time member of the Franklin Church of Christ.

Her civic and professional activities were varied. For most of these organizations she served on the board as an officer to include president: NC Social Services Association, NC Directors of Social Services Association, Board of Directors of Macon County Program for Progress, Area Mental Health Board, Area Advisory Council on Aging, Franklin Business and Professional Women's Club, PTA, Den Mother of Cub Scouts, Charter member of Franklin Gem and Mineral Society, WNC Associated Communities, WNC Tomorrow, American Legion Auxiliary Unit #108, AARP, and many more.

In 2006, Governor Mike Easley awarded her The Order of the Long Leaf Pine for her meritorious service to the citizens of North Carolina. In recognition of extraordinary service to Macon County, along with her husband John, in April 2012 the Macon County Senior Services Center was renamed the Dorothy R. and John L. Crawford Senior Center. In the spring of 2018, Governor Roy Cooper also awarded Dorothy the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for her continued service to the citizens of North Carolina. She received many other awards including State Volunteer of the Year for N.C. by the Joint Action in Community Services (JACS) in May 2004, the 2016 Pioneer Award by the NC Coalition on Aging, WLOS Person of the Week in June 2017, Lifetime Career Leadership Award by the NC Council of Community Programs by Vaya Health in 2016, and the Macon Matriarch Award in March 2020.

Survivors include her sons, John L. Crawford III and wife Donna of Flat Rock, N.C., Thomas R. Crawford and wife Jae of Sylva, N.C.; seven grandchildren, Caroline Heubel and husband John of Ft. Mill, S.C., Robert Crawford of Charlotte, N.C., Molly Moore and husband Parker of Beaufort, S.C., Kate Fuqua and husband Jason of Pelham, N.Y., Thomas R. Crawford Jr. and wife Michelle of Cedar Point, N.C., Kathryn McMillan and husband Tom of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; Holly Conlin and husband Scott of Sylva; 16 great-grandchildren; niece, Doris Kirkland and husband Ed of Atlanta; and nephew, James Hudson of Brunswick, Ga.; sisters-in-law, Julia Green of Burlington, N.C., Beverly Moore of Franklin, and Patricia Higdon of Las Cruces, N.M.; brother-in-law, Alfred Higdon and wife Ann of Atlanta; and numerous nieces and nephews in the Higdon family.

Because of COVID-19 the family will plan a service to celebrate the life of Dorothy as soon as feasible.

Mrs. Crawford will lie in state at the Chapel of Bryant Grant Funeral Home Saturday, Dec. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for friends and family to visit and pay respect.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Franklin Church of Christ McCollum Drive Scholarship Endowment, and mail to: North Carolina Community Foundation, 3737 Glenwood Ave. Suite 460, Raleigh, NC 27612, or donate on line: www.nccommunityfoundation.org or contributions to Angel Medical Center Foundation, PO Box 1209, Franklin, NC 28734, or to one's favorite charity.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



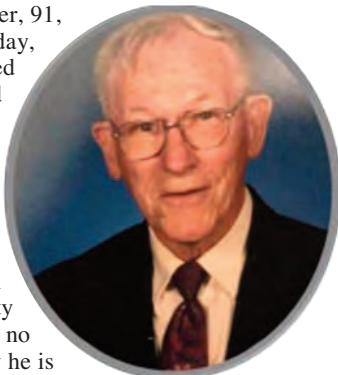
Dorothy Rose Crawford



Deaths & Funerals

Rev. George Thomas Fisher

Rev. George Thomas Fisher, 91, went home to his Lord Friday, Dec. 11, 2020. He cherished his wife, Kathryn, (who died in May 2020) and his children, extended family, friends, and congregations. A Renaissance Man, classics scholar, composer, collector, poet and teacher/mentor, he lived an exuberant life full of integrity and infectious joy. There are no words to express how deeply he is loved and will be missed.



Rev. George Thomas Fisher

George Thomas Fisher was born in Bayonne, N.J., June 25, 1929. He was the youngest of three children born to Herbert George Fisher and Mable Lenore (Nye) Fisher.

Early in life it was discovered that he had a passion for insects, music, and inspiring others through the art of teaching. He received his undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Iowa at Ames while studying voice with Oscar Laztintzer at nearby Parsons College. He received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University, specializing in Entomology. In mid-life, he was called into the ministry. He received his Master's in Divinity from Andover-Newton Seminary, Andover, Mass. He was ordained in the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (CCCC) and led several congregations throughout New England. If asked, he would say his calling to the ministry was his greatest vocation.

A man of diverse talents, Tom Fisher, at the age of 26, debuted at New York City Hall to rave reviews and joined the prestigious Metropolitan Opera as one of their solo artists (Basso). At age 31, he held a solo recital at Carnegie Hall with the New York Philharmonic (April 16, 1960). He was vocal coach to Kenny Rogers; a co-producer of the Broadway hit "The Fantastiks" and an accomplished pianist and a solo flutist. He is known for his musical compositions, i.e., he wrote the Alma Mater for Johnson State College and he has been known to write a Swiss waltz or two. He also soloed with several choral societies, conducted orchestras and award-winning youth choirs, and founded The Johnson State College Men's Glee Club. More recently, he founded the men's chorale "Men Macon Music" in Franklin, N.C., (2010 Silver Olympics Gold Medalists).

He was an executive with Libby, McNeill and Libby until he moved into the world of academia. He was a professor in the sciences at Johnson State Teacher's College, Johnson, Vt., and finished his distinguished academic career as chairman of the Entomology Department at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H. In addition, he worked for the New Hampshire State Extension Service as an entomologist, was an expert court witness for many companies, trained pest control operators for recertification throughout New England, and founded his own company, Fisher Seminars.

A curator at heart, he collected over a span of 50 years, one of the finest complete Classic Comics and Classics Illustrated Collections on the market. He is the author of the Classic Comics Illustration Index which is used by collectors around the world.

George Thomas Fisher is survived by his daughters, Emily Weingarth of Villa Park, Calif., Amy Evans of Franklin; son, Forrest Fisher and his wife, Charlotte Fisher of Beaufort, S.C.; eight grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, and the family's newest member, Skip Jack.

Funeral services were held at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home Sunday, Dec. 20. A celebration of life service will be held later in 2021 for both Tom and Kathryn. The family remains profoundly grateful for your care and memories that have enriched our lives over the years.

William Roy Mathis

William Roy Mathis, 83, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Dec. 11, 2020. He was born in Dade County, Florida, to Ralph Mathis and Julia Mathis Grason. He graduated from South Dade High School in 1956. He was an avid fan of airboats and fishing. He was a member of the Princeton Church of the Nazarene.



William Roy Mathis

He leaves behind to cherish his memories, his mother, Julia Mathis Grason of Homestead, Fla.; his wife, June Anderson Mathis of Franklin; two daughters, Vicki Dinges of Franklin, and Chrissey McFadden of Hernando Beach, Fla.; six grandchildren, Katrina Grassman of Atlanta, Ga., Samantha Skinner, U.S.M.C of Fort Pendleton, Calif., Kyle Hess, U.S.N. of Virginia Beach, Va.; Daniel McFadden of Sequim, Wash., Mark McFadden Jr. of Hernando Beach, Fla., and Cierra McFadden of Hernando Beach, Fla. In addition to his father, Ralph Mathis, he is preceded in death by a son, William R. Mathis Jr. and a sister, Darlene Coleman.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Raymond Wilkes

Raymond Wilkes, 84, of Cullowhee, N.C., passed away Monday, Dec. 21, 2020, in Mission Hospital in Asheville, N.C.



Raymond Wilkes

He was born Aug. 26, 1936, in Jackson County North Carolina, to the late John and Tilitha Haskett Wilkes. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Wilkes; and sister, Thelma Buchanan.

He served in the U.S. Navy from 1955 to 1959. He was a furniture manufacturer by trade who loved to fish. He loved to move to different places all the while playing music on the piano, guitar, banjo and accordion.

Surviving are his children, Mark Wilkes and Karen (Randall) Heien; grandchildren, Michael (Stephanie) Carswell, Samantha Moretz and Christopher (Amber) Carswell; seven great grandchildren; a brother, Allnee Wilkes; sisters, Sue Ward and Alma Webb; and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held at Fall Cliff Cemetery in Cullowhee, N.C., on Thursday, Dec. 24, with Rev. Steve Reeves officiating.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Condolences can be sent to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Donald Hazen

Donald Hazen, 79, of Winter Haven, Fla., passed on to his heavenly home on Dec. 7, 2020, in Franklin, N.C., after a long illness.



Donald Hazen

Born in Ellwood City, Pa., to the late Russell and Caroline Hazen, he was preceded in death by the love of his life, Edith Hazen, their son, Craig Hazen, and a brother, Russell (Skip) Hazen Jr.

Surviving are daughters, Debbie Call (Tim) of Virginia, and Sandra Ochsner (Arthur) of Franklin; and brother Gary Hazen of Fla.; and sister, Pat Claycomb of Pennsylvania; five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and five step great-grandchildren.

Don and Edith moved to central Florida in the mid-70s, where Don started a career at Walt Disney World and became the manager of the decorating department. After retiring from Disney, he and Edith moved to Franklin where they owned a company that installed vertical blinds.

He was a lifelong Pittsburgh Steeler fan, loved to golf, and was extremely adept at repairing computers. He absolutely adored his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Daniel Quigley

Daniel Quigley, 58, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Dec. 18, 2020.



Daniel Quigley

Born in Ionia, Mich., he was the son of the late Charles and Janet Johnson Quigley.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Mike Quigley. He has lived in the Franklin area for 32 years and worked as an electronics engineer. He had a passion for art, as well as working and camping.

He is survived by daughter, Deven; son, Caleb; sister, Mary Jackson; grandson, Gage; stepmother, Gladys Quigley; niece, Jennifer (Brandon) Synder and their children, Aaron and Hannah; and niece, Heather Lane, all of Franklin.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: BOARD GAMES

ACROSS

1. Dealer's hand, in cribbage
5. Wade's opponent
8. Galsworthy's "The Forsyte ____"
12. Nevada city
13. Prima donna
14. Weasel's cousin
15. Makes collar for RBG
16. Between the id and super-ego, pl.
17. Can be hot or cold, meteorologically speaking
18. *Real estate-related board game
20. Elvis Presley's "____ and Fortune"
21. Preface, e.g.
22. *A top one is a game piece in #18 Across
23. Open carriage
26. Having a malignant influence
30. "Wheel of Fortune" request
31. Stay clear of
34. Knife wound
35. Touch of color
37. Computer network acronym
38. Awaken
39. Wet nurse
40. Castrated man
42. Yale-____ College, Singapore
43. Aircraft's additional equipment holder
45. They're denoted in red
47. Eric Stonestreet on "Modern Family"
48. Allergic reaction to bee sting
50. Amusing
52. *Word game

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55. Don McLean: "Drove my chevy to the ____"

56. Joie de vivre

57. Charlie Parker's nickname

59. Bake an egg

60. Knocks on the door, e.g.

61. 1970s hairo

62. Milk ____, candy

63. Swallowed

64. Reason to cram

5. Excessive sternness

6. Convex molding

7. *Candy Land difficulty level

8. *Napoleon-themed game of strategy

9. Niels Bohr's study object

10. Autry or Wilder

11. Simon's former partner

13. Performed comprehensively or in ____, pl.

14. Butcher's refuse

19. Beginning of sickness

22. TV classic "Hee ____"

23. *Board game island ready for settlers

24. True inner self

25. Linear particle accelerator, for short

26. Take-out handout

27. Half human-half goat, pl.

28. February "People," e.g.

29. *Game with rooks

32. *Game involving Mr. Boddy's murderer

33. Chewbacca's sidekick

36. *a.k.a. draughts

38. Type of parallelogram

40. Liberty Tree, e.g.

41. Vacuums, e.g.

44. Extra shirt, e.g.

46. Sabbath, alt. sp.

48. Audience's approval

49. Window treatment

50. Bloody king of Israel

51. "Metamorphoses" poet

52. Serum, pl.

53. *The Game of ____

54. Makes mistakes

55. Acid drug

58. Part of URL

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The Classifieds

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OLD EDWARDS INN & SPA Highlands NC. Housekeeping and Dishwashing starting at \$13 per hour. Now recruiting for Housekeepers, Houseman, 2nd Shift Laundry, Turndown Attendants, Dishwashers, Cook, Pastry and Bread Cook, Assistant Farm Manager, Servers, Bussers, Catering Manager, Old Edwards Inn Rooms Manager, Reservation Specialist, Front Desk, Bellman, Night Audit, Fitness Manager. Benefits offered after 90 days employment. Apply online: www.oldedwardsinn.com/careers

LEGAL SECRETARY/PARALEGAL For Immediate Hire at Coward, Hicks & Siler- Sylva, est. 1951. www.cowardhicksandsiler.com. Duties include preparing documents for real estate closings, civil litigation, estate matters, and managing client files. Attention to detail, organized, excellent communication skills, ability to work independently and as a team, and exceptional customer service skills are a must. Candidate should be proficient at Soft-Pro, Microsoft products, and Word perfect. We Are Willing To Train the right candidate. Email resume to emontoya@chspa.com.

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

SOLID FOUNDATION INC. is Seeking Skilled Carpenter and Carpenters Helper. Must have own Transportation, Tools, References Needed. Call (828)369-3894.

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

Wanted

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

Motor Vehicles

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SELL YOUR VEHICLE in a Classified ad in The Macon County News. Call (828)369-6767 for details.

Community Fundraisers

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.

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.

Commercial Rentals

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT! High traffic area, in town. Currently operated as an established Barber Shop. Barber Chairs and some furniture could be purchased from current business owner. \$600 per month plus utilities. Call (828)524-5601 or (828)421-3501.

Misc. For Sale

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

HAVE MOVED Glass Curio Cabinet. Glass Front/Sides. Roomy Storage Drawer. New \$700+ asking \$150 Negotiable. (828)349-4151

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

www.themaconcountynews.com

Happy Holidays

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THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
80%	0%	0%	10%	55%
50°/18°	31°/17°	47°/21°	52°/30°	47°/26°

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May the joyous spirit of Christmas resound throughout your heart and home this holiday season. For your loyal support, we are deeply grateful.



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