

# The Macon County NEWS

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Crowned the spring 2021 Homecoming Queen at halftime of Friday Night's football game was Taylor Ensley (right) with Dylan Garcia named the runner-up. Ensley is a senior, the daughter of Todd and Kim Ensley. She is a member of the volleyball and softball teams, the FCA and the Student Leadership team. Garcia is a senior, the daughter of Astarria Garcia and Bryan Hooper. She is a member of the cross country and track teams holding records at FHS for the 5K and the two-mile, and is editor of the Laurel Leaf. For more photos, see page 12.  
Photo by Vickie Carpenter

## Town postpones discussion on Pickin'

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Town of Franklin officials closed the Gazebo on the square for public use last year as COVID19 surged across North Carolina. Monday night, the board was slated to discuss reopening the Gazebo, but that discussion will be continued at next month's meeting with nothing being decided at this point.

"Both are up for more thought," Franklin Mayor Bob Scott said Tuesday morning when asked about reopening the Gazebo and resume the town-sponsored Pickin' on the Square event. "It appears the pandemic is getting less severe."

While the town has not officially reopened the Gazebo for public events, a special approval was issued to celebrate the life of the late Vice Mayor Barbara McRae.

"We plan to have the gazebo reopen very soon," said Scott. "It will be open Saturday, April 17, for a Celebration of life for Vice Mayor Barbara McRae put on by her friends and the Women's History Trail."

Scott said after that event, the town will consider future events on a case by case basis.

Pickin' on the Square, the annual town-sponsored summer

concert series has not been officially relaunched yet, and Scott said moving forward, that will all depend on time.

"No decision has been made about Pickin' at this time," said Scott. "It is still open for discussion. All of this depends on Covid restrictions."

Pickin' on the Square happens on Saturday evenings and traditionally begins in late May and continues through mid-October. The event features a wide range of music, all free to the public. With mass gathering limits and COVID19 safety precautions still in effect for North Carolina, the town has been unable to host the event.

### Vacant seat on Town Council

At Monday's town council meeting, the board discussed how to proceed with the seat left vacant by the passing of McRae. The Council voted unanimously to name Jack Horton to serve as vice mayor.

The next steps on filling the vacant seat are unclear due to pending legislation.

"We do not have to fill the seat as it is not a remaining full term," said Scott. "It is less than six months till filing. Also,

See TOWN BOARD page 2

### IN THIS ISSUE



Roberta Swank named Macon Matriarch by WHT



Scenes from Friday's Panther football game



Lady Panthers Softball having stellar season

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# TOWN BOARD

Continued from page 1

we do not know if we will have an election in 2021 or it will be in 2022. The NC Board of Elections is debating about moving municipal elections to even numbered years.”

The North Carolina State Board of Elections (BOE) has asked the North Carolina legislature to move the municipal election of 2021 to 2022 and move the 2022 elections back two months. This is because the U.S. Census Bureau said it was five months behind schedule in releasing data that helps states construct their districts lines for this year. The district lines for the North Carolina federal and state election are redrawn every 10 years after the census, but the BOE worries that not moving it back would cause confusion and added expense.

While the town of Franklin would not be impacted by redrawn district lines because seats are elected at-large and not by districts, other municipalities in the state are. Around 45

“I am totally against this. I do not want to see our elections partisan, having primaries and being overshadowed by state and federal elections.”

– Mayor Bob Scott

They would simply stay in office until after the delayed elections.

“I am totally against this,” said Scott. “I do not want to see our elections partisan, having primaries and being overshadowed by state and federal elections. We are doing just fine being non-partisan.”

municipalities that have district elections in 2021 have the ability to change their own election dates. Lawmakers would have to pass legislation changing the election dates for the remaining municipalities. Rather than just address the impacts municipalities, the state is calling for all elections to be delayed.

The General Assembly, by statute, sets the time of municipal elections, and sets the time of candidate filing. The General Assembly can, if it chooses, delay the 2021 municipal elections, giving cities time to receive the new census numbers, draw the new districts, have candidates file, and go through the election. If the General Assembly does that, it will, at the same time, extend the terms of incumbent city council members who were to be up for re-election in 2021.

# NCDMV online services to allow for state-issued ID card renewals

The N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles expanded its online services and now customers can renew state-issued identification cards.

Individuals with a state-issued ID can skip making an office appointment and renew online by going to payments.ncdot.gov and follow the instructions. State-issued IDs can be renewed up to six months before they expire. The price to renew an ID is \$14, plus the \$3 online convenience fee. However, there are also ID holders who can renew for free. That information can be found at <https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/license->

id/identification/Pages/default.aspx under No-Fee ID Cards.

Obtaining an initial state-issued ID still requires a visit to a driver license office. Information on obtaining an ID card can be found on the DMV website.

NCDMV offers online access for many services, including driver license renewals, ordering duplicate licenses and ID cards, driving record requests, driver license office appointments, registration renewals, vehicle property tax payments, duplicate registration cards, ordering personalized and specialty plates, payment of insurance lapse fines, and applying for voter registration.

# SCC hosts drive for MLK week of service

The act of giving is more important than ever as the pandemic continues to affect many people in western North Carolina.

That’s why the SCC Cares Committee from Southwestern Community College recently held a collection drive to benefit HERE in Jackson County, INC. Founded in 2018, HERE is currently seeking donations to serve clients who are in emergency shelters or living unsheltered in places such as cars or tents.

To make preparation easier for those in need, these donated items are preferred: Canned proteins (chicken, tuna, beans); canned vegetables; microwavable items that don’t require refrigeration (ramen noodles, ravioli, etc.); peanut butter crackers; granola/cereal bars; and non-food items like microwavable bowls; cutlery (metal or sturdy plastic); and dental floss. They have plenty of toothbrushes/toothpaste at this time.

“We provide shelter and one meal a day. This is really helpful to those who don’t have the means to provide meals for themselves,” said HERE representative, Bob Cochran.

The HERE collection drive was part of SCC Cares MLK Jr. Week of Service.

Drop-off boxes continue to be available at the Groves Center breakroom on SCC’s Macon Campus as well as the



HERE representative Bob Cochran, Amanda Allen, and Danielle Roberts with donated goods

following locations on the college’s Jackson Campus: Balsam Center in front of the Information Desk, Burrell Building, Holt Library near the MLK Jr. display, and Oaks outside of the Student Support Services office.



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# WHT names Roberta Jefferson Swank Macon Matriarch 2021

Theresa Ramsey  
WHT Leadership Team

The Women's History Trail (WHT) project of the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County (FHAMC) adopted an activity in 2018 that continues each March as a part of Women's History Month. This annual celebratory event honors a special "WHT Macon Matriarch" and her role as trailblazer to help shape a better future for Macon County.

Since its creation, three very deserving women have previously been distinguished as WHT Macon Matriarchs: Margaret Ramsey (2018), Sally Kesler (2019) and Dorothy Crawford (2020).

This year, WHT is privileged to honor Roberta Jefferson Swank as the fourth "WHT Macon Matriarch." Due to COVID19 concerns and in lieu of a more formal event, a smaller gathering was held on March 26, on Swank's outside porch where ladies from various walks of her life, including her daughter, Laureen, joined her in this important recognition. FHAMC Chairperson Anne Hyder presented Roberta with a framed certificate that reads: "Your dedication to the people of Macon County through community service, your excellent work ethic and your many years of willingness to help others earn you a perfect choice for this award. You exemplify the description of a 'strong woman' and we are proud to have you as a colleague! We honor you today with the annual Macon Matriarch Award."

Claire Suminski, one of the key event organizers and a member of the WHT Committee, shared a "This is Your Life" presentation containing Swank's bio as well as letters and well wishes from a cross-section of individuals privileged to have either worked or volunteered with her in one of her many roles of service. Some highlights collected from comments are listed below:

**Bio:** Born in 1937 in Glendale, WV, Roberta was a descendant of Thomas Jefferson's brother. She was an only child, attended a one-room schoolhouse and was proudly the first in her family to go to col-



Robert Swank has been named Women's History Trail's Macon Matriarch 2021.

Photos by Karen Lawrence

lege after receiving a scholarship to West Virginia University. She met her husband, Wayne, at a Methodist church group and got married one week after graduation. Roberta and Wayne moved to Macon County when he began working at the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory. She is the mother of four children, Laureen, Doug, Scott and Mark.

**Dietician/Food Service:** "Roberta was the official dietician for all hospitals in the region for 10 years" shared Claire Suminski. "She is the kind of leader who leads by example and lifts others up." Jane Morgan (previous Environment Health Dept/Public Health Center) added, "Roberta supervised the food service for Macon County Schools. Her knowledge in food science was exemplary! The employees respected her because of her honesty and willingness to work. She never asked anyone to do anything she wouldn't do."

**Macon County Board of Health:** Anne Hyder (previous Assistant Health Director)

stated that "as a member of this Board which dealt with issues such as Preparedness, Accreditation, Well Water Program, Personnel Issues, Budget Planning and much more, not only did Roberta work hard but she asked the hard questions and added humor when needed. It was a great pleasure to work with her."

**Macon County 4-H:** "Roberta was my 4-H Leader for many years in the Iotla Community. I thought she was fantastic," shared Becky Ramsey Estes, a long-time family friend.

**Macon County**

**Public Library:** Swank was instrumental in fundraising efforts to build the existing library. Friend Sally Dyar volunteers with Swank at the Friends of the Library Bookstore as she continues to support literacy in Macon County.

**First United Methodist Church:** David Beam Senior Pastor shared, "Roberta and Wayne may not have been born in Macon County but upon arrival, their love of this community and its people through their service and involvement endeared them to even the most exclusive of residents. Roberta is an incredibly intelligent, articulate, faith-filled and staunchly independent person who is passionate about the things that matter most. Demure is not a word that describes

her! But words like savvy, intentional, dedicated and devoted certainly do. I am thrilled to help honor Roberta among the legacy of women who have gone before her as treasures of this community."

**Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO) Scholarship Committee:** On behalf of PEO, Sue Hirsch and Rev. Margaret Freeman expressed, "Roberta continues to serve on the scholarship committee of PEO. Her desire to help young women in Macon County is why she has been instrumental in helping develop the Ewing-Huffman PEO Scholarship for young women who excel in leadership, academics and service."

**Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory (Kathy, Chris, Patsy, Cindy):** "Roberta embraced the ideal of Coweeta and regarded everyone who worked there as family. She opened her home and heart to us from the beginning and continues to be our dear friend to this day."

"Our WHT team is truly pleased to honor you with the WHT Macon Matriarch award," WHT Co-Chair Mary Polanski said. "Your giving to this community is like a shining light of persistence and success."

"Macon County is a much better place because of your dedication and hard work in so many ways: library, schools, 4-H and much more. You are truly deserving of this award. Thank you for being a strong leader and advocate for so many!" WHT member Theresa Ramsey shared in a letter.

Ongoing projects of the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County Women's History Trail include "Walking in Her Steps" and the WHT Sculpture Project, a special bronze art sculpture titled "Sowing the Seeds of the Future" which depicts three local historical women (a white woman, an African American woman and a Cherokee woman). Visit the organization's website [www.FolkHeritageAssociation.org](http://www.FolkHeritageAssociation.org) or email WHT leadership at [whtmaconnc@gmail.com](mailto:whtmaconnc@gmail.com) to learn more.



Roberta Swank visits with Claire Suminski, member of the Women's History Trail committee.



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## Officials break ground for multi-million dollar energy production facility at WCU

**Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer**

Leaders from across North Carolina gathered at Western Carolina University last Friday afternoon to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new electricity facility. The new facility will replace WCU’s current Steam Plant originally built in the 1920s.

Of the 123 buildings Western Carolina University campus, 35 buildings (comprising approximately 2.2M square feet) are connected to the campus central steam plant. The balance of campus facilities are heated by local means (boilers, heat pump, geothermal, etc.). The campus central steam plant is housed in a building originally constructed in the 1920s.

The steam plant has the capacity of producing 97,000 pounds of steam per hour. On cold days, the plant is operating at or near 100% capacity. The Steam Plant operates 24 hours per day 365 days per year, and has two miles of underground steam and condensate lines.

The power plant has been a top priority for WCU for the last decade, with funding being pieced mealed by the General Assembly over the last few years. With the enrollment growth that WCU has experienced in the past several years, the university in 2012 identified replacement of the steam plant with a more efficient and more reliable energy source as its No. 1 capital improvements project. The steam plant, which includes elements that are nearly 100 years old, supplies heat and hot water to most of campus.

WCU Chancellor Kelli R. Brown spoke to the work of WCU staff to keep the university’s water and power source operating for nearly a century.

“I think this is a day that many folks here never believed would actually happen,” Brown said. “The current steam plant behind me was completed in 1924 and has been our No. 1 capital improvement project priority since 2012. Think about that for just a moment, a critical infrastructure for the operation of our campus that is nearly a century old. Talk about bang for the buck.”

As part of the 2017 budget, state legislators appropriated \$750,000 for WCU to begin planning and design of a replacement for the steam

plant, with an initial installment of \$16.5 million included in the state budget approved in 2018. The second \$16.5 million installment was included in the 2020 legislative “mini-budget.” The funding for the replacement plant at WCU was the largest funded capital project in the state in the 2020 budget.

Late Chancellor David O. Belcher was a vocal advocate for securing funding to address what he characterized as “one of the most acute and critical infrastructure needs facing our campus – our antiquated steam plant.” He referred to it as “the steam museum.”

Senator Kevin Corbin attended the groundbreaking and spoke of a trip to see the Steam Plant with Belcher when he saw the inside of the boiler held together with duct tape.

“I am proud to be here today to see this project finally get underway,” Senator Corbin said. “Chancellor Belcher made replacing this facility a top priority and I can’t think of a better way to honor his contribution to WCU than to see it through.”

The existing steam plant will be maintained and kept in operation until the new facility is up and running in order to continue providing heat and hot water while the new plant is being built. The new energy production facility, like the current steam plant, will operate using natural gas, with No. 2 fuel oil as a backup source of power. Fuel storage tanks will be relocated to the rear of the new building.

The new facility will be a two-story structure, with boilers, piping, and a control room located at the top floor and water pumps, treatment equipment, and generators on the lower floor. While the new facility will have its own smokestack, the design will keep the current smokestack as a nod to university history.

It will also include a lobby and administrative offices. As a tribute to Chancellor Belcher and to honor his reference of the plant as a “museum” the new facility will include space to display some of the old plant’s equipment including a steam whistle once used to signal the start and end of a workday, midday lunch break and, with a long continuous blast, special events or warnings.

*Brittney Lofthouse contributed to this article.*

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**Submission Deadline: May 15, 2021. There is no entry fee.**

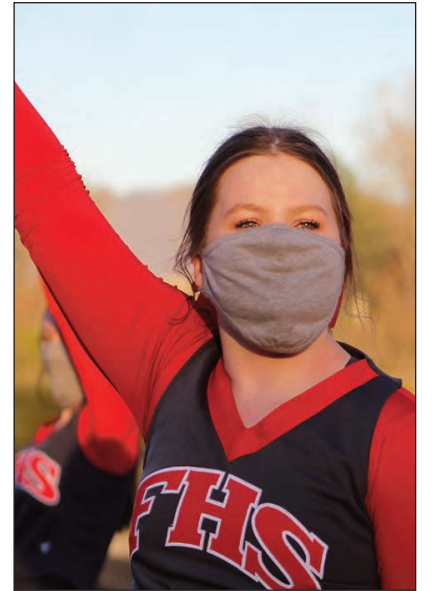
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The Arts Council serves Macon County as a presenter, promoter and resource for artists, cultural organizations and schools, working to meet their goals. Contact us at [arts4all@dnet.net](mailto:arts4all@dnet.net) 828-524-ARTS

# Franklin Panthers Football falls to Pisgah Bears 34-11

Franklin High School Panthers fell to the Pisgah Bears, 34-11, in a hard fought battle Friday night in the Panther Pit. Fresh off the 41-0 routing of East Henderson last week, the Panthers couldn't record a second home win. The first quarter ended scoreless for both teams and the half ended with a touchdown for the Bears and a field goal for the Panthers for a score of 7-3. Junior Quarterback Chris McGuire scored the lone touchdown in the third quarter. Friday is Senior Night as the Panthers play Smoky Mountain at home.

Photos by Vickie Carpenter



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# Conference realignment moves Franklin to 3A

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

The North Carolina High School Athletics Association Board of Directors recently voted to approve a realignment plan finalized in February, confirming new athletic conferences that go into effect over the summer and will be in place through the 2024-25 school year.

Both the Franklin High School Panthers and the Smoky Mountain High School Mustangs will be moving from their current 2A classification up to a 3A conference standing.

The realignment places both schools in Conference 54 (3A, WMAC/Mountain Six) which is made up of East Henderson, Franklin, North Henderson, Pisgah, Smoky Mountain, Tuscola, and West Henderson.

Like Franklin and Smoky Mountain which moved up a conference to make up Conference 54, East Henderson and Pisgah were also moved from 2A to 3A.

The new realignment means Franklin and Smoky Mountain will no longer be competing against Brevard or Hendersonville in conference play and will now face off against North Henderson, Tuscola, and West Henderson, in addition

to the current conference rivals of Pisgah and East Henderson.

It will be up to member schools to vote on the new official name for the conference at a later date.

Swain County will remain a 1A school and was placed in Conference 43 (1A, Smoky Mountain Conference) which is made up of Andrews, Blue Ridge Early College, Cherokee, Hayesville, Highlands, Hiwassee Dam, Murphy, Nantahala, Robbinsville, Swain County, Tri-County Early College. Swain County will no longer compete against Rosman.

However the 1A conference could change again before the 2025 realignment plan is finalized, as Andrews High, Murphy, and Hiwassee Dam are all set to consolidate into one high school, which would remove them from the 1A Conference 43 and place them in a 3A conference.

Member schools of Conference 43 will meet and first decide on a conference name, which has historically been the Smoky Mountain Conference and then second, further divide the conference to separate out smaller schools like Highlands, Nantahala, and Blue Ridge School to the Little Smoky Mountain Conference.

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## Avoid these mistakes when looking for your first home

While shopping for a home is exciting, it's also a complex process that can be overwhelming and easily lead to costly mistakes for unprepared first-time homebuyers.

"As with most things in life, preparation is key to success — particularly with buying your first home," said Jeremy Wine, manager of housing counseling services with a HUD-approved nonprofit housing counseling agency. "Ultimately, you want to find a home you love without risking your financial security or stability. Otherwise, you may end up in a house that owns you rather than the other way around."

Wine offers five mistakes homebuyers should avoid:

- **Overspending.** It's easy to fall in love with a home and end up paying more than you can afford. Overspending puts you at greater risk of foreclosure if you fall behind on payments. Plus, a higher mortgage payment leaves you with less wiggle room in your monthly budget for other expenses. It's important to stick to your budget and not overextend.

- **Being unprepared for the mortgage process.** Finding the right mortgage is complex and time-consuming. Have all necessary financial documents and details ready to submit to your lender. Shop around and get multiple mortgage quotes. It could potentially save you big money.

- **Forgoing a home inspection.** Always pay for a home inspection. They cost up to \$500 but can uncover critical issues that may cost much more to fix down the line if they're not identified before your closing date.

- **Forgetting about closing costs.** You saved for a down payment, but what about closing costs? Due at the time of closing, such fees usually total several thousand dollars, amounting to 2% to 5% of your mortgage amount. If you don't properly plan and walk away from the deal, you'll lose all expenses you have already paid, like your earnest deposit.

- **Underestimating ownership costs.** Homeownership costs more than just your mortgage payment. You're also responsible for utility bills, repairs and maintenance costs. Be sure to allow for these expenses during your home search.

First-time homebuyers also should not forget to explore homebuying programs that help with closing costs or down-payment assistance on first homes. Buyers must meet certain requirements to qualify including income limits, staying below a certain purchase price and passing an online home-buyer education course. To learn more, visit [takechargeamerica.org](http://takechargeamerica.org) or call (866) 987-2008.



## Primitive Outback's new owners join chamber

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed Primitive Outback Kayaking and Gem Mining to its membership with a ribbon cutting celebration.

Primitive Outback is located off Hwy 441 N in Otto at 155 Robin Lynn Lane. New owners Ivan and Jen Glick are excited to offer fun for the entire family. Primitive Outback is open Thursday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and are closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

"Gem Mining rain or shine at our covered outdoor Gem Flume along the Little Tennessee River. We have many different sizes of Gem Buckets and a Gem and Fossil Bucket just waiting for you to find your hidden treasure. You will find topaz, rubies, amethyst, emeralds and many other types of gemstones. We welcome all rock-hounds and treasure seekers. We will help you to identify your gems and fossils during your adventure" said Jen Glick.

New owners of Primitive Outback Ivan and Jen Glick cut the ribbon with chamber representatives Gary Shields, Cindy Cavenber and Linda Harbuck.

Primitive Outback also offers leisurely self-guided kayak trips down the Little Tennessee River. The trips are 2 1/2 - 3 hours long and they supply you with all your equipment needed. Kayakers have seen river otters, beavers, deer and endless birds on their trip down the river. It is a beautiful and peaceful trip to enjoy nature at its best. For those who have their own equipment, Primitive Outback offer a "Drop and Shuttle Service" so that you can use your own equipment and enjoy the river. It's also a beautiful location to picnic overlooking the beautiful Little Tennessee.

If you have questions or would like to make reservations, call 828-349-1717. Your adventure and treasure await you. Check them out at [www.PrimitiveOutback.com](http://www.PrimitiveOutback.com).

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## Volunteer blood donors essential

With no substitute for blood and no way to manufacture it, volunteer donors are essential for hospital patients in need of transfusions. During National Volunteer Month this April, the American Red Cross is celebrating the blood, platelet and plasma donors who help fulfill its lifesaving mission and urging healthy individuals to join them in giving.

Nearly 2.6 million Red Cross volunteer donors step up every year to ensure blood is on the shelves when patients need it. The generosity of these heroes has been especially impactful over the past year as they helped the Red Cross continue to meet patient needs amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Red Cross continues to urge healthy individuals, especially those with type O blood, to give blood to ensure hospitals can meet patient needs. Schedule a donation appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

As a special thank-you, those who come to give by April 30 will be entered for a chance to win one of five \$1,000 e-gift cards to a merchant of choice. Additional details are available at rcblood.org/Gift.

### Health insights for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Testing may also identify the presence of antibodies developed after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

Plasma from routine blood and platelet donations that test positive for high levels of antibodies may be used as convalescent plasma to meet potential future needs of COVID-19 pa-

tients. Convalescent plasma is a type of blood product collected from COVID-19 survivors who have antibodies that may help patients who are actively fighting the virus.

To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

Donors can expect to receive antibody test and sickle cell trait screening results, if applicable, within one to two weeks through the Red Cross Blood Donor App and the online donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org.

### Blood drive safety

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face masks for donors and staff – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face mask while at the drive.

In Franklin, Red Cross Blood drives are being held Friday, April 16, at Discover Church, 47 Macon Center Drive, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Thursday, April 22, at First Baptist Church, 69 Iotla Street, from 12:30 to 5 p.m.

Download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood.

## N.C. opens up vaccine eligibility

Governor Roy Cooper and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. gave an update on the state's current data, trends and vaccination progress as Wednesday marks the opening of vaccine eligibility for Group 5. This means anyone 16 years and older who wants a COVID-19 vaccination is eligible to get one.

"We remain focused on getting people vaccinated as quickly and as equitably as possible and continuing to slow the spread of the virus," said Cooper. "The more people we vaccinate, the more we can safely do."

North Carolina continues to focus on distributing vaccines quickly and equitably. To date, the state has administered over 5.2 million doses. 39 percent of those 18 and up is at least partially vaccinated, and 26 percent of those 18 and up have been fully vaccinated.

"These tested, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines will help us get back in control of our lives and back to the people and places we love – like safely hugging a grandmother, traveling to see vaccinated family or friends, or having a potluck dinner with your vaccinated neighbors," said Secretary Cohen.

North Carolina's work to reach underserved and historically marginalized populations and deliver equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines is a model approach for the country, according to a new report released this week by the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy and the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA).

The report, *Prioritizing Equity in COVID-19 Vaccinations: Promising Practices from States to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities*, highlights promising actions states can take to promote equitable vaccination within

historically marginalized communities, reduce systemic barriers to vaccine access, and improve race and ethnicity data to inform vaccine distribution.

In particular, North Carolina is showcased for:

- Increasing vaccine supply allotments for counties with larger populations from historically marginalized communities, particularly when the state was focused on vaccinating people 65 and older.

- Prioritizing community-based vaccination approaches such as funding community health workers and enabling community-based organizations to host mass vaccine events, which builds trust in vaccines and increases access to them within historically marginalized communities.

- Removing systematic barriers to vaccine access, such as transportation. North Carolina allocated \$2.5 million to local transit authorities to offset public transportation costs for North Carolinians to get to and from their vaccine appointments.

North Carolina has been nationally recognized for its vaccine efforts prior to the Duke-Margolis Center and NGA report. The CDC ranked the state in the top 10 for equitable vaccine coverage, and Bloomberg News reported on North Carolina's data-driven approach to reducing disparities in vaccination rates.

Last month, Cooper and NCDHHS launched Healthier Together with the NC Counts Coalition. This new public private partnership will increase the number of individuals from historically marginalized populations who receive COVID-19 vaccinations and will provide a foundation for a longer-term framework for health equity.

For more information on promoting COVID-19 vaccine equity in North Carolina, visit covid19.ncdhhs.gov.

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## News from the Legislature

From the office of  
N.C. Rep. Karl Gillespie



Karl Gillespie

For the week beginning March 22, 2021, I attended the Wildlife Resources Committee, as well as the Agriculture Committee and Joint Appropriations Committee. I also attended a Senate Committee that provided a presentation from the Department of Environmental Quality on landslide mapping, a critical topic that directly impacts Western North Carolina.

On Tuesday, March 23, 2021, the House convened to vote on a total of six bills. Among the bills considered were:

H136 – Encourage Healthy NC Food in Schools, which would require that 100% muscadine grape juice be made available in every public school in the State. I voted in favor of the bill and it passed the House by a vote of 91-22.

H243 – UNC Legislative Priorities/COVID-19 Impacts, would allow The University of North Carolina (UNC) to address budgetary and other impacts of COVID-19. It passed the House by a vote of 117-0.

On Wednesday, March 23, 2021, the House convened for a voting session that consisted of 13 bills. My second bill as the lead primary sponsor, HB94, Graham Occupancy Tax, was voted on and passed by a vote of 106-11. It now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Additional bills that the House considered on Wednesday, include:

HB70 – Historic School Preservation Act, which would help to preserve historic and abandoned school buildings. I voted in favor and the bill passed 114-3.

HB224 – Occupational Therapy Interstate Compact, establishing North Carolina as part of the Occupational Therapy Interstate Compact, with the goal of improving public access to occupational therapy services by providing for the mutual recognition of other member state licenses. HB224 passed 119-0.

HB238 – Prohibit Possession of Skimming Device, adds the definition of a skimming device to the Financial Transaction Card Crime Act and makes the possession, sale, or delivery of a skimming device a Class I felony. The bill passed 119-0.

Thursday's session consisted of eight bills, including:

HB36 – Protect Those Who Serve and Protect, would increase the punishment for discharging or attempting to discharge a firearm at or into an unoccupied emergency

Continued on page 11

## Letters to the Editor

### Republic requires virtue of citizens and leaders to work

I'm beginning to understand what Benjamin Franklin meant when encountering a woman on the street following the constitutional convention. "Mr. Franklin, what have you bequeathed us?" His reply: "A republic, Madam, if you can keep it."

Let us be united in interpreting what we're talking about. A republic (according to Webster) is "a state in which the supreme power rests in the body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by representatives chosen directly or indirectly by them." Similarly, a democracy is "government by the people; a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system."

We have, over time, developed and made work a republican (small r) form of government. Remarkably, a handful of men, in a country of less than four million people, had the skills, wisdom and insight to debate and create a system with the capacity to lead the world.

Underneath it all, what Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, and others instinctively realized and what prompted Franklin's remark ("a republic - if you can keep it") was the belief that the ultimate success of their new found republic rested on the willingness of its people to do the right thing.

A key element of the framer's conviction was that virtue had to be part and parcel of republican government. More than just moral standing, honesty and integrity, they further believed (which Madison made abundantly clear) virtue involved "a sense of civic self-sacrifice and the ability to overcome self-interest and act for the benefit of the broader community" (as expressed by former Indiana Congressman, Lee Hamilton). The early framers unequivocally expected that extraordinary level of virtue and not just in political leaders but in citizens themselves.

These principled and unconditional doctrines allowed the framers (without doubts or misgivings) and "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence," to "mutually pledge to each other their Lives, Fortunes, and sacred Honor."

As incongruous as it may seem, they made that solemn pledge with the clear understanding and recognition that the whole thing would undoubtedly fail if the people lacked the capacity to make it work.

Many Americans appear to have lost trust in government and in one another. If we regard the violent, deadly, shameless attack on our Capitol January 6th by our own people a measure of our ability to make our republic work, I would say we have fallen significantly short of the framer's expectations.

Is it too far-fetched to conclude therefore, that if the framers were alive today, having witnessed recent events

(including the shameful participation of a president), that they would look upon many of our choices of leaders as conspicuously not in the best interests of preserving our democracy or republic but indisputably endangering both?

It is imperative we look back and remember that everything depends on us; our children's future, our way of life, our survival... everything.

David Snell – Franklin, N.C.

### Keep living life and mind your own business

As if there wasn't enough for people to be worked up over all the chaos created by corrupt politicians and the virus circus show. Today we have multiple confirmed rabies cases in Macon County as reported by our local newspapers and wildlife biologists. Just last Saturday another raccoon was shot on a Cowee property because it was acting sickly in broad daylight and showed no fear of humans. The wildlife guys were called to test the animal, and it came back positive for rabies. While I am a believer in rabies vaccines for pets, I don't think everyone will be rushing to get a human rabies vaccination anytime soon to prevent the spread of it. However, if the crooked politicians who have an abysmal record of telling the truth saw an opportunity to exploit confirmed rabies cases, they would surely do it. Many people would no doubt follow the "official" narrative without thinking for themselves or understanding that life is dangerous in general. Threats are everywhere that are out of our control, especially driving on the highways, but we all need to calm down and keep living life while minding our own business. I doubt that will happen anytime soon given the current climate of fear-mongering, gross misinformation, and busybodies, but it is something to keep in mind. In the meantime, perhaps the do-gooder, virtue signaling crowd who want to confront non-maskers in grocery stores or legislate intrusive regulations can descend upon Macon County and convince the coons and stray dogs to socially distance from each other and wear face coverings in the woods? Maybe even Saint Fauci can make an appearance to ask the skunks and foxes to self-quarantine to flatten the curve of rabies in our area? Until then, we can always trust the Lord in His sovereignty and use common sense to live our lives since government and mainstream media continue to prove they cannot be trusted.

Jim Gaston – Franklin, N.C.

Email letters to the editor to  
[maconcountynews@gmail.com](mailto:maconcountynews@gmail.com)

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# The Vagabond Band is back at the library

The Macon County Public Library is once again hosting Music with the Vagabonds Monday, April 19, at 2 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room.

## The Vagabond Band

The Vagabond Band plays at Macon County Public Library, Macon Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation, Franklin House, and Grandview Manor.

The music is old country, oldies, old pop and some gospel.

Participating Bband members are :

– Penny Brewster plays guitar and vocals and she likes train songs.

– Wild Bill Jackson on the harmonica and vocals but not at the same time.

– Jim Hite plays guitar flat picking, finger picking, rhythm, bass guitar, 6 string banjo and vocals.

– June Kirkland plays guitar and vocals.

Part time members May-Nov. - Roy Wood plays the guitar and vocals and Martha Wood plays the fiddle and vocals. All people entering the library are required to wear a mask or other face covering. Social distancing and sanitizing procedures will be observed. For more information, call the library at (828)524-3600.

## MUSIC WITH THE VAGABONDS



## Kindergarten orientation days

Cartoogechaye Elementary, 3295 Old Murphy Road - Friday, April 23 & Friday, April 30. Phone (828)524-2845.

East Franklin Elementary, 100 Watauga Street - Friday, May 7. Phone (828)524-3216

Highlands School, 545 Pierson Drive - Friday, March 12 (parents only). Phone (828)526-2147.

Iotla Valley Elementary, 1166 Iotla Church Road - Friday, April 9; Friday, April 16; Friday, April 23 & Friday, April 30. Phone (828)524-2938.

Nantahala School, 213 Winding Stairs Road, Topton - Friday, April 23. Phone (828) 321-4388.

South Macon Elementary, 855 Addington Bridge Road - Friday, April 9 & Friday, April 16. Phone (828)369-0796.

## Seniors to parade through town

A Macon County High School Senior Parade is being planned for Saturday, April 10. Participants include seniors from Franklin High School, Macon Early College, Nantahala School, Highlands School and Union Academy school.

On Saturday, seniors will line up at FHS parking lot between 2:15 and 2:45 p.m., and will depart at 3 p.m. sharp with possible law enforcement escort. The parade will start at Franklin High School, to Wayah Street to Depot Street to Main Street to Porter Street and end at the high school. Decorations on cars are encouraged, but students are asked to not use decorations that could fall off or cause a distraction for other drivers. Community and family support are welcome and encouraged. Follow health guidelines.

Contact Lisa Ledford (828)371-4695 to RSVP or for additional information. *Note: Event is not sponsored by Franklin High School.*

## Stream monitoring event planned



Macon County Public Library is hosting "Habitat: That's Where It's At!" event Saturday, April 10, at 1 p.m. in front of the library and the Greenway. The purpose is to help monitor the health of streams during Citizen Science Month and beyond. The group will meet in front of the library to download and learn a little about the Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP), then walk down to the Greenway with Mainspring Conservation Trust's aquatic expert Jason Meador who will offer instruction how to use the Citizen Science tool to contribute to research biologists are collecting about the Little Tennessee River. To register, contact Kristina Moe at the library; kmoe@fontanalib.org or (828)524-3600. Pictured are librarian Karen Wallace, Meador, and Dr. William O. McLarney, aquatic conservation biologist.

## GILLESPIE

Continued from page 10

vehicle and increase the punishment for pointing a laser device at a law enforcement officer or other emergency personnel when the person or animal is in performance of his or her duties. The bill passed by a vote of 119-0.

HB205 – Abuse and Neglect Resources in Public Schools, would require public schools to provide information and resources on child abuse and neglect to students. The bill passed 119-0.

HB271 – Eminent Domain, proposes that the North Carolina Constitution be amended to prohibit condemnation of private property except for a public use and to require the payment of just compensation for the property taken in an amount to be determined by jury trial, if requested by any party. The bill also makes a conforming statutory change to state the purpose for which property may be taken by eminent domain as "public use." I voted in favor of the bill and it passed 101-17.

The legislative week beginning March 29, 2021, started with various committee meetings before voting sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. In recent weeks the pace of session has rapidly increased as the House considers various legislation with the bill filing deadline quickly approaching. For non-appropriations bills, the deadline to file is April 20 and for bills with an appropriation, the filing deadline is May 11.

Among the many bills that the House voted on this week, were:

HB11 – Regulate Alcohol Consumables, would regulate alcohol in certain manufactured food products in the same manner as the type of alcohol contained in the product. I voted in favor of the bill and it passed 116-1.

HB46 – State Human Resources Act/Stronger Whistleblower Protection, strengthens the whistleblower protections in the North Carolina Human Resources Act. I voted in favor of the bill and it passed the House 117-2.

HB203 – Extend Deadline for Police Telecommunicators, which extends the deadline for certification of police telecommunicators. The bill passed 119-0.

HB264 – Emergency Powers Accountability Act, would require the Governor to get approval from the Council of State for statewide executive orders. I voted in favor of the bill and it passed 69-50.

HB351 – Clifford's Law, would require the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to establish visitation protocols during declared disasters and emergencies that provide visitation rights for patients in nursing homes, combination homes, and hospice care facilities. I voted in favor of the bill and it passed 104-15.

### Did You Know?

My first bill to pass the North Carolina House of Representatives, House Bill 81, received publicity in an article from the *Carolina Journal* "Freshman Rep Takes up Decade-Long Push for Mountain College."

North Carolina tax filers will get another month to complete their individual state returns, in keeping with the IRS decision to push its April 15 deadline back to May 17.

### Recently Sponsored Legislation

HB346: Funds for Down Syndrome Programs

HB351: Clifford's Law

HB358: Save Women's Sports Act

HB359: Driver Eligibility Certificate/License/Waiver

# The Franklin High School 2021 Homecoming Court



Emma Carruthers and escort Doug Carruthers



Gracie Elliott and escort Les Elliott



Andrea Terrell and escort Brian Terrell



Olivia Owle and escort Katai Bouakhamphong



Corey Burrell and and escort Adam Burrell



Claire Holland and escort Kevin Holland



Anya Valentine and escort Virgil Valentine



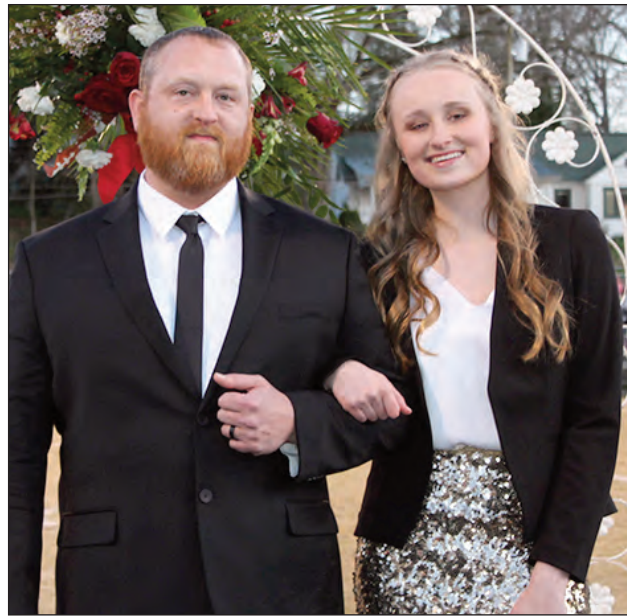
Karli McMahan and escort Kevin McMahan



Amy Tippett and escort Steve Tippett



Sky Golebiewski-Kral and escort Rick Kral



Canaan Drake and escort Joshua Drake



Dylan Garcia and escort Bryan Hooper



Taylor Ensley and escort Todd Ensley



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Junior escorts Ryker Stiles and Paxton Plemens

Photos by Vickie Carpenter

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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 March 22 - April 4. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*



## **Macon County Sheriff's Department**

**March 29**

Matthew Devon Perkins, was issued a Governor's warrant. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

**March 30**

Mark Alexander Anderson, was charged with drug/narcotic violations.

**March 31**

Charles Russell Edwards, was charged with simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of drug paraphernalia, attempted break and enter building, larceny, possession of stolen goods/property. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Joshua David Shelton, was issued a warrant. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

**April 1**

William Gumar Ramos, was charged with violating domestic violence protective order violation. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Henry Stacey Phillips, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Biaggio Withers, was issued warrant service. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Tyler Lee Watson, was issued a true bill of indictment. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Michael Anthony Passafume, was issued a true bill of indictment for a habitual felon. Adrian L. Mace Made the arrest.

Bruce Zachary McDonald, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

**April 2**

Amber Lynn Williamson, was issued warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction. Emileigh E. Sands made the arrest.

Jacqueline Beatrice Moore, was charged with probation violation. Cassie J. Shuler made the arrest.

**April 3**

Willie Eldon Watts, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

Avery Allison Bates, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation, trafficking opium or heroin by possession, trafficking opium or heroin by transportation, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Edwin Michael Fusco, was trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation, trafficking opium or heroin by possession, trafficking opium or heroin by transportation. Jordan C. Sutton made

the arrest.

Benjamin Gary Speed, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation, trafficking opium or heroin by possession, trafficking opium or heroin by transportation, maintaining a vehicle for a controlled substances. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

**April 4**

Monique Laverne Smith, was charged with probation violation, possession of methamphetamine, possession of heroin, flee/elude arrest. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Casey Lee Evans, was charged with school attendance law violation. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

## **Franklin Police Department**

**March 27**

Justin David Carver, 24, was charged with burglary breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$16,000 was set. Sargent Ashe made the arrest.

Bailey Brooke Harrell, 25, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

**March 28**

Kristy Marianne Sheldon, 28, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

**March 29**

Joseph Lee Samarco, 48, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property. An unsecured bond of \$1,000 was set. Officer Hovis made the arrest.

Ronnie Lee Queen, 39, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Sargent Norman made the arrest.

**March 30**

Martin Allen Brink, 50, was issued a warrant for arrest for domestic violence protective order. No bond was set. Officer Hovis made the arrest.

## **Jackson County Sheriff's Department**

**March 22**

Laurence Gerard Hinton, 55, of Dillard Rd., was charged with protective order violation. No bond was set.

Tirell O. Timothy, 39, of Edge St. S.W., Atlanta, Ga., was charged with failure to appear for second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$200 was set.

John Banton Legere, 44, of Brown Ridge Rd., was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

Thomas Eugene Gibson, 56, of Mountain Oaks Lane, was charged with assault on a female. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Johnathan Fredrick Carver, 28, of Quite Forrest Lane, Balsam, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Jess Harvey Cagle, 48, of Allens Branch Rd., was issued a true bill of indictment for habitual felon. No bond was set.

Jesse Douglas Cook, 39, of Harley Cove Rd., Whittier, was charged with breaking and entering. No bond was set.

**March 23**

Justin Ray Queen, 19, of Stillhouse Branch Rd., Bryson City, was charged with failure to appear for trespassing, damage to property, resist/public officer. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Tabitha Sherel Henry, 31, of Pumpkin Town Rd., was charged with failure to appear for misdemeanor probation violation for out of county. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

**March 24**

Jason Scott Armstrong, 45, of Sylva, was charged with failure to appear for child support purge. A bond of \$2,833.26 was set.

Charles Albert Weeks, 39, of Sherrill Rd., Bryson City, was issued a child support purge. A bond of \$218.46 was set.

Charles Alden Brooks, 18, of Sugarloaf Rd., was charged with second degree trespassing. No bond was set.

**March 25**

Cameron Zane Turner, 22, of Emerson Poore Dr., Candler, was charged with failure to appear for Watauga County. An unsecured bond of \$250 was set.

**March 26**

Zachary Heath Nicholson, 27, of Laurel Knob Rd., Cashiers, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Amari Marqdis Rashadeen, 21, of Amberly Lane, Charlotte, was charged with failure to appear for violation of court order. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Carolyn Rachael Reed, 23, of Potato Patch Dr., Cherokee, was charged with violation of court order. A secured bond of \$4,000 was set.

**March 28**

Adam Warren-David Evitt, 32, of Windy Gap Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with possession of a firearm by a felon. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Amber Sherice Crowe, 34, of Mink Branch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

David Jason Johnson, 39, of Beavor Rd., Lake Toxaway, was issued a fugitive warrant. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

**March 29**

Nadya Alyssa Nansi Colon, 20, of Chestnut Knoll Lane, Charlotte, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Trenton Jeremy Franks, 27, Of Sylva, was issued a fugitive order for other state. A secured bond of \$50,000 was set.

Tanya Lynn Maney, 31, of A Model Dr., Whittier, was charged with obtaining property by false pretense. No bond was set.

James Colby McCoslin, 38, of Oak Hill. was issued a fugitive warrant. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Krystal Leann Ogle, 31, of Clarence Hall Rd., was charged with obtaining property by false pretense, identity theft. A secured bond of \$30,000 was set.

**March 30**

Mark Wayne Carver, 31, of Berts Creek Rd., Robbinsville, was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, resist a public officer, failure to appear for felony probation violation, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance, indictment for possession of a stolen motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$68,500. was set.

**March 31**

Colby Alexander Dillard, 23, of Clockwork Lane, was issued a fugitive warrant. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

**April 1**

David Samuel Brady, 44, of Sam Brady Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for possession of stolen goods, obtaining property by false pretense. A secured bond of \$6,000 was set.

Taylor Norman Taylor, 21, of Rec. Park Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for interfering with emergency communication, assault on a female. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.



# Two shrubs that create a bit of drama for the spring

Dr. Bob Gilbert – Columnist

Looking for some drama in your yard in early spring? There is an uncommon dogwood *Cornus mas* with the common name Cornelian Cherry that fits that bill. It is not a cherry (*prunus*). This is another example of why scientific names are important. What is unique is that it blooms at a time when there is not much else blooming. If it bloomed in May or June it would hardly be noticeable. This is a large shrub or small tree that can reach 20 to 25 feet. You can create a tree by selective pruning off lower branches and confining growth to a single trunk. I planted this tree, photographed by Karen Lawrence (photo below) 10 to 11 years ago in a friend's yard. The yellow flowers, lasting up to three weeks, are similar to the yellow central bloom parts of our native dogwood *Cornus florida*. *Cornus mas* does not have white petals or bracts like our native dogwood. Its cornelian-colored fruits, ripen in July, are edible and makes wonderful jellies and jams. There are a number of cultivars based on different leaf patterns and sizes.

About the only other shrub blooming at the same time is our native Spicebush *Lindera benzoin*. Its blooms are so small you only get a hint yellow.

What I have found a little confusing is that *mas* is short for masculine. If this plant is a male it should not be producing fruit? On close inspection. I have found it does not have male anatomy but female ones. *Mas* also means strong. All dogwoods have dense and very strong wood. So, the species name *mas* is descriptive and appropriate. Dogwoods got their common names from the claim that the fruits are edible but not tolerated for dogs. Also, its wood was used for cooking skewers called dogs.

I found this plant for sale at a local nursery. It is easy to grow having no special requirements and is hardy from zones 4- 7-8. It is native to Europe and Asia. It is neither aggressive or inva-



Dr. Bob Gilbert

sive. It does produce occasional suckers. Again, what is unique about *Cornus mas* is that it blooms at a time when most plants are still dormant. Plus, you can stump your friends and neighbors about its identification. And Dirr states that “They are tough and adaptable and suffer few problems in the garden.”

## Foster's Holly on the Square

The back border along the alley of Rankin Square has a hedgerow of Foster's Holly. The genus name for holly is *Ilex*. This holly produces plentiful bright red berries. It has been a beautiful and popular selection for years. It is a long lifespan. It can be pollinated from other hollies. Also, it can produce fruit without a male pollinator.

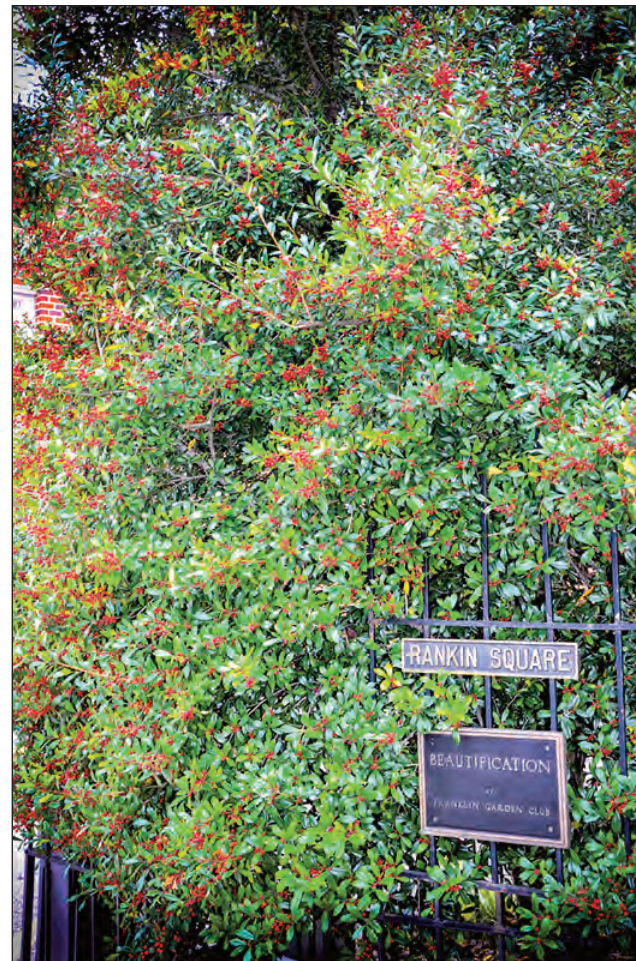
It is actually a cross between two different species of holly, *Ilex cassine* (Dahoon Holly) and *Ilex opaca* (our native American Holly)? The cross was made by E. E. Foster of Bessemer, Ala., in the 1950s. Originally there were only five seedlings available labeled 1-5. Numbers 2 and 3 have been the most popular. Numbers 1 and 5 were discarded as being inferior. The number 4 is a male not needed as Foster's Holly can produce fruit by a process called parthenocarp from the Greek Parthenon meaning virgin and *karpos* meaning fruit. The fruits produced do not have seeds. Thus, this holly does not produce a lot of nuisance seedlings as does our native holly. As an aside the plural for holly can be written or spoke either holly or hollies.

Foster's Holly can grow to 25 feet. Its heavy berry production is an inherited characteristic from *Ilex cassine*. Its scientific name is listed as *Ilex x attenuata*. The x is a signal that it is an interspecies cross. *Attenuata* means slender can be descriptive of its overall form or the shape of the dark evergreen leaves.

Foster's Holly has become one of the most popular evergreens trees for landscapes purposes. It is hardy from zones 6-9 and easily grown. It does not need anything special. In early spring its berries ripen and flocks of Cedar Waxwings and Robins strip the trees of their red fruit. There is an old wives' tale that birds wait for holly



Cornelian Cherry (*Cornus mas*)



Foster's Holly

Photos by Karen Lawrence

berries to ripen and ferment. Reportedly they gorge themselves on the overly ripened fermented fruit and fall to the ground drunk. After years of watching birds devour holly berries, I have never seen that happen. I have wondered why birds never get fat? It appears they can over eat without consequence. Have you ever seen overweight Cedar Waxwings or Robins? But then if there is a large feeding flock it is hard to tell if it is the same bird or others that keeps going back for more. A good lesson is learned from Cedar Waxwings: They know when to stop eating before they hit the ground.

*Dr. Bob Gilbert, co-founder of Smith Gilbert Garden in Kennesaw, Ga.*

*Karen Lawrence is a professional wildlife photographer from Franklin.*

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# Dillsboro holds annual Easter Hat Parade



Dillsboro celebrated the return of the Easter Hat Parade on Saturday, April 3, with folks turning out in their finest handcrafted Easter Hats. Antique cars and trucks were part of the parade and even the Easter Bunny made an appearance.



Photos by Brittney Lofthouse



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## Deaths & Funerals

### Larry David Bishop

Larry David Bishop, 71, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Sunday, April 4, 2021, after a period of declining health.

Born in Jackson County, North Carolina, he was the son of the late Quenton and Ruby Wilson Bishop. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Frances McIntyre Bishop; and a sister, Clydias Guffey.

He was a member of Watauga Baptist Church and the Macon County Coon Hunters Club. He was a brick and block mason and in his spare time, he loved tending to his livestock.

He is survived by his sister, Nancy Young (Jason) of Oak Island, N.C.; one nephew, Sam; and five nieces, Julia, Meg, Marcie, Gina and Selena; sisters-in-law, Wanda Baker (Norman) and Katie Shope (Bobby) of Franklin; and numerous cousins and friends.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, April 7, at Watauga Baptist Church Cemetery. Rev. Mark Bishop, Rev. Wesley Price and Rev. Roy Lowe officiated.

Pallbearers were Dick Franklin, Brad Bishop, Damen Johnson, Kirk Johnson, Tim Cochran, and Bobby Cabe. Honorary Pallbearers were Alvin Johnson, Dennis Johnson, Roger Bishop, Mitchell Bishop, L.C. Browning, Buddy Cochran, and Ed Cope.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Watauga Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, C/O Norris Clouse, 2864 Watauga Rd, Franklin, NC 28734.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

### Leo Alphonse Lolli

Leo Alphonse Lolli, 82, of Franklin, N.C., passed away March 21, 2021.

He was born to the late Leo and Louise Signore Lolli. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy Schedneck Lolli; and a sister, Loretta Black.

He was a member of St. Francis Catholic Church of Franklin. He enjoyed spending time outdoors tending to his yard, maintaining his cars, riding his Polaris, and cooking. He loved spreading joy and making everyone laugh.

He is survived by wife, Vickie Lolli; children, Sandra Lynn Lolli (John Hagdom) of Franklin, Dawn Ocasio (Mic) of Ormond Beach, Fla., Bruce Young (Cathleen) of Lake Worth, Fla., Michael Young (Karla) of Royal Palm Beach, Fla.; five grandchildren, Nicholas Ocasio, Dominic Ocasio, Skylar Young, Brooke Young, Isabella Young; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Wednesday, April 14, at 7 p.m., at Macon Funeral home Chapel. Deacon Ramsey will officiate. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the services.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Four Seasons Hospice - Four Seasons Development Office 571 South Allen Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral home will be handling the arrangements.



Larry David Bishop



Leo Alphonse Lolli

### Rev. Joel Arthur Walker

On April 1, 2021, Rev. Joel Arthur Walker stepped into the presence of his Lord and Savior. He was born Jan. 5, 1959, in Châteauroux, France, and was the oldest son of Herbert and Christine (Tweedle) Walker. He loved his wife, family, country, and trusted in and was faithful to God.

He grew up as an Air Force son, shepherding his siblings along with an assortment of cats and dogs while his father was away serving his country in the USAF. He attended Freedom High School in Morganton, N.C. and met his future wife, Lisa Schmidt, when he drove the school bus for her route. Together they had many adventures in his orange 1959 Willys Jeep on the back roads of Burke County. After graduating high school, he joined the Army and fulfilled his childhood dream of becoming a Green Beret, serving with the 5th Special Forces group as a radio operator. He received his Associates Degree from Wake Tech and worked at Underwriters Laboratories in RTP. He was called to the ministry while attending Emmaus Baptist Church in Pittsboro, N.C., where he was licensed and ordained into the ministry. He and his wife quit their jobs, sold all and moved by faith to Zebulon, N.C., so he could attend Southeastern Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., where he received his Master of Divinity. He then studied Christian Ethics at Oxford University in Oxford England as a Ph.D. candidate while attending Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. His greatest honor was being bestowed the position of deacon, meaning, servant. He had a servant's heart and wanted to be thought of as an encourager to all those around him, stranger or not. He loved making people laugh, and always wanted to be thought of as a nice person. After retiring from the ministry, he worked for the State of North Carolina and retired as the Acting Budget Manager with the NC Department of Health and Human Services in Raleigh, N.C.

He loved the outdoors, and he and Lisa had many adventures camping, hiking, wildlife viewing, Geohashing and Geocaching. He loved riding the back-country roads of eastern N.C. on his Harley. He was a member of the Iron Butt Association, and completed the Saddlesore 1000, riding 1,000 miles in less than 24 hrs. and the Bun Burner 1500 - 1,500 miles in less than 36 hrs. He would take vacation time to ride his Harley with the Patriot Guard for Fallen Soldiers, and Officer Down missions. On weekends you could find Joel and Lisa at Medoc Mountain State Park where they often volunteered. He loved traveling to northern New Mexico in the autumn to hike, camp and view the wildlife. He loved a challenge, and planning adventures was always part of the fun.

He and his wife volunteered on many disaster relief and mass feeding efforts lead by the NC Baptist Men from the coast of N.C. after hurricanes, to flooding in western N.C. and in West Virginia, to Gulfport after Hurricane Katrina. He was a member of the Medoc Mountain State Park PAC committee. One of his many hobbies included being an amateur radio operator, call sign K4ND.

He is survived by Lisa, his loving wife of 36 and a half years; siblings, Nelson and Amy Walker; brothers-in-law, Kurt Schmidt (Teresa Bentley) and Mark Schmidt; and sister-in-law, Kristine Bumgarner (David). He loved dotting on and encouraging his nieces and nephew, and his great nieces and nephews.

His final days in the hospital and at home were spent thanking and encouraging the workers at the hospital, the firemen and EMS who transported him and the ladies from Hospice who helped care for him. His wife, brother and sister, nephew, nieces and great nieces and nephews will miss him greatly. The love, laughter, encouragement, and compassion that he showed will live in our hearts and minds forever.

Lisa would like to thank Joel's coworkers at DHHS across the state for the kindness and friendship they showed Joel during his career and the compassion they showed during his final days. In lieu of flowers, Joel requested that if you can't rescue a cat, support Appalachian Animal Rescue Center or your local animal rescue or volunteer at your local State Park. A private memorial service will be held at a future date.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Walker family. Online condolences can be made at [www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com).



Rev. Joel Arthur Walker

### Dieter Karl Rueckerl

Dieter Karl Rueckerl, 54, of Otto, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

Born in Amberg, Germany, he was the son of the late Anton and Constanze Rueckerl. He was a transit driver for Macon County Transit. He enjoyed building projects around the house and spending time with his wife and family.

He is survived by his wife, Trinica Christensen Rueckerl of Otto; children, Jasmin Rueckerl, Thomas Rueckerl and Anja Roth, all of Germany; stepchildren, Michael Fox Jr., of Florida and Matthew Jacob Dayton of South Carolina; and his siblings, Eva Pfab, Anton Rueckerl, Angelika Baumer, and Doris Meier, all of Germany; a grandson, Lennox Roth; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial service will be held Saturday, April 10, at 11 a.m. in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Richard Salmonson will officiate.

The family will receive friends from 10 to 11 a.m. one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Appalachian Animal Rescue, PO Box 81, Franklin, NC 28744.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Dieter Karl Rueckerl

### Phillip Dean Partington

It was with great sadness that the family of Phillip Dean Partington told him goodbye on March 28, 2021. While there is grieving here, a joyous reunion took place in Glory at that same time as Phil was reunited with his wife, Pamela Jo Pickens Partington, who was the love of his life.

He was born on Feb. 5, 1947, to Bobby Arthur and Geneva Alice Gunter Partington. He joined the United States Navy fresh out of high school. Upon discharge, he worked as a lineman for Florida Power for about 10 years before moving to Franklin and working for Dalton Construction for 20 years.

He loved to have a great time. His expertise at making prank phone calls caught even those who were aware of the possibility of receiving one off guard. He liked keeping his family and friends on their toes. While one of the best things about him was how he loved to joke and laugh, he will also be remembered as having some of his biggest laughs at himself.

He enjoyed "tinkering" and had the ability to repurpose many items that were otherwise doomed to be discarded. He liked attending gun shows and was always up for a card game.

He was a wonderful family man who truly enjoyed being a dad. He stayed interested and very involved in the lives of his children and his grandchildren. They didn't hesitate to call on him because they knew he was always available to do anything he could to help them.

He was predeceased by his parents and his wife.

He is survived by his sons, Nick Partington (Laura Lee), Greg Partington (Erin); grandchildren, Wren Partington and Harper Partington; siblings, Toni Porter, Virgie Dowdle, Sheryl Butler, Richard Partington, and Robert Partington; and his best friend, Tom Freck, along with a number of nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.moffittfamilyfuneral-care.com](http://www.moffittfamilyfuneral-care.com).



Phillip Dean Partington



## Deaths & Funerals

### Carl John Kosischke

Carl John Kosischke of Franklin, N.C., 78, left this earth to meet his maker and to live eternal life March 23, 2021.

He was born in Meriden, Conn., on Sept. 18, 1942, to the late Carl D. Kosischke and Helene (Beier) Kosischke. In addition to his parents, he was preceded by his two sisters, Caroline Kosischke and Cynthia (Kosischke) Charbonneau, both of Meriden, Conn.

He left Meriden more than 30 years ago and lived a life he loved on Lake Pocotopaug in East Hampton, Conn., amongst great friends. He graduated Wilcox Technical High School as a carpenter. He joined the Navy and graduated a very proud E-3, Seaman.

He was an avid fisherman. He had a passion for gardening many vegetables and herbs and was known to grow the juiciest tomatoes year after year. He had a great sense of humor and prided himself on the many friendships he had made along the way. He was generous and was always lending a hand to anyone in need. He loved the lake life and felt comfort living a slower paced life. Of all his accomplishments, his pride was placed most on being a father to his three daughters.

He is survived by his three daughters, Heather (Kosischke) Wells of Meriden, Tara (Kosischke) Gifford of Meriden and Shannon Kosischke of Meriden; four grandchildren, Paige Cassina of Meriden, Chandler Cassina of Tolland and Cassidy and Cameron Wells of Meriden. Although divorced years ago, he still carried a long-lasting love for his wife Diane (Formica) Rivers.

He leaves behind many friends. A special thank you to one in particular, Michael Bartolotta, who was by his side until the end, helping him when he was unable to help himself. We appreciate the love you showed our Dad.

Rest Dad, you are imbedded in our souls and we will carry you with us forever. Until we meet again.

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

Online condolences may be made at [www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com](http://www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com).

### Gregory Paul Ray

Gregory Paul Ray, 67, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Monday, March 28, 2021.

Born in Rabun County, Georgia, he was the son of the late Robert Paul and Edith Dalton Ray. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a niece, Marianna Ray. He was a truck driver and enjoyed working on restoring his 1956 Chevrolet Pickup.

He is survived by his daughter, Ashley Ray of Santa Monica, Calif.; and three brothers, Danny Ray of Gainesville, Ga., Bruce Ray of Blue Ridge, Ga., and Ronnie Ray of Snellville, Ga.; one niece, Merideth Ray; two nephews, Josh Ray and Aaron Ray; and numerous cousins.

A Celebration of Life was held Monday, April 5, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Steve Reeves officiated.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Carl John Kosischke

### Elizabeth 'Ann' Pearce Bennett

Elizabeth "Ann" Pearce Bennett, 84, of Franklin, N.C., passed peacefully into the arms of Jesus on March 25, 2021.

She was born Feb. 6, 1937, in Lakeland, Fla., to the late Walter and Nellie Pearce. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her siblings, Ralph Pearce, Willard Pearce, Marion Henderson, and Florence Brown; her son, Bruce Bennett; and great-grandson Andrew Bennett.

She spent her life helping and caring for others. She was a faithful member of Cowee Baptist Church and served there as Sunday School teacher, VBS teacher, kitchen helper, nursery worker and history gatherer. She worked at Cowee School lunchroom many years and then began working with Angel Home Health. She loved her family. She and Robert raised their three sons and loved all their extended family members. She kept in touch with the extended family and made scrapbooks with cards and letters from each family.

Ann is survived by her loving husband of 65 precious years, Robert Bennett; her sons, Robert "Bob" and Shirley of Westminster, S.C., David and Bonnie of Franklin, daughter-in-law Julie Bennett; six grandchildren, Megan Bennett, Eddie Bennett (Crystal), Monica Turner, Chris Turner (Sherri), Charles Bennett (Blesi) and Patrick Bennett (Stephani); a sister, Alice Blanton of Marble, N.C.; and 10 great grandchildren.

Graveside service was held Saturday, March 27, at Cowee Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Ronnie Branson officiating.

Pallbearers were Eddie Bennett, Charles Bennett, Patrick Bennett, Chris Turner, Carson Turner and Tom Baliles.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Cowee Baptist Church.

Online condolences at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Elizabeth Bennett

### Alvin Nicky 'Nick' Dills

Alvin Nicky "Nick" Dills, son of Jerry F. and Nina N. Dills, passed away on March 26, 2021, at his home in Crestview, Fla. A native of Macon County, North Carolina, he was 55 years old.

He was known as a master craftsman and artist. He had the ability to build a house from the ground up mostly by himself, build all the furniture, and then draw a few pictures to hang on the walls. He was an amazingly talented man who was always happy and willing to lend a hand to anyone who needed help.

He loved working on his farm and was content in leading a quiet, simple life. He loved telling stories about the projects he was working on, finding humor in everything and giving his listeners a big laugh. He was kind, gentle, funny, and always looking for the bright side.

He loved his family deeply and was simply adored by them and by his friends. He was a wonderful husband, father, brother, and son who will be remembered as a bright light in the lives of his family.

He was predeceased by his father, Jerry F. Dills, and his father-in-law, Thomas N. Andrews.

Left with many wonderful memories of a life well lived are his wife, Jennifer; his sons, Torie and John; his daughters, Jessica and Brookelin; his mother, Nina Dills; his sister and her husband, Mitzi and David Warman; his nephews, Hunter Warman, Tyler and wife, Kendall Warman; great-nephew, Jace Warman; niece, Annarose Warman; and many extended family and friends.

A memorial service will be held on April 10 at 11 a.m. at Bethel United Methodist Church with Rev. Bobby Crawford officiating.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family.

Online condolences at [www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com](http://www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com).



Alvin Nicky Dills

### Hilda Tieneka Kemp

Hilda Tieneka Kemp, 90, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Sunday, April 4, 2021. She was born Jan. 23, 1931, in Hoogezand, Holland, to the late Jan Gerardus Benes and Thalina Jantge Yorkel Benes. She was an administrator in real estate and was a member of Coconut Grove Sailing Club and the Stitching Guild. She loved embroidering and sailing. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Warren Candler Kemp and a sister, Tieneka Hilda.

She is survived by her daughter, Lienche Massey of Lake Worth, Fla.; grandchildren, Thalina Perogo of Pompano Beach, Fla., and Warren Massey of Lake Worth, Fla.; great grandchildren, Ronin Perago of Pompano Beach, and Taylor Massey of Lake Worth.

A memorial service will be held Thursday, April 8, at 11 a.m., in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Kemp family. Online condolences may be made at [www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryant-grantfuneralhome.com).

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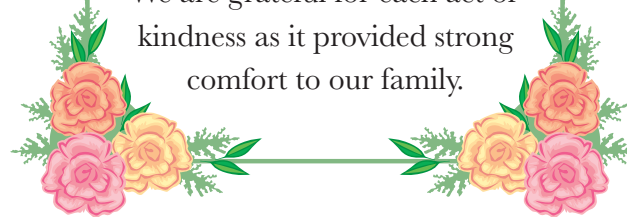
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## Thank You

The family of Linda Hedden would like to thank all those that stopped by to pay final respects to Linda and for their thoughts and prayers. Our family appreciates the food, donations, cards and kind words. We are grateful for each act of kindness as it provided strong comfort to our family.



# Franklin High School Lady Panthers Softball having stellar season

The Franklin High School Lady Panthers Varsity Softball is having a stellar season winning the last five games with an average score of 16.6 runs per game. The team has scored a total of 83 points and has now moved into the #1 ranking in the State 2A Division with a record of 5-0. The Lady Panthers play Madison this Saturday, April 10, at 2 p.m.

Photos by Patri Cabe



Tori Ensley



Taylor Ensley



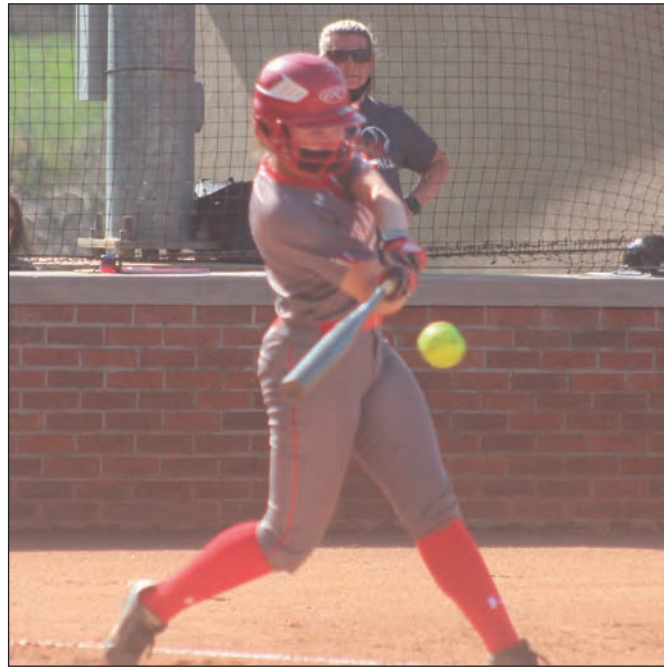
Kandice Parker



Meyaeh Tran



Delaney Stiles



Olivia Birchard



The Franklin High School Junior Varsity Lady Panthers defeated the Pisgah Bears on March 30, 7-2. The JV girls will play Madison Saturday, April 10 at 4 p.m.

Photos by Patri Cabe



McKinleigh Cochran



Laura Holland

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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.

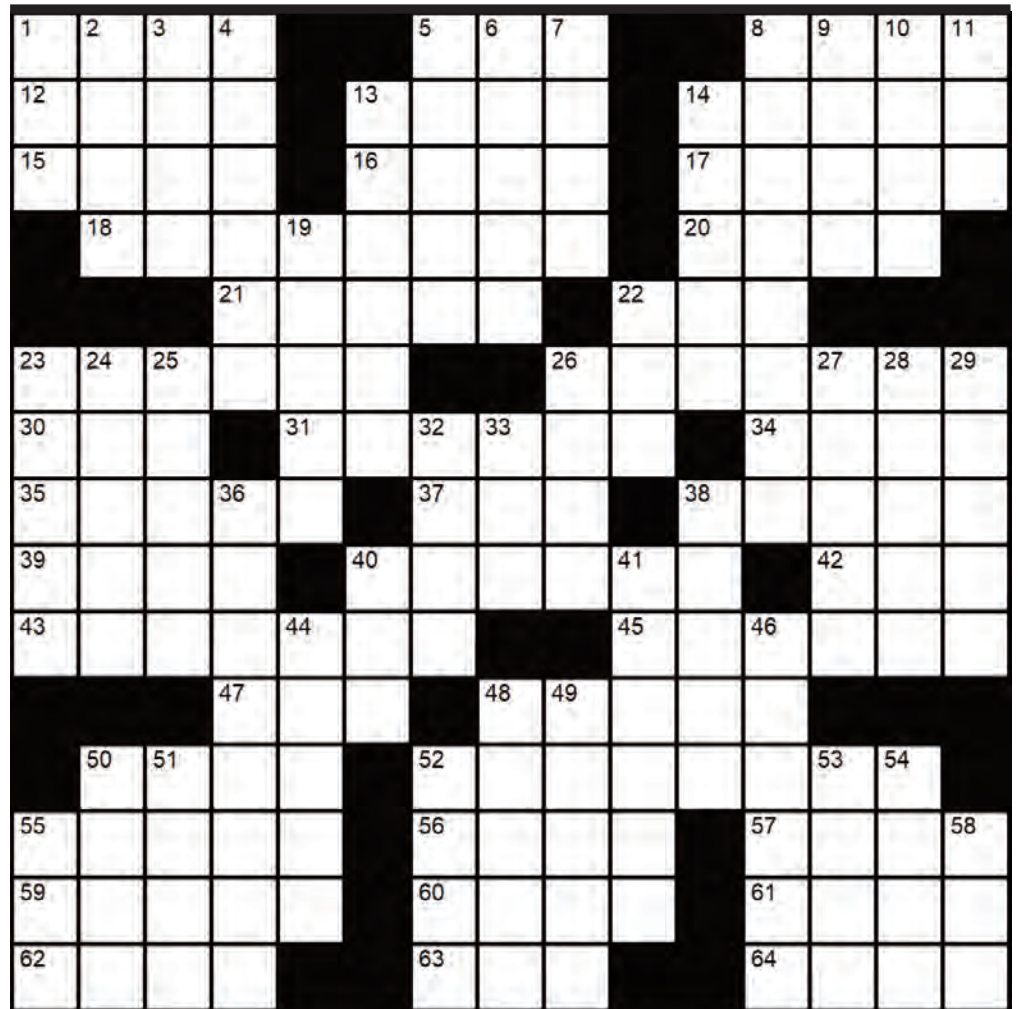
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: SCIENCE 101

#### ACROSS

1. Type of tide
5. Sin over tan
8. Schooner pole
12. Part of temple floor plan
13. Made a basket
14. \*Main artery in the body
15. \*\_\_\_\_-carotene
16. Swear, not curse
17. Reputation-damaging gossip
18. \*Physicist of theory of relativity fame
20. Salty drop
21. Turn upside down
22. Mark on Pinterest
23. \*Everything around us
26. Porch in ancient Greece
30. Not St. or Blvd.
31. Percussion instrument
34. "Aim High... Fly-Fight-Win" org.
35. Walks like Long John Silver
37. "Dog \_\_\_\_ dog"
38. Like TV or phone in 2021
39. Measuring roll
40. Catch in a net
42. Gorilla or orangutan
43. Pull-over parkas
45. \*One of B-vitamins
47. Anger
48. Open disrespect
50. Full of excitement
52. \*Explanations that can be tested and verified
55. Words to live by
56. Sword handle
57. Large West African



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#### republic

59. "Encore!"
60. Unrivaled
61. From a second-hand store
62. Cleopatra's necklace
63. Second solfa syllable, pl.
64. Makes stitches

#### DOWN

1. Pick up a perpetrator
2. Dueling weapon in "The Three Musketeers"
3. \_\_\_\_ Spumante
4. Treat for Dumbo
5. Witches' get-together
6. Egg-shaped
7. Made with stitches

#### 8. \*Product of mass and velocity of an object

9. \*Equals length times width
10. \*Alpha Centauri A., e.g.
11. Toni Morrison's " \_\_\_\_ Baby"
13. Like rheumy eyes
14. On the move
19. Four-eyes' gear
22. Short for "politician"
23. Tiny European republic
24. Type of flu
25. Moderato, e.g.
26. TouPée spot
27. \*Scientist Newton
28. \*Wrist bones
29. More than occasional
32. Department store de-

#### partment

33. "Pow!"
36. \*Mendeleev's \_\_\_\_ table
38. Bake, as in eggs
40. Make bigger
41. Persnickety
44. \*Ar, inert gas
46. Bad blood
48. Use a shoe polish
49. \*Smallest units of life
50. Jason's ship
51. Wheel inside old clock
52. God of thunder
53. Alleviate
54. Boatload
55. Tom of "Tom and Jerry"
58. Dog tags

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**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.

**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.

**FROG FAIR** Saturday, May 8, 573 E. Main St, Franklin (at the Town bridge). Stop by Wednesday-Saturday between 9-2, to become a registered vendor or to purchase 50/50 drawing tickets or email frog28734@gmail.com

**MOUNTAIN AREA PROPERTY** Services, Cleaning Packing Organizing & Other Household Services. Great References. (828)550-4585.

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**Animals**

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

**Help Wanted**

**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.

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## 2021 TRAVERSE



**10%** OF MSRP CASH BACK **THAT'S** **\$5,203** CASH BACK  
ON THIS TRAVERSE PREMIER<sup>2</sup>

## 2020 BLAZER



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ON MOST MODELS<sup>1</sup> ON THIS BLAZER RS<sup>2</sup>

## 2021 TRAILBLAZER



**10%** OF MSRP CASH BACK **THAT'S** **\$4,970** CASH BACK  
ON MOST MODELS<sup>1</sup> ON THIS TRAILBLAZER ACTIV<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Excludes L models. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 5/3/21. <sup>2</sup> 2020Trax LT based on \$25,265 MSRP. 2021 Equinox Premier based on \$40,100 MSRP. 2021 Traverse Premier based on \$52,030 MSRP. 2020 Blazer RS based on \$51,685 MSRP. 2021 Trailblazer ACTIV based on \$28,960 MSRP. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 5/3/21. ©2021 General Motors. All rights reserved.



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2019 Chevrolet Colorado	3,987
2019 Chevrolet Colorado	6,928
2019 Chevrolet Corvette	3,023
1972 CHEVROLET CORVETTE	91,171
2019 Chevrolet Cruze	14,078
2014 Chevrolet Equinox	108,214
2018 Chevrolet Equinox	21,036
2018 Chevrolet Equinox	48,398
2016 Chevrolet Equinox	107,191
2017 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	43,966
2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	16,818
2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	30,179
2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	39,385
2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	11,584
2020 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	6,147
2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	25,168
2007 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD	2,821,214
2020 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD	22,009
2018 Chevrolet Spark	33,334
2017 Chevrolet Spark	29,568
2015 Chevrolet Suburban	103,523
2015 Chevrolet Tahoe	160,428
2015 Chevrolet Traverse	101,068
2017 Chevrolet Traverse	91,874
2017 Chevrolet Traverse	37,692
2019 Chevrolet Traverse	24,449
2016 Dodge Dart	37,024
2019 Dodge Journey	16,576
2019 Ford Edge	45,478
2012 Ford Edge	136,822
2016 Ford Escape	33,265
2013 Ford Explorer	135,416
2018 Ford F-150	27,491
2018 Ford F-150	25,756
2007 Ford Focus	158,109
2017 Ford Fusion	127,731
2016 Ford Super Duty F-250 SRW	191,167
2011 GMC Sierra 1500	208,162
2017 GMC Sierra 3500HD	55,539
2020 GMC Yukon	40,952
2012 GMC Yukon	163,871
2019 GMC Yukon XL	37,969
2002 Honda Accord	217,842
2017 Honda Civic Sedan	49,543
2016 Honda HR-V	85,731
2019 Hyundai Elantra	36,506
2019 Jaguar XE	22,558
2019 Jeep Cherokee	9,020
2019 Jeep Cherokee	38,039
2015 Jeep Cherokee	138,767
2019 Jeep Wrangler	6,867
2018 Jeep Wrangler JK	47,132
2017 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited	88,737
2018 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited	52,471
2019 KAUFMAN TRAILER	
2012 Kia Optima	102,804
2019 Kia Sorento	21,976
2017 Kia Soul	91,896
2016 Land Rover Range Rover Sport	55,302
2016 Lexus GX 460	81,717
2019 Lincoln MKC	33,369
2015 Mercedes-Benz GLA 45 AMG	36,859
2018 Mitsubishi Outlander	49,318
2018 Mitsubishi Outlander	39,416
2020 Nissan Altima	38,911
2019 Nissan Frontier	39,039
2013 Nissan Frontier	136,148
2019 Nissan Rogue	39,871
2019 POLARIS SLINGSHOT SL	
2020 Ram 1500	25,556
2020 RAM 1500 Classic	18,621
2020 Toyota Camry	17,59
2019 Toyota Corolla	27,529
2008 Volkswagen New Beetle Convertible	107,001
2018 Volkswagen Tiguan	19,002