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FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Franklin High School held its annual Class Day on Friday, May 14, in the Panther Pit football stadium. No ceremony was allowed last year, but this year, awards were handed out to deserving seniors in person. Dylan Garcia and Peyton Wood (L), who were also named Mr. & Ms. FHS, garnered the Spirit Award. Bryce Rogers and Anna Gilliam were the recipients of the coveted Citizenship Award. For a complete list of award winners and more photos, see page 12.

Photos by Vickie Carpenter

Teachers campaign to restore arts to schools

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Former Macon County High School student Chloe Tallent spoke with tears in her eyes last week at the Macon County Board of Commissioners meeting in support of a \$2 million budget increase to provide additional teaching positions for arts and music education throughout Macon County Schools.

Tallent, who just celebrated graduating from Mars Hill College with a Music Education degree, credited the opportunities she had in art and music at Franklin High School with helping her cope with her parents' divorce and for helping to shape her into the person she has become — which includes a love for teaching the next generation the arts.

Tallent was one of a dozen people to speak to commissioners during the May meeting, all asking commissioners to consider the Macon County Board of Education's \$1.9 million budget increase for an array of new positions across Macon County Schools. The positions, primarily in art and music as well as nursing and mental health positions, are a mix of new positions as well as replacing positions that have been lost through attrition over the last decade.

Members of the Arts for MCS have requested additional positions within the school system to provide students with



Chloe Tallent, a recent graduate of Mars Hill College majoring in music education, implored commissioners to restore arts in Macon County Schools.

See ARTS for MCS page 2

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Gallery exhibit features pandemic era-themed art

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Governor lifts many COVID-19 restrictions

Governor Roy Cooper and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. shared an update last week on the state's COVID-19 progress. Throughout the pandemic, state officials have taken a data-driven approach and have been guided by the science in making decisions. Following yesterday's guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that fully vaccinated individuals can safely do most activities without wearing a mask or the need to social distance from others, the state will remove its indoor mask mandate for most settings. Additionally, the state will lift all mass gathering limits and social distancing requirements. These changes went into effect immediately.

"We can take this step today because the science shows our focus on getting people vaccinated is working," said Cooper. "But to keep moving forward – and to make sure that we keep saving lives – more people need to get vaccinated."

The ability to lift restrictions sooner than anticipated following the CDC's guidance shows the importance of vaccinating all North Carolinians. As of this week, even more people can get vaccinated. Younger teens between 12 and 15 can now get the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Young people are vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus, just like everyone else, and the percent of COVID-19 cases in North Carolina children 17 and under has been increasing.

North Carolina continues to focus on distributing vaccines quickly and equitably. To date, the state has administered over 7.7 million doses. 51% percent of those 18 and up are at least partially vaccinated, and 46% percent of those 18 and up have been fully vaccinated.

"I am so proud of the incredible progress we have made in beating back this pandemic," said Cohen. "Vaccines continue to be incredibly effective at protecting individuals from this terrible virus. And as more and more people get vaccinated, the results show in our stable metrics with lower cases, lower hospitalizations, and lower deaths."

In accordance with the new CDC guidance, there will still be certain settings where masks and other safety measures will be required. Masks will still be required in child care, schools and camps as most children are either not yet vaccinated or are not yet eligible to be vaccinated. Everyone, including people who are fully vaccinated will still be required to wear a mask in certain settings such as public transportation, health care settings like hospitals, doctor's offices and long-term care settings like nursing homes, and certain congregate settings like correctional facilities and homeless shelters.

NCDHHS will continue to have strong public health recommendations for individuals to continue to protect one another until more people are vaccinated. People who are not vaccinated should wear a mask and maintain distance in all indoor public settings and in outdoor settings when they can't maintain six feet of distance.

Masks are strongly recommended for everyone at large crowded indoor events like sporting events and live performances.

NCDHHS recommends public facing businesses post signage reminding guests to social distance and wear a face covering if they are not fully vaccinated; remind employees to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19; have a plan to immediately isolate and remove sick workers; and clean high-touch surfaces once a day. Businesses may choose to continue to require that their customers wear masks.

The Department of Health and Human Services will also continue to expand strategies to reach people who have not yet gotten vaccinated.

Information on the state's vaccine distribution is available at YourSpotYourShot.nc.gov (English) or Vacunate.nc.gov (Spanish). People can find nearby vaccine providers using NCDHHS' online tool, Find a Vaccine Location. The state's COVID-19 vaccine hotline number is 888-675-4567.

ARTS for MCS

Continued from page 1

a consistency in options from elementary schools throughout high school. After elementary school, students have art at Mountain View Intermediate, but then not for two years until they reach high school. For music, after elementary school, students have middle school band, but not choir until high school if they choose.

"We believe that Macon County can be top of the line on many respects, but not without the creativity, resourcefulness, confidence, the peace and the joy, these programs provide our children," said Jackson County resident and local music teacher Maggie Jennings. Jennings, along with Mountain View Intermediate teacher Sarah O'Neal have led a grassroots effort to support arts education in Macon County. "We believe they are essential to Macon County being top of the line."

The \$2 million budget increase would include funding for the following school system staff:

- STEM Teacher, Exceptional Children Teacher Assistant (two-positions) @ Iotla Valley Elementary
- PE, STEM and one extra month for clerical @ South Macon
- Two extra months custodians @ Mountain View Intermediate
- Guidance Counselor, Art Teacher, Music Teacher @ Macon Middle School
- Foreign Language Teacher @ Highlands
- English Teacher @ FHS
- Art/Music/CTE Teacher, Day Treatment Assistant @ Union Academy
- 50,000 Maintenance Contract for MCS
- 10 additional mental health professionals to cover K-12
- Five additional full time school nurses to cover K-12
- Four full-time art positions to cover K-12
- Four full-time music positions to cover K-12

Commissioner Ronnie Beale noted that with the state budget being responsible for funding positions across the state — with the county's responsibility involving providing the buildings — Arts for MCS should also consider lobbying Senator Kevin Corbin and Representative Karl Gillespie to restore funding to the positions and programs that have been lost through attrition over the last decade.

"The state took this out of the budget many years ago, and I would definitely suggest speaking to our state representatives about restoring that funding," said Beale. "Funding for the Arts is in the governor's budget. Talk to Senator Corbin and ask him to honor that and to provide the funding for the arts."

The Macon County Board of Commissioners will be meeting on May 25 for their first look at County Manager Derek Roland's 2021-22 budget proposal.



Music teacher Maggie Jennings and MVI teacher Sarah O'Neal have led a grassroots effort to support arts education.

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Carolina Hemp Company expands to Franklin area

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony for Carolina Hemp Company located at 98 West Palmer Street.

Carolina Hemp Company recently opened in Franklin and its modern space offers a general store atmosphere and prides itself on its innovative concept of being an educational space. The store provides wellness products that align with the company's motto of "Bringing Balance Through Hemp" and offers samples, along with knowledge, to the general public for an in-store experience.

Carolina Hemp Company was founded in 2014 in Asheville, and is an education-focused hemp general store and wholesale distributor of quality hemp flower extract products such as sublingual oil, concentrates, and other hemp products, including organically grown hemp flower, topicals, and edibles. The company intends to set a benchmark for the industry in products, education, and service to the community. The company works with local and regional farmers, local educators, industry leaders, manufacturers, and retailers to rebuild a market chain that will provide quality jobs in the Carolinas and beyond. Carolina Hemp Company's passion is driven by the opportunity to bring real growth, sustainable products, and viable, proven alternatives.

Carolina Hemp began an initiative starting on May 18 that



Franklin Chamber of Commerce representatives and the staff of Carolina Hemp gathered recently to celebrate the opening of their new store on 98 West Palmer Street.

is called Hemp For Harvest. That initiative will provide 500 seedlings of vegetable plants for community gardens, the Share and Serve Garden and individuals who have a need to grow their own vegetables to augment their food supply. Deal Farm will be present on Saturday, May 22, to provide free education for those who would like to learn how to take care of their plants and gardens.

Stop by the store and their staff will do their best to answer your questions and find a product that fits your need. Owners Bill and Susan Swift want to thank you for giving them the opportunity to serve Franklin and the surrounding areas. Contact them at (828)349-3310 for more information.

Chiropractor relocates to new Franklin office

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce cohosted a ribbon cutting ceremony for Dr. Eric Shapiro with Your Place or Spine Chiropractic located at 150 Georgia Road.

Dr. Eric received a Doctor of Chiropractic, cum laude in 1997. After two years with Payne Chiropractic, he opened his own brick and mortar practice in Hickory, N.C. His practice became a thriving practice in a culturally diverse community for many years. After moving to Franklin, Dr. Eric began building a flourishing mobile, on-site chiropractic business specializing in employee wellness programs. However, when the coronavirus struck, it limited his ability to go into facilities. Falling in love with the Franklin area, Dr. Eric decided this is where he would most like to put down some roots and opened his current practice. Throughout the span of his 24-year career, he has managed and treated thousands of patients with a variety of conditions and problems. He is known to be an especially successful practitioner when it comes to dealing with chronic headaches. He truly loves working with patients, the public and his peers. Dr. Eric is also a cer-



Franklin Chamber of Commerce representatives recently joined the staff of Your Place or Spine Chiropractic for a ribbon cutting. The office is located at 150 Georgia Road.

tified personal trainer and frequently utilizes exercise as an adjunct to his chiropractic training.

To reach Dr. Eric and his staff, call (828)450-2991.



Owners and staff of Las Margaritas along with Chamber representatives celebrated the opening of the new restaurant in downtown Franklin.

Las Margaritas opens in downtown Franklin

With 20 years of combined experience, Enrique Zendejas and Roberto Ramirez have opened a new restaurant in downtown Franklin, Las Margaritas. The Franklin Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting celebration welcoming them to the business community. Las Margaritas is located at 24 Iotla Street, formerly Martha's Kitchen. The restaurant is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Enrique and Roberto prepare and serve authentic Mexican dishes including lunch specials and a kid's menu. Adult beverages are also available including draft and bottled beer, wine, mixed beverages, and of course, Margaritas.

To go orders and reservations for large groups are available by calling (828)369-2021. Check out their facebook page at www.facebook.com/Las-Margaritas-Mexican-Restaurant.

NCWorks planning job fair this Friday

NCWorks Career Center is hosting a Job Fair Friday - May 21, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building, 1288 Georgia Road.

Seventeen employers have agreed to participate: BalsamWest; Beasley Flooring Products; Chick-fil-A Clayton; Comfort Keepers; Drake Software; Grandview Manor; Great Smoky Mountains Railroad; Harrah's Cherokee Casino; Macon Citizens Abilities, Inc.; Macon County Parks & Recreation; Macon County Department of Social Services; Macon Program for Progress; Methodist Home for Children; Old Edwards Inn and Spa; Parkdale; Skyline Lodge & Restaurant; TricomUK; and WestBridge Vocational.

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For more information, call the Macon County NCWorks Career Center (828)369-9534



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Exhibit at Uptown Gallery represents pandemic era-themed art

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

The compilation of work by a group of artists who meet regularly at The Bascom: A Center for the Visual Arts in Highlands is currently on display at Uptown Gallery on Main Street in Franklin. The exhibit, from the Studio Alive group that meets at The Bascom, represents pandemic-era emotions through a project that involved the drawing and painting of live models.

“Although the past year has been a year like no other, artists have had to adjust in their creative expression and ‘Studio Alive’ was no exception,” said artist Carol Conti. “Usually working indoors from live models, the class was moved outdoors with plein air painting becoming the new normal as the weather permitted. As temperatures dropped, class started back indoors with masked models and artists. The artwork on display shows the resourcefulness of artists creating during this unprecedented time.”

Approximately 20 Studio Alive works are on display at Uptown Gallery through May 31. A reception is planned for Saturday, May 29, 4-6 p.m.

Works by Kathy Beehler, Ken Bowser, Fay Panico, and Conti are mostly watercolors and acrylics, with drawn and painted models masked or unmasked; there are also some nudes and some landscape-themed works.

Conti explained that Studio Alive is a group of dedicated artists that “share a passion for drawing from live models.”

The group meets at The Bascom on Mon-



days, year-round. All interested artists, regardless of talent or ability, can join, as long as they become a member of The Bascom. Classes are from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. There is no class fee is required, but artists share in the cost and acquisition of a model (usually \$5 - \$10 per person).

“Studio Alive is a wonderful opportunity to work in your medium of choice, hone your skills in a casual, creative environment, and share ideas with a welcoming community of artists,” said Conti.

Uptown Gallery is open Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, from 10 a.m.–5 p.m.



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Former SCC Trustee receives state's highest honor

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is the highest award the state of North Carolina can bestow upon an individual. It is awarded to individuals who have shown extraordinary service to the state.

Nominated by Southwestern Community College President Dr. Don Tomas, Macon County native Terry Bell received the award on Wednesday, March 31 at the SCC Macon Campus.

"It's a privilege and an honor to present this award," said Dr. Tomas. "Not everybody can achieve this level of recognition from the state. Mr. Bell has humbly left a lasting legacy of service to the residents of western North Carolina."

Bell worked for almost 50 years as an instructor at Haywood and Macon County schools, a principal at three different schools and an assistant principal at Franklin High School. After retiring in 2009 as Chief Operations Officer for the Macon County School System, he has continued to work in a special consultant capacity as Director of Human Resources at Macon County Schools until his recent retirement from that position.

Dedicating his career to education and public service, Bell graduated from Southwestern Community College's Emergency Medical Technology program, giving him the opportunity to serve as an emergency medical technician and volunteer firefighter in Macon County. He also worked as Project Manager to help the county construct new schools and renovate existing buildings.

"He has impacted thousands of western North Carolina



Terry Bell (right) receives The Order of the Long Leaf Pine from SCC President Dr. Don Tomas.

students and families, and he continues to do that," said SCC chairman of the board Lambert Wilson. "He's definitely one of a kind."

From 1995 to 2019, Bell served on SCC's Board of Trustees – the last seven as chair.

Through his service, Bell has made a lasting impression for generations to come.

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Process revamped for youth work permits

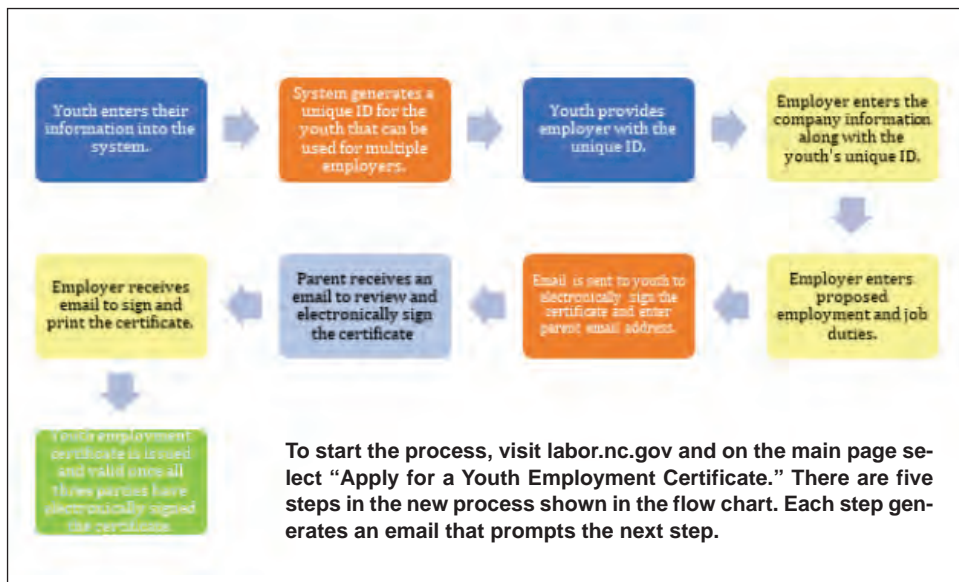
North Carolina Department of Labor (NCDOL) has announced the rollout of a new process for obtaining youth employment certificates that aims to streamline the process and better ensure youths are working in safe jobs. After a soft launch in April, the new process took effect May 3.

The NCDOL Wage and Hour Bureau administers youth employment certificates, which are required under the N.C. Wage and Hour Act. The certificates, commonly referred to as a work permit, are designed to alert parents, teens and employers of certain prohibited jobs and hour limits for

workers under the age of 18.

"We changed the process for obtaining youth employment certificates to better ensure that our state's young employees end up working in safe and acceptable jobs," Labor Commissioner Josh Dobson said. "We understand this will be a big change for employers, but we are ready to assist any employer, parent or youth who have questions about the new process."

Any questions about the new process should be directed to the Wage and Hour Bureau Call Center at 1-800-625-2267. To learn more about youth rules and regulation, visit the NCDOL website.



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Harris' paramedicine program boosts rural access to healthcare

May 16-22 marks the 46th annual National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. Over the last year, the pandemic gave people a small glimpse of the vital role of EMS professionals. The sacrifice and dedication of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), paramedics and other EMS practitioners has rightfully earned them admiration and gratitude in their communities.

This past year, even given the pandemic, Harris Regional Hospital's Community Paramedicine Program has seen great success. The "community paramedicine" program serves local patients returning home from the hospital. In the program, Harris Regional Hospital EMS paramedics conduct home visits with patients 24 to 48 hours after discharge from the hospital. The goal of each visit is to ensure the patient has made a successful transition from hospital to home and to check on any needs he or she may have.

Hospital providers assisting with the patient's discharge from the hospital make a referral to community paramedicine and explain to the patient and family how the program works. During the visit, paramedics check vital signs and ensure the patient understands discharge instructions. North Carolina is one of five states implementing community paramedicine programs-- aimed at increasing access to care in rural communities.

"In the first few moments of returning home from a stay in the hospital, the community paramedicine program provides essential information and support to the patient, checking vitals and reviewing discharge information. Paramedicine visits en-

sure a smoother transition home, reducing the likelihood of readmission, and improves EMS services in Jackson County," said Matthew Burrell, EMS Manager for Harris Regional Hospital.

The community paramedicine program has served more than 70 households since the official launch of the program roughly one year ago. In that time, the team has seen great success in helping their community as they continue to grow. The Program Coordinator at Harris Regional Hospital, Cristian Mireles says, "It has been great for me to witness how this program has helped our patients stay happy health and at home."

Overall, Harris Regional Hospital EMS services, has served the area for 25 years. Harris Regional Hospital has operated EMS services for Jackson County since Jan. 1, 1996. Last year, Harris Regional Hospital EMS answered 6,708 calls across the county, which is a 20% increase in four years. As Harris EMS grows, they continue to find better ways to serve the surrounding communities.

To learn more about the Community Paramedicine Program, visit [MyHarrisRegional.com/CP](https://www.myharrisregional.com/CP) or call 828-507-0032.

About Harris Regional Hospital

Harris Regional Hospital, established in 1925, is an 86-bed acute and specialty care facility serving Western North Carolina with more than 100 physicians practicing in locations throughout a multi-county region, including Harris Regional Hospital Medical Park of Franklin, an outpatient facility in Macon County.



Pictured (L-R) is the team of Emergency Medical Technicians serving in the paramedicine program: Wyatt Messer, Katie Moses, Nate Andrews, Lewis Nicholas, Cristian Mireles, Toby Moore

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Harris Regional wound center recognized for clinical excellence

Harris Regional Hospital physicians, leaders and clinicians gathered today to recognize Harris Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center, a recipient of the Center of Distinction award by Healogics, the nation's largest provider of advanced wound care services. The Center achieved outstanding clinical outcomes for 12 consecutive months, including patient satisfaction rates higher than 92 percent and a minimum wound healing rate of at least 92 percent within 28 median days to heal. There were 555 Centers eligible for the Center of Distinction award and 278 received the national distinction.

When commenting on the award, Steve Heatherly, the CEO of Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital shared, "We are so proud of our team for earning this award. Such national recognition speaks volumes about the talent and dedication of the team every day in providing care to our community."

The Harris Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center is a member of the Healogics network of over 600 Wound Care Centers and offers highly specialized wound care to patients suffering from diabetic foot ulcers, pressure ulcers, infec-

tions and other chronic wounds which have not healed in a reasonable amount of time.

Advanced wound care modalities provided by our wound care experts include negative pressure wound therapy, total contact casting, bio-engineered tissues, biosynthetic dressings and growth factor therapies. The Center also offers hyperbaric oxygen therapy, which works by surrounding the patient with 100 percent oxygen to help progress the healing of the wound.

Chief Medical Officer, Nicholas Jernigan, MD shared his praise of the team's success stating, "We are honored to celebrate this national achievement with the care team at Harris Wound Care. Their compassion and dedication to providing care for our surrounding communities is realized in receiving this award for the third time. We applaud them on a job well done."

To learn more about what Harris Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Center, or to schedule an appointment, visit MyHarrisRegional.com/Our-Services/Wound-Care or call 828.586.7910.



Pictured with the award are (L-R) Dr. Ryan Marshall, Stephanie Monroe, Catherine Davis and Tina Riddle.

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News from the Legislature

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



Karl Gillespie

The House held no-vote sessions on Monday, May 3, and Tuesday, May 4. With the crossover deadline of May 13, fast approaching, these two weeks are typically regarded as the most fast-paced of the year. Legislators attempt to have non-appropriations bills pass one of the two legislative chambers prior to May 14, 2021. If a bill fails to pass one of the two chambers, that bill is effectively terminated until the next biennium begins in 2023, when the bill would then need to be reintroduced.

Various committees were held prior to a lengthy voting session on Wednesday. Wednesday's session consisted of votes on over 30 bills. This is considerably more bills than is heard in an average voting session. However, due to the crossover deadline, there is an increased sense of urgency. Among the bills the House considered on Wednesday, were:

– HB273, Modify Builders Inventory Tax Exclusion, would help affordable housing by exempting from property taxes the real property improvements of townhouses that are inventory of builders until the property sells. The builder continues to pay property taxes except on those improvements. It will encourage economic development especially in rural areas where it takes builders longer to sell their inventory. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 116-1.

– HB398, Pistol Purchase Permit Repeal, would repeal the requirement to obtain a pistol purchase permit from the sheriff prior to the purchase or transfer of a pistol. This bill is supported by the North Carolina Sheriffs Association. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 69-48.

– HB436, Support Law Enforcement Mental Health, would require psychological screening examinations for law enforcement officers prior to initial certification, or before employment with an agency; require mental health and wellness strategies training as a component of qualification and in-service training for law enforcement officers; and expand access to information on statewide mental health resources available for law enforcement officers. The bill passed, 117-0.

– HB661, Community Colleges Fire Training/15 Years Old, of which I am a primary sponsor, would clarify that qualified youth 15 and older may enroll in fire training courses at community colleges. The bill passed unanimously, 117-0.

The House passed a common-sense bill ending the unnecessary and duplicative pistol permit process that requires county sheriffs to sign off on handgun purchases. The bill came at the request of the NC Sheriffs' Association.

The House reconvened on Thursday for another lengthy session consisting of over 40 bills. Among the bills the House considered include:

– HB149, Improving Access to Care Through Telehealth, would require health benefit plans to provide coverage for the delivery of health care services through telehealth. I voted in support and the bill passed, 113-1.

– HB362, Revise Personal Leave Costs for Teachers, would adjust the pay that teachers receive when using personal leave days as follows: If the teacher provides a reason for the leave request, the teacher will receive full salary; If the teacher does not provide a reason for the leave request, the teacher would receive full salary less the full cost of hiring a substitute teacher. The bill passed unanimously, 112-0.

– HB367, Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act, would require property determined to be heirs property to be partitioned under the provisions of the UHPA. The UHPA would govern the partition of real property that is determined to be heirs property. After discussions with Clerks of Court in my district who expressed their concerns, I decided to vote against the bill. The bill passed by a vote of 80-28.

– HB417, The Sergeant Mickey Hutchens Act, would allow law enforcement officers, probation and parole officers, and correctional officers who hold an advanced law enforcement or corrections certificate to purchase up to four years creditable service in the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System and the Local Governmental Employees Retirement System. The bill passed unanimously, 112-0.

– HB453, Human Life Nondiscrimination Act/No Eugenics, would prohibit individuals from performing an abortion unless a physician has confirmed the abortion is not being sought because of the actual or presumed race or sex of the unborn child or the presence or presumed presence of Down syndrome. Physicians would be required to report whether the race or sex of the unborn child or the presence of down syndrome had been detected and to affirm, under oath, that the report was accurate. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 67-42.

"I was proud to vote for House Joint Resolution 286 today to call on Congress to maintain nine U.S. Supreme Court Justices. The Supreme Court has been composed of nine justices for more than 150 years, and the President and Congress should not undermine the independence of the Supreme Court by packing the court with more justices."

The House reconvened on Monday, May 10, 2021 for a full day of committees followed by another lengthy voting session. The House considered over 25 bills during Monday afternoon's session. Among the bills considered were:

– HB151, Require Active Time Felony Death Motor Vehicle/Boat, would require active time for a conviction of felony death by a vehicle or felony death by impaired boating. I voted in favor of the bill. The bill failed by a vote of 43-69.

– HB572, No Vaccine Mandate by Executive Rule, Order or Agency, prohibits the Governor from using an executive order to require that an individual receive a COVID-19 vaccine. The bill would also prevent public health authorities in the state from issuing orders requiring individuals to get COVID-19 vaccines. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 75-38.

– HB805, Prevent Rioting and Civil Disorder, would increase penalties for current offenses and create new offenses related to rioting. I voted in support and the bill passed, 88-25.

Tuesday's agenda consisted of additional committee meet-

ings. I attended the Wildlife Resources Committee prior to the 3:30 p.m. voting session. The House considered over 70 bills, with session adjourning just after 10 p.m. Among the many bills considered, were:

– HB211, Reopen Bars and Restaurants, would fully reopen bars and restaurants provided certain conditions are met. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 71-45.

– HB699, Elder Abuse & Neglect, Increase Punishment, would increase punishments for offenses involving the domestic abuse or neglect of a disabled or elder adult. The bill passed unanimously, 112-0.

– HB769, Foster Parents' Bill of Rights, would create a Bill of Rights in Article 1A of Chapter 131D of the General Statutes recognizing the rights of foster parents. The bill passed unanimously, 112-0.

– On Wednesday, the House reconvened to vote on 39 bills in an attempt to meet the crossover deadline. Among the bills considered were:

– HB47, Elected Officials Concealed Carry, would authorize officials elected in the state to carry a concealed firearm while performing their duties if the official has a concealed handgun permit. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 69-45.

– HB581, Drivers License Designation/Autism, would direct the Division of Motor Vehicles to develop a designation for drivers licenses that may be granted upon request to a person with autism spectrum disorder. The bill passed unanimously, 113-0.

– HB813, Prohibit State Agencies Payment of Ransomware, would prohibit a state or local government entity from submitting payment or communicating with entities engaged in a cybersecurity incident that involves offering data decryption for ransom. The bill passed unanimously, 114-0.

The House concluded its business for the week following Wednesday's session and no committees or voting sessions were held the remainder of the week.

Did You Know?

North Carolina continues to grow

North Carolina is emerging as a national leader in economic opportunity. Policies passed by the Republican-led General Assembly are leading to business location, business expansion, and business development that in turn leads to jobs and opportunity for folks across our state.

Murphy High School wins 1A State Championship

The Murphy Bulldogs capped off an amazing season on Saturday, May 8, by winning the 2020-2021 State Football Championship! This is the school's 10th championship overall and Hall of Fame Coach and all-time wins leader, David Gentry's 9th championship.

Recently sponsored legislation

HB737, Local Food Market Expansion Act
HB816, Broadband Empowerment Act
HB823, Child Advocacy Centers/Share Information
HB832, Social Media Impartiality Act
HB870, Modify Development Tier Designations
HB950, Expand Broadband-Unserved/Underserved Areas

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Carpentry class cleans up Story Walk boards

Five years ago, Macon County News reporter and Read2Me volunteer Brittney Lofthouse pitched an idea to the community about constructing Story Walks. A StoryWalk is a fun, educational activity that places a children’s story along a popular walking route in the community. Conceived as a way to inspire parents, teachers, and caregivers to take young children out of doors for physical activity and to learn, StoryWalk helps build children’s interest in reading while encouraging healthy activity for both adults and children. Now, Macon County is home to five StoryWalk sites. The Franklin chapter of Read2Me with the assistance of the Franklin High School’s Carpentry Class taught by Kyle Barrington has rotated four of the five StoryWalk sites: Cowee Arts and Heritage Center; Parker Meadows; Greenway’s Rotary Loop and Wesley Playground. One additional StoryWalk is at The Bascom Center. Pictured holding three of the 90 individual StoryWalk boards that were cleaned and remounted in a new location are Garrett Markham, Austin Coker and Dawson Johnson.

Gov. Roy Cooper declares May Military Appreciation Month in North Carolina

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed May as Military Appreciation Month to honor the contributions and sacrifices North Carolina’s servicemembers, veterans and their families have made for North Carolina and the nation.

“We owe a deep debt of gratitude to the servicemembers who have fought for our safety and freedom here and abroad,” Governor Cooper said. “This month is an opportunity to reflect on the tremendous sacrifices these brave men and women and their families have made to protect our freedom.”

North Carolina is home to the fifth largest military presence in the nation, with more than 100,000 active duty military personnel and their families as well as approximately 725,000 military veterans.

North Carolina is home to seven major military installations including Fort Bragg Army Base, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, Marine Corps Air Station New River and the Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City.

The overall economic impact of North Carolina’s servicemembers, veterans and families exceeds \$66 billion annually. Since 2015, NC DMVA has served as the central

coordinating agency advocating for current and former military personnel and their families, and connecting them to services, benefits, and support. North Carolina has since been recognized as the most veteran-friendly state in the country.

“Our State has a long history of supporting the Armed Forces of the United States and we are proud to be home to the Department of Defense’s finest military installations,” said North Carolina Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (NC DMVA) Secretary Walter E. Gaskin, Lt. Gen (Ret.) “As we celebrate National Military Appreciation Month, we remember the ultimate sacrifice of so many North Carolinians and those stationed here, and we express our gratitude to service members and their families and recommit to doing our part to ensure that North Carolina’s military and veteran communities are prepared, well-supported, and enabled to carry out their mission when called upon.”

Since being appointed Secretary of NCDMVA in January, Secretary Gaskin has embarked on a “Listening Tour,” visiting military installations across the state to learn firsthand about the issues facing the installation members and their surrounding communities.

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Franklin High School Class Day recognizes student achievements

- American Legion Award - Anna Tastinger & Seth Crupi
- National Guard Citizen Soldier Award - Balanca Melendez, Brandon Berger, Aiden Carpenter
- Marine Corps Scholastic Achievement Award - Seth Crupi
- Marine Corps Semper Fidelis Music Award - Judge David Valentine

ACADEMICS

- English - Ryan Bowers
- Multilingual - Maetzin Sanchez-Lopez & Jose Dominguez Palacios
- French - Amber Trine & Braeden Greene
- Mathematics - Bryce Roger
- OCS - Sylvia Bowman, Kayla Gramigna, Preston Gregory, Billy Lackey, Osvaldo Garcia-Mendoza, Wyatt Yates
- Science - Jasmine Cruz-Rios & Lauren Norton
- Social Studies - Jasmine Cruz-Rios & Kaden Thompson

North Carolina Scholars:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Hannah Angel | Colby Hurst |
| Emma Audette | Stephen Jennings |
| Gavin Awtrey | Isaiah Johns |
| Chloe Baty | Evan Klatt |
| Cameron Benton | Lake Ledford |
| Ryan Bowers | Teri Martin |
| Kyndell Burns | Hailey McCall |
| Camden Cochran | Raquel Mendoza |
| Austin Coker | Sydney Moore |
| Haley Coker | Alexandra Norton |
| Rylee Corbin | Lauren Norton |
| Clint Corrado | Kandice Parker |
| Seth Crupi | Madison Phillips |
| Jasmine Cruz-Rios | Joselin Pliego |
| Miriam Deal | Bryce Rogers |
| Kiara Dewey | Silvia Ruelas-Rodriguez |
| Brandy Dills | Madison Rustay |
| Blaine Doolittle | Daniel Saylor |
| Canaan Drake | Lexxie Smith |
| Jessie Ellenburg | Ethan Stamey |
| Taylor Ensley | Nathan Stamey |
| Ethan Fannon | Rhealee Stanfield |
| Dylan Garcia | Ellie Stork |
| Enrique Garcia | Kaden Thompson |
| Eli Gilbert | Amy Tippet |
| Anna Gilliam | Nevaeh Tran |
| Sky Golebiewski-Kral | Amber Trine |
| Kolby Guilmette | Judge-David Valentine |
| Mary Harper | Dylan Vogt |
| Kaylee Harris | Abigail Williams |
| Kaitlyn Henry | Mason Williams |
| Dillon Higdon | |

ATHLETICS

- Baseball - Dawson Johnson & Gavin Awtrey
- Basketball - Women's- Sydney Chapman; Men's - Chad Wilson
- BFS - Women's - McKenzie Redoutey; Men's - Gavin Awtrey
- Cheerleading - Madison Phillips
- Cross Country - Women's - Dylan Garcia; Men's - Ethan Stamey
- Football - Seth Crupi & Bryce Rogers

- Golf - Women's - Olivia Stahl; Men's - Riley Hudson & Mason Williamson
- Soccer - Women's- Brandy Dills
- Softball - Rylee Corbin & Kiara Dewey
- Swimming - Olivia Stahl & Michael Frazier
- Tennis - Women's - Mariah Sloan & Jasmine Cruz-Rios
- Track - Women's - Hannah Angel; Men's - Nathan Stamey
- Unify - Sammy Kama & Joe Nolan
- Volleyball - Amy Tippet & Kiara Dewey
- Wrestling - Branden Berger & Braden Cody
- Panther Pride Award - Penny Moffitt & Dylan Garcia

EXTRACURRICULAR

- FCA - Emily Zoellner & Anna Gilliam
- Future Business Leaders of America - Mary Harper & Kaden Thompson
- FFA - Emma Whitworth
- Interact Club - Taylor Harrell & Anna Gilliam
- Senior Class President - Michael Frazier
- Student Council - Hannah Angel & Sky Golebiewski-Kral

CULTURAL ARTS

- Art - Amber Trine & Chad Wilson
- Band - Allie Norton & Sydney Moore
- Colorguard - Teri Martin
- Drama Advanced Theater - Olivia Stahl & Peyton Wood
- Stagecraft - Sydney Chapman & Enrique Garcia
- Pottery - Autumn Boyce & Daniel Saylor
- FHS Student Leadership - Taylor Ensley, Taylor Harrell, Ellie Stork
- Yearbook - Anna Gilliam & Dylan Garcia

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

- Agriculture - Dalton Haggard
- Architectural Drafting - Dillon Higdon & Bryce Rogers
- Automotive - Eric Jones & Colby Hurst
- Business - Amber Trine & Cameron Benton
- Carpentry - Kelton Elkins & Garrett Markham
- Family and Consumer Science - Joselin Pilega & Enrique Garcia
- Forensics - Ethan Fannon & Mason Williamson
- Health Occupation Students of America - Anna Tastinger & Brandy Dills
- Nursing Fundamentals - Brandy Dills & Madison Phillips
- Skills USA - Bryce Rogers & Dylan Setzer
- Welding - Gabe Pickens & Samuel Sellers
- Mr. and Mrs. Laurel Leaf - Eli Gilbert & Anna Gilliam
- 020-2021 Yearbook Dedication - Mrs. Susan Allen
- FHS School Spirit Award - Dylan Garcia & Peyton Wood
- FHS Citizenship Award - Anna Gilliam & Bryce Rogers



Dylan Garcia and Franklin High School business teacher Penny Moffitt were given The Panther Pride Award for their efforts in bringing Unify March Madness. Unify is a special needs basketball program designed to bring students together with students with intellectual disabilities for the benefit of all. Photos by Vickie Carpenter



Franklin High School Class of 2021 graduation will be held Saturday, June 5, 9 a.m. in The Panther Pit





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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 May 7 - 15. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

May 10

Alexandria Rae Anglin, was charged with violating domestic violence protective order. Jonathan A. Taylor made the arrest.

William Nickalus Prince, was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Jonathan Phillips made the arrest.

May 11

Dustin Ty Daves, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Joseph Lee Samarco, was charged with possession of heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

May 12

Steven Gary Nicholson, was issued warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

May 13

Crystal Eve Hayes, was charged with larceny of public record, communicating threats. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Houston Michael Marshall, was charged with failure to report new address for sex offender. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

May 17

Amber Renee Steighner, was issued warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

James Cowart Jr., was issued warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

May 8

Julian Montelongo, 32, was issued a warrant for arrest for simple assault. A \$3,000 bond was set. R. S. Dula made the arrest.

May 12

Sandra Gibbs Medina, 65, was issued a warrant for horse at large. A \$2,500 bond was set. R. S. Dula made the arrest.

Brantley Lonnie Williams 32, was issued a warrant for arrest for communicating threats. A \$600 bond was set. R. S. Dula made the arrest.

May 13

Kayla Nicole Woods, 24 was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while license revoked. R. S. Dula made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

May 11

Alvaro Gonzalez Valle, 39, of Sparks Rd., was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.

Clifford Jason Keller, 42, of Golden Lane, Whittier,

was issued a true bill of indictment for first degree kidnapping. A secured bond of \$100,000 was set.

John Banton Legere, 45, of Brown Ridge Rd., was issued a true bill of indictment for possession of a firearm by a felon. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

Errika Leah Arkansas, 43, of Hallmark Lane, Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Brandon Tyler Painter, 19, of Watson Cove Rd., Franklin, was charged with failure to appear for contributing to the delinquency of a minor. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Shelby James Davis, 29, of Slab Town Rd., Cashiers, was issued a true bill of indictment for trespassing, injury to personal property, malicious conduct by a prisoner. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set.

May 13

John Theodore Sutton, 56, of Jewel St., was charged with injury to real property, violation of domestic violence protective order. No bond was set.

Quenten Carrie Riggs, 25, of Pyramid Place, was issued a true bill of indictment for burning personal property, injury to personal property, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

May 14

Leon Reginald Johnson, 36, of Harlem Park Dr., Charlotte, was issued a warrant for arrest for assault on a female. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Edgar Ellis Bingham, 47, of Dellwood Dr., Dillsboro, was charged with assault on a female, cyberstalking. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Simon Hans Joest, 26, of Bourbon St., Whittier, was charged with assault inflicting serious injury. No bond was set.

May 15

Courtney Anne Sherrill, 25, of Lucille Beck Lane, Bryson City, was issued warrant for arrest for possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. No bond was set.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Prentiss Church Food Pantry will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2 to 5:30 p.m. The church hosts a food pantry the third Thursday of the month. Prentiss is located at 59 Church Hill Lane. For more information, call (828)369-3885.

Cowee Community Development Organization will meet on Monday, May 24, 6:30 p.m., at Cowee Volunteer Fire Department on Ruby Mine Rd. Bring a covered dish and meet folks in the community. All are welcome to attend.

Hickory Knoll United Methodist Church Food Pantry will be held on Wednesday, May 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. The church is located at 86 E. Hickory Knoll Rd. For more information, call the church at (828)369-9300 or Jannie at (813)305-9433.

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Drive-thru Food Pantry will be held on Wednesday, May 26, from 10 a.m. to noon. The church is located at 299 Maple St.

Friends of the Rickman Store are looking for volunteers to be greeters and assist in Saturday activities. No amount of time is too small. The store is open Saturdays 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. For more information, call Connie Reynolds (828)524-0359.

Franklin Alcoholics Anonymous "Open Meetings" are for anyone who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. recovery program. In-person meetings with Covid 19 preventive measures are held Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. at No Wrong Door, 102 Thomas Heights Rd., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 5:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Outreach Center, 66 Harrison Ave., Franklin. Online meeting information is available by visiting www.aawnc80.org. or to speak with a member of A.A. call (828)349-4357.

Historic T M Rickman Store is now open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Located at 259 Cowee Creek Road in the historic West-Mill District. Music Jams begin at noon.

Franklin Seventh Day Adventist Community Services are open on Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., to help Macon County residents in need with rent, power bill and a fully stocked food pantry. The church is located at 93 Church St., Suite 212. For more information, call (828)369-9000.

Habitat for Humanity of Macon/Jackson County needs volunteers to share skills or gain some experience learning new ones. From carpentry to cleaning, marketing to moral support, computer skills, planning and organizing or just plain common sense, the greatest gift you could ever give is time. Any amount is good. Some great times, lasting friendships and rewarding experiences await. Call (828)369-3716 or (828)371-5442.

Friends of the Greenway FROG Quarters is now open Wednesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 573 E. Main. Stop by for coffee, a soft drink and a snack, and free internet. Reservations taken for the shelters.

Macon County Public Health is currently vaccinating in all groups. Individuals that want to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, must call (828)524-1500 to register and schedule an appointment. The Call Center is open Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

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

Crawford Senior Center 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 3 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.

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

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

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

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Spiritual Light Center on Sunday, May 23, 11 a.m., Kim May will speak on "Are You Unconsciously Blocking Your Desires?" The center is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., behind the Gazebo Restaurant in Heritage Hollow.

Grace Baptist Church services are held on Sunday, 11 a.m. Frank Rodriguez is the pastor. All are welcome to attend. The church is located at 130 Setser Branch Rd.

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. 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.

Cowee Baptist Church is hosting "Parenting the Love and Logic Way" a seven-week study presented by Heart for Families on Wednesdays, through May 26, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Using the powerful tools of Love and Logic®, we can help our children make good choices while maintaining their love and respect. Love and Logic® is balance of love, mutual respect, limits, and accountability. All designed to help kids become happy, self-controlled adults. Registration is required. For more information, contact Bruce Ferguson by email B2F@msn.com

Son Rise Ministries is a non-denominational, full-gospel, Christian fellowship that meets Friday evenings at 7 p.m., Intercessory Prayer is Monday night at 6:30 p.m., Womens Bible study is Wednesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. The church is located at 462 Depot St. For more information, call (828)369-2465 or (828)421-4153.

Seventh Day Adventist Church meets on Saturday, with Sabbath School at 9:30 a.m., Worship Service at 11 a.m. Masks are required. The church is located at 71 Brendle Rd.

All Saints Episcopal Church, Franklin Services are held Rite I, 8 a.m. without music; and Rite II, 10:15 a.m. with music, every Sunday. First and third Sundays at St. Agnes Chapel, 66 Church St.; and second and fourth Sundays at St. Cyprian's Chapel, 216 Roller Mill Rd. Sunday 10:15 a.m. services can be viewed live on the website: www.allsaintsfranklin.org and past Sundays can be viewed on YouTube by searching "All Saints Franklin" to find the YouTube page.

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 at 9:30 a.m., on Sundays for in-person worship or on Facebook at Franklin First United Methodist Church, either live or later on recorded video. Note that COVID-19 health protocols are followed for in-person worship. Plan to arrive early for check in; masks are required. The church is located at 66 Harrison Avenue in downtown Franklin. Senior pastor is Rev. David Beam. For more information, call (828)524-3010 or visit www.firstumcfranklin.org

SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

5	1	9	6	8	7	3	2	4
8	4	6	3	1	2	9	5	7
3	7	2	4	9	5	8	1	6
7	2	5	9	6	8	1	4	3
9	8	3	7	4	1	2	6	5
1	6	4	2	5	3	7	8	9
2	3	8	5	7	4	6	9	1
6	5	1	8	3	9	4	7	2
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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Cartoogechaye Baptist Church's steeple gets a makeover

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

Cartoogechaye Baptist Church has been steeple-less for a few weeks. The 20-plus-year-old steeple had accumulated mold and its paint was fading. Plus, a small leak around the steeple base had to be repaired.

A removal project, headed by church member Wade Shope, required crane equipment. Tim Brackett, a deacon at Cartoogechaye Baptist Church, said, "We have a lot of talented people in our church who also know of various resources, so we put it out there that we needed a crane to get the

steeple down and someone knew a crane operator. He volunteered his services since we are a church."

This was the first time the steeple has been removed.

"It was a pretty big chore to get it down. The crane operator had to be very careful with it, of course. And once we had it down in the parking lot, we realized how much mold and mildew it had on it. We pressure washed it with a bleach solution and painted it with mildew resistant paint, so hopefully removing the steeple will not



Cartoogechaye Baptist Church has been steeple-less for the past few weeks while the 20-year-old steeple undergoes a cleaning and new paint job.



Removing the steeple from Cartoogechaye Baptist Church to clean and repaint it required a crane.



have to happen again for a while."

Another coat of paint is needed in the next week to complete the project, and then the crane operator will need to bring back equipment to replace the steeple.

"We tried to wash and paint the steeple while up there, but that proved dangerous and plus we couldn't do a thorough job," said Brackett. "But we were able to fix the leak in the roof with the steeple removed."

He added, "The steeple is very white and bright right now. We wanted to clean it up be-

cause it's such a pretty setting for a church – with the mountains and pastures surrounding it and the Cartoogechaye Creek flowing beside it."

The church, currently headed by interim pastor, Brandon Finegilio, has existed since the 1800s, with the prior church building located where there is now an overflow parking lot. When the new church was built 20 years ago, pews from the old church building were removed and are currently in the newer church building.

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Nantahala Hiking Club replacing old privies on Appalachian Trail

Deena Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Volunteers have been busy this spring replacing outdated privies on the Appalachian Trail.

The word “privy” dates back to the 12th century, according to Oxford English Dictionary. It essentially means “a private place,” and is considered the polite, but out-of-fashion term, for “toilet” or “bathroom.”

Section, thru-, and day-hikers on the Appalachian Trail (AT) do not always have to duck behind a tree to answer the call of nature. Typically, a privy is in close proximity to a shelter. And the Nantahala Hiking Club (NHC) is responsible for 10 privies on the 58.6 miles of the AT that its volunteers maintain from Bly Gap at the Georgia/North Carolina border to the Nantahala Outdoor Center on the Nantahala River at Wesser, N.C.

Rich Corporon, trail manager for the NHC, has worked on three privies during his time with NHC. Recently, he and Ed Sams, along with about 15 club members, completed a privy at Rock Gap. Sams designed the privy.

“He worked in parks and forestry for his career, so he’s very knowledgeable about construction,” said Corporon. “Even though it might be near impossible to get a wheelchair to this privy, the design had to adhere to the ADA [Americans With Disabilities Act] regulations since it is on U.S. Forest Service land. It had to have grab rails and be wheelchair accessible.”

While many privies are located relatively far from a parking lot, the one at Rock Gap is about a tenth of a mile from a parking lot. Corporon explained that supplies, including 4 by 5 foot treated wood boards, plywood, and metal sheets, had to be carried near the site of the existing privy, which will eventu-



Around 15 Nantahala Hiking Club volunteers worked together to build a new privy at Rock Gap on the Appalachian Trail to replace an old privy, which will eventually be torn down.

ally be torn down.

“NHC Maintainers put in about 240 hours on this between construction, work on the site, and work on the area around it,” said Corporon. “The base of it, called cribbing, is 4 by 6 treated wood stacked Lincoln-log style so the air can circulate. And it has plywood walls and a metal roof. We worked on it for two afternoons for about 12 hours doing pre-fabrication, and then we spent a few days of site preparation, digging etc., and then three days working on site. It takes a while to build things in the woods.”

The new privy opened during the first part of May and was funded by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy.

While constructing it, Corporon said the volunteers met many appreciative hikers.

“Privies are a wonderful thing,” he pointed out. “We keep leaf buckets in the privies and hikers throw a handful of leaves so the waste composts the way it’s supposed to. Each privy has two seats, and we keep one seat open at a time so the other side can compost.”

Reported Appalachian Trail History: “One of the most important features of the Appalachian Trail shelters are the shelter privies (outhouses). Almost every one of the more than 200 shelters along the Trail has its own privy and the availability of these facilities is a major attraction for hikers passing by or planning to stop for the night. Having such facilities at the shelters also helps to minimize the human impact along the Trail, because the privies concentrate the deposit-

ing of human waste in just a few locations. The original trail privies were all pit toilets and many of those older pit-style privies remain. But over time much more eco-friendly versions have been developed by the various trail maintaining clubs.”

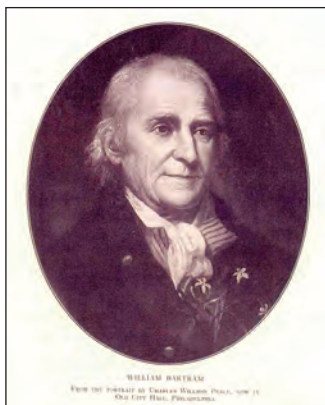
Two other privy construction projects on the AT will take place this year: Cold Springs and Wesser.

“Those are farther off the trail,” said Corporon. “When we did the Standing Indian privy a few years ago, Back Country Horsemen of North Carolina used horses and mules to carry materials to the privy area for us. We’ve even had helicopters drop materials for us in the past as well. We can only carry so much so far, especially if the privy is miles away.”

Opportunity to explore like Bartram

The Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy is hosting three events the week of May 24th to honor 18th century naturalist William Bartram and his travels through northeast Georgia and western North Carolina in May of 1775. Bartram detailed his first-hand accounts in his book, “Travels of William Bartram,” which is still published today and is available at the Macon County Historical Society and Museum on Main Street in Franklin.

The son of John Bartram, an early colonial botanist, horticulturist, and explorer based in Pennsylvania who has a high school and a genera of mosses named after him, William spent a few years visiting with and studying native peoples, including Cherokee, and he



as an observer and describer of plant species unknown to the old world (Europe and Great Britain).

The week of May 24 begins with a presentation at 10 a.m. at Warwoman Dell in Rabun County, followed by a four-mile round trip hike to Martin’s Creek Falls. On Wednesday, May 26, there will be a seven-mile kayak trip through the historic Cowee Valley, and on May 28 an eight-mile hike on the

Bartram Trail beginning at Sandy Ford Road in Rabun County. No previous experience kayaking is necessary to participate.

For more information, or to RSVP, contact Brent Martin, executive director for the Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy, at info@ncbartramtrail.org.



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Senior Games wraps up competition



Karen Townsend



Karen Simonds

The Macon County Senior Games began on Monday, May 3, and continued through May 18. Rainy weather prompted the rescheduling of some events, but seniors were able to resume competition toward the end of the week. Among the events were Bocce Ball, Shuffleboard and Horse shoes. The Games End banquet was held last Saturday with the medal winners being recognized at a covered dish luncheon on Tuesday.

Photos by Vickie Carpenter



Gail Lehman



Dave Hall



Jean Hall & Vivian Noble



Martha Stevens & Jan Sharp

Deaths & Funerals

Ervin Allen 'Buck' Bingham

Ervin Allen "Buck" Bingham, 80, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Born in Macon County, he was the son of the late Clyde and Gertrude Bingham. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, Bob Bingham and Joe Bingham and stepmother, Margie Bingham. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and retired from Goodway Graphics. He enjoyed fishing with friends, working in his yard and was an avid golfer.

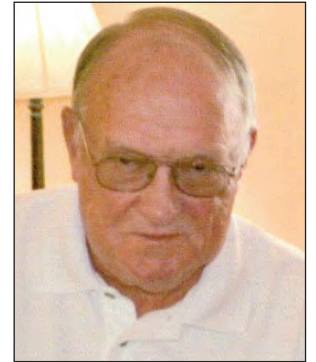
He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Carol Lewis Bingham; two sisters, Sandra Grant of Franklin, N.C., and Telitha Allison of Sylva, N.C.; brother, Clyde Bingham Jr. of Tacoma, Wash.; and several nieces and nephews.

No services are planned at this time.

Memorial donations can be made to the Appalachian Animal Rescue Center, PO Box 81, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Ervin Bingham

Roscoe 'Rocky' Dallas Singletary

Roscoe "Rocky" Dallas Singletary, 55, of Franklin, N.C., passed away May 11, 2021, following an accident while at work.

He was born in Bradenton, Fla., to Virginia Robinson Hall and the late John Singletary.

He took pride in owning and operating Rocky's Satellite with his wife. He loved his family, the mountains, fishing, road trips, barbecue meals and sharing stories by a bonfire. He was a devout member of Franklin Church of God and loved sharing the Lord with his family and community. He was the true definition of a kindhearted, hard-working family man who led by example. He will be deeply missed and remembered by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Singletary; children, Steven Singletary (Chierysa) of Ewa Beach Hi.; Matthew Singletary of Spartanburg, S.C.; Tiffani Valentin of Sarasota, Fla.; Monique Demers (ZJ) of Franklin; and Micah Singletary of Franklin; mother, Virginia Hall of Bradenton, Fla.; siblings, Glenn Singletary; Ann Van Dyne; and Belinda Cook all of Bradenton; six grandchildren, and mother-in-law, Martha Stutzman.

A funeral service was held Saturday, May 15, at Franklin Church of God. Services were live streamed at franklinchurchof-god.org.

Rev. Michael Stephens and Rev. Jeremy Chapman will officiate.

Burial took place at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Matthew Singletary, Steven Singletary, Micah Singletary, ZJ Demers, Billy Hall and Merle Stutzman.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Franklin Church of God, Building fund, PO Box 717, Franklin NC 28744, Attn: Jean Poindexter.

Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneral-home.com.

Macon Funeral Home will be handling the arrangements.



Roscoe Dallas Singletary



Deaths & Funerals

Shirley Ann Thomas Myers

Shirley Ann Thomas Myers, 83, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, May 14, 2021.

Born in Macon County, North Carolina, she was the daughter of the late Porter Thomas and Ethel Moffitt Thomas. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by brothers, Larry Thomas and Jerry Thomas; sisters, Carol Thomas, Rosa Lee Hodgins, Betty Sue Talley and Margaret McGaha.

Shirley was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and was loved by all who knew her.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Bob Myers; son, Dennis Myers (Theresa) of Franklin; daughter, Carol Bates of Franklin; two sisters, Thelma Carpenter and Katie Rowland both of Franklin; three brothers, Ray Thomas of Ocean Isle, N.C., Earl Thomas and Lonnie Thomas, both of Franklin; grandchildren, Jennifer Allen Bates, Christopher Myers and Dillon Bates; great grandchildren, McKinzy Bates, T.J. Allen and Zachary Allen, and many nieces and nephews.

A private service will be held at a later date.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Jeanette White Lundquist

Jeanette White Lundquist, 66, passed away Sunday, April 25, 2021. Born in St Petersburg, Fla., she was the daughter of the late James C. and Margie K. White.

She will be dearly missed by her husband of 49 years, Lonny M. Lundquist; two daughters, Katherine L. Williams (Glen) and Kristina L. Tallent; grandchildren, Devan Harwood, Samantha Williams and Tyler Williams; and several great-grandchildren.

John Blaine

It is with great sorrow the Blaine Family announces the passing of their loved one, John Blaine, after a courageous battle with cancer. Surrounded by his beloved wife, Mary Lee, and other loved ones he entered into his heavenly body to meet his Lord and Savior on May 11, 2021.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gene "Bud" Blaine and Mary Frances Blaine; a sister, Mary Kay; and nephew, Nathan.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lee Higdon Blaine; daughter, Carrie; brother, Ricky Blaine (Sue) of Franklin; sister, Faye Vinson (Ralph) of South Carolina; Janet Beer (Jeff) of Montana; Timothy Norris (Pat) of Georgia; brothers-in-law, Bruce and George Higdon of Franklin; and numerous nieces and great nieces and great nephews.

He loved spending time with his family and friends. He enjoyed his hunting, fishing and taking his family camping. He had a great many friends and his smile and laughter will be missed.

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

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

Macon Funeral Home will be handling the arrangements.



Shirley Ann Myers



John Blaine

Ruth Farley

Ruth Farley, 99, of Franklin, N.C., passed away peacefully in her sleep on May 2, 2021. Twenty-four days shy of reaching 100 years old, she kept true her sharp mind, keen wit and love of chocolate. Her most amazing talent was allowing each of us to believe we were the most special person in her life.

Born in the Township of Walnut, Ohio., one of six children raised on the farm, one of Ruth's favorite memories was taking the bus into the city for her first job managing a multi-line switchboard. One of many jobs that allowed her to talk to strangers who then became friends.

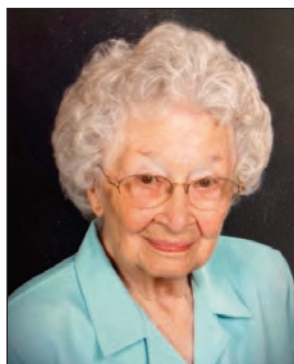
Married to B.P. Farley from 1946 until his passing in 1994, they made quite a team when B.P. moved the family from Ohio to Sarasota, Fla. The journey was made in the middle of a hot southern summer, with three grumpy kids in an un-airconditioned station wagon that broke down on a hog farm in Georgia. Paul Farley (Fran), Dr. David Farley (Polly) and Nanci Baird (Ken) are the kids that learned honesty, work ethic and kindness are the keys to happiness.

The next generation blessed Ruth with Evan, Bess, Brenna, Chelsea, Lindsay, Michelle and Jessica. Following with her great grandchildren Ember, Corinne, Reese and Luke, allowing her the nicknames of Mom, Mommy, Grammy, and always her favorite "Trouble," bestowed upon her by Rev. David Beam of First United Methodist Church.

Being a child of the Depression years, she was frugal to the end, saving all rubber bands and pens she had ever met.

Rather than a funeral, a birthday celebration will be held for her and her daughter-in-law, Francye Farley, at the First United Methodist Church in Franklin, sometime in June. The family requests you honor Ruth with donations to your favorite charity and living your life with love.

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



Ruth Farley

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-- Bahá'u'llah

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A very special 'Thank You' to all of our wonderful friends and family that have ministered to us during this most difficult time. We have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love for 'Pops' through all of the calls, visits, messages, cards, flowers and food. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Wilde and Evelyn, Macon EMS, Angel Medical Center, Care Partners Hospice, Moffitt Funeral Services and Prentiss Church of God. We are extremely grateful and humbled by all of the care and compassion we have received from everyone. May God bless you.

Sincerely,
The Family of
Denny Vanhook

Bowman leads Hendrick Motorsports sweep of top four positions at Dover

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

Say this about Alex Bowman, the driver of the No. 48 Chevrolet has got his timing right. The Hendrick Motorsports driver took the lead off pit road following his final pit stop with 97 of 400 race laps remaining, held off the field on two more race restarts and earned his second victory of the year in Sunday's Drydene 400 NASCAR Cup Series race at Dover (Del.) International Speedway.

The win punctuated a historic Hendrick Motorsports day at the famed one-mile track, with the team becoming the third organization in NASCAR Cup Series history to finish 1-2-3-4 in a single event: joining Peter DePaolo Racing (Dec. 30, 1956 at Titusville, April 7, 1957 at North Wilkesboro) and Roush Fenway Racing (Nov. 20, 2005 at Homestead-Miami). Bowman held off his teammate Kyle Larson by 2.017-seconds. Chase Elliott (third) and William Byron (fourth) finished just behind marking the first time in the organization's 267-victory history it's had a four-car sweep atop the scoreboard.

It was actually Larson who paced the field most of the day – leading a race best 263 of the opening 303 laps and sweeping both Stage 1 and Stage 2 victories - his series-best fifth and sixth stage wins of the season. And at one point, Sunday, he led the field by a full eight-seconds.

But Bowman's team turned in the single fastest pit stop of the entire 2021 season during a late race caution period and got the car back on track just in front of Larson. Bowman held off his teammate on the restart and pulled away to a comfortable win.

"You guys won that race not me," Bowman excitedly shouted to his team after taking the checkered flag. "I'm so proud of you."

The No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet had a track record 11 previous victories at Dover – all with driver Jimmie Johnson, who retired from fulltime NASCAR competition at the end of the 2020 season. The 28-year old Tucson native, Bowman, just started piloting the No. 48 this year, winning at Richmond, Va. last month - again turning in a late race rally – leading only the final 10 laps en route to that win.

Certainly, the Hendrick Motorsports organization showed early-on Sunday that it was ready to settle the trophy among its drivers. In all, Bowman, Larson and Byron combined to lead 381 of the 400 laps.

As the laps wound down, television cameras captured team owner Rick Hendrick nervously pacing on pit road, well aware of the significance of his four cars atop the scoring pylon.

"I can guarantee you this is the most nervous I've ever been in a race," a beaming Rick Hendrick said. "Great day for the organization. And Alex, congratulations to him. This is a sign of the guys working together and bringing good stuff to the track."

"I don't think it will hit me until tomorrow that we were able to finish one, two, three, four. That's pretty hard to do, things can happen, pit stops, tires, anything. That's a first and we'll take it. It was a great day for us."

Not only was it a win for Bowman, a seriously strong effort by Larson, but it was also another statement-making day for the 23-year-old William Byron. It marks his 11th straight top-10 finish – making him the youngest in series history to put together a string of excellence like that.

Team Penske's Joey Logano finished fifth, followed by Stewart-Haas Racing's Kevin Harvick (sixth) and Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin (seventh).



Alex Bowman, driver of the #48 Ally Chevrolet, celebrates his win during the NASCAR Cup Series Drydene 400 at Dover International Speedway on May 16, 2021 in Dover, Delaware.

Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images



EchoPark Texas Grand Prix will start at 2:30 p.m. ET next Sunday (FS1, PRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

52nd Annual Drydene 400 Dover International Speedway

- (16) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 400.
- (4) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 400.
- (8) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 400.
- (3) William Byron, Chevrolet, 400.
- (9) Joey Logano, Ford, 400.
- (5) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 400.
- (2) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 400.
- (12) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 400.
- (24) Daniel Suarez, Chevrolet, 400.
- (30) Cole Custer, Ford, 400.
- (22) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 400.
- (7) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 400.
- (28) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 400.
- (14) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 400.
- (19) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 400.
- (15) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 400.
- (10) Chris Buescher, Ford, 400.
- (25) Ryan Preece, Chevrolet, 399.
- (1) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 399.
- (20) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Chevrolet, 399.
- (11) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 396.
- (23) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 396.
- (13) Ryan Newman, Ford, 396.
- (18) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 395.
- (21) Michael McDowell, Ford, 395.
- (26) Corey LaJoie, Chevrolet, 393.
- (6) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 393.
- (27) Anthony Alfredo #, Ford, 392.
- (35) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, 388.
- (29) Josh Berry(i), Chevrolet, 388.
- (34) Cody Ware(i), Chevrolet, 387.

Richard Childress Racing's Tyler Reddick turned in his sixth top-10 finish of the season with an eighth-place finish. Daniel Suarez finished ninth – his second top 10 for the new Track-House Racing team and Stewart-Haas Racing's Cole Custer earned his second top 10 of the season.

With his work this weekend, Byron moves into second place in the NASCAR Cup Series driver standings – 101 points behind Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin. Three-race winner Martin Truex Jr., who finished 19th, is now third, 102 points behind Hamlin.

The showing at Dover marks the 11th time in 13 races this season that Hendrick Motorsports has had at least two drivers finish in the top-10. Six times now, three of the team's four drivers have earned top-10 finishes in the same race.

"We won Richmond and then had a really rough couple of weeks there," Bowman said. "We went to some really good racetracks for us and struggled. I told the guys last week, 'we're still the same team that did it at Richmond.' This is another really good place for us"

"I'm just so pumped for [sponsor] Ally. It feels right to put the 48 back in Victory Lane here after how many races that this car has won here."

All three of NASCAR's national series will debut at the Circuit of The Americas next week in Austin, Texas. The

- 32. (36) Garrett Smithley(i), Chevrolet, 383.
- 33. (33) James Davison, Chevrolet, 382.
- 34. (37) Josh Bilicki, Ford, 381.
- 35. (17) Chase Briscoe #, Ford, 335.
- 36. (31) BJ McLeod(i), Ford, Engine, 334.
- 37. (32) Aric Almirola, Ford, Accident, 300.

Average Speed of Race Winner: 120.05 mph.
 Time of Race: 3 Hrs, 19 Mins, 55 Secs. Margin of Victory: 2.017 Seconds.

Caution Flags: 7 for 41 laps.
 Lead Changes: 10 among 5 drivers.
 Lap Leaders: M. Truex Jr. 1-15; W. Byron 16-36; M. Truex Jr. 37; K. Larson 38-122; D. Hamlin 123; K. Larson 124-172; D. Hamlin 173; K. Larson 174-243; A. Bowman 244; K. Larson 245-303; A. Bowman 304-400.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Laps Led): Kyle Larson 4 times for 263 laps; Alex Bowman 2 times for 98 laps; William Byron 1 time for 21 laps; Martin Truex Jr. 2 times for 16 laps; Denny Hamlin 2 times for 2 laps.

Austin Cindric collects third Xfinity win of the season at Dover

After steadily making his way forward for most of the race, reigning NASCAR Xfinity Series champion Austin Cindric wrangled the lead from Justin Allgaier with 51 laps remaining and then checked out on the field to claim his third trophy of the season in Saturday's Drydene 200 at Dover (Del.) International Speedway.

Josh Berry passed his JR Motorsports teammate Allgaier with 28 laps to go finishing runner-up and winning the prized Xfinity Dash 4 Cash \$100,000 bonus check. Allgaier held onto third, followed by Kaulig Racing driver A.J. Allmendinger and Joe Gibbs Racing's Ty Gibbs, who led all 125 laps en route to the ARCA Menards Series win at the Dover one-miler on Friday.

For much of the race it looked like the JR Motorsports teammates, Allgaier and Berry, would settle the trophy between themselves. Allgaier won the first stage and Berry the second stage - their first stage wins of the season. Allgaier, a two-time Dover winner and the only driver in Saturday's field with a previous win at the track, led a race best 94 of the 200 laps. Berry led 48.

But it was the methodical work of Cindric, 22, who was eighth at the end of the 1st stage and third in the 2nd stage - who ultimately rallied for his series' best third victory. His 3.786-second margin of victory indicative of what the No. 22 Team Penske Ford was able to do once Cindric got out front.

"I'm fired up man, I love this race track more than anywhere else we go," said a smiling Cindric, who now has 11 career Xfinity Series wins. "I love coming here."

"It is hard to believe but starting 16th at this joint, it isn't easy to pass," Cindric continued. "We just kept at it the whole time. We made the right adjustments on pit stops and I feel like I have learned a lot about this race track, enough to get the Car Shop Ford Mustang into Victory Lane."

There were eight caution periods on the afternoon - including a 10-minute red flag period to clean-up after a wreck

involving Jesse Little, Matt Mills, Matt Jaskol and Josh Williams. But it was a caution-free affair once Cindric wrestled the lead from Allgaier in a tight door-to-door battle.

Allgaier, who won his second race of the season last week at Darlington, S.C. and joins Cindric as the series only multi-time winners of 2021, told his team he had some tire rub in that close-quarter racing with Cindric for the lead. And Allgaier's JR Motorsports teammate Berry was able to get by 22 laps later, settling the Dash 4 Cash prize.

"It could have been one spot better, we were so good

eric and Brandon Brown rounded out the top-10 finishers

Noah Gragson, who won the three previous Dash 4 Cash prizes and was trying to become the first driver in history to sweep the four-race incentive, had to pit from seventh place with one lap remaining and ended up 15th.

This marks the first win at the notoriously tough Dover "Monster Mile" for Cindric and it's his first win since a torrid streak to open the year including wins in the season-opener at Daytona and another at the Phoenix one-miler.

"Every win means so much and of everyone that is in this



Austin Cindric, driver of the #22 Car Shop Ford, celebrates his win in Victory Lane during the NASCAR Xfinity Series Drydene 200 race at Dover International Speedway on May 15, 2021 in Dover, Delaware. Photo by James Gilbert/Getty Images



series - I have the unique opportunity to know what I'm doing in the future," Cindric said. "I respect that the guys that I am racing around are trying to get to the top level. I know I have that for me down the road, but I have to bring that same energy that I am racing against."

"These wins are really hard to come by. It sucks that we have had some bad races recently, but that makes this one feel so much better."

With the victory, Cindric increased his Xfinity Series championship lead to 62 points over Hemric in second and 74 over Harrison Burton in third.

Next Saturday, the series makes its debut at the Circuit of The Americas (COTA) in Austin, Texas. The Pit Boss 250 on the 3.4-mile road course starts at 4 p.m. ET (FS1, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

today," Berry said. "That last run we just fired off too free. Me and Justin got racing each other and the 22 (Cindric) got away. We just weren't quite as good in that last run as the run before. It's tough. But when you're in the top-two or three all day, there's still a lot to be proud of."

Harrison Burton, Michael Annett, Ryan Sieg, Daniel Hem-

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THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
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SUDOKU ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME:
EUROPEAN CAPITALS

ACROSS

- RPM gauge
- Have a brawl
- *"Neutral" capital
- Paella pot
- Mend, healthwise
- Deadly snake of southeastern Asia
- Multicolored horse
- Estimator's phrase (2 words)
- "The Addams Family" manservant
- *Northernmost European capital
- One of British Isles
- EUR, pl.
- Ensign, for short
- Pieces of glass, e.g.
- Vacuum cleaner alternative
- "_____ the land of the free..."
- Oxygenate, as in lawn
- Insane, in Spain
- Just harvested, e.g.
- A in IPA
- Church song
- Tiny amount
- Military marksman
- Fake tooth
- Devoid of liquid
- Jet setters' vessels
- Address abbreviation
- Sports stadium
- Japan's highest mountain
- *Capital that hosts Nobel Prizes
- Sophia _____, Italian actress
- Genesis twin
- Curved molding
- Tequila source
- Non-permanent officeworker

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- Like dental surgery
- *Capital on a fjord
- Possesses
- Big top
- To the _____ degree
- Like voice after a pep rally
- "A Fish Called Wanda" actor Kevin
- Judea, alt. sp.
- Mama sheep
- *Bulgarian capital and actress Vergara's given name
- Long-necked bird
- Rocky ridge
- Pas
- Hunt illegally
- Audience's approval
- Frolics
- "Atlas Shrugged" author Ayn
- Cassius Clay
- *Balkan capital and 1984 Olympics location
- Practical joke
- Canine command
- eyeball washing vessel
- Offer two cents
- Collusion
- Away from harbor (2 words)
- Drifts
- *London was famous for these pea soup particulars
- Russian mountain chain
- Comedian Rogan
- Shrek, e.g.
- Not fatty
- Patty _____
- _____ Tzu

The Classifieds

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