The Macon County

Free independent weekly



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& Shopping Guide

FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Cawthorn beats out Trump-endorsed Bennett

Brittney Lofthouse - Contributing Writer

An endorsement from President Donald Trump himself wasn't enough for Lynda Bennett to receive half of the votes cast during the Republican Primary run-off election for the District 11 seat of the United States House of Representatives.

Madison Cawthorn pulled in 65 percent of the votes (30,444) compared to Bennett's 34 percent (15,806), which will send him to the general election in November to face off against Democrat Moe Davis, a former military prosecutor.

Bennett, a Haywood County Republican, was ready to kick off her campaign months before Congressman Mark Meadows even announced his retirement, which ignited rumors Meadows, or his wife Debbie who is personal friends with Bennett, gave her the advantage – Bennett launched her bid for Congress as soon as Meadows, who now serves as the Chief of Staff for President Trump, announced he would no longer be serving the citizens of Western North Carolina in Congress.

The advantage of already having the paperwork in place and a campaign ready to launch, Bennett, whose career was made in real estate, quickly rose to be considered a frontrunner in a field of 12 candidates for District 11.

While Bennett strategically waited for her friend Meadows to announce he wouldn't be seeking re-election, which came in the final hours of filing deadline, Henderson County Republican Madison Cawthorn had already filed for District 11 and had done so even if it meant challenging the incumbent Congressman

Cawthorn was a prominent name in the field of 12 Republicans running for the open seat, but with other heavy hitters such

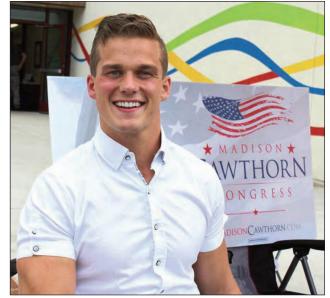


Macon County saw just 15 percent of eligible voters cast a ballot in the Republican primary runoff.

as Meadows' former chief of staff Wayne King and Senator Jim Davis, the only candidate with any political experience, most didn't pay him any mind – which proved to work to his advantage in the long game.

"Tonight, the voters of the 11th district of North Carolina said they're ready for a new generation of leadership in Washington," said Cawthorn, "You turned our message of hope, opportunity and freedom into a movement. While the far left is lighting our cities on fire, we are lifting the light of liberty. Nancy Pelosi and Joe Biden may not be able to control where the Democrats are going but, together, we can."

The 24-year-old turns 25 in August, the constitutionally re-



Madison Cawthorn spent Tuesday in Franklin meeting potential voters at the Robert C. Carpenter Building, the site at which all Franklin voters cast their ballot.

Photos by Vickie Carpenter

quired age to serve in the House of Representatives. If he is elected in November, he will be the youngest member of Congress, ousting Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of the title by five years.

Cawthorn stayed busy on the campaign trail, visiting fire departments, law enforcement agencies, and community clubs across the 18-county district. Even during a pandemic, Cawthorn would meet for breakfast in the parking lot of town staples to meet with a group of veterans, staying 6-feet apart and having fewer than 10 people there at a time.

Bennett repeatedly refused to respond to Cawthorn's request for a debate or a side by side Q & A, running campaign ads saying that Cawthorn was a "career politician in the making."

Just 15 percent of eligible voters cast their ballots in Macon County for the runoff. Macon County proved to be a slightly closer race than the overall District with Cawthorn receiving 1,846 votes to Bennett's 1,139 or 61.8 percent to 38.1 percent. Cawthorn beat Bennett in all but one county in the District, Rutherford County where Bennett won 714 to 389. Cawthorn also upset Bennett in her home county of Haywood County, securing 2,112 votes to Bennett's 1,559. The county with the closest match up was Clay County, where Cawthorn was still victorious with 474 votes, but by a margin of only three votes.

Despite Bennett receiving Trump's endorsement and still only receiving half the votes of Cawthorn, in his victory speech, Cawthorn noted that he doesn't believe his victory is a reflection of Trump's support in North Carolina and reaffirmed his support for the President.

"Finally, I want to make something clear; I support our great president. I do not believe this election has been a referendum on the president's influence. The people of Western North Carolina are wise and discerning. You observed both candidates and simply made the choice you believed is best for our district. I look forward to fighting alongside our president after I'm elected in November," Cawthorn said.

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Cartoogechaye School honors former principal



Trout farm finds creative ways to boost business



Ray's Chapel future site of WHT installation

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History says state's involvement in Civil War was an economic decision

Brittney Lofthouse - Contributing Writer

"At the beginning of the year 1861, North Carolina was opposed to war and secession," W.A. Curtis said in his address to the 1899 Reunion of the Confederate Veterans. The Charles L. Robinson Camp No. 947 of the United Confederate Veterans Association was organized in Franklin in 1897. The camp hosted the annual Confederate Veterans Reunions, which were a highlight of the decades that followed. W.A. Curtis, who purchased The Franklin Press, Macon County's oldest business (1886), from T.J Christy of Athens, Ga., played an instrumental role in shaping the history of Macon County as we know it today, and also did a great deal to preserve it. Because of works written by Curtis that are still available today, Macon County's history in the Civil War and its monument located in Rankin Square on Main Street in Franklin is well documented.

"On the first day of January, the Legislature of North Carolina, in regular session, passed, by a large majority in each house, an act declaring that in its opinion, the condition of the country was so perilous that the sovereign people of the State should assemble in convention to affect an honorable adjustment of the difficulties, whereby the Federal Union is endangered, and calling for an election of delegates to a State convention," said Curtis. "At the

same time the delegates were to be elected, the act required that the sense of the people should be taken whether there should be a convention or not. The election was held on the 28th of February, 1861, and upon the question of convention or no convention, the State voted against secession by a majority of 30,000

Despite neighboring states Georgia and Tennessee already joining the secession, and fear of economic turmoil if North Carolina didn't follow, North Carolina stood strong in the sentiment that there was not a just cause for war. However, after President Abraham Lincoln was sworn into office in March, all of that changed.

"But there came a sudden and radical change in the sentiment of our people in the early spring. Mr. Lincoln was inaugurated on the 4th of March, and after that day, the conduct of the Federal government towards the people of the South was such as to rapidly crystalize sentiment against the policy that began to dewhen he issued his proclamation on the dle of town since 1909. 14th of April, calling for 75,000 militia

to make war upon the seven states that had already seceded, making requisition upon North



velop under his administration, and Franklin's Confederate Memorial has stood in the mid-

Carolina for her quota of 1,560 troops, a revolution of sentiment spread like wild fire on a prairie from one end of the State to the other."

While there remains debate about the cause or reason for the Civil War, based on remarks made by Curtis, a Macon County businessman and Confederate veteran in 1899, North Carolina, therefore Macon County's involvement

in the war, was forced by what was deemed as a state's rights battle and stance against overreach by the federal government.

"When Governor Ellis received the demand, he promptly refused, and immediately convened the Legislature in special session, declaring the time for action had come, and he recommended that 20,000 volunteers be called for by the General Assembly to sustain North Carolina in her course," wrote Curtis.

Then on May 20, the anniversary of the Meck-Declaration, lenburg North Carolina passed the ordinance of secession immediately, which resulted in thousands of volunteers across the state - black, white, Native American,

and others offering their services.

In Curtis' 16-page address given in 1899, not one mention of slavery was made. In any reference he made as to a cause or need for war. Curtis on more than one occasion referenced state's rights or the no win situation North Carolina and those who lost their lives faced.

"The main reason North Carolina, therefore

Macon County, became involved in the Civil War is about money," said Robert Shook, curator for the Macon County Historical Society Museum. "It has everything to do with the Morrill Tariff and how much it was damaging the southern economy."

As Curtis recounts, North Carolina made the decision to secede from the Union after President Lincoln sent Federal Troops to invade South Carolina – Lincoln's invasion was a direct implication of South Carolina refusing to comply with the increasing Morrill Tariff that was robbing southern farmers of their profits in order to fund the federal govern-

The Morrill Tariff was introduced in 1860 and arose as an unjust taxation that enriched Northern manufacturing while exploiting the agricultural South. Prior to the Civil War, there was no U.S. income tax and 95 percent of government revenue was generated by tariffs placed on imported goods. In May of 1860, U.S. Congress passed the Morrill Tariff Bill, raising the average tariff from 15 percent to 37 percent with increases to 47 percent within three years, which, out of 40 southern congressmen, only one voted in favor. The bill, which had been scrutinized and had been unable to gain momentum in Congress prior to its passage, was able to do so in large part due to many Southern states already seceding therefore withdrawing from Congress and not

U.S. tariff revenues were already primarily generated in Southern states, with 87 percent of all revenues coming from Southern states even prior to the Morrill Tariff being passed.

The tariff raised cost of living and commerce in the South, while also reducing trade value of agricultural exports to Europe through things such as the South Carolina port to which Lincoln had sent troops. The crippling economic hardship the tariffs imposed on the South was for many, the tipping point that led to the Civil War.

In September 1860, it was reported that Thaddeus Ŝtevens, arguably the most powerful Republican in Congress at the time, told an audience in New York that the two most important issues of the presidential campaign were preventing the extension of slavery to new states; and increasing the tariff, but that the most



increasing the tariff.

Charles Dickens, the well known English author, wrote in a London Weekly in December 1861 saying, "The Northern onslaught upon slavery is no more than a piece of specious humbug disguised to conceal its desire for economic control of the United States.'



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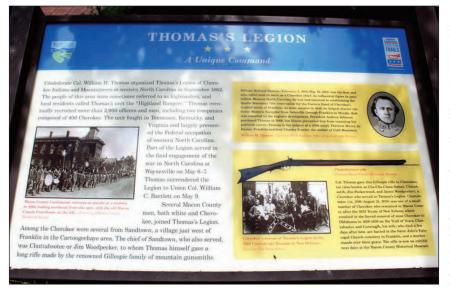
CIVIL WAR

Continued from page 2

Shook says that although he believes based on historical documents available to the public at the museum, the main reason for North Carolina and Macon County getting involved in the war was a result of the tariffs; the issue of slavery was a cause of the war in general. Slavery was a very real plague across the south. Cotton plantations throughout states such as in South Carolina were notorious for the mistreatment of slaves and their support of the slave trade. However, for the most part, the Confederacy had already taken a stance against slavery.

When framing the Constitution of the Confederate States, the very document states who seceded agreed to adopt and carry out, included Section IX which outlawed slavery as part of the Confederacy. Section 9 stated that slave trading was forbidden. It outlawed slavery moving forward, and taxed slave owners who would be grandfathered in as having slaves prior to the war.

Further, Shook noted that very few people in Macon County owned slaves, so the issue of slavery wasn't an issue locally that would send fathers and sons into battle. The 1860 census counted around 500 slaves in Macon County and out of those 500 slaves, about 50 families owned them all. Unlike slave owners in other states, in Macon County, there are historical accounts of slave owners deeding property and helping to build homes for slaves. Similar stories were recorded during the Federal Writer's Project during the Great Depression when the Roosevelt Administration employed journalists to interview former slaves and record verbatim their memories of



An information station at the Historical Museum on East Main Street explains the dynamics of Thomas's Legion, a Confederate unit that had members from Macon County and two companies composed of 400 Cherokee.

slavery. The real life accounts of 2,300 slaves were recorded as part of the project and published in a series called "The Slave Narratives."

"It wasn't like what you see in the movies. At least it wasn't like that here," Shook said. "Here if someone owned a slave it was for their small family farm. They worked in the fields alongside the slaves and did the same work themselves they were asking the slaves to do."

Shook recounts a recorded event that occurred in Macon County during the Civil War when Nathanael Parrish's life was saved by two of his slaves.

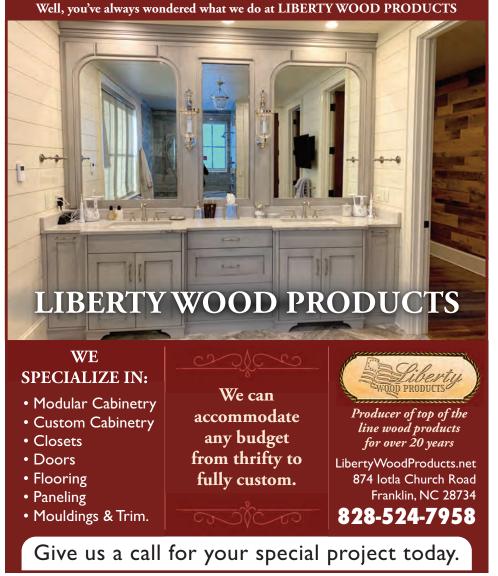
"Parrish had finished up his time in the war and had retired and was done serving, but he came across a Union soldier out on [highway] 28. The Union soldier hung him from a tree on his own property and it was two of his slaves who found him and saved him," Shook said.

Even before the war, there were freed slaves who remained in Macon County, according to the census. Several of the freed slaves signed up to volunteer to fight for the confederacy alongside white soldiers.

History recounts an Alabama soldier by the name of Zeb Thompson standing with a rifle by his side within a stone's throw of General Robert E. Lee when he yielded to General Grant at Appomattox Courthouse in April 1865. While history records him being there, he is often identified solely as a Confederate soldier from Alabama. It is not always noted, and often left out, that Zeb Thompson was a black soldier who participated in many of the greatest battles of the war and had been wounded and had recovered on three different occasions. Also present for Lee's surrender was Private John P. Leach, one of two blacks, and 10 whites surviving in Company C of the 53rd North Carolina Regiment for the Confederate Army.

During his 1899 address, Curtis spoke to the magnitude of North Carolina's role in the war by noting, "The military population of North Carolina in 1860 was 115,369; yet the State furnished the Confederate army 125,000 soldiers. The total number of soldiers who served in the Confederate Army, according to the best authenticated reports, was 600,000. Thus, North Carolina furnished considerably over one-fifth of the whole number. Of these, 40,000 died either in battle, from wounds, in prison, or in hospitals, and North Carolina's dead heroes sleep on almost every battlefield of any magnitude of the war."





Out of the more than 889 volunteers to fight for the Confederacy, 300 men didn't return home. Shook has a three ring binder which lists the name, regiment, company, age and rank of every Macon County native who died during the way. Shook's records also includes three Native Americans who fought in the war as part of William Holland Thomas' Native American Unit.

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Macon County's history in the Civil War extends beyond white and black soldiers and encompasses the history of more than 400 Cherokee soldiers who pledged their loyalty to the Confederacy. Confederate Col. William H. Thomas organized Thomas's Legion of Cherokee Indians and Mountaineers in Western North Carolina who were largely responsible in preventing the Union being able to occupy Western North Carolina

The names of the Cherokee soldiers who died during the War have been added to a comprehensive list of names of Macon County residents who died even though Thomas's Legion is recorded as being from "Quallatown" due to being comprised of Native American Soldiers. Several Cherokee who volunteered to fight in the war hailed from Sandtown, a village just west of Franklin in the Cartoogechaye area. Thomas plays further significance in local history as being the first and only white man to serve as Cherokee Chief. As a State Senator, he played a tremendous role in Macon County's history and is honored just a few steps away from Rankin Square in Franklin.

Curtis' remarks regarding North Carolina's role in the Civil War in 1899 manifested into the construction of the Confederate Monument that now stands in Rankin Square. Three years after Curtis spoke during The Charles L Robinson Camp No. 947 of the United Confederate Veterans Association reunion, it was at the 1903 reunion where the decision was made by members of the camp, to construct a monument to honor the men who lost their lives during the War.

Next week: How Franklin's Rankin Square got its monument.

Keller Williams sponsors food drive on Red Day

Keller Williams Great Smokies Realty associates chose to "Give Where They Live" as part of Red Day, Keller Williams' annual day of service on Thursday, May 14, dedicated to Renewing, Energizing and Donating to local communities.

As part of the Red Day effort, Keller Williams Great Smokies Realty collected food at its five office locations. Mindful of social distancing, collection boxes were placed in front of each office location so donors would be able to drop off their food items. Keller Williams, here in Franklin collected nonperishable items and canned goods for CareNet. With quarantining in place, food donations are down and food banks were at critical levels of need.

"Red Day is built on the belief that people can and should come together to achieve extraordinary things to help others," said Matthew Johnson, Team Leader,

Keller Williams Great Smokies. "This year, we were able to show support to our communities in a safe and mindful way."



Keller Williams in Franklin collected nonperishable items and canned goods for CareNet at as part of Red Day, Keller Williams' annual day of service on Thursday, May 14. Keller Williams Agents, Melissa Mossbarger (L) and Debbie Bale were on hand to accept donations from Bryson Burt of Homestar who supported the cause.

> "Red Day just happens to be a one-day expression of the constant state of the Keller Williams culture. We see a need, discover who can meet it and get it done," said Jackson Sease, Market Center Administrator.

Reopening Macon

The Reopening Macon Fund provides low-interest loans to businesses severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funded by Macon County, the program is administered by Mountain Bizworks.

Who is eligible?

For-profit businesses are eligible if they:

- Are located or based in Macon County
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How can I use the funds?

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What will I need to apply?

- Tax Returns
- Profit and loss statements
- Bank statements

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Cartoogechaye names basketball court for former principal

The Cartoogechaye PTO honored former for their classes – like for four-square games Principal Josh Lynch this week, by including his name and signature along the gym floor, which was officially deemed the Josh Lynch Court.

"We have waited several years to refinish the gym floor due to water damage and termites," said Aimee Trawick, president of the Cartoogechaye Parent Teachers Organization (PTO). "The coaches wanted new lines - and PTO wanted to improve it by raising money for our school logo to be placed in the middle of the floor. When we heard Josh was leaving, we wanted to do something to honor him in a permanent way in the building for his wonderful legacy.'

Josh Lynch served as the principal of Cartoogechaye Elementary School for the last seven years. The Macon County Board of

Education announced this Spring that he would be transitioning to the role of Curriculum Coordinator for the entire district, ending his tenure as principal.

The Macon County Board of Education had already allocated funds to refinish the gym floor, so adding a special tribute to Lynch was an easy decision.

Trawick credits Mike Arvey, who oversees maintenance of the elementary school for spearheading the project and getting all the final details in place.

The project took two weeks to sand the floor down to the original wood and finish painting and staining. On Monday, school staff unveiled the finished product, complete with the school's logo in the center of the gym floor, new lines for physical education classes to play games such as four square, and his signature to memorialize Lynch's



Present for the unveiling was Aimee Trawick, PTO president; Kristen Lynch, new principal of Cartoogechaye Elementary; Josh Lynch, former principal; Mike Arvey, school maintenance who over saw the project; and Kason and Eva Rose Lynch.



impact on the school. The entire project cost from Cartoogechaye. This coming school

The Lynch name won't be entirely lost

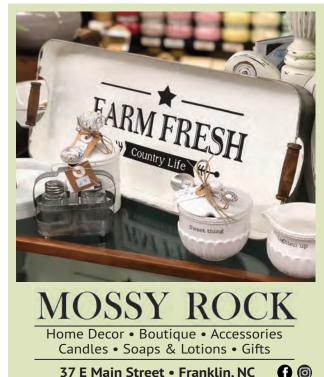
year, Lynch's wife, Kristen Lynch will take over as principal.



Josh Lynch gets his first look at the graphics placed in the floor of the Cartoogechaye Elementary School gym honoring him for his years as principal.







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The Future SECU Hospice House of WNC is under construction on Maple Street in Franklin with an expected completion date in early fall.

Hospice House construction crosses the halfway mark; \$300K needed to reach goal

Construction of SECU Hospice House in Franklin has crossed the 50% mark. It is anticipated that our region's new hospice inpatient facility will be operational this coming fall. Hospice care provider Four Season, currently serving western North Carolina, will operate within SECU Hospice House once construction is complete.

Fundraising for SECU Hospice House continues to move forward as well. Through the continued generous support of the community, Hospice House Foundation of WNC (HHFWNC) has raised \$4.2 million, including a \$1 million grant from the State Employees' Credit Union (SECU). HHFWNC needs to raise an additional \$300,000 to reach its \$4.5 million Campaign goal.

About Hospice House Foundation of WNC

HHFWNC is a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to raise funds for a six-bed hospice inpatient facility for the far western region of North Carolina (Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties) and northeast Georgia. The demographics in this geographic area speak volumes to the need for a hospice inpatient facility...roughly 25% of this area's population is 65 or older (over 50,000 individuals!); the age group most served by hospice; yet there are no Hospice Houses in this region. Currently, the closest Hospice Houses are over an hour's drive for most people. SECU Hospice House in Franklin will become the only free-standing inpatient hospice facility in North Carolina west of Asheville.

Hospice Houses provide relief from physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering of people who are facing life's final journey and respite care so that caregivers can get the rest they need to stay well.

To learn more about this regional initiative, contact Michele R. Alderson, president, at (828)524-6375 or email micheleralderson@gmail.com.

Highlands names its new Police Chief

The following is a statement released from Highlands Mayor Patrick Taylor.

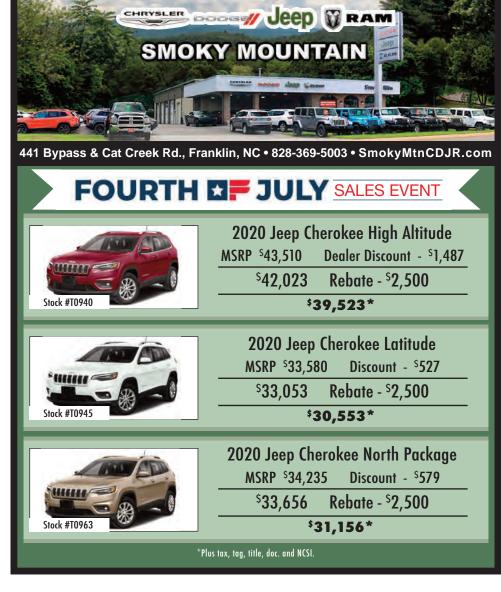
"The Town of Highlands has completed a thorough search for our new police chief.

"Comprehensive interviews and vetting of candidates was done by the public safety committee consisting of three town commissioners and the town manager. Two consultants from the North Carolina League of Municipalities also provided professional assessments. With unanimous support, the town manager concluded that the best qualified candidate was already a member of the Highlands Police Department.

"Lieutenant/Detective Andrea Holland will faithfully and diligently serve this community in her new role as police chief. Her education, training and experience qualifies her to be the new leader of the police department. Because she had been a police officer in Highlands for 13 years and has additional experience with other county agencies, we can expect a smooth transition in administrative leadership within the department.

"As mayor, I am very pleased that the town manager and personnel director developed and oversaw a fair and comprehensive process that identified from a field of experienced applicants, the best qualified candidate. I look forward to working with Chief Holland."





Harris Regional welcomes breast and | Harris welcomes Dr. Ja'Pel Sumpter general surgeon Dr. Allison Palumbo

Harris Regional Hospital welcomes board certified general surgeon Allison Palumbo, MD to Harris Surgical Associates. Dr. Palumbo joins Joshua Pratt, DO and Eric Reitz, MD in providing general surgery services to Jackson, Swain, Graham, and Macon counties and the surrounding region. Dr. Palumbo specializes in breast surgical oncology, including breast cancer genetics and high-risk breast cancer screening. She has extensive training in lumpectomy and specialized mastectomy techniques. Dr. Palumbo will also perform general surgery cases including hernia repair, gallbladder removal. and colon and small bowel resections.

Dr. Palumbo graduated from Marshall University School of Medicine in Huntington, W. Va., and completed a general surgery residency at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Dr. Palumbo served in the United States Air Force as a general surgeon at MacDill Air Force Base. She was deployed to Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan where she served as chief of general surgery for the country's largest hospital. Dr. Palumbo received multiple awards for her military service, including the Air Force Commendation Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the NATO Medal. In addition to serving in the USAF, Dr. Palumbo received extensive training in breast surgical oncology during her time in Tampa, Fla., and practiced at St. Joseph's Hospital and Lakeland Regional Medical Center.

"Dr. Palumbo brings specialized training in advanced breast surgical oncology that aligns with Harris Regional Hospital's investments in 3-D mammography and our renovation and addition at the Harris Regional Cancer Center. Dr. Palumbo will be a great complement to the general surgery team, joining Dr. Pratt and Dr. Reitz," said Steve Heatherly, CEO of Har-



Dr. Allison Palumbo

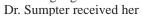
ris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital.

Dr. Palumbo explains her passion for her patients.

"My mother was a family practice physician in a small rural community. Growing up I saw her interact with her patients at places like the grocery store, church, and the mall. I was inspired by the empathy that she had for her patients and the personal satisfaction derived from helping them in their time of need," said Dr. Palumbo. "I understand that every patient is unique and needs a unique approach. I will treat them as one of my own family members and strive to be a kind, knowledgeable, and compassionate member of their medical team."

Harris Surgical Associates is located at 98 Doctors Drive in Sylva. For more information, visit the Find a Doctor page on MyHarrisRegional.com or call 828.586.3976

Harris Women's Care at Harris Regional Hospital is adding Ja'Pel Sumpter, MD to its staff. Dr. Sumpter joins Sabine Kelischek, MD, Alvin Strasburger, MD, Sally Inglesby-Schaefer, CNM, Judy Layton, CNM, Anne Karner, CNM, Darci Walker, CNM and Kathy Walsh, NP in providing obstetrics and gynecology services to women in Jackson, Swain, Graham, and Macon counties and the surrounding region.



Doctor of Medicine degree from the Medical Sylva, Bryson City and Franklin. Telehealth University of South Carolina College of Medicine. She completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C. Dr. Sumpter is now accepting new patients.

"We are pleased to welcome Dr. Sumpter to Harris Women's Care. Dr. Sumpter rounds out a team of eight providers including physicians, nurse midwives, and a nurse practitioner to take care of women and families in



Dr. Ja'Pel Sumpter

western North Carolina. The New Generations Family Birthing Center at Harris Regional Hospital is the only facility in our corner of the state delivering babies. It is a privilege to serve families with high quality, high-tech services close to home and we are glad that Dr. Sumpter is part of that vision," said Steve Heatherly, CEO of Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital.

Harris Women's Care has convenient locations in

appointments are also now available for women's care. Options include teleconferencing and videoconferencing.

Women's care services available through Harris Regional Hospital include mammography, obstetrics and gynecology, labor and delivery, gynecologic surgery, breast care, and routine well check appointments.

Appointments may be made by calling 828.631.8913.

Harris hospital eases visitor restrictions

Harris Regional Hospital has announced that it is transitioning from a zero-visitor protocol to limited visitor restrictions as the hospital gradually resumes elective and non-urgent cases and services at its facilities. The decision was made as current projections continue to indicate a lower than expected volume of COVID-19 in the region and after careful review of state and federal guidance. The updated restrictions, which will now allow most patients to have one visitor or support person per day is effective immediately.

As part of the updated visitor restrictions, patients are now limited to one well visitor per day, including one companion for outpatient appointments and one support person for obstetric patients. All visitors must be 12 years of age or older, will be screened upon entry and are required to wear a mask and an armband while in the facility. Visitors who do not pass the screening at entry will be asked to reschedule their visit until they are symptom-free. Visitors are not allowed for high-risk, isolation, immunocompromised or patients who are under observation or test positive for COVID-19.

Harris Regional Hospital continues to screen everyone who enters the facility for symptoms consistent with COVID-19, per CDC guidelines. For additional updates, visit MyHanisRegional.com.

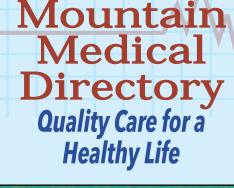
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Governor extends Safer At Home Phase 2, adds statewide requirement for face coverings

Governor Roy Cooper and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mandy Cohen announced Wednesday afternoon that North Carolina will remain in Safer at Home Phase 2 for three more weeks. Cooper also announced that face coverings must be worn when people are in public places as officials seek to stabilize concerning trends of increasing viral

Cooper and Cohen were joined by Dennis Taylor, President of the North Carolina Nurses Association and Eugene A. Woods, President and CEO of Atrium Health.

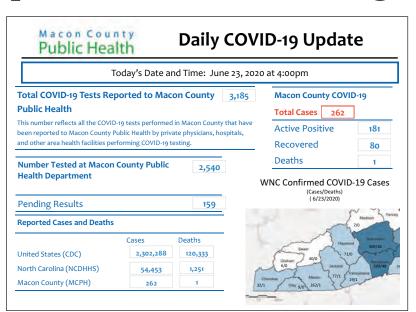
"North Carolina is relying on the data and the science to lift restrictions responsibly, and right now our increasing numbers show we need to hit the pause button while we work to stabilize our trends," said Cooper. "We need to all work together so we can protect our families and neighbors, restore our economy,

and get people back to work and our children back to school."

"I know North Carolinians are strong, resilient and care deeply about our communities. We pride ourselves on helping our neighbors. The best way we can do that now is by taking the simple action of wearing a face covering that covers your nose and mouth. If we each do our part, we can get back to the people and places we love," said Dr. Mandy Cohen, NCDHHS Secretary.

Growing evidence shows that cloth face coverings, when worn consistently, can decrease the spread of COVID-19, especially among people who are not yet showing symptoms of the virus. Until now, face coverings had been strongly recommended. Under today's executive order, people must wear face coverings when in public places where physical distancing is not possible.

In addition, certain businesses must have employees and customers wear face coverings, including retail businesses, restaurants, personal care and grooming; employees of child care centers and camps; state government agencies under

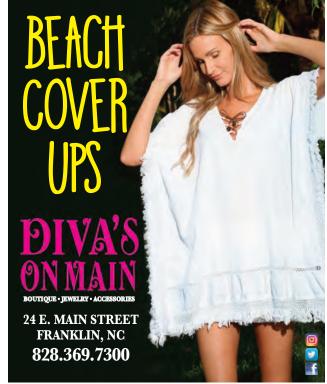


the governor's cabinet; workers and riders of transportation; and workers in construction/trades, manufacturing, agriculture, meat processing and healthcare and long-term care set-

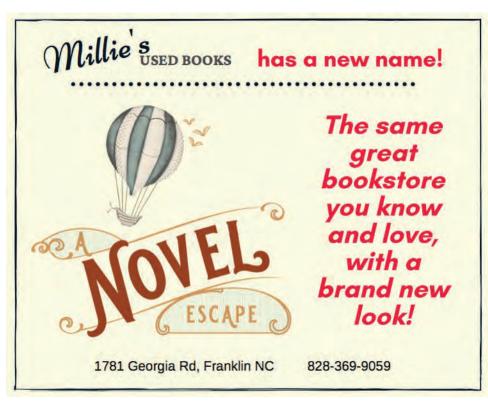
In Macon County, as of Tuesday, 262 cases were recorded, with 181 active cases and 80 being found to have recovered. Emily Ritter with Macon County Public Health said 100 people have been retested.

"We are following CDC guidance to move cases from active to recovered. Each patient is different, with a variety of symptoms and conditions, and is assessed by our communicable disease staff and our Medical Director to identify the appropriate steps to determine recovered status. Some cases may not need re-testing after the 14-day period. Others may warrant two negative tests. It is handled on a case by case basis," said Ritter.

As of Wednesday morning, Mission Hospital in Asheville had 17 lab-confirmed positive COVID-19 cases with no other regional hospitals recording any cases being treated at their facilities.









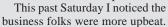
——— Opinion -

What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor - Highlands Mayor

It was a good weekend for me, and I suspect for many Highlanders. At this beginning of summer we finally got a break from the cloudy days.

I have been visiting the downtown and merchants on Saturday morning since the beginning of Phase 2. At my first visits I met with merchants who were very cautious and concerned about sales versus Covid 19 protocols.





Patrick Taylor

While every Main Street merchant I talk with always wants and thinks they should have more business, I got the impression that folks were optimistic that Highlands was now making a comeback. As I walked around Main Street and 4th at about 10:30 I would look into the stores and see merchants busily getting ready for customers. I loved it, what a major change from the gloom and doom of March, April and most of May.

Let's hope Governor Cooper sees good numbers on Friday and moves the state into a full Phase 3. While I am optimistic, it is no time to let our guards down. This damn COVID 19 could be with us for a long time.

Some folks believe Governor Cooper may institute across the state a mandatory mask or face covering requirement while inside public spaces. If he does, I will be supportive. In Macon County and Highlands we need to do everything possible to stop the spread and create, as much as possible, a safe environment for our residents and visitors. That efffort will be a win for all of us, especially our business community.

I also want to congratulate and give my full support for our new police chief, Andrea Holland. She garnered unanimous support from all who were involved in the search for the new chief. At her swearing in ceremony representatives from the highway patrol, sheriff's department and the district attorney were present to show their support. Chief Holland has the diverse experience, training, and education to make her an outstanding police chief. But more than all those accomplishments, Andrea has a deep commitment to this town and county that will be so important for her leadership and success.

At the town board meeting last Thursday night, I urged everyone to respond to the U.S. Census. Macon County and Highlands currently have very low response rates. If we have an undercount in the census, it will hurt our financial, and yes, our political position. State and federal funding are driven by census numbers. I urge permanent residents to please make sure they respond to the census. There are three ways to respond. Go to 2020Census.gov and file, or call (844) 330-2020 for the telephone option. Finally, there is the old mail in option. Many of us will see a census packet on our door knobs that a census worker has delivered. Simply fill out the form and put it in the mail. The important thing is that every resident and all households respond.

Letters to the Editor

Reform America – value your life

Lately you can't go far without hearing about riots, marches and groups that have risen due to recent events that have been overplayed on the media. Unfortunately we live in a a country where one man's untimely death makes us forget about all the other deaths that are equally as important. Black lives do not matter more than any other race, and thinking that they do is part of the problem. Right now the atmosphere is charged with feelings of guilt, anger, confusion, and an air of socialism. But if we just listen to what is on the media, or the voices of upset and confused individuals where will that take us? What isn't being talked about is how this rage is affecting the average citizen of America. There is a lot of depression, alcoholism, suicide attempts, not to mention all the damage being done on the streets. Society feels like it is on a sinking Titanic, and everyone aboard is panicking, pacing, and paranoid.

What no one is hearing is the true statistics of racism, the balance of events, or the truth about black and white communities across the country. Until people, no matter the skin color start taking responsibility for their own actions, their own immediate families, and their lack of effort nothing is going to change. Every human being has been created with equal rights to be whoever they want to be, and in a country that is accepting of all races and nationalities (despite what you hear on the media) you can literally become whatever you want to become if you want it badly enough. We hear so many lies that we can't tell what is true anymore, because we are lead by falsely inflicted guilt...as if we have something to do with the another man's decisions who lives across the country. No, we are not responsible for another man's actions, not as a race and not as an individual. Every man was born with his own conscience, and we cannot be that conscience for him. What is happening is not racism, it is prejudice and often outbursts of anger and hatred that starts with our own feelings of self.

Example of the stereotyping we take part in, is a cop makes a mistake, then all cops become bad in our eyes, however, most cops are just enforcing the law.

Unfortunately the northern African American community has created a criminal name for themselves through their own actions over the last 50 years, this is what has most likely led to the stereotyping by cops and the precautions you see them take. Over the years the realities of drugs in the black ghetto communities have led to often absent, jailed or deadbeat dads which result in poor and bitter youth. This is what we call the underprivileged community. But to be fair, no one talks about how even to this day how the Caucasian child is made to feel responsible in school from a young age for black problems and lack of achievement.

What bothers me as an American is how truly unbalanced the news is.

I have watched from a child how much the media has played on the emotions of innocent Americans through TV programs, movies, magazine articles, reminding the African

American community that they were once slaves and keeping them in a mental state of bondage, while insinuating that all Caucasians are responsible for the great mistakes of the past and now responsible for every black person who doesn't believe in themselves. But when will we stop using the past to make an excuse for the riots, drugs, and sins of today? I blame the media, the half truth text books in schools, and the under educated teachers for initiating most of the problems in society. There isn't any balance in the news. Situations of the present are treated the same way they were 40 years ago, and this is insulting to the incredible progress we have seen as a nation and one people united under God. The Black Lives Matter marches are becoming more and more insulting, not because of the black community, but because of the ignorance and instability of the people who promote the movement. The education level is that of someone who has been in a hole in the ground and fed nothing but brainwashed media. We are a free nation, when will we become free from people who want to make us think we live 100, 60, or even 40 years ago and that everything is the same as it was then? Wake up call, things are not the same. We have moved on for better or worse, people still have problems, but nothing is truly the same. We've touched the moon, had a black president, abort full term babies, gay couples marry, women are in congress, and black and whites are viewed as equals. Men have died, men have been born, society has changed. We don't talk about how both white and black skinned people have had over a hundred years in America to become whatever they want to become, be through trials or not. We have people marching as if what one or two white people did is a reflection of all white Americans. It's imbalanced and out of proportion.

However, I honestly think that the problem with culture is that we focus so much on the negatives that we do not celebrate the victories, the success stories, or even hear about these things on the media. There always will be and always has been equally positive happening, but we choose not to see it, or to recognize it. One cannot help but wonder if this is a ploy when bad news is covered and good news is not. Man's sins are uncovered, but his values are not.

To flourish, must re-learn to value life, and start with valuing our own lives.

There are no black, no white, no women or child in God's eyes. We're all people, we all have a destiny, and we're all meant to see ourselves through the eyes of Christ. If we think that we will ever be healthy, happy or whole as a nation by living outside of Him, we are very wrong. Unless we know the value of our own life, and find our value (not in what other people say) but in God alone, we will never grow and flourish. There is joy available to you in Christ Jesus, if you will call out to Him, you can find grace, forgiveness, and peace. We should not be identified by our skin color, by our parents sins, or anything else for that matter. What God says, and we believe about ourselves, is all that matters. We are made righteous, spotless, clean, through the blood of the Lamb. Now go, and show love, be love, receive love.

Leona Joy – Franklin, N.C.

The Macon County

& Shopping Guide

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We are all members of the human race

How do we heal racism in America? First of all we must accept the fact that there is only one race, the human race.

Throughout history mankind has divided people into different "races" based upon skin color and this became more accepted with the development of the Theory of Evolution. Charles Darwin, champion of the evolutionary theory, held radically racist beliefs. In chapter six of his book, "The Descent of Man," Darwin wrote, "At some future period, not very distant as measured by centuries, the civilized races of man will most certainly exterminate, and replace, the savage races throughout the world. The break between man and his nearest allies will then be wider, for it will intervene between man in a more civilized state, as we may hope, even than the Caucasian, and some ape as low as a baboon, instead of as now between the Negro of Australian and the gorilla." — "The Descent of Man," 1871

I believe the teaching of this theory as fact in our public schools, in spite of an abundance of scientific evidence proving the contrary, has contributed greatly to the development of racism in America.

Since we are all one race, from whom did we descend? All we need to do is look to the Word of the one who created us. Before I go into this, I know there are those who do not believe the Word of God or may believe it is only a collection of myths and legends, but I can tell you based upon my 30-plus years of study of the Book of Genesis, that every word is true and is supported by scientific and visible evidence.

Genesis 9:18,19 identifies the three sons of Noah, Shem, Ham and Japheth, and says that following the flood, "of them was the whole earth overspread." We are all descendants of Shem, Ham or Japheth; we are all related. The descendants of Japheth settled Europe and Asia and Shem's descendants settled primarily in Arabia and the middle east. Ham's descendants also settled in parts of Arabia as well as Africa.

Now let's talk about skin color. Skin color is dictated by the amount of melanin our skin produces. Melanin is the coloring pigment in our skin. If our skin produces little melanin we will be of light complexion, if high amounts are produced a dark complexion results. This brings up a very simple question regarding the movement Black Lives Matter. Should an ethnic group matter more that other groups because their skin produces more melanin? I don't think so. The fact is God created all of us and as far as He is concerned, we all matter equally.

Before I get a raft of hate mail, I understand that BLM may be based more on being descendants of slaves than skin color. But I have this question for those who continuously lament that fact. If your descendants had not been brought to this country as slaves, where would you be today? Think about that and honor them for the circumstances they endured and be thankful that, because of them, you live in the freedom of America.

With that in mind let's fight against those factions that attempt to divide us and put aside this contentious discussion about "race" and who matters more and learn to live together as Americans.

Marshall "Buck" Miller - Franklin, N.C.

Stores should require that customers wear masks

Jesus Christ said every life matters.

I would like to suggest the following: Since Home Depot/Lowes/Walmart never closed nationwide they all should require customers to wear masks while in their stores just like their workers. This will help keep the Chinese virus from spreading.

Bob Poindexter - Franklin, N.C.

Tribalism could cost tens of thousands of lives

Health officials the world over are recommending covering our faces in public places and while the stronger consensus is now in favor of masks, most experts continue to warn that they are not magical shields, just a part of an arsenal that includes hand-washing, sanitizing and social distancing.

One meta-study funded by the World Health Organization (WHO) that analyzed 64 scientific papers found that masks (though they do not perfectly protect the wearer) dropped wearers' risk of infection by between 50 and 80 percent.

Though different studies reach varying statistical conclusions, the overwhelming consensus is that they do help stem transmission. Jeremy Howard (an Australian data scientist who created the website Masks4All.co), and as reported in The Week Magazine June 5th, has identified 34 papers showing their effectiveness, and none showed otherwise.

Researchers from the National Institute of Health performed a video experiment that offered a stark visual rendering of how masks work. They used a laser light to illuminate the shower of droplets emitted when someone speaks and demonstrated how nearly all of them were blocked by a mask.

A team of scientists and academics from Europe and California recently built a computer simulation demonstrating that if 80 percent of the population wore masks, infection rates would plunge by more than 90 percent. That finding lines up with the remarkably low infection rates in Asian countries where mask wearing is near-universal. This includes Hong Kong and Taiwan, each of which has had fewer than 10 deaths despite high population density. "The countries that flattened the curve used masks in public," says Dutch disease expert, Chris Kenyon.

Our biggest problem in the United States is Donald Trump (who has tried to downplay the seriousness of the coronavirus from the beginning), and his subservient political party, and his minions of groveling naysayers who hang on to every preposterous theory he sets forth, every nonsensical tweet he expresses and every false assertion and accusation he utters.

No one has stated it more succinctly than Andrew Sullivan in NYMag.com. "Tribalism is now not just one force in American politics, it's the overwhelming one. When you turn wearing a simple face mask into a political and cultural symbol of leftism, when you view social distancing as a concession to your enemies, you deeply undermine the power of millions of small impediments to viral outbreak. What we are seeing is whether this tribalism can be sustained even when it costs tens of thousands of lives, even when it means exposing yourself to a deadly virus, even when it is literally more important than your own life. We are entering the Jonestown phase of the Trump cult this summer and it is not going to be pretty."

David L. Snell - Franklin, N.C.

President Trump doesn't care what you think

What we see in Seattle reminds me of a bunch of children locking themselves in their rooms and refusing to come out until their parents give in to their demands for more candy. Sorry, kids, but the reality of life is that you will, like it or not, have to work to earn a living.

That's the way nature forces us to evolve but it seems we are in reverse right now. Hope not for long, however.

When the Democrats accepted their defeat in the Civil War the battle between the Democrats and Republicans quieted down and for the most part had orderly and polite debates between them.

That has changed now. Almost out of nowhere, we have a country trying to rip itself apart with Democrat Commu-

nists and Socialists fanning the flames.

Democrats, by the way, are trying to get all statues associated with the Confederacy taken down so they can pretend it wasn't the Democrats who were responsible for slavery.

11

One of the things we learned from the Obama years is that people are looking for some sort of hero and someone who is lovable. Obama furnished the same sort of image as our Hollywood stars.

We fail to realize that they are merely playing a part and that in real life some are complete jerks and a----. Obama wanted nothing more than to be loved but his deadly mistake was that he wanted to be loved by the entire world and would sell us all to get the love.

In contrast, President Trump doesn't give a damn if you like him, he is simply a great leader who knows where this nation, if it is to survive, must go.

He avoids screwy liberal thinking and sticks entirely to realistic questions such as jobs for people of all colors, boosting our economy to allow our older people to survive comfortably and refusing to allow China to soak up our riches.

Most important Trump cannot be bought by anyone.

Obama retired some \$40 million richer when he left office. Makes one wonder, doesn't it?

In part, anyway, some of Obama's henchmen are behind the current problems we are having and this makes us wonder just who are those people?

The movement to eliminate police departments can only come from gangsters such as the Mafia, Mexican drug cartels, MS 13 and backed by Antifa and other childish anarchist groups.

What an ideal time for the Socialist Dems to step in if our democracy fails and use the U.S. Marines to take control. Who needs cops when you can run things with a totalitarian regime? Fight back against tyranny and they can just line you up in front of a firing squad. By golly, then everyone will be equal. Right?

Black Lives Matter takes credit for the rioting and looting going on across the country, supposedly in behalf of George Floyd one must wonder about their leadership because with all this going on, not one of them has made an issue out of the 165 black Americans killed or shot in Chicago since the first of this year.

George Floyd is turning over in this grave to know his name is being disgraced.

Almost all of the racists I've met over the years suffered from an inferiority complex, rich or poor and need someone to look down on to make themselves feel better. Putting it another way, racism is a psychological illness."

Bob Wilson – Franklin, N.C.

Open letter to Mr. David Parker of Franklin NC

Mr Parker,

Please consider switching to decaf.

Thank you.

Brian Cantamessa – Franklin, N.C.

For more LETTERS see page 12

The Macon County News letters page is a public forum open to a wide variety of opinions. Letters are neither accepted nor rejected on the basis of the opinions expressed. Writers are asked to refrain from personal attacks against individuals or businesses. Letters are not necessarily reflective of the opinions of the publisher, editor or staff of The Macon County News.





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LETTERS

Continued from page 13

'Ferguson effect' in full play across the nation

Black Lives Matter is a gigantic boomerang. It takes black lives on a colossal scale.

The "Ferguson effect," as it is called, became obvious in the three months following the death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo., in August 2014. Homicides in nearby St. Louis city rose by 47%. Robberies in St. Louis County climbed by 82%. The murders were nearly all black-onblack.

The brilliant Harvard scholar, Roland Fryer, an African-American, has published meticulous new research calculating that the small number of incidents of excessive police force which "go viral" and succeed in generating national protests are "responsible for about 450 excess homicides per year." That is nearly 13 times America's annual loss to school shootings, observes Fryer, and three times the loss of life to lynchings during the entire 20-year peak period of

Now it's happening once again. In Los Angeles, from May 31 to June 6, murders were up 250% from a year earlier. On Sunday, May 31, Chicago had the most murders ever in a day – 18. The St. Valentine's Day Massacre, in the late 1920s, depicted in scores of movies and TV shows, saw just seven Chicagoans murdered. Those seven white lives obviously did matter. The 18 - all black-on-black not so much.

Why is it happening? The Pew Foundation published a major study in 2017 finding that more than three-quarters of U.S. law enforcement officers say they are now often reluctant to use force "when necessary." Those last two words are key! They are reluctant to do their job. And there is a huge gap in the reluctance levels of big city and small town cops. No surprise there.

fact-filled his conservative web site frontpagemag.com (June 1, 2020), David Horowitz, a self-styled "red diaper baby" raised by Communist parents who edited the far-left magazine *Ramparts* in the late 1960s, writes: "The Democrat Party's leaders without exception have spread the lies that there is an open season on black Americans conducted by (white) police." But statistics show that "black cops are actually more likely to kill black suspects than white police officers, and that an unarmed black is less likely to be killed by police than to be struck by lightning."

In another article (June 5), Horowitz noted that "a police officer is 18 ½ times more likely to be killed by a black male than an unarmed black male is to be killed by a police officer." At George Floyd's funeral, he also noted, the Rev. Al Sharpton said that "white America" has its knees on black America's neck. But only 235 of the 1,004 Americans killed by police officers in 2019 were black, although over half of all murders and robberies that year were perpetrated by blacks. The truth is that officers of all colors are now very reluctant to be engaging with that subset of young black males that they desperately need to be engaging with. And the black community is paying big-time.

To those young Franklin residents who were pressured to join the recent Black Lives Matter march but resisted, I say: Congratulations. Thank God for you. Each of you is a genuine hero.

If Franklin actually wanted to send a worthy message to the nation, we could stage a march, hold aloft signs reading BLM and each with a boomerang alongside, and explain the meaning to media. Why join a coast-to-coast mob when you can be a rational individual?

Patrick Wallace - Franklin, N.C.

The unanswered questions

In the wake of all we are going through, it seems we have more questions than we have answers. Who, or how did the coronavirus get started? Can I start being more active and involved in my community? What led to the death of George Floyd and others, and why does it seem racism never quite goes away? Does the extreme protesting help, or does it make matters worse? Do we blame government for much of this or do we blame ourselves or God for seemingly allowing what we are dealt with. The questions never seems to get fully answered and the blame seems to have a life of its own making, the questions never find a resting place but seems forever moving. Everyone has part of the answer, but no one has, "the answer."

History is no more than a accumulation of unending stories from the beginning of time and people passed these stories from generation to generation. History books tell us of our past and how we became what we now are, it tells the beautiful, the good, the bad and the ugliness of humanity. Scripture or the Bible is no different, but breaks the surface and dives deep into the how and why we are what we are, or have become. It's a narrative of many narratives or stories but it's not the only narrative. We can set a foundation for life upon it but it can't tell us such things as what political party to be part of, or what country is best suited to raise a family in, or how to invest our money. These are different narratives or stories that can be built along with the Christian story. We all build on something and we would like our lives built on something true and lasting to make sense of past stories or narratives that we all know and are part of with family and

I don't have answers for why or what's to be done with the coronavirus, I take precautions like most do, and trust and pray that we can find something that stops this disease. As for our issues with race, I pray that we all would become color blind. Slavery comes in many forms, Europe had a single type of slavery, in that one would rule the many, they made the laws, and their own justice was their ruling. Over time this changed from one person ruling over many to the freedom of people slowly owning their own property and having their own type of ruling. The actual ownership of an individual was brought back from its past and was now in place. Humanity hasn't changed, we have children and sex trafficking, a slavery at it worst. If we as a people can't unite and place some value on all human life, we need to change our name to "The Divided States of America." I'm praying hate is dissolved from among us, and love, kindness and humility will be evident, for we are desperately in need of this. Within this narrative or story of love, kindness and humility its thread runs deep within scripture and is found as no other as in the life of Christ. He was at the beginning, he related and became one of us, his love is there for any one of us. His story needs to be read and studied with deep sincerity; see it for what it is. He answers the hurt of mankind but ever more so, brings joy, peace, and understanding. May His story become your story as well. Reading the book of John maybe a good start.

Rethinking life,

Deni Shepard - nds13@ frontier.com



Thursday, June 25, 2020 | Volume 38 Number 6 The Macon County News & Shopping Guide

Pandemic catches trout farm by surprise; industry finds creative ways to weather the economic fallout

Deena Bouknight - Contributing Writer

Annually, March through May is a busy time for Tellico Trout Farm, a Franklin-based commercial fish farm since the 1980s.

"We may typically move 11,000 pounds a week into Pennsylvania because of their demand ... that's a huge market for sport fishing," said Tom Ort, manager of the Tellico Trout Farm since 1997. "But business shut down during that time and we were in a world of hurt."

However, even though the main focus of the Tellico Trout Farm business is commercial, providing 3.5 million fish annually to public and private waterways, the surprise was the amount of people who have wanted to enjoy fishing in the Tellico stocked pond.

"Our catch out business increased 300 to 400 percent. Everyone got cabin fever and wanted to come out and fish and get fresh air and quality fish," said Ort.

From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week, anyone from the public can visit the large commercial fish hatchery and fish in the well-stocked pond.

They pay a flat \$6 a pound and we give them a fishing rod, bait, a bucket for the fish, and will even help them get the fish off the line. Plus, they clean them and pack them in ice

"We're getting lots of kids. And, [the employees] who run this part of our business spoil the people coming in here."

Saturdays and Sundays are packed fishing days, but Ort said, "During the week, you can literally have the pond nearly by yourself. The crowds are much heavier on the weekends."

The pandemic caused a backlog of fish, pointed out Ort. "We have 50,000 pounds of fish ... more fish than I should have right now. So I'm diligently trying to find a home for them, especially before the water gets hot for the summer."

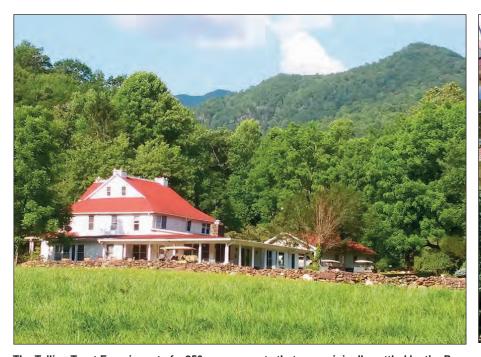
Generally, fish are being distributed throughout mostly North Carolina and Georgia, but they go to other states as well for the purpose of stocking ponds, streams, rivers, and lakes; supplying to sport fishing clubs and operators; and distribution to fish processing and packaging operations.

At Tellico, there is a steady growth process. "Every month



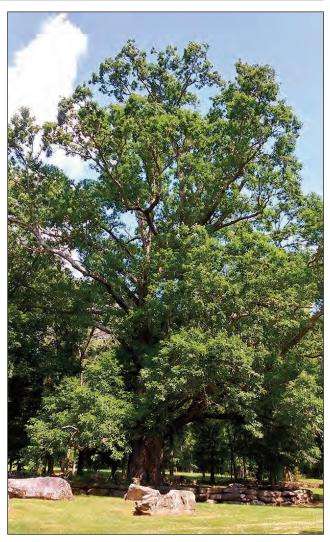
A stocked catch out pond is open to the public seven days a week with Rainbow, brook, brown, and even golden trout. More than 3 million pounds of fish are raised annually at Tellico Trout Farm.

we basically receive 200,000 to 300,000 eggs that we order from the state of Washington or Idaho. We get what's called an eye egg and it's on the property for 90 days and then sold as a three-inch fingerling. Others are sold at 11-12 months old and about 18-20 ounces. We are one of the few farms in the state that maintain brook and brown trout also, besides rainbow; but we also have golden colored rainbow trout.





The Tellico Trout Farm is part of a 250 acre property that was originally settled by the Ramsey family in the 1800s; but before that it was known as Tahlequah by the Cherokee. The 1870s home on the Tellico property was completely restored by the current owners, the Macke family, about 20 years ago.



The enormous white oak on the Tellico property is considered one of the largest and oldest oaks in the region and reportedly once a meeting place for Cherokee.

Ort, a former superintendent for the N.C. Wildlife Commission, said he enjoys working on the historic farm. "It's all very rich in history."

The 250-acre property, located in a remote valley shadowed by the Wesser Bald along the Appalachian Trail, is named Tellico and is a derivative of the word "Tahlequah," meaning "rare peace" in Cherokee. Other than the Native people, the valley was settled by the Ramsey family in the 1800s. The 1870s grand house on the property has been fully restored and is used for friends and family of the Macke family. Atlanta businessman and recreation enthusiast Michael Macke purchased the property in the late 1990s and has a house nearby.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the house and surrounding buildings served as a general store, blacksmith, post office, and grist and saw mill. The mill, in fact, was powered by a 25-foot overshot water wheel, components of which still survive, and electricity was provided to the home because of the device, according to Ort. On the property is also the locally known Tellico white oak, considered one of largest and oldest oaks in the region and reportedly once a meeting place for Cherokee.

As a way of sharing an aspect of Tellico with the community, Macke came up with the catch out pond idea.

"The catch out pond is open until the water gets too hot and the fish stop biting, typically in August," pointed out Ort

Even though the pandemic has hit the commercial trout business hard, Ort is hoping to weather the economic crisis. Managing Tellico enables him to practice applied science.

"Every fish that is in every raceway is planned for a market. It's very rewarding to take good care of an animal and watch them grow, and do it as efficiently as possible."



THE MACON COUNTY NEWS & SHOPPING GUIDE





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Arrest Report

Ine Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests June 15 - 19. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of



Macon County Sheriff's Department

Miguel Morales, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, conspiracy to trafficking methamphetamine, maintaining a place for a controlled substances, precautions against dangerous dogs, dog vaccine violation. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Alferdo Jimenez Rodriguez, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, conspiracy to trafficking methamphetamine, maintaining a place for a controlled substances. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Clarissa Anne Smith, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to appear for second degree trespass. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Brandon James Parrish, was charged with obtaining property by false pretenses, breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods/property, larceny. Jordan C. Sutton made the

Angalina Nicole Webb, was charged with larceny by an employee. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Garrion Monterious Ligon, was charged with assault by strangulation, injury to real property, assault on a female, false imprisonment. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Robert Ryan Oteri, was charged with possession of heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia, misdemeanor larceny. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

Adam Randolph Sackman, was charged with possession of heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

Adriana Nichole Garcilita, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

James Daniel Pressley, was charged with breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods/property, obtaining property by false pretenses. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

June 19

James Daniel Presley, was issued a warrant for offense committed in jurisdiction. Anthony Hopkins made the arrest.

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Jackson County Sheriff's Department

June 15

Ethan Murray, 45, of Armour Rd., Whittier, was charged with injury to personal property, breaking and entering non forcible, domestic criminal trespass, violation of domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.

James Thomas Caviness, 50, of Spann St., Connelly Springs, was charged with possession of a stolen motor vehicle, resist/obstruct/delay, flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set.

Matthew Devon Perkins, 27, of Cheyenne Dr., Highlands, was charged with expired registration, driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was

June 16

Haley Michelle Shook, 24, of Sparks Dr., was charged with resisting a public officer, second degree arson. A secured bond of \$30,000 was set.

Ronnie Steven Swisher, 23, of Tuckasegee, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, conspire to commit felony larceny, breaking and entering a motor vehicle. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Logan Mckenna Otter, 25, of Junes Loop, Cherokee, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, preparation to break/enter a motor vehicle, conspire to commit felony larceny, breaking and entering of a motor vehicle. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Stephanie Lafone Blankenship, 40, of Pincushion Lane, Cullowhee, was charged with communicating threats. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

Morgan Bailey Clark, 25, of Cope Creek Rd., was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, felony possession of marijuana. An unsecured bond of \$500 was

Megan Dawn Wilnoty, 26, was charged with driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. No bond was

Lindsey Nicole Adams, 24, of Toohow Rd., Whittier, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. No bond was set.

June 17

Jet Twinn West, 19, of Oakland Rd., Cherokee, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

June 18

Phillip Trevin Young, 30, of His Way, Hendersonville, was issued a true bill of indictment for failure to appear on a felony. A secured bond of \$7,500 was set.

Charissa Ann Newman, 36, of Stanford Dr., Cherokee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Ryan Warren Muster, 26, of Dark Ridge Rd., was charged with obtaining property by false pretenses, misdemeanor possession of stolen goods, larceny. A secured bond of

Earland Rebel Mckay, 40, of Whittier, was charged with failure to register address. A secured bond of \$13,000 was

Courtney Diane Owen, 29, of Dakota Dr., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Dakota Allen Cagle, 27, of Dakota Dr., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Travis Wayne Fisher, 34, of Norman Dr., was charged with communicating threats. No bond was set.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Macon 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.

Franklin Covenant Church Curbside Complimentary Hot Lunch and Dry Goods Food Pantry will be held on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The church is located at 265 Belleview Park Dr.

NC Pre-K program through Macon County Schools is now taking applications for the 2020-2021 school year. A child is eligible for NC PreK if they turned four on or before August 31 of the program year (2020), but is not yet five years of age and the family meets income guidelines. Anyone who is interested in applying for a NC Pre-K spot or has questions on eligibility requirements, contact Valerie Norton ASAP at (828)524-3314 ext. 1041.

Uptown Gallery on Main Street new hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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

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

"Mountain Artisans Summertime Arts and Crafts Show" has been cancelled for the 2020 season because of the COVID-19 crisis. The show is held in the Western Carolina University Ramsey Center the last week in June. Promoter Doris Hunter has produced this event for 30 years, featuring original art and heritage crafts from local and regional craftsmen. "Hard Candy Christmas" Arts and Crafts Show will hopefully be held on the traditional Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, this year on Nov. 27 and 28, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., each day. For more information, www.mountainArtisans.net or call Doris Hunter (828)524-3405.

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 St. is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. where folks can drive up and get a box of food. No paperwork; no questions asked. Backpacks are delivered to the schools on Fridays and the bus drivers take the regular lunch and also the backpacks to the families on their Friday deliveries. Five Fire Departments in Macon County – Nantahala, Cullasaja, Sky Valley, Clarks Chapel, and Burningtown – are open Monday thru Fridays for drive up deliveries from 1 to 4 p.m. for anyone who needs food. The fire departments and CareNet have plenty of food and MANNA is making deliveries from Asheville twice a month. No one should be going hungry; the food is plentiful.

Email calendar items to maconcountynews@gmail.com





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CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Editor's Note: Due to a judge's ruling that declared the closing of churches unconstitutional, some churches are now opening with safety protocols in place and altered schedules. Email macon countynews@gmail.com with schedule or venue changes.

First Alliance Church Sunday Services June 28 at 10:30 a.m., in person and on Facebook Live. Associate Pastor Evan Jensen will continue the sermon series from the book of Revelation. Soloist Becky Haas Tyrone will sing acapella: "Wait on the Lord." The church is located at 31 Promise Lane.

New Song Church Cherokee 5th Annual Speak to the Mountain Divine Healing Conference is hosting a Hundred Days of Healing, through September 6. Services held daily at 10 a.m. for prayer, 2 p.m. for teaching, and 7 p.m. nightly healing demonstrations. The church is located at 3548 Wolfetown Rd., Cherokee. Visit Newsongcherokee.com

Franklin First United Methodist Church Sunday Online Worship is held at 9 a.m., on Facebook Live at Franklin First United Methodist Church while we are social distancing due to COVID19. 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 www.firstumcfranklin.org

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

Tellico Baptist Church Sunday Services are currently being held in the parking lot at 11 a.m. Anyone wishing to attend are asked to stay inside their car or near their car and maintain a 6 foot distance from others. For more information, call TJ Guffey at (828)347-1014.

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

Prentiss Church of God is holding two Sunday services in its sanctuary, at 9 a.m., and at 10:30 a.m. Social distancing is observed and safety measures are in place. Pastor Kevin Chapman invites the community to attend. Services are also streamed online on the Prentiss Church of God Facebook page. The church is located at 59 Church Hill Lane, off Addington Bridge Road. Phone: (828)369-3885.

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Ray's Chapel to be site of future WHT plaque honoring Nan Ray

Deena C. Bouknight - Contributing Writer

Although plans have been sidelined because of COVID-19, more historically significant women will eventually be added to the Women's History Trail (WHT) to convey important contributions to Franklin and Macon County. One of those women is Nan Ray.

"There will be a plaque honoring Nan Ray at Ray's Chapel," said Mary Polanski, who is on the Women's History Trail leadership team. Nan, a former slave, moved to Franklin after the Civil War to attend a school for black children. She married her husband, Matt, in 1879 and together they were influential in the AME Zion church, currently an abandoned structure on Green Street in Franklin.

AME Zion was just one of several black churches that cropped up in Macon County and became the center of social life, around which many activities revolved in the later 1800s to early 1900s, according to "The Heritage of Macon County North Carolina." The church was known as Ray's Chapel AME Zion because Matt, a former slave, was able to give land on which the church building would be built. The Rays' children were well known in the community.

The most nationally recognized descendant of Nan and Matt Ray is their grandson, Eddie, now in his 90s and living in Gastonia, who made his mark in the recording industry. In spring, before the pandemic led to weeks of mandated shelter-in-place, Eddie planned to attend an event honoring his grandmother and her plaque on the Women's History Trail. Eddie's illustrious career as vice president of Capitol-Tower Records in Hollywood, Calif., reportedly the first African-American to hold such a position, is detailed in a book, "Against All Odds: The Remarkable Life Story of Eddie Ray, A Pioneer Music Man." Because of his roots in Macon County, Eddie's book is avail-



Ray's Chapel, located on Green Street in Franklin, was built in 1949 and replaced the original 1865 Harrison Avenue church. The church was named for Matt Ray, a former slave, who gave the land on which the church was built.

able at the Macon County Historical Museum. Eddie worked in the recording industry with such greats Fats Domino, Ricky Nelson, Slim Whitman, and many more, especially during his time with Imperial Records.

In the autobiography, Eddie shares the poignant moment when he left Franklin: "The day finally came when I was to leave home for the first time. I was 16 years old, on my way to Connecticut for the summer. I felt a mixture of both excitement and fear. My father took me to the bus station at the town drug store in Franklin to catch the 6 p.m. bus to Asheville, where I'd then take the nighttime train headed north."

"The Ray family was planning to be in town for a reunion over Memorial Day, but thanks to COVID, that got squashed," said Town of Franklin Vice Mayor Barbara McRae, adding that she hopes the Nan Ray plaque – and others – might be unveiled sometime in the near future. She also expressed hope for "traction" regarding the effort to restore the Green Street Ray's Chapel structure, which in 1949 replaced the original 1865 Harrison Avenue church.

Macon County News reported on March 8, 2018: "Restoration [of Ray's Chapel] would honor the black residents whose lives were once entwined with the church and show that the town values the contributions and unique-

ness of all its citizens," said McRae.

Another eventual stop on the Women's History Trail will be to see Ethel Kennedy Mills' plaque at All Saints Episcopal Church - St. Cyprian Chapel in Franklin and to learn about her importance in the African American community.

"She was an admired educator," said Polanski. According to "School Segregation in Western North Carolina: A History, 1860s-1970s," Mills began her career as teacher at age 15 and she taught during her 50-year career at Arden Colored School, Brevard Rosenwald School, and others. Her father was Rev. James Thomas Kennedy, who helped build St. Cyprian, which was a focal point of education for African Americans in Macon County for many years.

In the book, "School Segregation in Western North Carolina: A History, 1860s-1970," by Betty Jamerson Reed, Ethel Kennedy Mills is featured.

"In Franklin, North Carolina, there existed a strong black presence even though the population was not large in Macon County. Early schools existed in various communities. Following the 'separate but equal' ruling, schools were established for black children." According to the book, Mills gleaned from her father the importance of a well-rounded education, teaching life skills, such as cooking and sewing, as well as academic subjects. Even after retirement, Mills worked in various education capacities, such as Head Start and with libraries.

Although there is no set date to unveil the Nan Ray and Ethel Kennedy Mills plaques for the ongoing Women's History Trail effort in Franklin, there is information about the two women at the Historical Museum of Macon County. In fact, Women's History Trail currently features an informational and photo display in the museum's front window.



Geology focus of virtual Village Nature Series

The Highlands-Cashiers Plateau is an area like no other, with an array of unique mountain formations and an extremely biodiverse community of flora and fauna. The landscape offers a variety of habitats from mountain top grassy balds to rich cove forests, southern Appalachian Bogs, and floodplain forests. The varying topography and gradient of plant communities is all related to what lies beneath – the soil and rock. The geology of an area, in combination with the climate, has much to do with the foundation of each natural habitat.

One example is a granite dome mountain. There are several on the plateau including Satulah, Whiteside, and Rock Mountains. These mountains are formed by underground magma that heated and bubbled towards the surface. This is similar to how crack the earth's surface, just created a bulge, will be covered in the Village Nature Series. which formed the mountain. When the magma

cooled, the rock that formed became extremely hard. Over time, the softer sedimentary layer that was on top, eroded away leaving the hard, volcanic granite rock exposed. The habitat on top of these mountains is, dry and windy with very shallow soils making it hard for trees and other plants to grow tall. The plants that grow on these mountain tops are usually dwarfed



volcanos are formed; however, the magma didn't Panthertown Valley is the unique home of some of the special places that

and shrubby but adapted to the soils derived from the underlying rocks.

Learn more about the geological history and formations of the plateau with a virtual Village Nature Series presentation on June 30 at 5 p.m. by Bill Jacobs, geology buff and author of the book "Whence These Special Places? The Geology of Cashiers, High-

lands and Panthertown Valley.

On July 28, the program will be, "Survival by Degrees - the Impact of Climate Change on Birds."

To register for these free programs, email to director@cashiersgreen.com to receive a Zoom link.

The Village Nature Series is a free speaker series about wildlife, habitats, conservation, and local cultural heritage, co-hosted by Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust and The Village Green.

The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust conserves more than 3,400 acres of mountain tops, steams, forests, and other important lands on the Highlands - Cashiers Plateau; to learn more visit www.hicashlt.org. The Village Green maintains a 13.2-acre sanctuary in the heart of Cashiers. To learn more visit www.villagegreencashiersnc.com. The illage Nature Series is sponsored by Cedar Creek Club.





HAIR STYLIST &





It took two radically different rock formations, with an age difference of 100 million years, to produce Whiteside Mountain and its towering southern face. Learn more with the Village Nature Series on June 30.

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W5A



Noonday Rotary donates books to schools, library

The Rotary Club of Franklin (noonday Rotary) has donated an average of 10 to each of the elementary schools in the Franklin and Nantahala area as their literacy project for 2020. The books were donated to the school libraries within a week of the schools having to close for the COVID-19 crisis.

One of the books, "A Pound of Kindness," was in honor of author Dave Clark, a pro baseball player despite his physical disability resulting from polio, who was the speaker at a recent District gathering for Rotary clubs in Western North Carolina. Earlier in 2019, a copy this book was donated to each elementary school in the Franklin and Nantahala area by Rotarians.

The story is based on a truelife account of Dave Clark, a first grader suffering from polio, who was shown compassion by class-

mate Ernie Pound. Dave's life is changed when Ernie performs an act of unforgettable kindness. Unknown to each other, both boys grow up to compete in professional sports. The book is co-authored with Doug Cornfield.

The book is available for check-out in the children's section

The Macon County Public Library is located at 149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin. Patrons can make an appointment to visit the library by calling (828)524-3600. Appointments are limited to 45 minutes each and can be made by phone up to one week in advance. Appointments start at 10 a.m. Mon-

Curbside service is available Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

All people entering library buildings will be required to wear a mask or other face covering.



Lee Berger, Community Service Chair (L) and The Rotary Club of Franklin President Patrick Betancourt, (R) reads a few pages of the book, "A Pound of Kindness," with Karen Wallace, director of the Fontana Regional Library System.





David Jordan Johnston

David Jordan Johnston, 75, has breathed his last breath. Born on April 18, 1944, in Erie, Pa., he died on Nov. 29, 2019, in Asheville, N.C. He left his physical body as it succumbed to gastrointestinal issues. Known for his compassion, creativity, optimism, and curiosity. He was a dreamer and a creator.

He graduated from the University of Florida, completing a Master's degree in Business and was an entrepreneur by heart. He helped create many businesses in **David Jordan Johnston** Macon and Jackson county, in-



cluding a cable company that brought Cable TV to Highlands, a Glenville lake marina, a real estate organization, and bakery. His love was land, and he was always looking for a deal, loving to buy and less accustomed to selling.

He was known by many, and his eccentricity was both endearing and humorous. He was happy to bring laughter, even at his own expense. He taught without praise. He inspired to explore. He faced and persevered through many trials, always with a glimmer of hope. He treated all with equal respect and supported many who had nowhere else to go. He cared for those that took advantage of him. He was loved and an individualist at heart, much more likely to help others than ask for help. We love you forever, Dad, you co-created a life for us, and we are grateful for the full expression of you.

His four sons survive him - Jordan of Flagler Beach, Fla., Matthew of Grass Valley, Calif., Derrick of Sausalito, Calif., and Alex of Highlands, N.C., Toni who was his longtime partner and mother to his children, and six grandchildren, younger brother, sister, nieces, and nephews.

A gathering of gratitude will be taking place at Kelsey-Hutchinson Founders Park in Highlands on July 12, at 4 p.m. Food and drink will be provided. All are welcome.





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Deaths &

Anna Jean Beeco

Anna Jean Beeco, 84, of Covington, Ga., passed away June 15, 2020, surrounded by her loving family. A 1954 graduate of Snellville High, she graduated with the esteemed honors of Salutatorian. That hard work and commitment led her to a successful career with Atlanta Journal-Constitution where she retired after several years of unwavering dedication. She was a devoted member of Gaithers United Methodist Church where she adored her church family as her own. Her love for her own family was un-



Anna Jean Beeco

doubtable, and her generosity and kindness to strangers was not only evident, but inspirational. She enjoyed singing, dancing and cheering for her favorite team – the Atlanta Braves. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne E. Beeco; daughter, Elicia Williamson; parents, Harry and Margaret (Baker) Kilgore; sisters, Peggy Cleapor, Dottie Bradford, Frances Trager, Harriett Thompson; brothers, Rodger Kilgore, Sidney Kilgore and Charles Kilgore.

Those left to cherish her loving memory are her daughters and sons-in-law, Debi Jackson, Carolyn Davenport, both of Covington, Jeannie and Jeff Jeter of Partlow, Va., Bobi and Tommy Mize of Loganville, Ga., Phyllis and Thomas Holbrooks of Oxford, Ga.; son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Jane Beeco of Monroe, Ga.; 20 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; 10 great-great-grandchildren; sister and brother-in-law, Davida and Wren Williams; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Friday, June 19, at Central Church, 11157 City Pond Road, in Covington, with Butch Betts officiating. A graveside service was held Saturday, June 20, at Watauga Baptist Cemetery, 658 Watauga Church Road, in Franklin.

Donations may be made in her memory to Alzheimer's Association - Georgia Chapter, 41 Perimeter Center East, Suite 550, Atlanta, GA 30346.

Patricia 'Patty' Marsh

Patricia "Patty" Marsh, 87, passed away Monday, June 22, 2020 in Highlands, N.C. She was born Aug. 24, 1932, in New Kensington, Pa., and moved to St. Petersburg, Fla., when she was nine years old. She graduated from St. Petersburg High School and shortly after married her "Sweetie," Alan Marsh. They were married for 68 years before his passing on Feb. 21, 2020.

fore his passing on Feb. 21, 2020.
Patty and Alan purchased their first home in Highlands in the early 1970s. She enjoyed playing bridge, tennis, and gardening. She attended Highlands United Methodist



Patricia Marsh

Church where she enjoyed the Wednesday night dinners and being part of the Joy Club.

She is survived by her children, Alan Marsh Jr. and his wife Varsy, Sue Crawford and her husband Rick, and Mitchell Marsh and his wife Leslie; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A private graveside service will be held on Saturday, June 27. Online condolences can be sent to www.bryantgrantfuneral-home.com.

Nanette 'Nan' Joan Cole

Nanette (Nan) Joan Cole was born Aug. 20, 1928, to Albert and Florence Thomas in New York City.

One of her fondest memories as a child was traveling with her brother Albert during the Depression, as they traveled from different campgrounds across the United States in their homemade camper. After high school she attended William and Mary College in Virginia, and later transferred to Northwestern University for the dental hygiene program. Soon after she married and started her



Nanette Joan Cole

family having a son and a daughter. Life events brought her to Atlanta in the 1950s. She was instrumental in recruiting new dentists into Atlanta during the postwar boom. Years later she married Dan Cole and gave birth to her youngest daughter. Dan and Nan shared a love of boating, fishing, riding, and motorhome adventures across the country. During her retirement years she went back to her first love of interior design and specialized in creating window treatments. Her husband of 46 years went to be with the Lord in 2007. She then moved to Mount Vernon Towers in Sandy Springs, Ga. She later moved to Franklin, N.C., to be with her daughter.

She was a wonderful mother, an amazing seamstress and will always be remembered for her culinary skills, which included her famous sour cream pound cake.

Survivors include two daughters, Cathy Rodriguez (Paul) of Franklin, nd Cindi Cole of Los Angeles, Calif.; a son, Jim Cole (Pam) of Santa Rosa Beach, Fla.; four grandchildren, Daniel Cole, Jennifer Rodriguez, Jason Cole, and Jessica Rodriguez; seven great-grandchildren, Hanna Rogers, Miller Cole, Marin Cole, Anna Cole, Pace Cole, Collier Cole, and Daisy Rodriguez; and a brother, Albert Thomas of Coco Beach, Fla.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held Thursday, June 25, at 2 p.m., at Arlington Memorial Park in Sandy Springs, Ga.

Online condolences can be sent to www.bryantgrantfuneral-home.com.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the Cole family.

Christopher 'Chris' Harvey Godwin

Christopher "Chris" Harvey Godwin, 60, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

Born in Georgia, he was the son of Nell Crouch of Travelers Rest, S.C., and the late Cecil Christopher Godwin. He enjoyed being outdoors with his dog, Alice, and could often be found fishing, gardening, and tending to his chickens. He proudly served his country as Specialist with the U.S. Army and worked for many years after as an underground utilities technician.



Christopher Godwin

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his long-time companion, Sabrina "Sally" Gregory of Franklin; his children, Jessica Burleson (Branton) of Asheville and Blaine Godwin (Rhy) of Colorado Springs, Colo.; step-children, Eva Romero (Tim) of Franklin, Jessica Koch (Darrell) of Franklin and Logan Romero (Angela) of Japan; sisters and brother, Cheryl Coren of Flat Rock, N.C., Jody Godwin of Burlington, N.C., and Sherry Williams of Hendersonville, N.C.; nine grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

James Fred Borland 'Bo' Thompson

THE MACON COUNTY NEWS & SHOPPING GUIDE

James Fred Borland "Bo" Thompson, 76 of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Monday, June 22, 2020.

Born in Sandersville, Ga., he was the son of the late Carl Alexander Thompson and Mary Will Johnson Thompson. He was a true southern gentleman and his faith and wife Eula were always his top priority. He was loved by all who truly knew him. He loved honest, hard work. He had a love for antiques and enjoyed working at Whistle Stop Antiques for many years during his retirement. He



James Thompson

was a devoted member of Holly Springs Baptist Church. He was also a member of the Blue Ridge Masonic Lodge and the San Marano Masonic Lodge in Greensboro, Ga.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Eula Beam Thompson of Franklin; godson, Chris VanderWoude of Franklin, god-son, Scott VanderWoude Of Franklin and cousin, James Willard Thompson MD of Highlands.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, June 27, at 2 p.m., at Holly Springs Baptist Church. Rev. Donnie Seagle will officiate and Rev. Gene Hawkins, Bruce Merriman and Jim VanderWoude will share some additional words. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Holly Springs Baptist Church, 366 Holly Springs Church Road, Franklin, NC 28734.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



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Ryan Blaney wins by inches on emotional day at Talladega

Reid Spencer - NASCAR Wire Service

An event that began with a massive show of support for Bubba Wallace ended with one of Wallace's best friends, Ryan Blaney, celebrating in Victory Lane for the second straight race at Talladega Superspeedway.

In a frenetic overtime dash, Blaney won Monday's GEICO 500 by .007 seconds over Ricky Stenhouse Jr. as crashing cars bounced of each other and the outside wall behind the top two finishers. The victory was Blaney's first of the season, second straight at the 2.66-mile track and the fourth of his career.

It was a day that started ominously—and not because of the rain clouds that threatened to delay the race for a second straight day and in fact caused a stoppage of 57 minutes, 18 seconds after 57 laps were complete on Monday.

News that a noose had been discovered Sunday evening in the garage stall of Wallace, the NASCAR Cup Series' only African-American driver, dominated national headlines and brought strong statements of condemnation from both NASCAR and team owner Richard Petty.

NASCAR made the following statement on Tuesday morning: "The FBI has completed its investigation at Talladega Superspeedway and determined that Bubba Wallace was not the target of a hate crime. The FBI report concludes, and photographic evidence confirms, that the garage door pull rope fashioned like a noose had been positioned there since as early as last fall. This was obviously well before the 43 team's arrival and garage assignment. We appreciate the FBI's quick and thorough investigation and are thankful to learn that this was not an intentional, racist act against



Ryan Blaney, driver of the #12 Menards/Sylvania Ford, celebrates in Victory Lane after the NASCAR Cup Series GEICO 500 at Talladega Superspeedway on June 22, 2020 in Talladega, Ala.

Bubba. We remain steadfast in our commitment to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all who love rac-

NASCAR News

ng."

Drivers and their crews assembled before the race to escort Wallace and his car to the head of the grid.

Nearly five hours later, Wallace was congratulating Blaney in Victory Lane after a scintillating conclusion that saw Blaney knocking the Toyota of Eric Jones into the outside wall as the cars approached the finish line—and still managing to beat Stenhouse to the stripe by roughly 12 inches.

"I just kind of blocked, just trying to block the best we could," Blaney said.

"We just edged it out, but I'm really proud of this whole Menards/Sylvania Ford Mustang team. It's been a cool year so far, and I'm really excited to get our first win of the year at a cool place. ... That was a lot of fun."

Ford drivers have won nine of the last 10 Talladega Cup races.

Aric Almirola slid sideways across the finish line to claim third place, with

Denny Hamlin and Jones following in fourth and fifth, respectively. Chris Buescher, Alex Bowman, John Hunter Nemechek, Kurt Busch and Kevin Harvick completed the top 10.

Justin Haley, Ross Chastain win Talladega daily double for Kaulig Racing

On a banner day for Kaulig Racing at Talladega Superspeedway, Justin Haley got his first NASCAR Xfinity Series victory and Ross Chastain got the cash.

Haley, who doesn't have a ride locked down for next year, beat teammate Chastain to the finish line by .299-seconds at the end of a three-lap dash in Saturday's Unhinged 300 at the 2.66-mile track.

Chastain collected the \$100,000 Xfinity Dash 4 Cash bonus as the highest finisher among four eligible drivers—a week after teammate AJ Allmendinger claimed an identical cash prize with a fourth-place run at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

With Allmendinger winning in a part-time role June 7 at Atlanta, Kaulig now has won two of the last four Xfinity Series races in addition to the consecutive cash bonuses.

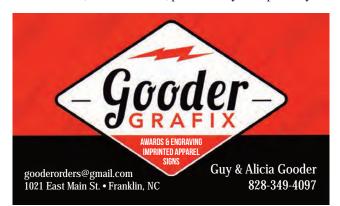
An emotional Haley climbed from the right-side window of his car after the race, with more than one reason to be choked up by the maiden win. Haley's crew chief during his rookie season, Nick Harrison, passed away unexpectedly on



Justin Haley, driver of the #11 LeafFilter Gutter Protection Chevrolet, celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series Unhinged 300 at Talladega Superspeedway on June 20, 2020 in Talladega, Ala.







July 21 last year, and Haley celebrated his bond with his former crew chief.

VOLUME 38 NUMBER 6

"First of all, I want to dedicate this win to Nick Harrison and the Harrison family, who started this journey with me last year in my rookie year," Haley said. "Losing him was pretty big. Just an incredible day. Emotionally, I'm fighting for a ride, fighting for the next time I get in a race car next year, so anytime you can win, it definitely helps."

As for climbing through the "wrong" window, Haley said he was looking for a signature move after winning.

"I'm the littlest guy," said the 21-year-old. "I'm the only one that can do it, and I still struggled."

Fortuitously, all three Kaulig drivers were on pit road on Lap 76, when Riley Herbst's spin off the bumper of fifthplace finisher Brett Moffitt's Chevrolet caused the fourth caution of the afternoon. The three teammates restarted up front on Lap 81 of 113 and were contenders thereafter.

Jeb Burton had the lead for the restart with three laps left, but with help from Chastain, Haley pulled away on the final lap. Burton came home third and Austin Cindric

Allgaier triggered the last caution when JR Motorsports teammate Noah Gragson checked up behind Chastain's block on Lap 106.

"It was just disappointing," Allgaier said. "I hate it for everybody at JR Motorsports. Right there, Noah had a really good run to the outside of the 10 (Chastain), and he pulled up to block, and as soon as he did, it started to get (Gragson's) car loose.

'He checked up, and I ran into the back of him. I thought we were going to be OK, and then (JRM teammate) Michael (Annett) got into the back of me."

Harrison Burton's record streak of 10 straight top-10 finishes as a Sunoco rookie came to a violent end in Turn 3 on Lap 97.

The No. 52 Chevrolet of Kody Vanderwal checked up after contact with the car of Jefferey Earnhardt in front of him, turned sideways near the top of the track and chased the No. 20 Toyota of Burton down the track. Contact from Vanderwal's car turned Burton sideways and propelled him nose first into the outside wall.

The cars of Joe Graf Jr., Josh Williams and Colin Grant also were collected.

"It looks like we were all running the top and we were single file, and they checked up really hard," said Burton, who had finished in the top 10 with two wins in the first 10 races of the season. "I don't know if I didn't get checked up in time. It looks like one of them got sideways and then it was just all over.

"It's so hard to tell what's going on. There's so much going on, even when you're running single file. Just a tough day for us. We had a fast race car and trying to make moves work on the bottom. Just kind of got shuffled to the

Pro Racing This Week Racing News, Stats & Trivia

This Week's Cup Series Race: Pocono 350

Race Details

Location: Long Pond, Penn. Date: Sunday, June 28, 4:00 p.m. Last Year's Pole: Kevin Harvick - 174.058 mph Last Year's Winner: Denny Hamlin

Pocono Raceway



Race Preview

Pocono Raceway will make history this weekend by holding NASCAR Cup Series races on consecutive days. TV will be the only way to witness history Saturday and Sunday though. The COVID-19 pandemic means once again the drivers will be racing past an empty infield and grandstands. Pocono Raceway opened in 1971 and the Mattioli family brought in Indy cars and USAC stock cars while dreaming of hosting NASCAR's premiere series. In 1974, the first NASCAR 500 mile race took place. The Pocono Raceway is recognized as one of NASCAR's most competitive raceways. Pocono's unusual triangular configuration is conducive to many lead changes.

Last Weekend's Race: Talladega Race Postponed

As of presstime, thunderstorms had washed out the NASCAR Cup Series race at Talladega Superspeedway. The race has been pushed back to 3 p.m. on Monday. It is the first amid the coronavirus pandemic in which NASCAR opened the gates for up to 5,000 fans. Those in the grandstands were urged to seek shelter roughly 30 minutes before the scheduled start, leading to a two-plus hour wait. Denny Hamlin was set to run with an all-black paint scheme honoring the National Civil Rights Museum, with the museum's logo on the hood.



2020 Standings

Cup Serie	s Top Ten		Xfinity Series Top Ten			
Drivers	Points	Top 10s	Drivers	Points	Top 10s	
1) Kevin Harvick	463	9	1) Noah Gragson	469	9	
2) Chase Elliott	455	8	2) Chase Briscoe	454	8	
3) Joey Logano	434	6	3) Austin Cindric	426	8	
4) Brad Keselowski	412	9	4) Ross Chastain	422	9	
5) Ryan Blaney	411	6	5) Harrison Burton	399	10	
6) Martin Truex, Jr.	410	6	6) Justin Haley	385	7	
7) Denny Hamlin	395	7	7) Brandon Jones	375	7	
8) Alex Bowman	380	3	8) Justin Allgaier	337	4	
9) Kyle Busch	359	7	9) Michael Annett	296	3	
10) Kurt Busch	338	8	10) Ryan Sieg	273	4	

Top News Stories

investigating NASCAR noose left in Bubba Wallace's garage at Talladega Superspeedway

NASCAR said a noose was found hanging in driver Bubba Wallace's garage at Talladega Superspeedway in Lincoln, Alabama Sunday, NASCAR called it a "heinous act" and launched an investigation. Wallace also shared a statement, calling it a "despicable act of racism and hatred." Earlier in the day, a giant Confederate flag was flown over the speedway before the GEICO 500 in defiance of NASCAR's ban of the flag at all events. NASCAR banned all displays of the Confederate battle flag at NASCAR events on June 10th after Wallace and other drivers spoke out in support of protests against systemic racism and police brutality. NASCAR said the flag "runs contrary to our commitment to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment" for fans and drivers. Wallace has been wearing Black Lives Matter shirts to races since the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis police custody. Before NASCAR banned the Confederate flag, he told CNN that "no one should feel uncomfortable" at a NASCAR race. NASCAR previously asked fans to stop displaying the flag in 2015, and even though Dale Earnhardt Jr. supported the move, fans continued bringing the flag to events. Even though the ban was in place at Talladega, the Confederate flag was still seen. Someone flew a giant flag over the speedway, along with a banner reading "Defund NASCAR."

Racing Trivia

Which driver has won 3 of the last 5 races at Pocono Raceway?

a) Denny Hamlin c) Kyle Busch b) Martin Truex Jr. d) Ryan Blaney

VUSMET: c) VVIe pracu

back and from then on, that's just kind of how it went down."

Gragson salvaged a 10th-place result and maintained a 15-point lead over second-place Chase Briscoe in the series standings.







CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: COCKTAILS AND MOCKTAILS

THE MACON COUNTY NEWS & SHOPPING GUIDE

ACROSS

- 1. Angelou and Rudolph
- 6. Mason's load
- 9. Bobby Pickett's "Monster
- 13. Infection from contaminated water or food
- 14. Formerly Cassius Clay
- 15. Slow, musically speaking
- 16. ____ Ste. Marie, Ontario
- 17. Bonding words
- 18. Like draft beer
- 19. *Cognac, orange liqueur, lemon juice
- 21. *Tropical cocktail favorite
- 23. Motion of approval
- 24. *Home of pisco sour
- 25. Smoker's residue
- 28. Big butte
- 30. *It has both white and 65 dark rum
- 35. Popular BBQ side
- 37. Pea houses
- 39. *Hold your drink aloft in honor
- 40. "Downton Abbey" countess
- 41. Subject of 17th century Dutch mania
- 43. Cote d'Azur locale
- 44. Teatro alla Scala offering
- 46. Sushi selection
- 47. Kind of jeans fit
- 48. *She famously disliked the eponymous drink
- 50. Chesterfield or ulster
- 52. Bro's sib
- 53. Long and lean
- 55. Petting spot
- 57. *Negroni and boulevardier ingredient
- 61. Time for the big bowl games
- 65. Unethical loaner's practice
- 66. Designed to guarantee equal rights
- 68. Cooler manufacturer
- 69. #38 Down, pl.
- 70. Atlantic catch
- 71. Musical ensemble
- 72. Rodeo Drive tree
- 73. It's of the beholder
- 74. Rosetta Stone, e.g.

DOWN

- 1. Difficult situation
- 2. Antioxidant-rich berry
- 3. Common contraction

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4. Kind of wrench

7. *____ fashioned

9. Take-out handout

northeast Arizona

15. *Nespolino fruit

20. Highly skilled

24. Portable lock

27. Sheik's bevy

31. Charged particles

29. *Whiskey_

32. Flip side, pl.

22. Elbow rest

25. Fancy tie

26. Ski run

12. Indigenous people of

8. D in LED

10. Nay sayer

11. Sun, e.g.

5. TV's popular portmanteau

6. Let it down to relax?

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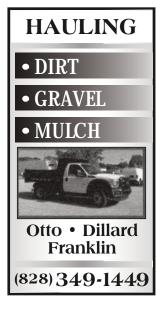
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33. Binary digits code

- 34. Things on a list 36. "Star Trek" speed
- 38. Fodder holder
- 42. Eloise's residence
- 45. Quiets
- 49. Otitis organ
- 51.*Popular mixer, pl.
- 54. Brother's daughter
- 56. Should
- 57. Turning point
- 58. World's largest continent
- 59. *To warm wine or cider and add spices
- 60. Junior ball
- 61. Green gemstone
- 62. Burn-soothing plant
- 63. Agitate
- 64. Yesteryear
- 67.*First name in cola & grenadine

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\$4,500 CASH ALLOWANCE

+\$1,273 FIRST RESPONDER DISCOUNT1

\$5,773

BELOW MSRP²

FOR ELIGIBLE FIRST RESPONDERS

\$3,500 CASH ALLOWANCE

+\$ 697 FIRST RESPONDER DISCOUNT¹

\$4,197

BELOW MSRP²

YOUR HOMETOWN DEALER

FIND NEW ROADS

1 Must be a current Firefighter, Police, EMT/Paramedic, or 911 Dispatcher or Healthcare Professional (as defined by U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). First Responders employed by federal, state or municipal governments may be subject to restrictions that limit their ability to accept this offer. Accordingly, this offer is void unless permitted by applicable federal, state and municipal laws, regulations, rules, ordinances, policies, codes of conduct, and other directives or standards regarding ethics and gift acceptance by the applicable federal, state or municipal employees. By accepting this offer, you verify that doing so complies with all laws, regulations, policies or other restrictions regarding ethics or gift acceptance that available on select base trins or with some other offers. At participating dealers. Take new retail delivery by 8/30/20. 2 2020 Silverado Crew Cab LT All Star Z71 based on \$52,160 MSRP. 2020 Traverse High Country based on \$52,295 MSRP. 2020 Blazer RS based on \$49,465 MSRP. 2020 Equinox Premier based on \$35,335 MSRP. 2020 Traverse High Country based on \$52,205 MSRP. 2020 General Motors. All rights reserved.

PRE-OWNED VEHICLES —

-		JD VIIIIOI	
YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
1998 2003	Buick Cadillac	LeSabre DeVille	153,986 235,058
2019	Chevrolet	Blazer	17,294
2017	Chevrolet	Camaro	134,652
2019 1972	Chevrolet	CORVETTE	15,542 91,171
1969	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	69,247
2019	Chevrolet	Cruze	34,698
2020 2015	Chevrolet	Equinox Equinox	15,630 60,021
2019	Chevrolet	Equinox	12,239
2016	Chevrolet	Malibu	66,724
2014	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 Silverado 1500	139,498 15,105
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	11,654
2016	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	41,798
2014	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 Silverado 1500	114,928 25,450
2011	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	255,565
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 LD	34,349
2018	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD Silverado 2500HD	50,327 137,183
2005	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	86,504
2001	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	169,693
2017	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Tahoe Traverse	75,142 44,814
2017	Chevrolet	Traverse	95,570
2016	Chevrolet	Traverse	80,732
2015	Chevrolet Chevrolet	Trax	32,279 7,439
2019	Chrysler	Trax Pacifica	181,297
2014	Chrysler	Town & Country	150,724
2013	Dodge	Durango	141,512
2019	Dodge Dodge	Durango Grand Caravan	214,249 45,143
2015	Dodge	Grand Caravan	64,249
2017	Dodge	Journey	76,764
2007	Dodge Dodge	Nitro Ram 1500	106,328 215,775
2018	Ford	EcoSport	5,000
2018	Ford	Edge	52,660
2013	Ford Ford	Escape Escape	73,138 34,909
2015	Ford	F-150	74,115
2013	Ford	F-150	101,572
2017 1930	FORD	Fusion MODELA	43,886 78.269
2006	Ford	Taurus	176,151
2013	GMC	Sierra 1500	99,394
2016 2016	GMC GMC	Sierra 1500 Terrain	38,808 64,919
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	41,477
2002	HARLEY DAVIDSON	FATBOY	2,318
1997 2017	HARLEY DAVIDSON Honda	ULTRA CLASSIC Accord	26,160 21,739
2019	Honda	HR-V	13,836
2019	Honda	Odyssey	25,630
2017 2017	Honda Hyundai	Pilot Tucson	39,009 63,714
2017	INFINITI	QX30	37,697
2019	Jaguar	XE	16,641
2019 2013	Jeep Jeep	Compass Compass	46,307 125,791
2016	Jeep	Patriot	57,115
2018	Jeep	Renegade	21,426
2016 2016	Kia Kia	Forte Sorento	30,564 79,870
2019	Kia	Soul	34,258
2015	Nissan	Altima	105,350
2019 2019	Nissan Nissan	Frontier Frontier	25,659 24,310
2019	Nissan	Frontier	19,914
2019	Nissan	Rogue	34,462
2019 2019	Nissan Nissan	Rogue Sentra	36,401 36,199
2019	Nissan	Versa	36,544
2017	RAM	2500	55,649
2018 2019	RAM RAM	3500 3500	19,819 3,284
2019	Subaru	Forester	95,536
2018	Subaru	Legacy	39,087
2016 2017	Toyota Toyota	Camry Prius Prime	68,815 32,541
2017	Toyota	RAV4	41,686
2019	Toyota	RAV4	32,712
2014	Toyota	Tacoma	123,087