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FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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The proposed complex will have six structures, with 18 units which includes a grocery store, retail shops, a car wash and a six-pump gas station.

Planning Board approves permit for Ingles complex at Holly Springs

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Ingles Markets purchased the old Walmart property in the Holly Springs Plaza in 2015 and it has sat undisturbed ever since. The town of Franklin approved a water and sewer allocation for the property in March, but at that time, Ingles Markets Chief Finance Officer Ron Freeman said there weren't any specific plans to be announced. On May 27, Ingles Markets, Inc. submitted an application for Special Use Permit to the Town Planning Board. The board reviewed the application and on Monday, July 20, made its recommendation.

The Town of Franklin Planning Board unanimously approved a special use permit for Ingles Markets for the development of a new Ingles in the Holly Springs Plaza off 441. Town Planner Justin Setser said the board approved the permit 5-0, which will send the permit to the Franklin Town

Council in August.

The request from Ingles says the grocery store chain plans to redevelop 19.92 acres at the site of the former Wal-mart Shopping Center. The development plan is to build a grocery store, retail shops, car wash, and a six-pump gas station. The current Unified Development Ordinance calls for 1,026 parking spaces for the square footage but at Ingles' request and after a traffic impact study was completed, the planning board recommended that this requirement be relaxed to allow 584 parking spaces.

A neighborhood compatibility meeting was held on June 10 for property owners within 400 feet of the parcel, and had five people attend. No requests were made to Ingles at that time.

Based on the permit approved by the planning board, Ingles intends to demolish all the existing buildings within the Holly Springs Plaza property and redevelop the area. The current shopping center is 135,133 square feet and Ingles is pro-

posing building back 179,153 square feet. The property will have six structures with a total of 18 units proposed. Ingles is also proposing keeping the two access points to the property and adding a third access point off of Hyatt Road as well as a single lane in-bound access point of 441.

Ingles purchased the Holly Springs Plaza property in 2015 for \$3.7 million and beyond confirming the purchase nearly five years ago, the chain has been tight lipped on plans for the future. Ingles opened a Super Ingles on the Georgia Road in the Fall of 2017. In addition to the 72,128 square foot shopping center, the property included 14,800 additional space for retail shops. Since opening in 2017, those shops have remained vacant.

"With regard to tenants at the Georgia Road location, COVID-19 has had a detrimental impact on a lot of retail activity. Long-term, we are very optimistic about tenant space at both locations," said Freeman.

Board works out details for start of school

Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer

When Governor Roy Cooper announced last week that North Carolina Schools will re-open with both in-person and online education on Aug. 17, school systems across the state set about formulating a plan of implementation. During a meeting of the Macon County School Board meeting on Monday, Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin discussed the issues surrounding ways to execute such a plan.

Plan "B" to be Implemented in all North Carolina schools

Plan "B" requires moderate social distancing which means that students who are in the classroom must be seated six feet apart. That means there would only be room for half the students in class on any given day. One of the scenarios dis-

cussed at the board meeting was having an "A" - "B" schedule, which necessitates that half the students will be in school on Monday (A day) and half on Tuesday (B day). Wednesday would be another "A" day and Thursday a "B" day. Fridays would be used to disinfect and sanitize schools. This plan is preferred by district administrators, as opposed to alternate weeks, in order for the students to have interaction with their teacher twice a week, rather than go a week without direct instruction.

Although this plan was proposed, it is not yet set in stone. A second survey was sent out to parents and teachers on Wednesday to get a better idea on which option they will be choosing this Fall. The survey was sent out via email by individual schools, and is also available at each child's school.

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Community helps celebrate Nash's 29th birthday

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Broadband getting a boost in Macon

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Just a year after rural counties across North Carolina received nearly \$10 million in grant funding to boost broadband connectivity, residents in Macon County will soon be able to connect to faster internet speeds.

Morris Broadband was one of 14 companies in the state to receive funding as part of the North Carolina GREAT (Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology) grant program.

Morris Broadband began construction in the last quarter of 2019 with plans to provide internet access to 240 homes in Macon County. The project was estimated to cost \$667,000 – \$433,550 in state grant money and a \$233,450 investment from Morris.

Morris Broadband currently provides just under 3,500 residences in Macon County with internet services. The 240 homes are located in various outlying areas of the county. Expanded access will affect homes on Gibson Cove Road, Granny Kate Lane, Stoudemire Drive, Schurman Cove Road, Annes Lane, Gibson Cove Estates Road, Willow Wind Heights, Willowbrook Estates, Bryson City Road, Iotla Church Road, Quail Hollow Road, Riverbend Road, Liner Drive, Iotla Hill Drive, Olsen Drive, Bennett Road, Sanderstown Road, Rain Ridge Road, Red Fox Lane, Buster Cabe Road,

Tranquil Road, Holbrooks Road, Piney Grove Road, Lee Bates Road, Kangas Drive, Country Walk, Circle Trace, Dillon Drive, Main Trace, Center Trace, East Trace, Southern Trace, Dowdle Mountain Road, Wells Grove Road, Jennings Drive, Angel Cove Road, Chapel Cove Circle, Brookshire Lane, Oakridge Drive and Hunters Trail.

On Tuesday morning, Anthony Carter, general manager of Morris Broadband, said that work has been completed and those residents will soon be able to sign up for service. The Dowdle Trace/Country Walk area is complete and will be released for installation orders on July 28, followed by the Chapel Cove Area which is on track to be completed in three weeks, plus 30 days until the release for orders.

The Gibson Cove area has 90 days to be completed and then 30 days before installation orders are to be released. The Bryson City Road and Wells Grove Areas of the county are 6-10 months from being completed, with significant construction work needed to replace poles, which requires major fiber construction.

Construction is scheduled to begin for the Hunters Trace Area at the end of August, and should take three months to complete.

The NC House introduced legislation that would provide an additional \$30 million to the GREAT program as well as allow Tier 2 counties like Macon to be eligible.

Drakes donate 16 acres near MVI

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Macon County Schools recognized Phil and Sharon Drake on Monday night for their ongoing support of the school system.

“Tonight I want to announce that Phil and Sharon Drake have donated 16 acres of land adjacent to Mountain View Intermediate School,” said Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin. “We are extremely grateful for this donation and what it means for our students.”

The property adjacent to MVI will be developed as needed by the school system, providing needed space for expansion in the coming years.

Phil Drake said that the donation was just one way to support public education in Macon County.

“Sharon and I have always thought that the school system needed this tract of land,” said Drake. “With the budget crunch that the school system always experiences, we didn’t think they would have the funds to purchase it from us, so we decided to give it to them.”

Mountain View Intermediate sits in Clarks Chapel and serves students in 5th and 6th grade. The acreage will help the school system expand if needed, but also provide options as nearby Macon Middle School campus is being evaluated for renovations

and remodeling.

Macon County Board of Education Chairman Jim Breedlove shared his appreciation for not only the donation, but the ongoing support of the school system from the Drake Family.

“It would be difficult to mention all of the ways the Drake family have supported the school system over the years, but their support has been substantial,” said Breedlove. “Phil has been instrumental in our STEM program and getting that established and being able to continue it for our students, so this is just another way he has helped the students of Macon County.”

Dr. Baldwin says the district will evaluate the property and develop a plan for its usage moving forward.

“The 16 acres adjacent to Mountain View Intermediate is an important parcel for the school system,” said Dr. Baldwin. “We are still in the planning phase of how to best utilize the property. However, this important donation provides an immediate buffer for both MVI and MMS. We have been concerned about how this property could be purchased and developed in a manner that might have a negative impact on both schools. Now, the school system has more control over this property.”



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1969	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	69,248
2019	Chevrolet	Cruze	34,698
2020	Chevrolet	Equinox	15,630
2017	Chevrolet	Equinox	37,384
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	15,105
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	11,654
2014	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	114,928
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	25,450
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	18,986
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	24,127
2012	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	122,763
2014	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	235,283
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	50,327
2005	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	86,524
2012	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	119,071
2019	Chevrolet	Spark	15,271
2017	Chevrolet	Tahoe	75,142
2016	Chevrolet	Traverse	80,732
2018	Chevrolet	Trax	3,706
2016	Chrysler	200	58,513
2013	Dodge	Durango	141,512
2019	Dodge	Grand Caravan	39,053
2019	Dodge	Grand Caravan	37,309
2017	Dodge	Journey	76,764
2007	Dodge	Nitro	106,328
2018	Ford	EcoSport	5,000
2018	Ford	Edge	53,011
2019	Ford	Escape	35,189
2017	Ford	Expedition EL	82,959
2015	Ford	F-150	74,115
2013	Ford	F-150	101,579
2011	Ford	F-150	109,787
2013	Ford	Focus	129,451
2017	Ford	Fusion	43,886
2016	Ford	Fusion	56,659
1930	FORD	MODELA	78,269
2013	GMC	Sierra 1500	99,394
2002	GMC	Sierra 1500	221,488
2015	GMC	Sierra 1500	55,485
2016	GMC	Terrain	64,919
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	42,472
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	37,463
2002	HARLEY DAVIDSON	FATBOY	2,318
1997	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ULTRA CLASSIC	26,160
2017	Honda	Accord	21,739
2017	Honda	CR-V	27,039
2019	Honda	HR-V	13,836
2019	Honda	Odyssey	25,630
2017	Hyundai	Tucson	63,714
2014	Jeep	Grand Cherokee	76,055
2017	Jeep	New Compass	58,040
2016	Jeep	Patriot	57,115
2018	Jeep	Renegade	21,426
2016	Kia	Sorento	79,879
2019	Kia	Soul	34,258
2019	Nissan	Frontier	25,659
2019	Nissan	Frontier	24,310
2019	Nissan	Rogue	36,401
2019	Nissan	Sentra	36,396
2019	Nissan	Versa	36,812
2018	RAM	3500	19,819
2014	Subaru	Forester	95,536
2018	Subaru	Legacy	39,087
2016	Toyota	Camry	68,815
2017	Toyota	Prius Prime	32,541
2018	Toyota	RAV4	41,686
2019	Toyota	Tacoma	12,056

¹Excludes select base trims. Monthly payment is \$13.89 for every \$1,000 you finance. Example down payment: 3.5%. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 6/30/20. ²Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new delivery by 6/30/20. ©2020 General Motors. All rights reserved.

REOPENING

Continued from page 1

Parents need to fill out a survey for each child in the school system to best help principals plan for school this Fall. The survey will determine classroom capacity, transportation plans, and total enrollment. The surveys will be available for one week, with the final day to fill it out being July 29.

Highlands and Nantahala schools will be able to operate in person at full capacity, five days a week, as their enrollment is lower than Franklin area schools. Pre-K will also be able to operate at full capacity with 18 students, 5 days a week. Union Academy is developing a plan to operate four days per week for all students, with Fridays being used for sanitation. Macon Early College will have a plan specific for their unique makeup as it relates to students taking classes at Southwestern Community College. Franklin High School is working on several options to meet capacity concerns, one potential option is to have freshmen and juniors attend in person on Monday and Wednesdays and sophomores and seniors on Tuesday and Thursdays.

Remote instruction will be used for the days children are not in the classrooms. Teachers will be responsible for assigning work to be completed at home, which will be figured into the student's grade.



Teachers at South Macon are arranging desks to insure social distancing in the classrooms.

What a Plan "B" looks like

Aside from social distancing, Plan "B" requires that both teachers and students in grades 5-12 wear face coverings when in common areas. While the students are social distancing or are at their desks, face masks can be removed. Students will be given regular reminders on the proper use of hygiene such as hand washing before meals. Temperature checks will be conducted at each school, either by going through a kiosk,

which can check temperatures of 70 students per minute or with a hand held thermometer. If a child or adult registers a temperature of 100 or higher the child will be sent to a room for isolation and the adult will need to leave campus immediately, to self quarantine. A temperature of 100.4 will require the student to leave campus as soon as possible.

Breakfast and lunch will be served in the classrooms rather than the cafeteria to promote social distancing. Sharing of materials

such as classroom books, glues, and crayons will be discouraged. Gel hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom, along with stations in the hallways. Each child will be issued at least five face masks, although they are free to wear their own.

iPads will be assigned to every child K-12 for use during the remote learning days when they are not in class. Parents who opt to have their children enroll in the virtual academy will also be provided an iPad. Assignments will be able to be downloaded in class on the days students are at the school for those families that do not have internet or cannot access the Wi-Fi hotspots in town. No parents or visitors will be allowed on campus, parents can speak to teachers or administrators via Google Classroom, text, email or by calling the school.

The school system has purchased 500 gallons of sanitizer, 2,000 face shields, along with two cases of gloves and 200 handheld thermometers. For younger grades, plexiglas will be installed around shared tables where desks cannot be utilized. Students will be required to wear face masks while riding the bus. There will be no temperature checks upon boarding the bus as that would prove to be too dangerous in areas such as Highlands Road or Georgia Road where traffic is heavy. Students will have their temperatures checked once they arrive on campus. Only one student will be allowed per seat unless they are family members.

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Instruction parameters

During remote learning days students will access their lesson from their iPads. Lessons will be graded as completed and attendance will be taken daily. Feedback and grading will be essential parts of remote learning, which was one of the biggest concerns the school system experienced this Spring. The recommended time students should spend actively engaged in online learning parameters are as follows: K-2, one hour per day; grades 3-4, two hours daily; grades 5-6, three hours; grades 7-8, four hours. Teachers will have daily virtual hours to help students with assignments along with a live session twice a week. Completion of tasks will be expected and will count toward a student's grades. Teachers have undergone professional development trainings around remote learning and will continue to do so throughout the summer.

Plan 'B' concerns

Macon County School Board chairman Jim Breedlove read several parents' concerns, some wanting their children to return to school and others that preferred staying home. Board member Fred Goldsmith also expressed concerns that "teachers might be out of the loop," and that he felt that principals should be contacting teachers with information. He also worried about kids that can't get help from their parents or guardians.

"We might lose them," he said.

Dr. Baldwin expressed concern about the amount of information that was being disseminated through power points and meetings. He remarked that "so much COVID-19 has been shared it gets confusing as to the plans from each state such as Florida and Macon County."

Other considerations included the possibility of teachers getting infected with the virus and having to shut down schools due to lack of healthy staff. If a staff member tests positive for COVID-19 they would not be allowed to return to class for 10 days or when they test negative. If staff showed signs of being sick with symptoms such as fever, chills, coughing, loss of sense of taste or smell, they would have to get a doctor's note that it was caused by something other than COVID-19, such as an ear infection.

"For some staff it is a frightening situation if they have underlying conditions or if they are caring for someone who does," said Dr. Baldwin. "If those teachers choose to stay at home they will be considered for teaching through the virtual academy to the extent that they can. It is unlikely for any school to go to plan 'C' as long as they can staff, there will be live instruction."

The decision on whether a classroom or school needs to be closed due to exposure will be left up to Macon County Public Health Director Kathy McGaha.

Remote instruction option

For students who do not plan to send their children to school this Fall, the option for 100 percent remote instruction will be available. Macon County Schools is launching a "virtual academy" that will operate with virtual instruction only. The virtual academy will oper-

ate as a new school within the district and requires students be registered by July 31 in order to enroll for this Fall. If a student begins the school year at the virtual academy, they will be required to stay there for the entire semester. Those children will still be available for activities such as sports, if sports are permitted to continue this fall.

The virtual academy will have the support of the school system, such as iPads and office hours, as well as provide meals to students. Teachers will staff the virtual academy independently of regular classroom instruction.

For classes such as electives on the high school level, the Macon County school system will utilize resources available such as state contracts and programs to provide those classes and opportunities outside of staffing of Macon County.

Parents can also withdraw their children from the school system entirely and home-school the child on their own if they so choose. However, they will not have the support of the school system, and their child will not count toward the district's average daily membership totals.

Once the parent and teachers surveys have been evaluated, the board will make a determination as to how plan "B" will be implemented when school starts on August 17. The Board of Education will hold a special called meeting on July 30 at 6 p.m., to announce their decision.

Graduation plans

Franklin High School Graduation Ceremonies will take place on Saturday, Aug. 1. FHS will offer graduation ceremonies from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with five minute time slots available. Appointments may be made through Renee Vargas at Franklin High School (828)524-6467 or renee.vargas@macon.k12.nc.us

Seniors and their families will use the circle drive at the front of the school. Everyone will be required to wear a face covering except the senior while getting his/her picture made. The only photo opportunity available will be for the senior only. The 2020 prop will remain on display for families to come back to campus for group pictures later in the evening on Saturday or anytime on Sunday.

If a senior chooses to not participate, they can pick up their diploma any time after Aug. 1, Monday thru Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the main office at FHS.

Macon Early College graduation ceremony will take place on Sunday, Aug. 2, outside at MEC. Graduation will be by appointment time only. Students whose last names begin with the letters A-F will graduate at 2 p.m.; G-K will be at 2:45 p.m.; L-P will be at 3:30 pm.; S-W at 4:15 pm.

Weather permitting, each graduate will have his or her own graduation moment with parents and guests watching. After the graduation moment, the student and guest will be moved to a staged photo set for a three-minute picture opportunity. Families should plan on riding together in as few cars as possible. Upon arrival, cars will be given directions by the parking lot attendant.

Masks are required for gatherings.

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THE BLUE

Commissioners approve resolution opposing Catawba Nation casino

Brittney Lofthouse - Contributing Writer

The Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Resort employs hundreds of people across Western North Carolina. Although located on the Cherokee Indian Reservation, the majority of the casino's employees live outside of the Reservation, including 183 Macon County residents as of July 10.

Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians Principal Chief Richard Sneed spoke to Macon County Board of Commissioners last week asking for their support in voicing opposition for a casino being constructed by the Catawba Nation in Kings Mountain. According to Sneed, the casino will directly impact the Cherokee Casino, which would have a negative impact on the Western North Carolina economy and Macon County economy. In 2018, the casino had an estimated economic impact of \$750 million in North Carolina.

The Catawba Indian Nation broke ground on the casino yesterday, Wednesday, July 22, in Kings Mountain on 17-acres of land off of Dixon School Road and I-85.

"This important project will have a huge economic impact on the region, bringing thousands of jobs to the area," said Catawba Indian Nation Chief Bill Harris prior to scheduling Wednesday's ground breaking.

Chief Sneed talked to commissioners about the political power play that made it possible for the Catawba Nation to build in North Carolina, although the tribe is located in South Carolina. Over the last several years, the Catawba Nation has petitioned for

a casino to be constructed in South Carolina, but have been unsuccessful. In recent weeks, the federal government bypassed North Carolina State officials when the Department of Interior approved the land in Kings Mountain be placed into a trust, allowing the casino to be built.

Legislative history

The Catawba Indian Nation first proposed the casino in 2013, but was unsuccessful in getting support from either South Carolina or North Carolina.

In March 2019, Senate Bill 790 was introduced in the United States Senate by South Carolina Senator Lindsay Graham and co-sponsored by North Carolina Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis which permits the Catawba Indian Nation to operate an off-reservation casino with electronic games without entering into revenue sharing agreements with the State of North Carolina. Revenues generated at the North Carolina casino would benefit the Catawba Indian Nation located in South Carolina.

The United States Senate rejected Senate Bill 790 and refused to even pass it out of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, however the United States Department of Interiors acted to take the lands into trust for the Catawba Indian Nation of South Carolina anyway, violating the Catawba Settlement Act and federal laws.

After the legislation was introduced in March 2019, a bi-partisan group of 38 N.C. senators — including Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger — publicly came out in op-



Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians Principal Chief Richard Sneed spoke to commissioners about the process leading up to construction of a casino in Kings Mountain, N.C. and the economic impact of the Cherokee casinos in Western North Carolina.

position to the casino and called the bill "a last-ditch effort to game the system" in a letter to the U.S. Senate Indian Affairs committee. Macon County Senator Jim Davis has been a prominent voice in the North Carolina Legislature opposing the construction of a casino by the Catawba tribe and led an effort in 2019 that said 38 of 50 senators oppose the measure. More than 100 lawmakers signed a similar letter in 2013.

Gov. Roy Cooper said in 2019 that the Senate Bill would limit the state's ability to negotiate a final agreement on any casino deal because the legislation specifically exempted the Catawba from Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, a provision that appears to give the governor a say in any new Indian gaming in the state.

In 2019, Caitlin Carroll, spokeswoman for Senator Richard Burr's office said the state wouldn't lose control and said, "Far from limiting local input, this bill would prevent a major gaming facility from being built in North Carolina without the state's approval," she said in a statement. "The Catawba are currently exempt from the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, which means they don't have to negotiate a tribal-state compact before building gaming facilities like casinos. This bill . . . gives North Carolina a say on whether a casino is built near Kings Mountain."

Fast forward to 2020, the Catawba Indians announced the groundbreaking for the casino, and the state has had no input on the matter.

Chief Sneed noted that the decision to build a casino in Cleveland County is a political move — as Wallace Cheves, who

owns Skyboat Gaming, drew up the construction plans for the Kings Mountain casino. Cheves is on record making significant campaign donations to the Republican National Committee, Thom Tillis, and Richard Burr, as well as Lindsay Graham, for which he served as the co-chair for Graham's 2016 presidential campaign in South Carolina.

Economic Impact of Cherokee Casino

The Cherokee casino resorts are directly responsible for five percent of the employment, approximately 3,069 employees, in the far six western counties of North Carolina. Since opening, the Cherokee casino has helped to reduce the historically high unemployment rates of the region which was 1.87 times the state average through 1997. Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment across Western North Carolina sometimes peaked as high as 17 percent, but since the casino opened, the seasonal unemployment now fluctuates between two and four percent prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The salaries for direct employees of the Cherokee casino resorts is 72 percent greater than the average salary in the far six western counties of the state, and accounts for \$129 million in direct wage and salary income to employees and an estimated \$276 million in indirect wages and salary income entered into the local economy.

Because of the revenue generated by the casino, the Tribe has been able to make an additional \$30 million in financed capital investments by the year 2020. In addition, the Cherokee Preservation Foundation, using resources stemming directly from the Cherokee casino resorts, has awarded more than \$93 million to further strengthen and diversify the regional economy.

The state of North Carolina receives a revenue share from the Cherokee casino in the amount of \$11 million annually in addition to the state and local taxes and benefits, which comes in between \$80-\$90 million, including income tax, sales tax, decline in unemployment benefits, and occupancy taxes.

Chief Sneed was originally asking Macon County Commissioners to do as many towns and counties across WNC have done, and opposed Senate Bill 790, however, that all changed when the Department of Interiors bypassed the Senate to move forward with the casino regardless. Chief Sneed is now asking local government leaders to oppose the process that has taken place to fast-track the Cleveland County casino and to voice opposition in the lack of input state leaders have had on the process as well as the casino itself as it could prove detrimental to the Western North Carolina economy.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to approve a resolution opposing both the construction of the casino as well as the process that has led up to it.

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COVID cluster identified at Harrah's Resort

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

The Jackson County Department of Public Health (JCDPH) and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Public Health and Human Services (EBCI PHHS) have identified a COVID-19 cluster in a local business.

Five employees of the table games section at Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort have tested positive for COVID-19. All positive employees are following isolation orders. Contact tracing is being conducted.

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NCDPH) defines clusters of COVID-19 in workplace, educational, and other community settings as: 1) a minimum of five cases with illness onsets or initial positive results within a 14-day period and, 2) plausible linkage between cases where cases were present in the same setting during the same time-period (e.g., same shift, same classroom, same physical work area); that the timing fits with likely timing of exposure; and that there is no other more likely source of exposure for identified cases (e.g., household or close contact to a confirmed case in another setting).

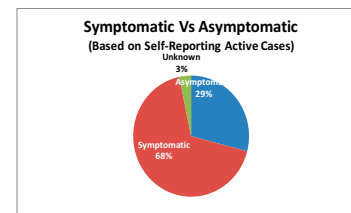
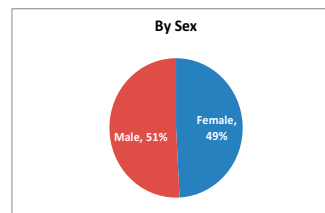
Symptomatic individuals who test positive will be required to remain in isolation under the following conditions: 1) at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared and, 2) at least 24 hours have passed since the last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, and 3) Symptoms (like cough and shortness of breath) have improved. Asymptomatic individuals who test positive will be required to remain in isolation under the following conditions: 1) At least 10 days have passed since their positive test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.

JCDPH, EBCI PHHS, and other local health departments are working to identify any additional close contacts of these employees. The CDC defines close contact as being within approximately 6 feet of a person with an infection with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time of 10-15 minutes

Macon County
Public Health

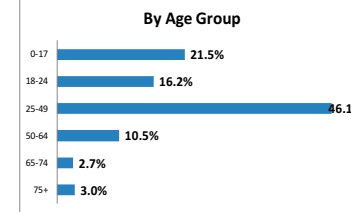
Weekly Macon County COVID-19

Case Demographics: 7/22/2020



Ethnicity	Percent
Hispanic/Latinx	73%
Non-Hispanic/Latinx	27%

Zipcodes	Percent
Franklin 28734	78.0%
Highlands 28741	16.0%
Otto 28763	5.3%
Franklin 28744	0.48%
Scaly Mtn 28775	0.24%



This demographic information is based on available data and will be updated every Wednesday.

during their period of infectivity. Based on information provided by the employees, county health officials will assess risks of exposure, determine which if any additional measures are needed, quarantine and/or testing.

Harrahs Cherokee Casino employees more than 180 Macon County residents — and accounts for 5 percent of the total employment in Western North Carolina.

Macon County Department of Public Health announced on Tuesday afternoon that Macon County recorded its second COVID-19 related death. The health department reported that the individual was over the age of 65 and had underlying health conditions.

“We want to express our deepest sympathies to the family and their loved ones during this difficult time,” stated Kathy McGaha, Macon County Health Director.

On Wednesday, MCPH reported 407 cases; 121 active positive cases and 184 recovered.

“Our message to the community continues to be: wear a mask, wash your hands, and wait 6 feet from others. Continue to practice social distancing and limit your trips outside your home to help to slow the spread of COVID-19.”

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor - Highlands Mayor

I was gratified to see the town board vote at last Thursday's meeting to require the wearing of face masks on all commercial sidewalks. Board members and I had been receiving concerns about people not wearing masks on those tight and crowded downtown sidewalks. The governor's mask order was ambiguous about whether masks could be required on outdoor sidewalks.

During the public comment period OEI President, Richard Delaney, made a very convincing case that the town needed to take a clear and decisive position on wearing masks on sidewalks. Richard stressed it was vital to public health and that it would send a message that Highlands was committed to the safety of our visitors and to the well being of the business community and our residents.

The board voted unanimously to require masks or face coverings on sidewalks in our commercial zones. Stopping the spread of COVID 19 begins at the local level. When the governor issued the mask requirement, I interpreted the order to apply to small sidewalks like the ones we have downtown. I was advised that the town could not enforce such a requirement and signs requiring it were an incorrect interpretation of the governor's order. The language was changed on the signs. Unfortunately, more people began to walk on these sidewalks without masks.

The board's vote to require masks on the commercial sidewalks is a local ordinance during this state of emergency that is not ambiguous and is enforceable, although we all want people to voluntarily comply. Our police have increased foot patrols in the business area and model the behavior of wearing masks.

I won't be surprised to get letters and emails calling me a dictator for ordering such a onerous requirement. My response is that I didn't unilaterally do it, the entire board of elected officials voted to do it in the interest of public health and safety. I stand by the board in this decision. As I have said before, with individual freedom comes a responsibility to the public not to jeopardize other citizen's freedom. This ordinance is a responsible action in this emergency situation.

The town board also reviewed the situation with the August 1 requirement for residential customers to have a bear resistant toter for garbage collection. That requirement was posted by the board a year ago after several public meetings and reviewing several options. Two factors drove the decision. First, there was a growing need to stop bears from trash can marauding. Second, our old system of expecting sanitation workers to lift hundreds of cans each day was a practice that safety experts had recommended changing. The bar on toters eliminates this health and safety problem.

I want to thank the nearly 70% of our residents who have already made this conversion. The town manager told the board there is a backlog of orders for toters at the local hardware store. The town will keep the Aug. 1 deadline for the toters, but will delay enforcement of the requirement until the backlog of orders is clear, so folks still have some time to convert to bear resistant toters.



Patrick Taylor

Letters to the Editor

Local law officers strive to help those in crises

Over the past decade, I have had many opportunities to interact with the officers of the Macon County Sheriff's Dept. and the Franklin Police Department through our local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). It occurs to me that many people may be unaware of the efforts made by our local law enforcement, in addition to their regular responsibilities, to help offenders and those in crisis lead better, safer lives.

I would note:

- A weekly Peer Support Group held for inmates in the Detention Center by trained NAMI volunteers to address mental illness (including addiction) and share information about many community resources available to support recovery when released.

- "Prime for Life" is a 40-hour training offered monthly to inmates by a trained facilitator.

- A Peer Support Specialist sponsored by "No Wrong Door for Support and Recovery" is in the Detention Center regularly and available for individual or group support.

- An experienced therapist is available one day a week to meet with inmates on request on a one-on-one basis.

- NAMI has sponsored a number of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) trainings. This is a 40-hour intense training designed for law enforcement officers when dealing with a situation involving an individual with a mental illness (including Autism and Dementia). These trainings demand commitment from both the officers and the administration. These have been well attended.

In all these situations, I have found the officers to be courteous, kind, helpful, and well disciplined. I commend them for the difficult job they do, day after day, with dignity.

Ann Nandrea - Co-founder and Director Emeritus
NAMI Appalachian South, N.C.

Taking down monuments doesn't solve anything

Seems like there are some who don't know their history to well. Abe Lincoln is the one that gave the slaves their freedom. Not Martin Luther King. If you destroy Lincoln monument, then destroy Kings monument. No matter what you take down or burn, it just won't change history. A lot of men died for that rebel flag including an all black unit from Fla and South Carolina.

The Civil War is long over, better think more about the wars of today. There are many successful black people. Its how you apply yourself, like the many black doctors and nurses. Many hold an office in the White House many lawyers, weather men and women, news reporters, TV commercials, mayor of a town, in movies. Its what you make up in your mind what your goal is. There are many under privilege white people. As far as the treatment from law en-

forcement has nothing to do with the Civil War or monuments. They need to do more screening before putting a cop on the force. They can train and retrain, but if one is mentally disturbed an unbalanced they got a problem. They should not be put on the force, which I had read in a paper. The man that killed George Floyd, they found did have a mental problem when he was hired. This is for the law enforcement to handel. You don't solve any thing by burning a place of business or takeing down monuments. Police have also saved a lot of lives. Your house is broken into, everything stolen, who do you call. Any kind of emergency who do you call. Domestic violances. Who's life is on the line in a drug raid. Its up to law enforcement to make sure they have a dedicated person on their force. They have also been known to deliver babies. There you go.

Kathy Whitley - Franklin, N.C.

Argument for officer raises based on misinformation

It was disheartening to read Sheriff Holland state that "an entire group of demonstrators chanted ACAB" during the peace walk for Black Lives Matter on June 12 as if this was the main message of those participating in the march. We were among the demonstrators that walked that day and during the time we were in attendance we did not hear this chant though there was an account of inappropriate chanting after the event.

The majority of those who marched that day included local clergy, educators, medical professionals and families who were there to show support for those in our country who have not had an equal voice or a fair share of those things which have made our country great. We appreciated those local law enforcement officers that were there to assure that we were able to peacefully gather and express our concerns, and I know that I was not the only person there who thanked those I had an opportunity to walk past for their efforts.

Law enforcement personnel should be fairly compensated but the argument to accomplish this goal should not be based on misinformation. As we have heard so many times this week since the passing of John Lewis:

"When you see something that is not right, not fair, that is not just, you have to speak up. You have to say something, you have to do something."

Kim Leister & Linda Tyler - Franklin, N.C.

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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Get ready for the New World

Sounds like we're heading for some interesting times ahead of us.

If you're white, you are a racist. Fact is folks are going to have to get their white cars painted a different color or be called a racist. Not sure what we'll do about the color of people's skin if you are Asian, Greek, Latino or whatever.

Even white toilet paper will have to be changed to some other color. Get caught using white toilet paper and you are in for some real trouble.

No more vanilla ice cream, only chocolate allowed.

Next on the list of things to be changed by our new Antifa, anarchists leaders is to get rid of cops. Who needs cops when we can do away with civilization entirely.

In the meantime, with no police to enforce our laws we will return to the wild west. Religion, based on Judeo/Christian laws will have been outlawed and priests and preachers will be shot as they did in Russia, Cuba and China.

There are several Democrats that I know who will tell you that cops are crooked and always lie about things.

Most of the rioting and looting takes place in Democrat

run areas and it seems they are encouraging all this mess in order to collapse our wonderful successful free system and replace it with Communism or Socialism.

But boy look out, cause you ain't seen it coming when the military takes over to restore order in our country.

It always happened and the ensuing dictatorship is waiting in the sideline to bring in their horror show.

Women just need to get used to being raped and it won't be against the law to rape. Even now we see this situation in NYC where criminals are being released for such crimes as rape and child molestation.

Maybe we need to organize some of our neighborhoods and set up armed defense barriers. I can get one of Matt Dillon's pistols and belt buckles, buy some bazookas, .50 Cal. machine guns and maybe even a tank, all to defend ourselves from looters and rioters.

Bob Wilson - Franklin, N.C.

Email letters to
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Couple celebrates golden anniversary

Stan and Barbara Daughdrill, were married in Mobile, Ala., on July 11, 1970.

The couple met when Barbara was just 16 years old. Barbara's sister, Pat, was dating Stan's friend. They were introduced and quickly became high school sweethearts.

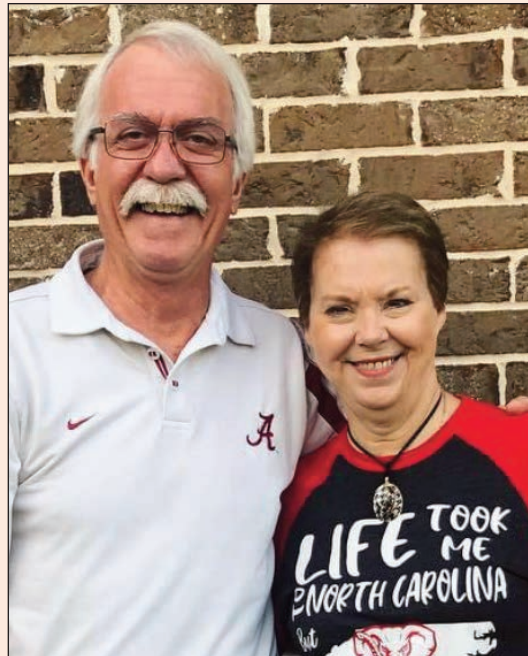
They married and had four children, three daughters and one son. They have six grand children.

Barbara's sister, Pat and brother-in-law, Doug Duncan's family had a vacation cabin in Otto. Pat and Doug have now retired and moved there from Florida. So, Stan and Barbara visited over the years and fell in love with this area.

In 2012, they found a property in Mountain Whispers in Burningtown and they were smitten with the view.

The cabin was started in 2016, and finished in 2017. Stan retired in 2018 and after vacationing there, the Daughdrills call Burningtown their home.

They absolutely love Franklin and its wonderful people. They enjoy going to Pickin' On The Square and to stores, restaurants and boutiques including a favorite, Diva's. They love their church, Biltmore Baptist, Stan has joined a Hiking Club



Stan and Barbara Daughdrill marked their 50th anniversary on July 11. The couple was married in Mobile, Ala., in 1970. The couple has four children and six grandchildren.

and Barbara and her sister Pat love to paint at the Dusty Pallet. Family members enjoy coming up, getting together and attending the annual Pumpkin Fest in October and the famous New Year Eve's Ruby Drop.

However, one of their favorite past times is sitting in their rocking chairs on their porch and admiring one of the most spectacular mountain views that God has ever created.

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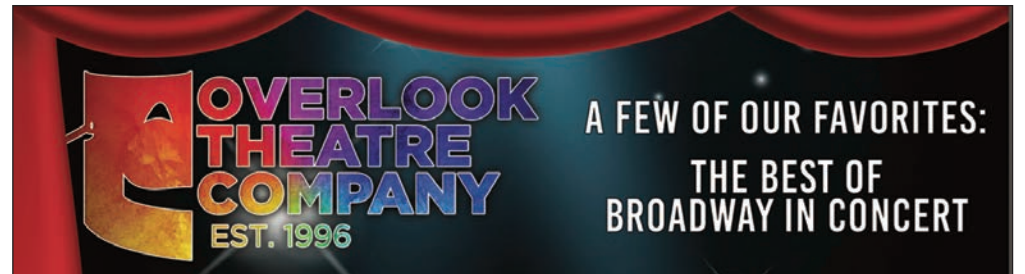
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Samuel Crabtree sang "Any Dream Will Do"



Patrick Brannon sang "If I Were A Rich Man"



Nikki Corbin & Scotty Corbin sang "Old Fashioned Wedding"



Steve Crabtree and his grandchildren, Elizabeth Lynn and Solomon



Darren Volk performed "Edel-Weiss"



Qui Smith sang "Human Heart"



Abigail Crabtree & Timothy Crabtree sang "Summer Nights"



Elise Daily sang "Journey from the Past"



Kaley Davis sang "Someday from Memphis"



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Butterfly garden dedicated to Coriell

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

On the Little Tennessee River Greenway, just behind The Shops at Riverwalk, is a butterfly garden built and nurtured for the last few years. Overseeing that garden has been Kay Coriell, along with many other volunteers with Friends of the Greenway. (FROG) Explained Rita St. Clair, FROG's current secretary, Coriell was in the original group of concerned citizens who desired and envisioned a walking, running, biking path along the Little Tennessee River in Franklin.

"She has been a member of FROG since its inception in 2001," said St. Clair, "Over the years, she has volunteered at the coffee shop/gift shop at FROG Quarters, conducted many, many programs on nature-related topics, and written numerous articles on the many trees, birds, and plants found on the Greenway, which are now archived on the website."

Because of Coriell's involvement in FROG



Kay Coriell has been instrumental in establishing a butterfly garden on the Little Tennessee River Greenway. She was honored last week as FROG named the garden after her.

was her contribution that kept the organization going as she filled several officer positions at the same time. Through her efforts, the Greenway is listed in the National Recreation Trails, included in the North Carolina Birding Trail, and the Butterfly Garden is registered as a North American Monarch Waystation."

St. Clair shared that The Butterfly Garden has been Coriell's "passion" since it began in 2006.

"She led the restoration and revitalization project of the garden in 2017 and continues to coordinate the plantings and maintenance needs today," she said.

The public is able at any time to stroll through The Butterfly Garden and read kiosks about some of the flowering plants present, the life cycle of the monarch butterflies that migrate through Macon County and feed on milkweed – planted in the garden, and about other butterflies common to the area.

"We've planted close to 300 plants in that garden," said St. Clair, who pointed out that volunteers are maintaining the garden most Tuesdays and that volunteers are always needed for FROG.

"I'm so glad the garden has provided the community such enjoyment and it's certainly nice to be able to honor Kay with this sign," added St. Clair.



Signage in the butterfly garden provides education to visitors.

and her dedication to such projects as the Plants on the Greenway booklet, Memorials on the Greenway, and The Butterfly Garden, she was honored July 17 for the latter. While the dedication and unveiling of a sign at the garden that bears Coriell's name was supposed to be opened to the public, only a handful of fellow FROG volunteers and the local media was present due to COVID-19 and social distancing guidelines.

Coriell, who will be 92 in September, was moved to tears during the sign unveiling.

"What a wonderful legacy to have a public garden named after one," she said.

"She has been on the Friends of the Greenway board and has served in every officer position," said St. Clair. "During some very dark times, it



FROG maintains a distinct garden at the Little Tennessee Greenway, which includes a wide variety of flowering plants that attract birds, insects, and butterflies, as well as manicured paths.

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Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests July 13 - 19. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Franklin Police Department

July 14
Sherri Ellen Johnson, 55, was charged with a felony. A \$5,000 was set. Officer Evans made the arrest.
Jamara Michael Bennett, 36, was charged with possession of marijuana, possession of a firearm by a felon. A secured bond of \$8,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

July 17
Doralyn Marie Massung, 22, was charged with failure to reduce speed, driving under the influence. Officer Riles made the arrest.

July 18
William Pell Hodges, 32, was charged with second degree trespass, resist/delay/obstruct, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. Officer Dula made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

July 13
Felecia McCall Hinshaw, 49, of Hickory Creek Rd., Knoxville, Tenn., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.
David Christain Griffith, 41, of Blind Side Lane, Cashiers, was charged with rear lamp violation, no operators license, simple possession of schedule II controlled substance. No bond was set.

July 14
Dennis Chuck Camp, 54, of Mutts Place, was charged with violation of a court order. A secured bond of \$250 was set.
David Fredrick Greene, 55, of Webster Rd., was charged with breaking and entering forcible. An unsecured bond was set.
John Banton Legere, 44, of Brown Ridge Rd., was charged with felony larceny, misdemeanor larceny, obtain property by false pretense, possession of stolen goods/property. An unsecured bond of \$1,250 was set.

Larry Jake Dills, 42, of Northside Dr., Franklin, was charged with malicious conduct by a prisoner. No bond was set.
Brandi Nicole Moore, 26, of Fisher Creek Rd., was charged with possession of stolen goods/property. No bond was set.

July 15
Robert Justin Steele, 33, of East Hall Heights, was charged with parole violation. No bond was set.

Sandra L. Rhinehart, 45, of Sugar Fork Rd., was charged with misdemeanor larceny, possession of stolen goods. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Michael Rhinehart, 48, of Sugarfork Rd., was charged with misdemeanor larceny, possession of stolen goods. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

July 16

Bryn Chicoah Hoyle, 21, of Pincushion Lane, Cullowhee, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture/sell methamphetamine, possession with intent to sell/deliver marijuana, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, felony possession of marijuana, possession of marijuana 1/2 to 1 1/2 oz, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

July 17

Jessica Normand, 40, of Oak Hill Rd., was charged with assault with a deadly weapon. No bond was set.
James Algar Dean Taylor, 30, of Bradley Loop Rd., Cherokee, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.
Michelle Renee Roberts, of Redwing Vista, Whittier, was charged with possession of counterfeit currency, possession of drug paraphernalia, maintaining a dwelling, possession of heroin, possession of methamphetamine, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

Justin Reeves Lambert, 38, of Oak Hill Dr., was charged with reckless driving, flee to elude. No bond was set.

Xzvierre Nathel Sherman, 30, of Creektop Court, Greenville, was charged with driving while impaired. No bond was set.

July 18

Trevor Dean Watson, 30, of Tuckasegee, was charged with assault on a female, communicating threats. No bond was set.
John Kelly Crisco, 23, of Grove Rd., was charged with injury to real property, communicating threats. An unsecured bond of \$250 was set.

Natasha Belle Kirkland, 32, of Breedlove Rd., Bryson City, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. No bond was set.

Gabriel David Sincox, 36, of Mount Noble Rd., Cherokee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. No bond was set.

July 19

James Everett Dunn, 30, of Touchstone Way, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.
Jessica Ashley York, 24, of Switchback Ridge, Cullowhee, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Ryan Warren Muster, 26, of Dark Ridge Rd., was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, felony probation violation. No bond was set.

Sarah Jane Smathers, 26, of Dark Ridge Rd., was charged with felony probation violation. A secured bond of \$80,000 was set.

Emma Marie Evitt-Harris, 26, of Calandar Court, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Travis Andrew Mason, 27, of Fairview Rd., was charged with rear lamp violation, driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, possession of stolen property. No bond was set.

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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.

The Annual Reunion of Joseph and Alva Allen Gibson Family has been cancelled this year.

Back The Blue Walk to Support Law Enforcement will be held on July 25, 11:30 to 2 p.m. Walk will start at Town Hall and will go up Main St. to the gazebo. Poster decorating contest for the kids with prizes, ceremony honoring fallen officers with special guest speakers. Wear a mask for safety.

Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6-mile downhill hike on Saturday, July 25, with an elevation change 700 ft., to Bee Cove Falls in South Carolina on an old logging road off 107 near the Fish Hatchery. View this 80' multi-tiered falls in a pretty area near the edge of the escarpment of the mountains. Hike limited to 10 people. Meet at Cashiers Rec. Park at 10 a.m., drive 20 miles round trip. For more information and reservations, call Leaders Mike and Susan Kettles at (828)743-1079.

Nantahala Hiking Club will take a 9-mile moderate-to-strenuous hike on Sunday, July 26, with an elevation change of 1,000 ft., on the Cowetta Hydrological Lab Center Loop, hiking up Shope Creek Road to Cunningham Branch to Dyke Gap to come down Ball Creek Rd. Hike limited to 6 people. Meet at Smoky Mtn. Visitors Center on Hwy. 441 at 9 a.m., drive 10 miles round trip. For more information and reservations, call leader Katharine Brown, (828)421-4178.

Descendants of Weimer and Margaret Siler will gather on Saturday, Aug. 1. There will be two options for gathering: in person and online. The in person gathering, which will comply with all state guidelines and requirements for meetings during COVID-19, will be at the Moss Valley venue, 1145 Patton Road in Franklin. For those who are not comfortable attending or who are unable to attend in person at this time, an online option will be available. For more updates and information, visit www.silerdescendants.org.

Macon County Schools is offering meal pickup from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the following locations: Mountain View Intermediate School, South Macon Elementary School, Iotla Valley Elementary School, Franklin High School and Nantahala School. If you have questions regarding the meal pickup service, contact School Nutrition Director David Lightner at david.lightner@macon.k12.nc.us or by calling (828)524-3314 ext. 1010.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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 maconcountynews@gmail.com with schedule or venue changes.

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 New-songcherokee.com

First Alliance Church has resumed its Sunday services. They will meet at 10:30 a.m. Senior Pastor Scott Eichelberger will continue his sermon series from the book of Revelation. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane (off Womack next door to Trimont Christian Academy). For more information, call the church office at (828)369-7977.

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<http://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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SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

A	T	S	E	A	G	A	D	S	P	S	A	L	L	A	H	H	A	V	E	W	E	H	D	E	A	T	H	O	K	E	N	E	D	A	M	I	T	E	S	A	K	I	N	T	I	T	Y	O	O	A	B	O	N	U	M	E	N	U	G	E	L	O	I	R	E	W	I	T	H	P	A	G	E	M	A	R	L	I	N	E	A	L	F	I	A	T	M	A	R	T	H	I	N	G	S	I	T	S	N	O	T	L	O	U	S	E	T	H	O	S	A	T	E	D	A	S	T	I	R	A	S	T	I	R	O	A	T	U	T	E	R	T	H	U	S	T	A	P	A	P	E	N	Y
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Community rallies to celebrate Nash Broyles' 29th birthday

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

The Macon County community showed up big this weekend to help Nash Broyles celebrate his 29th birthday.

“We were blown away by the love and support shown for Nash on Friday,” said Jerri Fifer, Nash’s mother. “From Mayor Bob Scott to Sheriff Robert Holland, all of the most special people in Nash’s life helped to make his birthday a memorable one.”

Nash Broyles is a kind, loving, spirited individual who loves to hug everyone he meets. The COVID19 pandemic has been extra difficult for Nash, as he is autistic and communicates with sign language.

“It has been hard enough having to explain to Nash why we are having to stay at home and why he isn’t able to give the big bear hugs he loves so much,” said Jerri. “So explaining to him that his birthday was going to be different was extra difficult.”

Jerri said that she would have monthly talks with Nash as his 29th birthday grew closer, which was Friday, July 17. She would explain to him that they would have to wait and see what they would be able to do in terms of celebrating and tried to prepare him for how different this birthday might be.

That is when she got the idea to invite the community for a drive-by birthday parade by Nash’s home as well as reach out to Sheriff Robert Holland to arrange some time for Nash to spend with local law enforcement, whom he greatly admires.

The plans got rolling and the community didn’t disappoint. On Friday, Nash’s day began by meeting Mayor Bob Scott at the gazebo for a special birthday sendoff with law enforcement and fire fighters. Scott has been in Nash’s life since he was a young boy, when Scott helped bring Nash home after a scary incident.

“Nash is a inspiration. I don’t know how else to put it,” said Scott. “We all can learn from him how to deal with life when we are not dealt a perfect hand. I vaguely remember the incident his mother is referring to. But I did not do anything that anyone else would not have done. It was just a fluke that I was able to be of help. When Jerri called and told me about Nash’s birthday, I wanted him to know that our fire, rescue and police were proud of him. If it had not been for the pandemic, I would have loved for us to wish him a birthday at Pickin’ or other big town event. But it worked out the way it did.”



Nash Broyles posed with town dignitaries and members of the community who stepped up to help celebrate Nash’s 29th birthday. Nash had lunch with Sheriff Holland then went home to await his birthday parade.



Nash then met up with Sheriff Holland for a lunch and a visit with law enforcement at the Macon County Detention Center before heading home to await his birthday parade.

“The parade by the house was almost overwhelming because of all of the support,” said Jerri. “People drove by and honked and waved and had made signs. His classmates were able to drive by with their parents, which was a blessing since Nash hasn’t been able to see them.”

Jerri said the highlight for Nash was probably being able to gift those who drove by with fire starters that he had made himself.

“Nash loves to give gifts about as much as anyone else likes to receive them, so his favorite part of the day was probably giving out the fire starters that he made himself,” she said. “It’s a little business he wants to start and something he works on independently, so being able to gift his hard work to others made him very happy.”

Jerri said Nash is already looking forward to next year when he will turn 30 and said that he hopes all of his friends will celebrate with him again... but this time he hopes they are able to get out of their cars and dance with him.



Members of the community drove by Nash’s house on his birthday offering cards and well wishes. Photos by

Jan Bridges & Marilee Tice



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Habitat for Humanity lends a hand to fellow nonprofit



Habitat for Humanity assisted a fellow non-profits, REACH of Macon County, by trimming out their storage facility and giving them a new handicap ramp for accessibility. Local volunteers, Harry Pegg and Laurel Klonskowski braved the heat of a couple of days, and got the job done. The local Habitat for Humanity makes it a point to reach out to fellow non-profits to assist whenever needed. The mission of Habitat is putting God's love into action. Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

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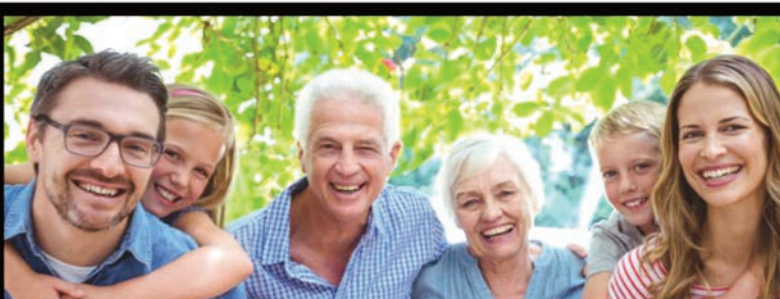
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*for more parent-isms and the real meanings of them visit www.facebook.com/GilletteLawNC.com



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Leaves and bark are stand-out features of the favorite Parsley Leaf Hawthorn

Dr. Bob Gilbert – Columnist

Over time I have tended to discover plants that have become favorites, mostly trees. Perhaps this has happened because of an unusual blooming pattern, or a personal history with a plant that brings back memories or appealing distinctive bark, leaf color or even the circumstances of a plants acquisition. My favorite tree at Smith Gilbert Gardens remains Parsley Leaf Hawthorn, *Crataegus (kTate-gus) marshalii*. We obtained the tree from a Florida native tree nursery in 1987. I like everything about this tree but its leaves and its bark are the stand-out features for me.

Hawthorns are difficult to identify down to the species level because they tend to cross pollinate with other Hawthorn species producing offsprings with characteristics of both parents. Haw means hedge or fence but a haw also refers to a berry or fruit. Hawthorns can make excellent natural hedges because of their dense growth and sharp thorns. *Crataegus* is derived from a Greek word *kratos* meaning strength referring to the strength of its wood and thorns. This plant was first described by Humphrey Marshall in 1785 and was named in honor of him.

The exception to Hawthorn identification difficulties is *marshalii* because its leaves are deeply cut and resemble Italian Parsley. No other native hawthorn has this leaf pattern. Also, it has distinctive scaly exfoliating bark that exposes greens, browns, tans and orange layers which helps with winter tree identification.

This native tree has a wide distribution range in the south-east. It can be found in WNC. It is not often noticed as it is an understory tree. It likes high shade and moist soil. It can grow up to 20 feet. It produces beautiful white apple-like blooms in May that develop into small red berries – haws. These are not favored by many birds so the fruits persist. The haws are edible and make interesting jelly so I have read. The seeds have small amounts of cyanide thus the seeds should be discarded. Dried Hawthorn leaves are used to make tea. There is a Mexican Hawthorn species called Tejocote. Its prepared roots can be found in health food stores. It has an amazing range of properties and medical uses. In the South,



Dr. Bob Gilbert

numerous Hawthorns species are called Mayhaws that are used for preserves and fermented for wine.

I found only two minor faults with Parsley Leaf. It produces slender upright stems from its underground roots. This habit is referred to as stoloniferous. I think these growths distract from the tree's beauty. They are usually pruned off but in a hedge they could be an advantage. It also produces water shoots on the branches which also distracts. It is rather slow growing accounting for its strong wood. Fast growing trees produce weak or soft wood. Its beautiful bark does not start peeling until the tree approaches maturity. You have to be careful when pruning it as its thorns are sharp.

On rare occasions while in bloom it can become a victim of Fire-blight. This is a bacterial disease is transmitted by insects when the tree blooms are soaked. I have not seen this here. They are also susceptible to a Cedar-hawthorn rust.

There is in Europe a tree/shrub called Medlar. It is related



Hawthorn Parsley Leaf

to Hawthorns. It produces a strange looking fruit that has to be let or begin to rot before it is edible. It often served with port wine. It is not found naturally in the U.S. except in a small corner of Arkansas where some Czechoslovak immigrants brought some plants with them from home. Medlar fruit does not look appealing. You can find plants for sale in mail order catalogs. I am not sure I would want to risk a good bottle of port to serve with them. What other fruit do we let before serving it?

We planted three Parsley Leaf Hawthorns in a bend in our driveway. To hide the transformer box and well housing a hedge of *Ilex glabra*, Inkberry Holly variety 'Shamrock' was planted. Then to break up the monotony of the dark green hedge we planted *Chamaecyparis pisiferae* Japanese False-cypress variety 'Gold Mop' to create a tapestry effect. In the bend of the hedge three Parsley Leaf Hawthorns were planted in about 2009. Note, there is confusion about "Gold Mop" and "Gold Thread" *Chamaecyparis*. "Gold Mop" is supposed to be shorter but they are often mislabeled and are hard to distinguish.

I find *Crataegus marshalii* in local nurseries on occasions. Ours are not quite old enough to display the multicolored bark. We were thrilled when we happened upon these trees in a WNC nursery. They are still casting their spells here and in Kennesaw.

A great scholarly reference hawthorn guide is *HAWS* a Guide to Hawthorns by Ron Lance a WNC biologist.

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



Deaths & Funerals

Charles Edwin Wallace

Charles Edwin Wallace, 89, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, he was the son of the late John Wallace and Arizona Moffitt Wallace. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by five brothers and sisters, Morris "Buck" Wallace, Howard Wallace, Clifford Wallace, Alice Crisp and Sally Gates. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army from 1952-1954 and was a lifetime member of VFW Post 7339. He attended Louisa Chapel United Methodist Church. He managed Davenport Campground in Hayesville and loved going there to socialize with his "campground family."

He is survived by his wife, Frances Wallace; two stepchildren, Rev. Ken Cramer and wife Holly of Gloucester, Va., and Lisa Lewis and husband Terry of Clyde, N.C.; seven grandchildren; four great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Monday, July 20, at Macon Funeral Home with Rev. Mike McConnell and Rev. Dr. Ken Cramer officiating. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Shop with a Cop or Holiday Angels.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Charles Edwin Wallace

Linda Sue Collier Campbell

Linda Sue Collier Campbell, 73, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Roy J. Collier and Mary Greenwood Collier. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by brother, David Collier. She was a member of East Franklin Baptist Church and served as past secretary and Sunday school teacher.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Fred Campbell Jr; daughter, Rebecca "Becky" Benton and husband Scott of Monroe, N.C.; son, Rick Campbell and wife Jenny of Franklin; three sisters, Marilyn Roper and husband CB, Mildred Broad and Phoebe Hastings and husband Mark all of Franklin; brother, Sonny Collier and wife Carolyn of Franklin; half-brother, Doug Welch and wife Irene of Sylva; three grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Thursday, July 16, at East Franklin Baptist Church. Rev. Gary McDaniels and Rev. Terry Jenkins officiated. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Bobby Gibson, Dustin Hooks, Mitchell Benton, Mike Shepherd, Kenneth "Dooley" Shepherd and Tommy Mason.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to East Franklin Baptist Church, 2057 Lakeside Drive, Franklin, NC 28734.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Linda Sue Campbell



David Moffitt
OWNER/FUNERAL DIRECTOR

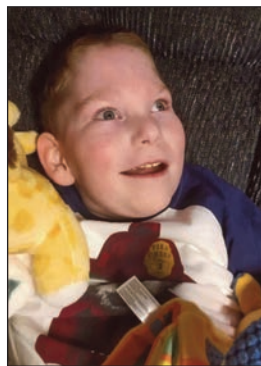
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Hunter Caden Matthew Davis

Surrounded by his family, Hunter Caden Matthew Davis, 6, of Franklin, N.C., ran into the arms of Jesus on the morning of Monday, July 20, 2020.

Our lives were forever changed on Nov. 7, 2013, when Hunter was born and with him came the meaning of true, unconditional love. His life was spent loving; being around all the children in his family, being outside, being rocked, being read to and his stuffed horse all brought him immense joy. Hunter touched many lives; he will not be forgotten, and his legacy of love will live on in those who choose to love just as Jesus loves us.



Hunter Davis

Left to cherish his memory are his parents, Richard and Rebecca Davis; grandparents, Imogene Allen Davis and the late Troy William Davis of Franklin and John Morris (Rhonda) of Atlanta, Texas, the late Brenda Morris; great grandmother, Lois Morris of Little Rock, Ark.; brother, Richard William Davis (Megan) of Shaw AFB, Sumter, S.C.; four sisters, Kimberly McAllister (Will) of Franklin, Melissa Crisp (Roy) of Franklin, Chasitiy Houston (Ian) of Camp Lejeune, N.C., Summer Davis of Jacksonville, N.C.; and nieces and nephews, Allison, Cayson, Creedence, Cullen, Landon, Hannah, Gabriel, Callie, Addy, Evalyn, Aiden and Matias. Several aunts, uncles and cousins also survive.

Funeral service will be held Saturday, July 25, at 3 p.m., at the Franklin Church of God. Rev. Michael Stephens, Rev. Hank Connors, Rev. Jeremy Chapman and Rev. Steve Reeves will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 2 to 3 p.m., prior to the service at the Franklin Church of God.

Pallbearers will be Will McCallister, William Davis, Roy Crisp and Cecil Brooks.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Make-A-Wish America, Gift Processing, 1702 East Highland Ave., Suite 400, Phoenix, AZ 85016.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Evelyn Dean Hughes

Evelyn Dean Hughes, 86, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Sunday, July 19, 2020.

Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Willard L. Dean and Josephine R. Rogers Dean. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, James "Jim" Hughes. She was an active member of Oak Grove Baptist Church, where she sang in the choir and served on the cemetery committee. She was also very active with the Class of 1953 reunion committee.

She is survived by her daughter, June Huggins Angel and husband Doug of Franklin; sister, Shirley Dean Ray and husband Bill of Charlotte, N.C.; two grandchildren, Jennifer Anderson (Ryan) and Rodney Chastain (Lance); step granddaughter, Shannon Shuler (Eugene); four great grandchildren, Seth Shuler, Brittany Shuler, Clara Anderson and Sophia Anderson and several nieces and nephews.

A Graveside Memorial Service will be held Sunday, July 26, at 6 p.m., at Oak Grove Baptist Church Cemetery. Rev. Judson Hall and Rev. Charles Stevens will officiate. Masks and social distancing will be required. With these measures in place, everyone is welcome.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Oak Grove Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, C/O Faye Bishop, 73 3rd Street, Franklin, NC 28734 or Hospice House of WNC, P.O. Box 815, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Lyman Dale Morgan

Lyman Dale Morgan, 79, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, July 15, 2020. He was born on Aug. 30, 1940, in Franklin, N.C., to Robert and Helen (Dalton) Morgan. On Oct. 20, 1962, he married Blanche Smith. He was a kind, generous, and patient person whose easy-going demeanor made him a joy to be around. He could strike up a conversation with anyone and always made a point to make people feel welcome. He enjoyed talking to both old friends and new acquaintances and he never met a stranger. He was a talented mechanic who enjoyed the challenge of working on cars and tractors. As a lover of history, he enjoyed reading, documentaries, and discussing local history and genealogy. He farmed his family's land in the Cowee community until recently and will be missed by his loved ones. He is preceded in death by his father Robert Morgan and his mother Helen Dalton Morgan.



Lyman Dale Morgan

He is survived by his wife Blanche Smith Morgan, a daughter, Jill Morgan Bell (Ralph); a brother, Robert Morgan (Kay) of Rock Hill, S.C.; a grandson Chris Bell and a granddaughter Lauryn Bell.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital 262 Danny Thomas Pl. Memphis, TN 38105 or Hospice House Foundation of WNC 272 Maple Street Franklin, NC 28741.

A private family service will be held.

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

Kenneth Edwin Angel

Kenneth Edwin Angel, 89, of Etowah, N.C., died at his home on July 17, 2020. He was the oldest of seven children born to William Grover Angel and wife, Evelyn Early Angel on Nov. 27, 1930. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Dorothy [Dot] McCoy; daughter, Janet Angel Wakefield; a sister, Betty Angel Jennings; and a brother, Jim Angel.

He grew up in Franklin, N.C. He and Dot married July 20, 1952. He served in the Marines during the Korean War, after which he and Dot moved to Brevard. He worked at Olin/Ecusta until his retirement. He enjoyed playing on various sports teams while there.

During his younger days he sang in gospel quartets with his rich baritone voice. He also played golf and played in bowling leagues. He was active in the Lion's Club and Jaycees and was a member of the Wesleyan Church, where he enjoyed singing in the choir. He played the piano and loved to dance. In retirement, he continued his love of golf. He and his second wife, Sue, enjoyed playing canasta with their friends. He also loved woodworking and gardening. He volunteered for the Transylvania Sheriff's department, working courthouse security. Ken and Sue attended Pisgah Forest Baptist Church.

Most of all, Ken loved his family. One of the last things he said was, "We love everybody"... precious words to remember.

He is survived by his wife Sue Smith, his daughter Kendra Angel Byers and her husband Don, grandson Sheridan and his wife Suzanne and great-grandchildren Ellis and Cullen Byers, granddaughter Caroline Byers Roberts and husband, Justin Roberts, and great-grandchildren Ruby and Evelyn (Evie), son-in-law David Wakefield of Lenoir, granddaughter Ashley Wakefield Edwards and her husband Bradley and great-granddaughter Laney, also of Lenoir, and granddaughter Amanda Wakefield of Lenoir.

He is also survived by a sister, Madge Angel Salter of Brevard, and three brothers, Don Angel and wife Mary of Little River, S.C., and Earl Angel and his wife, Bonnie of Gastonia, N.C. and Gene Angel and his wife Dana of Ft. Myers, Fla., as well as many loving nieces and nephews; a stepson, Rick and step grandson Jessie of Etowah and stepson John and wife Tammy of Grand Ridge, Fla. and step grandchildren, Michael, Kaitlyn, Reba (Devin) and step great-granddaughter Anyssa.

The family will have a private graveside service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice, Wounded Warriors or a charity of your choice.

Pamela Clark Trent

Pamela Clark Trent, 66, went on to Glory on July 15, 2020. The daughter of James Lewis Clark and Miriam Jean Maybriar Clark, she was born on Christmas Day in 1954. She proved to be one of the best Christmas gifts her family ever received. Her love for each family member was evident, strong, and enduring. Her long abiding love has left all of them with many wonderful memories.



Pamela Clark Trent

She was a hardworking lady who would do anything for her family. Chassidy Trent was her best friend whom she loved spending time with, especially going on rides around town. They all knew, however, to let her enjoy her favorite television shows in peace and quiet. She was a long time fan of "Days of our Lives," "General Hospital," and "Grey's Anatomy."

She loved God and depended on Him to help her through life. She was the type of person to carry on no matter what came her way. She went with the flow, making the best of every situation.

Her loving and caring spirit will be remembered by her friends and family, especially by her dad and her five children, April J. Fritz (Lee), Jerry W. Trent (Hannah), Amy M. Heater (Jerry), Gail M. Bilbrey, and Keith A. Bilbrey; her sister, Debbie Trent (Arlow); her 12 grandchildren, and her seven great-grandchildren. She adored all of her family, but the one who stole the biggest piece of her heart was her granddaughter, Madison.

She preceded in death by her mother and her grandson, Joshua Haber.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family. Online condolences may be made at www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com.

Allie Sue Price Keener

Allie Sue Price Keener, 91, passed way Tuesday, July 14, 2020. She was born Feb. 11, 1929, in Jackson County, North Carolina, to the late Raymond Jerome Price and Lora Lee Cabe Price. She was married to the late William Lee Keener who preceded her Aug. 16, 2015. She was a home maker, loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She loved sewing, housekeeping, cooking for family, friends, and the community. Most of all she loved the Lord and she loved to share the good news of Jesus. She was a member of Selica United Methodist Church in Transylvania and she attended Goldmine Baptist Church.

Survivors include her six children, Katherine Lee Reece (L.C.) of Waterloo, S.C., Susan Keener Holland (Mark) of Brevard, N.C., Keith Allan Keener (Teresa) of Hendersonville, N.C., Gary Price Keener (Sylvia) of Pisgah Forest, N.C., Michael Dennis Keener (Rose) of Cedar Mountain, N.C.; and William Wade Keener of Highlands, N.C.; 12 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Saturday, July 18, in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home.

Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.

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

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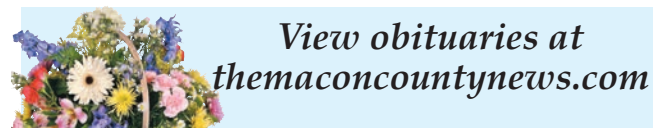
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Chase Elliott wins his first NASCAR All-Star Race

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

The sport's reigning Most Popular Driver, Chase Elliott earned his first NASCAR All-Star Race win Wednesday night (7/15) at Bristol Motor Speedway – holding off the reigning NASCAR Cup Series champion Kyle Busch in the closing laps.

Elliott led 60 of the 140 laps en route to the \$1.1 million paycheck. He and his father Bill Elliott join father/son combination of Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr. to have won the sport's midseason All-Star exhibition. Interestingly, Bill Elliott won the race when it was held in Atlanta and Chase's victory at the half-mile Bristol, Tenn. short track are the only two times the event was held at a track other than Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Elliott's No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet took a convincing lead at times in the second half of the 140-lap event, but ultimately he had to hold off a hard-charging Busch who is still looking to hoist his first race trophy of the 2020 season. The winning difference between them was a mere .418-seconds.

The season's driver standings leader Kevin Harvick finished third, followed by Team Penske's Brad Keselowski and 2020 Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin. Ryan Blaney, who led a race-best 72 laps, finished sixth. His Penske teammate Joey Logano, Alex Bowman, Aric Almirola and Martin Truex Jr. rounded out the top-10.

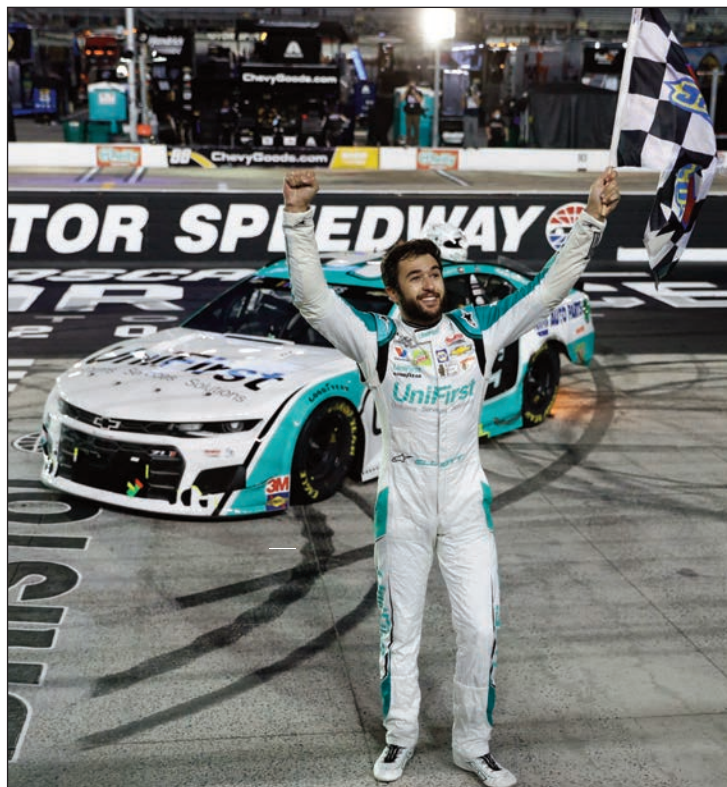
Elliott's win was hugely popular even to the limited number of fans who were allowed to attend the race in person and they celebrated by showering the 24-year old with cheers.

"Oh my gosh, there's no feeling like it, nothing like it," a smiling Elliott said after climbing of his Chevrolet. "Bristol is an electric atmosphere unlike any place we go to. We're going to celebrate this one for sure. Just can't thank all our partners enough, everybody that makes this happen. All those No. 9 hats and t-shirts up in the stands – love to see it."

NASCAR tried a couple innovative and seemingly well-received ideas at the non-points race, including fitting the cars with lights that provided an under-glow and also a new format for re-starts that allowed drivers to pick whichever lane they preferred – outside or inside.

Ultimately, however, the race still came down to just old-fashioned horsepower and age-old strategy among the 20 drivers who earned positions in the race.

"We're trying hard and we're running okay, but it seemed like we were mired in 10th place for much of that race tonight and the last couple of adjustments really helped us," Busch said. "I got a good restart and went from 12th all the way up to fifth [in the final 15-lap stage] so that was a huge bonus for us



Chase Elliott, driver of the #9 UniFirst Chevrolet, celebrates after winning the NASCAR Cup Series All-Star Race at Bristol Motor Speedway on July 15, 2020 in Bristol, Tennessee.

getting that track position. Overall, just got to keep fighting. I think that's like four, five six second places this year, what do you do? You just have to keep going."

Almirola's ninth-place finish was the best among those drivers who qualified for the NASCAR All-Star Race by winning a stage in the NASCAR All-Star Open at the track earlier. William Byron also advanced with stage win in the Open and Matt DiBenedetto took home the checkered flag in the NASCAR All-Star Open - his first time winning the non-points paying event. Clint Bowyer earned a position on the grid by winning the Fan Vote.

Austin Cindric wins Xfinity race at Texas Motor Speedway

Austin Cindric collected his third consecutive NASCAR Xfinity Series win Saturday afternoon at Texas Motor Speedway after Kyle Busch's No. 54 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota failed post-race inspection – the left rear on his car ruled too low.

The Team Penske driver Cindric, who swept a doubleheader weekend at Kentucky Speedway last week, originally finished less than a second behind Busch, but the finishing order was corrected to show Cindric the winner and Xfinity Series championship leader Chase Briscoe the race runner-up.

Justin Allgaier, who led a race best 98 of the 201 laps, rallied back through the field for a third-place finish after being penalized for a pit road exit violation with 30 laps remaining. The blend line penalty forced him to rally from two laps down making his third place effort that much more impressive.

Sunoco rookie Harrison Burton, a two-race winner in 2020 finished fourth and Michael Annett was fifth. Jeb Burton, Brandon Jones, Kaulig Racing teammates Justin Haley and Ross Chastain and Brandon Brown rounded out the top 10. It marks the ninth consecutive top-10 finish for Chastain and is Brown's fourth top 10 of the season.

Cindric was dressed in a Texas winner's tradition white cowboy hat when he showed up for a second media video conference Saturday after being officially declared the race winner. He conceded the Busch-DQ wasn't how he liked to win races but victories are hard to come by at this level.

"Obviously great to get the Money Lion Ford Mustang in Victory Lane no matter how it happens," Cindric said. "Great points day."

Cindric – only the ninth driver in NASCAR Xfinity Series history to win three straight races – said he was tipped off to the possibility of a change in finishing order after walking out of his team transporter and saw Busch's car and team still undergoing inspection in the garage.

"You want to win it on track and I feel like we had a shot to do that today and maybe didn't execute as well as we should have and that's what kept us out, but fast race cars and being in position, that's what



Austin Cindric, driver of the #22 MoneyLion Ford, poses in Victory Lane after being awarded the victory when Kyle Busch, driver of the #54, failed post-race inspection following the NASCAR Xfinity Series Bariatric Solutions 300 at Texas Motor Speedway on July 18, 2020 in Fort Worth, Texas.

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counts," Cindric said. And, the ace road course racer laughed acknowledging that he now has more NASCAR Xfinity Series oval wins (three) than road course triumphs (two).

"I'll take it," he said. "It's great to be able to capitalize on fast race cars. I said that last week and I'll say that again. I didn't think this weekend we were quite as good as what we had in Kentucky but overall being able to run up front all day and get great stage points was great and we've just got to keep building on that."

Justin Allgaier, the driver of the No. 7 JR Motorsports Chevrolet swept the opening two stages – the sixth time he's done that in his career. But he's only turned that early race dominance into a victory one other time. And it was not to be on Saturday afternoon because of the late race pit road penalty. It's the second time this season he has led the most laps but not earned the trophy. He led 156 laps at Bristol, Tenn. in June but finished 18th.

The series races next in the Kansas Lottery 250 at Kansas Speedway next Saturday at 5 p.m.

Austin Dillon wins at Texas Motor Speedway

Austin Dillon held a hard-charging field off three times on restarts in the closing laps to earn his first NASCAR Cup Series victory of the 2020 season in Sunday's O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 at Texas Motor Speedway. It was a 1-2 finish for the Richard Childress Racing team with Dillon's rookie teammate Tyler Reddick finishing a mere .149-seconds behind.

Before the Texas green flag, Dillon was 24 points outside the NASCAR Cup Series Playoff top-16 and now the Texas winner has an automatic berth. It's his third career victory – with other trophies in the 2017 Daytona 500 and NASCAR's longest race, the 2018 Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway – 88 races ago.

Dillon, 30, grandson of NASCAR Hall of Fame team owner Richard Childress, was emotional after the win, screaming "thank you" into his team radio and then dedicating the victory to his wife Whitney and their one-month old son, Ace, back at home in North Carolina.

"Not bad for a silver spoon kid, right," Dillon joked after climbing out of his No. 3 RCR Chevrolet, a reference to his upbringing in NASCAR's brand of royalty.

"Tyler Reddick, he raced me clean. 1-2 for RCR. This has been coming. We've had good cars all year. I've got my baby Ace back home and my wife and I love them so much. I'm just so happy. Thank God. To tell you the truth, it means a whole lot [to be in the Playoffs] for the family, for all our of partners."

Team Penske driver Joey Logano finished third, reigning NASCAR Cup Series champion Kyle Busch was fourth, still looking for his first victory of 2020. NASCAR Cup Series points leader Kevin Harvick finished fifth.

Erik Jones, Ryan Blaney, Kurt Busch, Brad Keselowski and Aric Almirola rounded out the top 10. Blaney led a race-best 150 of the 334 laps and swept the opening two stages, but it



Austin Dillon, driver of the #3 Bass Pro Shops Chevrolet, celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 at Texas Motor Speedway on July 19, 2020 in Fort Worth, Texas.

marks the second time he's led at least 100 laps at Texas and didn't get to collect the trophy.

Blaney and several other of the day's frontrunners were making their way forward after green flag pit stops when a caution came out with 31 laps remaining for young driver Quinn Houff, who crashed while trying to get to pit lane. That changed the complexion of the race and many of the afternoon's best cars were then left to play catch-up while Reddick and Dillon were able to pit under caution instead of the green flag as the others had.

"Disappointing finish for sure," said Blaney, driver of the No. 12 Team Penske Ford. "Dominant car all day, especially on long runs. Really proud of that. Just unfortunate the way it ended for us."

Reddick acknowledged the track position was a huge help at the end. And runner-up is a career-best finish for the former two-time NASCAR Xfinity Series champion in the NASCAR Cup Series.

"We had to catch a few breaks," Reddick said. "Can't ask for much more than we got there, me and my teammate on the front for the last couple restarts. He's done this a little longer than I have and I'm a little bit rusty, haven't been on the front row in a while."

With his 11th top-five finish, Harvick now leads the NASCAR Cup Series standings by 91 points over Ryan Blaney in second.

Ten drivers have now clinched Playoff berths with victories leaving six positions open with eight races remaining to set the 16-driver postseason field. The NASCAR Cup Series races next at Kansas Speedway Thursday night at 7:30 p.m.

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1. On a cruise, 2 words
6. Horse poker
9. Deadly slitherers
13. Way to curl hair
14. "Today is gone. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another ____."
15. Islam's Supreme Being
16. Subway coin
17. Salve for Tin Woodman
18. Grim Reaper
19. "A ____'s s Fine-Something-That-All-People-Need."
21. "Christmas Day will always be, Just as long as we ____"
23. Structure named for 31st President
24. Indoor allergy trigger
25. Ship pronoun
28. H. H. Munro's pen name
30. Something or anything
35. Madam, to a cowboy
37. Dr. Jones, to his friends
39. Best not mentioned
40. Not in favor of
41. Myths and legends, e.g.
43. Maitre d's list
44. France's longest river
46. "I Can Read ____ My Eyes Shut!"
47. Use a beeper
48. In direct line of descent
50. Italian car maker
52. Equinox mo.
53. Coral barrier
55. Not a friend
57. "From there to here, From here to there, Funny ____ are everywhere."
60. "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. ____."
63. Canine foe
64. However, poetically
66. Full
68. Up and about
69. Porridge grain
70. Say something
71. Start of a conclusion

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1. "Step with care and great tact. And remember that life's A Great Balancing ____."
 2. Turkey dance
 3. Punjabi believer
 4. Correct
 5. Pause in breathing, pl.
 6. "If you never did, you should. These things are fun and fun is ____."
 7. "Wheel of Fortune" request, 2 words

8. Indian metropolis
9. Sheltered, nautically
10. BBQ side
11. Toupee spot
12. "Zip it!"
15. Countdown to Christmas
20. Inbox item
22. Chowd down
24. Middle of a torso
25. "A person's a person, no matter how ____"
26. Capital of Vietnam
27. Dine at home
29. "You're on your own. And you know what you ____"
31. Pipe smoker's tool
32. Letter-shaped girder
33. Polynesian kingdom
34. "Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is ____ than you."
36. Bog down
38. Sasquatch's Himalayan cousin
42. Elevator passage
45. Breadwinner
49. Race part
51. 50-50
54. Bar by estoppel
56. Related on mother's side
57. Baloney
58. Rwanda's majority
59. a.k.a. The Islamic State
60. Itty-bitty bit
61. ____ von Bismarck
62. Not quite an adult
63. Latissimus dorsi, for short
65. "It's a shirt. It's a sock. It's a glove. It's a ____"
67. Wine quality

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3BR/2.5BA with 2 Fireplaces and DOUBLEWIDE 48" x 58" 3000...
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Classifieds

Help Wanted

MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT
Macon Program for Progress is currently seeking bids for a Mental Health Consultant. The person selected will work with children and families that have been referred for services, providing counseling and therapy as necessary. The consultant will also work closely with teachers to provide assistance in a mental health curriculum as well as consulting on managing children's challenging behaviors. This person will also facilitate a Parenting Support Group. This person should possess a BS degree and be licensed or certified as a mental health professional. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest to Macon Program for Progress, ATTN: Executive Director, PO Box 700, Franklin, NC 28744 by 5:00 p.m. Monday, August 3, 2020.

JOB POSTING COOK: Full-time position, 40 hours per week. Monday – Friday work hours 7am- 3:30pm. Provides food services for Early Head Start and/or Head Start Center. Benefit package includes health insurance, paid vacation and sick leave, retirement and paid educational benefits, plus 11 paid holidays. Great environment and supportive staff. Requirements: Must be able to plan, coordinate and implement nutrition services for the center. Must be able to read/write English, lift up to 50 pounds, work well with people, and communicate effectively. HS diploma or equivalent required. Prior experience as a cook preferred. Valid NC driver's license. Employment drug screen and background check is required after job offer. Ways to apply: NC Works office, 23 Macon Avenue, Franklin NC or www.ncworks.gov MPP website / Email resume to admin@mppnhc.org Visit the Administrative office @ Orchard View Dr., Franklin, NC 28734. Or check out our Facebook page Apply by 5:00 pm Monday, August 3, 2020. An EOE/AA Employer.

JOB POSTING EARLY Head Start Teacher: Assists Lead Teacher in implementing a designated and appropriate research-based early childhood curricula. Employs age appropriate child guidance techniques. Supervises the children at all times in the classroom and on the playground. Observes children and records observations, assists in maintaining records and reports as required. Maintains ongoing communication with parents striving to achieve parental involvement in classroom and activities. Must be willing to attend job training. Performs other duties as assigned. Full-time, 12 month position. CDA or AA degree required. Valid driver's license required and willingness to obtain CDL driver's license. Employment drug screen and background check is required after job offer. Ways to apply: MPP website / Email resume to admin@mppnhc.org. Visit the Administrative office @ Orchard View Dr., Franklin, NC 28734 Check out our Facebook page Apply by 5:00 pm Monday, August 3, 2020. An EOE/AA Employer.

JOB POSTING CLASSROOM Assistant: Ability to collaborate and work with the Lead Teacher and Teacher in assigned classrooms. Follows the daily lesson plan for assigned or scheduled classroom. Ability to apply Early Childhood Development theory to daily classroom activities and adapts the theory to the individualized needs of children. Supervises and maintains safety of children by following indoor and outdoor environment safety rules, routines and procedures. Relates to children in a calm, caring, and nurturing manner and uses age appropriate child guidance techniques. Must be willing to attend job training. Performs other duties as assigned. Full-time, 12 month position. High School diploma or GED required; CDA or AA preferred. CPR and First Aid Certification at time of hire or achieve within first 6 weeks of hire. NC Early Childhood Certificate and CDA required within one year of hire. Valid driver's license required and willingness to obtain CDL driver's license. Employment drug screen and background check is required after job offer. Ways to apply: MPP website / Email resume to admin@mppnhc.org Visit the Administrative office @ Orchard View Dr., Franklin, NC 28734. Check out our Facebook page. or NC Works office, 23 Macon Avenue, Franklin NC or www.ncworks.gov Apply by 5:00 pm Monday, August 3, 2020. MPP is an EOE/AA Employer.

JOB POSTING FAMILY Service Advocate: The Advocate guides families in their efforts to become more self-sufficient, to promote children's learning and development, to set achievable goals by engaging in the Family Partnership Process and to become strong advocates for themselves and their families and encourages them to grow and reach their fullest potential. High involvement and communication with families, assisting in program enrollment processes, help secure resources and provides crisis intervention services, maintains accurate documentation, monitors weekly attendance for absenteeism and conducts home visits when necessary. Education and Experience: High school diploma/equivalent required. BS/AA in Human Services or related field preferred. Social Service skills, case management, child and family service experience preferred. Requires flexibility in working hours, organization skills, computer knowledge for data entry and ability to work with children and families to assess and identify family strengths and needs. Ability to speak Spanish helpful. Valid NC driver's license. Employment drug screen and background check is required after job offer. Ways to apply: NC Works office, 23 Macon Avenue, Franklin NC or www.ncworks.gov MPP website / Email resume to admin@mppnhc.org Visit the Administrative office @ Orchard View Dr., Franklin, NC 28734 Or check out our Facebook page Apply by 5:00 pm Monday, August 3, 2020. An EOE/AA Employer.

CNA NEEDED FOR In-home Care, Part-time Days. Call Companion Health Care. (828)524-6444.

The Classifieds

Help Wanted

COMPANION HEALTH CARE Now Hiring: CNA's and Experienced Caregivers Needed for in Home Care. Call (828)524-6444.

NUTRITION CONSULTANT Macon Program for Progress is currently seeking bids for Nutrition Consultant to provide consulting services including menu development, evaluation and development of nutrition care plans for children with special dietary needs, evaluating and monitoring food safety and sanitation practices, and other nutrition related services as needed. Consultant must possess a BS Degree in a related field and be licensed or certified. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest to Macon Program for Progress, ATTN: Executive Director, PO Box 700, Franklin, NC 28744 by 5:00 p.m. Monday, August 3, 2020.

ZAXBY'S OF FRANKLIN Now Hiring Full-time Assistant Managers. Apply at www.zaxjobs.com. Come grow with us!

OLD EDWARDS INN Servers, Host/Hostess, bussers, Asst. Pastry Chef, Pastry Cook, Cook, Dishwashers, Bellman, Night Auditor, Housekeepers, Turndown Attendants, Houseman, Cosmetologist, Certified Massage Therapist, Spa Attendant, Part-time Marketing & Administrative Assistant, Gardener's Assistants (Full-time year round, full-time seasonal, part-time seasonal). Please apply online at www.oldedwardsinn.com/careers

Real Estate

MOUNTAIN MEADOWS LOT 9 (off Tessentee Rd.,) 1.11 acre \$9,000. Wildflower Lot 74. Lower Ridge Rd., 2.25 acres \$25,000. Make Offer Trades Considered. (828)371-2891.

4 UNIQUELY BEAUTIFUL Cullasaja Riverfront Lots in Eco community located between Franklin and Highlands on Hwy 28 N. \$79K to \$99K. (828) 371-7940.

2 LOTS ON WHITE OAK CIRCLE in Franklin. (828)347-2878.

Rentals

RV/TINY HOME SPACE Short distance to town. \$325/month. Four-month minimum. Includes water, sewer and trash. Drive by at 42 Shallow Hollow Road then call for details. (828)346-1200.

FIXER UPPER BY OWNER 2BD/1BA single-family home on .35 acre lot. Owner Financing. Great potential for handy homeowner. Drive by at 1284 Hidden Hills Road, Franklin then call for details. \$45,000. (828)346-1200.

NEW EFFICIENCY Includes WIFI, TV, Water, Electric, Refrigerator, Microwave, All Amenities, Weekly or Monthly, Park at Front Door All Even Ground. Military Discount. (828)421-5914.

Misc. For Sale

POOR BLUEBERRY CROP But Lots of Delicious Thornless Blackberries. Bring the Children, Have Fun. Sharp's Berry Farm. (828)371-0190, (828)342-4250.

KITCHEN TABLE 5'X4' with four upholstered cloth chairs. Excellent condition. \$150. Downtown Franklin. Text or call (828)508-5745.

FARMERS MARKET Summer Season 8am-Noon, every Saturday. Produce, honey, trout, Fresh Chicken, artisan breads, pastries, preserves, handcrafted soaps, eggs, peonies, Hydrangeas, Turnips, CBD Oils. 200 Block East Palmer.

MILITARY SURPLUS BDU Pants/Shirts, Boots, M65 Field Jackets Gortex, Parkers, Field Gear, Sleeping Bags, Much More! (828)349-3140.

CHEROKEE PLUS We Buy & Sell Coins, Currency, Scrap Gold & Silver. (828)421-2461 or (262)488-3374.

GOT STUFF? Sell it in a Classified ad. Call (828)369-6767 for details.

Services

PAINTING & STAINING Residential, Interior/Exterior, Repaint, Pressure Washing, Deck Repair, Locally Owned & Operated, Franklin/Highlands Area, 30 Years, Excellent References, Free Estimates, Insured, Chandler Contracting. (828)369-5104, (828)226-3792.

HILLBLAZER PROPERTY Maintenance/Management: Pressure Washing, Repairs, Painting, Debris Removed, Insured, Property Inspections, Monitoring (828)371-6844 US Navy Veteran Retired.

GUTTER & DOWNSPOUT Cleaning and Repair. New Installation, Leaf Guards. No Job Too Small, Free Estimates. (828)524-5475.

CAROLINA PAINTING & Remodeling, Pressure Washing, Painting, Home Repairs, 28 Years Experience in WNC. No Job Too Small. Home (828)349-9087, Cell (828)371-9754.

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C & C PUMPS Well Pump Sales, Service & Installations. Iron Removal Filter Systems. Call David Cheek (828)369-5176.

HAUL-4-U Pick-up/Delivery/Moving, Appliances, Furniture, Residential/Commercial Clean Outs. Garbage/Trash/Rubbish, Single Piece to Full Moves. (828)332-7175.

Garage & Yard Sales

796 PRENTISS BRIDGE RD. Friday, 8-12, Saturday 8-12, Small Dinette Set, Bookcases, Crafts, Clothing, Linens, Kitchen Ware.

345 AIRPORT RD 7/25, 8am-1pm. Cleaning out Sale! Name brand children and women's clothing and shoes. Collectibles, home decor, accent furniture and lighting. Linens, kitchen essentials, tools, ladders and much more. Smoke free home.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY (July 24, 25) from 8-3 at 55 & 96 Mashburn Ridge Road. Everything from high-end estate items and furniture, clothes from baby to adult, tools, household furnishings, and much more!

YOUR FAVORITE SALE Is Back! Maples Park, Friday, July 24, Saturday, July 25, 8am-? Masks A Must.

Wanted

WANTED TO BUY U.S. and Foreign Coins and Currency. Top Prices Paid. Free Appraisal. Call Dan (828)421-1616. danhazazer@gmail.com

Motor Vehicles

2015 INFINITI Q70 3.7L 330HP, One Owner, Always Garaged, Leather, Nav, M/R, 28,700 Mi, Graphite Shadow/Wheat, \$26,500. (828)524-5391.

AUTO PARTS/COLLISION Parts: Bumpers, Fenders, Headlights and Used Parts, Motors, Transmissions, Accessories. Installation Available. Franklin Body Shop. (828)524-7494.

Boats & Campers

14' ORLANDO CLIPPER aluminum boat with trailer and 25 hp Johnson outboard motor. Lots of accessories. \$1,500.00 firm. (828)524-8573.

CLASSIFIED ads in The Macon County News are \$8 for 20 words or less. Call (828)369-6767.

Animals

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

GREENTHUMB LAWN SERVICES Do you need Storm Cleanup? Lawn Maintenance, Landscaping, Leaf Blowing, Handyman Services. 16 Years Experience. Call (828)421-8847.

STALLSWORTH PAINTING Interior/Exterior, Pressure Washing, Handyman, 35 Years Experience. (239)860-0117.

CRANE BROS. WELL Drilling, 6" Drilled Wells for Farms Homes and Industries, Free Estimates. 248 Crane Circle, Franklin. (828)524-4976.

PROFESSIONAL KNIFE and scissor sharpening Mon-Sat. Kitchen Sink Inc. 72 E. Main Street, Franklin (828)524-2956.

HANDYMAN HOME REPAIRS Carpentry, Pressure Washing, Gutter Cleaning, Decks, Drywall, Painting, Electrical/Plumbing, Repairs of any kind. 40 Years, Fast/Reasonable/Reliable. (828)332-7247.

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NEW CREATIONS Landscaping LLC. Spring landscaping Projects, Cleanup, Annual Color, Mulch, Pine Straw, Aerating, Fertilizing, Hardscapes, Steps, Retaining Walls, Grading, Gravel, Design, Grounds Maintenance and Much More! Licensed & Insured, Free Estimates (828)524-6959.

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SQUID'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR & Service, 867 Highlands Rd., by Franklin Flea Market. (828)342-5135. (239)860-0117.

LAWNS MOWED in Macon County Area, 24 Years Mowing Experience. Starting at \$30. Call (828)524-0114.

GRAVEL *GRAVEL *GRAVEL Franklin, Otto, Dillard, Jackrabbit Hauling (828)332-8283.

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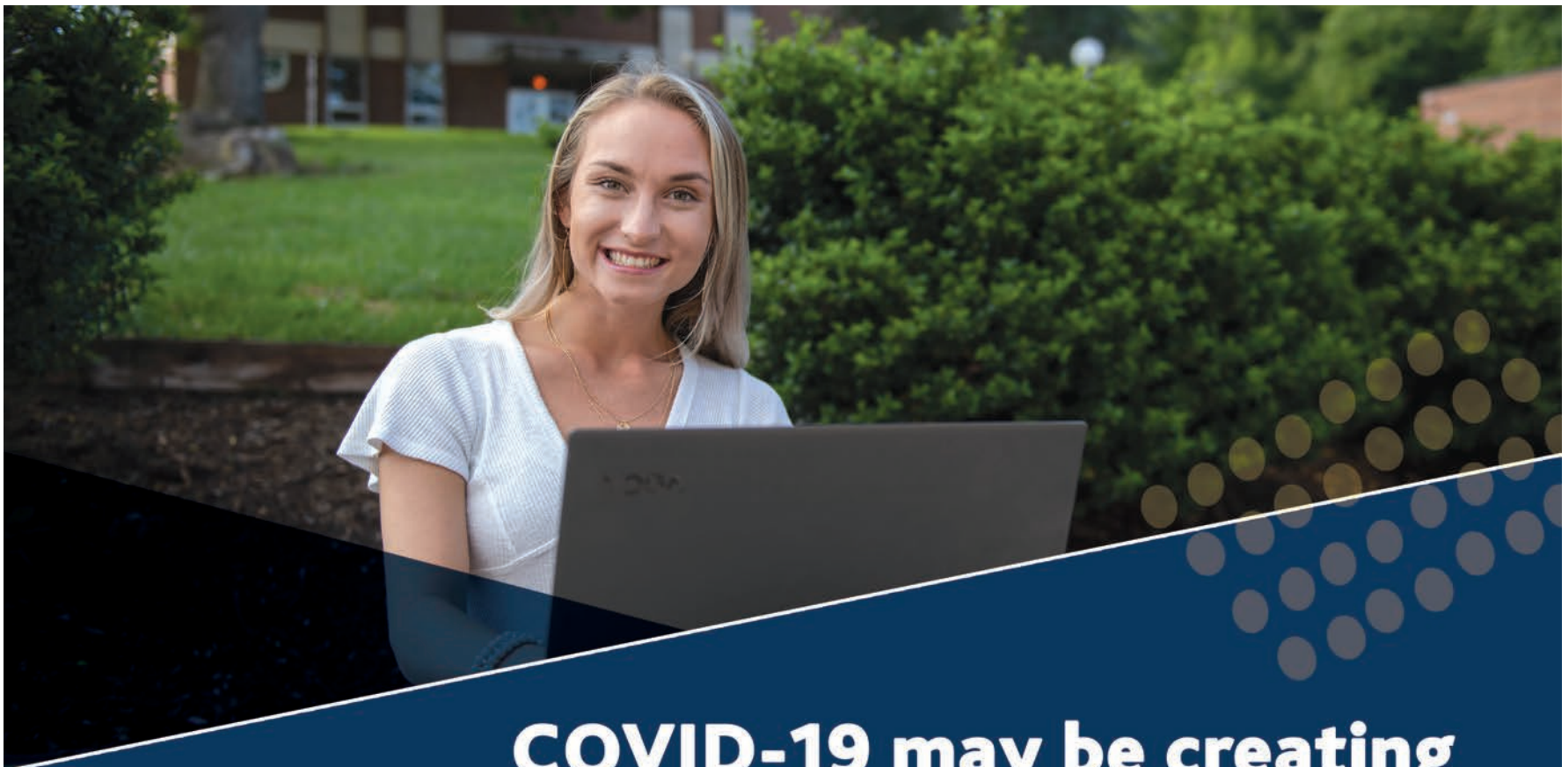


Meet the Team

Anna Stager, Deanna Stager, Charles Bryant, Jamie Stamey, Matt Iannuzzi, April Moore

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