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FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Franklin High School Football recognized three individuals who have spent the last two-plus decades calling football games at The Panther Pit. Donnie Clouse and his wife Angel have been the voice of the Panthers announcing JV games on Thursdays and youth games on Saturdays for the last 36 years. Guy Duvall and David Morgan have been announcing varsity games for the last 23 years. Pictured are (L-R) head coach Josh Brooks, Clouse, and athletic directors Matt Bradley and Ryan Haley. Individual plaques honoring Clouse and Duvall will be added to Morgan's on the Wall of Honor at the west end of the stadium. For more on Friday's game against the Murphy Bulldogs, see page 12.

Photo by Vickie Carpenter

## County steps up for flood ravaged Canton

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Just a short drive from Franklin, folks in Haywood County are continuing to pick up the pieces after a devastating flood saturated the town last week as a result of Tropical Storm Fred.

Parts of Western North Carolina received more than 10 inches from Sunday through Wednesday, the National Weather Service said. Rain exceeded five inches from Monday evening to Tuesday evening alone in the Haywood County community of Canton, swelling the Pigeon River to more than nine feet above flood stage and the highest level since 2004.

The death toll rose to five on Sunday afternoon when the fifth victim, Frank Lauer Sr., 74, of Cruso, was identified. The others confirmed dead as a result of the storm are Frank Mungo, 86, Franklin McKenzie, 68, Judy Mason, 73, Charlene Mungo, 83, all of Cruso.

See FLOOD RELIEF page 2



The Franklin Fire Department and the Franklin Police Department began collecting supplies for flood victims the day after heavy rains poured into Haywood County.

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# Multi-agency teamwork leads to drug seizures and arrests

North Carolina Highway Patrol Trooper Michael Gerra initiated a traffic stop on Wednesday, July 28, after observing a vehicle traveling on 441 business operating without tail lights. While conducting his vehicle stop, Trooper Gerra observed drug paraphernalia within plain view of the vehicle. The Trooper called for further assistance from the Macon County Sheriff Office. Sgt. Nick Lofthouse and K9 Diesel immediately responded to assist.

Sgt. Lofthouse deployed K9 Diesel who quickly provided a positive alert indicating the odor of illegal substances coming from within the vehicle. A more thorough search of the inside of the vehicle was initiated. The search led to the recovery of approximately 18.5 grams of methamphetamine and 14 grams of mushrooms.

Terri Bolin was immediately arrested and is currently being held in the Macon County Detention Center with a secured bond of \$15,000 for the following charges:

- Possess with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine
- Possess drug paraphernalia
- Maintain vehicle/dwelling/place for controlled substance
- Possess Schedule I controlled substance
- Possess with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver Schedule I controlled substance
- Failure to appear on felony

On the same day, Trooper Gerra initiated a traffic stop on another vehicle operating without proper registration. Following this traffic stop, Trooper Gerra again requested assistance from the Macon County Sheriff's Office.

Sgt. Lofthouse and K9 Diesel arrived on scene and once again K9 Diesel indicated a positive alert on the vehicle. An initial search of the vehicle by the officer found



Sgt. Nick Lofthouse and K9 Diesel

drug paraphernalia.

Other deputies from the MCSO, patrol, and investigations, assisted with the search of the vehicle and also the vehicle occupants. During the search, approximately 2.5 grams of suspected heroin was located.

Nicholai Lamb was arrested with possession of heroin and drug paraphernalia and booked into the Macon County Detention Center on a \$5,000 secured bond.

"These arrests are yet another example of why it is so important for us to continue building and maintaining good working relationships with our counterparts throughout western North Carolina and Georgia," said Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland. "No matter what agency, our local, state, or federal partners we are all a team with one common goal... keeping and ensuring our communities remain safer places to live."

# FLOOD RELIEF

Continued from page 1

Flooding and washouts have done significant damage to county roads – especially around the community of Cruso – with 10 to 15 bridges damaged or destroyed, the county emergency services department said.

From the moment that news broke of the damage to Haywood County, communities across Western North Carolina stepped up to help. First responders from neighboring agencies travelled to Haywood County to assist in search and rescue missions, local churches and fire departments collected needed supplies, and agencies set up makeshift shelters at local high schools.

Congressional leaders Rep. Madison Cawthorn and Sen. Thom Tillis toured the devastation as did Gov. Roy Cooper – all eager to complete a damage assessment in hopes of gaining assistance from FEMA. Senator Kevin Corbin and Rep. Karl Gillespie put out a call for help for surrounding counties for supplies – and the Macon County community sprang into action.

The Franklin Police Department and Franklin Fire Department began collecting supplies such as cleaning materials and water the day after the flood. A group of Macon County farmers even reached into their own supplies to collect desperately needed hay for livestock in Haywood County.

A group of Macon County residents led by Kevin McCall, Mike Gibson, Benjamin Vanhook, Ben Koszyczepki, and Josh Drake organized a donation drive that promised to match

monetary donations after reaching a \$5,000 goal. By Tuesday morning, the group was just shy of their \$50,000 goal to be donated to families in need in Haywood County.

"We have received over \$10,000 from folks in Macon County – we even had a young boy stop to give us \$2 and some change that he had been saving up," said Vanhook. "Then the VanDrake investment team started reaching out to our competitors around the region challenging them to match donations and those guys stepped up."

Vanhook said their competitors from Boone to Tennessee matched the locally donated funds and by Tuesday afternoon, their efforts totaled \$46,500.

"We really want to surpass \$50,000 to help these families begin to rebuild," said Vanhook.

According to Vanhook, they have been in touch with Canton Mayor Zeb Smathers and will be dropping off the supplies that have been donated at the trailer located at the Patrick Jenkins Farm Bureau Office on the Highlands Road. The funds that have been donated will be given to a Haywood County church or non-profit and will be specifically used to help children and families impacted by the flooding.

"We want to help families get school supplies and school clothes. We know they lost everything so we want this money to be used to help those children and families," said Vanhook.

Donations can be made at the Farm Bureau Office on the Highlands Road, or online at the GoFundMe page organized by Vanhook.



Local farmers took from their own supply of hay to help Haywood County farmers whose hay may have been lost or damaged in the flood or grazing lands compromised by the flood waters.




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# School Board decides to continue requiring face coverings in school

Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer

The Macon County Board of Education announced, at its continued board meeting on Monday night, that they will continue to require face coverings for teachers and students. Once COVID cases in the community drop to a level that the Macon County Health Department deems safe, the school board will convene and reconsider the face covering mandate.

The decision was based on the fact that the positivity rate here in Macon County is still at a dangerously high rate. Kathy McGaha, Macon County Health Director, stated at the meeting, "although the positivity rate has

dropped from 51% last week, to 26%, it is still at a dangerous level."

In the last week – from Aug. 17-Aug. 24, Macon County Public Health recorded an average of around 220 active positive cases per day and from 3609 recovered to 3812 recovered and 43 deaths. More than 10,500 tests have been conducted in the county, with 133 pending results on Tuesday.

The School Board also honored the Macon County Teacher of the Year, Thomas Graham, Music/Band Teacher at Macon Middle School; Mark Sutton, Principal of the Year, Macon Early College; and Christina Tallent, Support Person of the Year, Cartoogechaye Elementary School.



Mark Sutton  
Principal of the Year  
Macon Early College



Thomas Graham  
Teacher of the Year  
MMS Band/Music



Christina Tallent  
Support Person of the Year  
Cartoogechaye

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## Roadside garbage a concern for some Coon Creek residents; county laws 'vague' on forcing cleanup

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

One neighbor is angry at another neighbor in a subdivision in the Coon Creek community in the Mill Shoals District, according to Tommy Henderson, who resides there. As a result, garbage was dumped on private property to instigate discontent, he pointed out. Thus, questions have arisen as to what is allowed and not allowed – in terms of garbage – on private property.

Henderson offered more of an explanation about his concerns.

“One neighbor decided he was going to take a bunch of garbage around his home and dump it on the bank in front of his property, in eyesight of his neighbor’s house and other neighbors who drive by. The garbage is a terrible eye sore. And then he put up a posted sign in front of it so no one would touch it.”

Henderson called Macon County Solid Waste Management to report that the garbage is not only unsightly, but is next to a drainage ditch, and the garbage includes wood, tires, plastic drainage pipe, plastic buckets, and more.

“So we all have to look at it every day,” said Henderson, who has been living in the Franklin area since August 2019.

Chris Stahl, director of Solid Waste Management Department, noted that while “rules are fairly vague,” no one can dump or store waste that will “stink, rot, attract rats,” for example. Stahl said that his office has communicated with the disgruntled neighbor who has exposed garbage for all to see, but added, “We try not to be in the middle of a neighborhood dispute. The litmus test is: is it waste, such as a rotting carcass, or is it a big pile of metal that the property owner might be planning to sell or use? We wind up running into that scenario a lot and people might just be mad at each other. If the owner said it’s not waste, it’s not waste. We do get a lot of people having stuff stored and they don’t deem it to be trash. That doesn’t fall under our purview.”

Henderson acknowledged after a representative with Solid Waste visited the neighborhood and the offending neighbor, that wood was left in the ditch by the road but garbage such as the buckets and the plastic pipes were “moved up the bank a little, but you can still see it.”

Henderson presented his frustration to county commissioners in early August.

“I’ve also talked to the EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] in North Carolina, and they told me it’s a local matter.” He added, “If people want to make their properties look like a garbage dump, I guess they can in Macon County. It’s frustrating when people don’t care about other people.”



Coon Creek Road residents have tried to get some action on the load of trash dumped on the side of the road. Macon County Solid Waste Management has determined that “we can’t regulate how people live.” The trash is on private property.

“We do a lot of posturing and recommending,” said Stahl. “Most of the time, just us showing up results in improvements. But at some places, we are back every six months or every year. And the tough thing is, it’s hard to tell someone who is living next to this that a person’s personal property rights are sacrosanct. The bottom line is we can’t regulate how people live, even though I respect the fact that [Henderson] has to drive by that [garbage] every day.”

Anyone interested in learning more Solid Waste ordinances can visit the Macon County website. “And I am happy for people to contact me and we will take a look at it, but we can’t always give people what they want out of it. That’s just the nature of this dilemma,” said Stahl.

## ‘Don’t Drink and Drive’ campaign continues thru Labor Day

N.C. State Highway Patrol (NCSHP), N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and Mothers Against Drunk Driving North Carolina will continue their combined campaign, “On the Road, On the Water, Don’t Drink and Drive” with events and safety checkpoints throughout the state on Labor Day Weekend.

The multi-agency safety initiative works to reduce alcohol-related incidents on the state’s roadways and waterways, both of which see increased traffic during holidays.

“If your Labor Day weekend plans include drinking alcohol, it’s imperative to designate a sober driver whether you’re in a vehicle or on a boat,” said Lieutenant Forrest Orr of the Wildlife Commission. “A sober operator greatly improves your chances of a safe and incident-free experience on both the road and in the water.”

While wildlife law enforcement officers will be pat-

trolling public waterways, the NCSHP will be working in concert on the roads.

“Our continued partnership with N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission is essential to ensuring this Labor Day weekend is a celebration for all and not one that ends in tragedy,” said Colonel Freddy L. Johnson Jr., commander of the State Highway Patrol. “Whether it is a Trooper on the roadways or a Wildlife Officer on the water, our combined lifesaving efforts through education and enforcement make a difference every day and this dedicated work is undoubtedly saving lives.”

In North Carolina, a driver or vessel operator with a blood-alcohol concentration that meets or exceeds .08 or is substantially impaired by alcohol and/or drugs is subject to arrest.

For more information on boating safety and regulations, visit [ncwildlife.org/boating](http://ncwildlife.org/boating) or call 919-707-0031.

# Chainsaw training essential for trail maintenance

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Clearing away fallen trees and branches is an essential component of trail maintenance on the Appalachian Trail, Bartram Trail, and numerous other trail systems in Western North Carolina. Some brush and debris can be hand cleared by volunteers, but full-size trees and large limbs requires trained and certified sawyers.

A chainsaw certification training class by Mainspring Conservation Trust, but hosted by the Benton McKaye Trail Association, is planned for October. According to Rachel Newcomb, Conservation Outreach Associate at Mainspring, “This certification is taught by Dennis Helton of Helton Enterprises. Mainspring led and hosted a training in the spring on one of our properties with the same instructor, and it was very well-attended and participants highly lauded the experience.”

Brent Martin, executive director for the Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy, “I’ve been certified to use a chainsaw on the trails, but I’m going to get recertified since mine expires in September. It’s a three-year certification and you have to have it to work on national forest land.”

Martin said chainsaw-certified sawyers are greatly needed. “Chainsaw work isn’t for everyone. We’ve probably got a dozen certified sawyers to work on the Bartram trails. It’s always great to have more than less, to keep the trails clear,” said



Certified Sawyer Jim Chance clears blowdowns at Martin’s Creek Falls on the Bartram Trail.

Martin.

So far, Martin said six volunteers with Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy are signed up for the Oct. 15-16 class.

Martin added that if people do not want to become certified to operate a chainsaw, volunteers are still needed in other capacities for trail maintenance.

“We appreciate any volunteers so that we can keep the trails cleared for hikers to enjoy.”

He explained that the Wallace Branch to Wayah Bald “is one of the most heavily used sections of the Bartram Trail in our area, and because of trail maintainers, it’s in good shape for the upcoming Naturalist Trail Race - 25 / 50k Oct. 2.”

Martin hopes that people of all ages will consider the chainsaw certification class.

“We’re optimistic about what we’ve been able to accomplish with our volunteers. We have a lot of retired people doing trail maintenance, but we want to also build a youth and younger adult culture to be a part of this outdoor economy. Getting certified as a sawyer is one way to do that.”

The free class is open to supporters of Mainspring Conservation Trust, Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy, or Benton

McKay Trail Association and involves one-half day on Friday and then a full day on Saturday. To sign up or for more information, contact Rachel Newcomb at Mainspring Conservation Trust, (828)524-2711 ext. 305.



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# Higdon questions election process, asks for options to address issue

**Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer**

The Macon County Board of Commissioners is comprised of five members representing three districts around the county. The members are elected for four-year staggered terms meaning that three seats, one from District I and two from District II will be filled in November 2022; with the other two, one from District II and one from District III to be filled in November 2024.

Macon County Commissioner Paul Higdon, who represents District III, has often shared his concerns over the elections and districts and at the commissioners meeting, asked Macon County Attorney Eric Ridenour for clarification on ways to address issues.

In North Carolina, county commissioners are elected in November of each even-numbered year. Commissioners are elected to either two-year or four-year terms. This varies by county.

County elections are held in conjunction with state and federal elections. To be eligible to serve as a county commissioner, candidates must reside in the county in which they wish to serve, be a registered voter and be at least 21 years of age. There are no other formal requirements, and there are no limitations on how many terms a commissioner can serve.

The typical county board in North Carolina consists of five or seven commissioners, although some counties have as many as nine.

As dictated by the state, county commis-

sioners are elected either at large, by a district, a combination of the two, or via a limited voting system. For Macon County, commissioners are elected by a combination of the two, meaning that commissioners must live within a specific district, but are elected by all voters in Macon County.

District I consists of the precincts of Eljay, Flats, Highlands, and Sugarfork. District II, the county's largest district, consists of the precincts of Iotla, Millshoal, North Franklin, East Franklin, South Franklin, Union and Smithbridge; and District III consists of the precincts of Burningtown, Cartoogechaye, Cowee, and Nantahala.

## Higdon's Concerns

Commissioner Paul Higdon, who lives in Burningtown and represents District III, wants the county to look at other options for electing members to the Board of Commissioners because currently, someone residing in District II is able to run for commissioner every two years because there is a District II seat open for each of the staggered year groups. While District II can run every two years, commissioners in District III and I can only run every four years.

Higdon asked Ridenour to look at the possibility of the county doing something similar to the Macon County Board of Education, which has four district seats and one at-large seat. Ridenour noted that commissioner districts are divided based on population and in order to accomplish something like that, a complete redistricting would have to occur.

Macon County Commission Chair Jim Tate noted that he would be wary of redistricting due to the fact that it could make District I, which he represents, larger, reducing the chance that the board would have representation from the Highlands area.

Commissioner Ronnie Beale noted that for redistricting to even be considered, the county would have to wait until the new census numbers to be released, which likely wouldn't be until next year.

While redistricting is one option the Board of Commissioners could take, they do have other options. Macon County could change the way they hold elections altogether. Macon County could elect to have all commissioner seats elected every two years — or all seats elected every four years, without staggering terms. Another option would be for Macon County to switch the groups of districts that are staggered. For example, instead of the staggered years being split into group A, one from District I and two from District II, and group B, one from District II and one from District III, the groups could be split into group A being District I and District III and group B being all of District III. This change would result in the board seats remaining staggered terms, and place all district's on a four-year cycle.

Ridenour and Board of Election Director Melanie Thibault said they would continue to research the situation and provide additional options and clarifications at the September meeting of the Board.



**Macon County Commissioner Paul Higdon feels the current election process is unfair for the three districts that make up the electorate. Higdon represents District III which includes Burningtown, Cartoogechaye, Cowee and Nantahala precincts.**

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## ‘Migration and Settlement of WNC’ topic of historic society presentation

Henry Chambers will present “The Migration and Settlement of WNC” at the Sept. 2 meeting of the Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society (SCGHS). In the 1800's, our ancestors moved into Western North Carolina traveling on horseback, in wagons and sleds carrying with them all of their worldly possessions. These amazing people thought nothing of clearing the land, building a house, putting in and harvesting crops only to decide in a year or so that there was a better place just over the ridge or little further down the river. Then they would pull up stakes, move a few miles away and would start it all over again. The migration of these ancestors, who they were, the routes they followed, and where they settled will be the focus of Chambers's presentation.

Chambers is a native of Clay County, North Carolina, and a descendant of the Chambers family of Chambers Creek. He holds degrees and certificates in Civil Engineering, Resource Management, Computer Assisted Designs, Geographical Information Systems, Management in Government and several other specialties from WCU, NC State, UGA, GA Tech, and other schools. Al-

though he retired from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, he has continued to be a life-long student of the history and genealogy of Western North Carolina. He is currently the president and director of the Northshore Cemetery Association. He resides with his family in North Georgia.

The public is invited to this presentation on Sept. 2, at 6:30 p.m., at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center, 45 East Ridge Drive, Bryson City. East Ridge Drive is a right turn off Buckner Branch Road which is west of Ingles. The presentation is free and open to the public. Conversation will follow the presentation. Due to COVID precautions, refreshments will not be served. The gathering will follow CDC guidelines and the standards identified by Governor Roy Cooper in regard to COVID precautions. If guidelines change resulting in the cancellation of the meeting, an email notice will be sent out, it will be announced on WBHN, posted on the Genealogy Society Facebook page and an announcement will be recorded on the SCGHS answering machine (828-488-2932).

# Franklin's connection to Cherokee warrants historical remembrance

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Many residents and visitors know – but many do not – that the town proper of Franklin as well as Macon County played a major role as the setting of Native peoples' lives and deaths, from the origins of time until well into the 19th century. Robert Shook, curator of the Macon County Historical Society, paid tribute to Cherokee history and culture in the summer edition of the museum's "Echoes" publication by focusing on a particular person who is considered by some historians and Cherokee to have been a hero.

Late May 1838 involved members of the U.S. Army entering Western North Carolina and physically removing thousands of Cherokee residents from their homes and marching them to a series of six

nearby, impromptu forts or camps, including Fort Hembree in Hayesville and Fort Butler in Murphy. It was called the Indian Removal Act and was instigated by President Andrew Jackson. That many of those Cherokee lived in and around Franklin and were close friends with ever-increasing settler families is a surprise to a great many people.

The human face on the tragic event, which forced Cherokee away from their native homelands to walk to and establish new lives in Oklahoma, was that of a Cherokee man named Tsali. Also known as "Charley," he was a full-blooded Cherokee farmer who resided with his family near the mouth of the Nantahala River. Like many other Cherokee families, Tsali was reluctant to leave his homeland. He and other family members, including his wife and sons, were captured and, on the morning of Nov. 2, 1838, were in the process of being escorted to an army camp.

Although different accounts of the particular incident were documented, the general gist is that a soldier prodded Tsali's wife with a bayonet and a retaliation of Cherokee against soldiers ensued. One soldier was killed and others were injured, one mortally, while the group of Cherokee fled into the mountains.

"The story goes that Tsali's hideout was only known to a few," said Shook. William Holland Thomas was one of those. He was local merchant who served as agent for the Oconaluftee Cherokee. Thomas was also considered a "white chief" of the Cherokee and he is loosely portrayed in Author Charles Frazier's book, "13 Moons."

Shook writes that, "Thomas told Tsali that if he would come down to surrender, then the general would allow all the others who were in hiding to remain, and once more to es-

tablish homes for themselves and future generations. If they failed to surrender, Thomas told him, then [Major General Winfield] Scott would turn loose an army in the mountains and hunt them down like dogs, which would forever end the Cherokee race."

Tsali gave himself up and is a legendary hero, pointed out Shook, who explained his sacrifice via the scripture, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend." (John 15:13) The site where Tsali was executed is now under Fontana Lake, added Shook. A recreational area near Fontana Lake is named for Tsali.

Ongoing, Tsali is eulogized in many published and oral accounts and most significantly in the 71-year-old outdoor drama "Unto These Hills," staged each summer on the reservation in Cherokee, which is located 30 miles from Franklin.



Historic markers convey the significance of the local Cherokee story, including this one featuring information about Tsali.



Tsali's story is presented as part of the 71-year-old outdoor drama "Unto These Hills," staged each summer on the reservation in Cherokee, which is located 30 miles from Franklin.



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# TekTone's Nurse Call System nominated for 'Coolest Thing Made in NC'

The North Carolina Chamber has announced that TekTone Tek-CARE Nurse Call Systems is among the 68 products nominated for its annual "Coolest Thing Made in NC" online competition. Presented by Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc., the statewide contest invites the public to nominate and vote for their favorite product manufactured in North Carolina. Business North Carolina is serving as Media Partner, and the North Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NCMEP) is collaborating as a Supporting Organization.

"Congratulations to TekTone for making the list of 2021 'Coolest Thing' nominations. Made in NC products like TekTone Tek-CARE Nurse Call Systems reflect the wonderful variety and top quality of our manufacturers' work across our great state," said N.C. Chamber President and CEO Gary Salamido. "As we always say at the N.C. Chamber: what's made in North Carolina makes North Carolina."

In 2020, the N.C. Chamber launched the "Coolest Thing Made in NC" competition to celebrate North Carolina's innovative manufacturing community – and champion the next generation of manufacturers and creators by raising awareness about the rewarding careers of modern manufacturing. Last year, after 72 products nominated and 58,000 votes counted, Thomas Built Buses won the inaugural title for its Saf-T-Liner® C2 Jouley™ Electric School Bus.

"Manufacturing is an important part of our state economy, so we enjoy celebrating the products made right here in our back yard," said Greg Plemmons, senior vice presi-



dent of sales for Old Dominion Freight Line. "The businesses nominated for the 'Coolest Thing' competition represent the best of North Carolina, and Old Dominion is proud to partner with the NC Chamber for this unique contest."

Go to [coolestthingmadeinncc.com](http://coolestthingmadeinncc.com) to vote for TekTone Tek-

CARE Nurse Call Systems; the 15 semifinalists will be announced on September 2. The field of candidates will narrow with each round of voting, and the winning product will be revealed on Oct. 1, National Manufacturing (MFG) Day.

Join the contest's social media campaign by following #CoolestThingMadeinNC. In addition to receiving a trophy, the victorious company and product will be featured in NC Chamber and Business North Carolina publications, podcasts, social and digital media, among

#### About TekTone

Founded in 1973, TekTone® Sound & Signal Mfg., Inc. opened its manufacturing facility in Franklin in 1989. The company designs and manufactures nurse call, apartment entry, wireless emergency call, area of rescue assistance systems, and alert integration systems. TekTone® nurse call systems are found in assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and public and private hospitals around the globe. TekTone® headquarters is Franklin, N.C. - plus a network of first-rate distributors and representatives that stretches worldwide. Visit [www.tektone.com](http://www.tektone.com) or call toll free 800.327.8466.

#### About the NC Chamber

The NC Chamber works to research, develop, advocate, and communicate for solutions and policies that produce a nationally competitive business climate in North Carolina. For more information, visit [ncchamber.com](http://ncchamber.com).



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# Nurses take on project to improve veterans' sleep, reduce anxiety

**Vance Janes**  
WNC VA Health Care System PAO

Let's face it – for most people, it's hard to sleep in a hospital. An unfamiliar setting with unfamiliar people and unfamiliar sounds coupled with the stress of being treated, and it makes the perfect recipe for a lack of restful sleep.

Two registered nurses at the Western North Carolina VA Health Care System decided to do something about it. Debra "Cindy" Peters, RN, came up with the idea to use a white noise machine to drown out some of those undesirable noises going on around their patients to improve their sleep and to decrease anxiety.

They did this as part of a fiscal 2021 Spark Investment and, in doing so, they received \$1,400 to spread the White Noise Project to other areas of the hospital and to add more speakers to the Warriors Recovery Unit, the Inpatient Mental Health Unit.

Peters said she initially came up with the idea in 2019.

"In 2019 while I was still a part of the Weekend/Holiday/Evening/Night (WHEN) and Clinical Inquiry and Research councils, staff on the WHEN Council would identify issues that impacted their nursing practice and veterans," she said. "At home, I was researching ways to help facilitate sleep in a more holistic approach."

That's when she said she came across an article about masking sound being incorporated into

the designs of new hospitals and its positive outcomes including increased privacy and better sleep.

"Patients often report a hard time sleeping in hospitals due to the natural increases in unfamiliar noise on hospital units – from beeping machines, to doors opening and closing," she said. "Sleep is well documented to be vital in healing and recovery as well. After further research, in the fall of 2019, I submitted an Item for Consideration with the Clinical Inquiry and Research Council for the use of white noise machines to improve sleep, anxiety and privacy."

The idea had initial approval, and the Warriors Recovery Unit started to implement a limited number of machines on the unit as a trial. Initial data reflected positive outcomes that far exceeded expectations, prompting Peters to push her innovative approach even further.

"In August of 2020, I presented a pitch with the collected data to the Executive Leadership Team to propose rolling this project out hospital wide," Peters said.

That's when she recruited Krys Earles, a registered nurse from Warriors Recovery Unit, to assist with implementing the project and collecting data. In September 2020, the two were given the news that the VHA Innovators Network, or iNET, was awarding support and funding for the project to move forward as part of the Spark-Seed-Spread Innovation Investment Program.

Veterans have shared their experiences. One veteran came to the nurse's station and said he was having a hard time sleeping. The staff asked if he slept with a fan at home and he said he did – every night. That's when they offered him one of the white noise machines.

"The next morning, he said the machine had 'brought [him] a feeling of safety and peace'," Peters said. "[He said it reminded him] of when he was at his grandmother's home because the 'noise sounded like it was her old furnace.'"

Another veteran said that he too had slept quite well.

"I had the best sleep," he reported. "I thought I was at the beach, very relaxing."

The white noise machines have also been found to be helpful in other medical treatments.

With dementia patients, white noise has been implemented as part of gentle non-medication interventions to help assist with agitation and difficulty falling asleep successfully.

"We also see this as a win for less medication intervention and fall prevention," Peters said. "Overall, this project has been a labor of love, and we are happy to see real data results to provide an effective alternative solution for our veterans that encompasses a holistic approach to care, provides comforts of



Krystal Earles, RN, and Debra "Cindy" Peters, RN, from the Western North Carolina VA Health Care System have been working with the idea to use a white noise machine to drown out some of the undesirable noises going on around their patients to improve their sleep and to decrease anxiety.

home when they are away, and facilitates healing in the hospital."

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## News from the Legislature

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



Karl Gillespie

The House held a no-vote session Monday, Aug. 9, 2021.

On Tuesday, the House Appropriations Committee reviewed the proposed state budget. Various amendments were considered.

On Wednesday, caucus members prepared amendments to the state budget proposal for the afternoon floor session. At 2 p.m., the House session was convened and considered numerous bills, including:

– HB84, Sex Offender Premises Restrictions, extends premises restrictions to certain additional sex offenders. The House passed the compromise conference report by a vote of 108-6. I voted in favor of the bill.

– HB911, Regulatory Reform 2.0, would amend various State laws related to State and local government, utilities, education, occupational licenses, and other regulations. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 73-42.

– SB35, Make 4-Year Age Diff. To Marry Under 18 Yrs, would amend the lawful age of marriage to 16 years of age or older and would provide a maximum four-year age difference for a 16- or 17- year-old to marry. The bill passed unanimously, 115-0.

The House held its first vote on the House version of the state budget, SB105. The budget would provide raises for teachers and state employees. State retirees would receive bonuses over the biennium. I voted in favor and it passed, 72-41. Session reconvened Thursday morning for a third and final vote on the current version of the House budget. It passed again by a vote of 72-41.

The House held no-vote sessions on Monday, Aug. 16, and Tuesday, Aug. 17.

Numerous House committees met Wednesday, including, Redistricting, Transportation, Health, and Insurance. Session reconvened at 2 p.m., and we considered various bills, including:

– HB481, Firearm Disposal/UNC Campus Police, would allow all State entities operating under the three branches of government and the on-campus police departments of constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina to dispose of surplus weapons with a federally licensed firearm dealer. I voted in favor and the bill passed 93-8.

– SB191, The No Patient Left Alone Act, would enact the No Patient Left Alone Act to ensure visitation rights for patients in most healthcare facilities during a declared disaster or emergency. It would also require the Department of Health and Human Services to assess a civil penalty for violations of those visitation rights. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 88-14.

Continued on page 11

## Letters to the Editor

### School board article does 'deadly disservice'

Your recent article in the Aug. 23 edition on the School Board meeting to discuss a school mask mandate present was misleading at best and does a deadly disservice to the public health the people of Macon County.

More than 2/3 of the article was dedicated to people and "arguments" against the mask mandate. You provided little space, if any, to the arguments for the mask mandate.

Parents quoted in the article disagreeing with the mask mandate provided emotional testimony but these were strictly anecdotal and spurious. Your paper even BOLD highlighted one of these misleading anecdotes. The author of this article made no attempt to provide any balance, such as referencing bona fide scientific studies that support the efficacy of mask wearing. For example, as recently as July 1 of this year, the Mayo Clinic published such a study, which your readers should look at if they wish to be more informed.

(see [https://www.mayoclinicproceedings.org/article/S0025-6196\(21\)00401-8/fulltext#relatedArticles](https://www.mayoclinicproceedings.org/article/S0025-6196(21)00401-8/fulltext#relatedArticles)).

Here is the conclusion of this study:

"These results support the principle of layered protection to mitigate transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19, and other respiratory viruses and emphasize the importance of controlling the spread of aerosol at its source. The combination of masking and distancing reduced the exposure to exhaled particulates more than any individual measure. Combined measures remain the most effective way to combat the spread of respiratory infection."

Referencing any previous statements about the effectiveness of masks in helping to slow the spread of Covid-19, especially those made in 2020, is also misleading our readers. The data the science is based on changes overtime, and the current data supports the effectiveness of masks.

I would expect to see such a slanted presentation of the facts in the Letters to the Editor section of this newspaper. However presenting anecdotal, incorrect views in the News section of the paper without also presenting the actual facts about the value of masks is a very serious and deadly omission. Our community deserves more responsible reporting. Shame on you.

John Barry – Franklin, N.C.

### Incompetence of this administration is appalling

During President Trump's "America First" administration, he was constantly criticized, harassed and vilified by the main street press and the Democrats.

On two occasions the Democrats brought Articles of Impeachment based on bogus, trumped-up charges, one of which was concocted and paid for by Hillary Clinton. He

was acquitted both times.

During his administration he resumed construction of the Keystone Pipeline, opened areas of Alaska for oil production and exploration and removed restrictive regulations creating, for the first time, an energy independent America. He closed our southern border and began construction of the wall to protect our national security.

When Joe Biden was elected president his first act was to issue a number of spiteful Executive Orders, the objective of which was to undo all of President Trump's accomplishments.

Let's take a look at how that turned out. The halting of the Keystone Pipeline construction has resulted in the doubling of gas prices and Biden is now begging OPEC to increase production in order to reverse the escalating price of oil and gas.

Construction of the wall was stopped and the border opened creating the largest uncontrolled illegal migration in our history. Many of the migrants are infected by and untreated for the Covid virus and are being disseminated throughout the country compounding the epidemic.

President Biden's latest debacle is the attempted exit from Afghanistan. Instead of following President Trump's exit plan calling for the removal of our people first, billions of dollars in military equipment secondly and finally our troops, while telling the Taliban leaders that any attempt to take over the country would be met with their annihilation. Biden did just the opposite. He brought the troops out, turned over our military assets to our enemy the Taliban who, within a week, had taken control of the country, and he is now leaving most of the people stranded, while telling Stephanopoulos in a recent interview, the chaos was unavoidable.

The ignorance and incompetence of the Biden administration is appalling and it is all the result of their disdain and spiteful opposition to the accomplishments of President Trump and their misconceived idea that they can create a utopia under Socialism/Communism.

There is a war within the Democrat Party against our Constitutional freedoms. They have conspired with big tech and the media to restrict freedom of speech and are attempting to remove our right to bear arms with Draconian gun legislation and talks of confiscation. They have adopted the call of the Marxist organizations ANTIFA and BLM to defund the police. If allowed to continue, total anarchy will prevail.

In order to save America, the Republicans must take control of the House and Senate while removing the RINOs within the Party, members of which are Senators Burr and Tillis who supported the recent "Infrastructure Bill" primarily containing increases in taxes and spending for the Democrats' socialist programs and very little for actual infrastructure.

It's time for freedom-loving Americans to take charge and vote for America First.

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

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## We are all free to make our own choices

While I can understand Felecia Henderson's opinion, and I want her to live her life the way she wants to, I have this to say.

First of all, we all were given free will, to live our lives, by our Heavenly Father. Without free will, we would all be living lives that would be without choice. This country was originally founded upon the principles of free will and choice. Some of these rights to choose have been compromised by certain things being passed in our state and federal governments. But, we still have many freedoms that keep us able to choose.

Secondly, we all have to decide if we want to risk our lives to get the vaccine for COVID-19. There are people who have died from the vaccine. Yes, there are. While the numbers are small, it has happened. Some people have medical issues and can not take the vaccines available here in the U.S. They are among those who could die from them. Is someone who's immune system is compromised by medical conditions supposed to sacrifice themselves on her "altar of the right thing to do?" I work in the health care profession and, while I have, myself, taken the vaccine, there are those that I know also in health care that haven't. Should they stop caring for people? Should our already strained health care systems be further weakened because they didn't get the vaccine and they be fired? Again, there are the health issues that come into play. Without our "frontline" workers in health care professions the country would be worse off.

Third, I respect that Felecia has her opinion, but I'm not stupid. Neither are all of the people I know. I have family and friends who will not take the vaccine and in reality are truly putting their own lives at risk, not others'. How could you prove that someone killed someone by giving them the virus? Could you prove it? If so, then condemn everyone. The virus was spread because people didn't know that they had it and would go out. Remember, we shut down as a country, last year, to slow down the spread. At the same time our economy began to tank. Calling people stupid because they won't conform to her opinion of right or wrong isn't the what Heavenly Father wants us to do. We all must make our own choices. We must all live with our choices, right or wrong.

Lastly, if anyone is wanting to impose their way of thinking on myself or my family, they will discover that they won't be listened to. No one's opinion is wrong. The failure of our country will be when we have been totally stripped of our rights as citizens of this country. Is doing what she considers "the right thing," the right thing? She says that people are in denial, yes, there are some who are, but not everyone. There are people who think they are better than everyone else, but not me. I'm a simple, down to earth, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and family member to other family members, and friend to many, many people. I'm not afraid of what will happen to me. I'm afraid for my family and friends, but I won't stop being their family member or friend just because they do or don't take the vaccine.

If my opinion offends Felecia, then it is her choice to be offended. I am not offended by hers, I am merely expressing mine. Thank you for listening to my opinion, anyone who reads this.

Janet G. Burch – Franklin, N.C.

## How to get to heaven

Over the years, I've written a few letters to the editor. I'll be judged before Christ someday at true judgement on truth or did I lie in these letters. I no longer submit letters to The Franklin Press. To me, they've become too judgmental. In fact, I don't think the Rants and Raves should be printed. I don't think anything should be published in any paper or book that people don't know who wrote. To me, that's the devil's way of stirring up discord and division. My wise brother Kenneth once told me, "Remember Jerry, you have the right to speak, but not the right to be heard." If you choose, you can stop reading this

letter now, even call me, and bless me out. Remember though, I have the right to hang up my phone.

I know many may want to know what happened on the side of the road, one-tenth mile off of 64 down Fulton Road. God willing, I will tell you later, but, today I want to tell everyone how to get to heaven.

If you've been wondering what must I do to get to heaven, keep reading, I will tell you. I'm not a preacher, but I was saved, born again, at 12 years old, at Wells Grove Baptist Church. I'm sitting in the parking lot now, waiting for worship service to begin. It's 9:57 a.m. and at 11 a.m., our pastor and his wife will deliver the message God has laid on their hearts. They're a good team.

Now, how does a person get to heaven? It's so simple even a three-year-old child can understand. First, you must realize you are lost, and need a Savior. Second, you must know you are a sinner and need forgiveness. And third, you must believe Jesus of Nazareth is the Son of God and died on the cross for your sins. Then you must pray. I'll give you an example of how to pray. Just say, "Heavenly Father, I believe your only Son Jesus died for me on that old rugged cross, and rose from his grave three days later. I'm sorry for all my sins, please forgive me and write my name in the Lamb's Book of Life. From this day forward, I will try to live more like your Son, Jesus Christ."

If you sincerely prayed that prayer, then I believe you got saved. The Holy Spirit will help you live for Jesus. Please get involved in a church that preaches the word of God, and learn more about the Bible. There are several good preachers on TV now, but you should go to a local church. God's word tells us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together. What's important is to assemble one day a week and worship and rest. You're always welcome at Wells Grove Baptist between Macon Middle School and Mountain Valley. We're meeting now at 11 a.m. in the parking lot.

Jerry Holden – Franklin, N.C.

## Be a part of the solution instead of the problem

I read it in the papers and I hear it on the streets, Somebody Needs To Do Something About: Litter, the neighbor's dog, homelessness, and on and on. Well, this got me thinking about how my folks handled the mysterious "Somebody" problems that came up once in a while at our house, (my brother and I tried to blame it on anyone but ourselves.) Mom would set an extra place at the table for dinner. We'd ask who was coming and her answer was, "Well, I thought maybe if Somebody would sit down and eat with us we could end the bad behavior that's going on."

Sooner or later it comes down to what we do, or more often than not, don't do. The truth of the matter is if we stopped looking for somebody else to do the work, and tried to be a part of the solution rather than part of the problem, maybe some of the issues pressuring us could be dealt with properly. Go to a county commissioners meeting the second Tuesday of every month, talk to your town officials; those folks are there to help you with issues in our community. Band together with your neighbors for a solution to a common problem. Volunteer where it's needed. If we would all take responsibility for what's happening in our community we'd all be happier and more gracious "Somebodys."

Susan Schlatter – Franklin, N.C.

## Right of free speech must yield to the greater good

Americans have created for themselves quite a quandary trying to interpret both the literal and the intended meaning of the First Amendment to the Constitution. That portion that states: "Congress shall make no law abridging (which means to shorten or reduce) the freedom of speech" seems now to beg the question; can the ideals of free speech and social justice be in harmony?

A conflict exists between advocates of liberal principles of individual freedom and champions of traditional republican-

# GILLESPIE

Continued from  
page 10

– SB257, Medication Cost Transparency Act, would require pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs) to be licensed. It would add to the consumer protections in G.S. 58-56A-3, restrict PBMs from prohibiting pharmacies from taking certain actions, and establish rules for claim overpayments and PBM networks. The bill passed by unanimous vote, 101-0.

Thursday's House session reconvened at 10 a.m. to consider several bills, including:

– HB415, Update Chiropractic Laws, would allow the Board of Chiropractic Examiners to adopt, amend, and repeal rules to administer Article 8 of Chapter 90 (Chiropractic). It would also repeal several portions of Article 8 and make technical and clarifying changes. The bill passed unanimously, 92-0.

– HB489, 2021 Building Code and Development Regulatory Reforms, would make changes to laws that apply to general contractors; the State Building Code; and development regulation by local governments and under Chapter 160D of the General Statutes. I voted in favor and the bill passed, 75-17.

– SB636, Donor Privacy, would protect the identity of persons giving money or tangible goods to nonprofits for furthering that nonprofit's charitable purpose, effective October 1, 2021. I voted in support and the bill passed, 58-34.

ism, which emphasizes pursuit of the common good. Civil libertarians seem to idolize freedom of expression above all other considerations while others insist that the right to self-expression must sometimes yield to the greater good of society as a whole. Case in point: COVID-19.

Writers, journalists, newspaper editors (and the like) brood constantly whether protecting the rights of people to express themselves is compatible with reporting, factually, the events of our time. Many people believe that stating: "Views expressed are not necessarily reflective of the opinions of the publisher, editor or staff," are sufficient to absolve any publication of responsibility for what's printed within its pages. Legally, that's probably true.

We cannot go back in time and sit with the framers of our Constitution and know for sure what was debated. However, having read the Constitution many times over, I speculate they favored telling the absolute truth at all times. I know of nothing that would disprove that assessment, although reading some letters to editors (for example, from Messrs. Gaston, Stern, and Taylor), obviously we are not all in agreement on matters involving facts and truth. My BS detector fires off frequently with an ear-splitting clang.

I'm of two minds. As the Editor-in-Chief of The New Republic (Win McCormack) writes in the September, 2021 issue: "One of the most compelling examples of the use of free speech on behalf of the greater good is that of Frederick Douglas, an ex-slave whose writings and oratory helped inspire the abolitionist movement." Douglass's views on free speech were unequivocal: "To suppress free speech is a double wrong," he said. "It violates the rights of the hearer as well as those of the speaker."

The question whether to protect the freedom of the individual to speak freely disregarding the truth or misrepresentation of known facts; or whether to consider the greater good and harm that comes from spreading misinformation, will not be easily resolved. People who choose to remain unvaccinated do so believing they have the right to put other lives at risk. I don't believe they do but rather are in violation of the spirit and intent of the Constitution.

As COVID cases, hospitalizations and deaths continue to rise, especially in areas with higher levels of community transmissions and lower vaccination coverage, I personally lean heavily toward serving the greater good. If that means restricting harmful speech (lies and misinformation), or at least revealing it and condemning it in order to save innocent lives, then that is what we should do.

David Snell – Franklin, N.C.

# Panther Football off to great start

Franklin High School Panther Football got off to a rousing start trouncing the 1A state champs Murphy Bulldogs. With touchdowns by Chris McGuire, Kellen Stiles, Keagan Pollock and Davis Anders, Franklin sent the Bulldogs home with their first loss, 35-15. Franklin plays Hayesville Yellow Jackets at home next Friday in The Panther Pit. Game starts at 7:30 p.m.

Photos by Vickie Carpenter



# Students go 'all in' at Back to School Totally Tacky Prom

To celebrate the beginning of a new school year and a new season of Discover Church student activities, the church hosted a "totally tacky thrift store prom night" last Saturday. The totally tacky prom took place at Discover's recently renovated "The Studio" youth room. Right now, about 50 students are involved in the youth programs at the church, but the Aug. 21 event was for friends and any student in the community who just wanted to attend. Youth Pastor Bruce Ferguson said that the event was created to lead up to the kick-off of regular Sunday night youth meetings beginning Aug. 29, from 5-7 p.m. Besides music, mingling, and dancing, the group played games, participated in a dance competition, and prizes were given for the best/worst dress. The evening rounded out with the typical prom finger foods and punch.



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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 August 10-22. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*



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

### **August 16**

Joseph Matthew Swafford, was charged with failure to appear. Sergeant Jonathan A. Taylor made the arrest.

### **August 17**

Edward Andrew Fowler, was charged with assault on a female. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Randy Stacey, was charged with domestic physical. Emileigh E. Sands made the arrest.

### **August 18**

Ronnie Lee Queen, was charged with resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement officer, child support enforcement contempt. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

### **August 19**

Caleb Scott Tallent, was charged with probation violation. Sergeant Anthony Hopkins made the arrest.

Callie Elizabeth Rogers, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

### **August 20**

Kenneth Kristopher Knight, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Kyle Jaycob Hanson, was charged with fugitive out of state. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Johnnie Ray Arch, was charged with failure to appear. Corporal James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Stephanie Diane Evans, was charged with failure to appear. Corporal James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

### **August 21**

Rebecca Susan Harper, was charged with failure to appear for driving while intoxicated, probation violation, failure to pay probation. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

### **August 22**

Denise Rogers, was charged with school attendance law violation. Cassie J. Shuler made the arrest.

## **Franklin Police Department**

### **August 12**

James Wade Combee, 37, was issued an order for arrest for domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.

Neil Ray Moorell, 44, was issued an order for arrest for larceny, breaking and entering a motor vehicle, driving while license revoked, possession of stolen goods, breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny, possession of stolen goods. A \$10,000 bond was set.

### **August 13**

Kelly Renee Walker, 52, was issued an order for arrest for failure to appear for possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. A \$10,000 bond was set.

### **August 14**

Kenneth Lee Standingdeer, 29, was charged with second degree trespass, resist a public officer. No bond was set.

### **August 15**

Jeremias Ambrocio Garcia, 26, was issued an order for arrest for hit and run with multiple charges of driving while intoxicated. A \$7,500 bond was set.

### **August 16**

Daniel Mark Zacarias Alder, 34, was charged with all other offenses. A \$750 bond was set.

### **August 18**

Anthony Michael Perna, 24, was charged with possession of LSD, possession of a schedule II controlled substance. A \$6,000 bond was set.

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

### **August 10**

Aaron Levi Owle, 25, of Tooni Branch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with malicious conduct by a prisoner. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set. Trevor K. Baldwin made the arrest.

Stacie Lee Gance, 37, of Sylva, was issued a warrant for arrest for violation of court order. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Trevor K. Baldwin made the arrest.

Kasia Jade Bird, 21, of Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for reckless driving with wanton disregard, drive after consuming under 21, consume alcohol by 19/20 year old, driving while impaired, resisting a public officer, identity theft. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set. Jonathan L. Kilby made the arrest.

Jacob Neal Wilnoty, 26, of Ike Swimmer Rd., Cherokee, was charged with second degree murder without regard. A secured bond of \$500,000 was set. David A. Lovedahl made the arrest.

Steven Louis Broom, 43, of Caney Fork Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with assault on a female, simple assault. No bond was set. Trevor K. Baldwin made the arrest.

### **August 11**

Mason Edward Clarke, 19, of Bridle Path Farm, Cleveland, was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Charles B. Hooper made the arrest.

Cornelious Ashe, 29, of Blanton Branch Rd., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Robert E. Porter made the arrest.

Jennifer Denise Wolfenbarger, 26, of E. Moody Ave., Knoxville, Tenn., was charged with failure to appear for misdemeanor child abuse. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Robert E. Porter made the arrest.

Thomas Andrew Boling, 37, of E. Moody Ave, Knoxville, Tenn., was charged with failure to appear for misdemeanor child abuse. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Robert E. Porter made the arrest.

Harry Joseph Owen, 54, of Allman Rd., was charged with simple assault. No bond was set. Mark C. Junaluska made the arrest.

### **August 12**

Kirklon Scott Turner, of Bettys Creek Rd., was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set. Michael T. Smathers made the arrest.

Ermelinda Montelongo, 63, of AEI Dr., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for first degree trespass. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Mark C. Junaluska made the arrest.

Lloyd Edward Owle, 41, of Bob Owle Rd., Cherokee, was issued a warrant for arrest for misdemeanor larceny. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

### **August 13**

Michael Shayn Macko, 31, of Windy Gap Rd., Cullowhee, was issued a warrant for arrest for interfering with emergency communications, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, misdemeanor larceny, assault on a female. No bond was set. Dustin L. Bishop made the arrest.

Tonya Michelle Taylor, 48, of Quail Rd., was charged with failure to appear for shoplifting. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Jesse L. Henkel made the arrest.

### **August 14**

Justin Reeves Lambert, 39, of Sunset Farm Rd., Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for uttering a forged instrument. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Johnathan L. Kilby made the arrest.

Lauren Marie Smith, 26, of Cheerful Cove Rd., was charged with failure to appear for aid and abet larceny. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Johnathan L. Kilby made the arrest.

Frederick Earl Stillwell, 22, of Pecan Dr., was issued a warrant for arrest for simple possession of a schedule II controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia. No bond was set. Dustin L. Bishop made the arrest.

### **August 15**

Brittany Lane Shelton, 28, of Clayton St., was issued an order for arrest for misdemeanor probation violation. A secured bond of \$7,500 was set. Dustin L. Bishop made the arrest.

Justin Todd Bryson, 31, of Cedar Valley Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with failure to appear for no big game license, unlawfully take big game bird. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Dustin L. Bishop made the arrest.

Johnny Lee Frady, 63, of Pine Creek Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for driving left of center, driving while impaired. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Johnathan L. Kilby made the arrest.

### **August 16**

William Daniel Sult, 36, of Pitt Rd., Blairville, Ga., was charged with probation violation, resisting a public officer. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set. Trevor K. Baldwin made the arrest.

Garrett McKae Hoyle, 24, of Canter Lane, was charged with larceny of a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set. Brandon D. Hooper made the arrest.

### **August 17**

Robert Mitchell Hoyle, 37, of Ela Rd., Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for traffic opium/heroin. No bond was set. William S. Collins made the arrest.

Megan Dawn Wilnoty, 27, of Mary Jackson Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set. Trevor K. Baldwin made the arrest.

### **August 18**

Bobby Lee Hill, 28, of Old Cullowhee Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with interfering with emergency communication, assault on a female. No bond was set.

James Parker Bryson, 23, of Grovecrest Way, Greensboro, was charged with felony probation violation. William S. Collins made the arrest.

Steven Cody Moore, 29, of Floral Dr., was charged with financial card theft. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set. James A. Brown made the arrest.



## OCC Project Leaders Workshop set Sept. 11

On, Saturday, Sept. 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Operation Christmas Child of Western North Carolina will be hosting a Project Leaders Workshop at Holly Springs Baptist Church in Franklin.

Are you the person who leads Operation Christmas Child in your church/local community group/ business? Or would you like to? If you answered yes, then you are (or could be) a Project Leader.

This is a free event and a light lunch will be served. Workshop will be in-person training to help equip you with resources and critical updates, as well as provide an opportunity to build strong, local relationships. Come learn more about how to effectively carry out your role in sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth through gift-filled shoeboxes. Register today at: <https://samaritanpurse.cventevents.com/2021NPLW> Or you are welcome to attend a Virtual Workshop in your home or office on Friday, Sept. 10, at 7 p.m., Simply register at the link above and you will receive information on the Virtual Workshop.

Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, seeks to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 188 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories.



Local group "Empty Pockets" played to a good crowd at Saturday's Pickin' on the Square in downtown Franklin. Empty Pockets' members are Conrad Hefner, Sara Bird and Mike Holt with accompaniment by Donnie Clay and others. Next up is the Tennessee Whiskey Band Saturday at 7 p.m. Photos by Betsey Gooder



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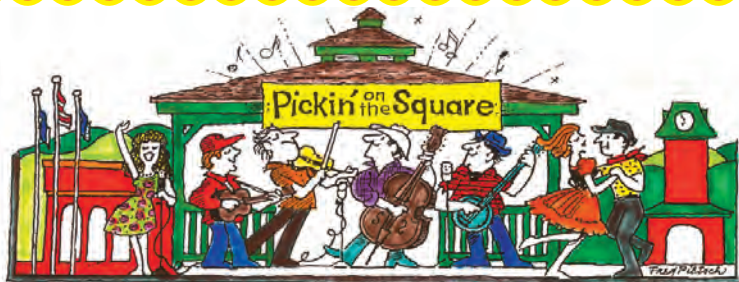
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# PICKIN' ON THE SQUARE



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For more information call 828-524-2516 Donnie Clay - Coordinator

This Saturday evening we will have some good country music featuring *The Tennessee Whiskey Band*. They are a great country band playing great country hits. They may even play some of your favorite tunes, too. They are playing all over western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. You will enjoy these guys, they are great entertainers.

So come early to the gazebo in downtown Franklin with your chair and get ready for a great band. The concert starts at 7:00 p.m. Remember, these summer concerts are brought to you by the Town of Franklin, free of charge. I will see you there.

Donnie Clay, Coordinator for Pickin' on the Square



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## Deaths & Funerals

### Constance Blanton Huggins

Constance Blanton Huggins, known to family and friends as Connie, passed from this life on Aug. 13, 2021. She was married for 47 years and was the mother of three children. She considered her family her greatest achievement.

She was known for her quick wit and wonderful sense of humor. She loved crafts and gardening and enjoyed the many cats and dogs she had over the years. She was feisty and stubborn, remaining so even in her final days. She was very superstitious, ironically passing on Friday the thirteenth.



**Constance Huggins**

She is survived by her husband, Brent Huggins; her daughters, Ashley Schwartz (Chris) of Cumming, Ga., and Emily White of Panama City, Fla.; her grandsons, Jake and Ryan of Cumming and Ethan of Panama City; her siblings, Martha Seider (Chuck) and James Blanton, both of Franklin. She was preceded in death by her son, Brad Huggins, and siblings, Helen Rhoades, Gail Dreger, and Bernard Blanton.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Aug. 28, at 11 a.m. at Liberty Baptist Church, 1421 Ned Hill Road, Franklin.

Flowers are welcome for the service, as Connie loved them so much. In addition, memorial contributions may be made to CarePartners Hospice, 170 Church Street, Franklin, NC 28734.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the Huggins family.

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

### Joyce Wood Ramey

Joyce Wood Ramey, 89, passed away to her heavenly home on Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, surrounded by her family and friends and extended family. She was a Christian by faith and was a member of Chechero Baptist Church for 38 years.

She was born on Feb. 7, 1932, in Otto, N.C., to Donald Clyde Wood and Margaret Holden. She was married to James Babe Ramey for 62 years before his passing 2008.

She was a family person wanting her children and family close by to enjoy dinners and get together. She loved cooking, sewing and making quilts which she shared with her children. All received a handmade quilt to enjoy and cherish.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Babe Ramey; son, James Tort Ramey; granddaughter, Amanda Jean Ramey; and brothers, Jackie Carpenter and Jeff Woods.

She is survived by two sons; Ronald (Carla) Ramey and Michael Toddy (Elaine) Ramey, both of Clayton; three daughters, Noreen Lucy Jacobs of Clayton, Margaret Suzy Smith of Rabun Gap and Cecilia Teeter Davis of Clayton; 10 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and six great great grandchildren; brothers, Melvin (Betty) Wood of Hazel Park, Mich., Dennis Wood of Dallas, Ga., Aubrey (Claudette) Wood, Kevin Wood, Tim (Joi) Woods, all of Clayton; sisters, Nawana (Carlton) York of Tiger, Janice (Tom) Bryant of Dahlonega and Debbie (Ronnie) Carns of Tuckaseegee, N.C.

Funeral services were held at Chechero Baptist Church on Tuesday, Aug. 24, with Rev. Mike Wilson officiating. Burial was at Rabun Memory Park.

Hunter Funeral Home, Clayton, is in charge of arrangements.



**Joyce Wood Ramey**

### Catharine 'Kay' Happoldt Smith

Catharine "Kay" Happoldt Smith, 81, was called home Sunday, Aug. 22, after battling ovarian cancer for more than three years. She is preceded by her parents, Albert and Mary Happoldt; her brother, Albert Happoldt Jr.; and her sister, Marylou Happoldt Jackson.

She was born in Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, Ga., in 1940 and graduated from Spring Street Elementary School and later from Grady High School. During her high school years, she was a member of Rich's teen board and was also named as Miss Georgia Peach. After graduating from Grady High School, she attended the University of Georgia. While at Georgia she majored in Business, graduated Cum Laude and also actively participated as a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She married her high school sweetheart in 1960, Tom Cook Smith, while still in school at Georgia, and graduated from UGA a year later in 1961.

Kay and Tom lived in Athens, Ga., when they first got married and Kay taught high school for two years at Commerce High School. Shortly thereafter, Kay and Tom moved to Dunwoody, Ga., where they raised their two children over the next 20 years. They were members of Dunwoody United Methodist Church and active members of the Atlanta Athletic Club, where she developed many of her long-lasting friendships through the women's 18-hole group. She was the AAC Women's Golf Club Champion in 1975. During these same years, she was active in the WSGA (Women's Southern Golf Association). After four years of active participation as the Secretary with the WSGA, she was elected as president of the WSGA and served in this capacity for two years. She treasured her time with the WSGA traveling to different golf courses across the southeast and meeting many new friends.

She also loved gardening throughout her lifetime. She joined The Pine Tree Garden Club of Atlanta in 1973 and served as vice president and president in 1978 and 1979. She has been an honorary member for the past 15 years. She also was a member of the Fulton County Federation of Garden Clubs as well as Garden Club of Georgia, where she served on numerous committees. If she wasn't playing golf, you could find her in the garden tending to her dahlias and raspberries.

She spent her golden years in Highlands, N.C., playing golf at Highlands Country Club with friends, volunteering for the Literacy Council and sat on the board for five years. She also spent endless hours volunteering for the Sunshine School at Highlands Presbyterian Church, where she was an active member for over 14 years. Her prized possession was her four grandchildren. She was their biggest fan and never missed a game, graduation, or other meaningful event.

She leaves behind her husband of 61 years, Tom; two children, Tracey Catharine Reed (Smith) of Blairsville, Ga., and Kenneth Happoldt Smith of Atlanta, Ga.; as well as four wonderful grandchildren, William Peyton Smith, Catharine Kendall Smith, Knox Bingham Reed, and Stockton Hazen Reed.

She lived a wonderful life and for those that knew her, every day was a great day. She lived life to its fullest and truly enjoyed her family, making friends and playing golf and gardening.

She was a beacon of God's love for all of us and poured her heart and soul into everyone she met - we'll never know how many lives she truly affected but those that knew her realize they were truly blessed to have spent time with her. She had a great walk with God and showed everyone how to take care of and love people.

Graveside service will be private for immediate family.

All are invited to join the family on Friday, Aug. 28, at 3 p.m., in Highlands. A celebration of life will be held at Highlands Country Club, Hole #15, to celebrate Kay's life. Please come by and share fond memories of your time spent with Kay.

Per Kay's wishes, the family requests that in lieu of flowers, all donations go to the Literacy Council and the Sunshine School in Highlands.

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



**Catharine Smith**

### Marta Van Bergen Castanet

Marta Van Bergen Castanet, 58, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Friday, Aug. 13, 2021.

She was born in Miami Beach, Fla. She was preceded in death by her parents, Susan Killie and Leopold Van Bergen; her husband, Victor Castanet; grandparents, Jeanette and Bud Killie; her father-in-law, Miguel Castanet; her uncle, Sonny Jowers; and niece, Charlotte Ada Jung.

She found joy in gardening and reading and was an avid collector of antiques. She loved spending time with her family and watching her grandchildren.

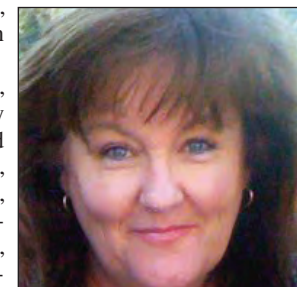
She is survived by her children, Samantha Banks (Rexx), and Victor Mick Castanet; sister, Nancy Van Bergen; and grandchildren, Victor and Olivia Banks.

A memorial service will be held at Holly Springs Baptist Church on Saturday, Aug. 28, at 12 p.m. All of Marta's friends and loved ones are invited to attend. Rev. Pete Rodewald will officiate.

The family would like to extend their thanks for all the support and prayers for Marta's recovery.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



**Marta Castanet**

### William Andrew 'Bill' Morgan

William Andrew "Bill" Morgan, 74, the son of Henry Wilmer Morgan and Nannie Ruth Penn Morgan, was born on Feb. 6, 1947. He made his mark on the world as a teacher and coach. For 39 years, 1973-1983 in Monticello, Ga., and 1983-2012 at Franklin High School, he influenced many students. His players remember him with great affection and gratitude for the many ways he went beyond just being their coach. He was rewarded with knowing he was instrumental in helping many achieve successful college sports careers.

He enjoyed his vocation but his number one priority was his family. He would drop everything at a moment's notice if asked to do something for them, especially if his grandchildren were involved. He loved getting unexpected calls from them asking for spur of the moment favors.

His love for Georgia Bulldogs football came a close second to his love of family. He might have even mentioned to God as he stepped into Glory that Georgia football kicks off on Sept. 4. He enjoyed watching any sports on television. While he was definitely a meat and potatoes man and a picky eater, he surprised everyone by becoming a fan of The Food Network in recent years.

Even though Bill tried to play the tough guy often saying to family and students, "Suck it up. You're all right," he owned a soft heart. Throughout the time he insisted he did not want dogs, the family always had one. The pups forgave him; and two, Sadie and Moky, both chose him as their favorite person.

A member of Monticello Presbyterian Church, he passed from this life on Aug. 16, 2021.

He is survived by his wife, Tryvonne M. Morgan; his children, Andy Morgan (Colleen) of Fletcher, N.C., Greer Morgan of Franklin, N.C., and Kelli Randall (Josh) also of Franklin; his grandchildren, Paiton, Deyton, Hank, Greylyn, Pennley, and Locklyn; his sister-in-law, Neala C. Morgan of Monticello; his nieces, Rachael Musquiz (Michael) of Texas, Esther Boedges (Greg) of Atlanta, Ga.; and the daughter of his heart, Amanda Tyler Crews also of Monticello. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Richard Morgan.

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

Memorial contributions may be made to: Franklin High School Athletic Department, 100 Panther Drive, Franklin, NC 28734.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the Morgan family.

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



**William Andrew Morgan**



# Deaths & Funerals

## Margaret Loraine Corbin Powell

Margaret Loraine Corbin Powell, 89, made her final journey on Aug. 17, 2021, in her home in Fayetteville, Ga. She was born on May 30, 1932. She was the daughter of the late Martin and Aileen Angel. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years and father of her children, Charles Dewey "C.D." Corbin, Jr. and second husband Jack Powell, a native of Franklin, N.C.



Margaret Powell

She was an active member of First Baptist Church in Franklin, where she served as a deacon, member of Prime-Time Singers, The Sanctuary Choir, and Bykota Sunday School Class. She was the church treasurer and a leader of the Linda Johnson WMU Group as well as a volunteer of the Medication Assistance Program. Her love and compassion for people motivated her greatest passion, "missions," having traveled twice to South Africa with mission teams. She and C.D. were members of Campers on Mission and often did volunteer work with the Life-way Conference Center of Ridgecrest, N.C. She was involved with the Prison Fellowship Ministry in Franklin and was a member of Nequassa Chapter #43 Order of the Eastern Star of which she was Worthy Matron 1967 – 1968.

She is survived by her sister, Betty Sue McKay of Winchester, Tenn.; two sons, Larry (Beverly) and Keith (Liz) both of Fayetteville, Ga.; stepdaughters, Nancy Ellis (Kevin) and Cathy Sill (John) both of Franklin; seven grandchildren, Kim Corbin of Kailua, Hawaii, Brian Corbin (Brittany) of Brooks, Ga., Jennifer Corbin of Canton, Ga., Angela Potts (David) of Dalton, Ga., Cheryl Serna (Jacob) of Buford, Ga., Emily Barclay of Fayetteville, Ga., Nick Barclay (Jessica) of Montgomery, Ala.; and 13 great grandchildren.

To know Loraine was to love her as she never met a stranger and always enjoyed sharing the gospel with those she encountered. To her family, she was an inspiration, a confidant and prayer warrior.

Funeral services were held at Macon Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, Aug. 21, with Dr. Lester Evans and Senator Kevin Corbin officiating. Burial was held in Holly Springs, Jennings Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Brian Corbin, Nick Barclay, Mark Corbin, William Henley, Gene Williamson, Grady William Corbin, Jr.

Honorary pallbearers were Lyman Holland and Donnie Seagle.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Children, Yaarab Shrine Center, 400 Ponce De Leon Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30308

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

## Patricia Pettigrew Beran

Patricia Pettigrew Beran, a beautiful flower whose color and brilliance touched so many lives across 87 years, has faded and fallen to earth. A gentle west wind has lifted our lovely flower heavenward.



Patricia Beran

Patricia Pettigrew Beran was a daughter of the midwest. Her early homes were in Highland Park, Mich., Glen Ellyn, Ill., Oxford, Ohio, and Chicago, Ill. Her early life was one of academic and athletic achievement while simultaneously overflowing with friendships.

Throughout the ensuing years, the friendships continued to increase and characteristically, she generously gave her multiple gifts to these who surrounded her.

Professionally, she was a social worker in Chicago, from 1956 until the birth of her first child in October 1958.

She was a teacher for 29 years – mostly middle school – in Weston, Conn. In 1998, she left innumerable devoted former students and many teaching associates.

She was a Macon County resident for the past 20 years during which time she made significant contributions to the community: League of Women Voters, Guardian ad Litem; monthly forum; teacher of English to young Hispanic people; The Banquet Table; and a seven-year volunteer for home delivered meals (Meals on Wheels).

She is survived by her husband, Milo Beran; her son, Peter M. Wroe; her daughter, Polly Knowles and husband Joe Knowles; three grandsons, Timothy Knowles, Jess Knowles and Cameron Knowles; and Joe's mother, Teedy Dabney; additionally, Milo's children and grandchildren; two brothers-in-law; two sisters-in-law; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Great numbers of special friends remain today, only one is named herein, Tony Bashir. Tony was spiritually, emotionally and physically uplifting for Patty throughout difficult and sad passages of her life.

She experienced deeply felt losses during her lifetime, particularly her son, Michael Wroe; her sister, Judi Gilbert; her parents, Robert and Janice Pettigrew; Joe's brother, Charlie Knowles; Alberta Bowes; and Londo Dominici, husband of Sharon Dominici.

Patty's grandsons have established a fund in her memory to support important causes. Gifts may be directed to Kenwood Foundation – Patty Beran Fund, 45 School Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02108

Patty was passionate about all aspects of life. Among her many endeavors and passions some were of significant importance: Motherhood, in all its multi-faceted components; teaching; developing and maintaining friendships; and Spanish language and culture.

There will be two lasting memories of Patty: Patty's unique ability to recognize and stand with those who society has shunned, ignored or marginalized; and Patty's genuine and incomparable smile.

Goodnight, Sweet Girl.

[TheMaconCountyNews.com](http://TheMaconCountyNews.com)

## Ways to keep your mind and body sharp as you age

(StatePoint) September, which is World Alzheimer's Month, is an excellent reminder to keep your mind and body healthy through the years. Experts say that doing so can reduce your risk for cognitive decline. Try taking on these new hobbies to keep your mind sharp as you age:

- **Cooking:** Not only can the development of a new complicated skill such as cooking improve cognitive functions like problem-solving and concentration, but having the ability to create your own nutritious meals at home has the added benefit of being good for brain health. From TikTok tutorials to online classes taught by master chefs, today, there are more avenues for picking up culinary know-how than ever before.

- **Music:** Learning to play a musical instrument has countless benefits for brain health, helping improve memory, hand-eye coordination and more. It's also a mood booster, which is important, as depression is considered a risk factor for dementia. Check out instruments designed to build skills quickly. Whether you're a total novice or taking up the piano after a long hiatus, portable keyboards are easy to use and connect to an app that features lessons and more.

- **Exercise:** The mind-body connection is strong. For ultimate brain health, stay physically active; and if you can do so outdoors, all the better. Research suggests that connecting with nature is good for one's mental well-being, reducing stress, anxiety and depression. Support your journey with tools that track your activity and inspire you to delve further into adventures, whether that be hiking, fishing or rock climbing.

- **Camaraderie:** Having an active social life can improve brain function. Unfortunately, if you aren't proactive about it, there are not always that many opportunities to make new friends in adulthood. Whether it's a sewing circle or a bowling league, consider joining a club or team for camaraderie and fun.

Just as it is important to maintain physical fitness as you age, it's also critical to exercise your mind. Stay mentally active by trying new hobbies, building new skills and seeking out new experiences.

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## Ryan Blaney puts Ford back in Victory Lane at Michigan

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

Ryan Blaney took the lead on a restart with eight laps remaining and skillfully held off a frantic field to earn the victory Sunday in the FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan International Speedway in the penultimate race of the NASCAR Cup Series regular season.

Those eight laps out front were the only laps Blaney's No. 12 Team Penske Ford led on the afternoon but it was good enough to give him his second victory of the season - by a modern-day track record margin of .077-second over Hendrick Motorsports teammates William Byron and Kyle Larson.

Blaney credited Joe Gibbs Racing driver Kyle Busch with giving him a push from behind on the final race restart to get out front and the popular 27-year-old Blaney took it from there, using all the track to keep the field behind him.

Kurt Busch and Denny Hamlin finished fourth and fifth with Matt DiBenedetto, Kyle Busch, Chase Elliott, Brad Keselowski and Martin Truex Jr. rounding out the top 10.

"We got a great push by the 18 (Kyle Busch) on the restart and were able to get clear there," Blaney said. "Michigan you pretty much run wide open and just play the air game."

"Such a huge win for Ford," he added. "I'm fired up."

Blaney conceded he didn't necessarily consider himself an odds-on favorite coming into the race but credited his team for the improvements they made to his Ford all day. He finished runner-up at Indianapolis last week giving the organization some well-timed momentum heading into the Playoffs in two weeks.

As with his late race rally at Indy, Blaney made steady gains all afternoon. Most of the early race was a battle between Larson (71 laps), Elliott (68) and Hamlin (10) – the three drivers combining to lead 149 of the 200 laps.

Different pit strategy certainly affected the final run – with some drivers getting a variation of two-tires or four-tires with their fuel. When the final stops cycled out Byron led Larson and Hamlin. A brief caution came out for rain with 21 laps remaining and another for a seven-car accident with 14 laps to go.

"Honestly I think I was maybe a little too patient behind the 12 (Blaney)," said Larson, who leads the regular season championship standings by 28 points over Hamlin with only one race left to decide the 15-point championship bonus. "Just made a couple wrong moves and allowed Blaney to get by me."

"I was never close enough to William [Byron] to help him generate a run on the 12 (Blaney)," Larson added. "Good points day. Wish we could have gotten more, but all in all, a good day."

Stewart-Haas Racing driver Kevin Harvick finished 14th which was good enough to secure the 15th Playoff position on points heading into Daytona.

Richard Childress Racing's Tyler Reddick is in 16th place after an eventful 29th-place finish. He holds a slim 25-point

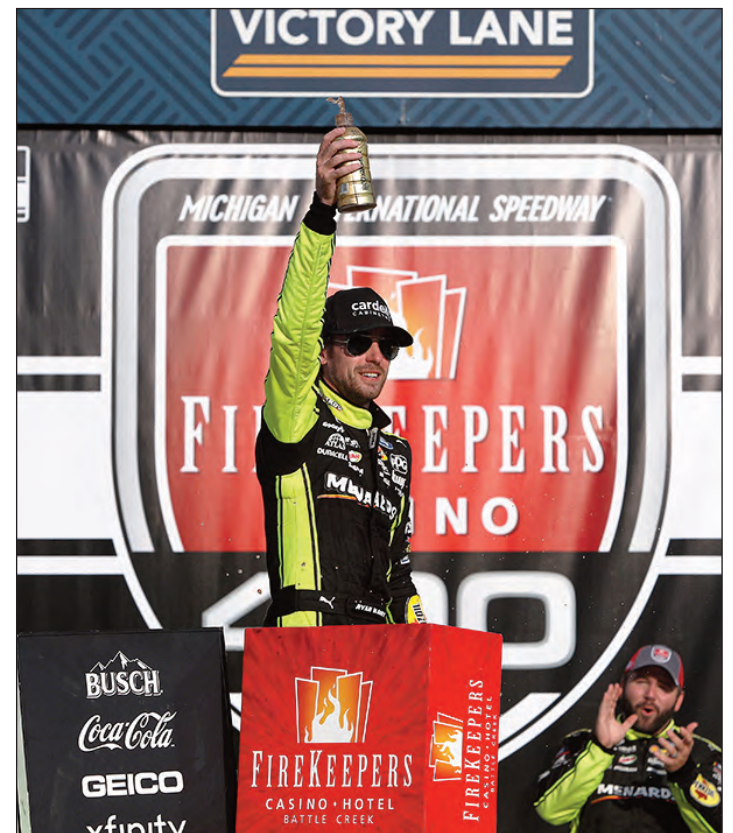
edge on his teammate Austin Dillon for the 16th and final Playoff position. DiBenedetto is 18th, 120 points behind meaning he would have to win at Daytona to qualify for the Playoffs.

It all certainly makes for a compelling Coke Zero 400 next Saturday.

But for much of the Michigan race, it looked like Dillon was in position to hold the upper edge going to Daytona. He ran top five (led a pair of laps) and moved that Playoff duel into a tie following the Stage 1 break.

But contact between Brad Keselowski and Dillon just after taking the Stage 2 checkered flag spun Dillon's No. 3 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet across the track and hard into the wall. Dillon had crossed the line sixth and Keselowski seventh before the contact.

For his part, Keselowski immediately radioed his



Ryan Blaney, driver of the #12 Menards/Cardell Cabinetry Ford, celebrates in the Ruoff Mortgage victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan International Speedway on August 22, 2021 in Brooklyn, Michigan. Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images

SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). William Byron is the defending race winner.

Allmendinger's dream continues with Xfinity Series victory at Michigan

Standing in front of an enthusiastic Michigan International Speedway grandstands after his victory burnout, Kaulig Racing's A.J. Allmendinger paused and took in the cheering crowd – on its feet and chanting his name "AJ. AJ. AJ."

It was the second time in the past week that Allmendinger earned a trip to NASCAR Victory Lane. On Saturday he prevailed in triple overtime to take the New Holland 250 win – the third of the season and the eighth NASCAR Xfinity Series win of his career. He beat Joe Gibbs Racing driver Brandon Jones to the line by a mere .163-seconds and actually thanked Jones for the push on that last restart to let the two decide the trophy between themselves.

It was a high-action day on the Michigan high-banks, with Allmendinger answering his NASCAR Cup Series win at Indianapolis last week by leading a race best 70 of the 139 Xfinity Series laps on Saturday afternoon at Michigan.

"I don't want to wake up from this dream," Allmendinger added.

crew, "Man, I didn't want to do that, I just wanted to hold him down (track)."

After being released from the infield care center, Dillon said he watched a replay and didn't understand the hard racing after taking the Stage flag.

"I was just trying to get as many stage points as I could get," Dillon said. "Did a good job side-drafting. I was starting to come off the apron because it's so rough down there. I figured by that point, he'd give me some room."

"Just hate it. I don't know why it happened really. I thought I had a little room to come up and he just held me down there a little too long, I guess."

Daytona has been a good venue for Dillon. The grandson of team owner Richard Childress won the 2018 Daytona 500 and has eight top-10 finishes in 16 starts including a third-place back in February.

The NASCAR Cup Series regular season finale, the Coke Zero Sugar 400, will be Saturday at 7 p.m. ET (NBC, MRN,



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And while it may have been dream-like for Allmendinger, the outcome was definitely not that for several other of the series' normal frontrunners.

The bottom of the scoreboard read like the top normally would. Championship points leader and five-race winner Austin Cindric, Daniel Hemric, Justin Haley and Myatt Snider were all involved in a Lap 36 seven-car incident. Brandon Brown, who went into the race ranked 14th, hoping to point his way into the Playoffs during the final four regular season races was also involved.

Cindric, who won the opening 30-lap Stage 1, Hemric, Snider and Brown were unable to finish the race. And Haley, who is Allmendinger's Kaulig Racing teammate, was able to continue and salvage a 17th-place finish.

"We just got collected in a wreck by the cars that decided to stay out," Team Penske's Cindric said. "I thought we had the fastest car out there today. In some ways I feel like that is a bold statement coming from me, but our guys did an amazing job on this Ford Mustang and I wish we could have contended ... because I think we would have had a shot."

Ty Gibbs, a two-race winner even though he is only competing part-time in 2021, made a solid run for another trophy, but spun out while running top 10 in the second overtime.

JR Motorsports drivers Noah Gragson and Josh Berry (who drove the No. 1 Chevrolet for injured Michael Annett) finished third and fourth with Berry leading an impressive 24 laps and keeping Allmendinger honest in the closing laps. Harrison Burton rounded out the top five.

Justin Allgaier, Riley Herbst, Brett Moffitt, rookie Jade Buford and NASCAR Cup Series regular Bubba Wallace rounded out the top 10.

Four races remain to set the season's 12-driver Playoff field. The NASCAR Xfinity Series' next race is the Wawa 250 under the lights at Daytona International Speedway (7:30 p.m. ET on NBCSN, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

### Sheldon Creed opens 2021 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Playoffs with win at Gateway

Sheldon Creed dominated the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Playoff opener, the Toyota 200 presented by CK Power at World Wide Technology Raceway at Gateway, sweeping both stages and leading 142 of 163 laps to take the victory Friday night in overtime.

And while the evening went relatively straight-forward for the defending series champion Creed in his winning-performance, the race was full of storylines elsewhere from a nearly one-hour red flag delay when the track lost power to a multi-truck accident shortly after that derailing championship-eligible drivers such as Todd Gilliland and Austin Hill.

Regular season champion John Hunter Nemechek experienced a frustrating night as well on the 1.25-mile Gateway oval, finishing 22nd, five laps down.

Ultimately the Californian Creed, 23, beat fellow Playoff driver Matt Crafton to the finish line by .292-



AJ Allmendinger, driver of the #16 RAMCO Specialties Inc. Chevrolet, celebrates in the Ruoff Mortgage victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series New Holland 250 at Michigan International Speedway on Aug. 21, 2021 in Brooklyn, Mich.

Photo by Logan Riely/Getty Images

seconds in that overtime period. It is Creed's second win of the season and seventh of his career. Fellow Playoff drivers Ben Rhodes and Stewart Friesen finished third and fourth. Veteran Johnny Sauter rounded out the top five.

Chase Purdy, Hailie Deegan, Playoff driver Carson Hocevar, Austin Wayne Self and Jack Wood completed the top 10.

The seventh-place work by rookie Hailie Deegan marked her first top-10 finish in the series and third-best finish by a female in the series all-time. It was a career best finish for Wood as well.

"My guys put together such a good truck" said Creed, who drives the No. 2 GMS Racing Chevrolet. "We've been working hard all year and obviously haven't had the speed at times and I've made mistakes at times. But we were able to build this brand new truck and I feel like we've taken everything we've learned this year and applied it. They gave me a hot rod today and I couldn't be happier."

With 31 laps remaining the series' best five-race winner and championship leader Nemechek had to take his truck behind the pit road wall briefly with a brake issue. The team replaced a brake rotor and he returned to finish the race. Only less than 15 laps earlier, his truck suffered some rear end damage slowing briefly on-track with a power issue and getting hit from behind.

Despite the trouble Nemechek retains his points lead - a three-point edge over Rhodes in third in the Playoff standings while Creed's victory was an automatic bid into Round 2 of the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series' seven-race Playoff schedule.

Crafton and Friesen are ranked fourth and fifth in the standings. Hill, who finished 23rd, is ranked sixth. Hocevar and Todd Gilliland, who finished 29th, are ranked seventh and eighth - the last Playoff transfer position.

Zane Smith is ninth in the Playoff standings, 10 points behind Gilliland. Chandler Smith is in 10th in the Playoff standings and is 18 points behind Gilliland.

The series races next on Sept. 5 at 1:30 p.m. in the In It To Win It 200 at Darlington Raceway, where Creed scored his other win this Spring.



Sheldon Creed, driver of the #2 Liftkits4less.com Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Toyota 200 presented by CK Power at Gateway Motorsports Park on August 20, 2021 in Madison, Illinois. Photo by Jeff Curry/Getty Images

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# CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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THEME:  
BACK TO SCHOOL

### ACROSS

1. \* \_\_\_\_ mater
5. \*Graduate degree, acr.
8. Opposite of stereo
12. Defense ditch
13. Fishing rod attachment
14. More sure
15. One's final notice
16. Dutch cheese
17. Golfer's traction aid
18. \*Half-year terms
20. At the summit of
21. Water nymph
22. Actor \_\_\_\_ Mahershala
23. Be a busybody
26. Metrical foot in poetry
30. Earlier in time, archaic
31. Become bony
34. Shakespeare's tragic monarch
35. Labanotation founder
37. Theodor Geisel, \_\_\_\_ Dr. Seuss
38. Threshold
39. Relating to the ear
40. Weather advisories, e.g.
42. + or - atom
43. Widely esteemed
45. Most mature, as in fruit
47. Indian dish
48. Dashboard window
50. Female sheep, pl.
52. \*"The Breakfast Club" punishment
56. Flower holders
57. Singles
58. High school breakout
59. Acoustic output
60. Overwhelming defeat
61. \*Gym class test?
62. Catchall abbr.
63. \*Geography class staple
64. Not talker?

### DOWN

1. \_\_\_\_ of cookie fame
2. Stud site
3. Cripple
4. \*Go to class
5. Mythological princess of Colchis
6. TV cooking show pioneer James \_\_\_\_

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Contributions to the poor</li> <li>8. *Kind of choice</li> <li>9. Black and white treat</li> <li>10. Less than average tide</li> <li>11. Table scrap</li> <li>13. Laces again</li> <li>14. Milan's La ____</li> <li>19. Manicurist's office</li> <li>22. Is it ____ wonder?</li> <li>23. Hard on outside, juicy on inside</li> <li>24. One of the Muses</li> <li>25. Payment option</li> <li>26. From a great distance</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27. Chill-inducing</li> <li>28. Type of palm tree, pl.</li> <li>29. Council of ____, city in Italy</li> <li>32. *Back-to-School retail event</li> <li>33. WWII general who became President</li> <li>36. *Faculty member</li> <li>38. "Peace" with fingers</li> <li>40. TV classic "____ in the Family"</li> <li>41. Superlative of true</li> <li>44. Lowest male singing voice</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>46. Small bomb</li> <li>48. Christopher Columbus' birthplace</li> <li>49. Consumed (2 words)</li> <li>50. Small ladies' handbag</li> <li>51. What one does at the altar</li> <li>52. *College freshman's new digs</li> <li>53. International Civil Aviation Organization</li> <li>54. Half as much as twice</li> <li>55. ____-do-well</li> <li>56. Every American's uncle?</li> </ol> |
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CENTRAL MACHINERY Wood Lathe 14X43, Like new, variable speed, all knives and attachments. \$500 firm. Call for an appointment (828)369-7807 or (828)200-2741.

MOVING: 2 Mountain bikes \$150 each, new computer screen \$75, New 66 in TV \$600, TV stand \$200, 8 chair/leafed dining room table \$650, kettle bell \$70, elliptical \$1500, golf clubs \$10 each, patio table and chairs \$125, kerosene heater \$100, Men's snowsuit and snowboard \$300, call (828)421-6106.

FREE 41"X22" Kenmore chest freezer. Works well! Must pick up. (828)369-0109.

FARMERS MARKET Spring Season 8-12, every Saturday. Please Come Out and Support Your Local Farmers Market. Winter Vegetables, Honey, Fresh Chicken, Artisan Breads, Pastries, Preserves, Handcrafted Soaps, Eggs, Large Assortment of Cookies. Blueberry & Blackberry Bushes, Peonies. 200 Block East Palmer.

### Garage & Yard Sales

MOVING SALE Everything Must Go! Saturday, Aug. 28, 8:30-2, 175 Cat Creek Estates. Furniture, Linens, Misc. Etc.

### Auctions

SMOKEY MOUNTAIN AUCTION CO. online bidding, SmokeyMountainAuctionCo.hibid.com preview in person, 175 Jim Mann Rd. Open 10am-4pm Mon-Sat NCAL 10389 (828)634-4271.

### Wanted

BUYING WILD GINSENG Starting September 1. Every Day 12pm-9pm, Best Price Paid. Large Amounts Welcome. Call Ricky Teem (828)371-1802 or (828)524-7748.

### Community Fundraisers

REACH FOR BARGAINS in Heritage Hollow, open Tues.-Sat. 10am-3pm. Benefits Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Macon County. Information call (828)369-2040.

ZONTA CLUB of Franklin Fundraiser, "A Taste of Tuscany", Sept. 11, 2021 from 5-9pm. Funds will benefit The Special Liberty Project, Fire Dept for child car seats. More information, ZontaFranklinNC.org or email ZontaBootsAndBling@gmail.com"

HABITAT RE-STORE 56 W Palmer St., Franklin. Furniture, Lighting, Plumbing, Building Materials, Doors & Windows, Appliances & More! (828)524-5273. Sylva Re-Store, 1315 W. Main St. (828)586-1800. Hours for both Stores Mon./Wed./Fri./Sat. 10-4pm.

### Animals

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



**HIMALAYAN KITTENS**  
 Born July 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Blue Eyes,  
 Bushy Tails  
 \$45  
 CALL  
 (828) 524-0261

**Musical Instruments Repaired**  
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**Buy, Trade & Sales Lessons**  
 Call Peter (828)524-1010

**SUBSCRIBE!**

12 Months - \$29.00  
 6 Months - \$16.00  
 3 Months - \$11.00  
 (includes tax)

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## Franklin Flea Market, LLC

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

We have over 16 vendors, everything from A to Z...

Lombard's Antiques and collectables is having a mid summer clearance sale, 1/2 off most items..

Fresh fruits & vegetables sold on Saturday.

*We have several store fronts & tables available for rent. Come help us grow.*

**867 Highlands Rd in Franklin**  
 Hours: Friday and Saturday 8 till 6  
 Sunday and Thursday 11 till 5  
 Clean Restrooms

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FROM \$25,900



## NEW TRAILBLAZERS

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## NEW EQUINOXS

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### 2017 F-250 PLATINUM



ONLY 14,979 MI.  
Crew cab, 4x4, Diesel 6.7 lt. Every conceivable option on this beast, including leather, panoramic roof, navigation, retractable running boards and only 14,979 miles on this 1 owner local truck!!!

### 2016 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED



ONLY 58,000 MI.  
Sport 4X4, V6 engine with automatic transmission, hard top, tilt, cruise and navigation for ONLY \$33,995

### 2018 NISSAN FRONTIER PRO 4X



Crew cab, off road beast with factory navigation, full power, heated seats with dual climate control, trailer tow package! Save thousands.

### 2018 JEEP COMPASS LATITUDE



ONLY 27,778 MI.  
Latitude with attitude!!! One local owner with no accidents. Very well-equipped with only 27,778 miles.

### 2019 CHEVROLET CORVETTE



ONLY 7,300 MI.  
Only 7,300 original miles!!! Removeable glass roof, leather, navigation, performance data recorder and so much more!!!

### 2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500



Double cab 4x4 LT, power windows, locks, mirrors, tilt, cruise, and so much more.

### 2019 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE



3.6 lt. V6, power windows, locks, seat, 1 owner, local trade in.

### 2021 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE L



ONLY 1,149 MI.  
Limited 4X4 fully loaded with leather, heated memory seats, panoramic roof, navigation w/ 3rd row seating with only 1,149 miles. \$58,995

### 2019 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED



ONLY 16,757 MI.  
4X4 fully equipped with leather, navigation, panoramic roof, power retractable running boards and more with only 16,757 miles!!!

### 1998 CHEVROLET CORVETTE



V8, automatic, power windows, locks, mirrors, tilt, cruise, leather interior and much, much more for ONLY \$11,995

### 2019 FORD TRANSIT VAN



ONLY 4,676 MI.  
Power windows, locks, tilt, cruise, keyless entry and much, much more with only 4,676 miles. \$32,995

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