

Four schools suspend in-person classes

Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer

After only two weeks since school started on Aug. 17, schools are already having to redo schedules and make adjustments.

A statement from the central office of the Macon County School system was sent out on Saturday reporting that a number of Franklin High School administrators, support staff, and teachers are under quarantine as a result of the positive case of COVID-19 identified at Franklin High School. These essential staff members will be under quarantine for 10-14 days. Face-to-face instruction was suspended through Sept. 11. At that time, conditions will be reevaluated.



Photo by Vickie Carpenter

In the space of a week, the Franklin High School sign changed from "Welcome Back" to "Virtual Learning 8/24-9/11."

classes through Sept. 11. Students who attend these schools will switch to virtual learning.

Dr. Baldwin explained why this was a necessary decision. "We are not suspending instruction due to a cluster outbreak, we are suspending due to lack of staff," said Baldwin.

The Macon County Health Department reported six positive cases as of 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 24. That led to the quarantine of additional staff members as well as some students.

At FHS, 49 students and 13 staff members are under quarantine. As of Aug. 24, East Franklin Elementary has six students and one teacher under quarantine; MVI has 16 students, four teachers and one substitute under quarantine. MMS has

31 students and six teachers under quarantine. Across the system, there are 21 cafeteria staff, two school nurses and one health assistant under quarantine.

When there is a positive COVID 19 case identified, the

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Parking lot project proceeds go to worthy cause

Snow pleads guilty in 2016 double murder

Paul Snow pleaded guilty Tuesday in a Macon County courtroom to the Nov. 6, 2016, shooting deaths of his mother and sister, District Attorney Ashley Hornsby Welch said.

Snow's admission that he killed Sunshine Snow and her daughter, Jacquetta Snow, were tendered as part of a plea arrangement backed by the family. Along with the victims' relatives, friends of the two women attended the mid-day, hour-and-a-half-long hearing.

Snow, 54, pleaded guilty to two charges of second-degree murder and driving while influenced (a separate offense that occurred in August 2016). He also entered an Alford plea for first-degree arson in connection with the murders.

An Alford plea is not an admission of guilt; rather, it's an acknowledgment by Snow and his lawyer, Tony Dalton of Brevard, that there is adequate evidence for the state to gain a conviction.

Superior Court Judge Bill Coward sentenced Snow to 25 years in prison and ordered payments of court costs and \$10,000 restitution, \$5,000 for each victim, to help with

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Paul Snow appeared on Tuesday at a plea hearing in Macon County Superior Court with his lawyer, Tony Dalton.

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Funds available to help with energy bills

Funding is now available to help North Carolinians pay cooling or heating bills or secure cooling or heating resources. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' Crisis Intervention Program provides assistance to qualified, low-income households who are experiencing a cooling related crisis (or heating related crisis in the winter).

A household is in a crisis if it is experiencing or is in danger of experiencing a life-threatening or health related emergency and sufficient, timely and appropriate assistance is not available from any other source. A life-threatening emergency is defined as a household which has no heating or cooling source or has a past due notice for primary heating or cooling service, and the health or well-being of a household member would be in danger if the heating or cooling crisis was not alleviated.

The Energy Programs Application form is available for download at <https://epass.nc.gov> for applicants to print and mail, fax, scan or

drop off at a local DSS office after completion. Applications may also be made by calling the county department of social services or at county departments of social services offices, through June 30, 2021, while the funds are available. Households are individually evaluated by county departments of social services staff to determine whether there is a heating or cooling crisis. The funds are distributed through county departments of social services directly to the vendor or utility company. In Macon County, DSS is located at 1832 Lakeside Dr.; phone (828)349-2114.

To be eligible, a household must have at least one person who meets certain criteria, including being income eligible, and have a heating or cooling related emergency. Full eligibility details are available online at www.ncdhhs.gov/crisis-intervention-program.

The Crisis Intervention Program is funded federally by the Administration for Children and Families.

GUILTY PLEA

Continued from page 1

funeral expenses.

On Nov. 6, 2016, a driver noticed the glow of a fire in the Cartoogechaye community, at Sunshine and Jacquetta Snow's house on Creekside Drive. Firefighters arrived to find the upper two stories of the three-story home fully engulfed.

With the help of an arson dog, investigators discovered two badly burned bodies in the rubble of the home. A medical examiner found bullets in the women's heads; additionally, Jacquetta Snow had been shot in her torso.

Paul Snow denied knowledge of the crimes. He claimed to have spent his time that night in a bar, but the statement later unraveled.

Detectives with Macon County Sheriff's Office and agents with the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation identified more than 10 people who told them Snow threatened to "burn

them (the women) up in the house."

"They were scared of Paul," Assistant District Attorney John Hindsman, who prosecuted the case, said in court. "They told numerous individuals, 'If something happens to us, Paul did it.'"

Snow's lawyer pointed the finger of blame on his client's father. He said the man was an alcoholic pedophile who sexually and physically abused his children. The night Snow killed his mother and sister, Dalton said Jacquetta Snow made a comment about the sexual abuse that triggered her brother.

"He reacted, he snapped," Dalton told Judge Coward. "This man comes into here as a broken person and has suffered through a lot."

As investigators closed in, Snow fled Macon County for Florida. Police in Santa Rosa County arrested him about two weeks after the murders, on Nov. 21, on an outstanding warrant of failing to register in North Carolina as a sex offender.

Submitted by Quintin Ellison, PIO/legal assistant for the District Attorney's office.



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IN-PERSON

Continued from page 1

Macon County Public Health conducts contact tracing. MCPH identifies all the individuals that might possibly have to be quarantined. Dr. Baldwin explained.

"They do this out of an abundance of caution. Macon County is still in the cautious stage in regard to schools reopening. We have 15.1 active cases per 100,000 citizens. The threshold is 25 active cases per 100,000. We are seeing some issues with regard to reopening."

After meeting with the principals of MMS, MVI, and UA, Dr. Baldwin determined that suspending in-class instruction was necessary due to lack of staff due to quarantine.

Dr. Baldwin also met with the principals of East Franklin Elementary, South Macon, Cartoogechaye and Iotla Elementary Schools. They felt comfortable continuing the face to face classes for now. Nantahala, Highlands and Macon Early college are also

continuing with in-person instruction.

On Sunday, Aug. 23, the school board learned of the number of substitutes needed at MMS.

"Under normal circumstances that is difficult, but because of the six foot mandate it is very difficult to operate as we normally would with that amount of substitutes," said Baldwin.

"While we are faced with obvious concerns by those families affected by the positive cases as well as those in quarantine due to exposure, those are concerns. What we are faced with now are the staffing concerns that were originally discussed, the number of staff that can be removed from schools due to quarantine from positive cases as well as those who are quarantined due to exposure."

"Those in quarantine were not all positive cases, they were taken into quarantine as a precaution," added Jim Breedlove, School Board Chairman.

Notices will continue to be disseminated to parents as the information becomes available.

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Lisa Leatherman elected as chair of SCC Foundation Board of Directors

Lisa Leatherman, Nantahala District Manager for Duke Energy Carolinas, has begun serving as Chair of the SCC Foundation Board as of August 4.

Leatherman, who has helped the SCC Foundation raise more than \$22,000 since 2015, recently secured an additional \$5,000 from the Duke Energy Foundation toward the New Century Scholars (NCS) program. A collaborative effort between Southwestern Community College and public schools in Jackson, Macon and Swain Counties, NCS provides support, encouragement and financial assistance to high-achieving high-school students.

"The NCS program provides key support and assistance to talented students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to advance their education," Leatherman said. "It's so important for our local students to have this chance."

Each year, seventh graders from throughout SCC's service area (Jackson, Swain, and Macon Counties) are selected as New Century Scholars. These students receive last-dollar tuition assistance to attend SCC upon graduating high-school as long as they fulfill the program obligations, which include maintaining their grades, engaging in community service projects and participating in professional development and networking opportu-



In this file photo from 2015, Lisa Leatherman (Center) of Duke Energy shakes hands with and presents a check to SCC Foundation Director Brett Woods (Left) and SCC President Dr. Don Tomas (Right) on behalf of Duke Energy.

nities.

The program is funded entirely by annual donations from outside sources and private

donors, including corporate contributors like Duke Energy.

"Duke Energy is proud to contribute to such

a valuable and beneficial program in our communities, and it's been an honor to work with SCC over the last five years and see first-hand how many lives we've helped change," said Leatherman. "I'm honored to become Chair this year, and I can't wait to see these students accomplish great things even in such unprecedented times."

According to Brett Woods, Director of the SCC Foundation, NCS is celebrating its 25th anniversary and is continuing to thrive thanks in large part to the longstanding support of both Duke Energy and Leatherman. Since 1992, Duke Energy has donated more than \$53,000 to the SCC Foundation to support student scholarships.

"We are truly grateful for Duke Energy's continued support, for seeing the potential in this program and for helping our students accomplish their dreams," Woods said. "Lisa is a true supporter of SCC and we're excited for her to take on this role."

For more information on New Century Scholars, contact Freya Kinner, SCC's NCS Coordinator, at f_kinner@southwesterncc.edu or 828.339.4477.

To support New Century Scholars, visit "Give Now" at southwesterncc.edu, or contact Woods at b_woods@southwesterncc.edu or 828.339.4241

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Virtual watch party planned for project leaders of Operation Christmas Child

On Saturday, Sept. 12, from 7 to 8 p.m., Operation Christmas Child of Western North Carolina will be hosting a Virtual Watch Party for Project Leaders at Holly Springs Baptist Church in Franklin. People who lead Operation Christmas Child in their church, local community, group, or business or those who would like to can be a project leader.

More than 500 workshops will be hosted across the country that day to help equip volunteers with resources and critical updates, as well as provide an opportunity to build strong, local relationships. Leaders can learn more about how to effectively carry out their role in sending the gospel to the ends of the earth through gift-filled shoeboxes. COVID-19 guidelines will be followed in all locations offering a virtual option. Search for a workshop near you or register for the online workshop here at <https://sampur.se/OCC-PL-Workshop>

Anyone is welcome to come and participate in the fellowship with others who have a passion for Operation Christmas Child, or attend a Virtual Workshop in your home or office, simply register at the link above and receive information to attend.

National Collection Week is scheduled for Nov. 16-23. Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international



Christian relief and evangelism organization headed by Franklin Graham. The mission of OCC is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church, to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 168 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories. For many of these children, the gift-filled shoebox is the first gift they have ever received.

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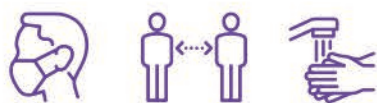
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Local connections to accused 19th Century murderer Frankie Silver

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

While it may seem like violence, heightened media attention, injustices, and prejudices are modern mores, the case of Frankie Silver, a wife and mother hanged in Western North Carolina during the summer of 1833 for the killing and dismembering of her husband, Charlie, encapsulated many of today's issues and still stirs discussions and debates.

What is commonly known as the “Ballad of Frankie Silver” has been generally publicized since 1833 as a confession just prior to Frankie's hanging in Morganton; yet, many people have also asserted for almost two centuries that the rhyming ballad is only an Appalachian folklore. The ballad begins:

“This dreadful, dark and dismal day
Has swept my glories all away,
My sun goes down, my days are past,
And I must leave this world at last.”

There are many reasons the Frankie Silver murder case, which happened in Mitchell County in 1831, continues to fascinate people nationally and locally. First, the details of the crime were heinous, even to contemporary sensibilities. Although local legends and speculation continue, some of the facts of the case are that 19-year-old Charlie Silver went missing in December 1831. And,



A photo of Belinda Carringer's great grandfather, Whipple Smart, and great grandmother, Mary Elizabeth (Silver) Smart, lived with their children in the preserved home that is part of Main-spring Conservation Trust's Tessentee Bottomland Preserve, which has walking trails leading to the home. Mary Elizabeth's father was Greenberry Ellis Silver, first cousin to Charlie Silver; Greenberry Ellis Silver was Carringer's great, great grandfather.

habeas corpus hearing, and his wife and son were released from the Morganton jail, but his daughter was not. Frankie was charged with the felony of murder. While jealousy was first thought to be the cause of Frankie's rage, many of Frankie's friends and family members began to express how she was a victim of abuse and that killing her husband was an act of self-defense.

Young, a N.C. resident and journalist who died in January 2019, wrote “The Untold Story of Frankie Silver” because of research he gleaned and because ancestors played a role in the case. He wrote in his book, “As if Charlie's murder itself were not bad enough, Alfred Silver (Charlie's father) revealed, “The most atrocious deed was to come. The woman went to work, cut the body into small pieces, and burned it bit by bit.”

Even though there was no hard evidence that Frankie Silver killed her husband – as fingerprinting would not be a common investigative practice until 1892 – the fact that Charlie's body parts were in and around the cabin where she resided was determined to be proof enough. If Frankie had killed Charlie to protect herself and her infant daughter, Nancy, the courts may have had mercy on her, and perhaps her sentence would have been imprisonment for a time. However, the ghastly nature of the crime, and the fact that women were not allowed to testify in their own defense, resulted in a guilty verdict.

Although 17 letters and petitions, according to Young, were sent to the N.C. governor to attempt a pardon for Frankie, due to the “harsh punishment” of the hanging of a woman, extremely rare in the United States, she was hanged on July 12, 1833.

But to make the story even more sensational and provide additional fodder for the media and people residing all over Western North Carolina, Frankie attempted an escape in May, two months before her hanging, with the help of three men, one of whom was assumed to be an uncle. She cut her hair, dressed herself as a boy, and referred to herself as “Tommy.”

And then there is the daughter, Nancy Silver, who was reportedly ferried away – or kidnapped – in the middle of the night as a baby by Stuart relations, Jacob and his wife, Elizabeth. Frankie and Charlie's daughter being taken from Mitchell County to a remote, rural home in the Ellijay community is how legendary Frankie Silver first become connected to Macon County.

Belinda Carringer, a local historian and farmer with her husband, Donnie, of Carringer Farms, was researching aspects of family history when she came across information indicating she might be related to Frankie Silver. Carringer learned later through genealogy that she was, instead, blood related to Charlie Silver. Carringer's maiden name is Smart. Her great grandfather, Whipple Smart, and great grandmother, Mary Elizabeth (Silver) Smart,

after a few days of questioning neighbors of his whereabouts, his 18-year-old wife, Frankie Silver, became a suspect in his disappearance. With the couple's infant daughter present at their simple, rural, Kona, N.C. cabin, local law enforcement – according to Perry Deane Young's book “The Untold Story of Frankie Silver” – found bits of bones in fresh ash in the fireplace, “a circle of blood as large as a hog's liver” under the cabin's floorboards, a portion of a body partly consumed by fire buried a short distance from the cabin, a large puddle of blood beneath the floor of the house, and more gruesome details strewn about the property. In a bench inside the house was a deep gash that appeared to have been made by an ax.

Frankie, along with her mother, Barbara Stewart, and her brother, Blackston, were arrested on Jan. 9, 1832. Speculation at the time of the arrest was that Frankie killed her husband with an ax in a jealous rage, since he was known to drink and have adulterous affairs, and that her mother and brother helped her dismember and attempt to hide his body. Frankie, however, was documented as small in stature. In the book “The Ballad of Frankie Silver,” by Sharyn McCrumb, she introduces Frankie this way when she and her family members were taken to be jailed in Morganton, county seat of Burke County, which at the time encompassed what is now Mitchell County: “On one of the horses sat a young girl, so little and pale that at first look I took her for a child. ... Frankie Silver was small and slight, but she had the wiry body of one who had seen her share of drudgery on a hardscrabble hill farm.”

Frankie's father, Isaiah Stewart, obtained a

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Nancy Silver, Frankie and Charlie Silver's only child, is buried in Franklin at Mountain Grove Baptist Church. Belinda Carringer (right) distantly related, cried the first time she realized that Nancy Silver's headstone was at Mountain Grove Baptist Church, only a mile or so from Carringer's farm.

lived in the preserved home that is part of Mainspring Conservation Trust's Tessentee Bottomland Preserve, which has walking trails leading to the home. Mary Elizabeth's father was Greenberry Ellis Silver, first cousin to Charlie Silver; Greenberry Ellis Silver was Carringer's great, great grandfather.

The most interesting irony, though, was when Carringer found out that their farm, which she and her husband purchased in 2011, is only a mile from where Nancy Silver is buried, at Mountain Grove Baptist Church in Franklin. She said when she first visited the gravesite of Frankie and Charlie Silver's only child, Nancy, she cried. "A woman hanged is fascinating to people, but Nancy suffered because her mother was hanged for murdering her father," said Car-

ringer. "The circumstances are hard to think about ... how it would have been for Frankie ... for Nancy and the family."

Nancy's unfortunate life is detailed in the 2012 historical fiction book, "A Life for Nancy," by Danita Stoudemire and Riley Henry. The book follows the life of the ill-fated Nancy Silver and includes more than 30 years of research by Henry, a native of Franklin, whose wife, Wanda, is the great-great granddaughter of Nancy Silver.

"When we started researching it, everybody would bring up, 'What happened to Nancy?'" said Henry. "We found much information at courthouses and through Silver historians. Nancy's story needed to be told."

So far, more than 6,000 copies of the book have been sold throughout the United

States, according to Henry.

Nancy, who eventually left Macon County as a young girl to return to her maternal grandmother, Frankie's mother, Barbara, underwent extreme prejudice, shunning, and bullying back in Mitchell County, where the murder took place. According to the book, school children taunted her, "Yer ma was a murderer," while adults whispered when she was around and some referred to her as "poor little Nancy." Both her maternal and paternal grandmothers told conflicting stories about what truly happened based on their allegiances to their deceased children. "It ate at her every day," reads the book. "She had heard so many bits and pieces of what had happened; she just couldn't put them all together."

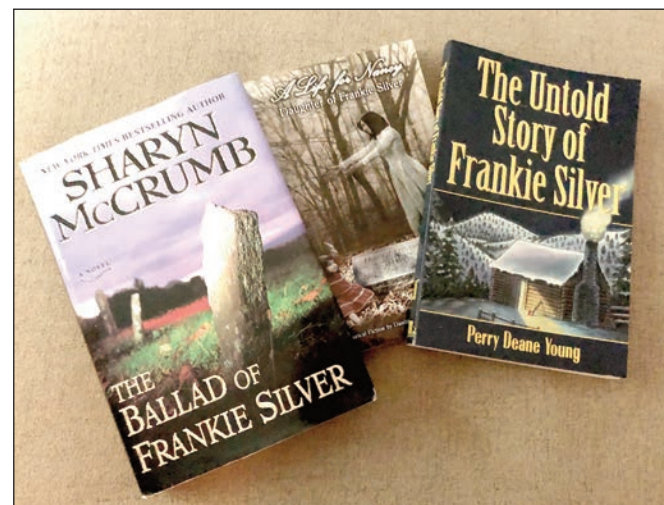
Henry believes that many fabrications surrounding the Silver murder case and the life of Nancy have helped to keep the story alive and speculations ongoing. "None of us [descendants] believe that Frankie killed Charlie from a jealous rage. We're convinced from the research that it was self-defense. And I don't believe she cut him up by herself and tried to hide him. She was only about 4 foot 6 inches."

As an adult living back in Ellijay, Nancy attended Mountain Grove Baptist Church. Henry has been in contact with some descendants of Nancy's seven children, which are scattered throughout Western North Carolina, Georgia and elsewhere in the United States. He and his wife visit Nancy's grave regularly and donate an-

nually to the church for the gravesite's maintenance. Plus, in 2005, the Henrys put a plaque in front of Nancy's tombstone to communicate and commemorate the Civil War death of her first husband, David Parker, who was the father of six of her children.

"When Nancy was married to David, she seemed to really enjoy life for the first time," said Henry, "but her life was hard after she lost David and sad because of what happened to her parents. In any of our research, there is no indication she experienced much happiness. She was very private person, but high strung, and could have suffered depression."

In the conclusion of "A Life for Nancy" is a list of what Henry was able to determine as fact in the Silver case and the life of Nancy, but he pointed out that conjecture may always surround the mysterious, but well-publicized case of Frankie and Charlie Silver and the daughter they left behind.



Even after almost two centuries have passed, the violent death and dismemberment of Charlie Silver and the hanging of his wife, Frankie, continues to be fodder for lectures, books, essays, and conversations.

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Above and Beyond Nutrition opens in Franklin

Above and Beyond Nutrition recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony, along with the Franklin Chamber of Commerce, celebrating the opening of their new location in at 217 Highlands Road.

Above and Beyond Nutrition is the new spot to be, if you enjoy delicious herbal tea, high quality protein shakes and sweating to the rhythm of music. This new spot in town offers all this plus delicious homemade protein waffles. No other place in town offers this service. Daily dance fitness classes are at 6 p.m. The cost is \$7 with a tea and shake included. Come check them out from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 5 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jazmin at (402)885-5531.



Why real estate is becoming more attractive in suburbs

This year has culminated in a number of factors that are reshaping the landscape of U.S. real estate. A housing shift is occurring in some cities as some people are trading urban areas for the suburbs or rural places. As more people work from home in the current climate, the aspects of city living that are appealing to young professionals, such as theaters, bars, and restaurants, are either closed or restricted.

Real estate analysts say the outward-bound residential trend could continue as the pandemic persists. For anyone considering a move out of the city, there are some key factors to consider, says Jadon Newman, CEO of a private lending and private equity firm.

"The demand to live in rural and suburban areas is increasing compared to urban demand, which marks a big change from where it's been," Newman says. "But the cost of city living was getting expensive before the pandemic, and now the exodus is being expedited."

Newman says those considering a new home or a second home should keep in mind these trends in the current economic climate:

Good values in suburbia. Depending on geography, some areas took a hit early in the pandemic, the housing market is

surging back and median home prices have risen recently. Newman agrees with analysts who say suburban housing could be a better investment for homebuyers than an urban dwelling, given the uncertainty around the coronavirus and its multiple effects on dense population centers.

Falling urban home prices. As a result of more people leaving the city for the suburbs, economists say home prices in urban areas may fall as a result.

Low interest rates. Interest rates are the lowest in history. If you're looking to own a home it's a good time to buy. Homes in many regions aren't staying on the market for long.

Investing in small-town rental properties. Newman says because major cities have been disproportionately affected by the virus, smaller towns that have been far less impacted may be ideal for investing in a residential property that can be used as a vacation rental and additional source of income.

"Home ownership has traditionally been a way for families to build equity which is more difficult now in densely-populated areas where home prices are high," Newman said, "This is one of the best times in our country's history to build wealth with your home in the suburbs where prices are often more affordable."

Gwynn Lindler Fitness serves women over 55

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting celebration recently for Gwynn Lindler Fitness. Gwynn Lindler takes personalized fitness training to women age 55 and above - both in-home and online.

"Your lifestyle, activities, and interests are the foundation for developing a fitness plan that enhances you and improves your life" says Lindler.

Call Gwynn for a consultation at 704-236-1319 or email at GwynnLindlerFitness@gmail.com. You are invited to join the Tuesday morning Fun Fitness Walk PLUS+. Check Facebook at Gwynn Lindler Fitness for the event invitation and details.



Pictured (L-R) are Diane Baldwin, Chamber staff, Tim and Gwynn Lindler and Cindy Caverder, Chamber staff.

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor - Highlands Mayor

A major COVID challenge facing our community is how to protect and manage first responders and personnel that continuously interact with the public. County and municipal officials are doing everything possible to keep employees healthy so they can serve the public.

We can all do our part to contain the spread. Wearing masks, washing hands, and maintaining social distancing are the most effective practices.

Getting a flu shot as we move into fall and winter is another way to alleviate a potential compounding of the problem. The county is currently working on a plan to have ample sites for folks to get the flu shot.

I have been gratified to see so many people wearing masks on our commercial sidewalks and businesses. I am receiving positive feedback that our visitors feel comfortable coming to Highlands because we are a community that practices the basic COVID-19 protocols.

The town board postponed implementation of the requirement for residential bear resistant garbage totes. There has been a backlog in ordering the totes. In the coming weeks I expect the board to direct staff to implement the policy. As I travel through town I am glad to see residences with the bear resistant totes. Many people have painted their street number, or some other identification, on their totes. Marking a tote helps deter possible theft.

On the other hand, some folks still continue to follow unacceptable garbage practices. I noticed one 45 gallon can on the roadside filled with loose garbage that was not bagged. I still see a few trash bags placed for pickup on the roadside. These practices are no longer permitted. We all need to be good stewards in disposing our garbage responsibly.

We are approaching the Sept. 30 deadline to respond to the 2020 Census. If you have not done so, please go to My2020Census.gov, or call (844) 330-2020, to file a response. Provided North Carolina has a full census count, a new 14th seat in Congress could be created. For each person who does not respond, the state stands to lose over the decade between \$16,000 to \$18,000 in federal dollars.

Starting on Sunday afternoon NCDOT will be replacing a drain pipe across NC 106 just below Tate Landscaping and the Mountain. There will be a detour, but expect delays. The plan is for the work to go through the night and the repaving to be completed sometime Monday morning. NCDOT did a similar project a couple of years ago on US 64 between Cashiers and Highlands. Macon County office of DOT can answer any questions at (828) 524-2517.

Town hall staff are receiving numerous calls about voting. Those questions are best answered by calling the Macon County Board of Elections at (828) 349-2034. Also, the board has a website that can be accessed by entering Macon County Board of Elections on a web browser. Early voting at the Highlands Recreation Center begins on the third Thursday prior to the Nov. 3 Election Day.



Patrick Taylor

Letters to the Editor

Choose wisely which side to be on

In the time of the end, no man will be able to buy or sell without the mark of the beast but how is that possible?

To do so, the powers that be must have complete control over the means to buy and sell and as long as the people have hard currency to spend (paper money/coins) it's impossible. Therefore hard currency must be eliminated and done in such a way that the people are unaware it's happening; until it is too late. Well it's happening right now under the confusion and fear of the Corona Virus.

Just walk into any store and the proof is right before your eyes. Signs are prevalent in every business stating that you must pay by credit card or other electronic means because of a shortage of coins needed to produce change. Wal-Mart had even gone so far as to round out your change. If you owed \$9.49 and paid with a \$10 bill, you should have received 51 cents back but instead they gave you \$1. Like wise if you owed \$9.50 and you paid with a \$10 you got nothing back. That didn't last too long and they went back to giving the correct change. But why is there a shortage of coins. The standard reason given, was that due to the virus not enough people were out buying things and it created the shortage. Most people just took that to be the truth but if you stopped and thought a second, it made no sense. If less people are buying then you don't need as many coins to make change. Coins are not like raw eggs, they don't go bad if kept in your pocket or purse. Yet there is a shortage. But why?

After coins are minted they are sent directly to the Federal Reserve Banks. These banks are not part of our government but privately owned. You can Google, "What families own the Federal reserve?" and the names like Rockefeller, Goldman Sachs, Rothschild, plus others will appear. These families, in collusion, have created the shortage by greatly reducing how many coins are released and to whom they are given to. But why?

The reason is to stop people from using hard currency and switch over to credit cards and other forms of electronic currency. I return to Wal-Mart as an example but most other stores have signs that say they have no change so you must pay electronically or exact change.

Before, you could go into our Wal-Mart and pay with either credit card or cash in any of their self check out or cashier lanes. That's the way it's been done for years but then came the virus and the coin shortage.

About a month ago, they reduced the self checkout to six machines that would accept cash; the rest were credit cards. A week later it went down to four, then two then none. If you wanted to pay with cash you had to stand in a cashier line and wait, even though there were plenty of the vacant self checkouts. Then they started reducing the number of cashier checkouts. One of the last times I was in Wal-Mart, they had three lanes open for cash and each had approxi-

mately 10 people in line. I waited over 30 minutes. But why?

The goal necessitates the total elimination of cash. Soon people will be tired of waiting in line and stop using cash. Once enough people comply, the Federal Reserve will release a statement that cash is no longer necessary. When this is done, the Beast Power will have complete control over who can buy and sell. Choose not to do what the Beast mandates and with a flip of a switch, your bank account is empty.

What is the Mark of the Beast? The Bible says that the Beast's mark will be either on the forehead or in the hand and God's seal will be on the forehead. Don't be fooled, this is not some sort of a visible stamp or micro chip, the mark represents your allegiance to either God or Satan. The forehead represents your mind and as such you are either totally on God's side or on Satan's. The hand represents work. You are neither for or against either God or Satan but in order to buy and sell, you will do the bidding of the Beast power. But to God, by not choosing, it automatically puts you on Satan's side.

Hopefully this has convinced you that we are in the end times and time is short. What can we do to stop this; Nothing! We can only choose which side to be on. Choose wisely.

Jeff Pritz – Franklin, N.C.

Billing practices of HCA/Mission questionable

For each of the last four months, I have received notification letters from HCA/Mission regarding medical expenses they say had not been paid. Upon calling my Med Supp Insurer, Transamerica, I found that each of the four medical expenses had been paid very promptly weeks or even months before. On each occasion, I called HCA/Mission to tell them my insurer had already paid the medical expense. I have now received an actual bill for one of the expenses that was paid back in April. I think this issue goes beyond extremely sloppy accounting practices. I believe HCA/Mission is trying to scam and scare seniors on Medicare into paying a medical expense that has already been paid. I have not had this problem with any other health carrier nor did I ever have this problem with Mission before HCA acquired Mission.

I will be submitting a complaint to the North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein. I would be very surprised if other seniors on Medicare have not experienced this same situation.

David Christopher – Scaly Mountain, N.C.

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What would Satan like to do in America?

1 Peter 5:8 states, "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

What would Satan like to do in America?

He would take God out of schools, sporting events, town meetings, the court house and Congress. He would have people believe that there is no God or devil and there is no heaven or hell. He would take Jesus out of Christmas and Easter. He would have men of the cloth abuse children and have the church cover it up. He would deceive churches like he deceived Eve, he would say "did God really say that." He would have some churches questioning God's word and want to be more worldly. He would install a few bad apples in the police department so that their actions would cause hatred and disrespect to the police and start a movement to defund the police. He would cause protests, riots, breaking-ins and stealing from innocent businesses and burning others down. He would have people focus on slavery that happen over 150 years ago instead of the slavery happening today. The slavery of young girls into prostitution and the slavery of young children in sweat shops. He would control the media so that their focus is on violence, hatred, and fear. He would have athletes not stand for the National Anthem. He would have TV and the movies promoting pornography, profanity and sexual, immoral conduct.

He may have not started the virus, but he is enjoying the rewards from it. Businesses, schools and churches being shut down. People losing their jobs and losing their places to live. People turning to drugs and alcohol, being selfish and hoarding items. People losing their lives.

Yes, the Devil is alive and well in America. What we need to do is to put God first in America again.

Mike Townsend – Franklin, N.C.

Newsweek story not a story but an opinion

RE: Patrick Wallace's story

And boy did he (Mr. Wallace) have a story to tell.

1.) Risch's "story" was not a "story" in Newsweek. It was an opinion written by him. His opinion, not a story reported and researched by Newsweek. My opinion is just as valid.

2.) Risch's "evidence and blockbuster survey" consisted of a study of 42 patients that was deemed uninterpretable. His other dangerous ideas came from a two-page document he found on Google.

All that said, the Trump Conservatives who are "frustrated" with Liberals like Trump's CR task force keeping them from taking HCQ/hydroxychloroquine for CV19 Gulp away! Wash the HCQ down with a big glass of Clorox. Personally, I recommend listening to Dr. Fauci.

Patrick L. Grey, M.D. – Cashiers, N.C.

Loud cars, missing lights and roadside garbage

I am writing in regard to the many loud vehicles in this area. Do we not pay for inspection every year? Is not the muffler and exhaust system included?

Also to the point. Over half of the vehicles are missing some lights, either parking, headlight, brake light or other. Some inspectors do not even look at your car, they just take your money and paper. We have no control over out of towners, but most of these mentioned are local.

Another matter is the garbage scattered through out road sides. Do we not pay for landfills and recycle centers? What about roadside cleanup? Or any public place.

Julie Williams – Franklin, N.C.

Opinions are allowed; altering facts are not

We are all very well aware that in America everyone has the right to an opinion, and to express those opinions here on the pages of our local newspapers.

What frequently creates conflict and confusion is when personal views and opinions clash with facts and with the truth. I believe that Robert Yates crossed that line in his letter to the editor (MCN, Aug. 20).

Donald Trump is infamous for his lies, fabrications and exaggerations of the truth and he relishes taking credit for the accomplishments of others. Unfortunately, all too often, his followers latch onto these untruths, run with them, and on and on they travel, ad infinitum.

One of Trump's more recent and most glaring cock and bull stories (and one that Mr. Yates erroneously repeated) is taking credit for enacting the Veterans Choice Act.

Known specifically, the "Veterans' Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014," the Veterans Choice Act was sponsored by 20-term Republican Congressman Harold Rogers of the 5th District of Kentucky and introduced by the 113th Congress on Oct. 2, 2013. We are now in the 2nd Session of the 116th Congress.

The United States Senate voted to agree to the conference report (the vote was 91-3) in Roll Call Vote #254, on 31 July, 2014. President Barack Obama signed the bill into law on Aug. 7, 2014, approximately two and a half years before Donald Trump assumed office.

Clearly, everyone is entitled to an opinion and to express those opinions, but none of us are empowered to communicate our own facts, and that includes the president of the United States (although he doesn't seem to recognize it).

Truth matters... and we (as Americans) have a responsibility and an obligation to speak truth to power (as best as we know how) at all times. I am deeply grieved and gravely concerned that this president and apparently much of his party and many of his followers, do not share my view.

David Snell – Franklin, N.C.

Wishful thinking in a fallen world

I truly wish for things to be different than they are. I read the paper, view the media and I've come to understand and realize that Solomon's statement is ever more real than ever before and that is, "there is nothing new under the sun."

I wish for a willingness of people to forgive, to be better, kinder, gentler, love their neighbor in word and deed and not look for government, religion, or some special interest group to do this for them, which may be fine, but it is us as individuals needing to do what we all want most – peace, love, acceptance.

Our world cries out for this, we watch this daily within the media. Songs are written, art displays the cries of humanity, yet we keep in an endless search for whatever it is we are looking for and life moves on. History really never changes, it only seems new to the next generation. We look for everything we want and desire, yet many never seem to ever arrive or achieve any of it, the love for money, power, sex, unleashed freedoms of every kind seems in vain yet in want of more. Hearts, lives, families are broken and we seem to blame everything, yet rarely ask or search within our own self, is there something within me that seems not right or is missing? I cannot put into words just how I feel in the loss of our world and the empty lives I see daily. We seem only to exist in hope of something different but not knowing what that difference would be. Generations of old have passed down this same feeling of trying to find anything that helps in man's quest for living life.

I truly have no answers for the next generation, I, too, felt the heaviness of despair, and no one could explain anything that made sense of the world. I can only offer the only thing that brought a rich and meaningful purpose in life and the re-

lationship with others that I am blessed with; and that is in Jesus Christ. Many never see this or want this, but for me, Christ and all that revolves around his being of who, what, why, and his purpose within humanity, is a love story of love, kindness, gentleness, justice, peace, forgiveness, acceptance, all of this and more He's given to me, as nothing nor no one ever has or ever could. I honestly have little purpose in life without Christ. I'm not a religious freak, but a relationship freak, there's a big difference. I haven't always been faithful, there have been times of doubt, but then when I see all the emptiness around me and there's nothing else, I'm always accepted back with open arms. He has helped me in making sense of both my internal and external world which I live. I feel he can help your world as well. Just ask and believe with all that you have, He's worth all to give.

Re-thinking life,

Deni Shepard – nds13@frontier.com

Macon needs to do better job of cleaning up roadways

I have been contemplating writing this letter for several years, but now I just have to get this one off my chest. I'm writing about the deplorable and disgusting condition of the roadways through our county. The practice of waiting until the grass along our roads is long enough to bale and the constant amount of garbage deposited on the side of the road by those that treat the road way the same way they look after their yards at home I suspect is ridiculous. Macon County never picks up the garbage until after the mowers once a year cut. If they ever do pick up the garbage it is now in thousands of tiny pieces. Now, if the decisions on the road maintenance is a DOT responsibility, I can understand why it is such a mess. However, if it is a county responsibility, then I would like to suggest that that person making those decisions should either look for another job someplace or go to Jackson County and learn how their job should be done. It's amazing that traveling either north or south of our county, the roadways are well maintained and never in the condition that Macon County's are. I really think a high school dropout could do a better job in the maintenance of the right of ways along our highways both north and south and east and west. It really is disgusting. Maybe the tax payers of Macon County should think about some county executives that pay a little attention to beautification and the perception by visitors of our county. Now if this is a DOT problem, then maybe those idiots at the Dept. of Highways could cut out three of the four stupid circles and put a little money to the beautification of our county. When was the last time you saw a person picking up garbage on our roadways? I can't remember when that was but I remember not long ago seeing a crew picking up garbage in Jackson County and in Haywood County. Rabun County to our south is always a pleasure to drive.

G.G. Puckett – Franklin, N.C.

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

Parking lot project benefits local athlete

Last year, Franklin High School began a program in which students were offered a chance to personalize a parking space by painting it with their own design. The spaces are offered at \$15 each for new spots; and \$10 to renew. The fee is in addition to the \$10 parking pass. At the end of the year, graduating seniors are required to repaint their spot black or pay a \$25 fine. This year, proceeds from the parking lot project will go to Devyn Blackburn, an FHS athlete who was involved in a car accident. Photos by Vickie Carpenter



Madison Phillips and Keegan Knepp personalize their parking space.





Man's best friend gets a sweet new ride

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Many people around Franklin have witnessed a sight not common, or possibly ever, in Macon County: a dog wearing goggles and silk scarf riding in a motorcycle sidecar.

When Bruce Stephenson special-ordered his made-in-the-USA Janus motorcycle, he had it retrofitted with a sidecar. The 70-year-old said he had a few different reasons for needing a sidecar; primarily he no longer wanted to have to lift a heavy motorcycle. The Janus Halcyon model motorcycle in “Crystal Silver” with gold pinstriping is only 300 pounds, and the sidecar provides stability. But the perk was that the sidecar offered not just a place for his wife, Christina, to ride, but mostly for their dog, Boojum.

The Stephensons moved to Macon County from Atlanta, Ga., and Bruce has been a motorcyclist all his life. The couple is known in the area as “Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus” for their volunteer efforts during Christmas involving distribution of donated stockings and gifts to nursing home facilities, the Rotary Club of Franklin, and more. Lately, though, Bruce is getting recognized because of his dog, who rides confidently beside him donning “doggles,” specially made protective eyewear for dogs who ride in sidecars.

“I didn’t know there was such a thing,” said Bruce. “But when you start looking up sidecars on the Internet, you see dogs sitting in them and you can order the glasses and the scarf for them to wear.”

He added, “Boojum wears them and he’s fine. If I say let’s go for a ride, he jumps right in and is set to go. He enjoys it. He doesn’t try to jump out. He has a harness on and a short leash that connects to an eyebolt on the floorboard of the sidecar. He only really barks at black cows. Not sure why.”

Bruce and Boojum’s longest ride so far has been 20 miles. They mostly cruise around Franklin.

The Stephensons explained that Boojum is a rescue dog, 18 months old, and weighs 80 pounds. When they adopted him from a rescue facility in south Georgia, after their dog of almost 16 years passed away last year, they were told he might be of Leonberger origin, German-bred dogs that can weigh up to 160 pounds.

“His paws were huge,” said Christina. “People guessed that he could also have breeds like Saint Bernard, Great Pyrenees, or Mas-



Boojum draws quite a bit of attention around town dressed in his “doggles” and his silk scarf. Bruce Stephenson had the sidecar added to his new motorcycle not just as a place for his wife, Christina, but mostly for their dog. Photo by Betsey Gooder

tiff in him.”

The couple named him Boojum as a nod to the legend of Big Foot, or Sasquatch.

“We did a DNA test; he’s about nine different dogs and it indicated he’s mainly pit bull and dachshund,” said Bruce, laughing. “We may have to do the test again because we’re not sure how accurate it is.”

To get Boojum’s energy out, the Stephensons take him to Noah’s Playground because he loves the water and can swim in the pool. But Boojum’s other favorite pastime is riding around in the sidecar.

“I get a thumbs up and honking and comments when I go out,” said Bruce. “And people take photos with their cellphones. I have never seen another person riding around on a motorcycle with a sidecar and their dog, so I guess Boojum’s a novelty right now.”

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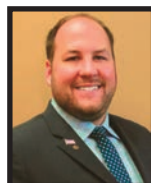
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Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests August 13 - August 24. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

August 17

Tyler Lee Watson, was charged with first degree kidnaping, assault by pointing a gun, communicating threats, assault with a deadly weapon, assault on a female. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Dustin Cole Estevez, was charged with larceny remove/destroy/deactivate component, shoplifting and concealment of goods, driving while license revoked not impaired revocation. Garrett D. Hovis made the arrest.

Kathy Fay Nicole Atcheson, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

August 18

Rebecca Denise Frady, was charged with possession of heroin, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

Deja Faye McGilvery, was charged with trafficking in opium/heroin. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

August 19

John Daryl Nichols, was charged with failure to appear. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

Joshua Lee Faulk, was charged with larceny after breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods/property, break or enter a motor vehicle. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

Austin Harley McCall, was issued warrant service for offenses committed in jurisdiction. Emileigh E. Sands made the arrest.

August 21

Kayley Elizabeth Crisp, was charged with probation violation. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Michael Kevin Young, was charged with failure to appear for warrant service.

August 22

Brach Alan Braisier, was charged with failure to appear

for possession of heroin. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Bradley Logan Brock, was charged with larceny, probation violation.

Jeffery Lynn Carpenter, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

Matthew Owen Carpenter, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

Brevon Alexander Kimsey, was charged with reckless driving, failure to report an accident, expired registration card/tag, hit/run leave scene with property damage, unsafe tires. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

August 24

Jerry Leon Harmon, was charged with warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

August 13

John Russell Sanfilippo, 54, of Sparrow Dr., was charged with possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set. Officer Bingham made the arrest.

August 14

Thomas Howard Giesy, 63, of Franklin, was charged with possession of a schedule II controlled substance.

August 15

Rigoberto Trejo, 29, of Ridgecrest Heights Rd., was charged with speeding (36 in 20 mph zone), possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, felony possession of a schedule VI controlled substance. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

August 16

James Todd Davidson, 39, of Northside Dr., was charged with communicating threats. An unsecured bond of \$1,500 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

August 19

Blane Lamont Clark, 29, of Mathis Dr., was charged with resisting officers, breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Officer Bingham made the arrest.

Erin Lynn Eastburn, 38, of Rogers Rd., was charged with resist delay obstruct, possession of a controlled substance on jail premises, injury to real property, simple assault. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

August 20

Joshua Lee Matnez Faulk, 34, of East Magnolia St., Lakeland, Fla., was charged with injury to real property. A secured bond of \$500 was set. Officer Stahl made the arrest.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

First Alliance Church is partnering with Macon County Schools to help provide a safe place for children to go when they are not in school from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most school children are being divided into "A" & "B" groups. Children can come three days per week, when not in school. The children will receive instruction from the school system, free breakfast, lunch and snack, and engage in various activities. Application forms to enroll your child/children are at the church office. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane, off of Womack St. Office hours are Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The church building will also be open for worship service and form pick-up on Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Forms can also be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to you. Space is limited, first come, first served. For more information call (828)369-7977 or email office@franklinma.com.

Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society that is normally held on the first Thursday of the month is once again being postponed. The society will continue to evaluate month to month and resume meetings when it is safe for all to be in such a gathering.

Highlands Biological Foundation's Virtual Zahner Lectures will be held on Thursday, Aug. 27, "Monitoring Bird Populations at Highlands Biological Station: A Long Term Survey" with Mark Hopey, Southern Appalachian Raptor Research (SARR). Registration is required. For more information or to register for one of our Zahner webinars, visit the website at www.highlandsbiological.org or call us at (828)526-2623.

Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 6-mile hike on Saturday, Aug. 29, with an elevation change 700 ft., to Bee Cove Falls in South Carolina. This hike has some moderate ups and downs on an old logging road off 107 near the Fish Hatchery. View this 80' multi-tiered falls in a pretty area near the edge of the escarpment of the mountains. The hike is limited to no more than ten people, with four people per car, wearing masks while driving and congregating. Meet at Cashiers Rec. Park at 10 a.m. Drive 20 miles round trip. For more information or reservations, call leaders: Mike and Susan Kettes, 743-1079.

State Employee Credit Union Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., 245 Cunningham Rd., Franklin. All donors will receive a \$20 VISA card.

The North Shore Cemetery Association will be hosting a down-scaled version of the Reunion on Sunday, Sept. 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This will be a "drop-in event" to accommodate those who want to see some of the others they have been missing. There will be no organized services or agenda. Participants are asked to bring lawn chairs and other items necessary for an outdoor picnic while maintaining social distancing. Bring your own food and drinks as

sharing food and/or utensils is prohibited. The reunion will be held at the Deep Creek Picnic Shelter north of Bryson City. Follow directional signs from US 19/74 to the Deep Creek Entrance. The Picnic Shelter is straight ahead ¼-mile on the left.

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

Crawford Senior Center is hosting Zoom classes. Zoom classes will include exercise, tai chi, and others. For more information, or to register, call the Senior Center at (828)349-2058.

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

Macon Chips, the Franklin Wood Carving Club will meet on Thursday, 6:30 p.m. in Franklin High School Wood Shop. They will continue to meet on Thursdays. Participants are asked to comply with social distancing and other endemic protocols. All members and prospective members are cordially invited to attend. For more information, call Contact D Lansont (828)369-2144.

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

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

Victory Baptist Church Revival Meetings will beginning Sunday, Sept. 6 through Wednesday, Sept. 9. Evangelist Dr. Tom Farrell will speak at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., on Sunday. Monday through Wednesday night services will begin at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. Victory is located midway between Sylva and Franklin on top of Cowee Mountain.

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

First Alliance Church Sunday services in person and on Facebook will be held at 10:30 a.m. Senior Pastor Scott Eichelberger will continue his sermon series from the book of Revelation. Teen Challenge will provide special music. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane (off Womack next door to Trimont Christian Academy). For more information, call the church office at (828)369-7977.

Franklin First United Methodist Church Sunday Online Worship is held at 9 a.m., on Facebook Live at Franklin First United Methodist Church while we are social distancing due to COVID19. The church is located at 66 Harrison Avenue in downtown Franklin; senior pastor is Rev. David Beam. For more information, call (828)524-3010 or www.firstumcfranklin.org

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

Tellico Baptist Church Sunday Services with the Reverend L. E. Angel are currently being held at the picnic shelter at 11 a.m.

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

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

Memorial United Methodist Church Anonymous Call-in Prayer Line. If you need prayer, call (828)369-0707. Leave a message with your prayer request, and the church will be happy to pray for you or whoever you request prayers for. You may also leave a request for a call back if you need one.

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SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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

S	T	A	R	E	E	A	T	F	A	R	O
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Beloved farm-to-table café remakes business plan to fill a need

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

Alan and Hannah Edwards, founders and owners of Yonder, a farm-to-table kitschy café concept that gained a quick and loyal following in its almost two years of operation, had to regroup when the March shelter-in-place Phase I mandate in North Carolina determined that restaurants could not seat customers. Since their 90% locally sourced breakfast and lunch menu items were made to order and their space in the Crystal Falls shopping center on Highway 441 was small, the couple determined they would not be able to feasibly meet take-out order demands. Instead, within a week after the pandemic mandate went into effect, the Edwards began offering an online-ordering Yonder Farmers Market opportunity at www.eatrealfood-inc.com so customers could pick and choose items from local sources. Customers ordered produce grown locally, farm-raised meats, honey, vegetable plants, jams, and more and were given a time slot to pick up the order, which occurred once weekly from the Yonder café.

However, after a few weeks of operating their temporary marketplace – to maintain some income and to continue to support at least a dozen local suppliers – the couple was given a cease-and-desist order by their landlord. Popularity of the weekly online orders had grown to close to 100. “People became instantly interested in healthy eating and building their immune system,” said Hannah. “And what can be healthier than eating locally grown and made foods?”

The Edwards had already purchased a



Yonder the cafe closed during Phase I of the pandemic, but Yonder the online market will eventually be a fresh foods store at the new Yonder Compound.

kudzu-dense property on the corner of Georgia Road and Hillcrest Avenue, across from Rizzo’s and close to downtown Franklin, and were clearing it and restoring existing buildings to eventually operate a local market. Yet, they planned to continue with their Yonder café, since it was an original concept “so awesome and rewarding,” explained Hannah, who has been in the food service industry since she was a teenager. “Our food was made from scratch and had heart in it. We served quality food in an inviting space with a friendly vibe.” Alan built the long eat-at bar by hand, eclectic vintage dishware was used, old black and white western movies were shown, and



local art adorned walls.

“We were just getting started and had regulars and seasonal people who loved our place,” said Hannah. “It was the epitome of the American dream.”

“We just don’t want people to think we failed or that we just randomly closed,” said Alan. “We were planning to continue, but we just started doing the online market to get us through [quarantine].”

Currently, close to 100% of online customers for the ongoing www.eatrealfood-inc.com were loyal Yonder customers, yet Hannah pointed out that new people are “finding them” weekly.

Work weeks for the couple involve meet-

ing suppliers and farmers, spending Wednesdays driving all day (sometimes 12 hours) picking up fresh produce, eggs, milk, and more to satisfy the week’s orders, meeting customers on Thursdays and Fridays at their new location and, with masks in place, putting boxed or bagged orders in cars as customers drive through the circular driveway. Then, on Friday afternoons they upload available items so that the order cycle begins again. The ordering online window, in fact, is from Friday at 8 p.m. to Sunday at 8 p.m.

The Edwards met in Charlotte and moved to Otto four years ago. Their intention in starting Yonder was to support the local community by offering people access to the freshest, local foods. They noticed that people in Charlotte supported widely the “eat local” initiatives and markets that encouraged people to stay, visit, eat, enjoy music, and more.

When purchasing the property, the Edwards envisioned a similar marketplace concept. The loss of their café, Yonder, accelerated their

plans so that they had to move the online weekly order pickups of local foods to what they are now calling the Yonder Compound. Assisted by Adam Garrett, the couple renovated an existing 1940s garage, adding hand-built cedar doors and siding and new paint, to store weekly orders. It will eventually become retail space where customers can come in and shop for local goods – instead of just ordering them online for a weekly pickup. They plan to name the retail market space Edwards Grocery in honor of some of Alan’s family members, who, for many years operated a store with that name in Hawkinsville, Ga.

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A cleared “park-like” space under mature hardwoods that provide shade will eventually be a space with picnic tables where customers can hang out and visit and listen to live music. Plans are to offer mead and cold-brew coffee on tap, as well as wines. And a future goal is to once again cook for customers via a food truck or trailer.

“We just plan to keep expanding, looking at new area suppliers, and visiting farms,” said Hannah. “We are always looking at suppliers that practice sustainable methods. As a society, we have to get away from not knowing where our food comes from. Everyone needs good food and we can’t make the most out of our day if we’re not well.”

Alan said their Yonder Compound is “evolving” and he and Hannah point out that they hope people will stop by to see the progress and learn all about what will transpire on the property.



Alan Edwards explained the origins of some of his local suppliers.

WCU acquires digital photo collection

Western Carolina University has obtained a rare photographic glimpse of Bryson City and Swain County in the early 1900s, thanks to a recent donation to Hunter Library’s renowned Special and Digital Collections.

The nearly 100 images from early 20th-century Swain County were taken by Frank Emmett Fry, a mining superintendent and later hotel operator who lived from 1877 to 1939. The black and white photos come from glass plate negatives and have been digitized for online viewing.

The collection was donated to Hunter Library by Jean Sandlin Douthit, a granddaughter of Fry. Douthit also is a member of the Friends of the Bryson City Cemetery, a nonprofit group that helped facilitate the donation.

The photos include his family, friends and neighbors; the unincorporated community of Hewitt, where he was superintendent of the N.C. Talc and Mining Company; and the county seat of Bryson City, where he and his wife, Martha “Mattie” Pender Fry, later owned and operated the Entella Hotel, mountain landscapes and agricultural scenes.

“Frank Fry’s photographs have lovely composition, are expertly executed, and remain in near-perfect condition after well over a century of existence, which makes them quite rare and of great value to researchers,” said Jason Brady,



interim chief of Special and Digital Collections. “They also offer the only views of the village of Hewitt, in Swain County, that I have ever seen.”

The collection can be viewed at digitalcollections.wcu.edu. For more information, contact Hunter Library’s Special and Digital Collections at (828)227-7474 or specialcollections@wcu.edu.

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Deaths & Funerals

Natalie Bucki

Natalie Bucki, 94, passed away Monday, Aug. 17, 2020, after a life filled with painting, travel, and good people. Of her painting, she said, "My desire when painting is to create a space with light and color and to invite the viewer to enter. I no longer paint on location, preferring to take my own photos and/or sketches to work with. I adjust and modify to please myself, trying to create something with more depth and light than a camera can. I have had 65 years or more of creating portraits from live sittings and from photos. When I sell a painting I reserve all copyrights to myself, but God gets the glory."



Natalie Bucki

Her husband of 64 years, Henry J. Bucki, died in 2008. Together they travelled to 47 states, working art festivals and enjoying national parks and the people they met.

She is survived by her son, Michael; a grandson, Michael; six great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren, a favorite niece, Suzy; and a wonderful nephew, a second son, Lynn Hunneymen. Natalie and Henry are together again.

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Bucki family. Online condolences may be made at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com or Natalie's Facebook page.

Ernest Howard Lanham

When Ernest Howard Lanham was born in Charleston, West Virginia, on March 13, 1948, it was as if he was born to be a Marine. Howard's dad, Ernest Atlee Lanham, was a retired gunnery sergeant, and his mom, Arlene Pfost Lanham, was proud to be a Marine's wife.



Ernest Howard Lanham

He lived his life true to Semper Fidelis, the dedication Marines have to the Corps, their country, and their fellows. He served in Vietnam during the TET Offensive and was awarded the National Defense Medal; two Vietnamese Service medals, each with five stars; the Vietnamese Campaign Medal, the Combat Active Ribbon, and a Purple Heart. He was all about honor, duty, and country.

He was employed at Macon Block Plant for many years, was always a hard worker who liked to stay busy and was diligent about every task he was given. For relaxation, any day at the beach or fishing on the ocean was a great day for him. He was known for his compassion not only towards people but also to animals. He loved animals and did his part by rescuing his cats, Sandy and Crystal.

True to form, he bravely fought to live, but lost that battle on Aug. 22, 2020. He is survived by Leilani Ruth "Ruthy" Hartzog Lanham, his wife of 40 years, and a sister, Carla Lanham. Several nieces and nephews also survive. Preceding him in death are his parents and his siblings, Cathy Jarvis and Richard Lanham.

A private ceremony will be held at a later date at the Veterans' Cemetery at Black Mountain, N.C.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Macon County Humane Society.

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

Online condolences at www.moffittfamilyfuneralcare.com

Newsome Edward Corbitt III

Newsome Edward Corbitt III, (a.k.a. Daddy Corbitt) 67, of Franklin, N.C., went to his Heavenly home on Sunday, Aug. 16, 2020, after a battle with cancer. He was born on Oct. 25, 1952, in Homerville, Ga. He was the son of the late Newsome E. Corbitt Jr., and Lilla Smith Corbitt. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his sister, Larita "Jackie" Corbitt, and brother, Christopher Corbitt.



Newsome Corbitt

He was an ironworker/boiler-maker for several years for locals 597 in Jacksonville, Fla., and 808 in Orlando, Fla., and helped build Disney World. He was a real estate agent, a salesman, a self-defense instructor, and an inventor with several U.S. patents including the Bait Saver Hook which he was known for. He enjoyed being with his family, his beloved dog (Bebe), hunting, fishing, golfing, cooking, praising the Lord on his guitar, and listening to his sons play music as the Corbitt Brothers Band, and his daughter's beautiful voice. He was a Christian who loved the Lord and was a member at First Pentecost Church in Franklin.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Gentry; and four children, Newsome Corbitt IV (Kristin); Christian Corbitt (Jenny); Isaac Corbitt, Faith Corbitt Aydelotte (Nathan); two grandchildren, Callie Corbitt and Casen Corbitt; his mother, mother-in-law, cousins, nieces, nephews and relatives as well as many others who thought of him as Daddy Corbitt.

He was always the life of the party and lived bigger than life. He could talk a mile a minute and always put a smile on your face. He loved people and was an encourager, always had a smile on his face, and would grab you up and hug you in a minute.

The family would like to thank all the doctors, nurses, caregivers, and hospice staff for being the ministering hands of the Lord to us. Also, thank you to all who diligently prayed for him and our family.

Family and friends are invited to a celebration of life service Saturday, Aug. 29, at 10 a.m. at Tessentee Farm Wedding and Events Center at 2887 Tessentee Road, Franklin.

If your health is compromised, please stay home. We want to celebrate his life while also being as careful as possible for everyone involved.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in his honor to any of the following would be a blessing:

First Pentecost Church benevolence fund - PO Box 2214, Franklin, NC 28734

- Care Partners Hospice - 170 Church Street, Franklin, NC 28734

- Four Seasons Palliative Care and Hospice - 211 North Main Street, Hendersonville, NC 28792

- St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital - 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or at stjude.org

Performing a random act of kindness would be great as well. Let us always spread Daddy Corbitt hugs to the world.

We have been so blessed by the outpouring of love we have already received during this most difficult time. It is easy to see just how special he was to all of you. Thank you!

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

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

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Deaths & Funerals

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Cullwell Waters

Elizabeth "Betsy" Cullwell Waters, 83, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, Aug. 22, 2020.

Born in the Panama Canal Zone, she was the daughter of the late Colonel Robert Franklin and Diana Marchosky Cullwell. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Bobby, Barry and Scott. She began her career as a certified draftsman but later taught art and special education with Macon County Schools. She was a committed Christian and taught Sunday School for many years at Cowee Baptist Church. Her interests included painting, print making, cooking, and sewing. She was also a collegiate softball athlete in her youth.

She is survived by her three children, Michael Waters of Franklin, Melissa Barbour of Wilson, N.C., and Mark Alan Waters of Elizabethton, Tenn.; and seven grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, Aug. 26, at Woodlawn Cemetery with Rev. Rusty Wolfrey and Rev. Ed Frampton officiating.

Pallbearers were Jimmy Hatcher, Aaron Waters, Michael Waters, Scott Boyd and Jared Barbour.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made, in her memory, to International Board of Jewish Missions, P.O. Box 1386, Hixson, TN 37343.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences can be sent to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Frederick Lawton Allan

Frederick Lawton Allan, 78, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Friday, Aug. 21, 2020.

Born and raised in Ft. Myers, Fla., he was the son of the late Dr. Harry Lee Allan Jr. and Emma C. Cotton. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his stepfather, Wade Cotton. After proudly serving his country with the U.S. Marine Corps, he opened a furniture store in St. Petersburg and retired in 2004 after 52 years of hard work and dedication to his business. In 2008, he and his wife Alida bought a vacation home in the mountains of North Carolina and made it their permanent home in 2016. He had several hobbies and enjoyed playing golf, tennis, and biking. He loved sitting on the porch, listening to music and telling stories. Above all, he loved his family, especially his children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Alida Schall Allan; two children, James "Jim" Allan (JoJo) and Christine Shelton (Steve); five grandchildren, Ryan, Riley and Reece Allan and Kayla and Blake Shelton; brother, Harry Lee Allan III; brother-in law, Larry Schall; sister-in law, Alicia Allan; and nephews, Harry Lee Allan IV and Rick Allan.

A celebration of life will be held in Florida and North Carolina at a later date.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the local arrangements.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Elizabeth Waters



Frederick Lawton Allan

Corrine Monica Riuhl Grantwit

Corrine Monica Riuhl Grantwit, 75, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Sunday, July 19, 2020.

Born in St. James, Minn., she was the daughter of the late Kenneth and Regina Huss Riuhl. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by Harriett and Chuck Riuhl and Marlis Grantwit. She graduated from Mankito State College with a bachelor's degree and received her nursing degree from Minnesota Community College. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and loved to travel.

She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Gary John Grantwit; her daughter, Connie Grantwit Dougan (Pat); her son, Kenneth Grantwit (Sarah) and two grandchildren, Bryce and Nicolette Dougan of Crystal, Minn.

No services have been planned at this time.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Corrine Grantwit

Charles Morgan

Charles Morgan, 62, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2020. He was born in Franklin, N.C., to the late Francis Jane Cope Morgan. He spent most of his life in Darrington, Wash. He worked for Summit Timber/Hampton as a Millwright in Darrington. He was a hard worker and loved his family.

He enjoyed being outside four wheeling, snowmobiling, horse back riding and drinking beer. He had a special place in his heart for all animals, especially his little dog, Peanut.

He is survived by daughters, Katherine Schoneman (Josh Schoneman), Christine Olatunji (Tobiomolisa Olatunji); son, Richard Jankowski; eight grandchildren, Kristen Schoneman, Kaedin Schoneman, Kinnley Schoneman, Levi Jankowski, Dakota Jankowski, Brandon Porter, Natalie Childers, and Kole Jankowski; brothers, Bobby Morgan, Jim Morgan, Jamie Morgan; and his aunt, Bonnie Cope.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

Online condolences can be sent to www.brantgrantfuneralhome.com.

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

Mattie Ella Calloway

Mattie Ella Calloway, 90, of Highlands, N.C., passed away on Monday, Aug. 18, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Arthur B. Potts and Pearl Crane Potts. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Samuel Calloway; son, Rusty Calloway; three stepchildren, Joan Morrow, Jane Calloway and Bill Calloway; brother, James "Jimbo" Potts and sister, Lois Keener. Mattie was an active member of Highlands First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her children, Gail Reese (Bill), Teresa Calloway Speed (David), Freda Isham, Tony Calloway (Anne) all of Highlands and Celia Williams of Mexico; step-children, Barbara James, Sammie Houston (Bob) and Jack Calloway (Susan) all of Highlands; two sisters, Lina Birch of Washington, DC and Kathleen Roper of Virginia; 19 grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Highlands Emergency Council, PO Box 974, Highlands, NC 28741.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Mattie Ella Calloway

Geraldine Tritt

Geraldine Tritt, 73, of Highlands, N.C., passed away Monday, August. 17, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Lawrence and Gladys Dalton Tritt. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Dale Neely; brother, GERAL TRITT and sister, Eloise Johnson. She was a loving, devoted caregiver. She was a member of Blue Valley Baptist Church.

She is survived by her children, Denise Zachary and husband Ben, Vaughn Neely and Teddy Neely; brothers, Terry Tritt and wife, Penny and Charles Tritt; sister, Joan Keener-Hicks and husband Bill; six grandchildren, Candace Keener, Kyle Keener, Katlynn Kinsey, Michaela Kaim, Quinton Neely and Alexis Neely; eight great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Aug. 23, at Blue Valley Baptist Church. Rev. Marty Kilby officiated. Burial followed in the Clear Creek Community Cemetery.

Pallbearers were William Passmore, Justin Passmore, Johnny Owens, Dennis Owens, Ricky Talley and Anthony Bennefield.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Geraldine Tritt

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Late pass gives Denny Hamlin NASCAR Cup victory at Dover

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

Working traffic adroitly over the final run on Saturday, Denny Hamlin cruised to victory in Saturday's Drydene 311 at Dover International Speedway after passing Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Martin Truex Jr. for the lead with eight laps left.

At a track he considers one of his worst, based on past performance, Hamlin made up for a poor restart on Lap 193 of 311, gradually running down Truex, who was stuck behind the lapped car of Aric Almirola during the closing run.

"I've been running down the leaders the past few weeks, but I haven't been able to get there," said Hamlin, who won for the sixth time this season, tying Kevin Harvick for the NASCAR Cup Series lead. "We didn't control that restart there, and we just had to battle back."

The victory in the first leg of a Saturday/Sunday Cup doubleheader was Hamlin's first in 29 starts at the Monster Mile and the 43rd of his career, 19th most all-time and one win behind NASCAR Hall of Famer Bill Elliott.

"I'm putting the work in, and we're getting results because of it. ... I can't complain about anything right now. It just seems like we've got things going. You know, I've got faith. When it comes down to it on that last run, when (crew chief Chris Gabehart) says, 'Go get it,' I just go get it."

Hamlin won the first and second stages, but Truex took the lead off pit road on Lap 188 under caution for the second stage break. After a cycle of green-flag pit stops that started on Lap 252, Truex regained the top spot on Lap 280 and held it until Hamlin passed him on Lap 303.

The driver of the No. 19 Toyota caught Almirola during the closing 119-lap green-flag run but couldn't pass him. Truex grew frustrated as he chased Almirola's No. 10 Ford.

"I think if the 10 car just wasn't pinning it on the bottom in front of me, I'd have been fine," said Truex, who finished 1.179 seconds behind Hamlin and notched the runner-up result after running third in the previous five Cup races. "Every time I tried to move up and get some air on my car, he'd just slide up in front of me like an idiot. He's the reason we lost the lead, but in the end, we weren't good enough."

Kyle Busch ran third, as Joe Gibbs Racing swept the podium positions. Kevin Harvick was fourth and polesitter Chase Elliott fifth. Clint Bowyer, Jimmie Johnson, Joey Logano, Brad Keselowski and Ricky Stenhouse Jr. completed the top 10.

With a problem-free race at arguably his best track, Johnson, an 11-time Dover winner, vaulted past Hendrick Motorsports teammate William Byron into the final Playoff-eligible position. With the series returning to Dover on Sunday, Johnson had a three-point edge over Byron for the final berth in the postseason.

Byron fought an ill-handling car, fell of the lead lap midway through the second stage and finished 28th, dropping a net 28

points to his seven-time champion teammate.

Fired-up Justin Allgaier drives to Xfinity victory at Dover

After winning Saturday's Drydene 200 at Dover International Speedway, Justin Allgaier offered an unexpected thank-you to AJ Allmendinger.

A week earlier at the Daytona Road Course, Allmendinger wheel-hopped into Allgaier's No. 7 JR Motorsports Chevrolet and knocked him out of a top-five finish. Allgaier expressed his displeasure after the race and ignited a firestorm on social media from those who thought Allmendinger's miscue was purely accidental.

The criticism lit a bonfire of determination in Allgaier, who

Playoff points.

Kevin Harvick wins at Dover as NASCAR Playoff battles intensify

There was no drama in Kevin Harvick's victory in the Drydene 311 at Dover International Speedway, an old-fashioned thrashing in the back end of a Saturday/Sunday NASCAR Cup Series doubleheader.

There was more than enough suspense, however, in the battle between Hendrick Motorsports teammates Jimmie Johnson and William Byron for the final position in the Cup Playoffs.

After winning the first stage at the high-banked concrete Monster Mile, Harvick had already clinched the regular-season Cup



Denny Hamlin, driver of the #11 FedEx Office Toyota, celebrates after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Drydene 311 at Dover International Speedway on August 22, 2020 in Dover, Delaware. Photo by Hunter Martin/Getty Images



Justin Allgaier, driver of the #7 FFA Chevrolet, celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series Drydene 200 at Dover International Speedway on August 22, 2020 in Dover, Delaware. Photo by Jared C. Tilton/Getty Images

turned a star-crossed season around with his first NASCAR Xfinity Series victory of the year, his second at Dover and the 12th of his career.

"This is the power of social media," Allgaier declared after climbing from his car on the frontstretch. "I got blasted all week last week. So I guess I can thank AJ for giving me the drive and determination and all the haters, 'cause that's definitely what's given me some fire, and we're firing at the right time."

Allgaier led 120 of the 200 laps at the high-banked concrete Monster Mile and finished 1.977 seconds ahead of runner-up Austin Cindric, who had won five of the previous six Xfinity Series races and finished second in the other.

"These last 18 to 24 months have been crazy," Allgaier said. "I'm just proud of these guys and the no-give-up attitude they've got. This team is incredible. What a day. What a race car. We were off a little bit in the beginning, and (crew chief) Jason (Burdett) did a great job of getting us where we needed to be at."

Ross Chastain came home third, followed by Noah Gragson and Sunoco rookie Harrison Burton. Riley Herbst, Jeb Burton, Justin Haley, Michael Annett and Chase Briscoe followed, as all four JR Motorsports cars finished in the top 10.

While running fourth and trying to pass Cindric from the bottom lane, Briscoe spun into the inside wall on Lap 77, damaging the front suspension of his No. 98 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford. Though Briscoe recovered to run 10th and held second place in the series standings, he dropped 72 points behind Cindric in the race for the regular-season championship and the accompanying bonus of 15

championship and the 15-Playoff-point bonus with next Saturday's race at Daytona International Speedway still to be run.

Harvick went on to sweep the second stage and the race, crossing the finish line 3.525 seconds ahead of runner-up Martin Truex Jr., who finished second in both legs of the doubleheader after running third in each of the previous five races.

The victory was Harvick's series-leading seventh of the season, his third at Dover and the 56th of his career, tying him with Kyle Busch for ninth all-time. The win was the 700th in the series for Ford.

Harvick once again took the upper hand in his battle with Denny Hamlin, who won his sixth race of the season on Saturday.

"With Denny winning yesterday, we needed to win today," Harvick said. "I think, as you look at these Playoffs, you never know what to expect. But I know that, as we go week to week, we'll give it all we have."

Johnson ran third after gambling on two tires and taking a short-lived lead off pit road under the seventh and final caution for Corey LaJoie's spin on Lap 289 of 311. The seven-time champion had rallied from a pit road speeding penalty on Lap 102 that sent him to the rear of the field for a restart on Lap 107.

Johnson lost positions to Harvick and Truex during the final 17-lap run but managed to keep Byron behind him. Byron came home fourth, gained seven points on his veteran teammate—thanks to better results in the stages—and takes a four-point lead over Johnson into Saturday's regular-season finale at Daytona.

"I'm going to do my best to forget about it," Johnson said of the

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Kevin Harvick, driver of the #4 Mobil 1 Ford, celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the Drydene 311 at Dover International Speedway on Aug. 23, 2020 in Dover, Del. Photo by Jared C. Tilton

race that will decide whether he can compete for a record eighth championship in his final full-time Cup season. "There really isn't any worrying I can do this week that will help me on a plate track. So go down there, say a few prayers, say a prayer per lap and see how it plays out, I guess. We'll race hard, and if it's meant to be, it's meant to be."

Alex Bowman ran fifth, giving Hendrick three of the top five positions. Joey Logano, Aric Almirola, Brad Keselowski, Austin Dillon and Cole Custer completed the top 10.

Kyle Busch finished 11th, extending his winless streak to 25 races, the longest to start a season in his career. Busch, however, clinched a Playoff berth on points, as did Almirola and Kurt Busch, who came home 13th.

Matt DiBenedetto finished 17th and fell into the danger zone where the Playoffs are concerned. DiBenedetto is five points ahead of Byron and nine in front of Johnson heading to the unpredictable cutoff race at Daytona. Those three drivers will vie for the final two berths in the postseason.

Clint Bowyer, on the other hand, all but locked up a Playoff spot with a 16th-place run that followed his sixth-place effort on Saturday. Bowyer takes a 53-point lead over Byron into the regular-season finale.

Chase Briscoe finds early-season form in Xfinity win at Dover

A day after spinning his No. 98 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford into the inside wall at Dover International Speedway, Chase Briscoe dominated the Drydene 200, winning the second leg of a Saturday/Sunday NASCAR Xfinity Series doubleheader.

Starting from the rear of the field in a backup car, Briscoe took control of the race with 18 laps left in the second stage and never looked back. All told, he led 107 of 200 laps at the Monster Mile, only surrendering the top spot during a cycle of pit stops during the closing 103-lap green-flag run.

Briscoe finished 2.463 seconds ahead of runner-up Ross Chastain, who improved one spot from Saturday's finish. Though Briscoe muscled his way past Chastain's No. 10 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet after the final cycle of pit stops, Chastain minimized the contact and instead expressed his delight at being competitive with the cars that have dominated the series this year.

Austin Cindric ran third—his worst finish in the last eight races—followed by Brandon Jones, Daniel Hemric, Noah Gragson, and Saturday winner Justin Allgaier, as only seven drivers finished on the lead lap. Chastain won the first stage before Briscoe completed his run from the rear of the field and took control.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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ACROSS

- 1. It may be fixed or blank
- 6. Sometimes appears between dogs
- 9. Wild West card game
- 13. Deprived of a limb
- 14. Go wrong
- 15. ___ and tattooed
- 16. Tsar's edict
- 17. Waikiki garland
- 18. Propelled like Argo
- 19. *Last year's Super Bowl MVP
- 21. *Recipient of this year's first pick
- 23. Madame Tussauds' medium
- 24. Jack's legume
- 25. Communications regulator, acr.
- 28. Dry as dust
- 30. Echo
- 35. Yours and mine
- 37. Cold War enemies, slang
- 39. Common candle shape
- 40. Home of the Utes
- 41. Shinbone
- 43. Scotia preceder
- 44. Furiously angry
- 46. Like watching paint dry
- 47. Gulf War missile
- 48. Oozed
- 50. Clump
- 52. Yo
- 53. Common allergens
- 55. Not color but ___
- 57. *The goal
- 61. *Primary football unit
- 65. Boy Scout's ___ badge
- 66. Pod dweller
- 68. Word of mouth
- 69. All worked up
- 70. Poetic "ever"
- 71. Home to largest mammal
- 72. Threads
- 73. *Defensive ___
- 74. Locomotes

DOWN

- 1. Millionaire's turf, according to 2009 Oscar-winner
- 2. Bangladeshi currency
- 3. Wet nurse
- 4. Plant again
- 5. Swellings
- 6. Elvers
- 7. 're
- 8. Human social group
- 9. *Yellow and unwanted

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- 10. Saint's "headdress"
- 11. Movie spool
- 12. *Vegas numbers
- 15. Laura Ingalls' hat
- 20. Make an effort
- 22. Organ of balance
- 24. Sleep disrupters
- 25. *Encroachment and false start, e.g.
- 26. Type of mandarin
- 27. Have a hankering
- 29. *2020 Super Bowl winning coach
- 31. VSCO girl's favorite shoe brand
- 32. Geologic period
- 33. Variety show
- 34. *Patriot no more
- 36. Pinta or Santa Maria, e.g.
- 38. Perfect houseplant spot
- 42. * ___ Bowl, college game 1982-2000
- 45. Indicate
- 49. What Dundee and Dunedin have in common
- 51. *Last year's Heisman winner
- 54. Conical dwelling
- 56. Draw a conclusion
- 57. Do like exhaust pipe
- 58. Evil Roman emperor
- 59. What oxen do to plows
- 60. Acne symptoms
- 61. *One of ten needed for first down
- 62. Church echo
- 63. Provoke or annoy
- 64. European sea eagles
- 67. Poetic "even"

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The Classifieds

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5 BEAUTIFUL CULLASAJA Riverfront Home-sites (some with Streams and Islands). Perfect for Tiny Homes/Park Models/RV Barns/Eco Green Homes/Shipping Container Homes. .60-2 acres. \$69K-179K. Also, 5 acre parcels across the road. \$49K-69K. Call or text Frank, (828)371-7940.

4 LOTS IN GATED COMMUNITY Long Range Views, Good Roads, 6 Miles From Town, For Sale By Owner. (828)421-4582.

3BD/2BA DOUBLEWIDE on 2 acres near Franklin. Log siding, Detached Garage \$149,000. (843)670-2177.

Rentals

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

SMALL CABIN SUITE Suitable for 1 Adult, All Amenities and Yard Maintenance Included. Completely Furnished, Weekly, Monthly or Lease, Seasonal Welcomed. income verification required. Non-smoking/pets. \$595 plus Deposit. (828)342-4897.

Garage & Yard Sales

CHEF'S RETIREMENT SALE August 29, 8-2, Bake ware, utensils, small appliances, charcoal grill, smoker, propane burners, cook books, DVDs, DVD towers, TV wall mounts, pie rack, computer desk, electric heaters, CA king water bed, freezer, car stereos, and more. 530 Zurich Circle off Riverbend. No clothes, no children's goods. Masks Required.

HUGE 4-FAMILY Friday & Saturday, August 28 & 29, 9am-2pm, Rain or Shine, Carson Community Center, 3001 Old Murphy Rd., Furniture, Tools, Collectables Etc.

Motor Vehicles

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

Wanted

BUYING WILD GINSENG Starting September 1st. Best price paid. Large amounts welcome. Call Ricky Teem (828)371-1802 or (828)524-7748.

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

Garage & Yard Sales

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Notices

JEREMY PYATT Estate of Patricia L. Wright; Alliance Management, LLC has possessory lien on all goods stored in units located at 203 Carolina Drive, Franklin NC. Contents of units are being sold pursuant to the assertion of lien to collect amounts due from you. The public sale will take place at storage facility 2 pm August 31, 2020.

Misc. For Sale

OASIS ALL TERRAIN Knee Walker \$125, Apple IPAD Pro 10.5 inch WiFi Only \$300, Cub Cadet Walk Behind String Trimmer \$250. Please call (828)358-5662.

5'X8' TRAILER with Ramp and Extras. \$600. (828)349-0141. No Calls after 5 p.m.

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

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

(2) RIDING LAWNMOWERS 46" Husqvarna, 2 years old \$900. 42" Craftsman, 4 years old, \$500. (828)349-9610.

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

Community Fundraisers

REACH FOR BARGAINS in Heritage Hollow is open Tues.-Sat. 10am to 3pm. Proceeds benefit Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Macon County. For More Information call 369-2040.

CARENET THRIFT STORE 45 Macon Center Dr., Franklin, Hours, Monday through Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm. 100% of proceeds benefit the Mission of CareNet to help bridge the gap during times of crisis for families in Macon County. (828)349-9064.

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.

The Macon County **NEWS** & Shopping Guide

Classifieds
\$8.00 20 words or less
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+\$ 748 FIRST RESPONDER DISCOUNT¹
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¹ Excludes select base trims. Monthly payment is \$13.89 for every \$1,000 you finance. Example down payment: 3.5%. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 6/30/20. ² Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new delivery by 6/30/20. ©2020 General Motors. All rights reserved.

¹ EPA-estimated 259-mile EV range. Your actual range may vary based on several factors, including temperature, terrain, battery age, and how you use and maintain your vehicle. ² Monthly payment is \$13.89 for every \$1,000 you finance. Example down payment: 3.5%. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new delivery by 6/30/20. ©2020 General Motors. All rights reserved.