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Photo by Vickie Carpenter

Matt and Gwen Taylor of Dusty Pallet were asked by the town of Franklin to work with town employees to create a fall display at the town gazebo. The design includes four photo op corners in an effort to bring families downtown and for tourists to have great memories to take home. Town employees have worked diligently the past week or so to complete the design.

K-5 can go to Plan A; FHS schedule changes

After several weeks of stable COVID-19 trends and continued low virus spread in school settings, Gov. Roy Cooper announced last week that beginning on Oct. 5, North Carolina public school districts and charter schools can choose to implement Plan A for elementary schools (grades K-5).

Plan A will continue to include important safety measures like face coverings for all students, teachers and staff, social distancing, and symptom screening, but does not require schools to reduce the number of children in the classroom.

School districts will continue to have flexibility to select Plan A, B or C based on their unique needs. In addition, districts should still provide an option for families to select all remote learning for their students.

Macon County Schools Superintendent Dr. Chris Baldwin said that the Macon County Board of Education will hear a proposal for Plan A next week during the September board meeting. Dr. Baldwin said the Plan A proposal will have elementary schools kids in Macon County attending school Monday-Thursday at full capacity, with Friday still being a remote learning day. Dr. Baldwin said that while the school board will be considering Plan A – they will also still be considering Plan B and Plan C – to determine which track is best for students. The school board meets regularly the fourth Monday of the month.

See PLAN A page 4

Candidate profiles: U.S. House District 11

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

In the weeks leading up to the Nov. 3 election, *The Macon County News* will provide candidate profiles for voters. Candidate profiles always ask the same questions of all candidates vying for a specific office. The series begins with the United States House of Representative District 11 race between Madison Cawthorn and Moe Davis.



Madison Cawthorn



Moe Davis

at debates to advocating for higher-risk individuals to use caution, we have respected the threat that Covid-19 poses, but we have not allowed fear to define our campaign. This election cycle has assuredly been more difficult due to Covid-19 and the ramifications of a pandemic.”

Moe Davis: “It has been a challenge since the primary to get out and meet people while following state mandates limiting gatherings to under 10 indoors and 25 outdoors,” said Davis.

“We have been strict about following those mandates and have worked to ensure that our events are safe by maintaining smaller crowds, practicing social distancing and wearing masks at public and private events. We have also taken our campaign online with twice-weekly Moe Talks Live Virtual

1. *What it has been like campaigning during a pandemic. What safety protocols are you taking? Do you think it has made this election cycle more difficult?*

Madison Cawthorn: “Campaigning during Covid-19 has certainly had its fair share of challenges,” said Cawthorn. “At each event, we urge people to take the precautions they feel are necessary to remain healthy. From social distancing

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Pet owners await opening of new dog park

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DISTRICT 11 Continued from page 1

Town Halls to answer voter questions.”

2. You have said that you support law enforcement. Please provide details of policies or programs you would support or implement to support law enforcement across WNC.

Cawthorn: “Advocating for law enforcement shouldn’t be a political position,” said Cawthorn. “These men and women put their lives on the line to protect each and every one of us. The far left has weaponized the BLM [Black Lives Matter] movement and turned it into a political tool. I do not support defunding the police; all one has to do is look at the civil unrest and marked uptick in violence this year to see that removing law enforcement is not the solution to the problems America faces. I do support community outreach efforts and common-sense solutions that protect officers and citizens such as body cameras and de-escalation training. Police and law enforcement form the backbone of civilized society. The enforcement of the rule of law is essential in any free republic.”

Davis: “I was criticized by some Democrats for attending the Back the Blue event earlier this summer. But I’ve said many times that when I represent the 11th District, I will represent all of the district, not just one party. During that event, I proposed a GI Bill for law enforcement officers, which would allow them to go to college as a benefit for their service to the community. I also support a reimagining of the role of law enforcement so they are no longer policing issues such as mental health or drug addiction that are better dealt with by health professionals. We can support officers while at the same time supporting those who seek change. This isn’t a zero-sum game, and it is too often portrayed that way by those who seek to divide us for political gain.”

3. List ONE thing that makes you the most qualified candidate for District 11.

Cawthorn: “I am an outsider,” said Cawthorn. “I have no allegiances to Washington or to a political party. My only allegiance is to the people of NC-11. I was born in

these mountains and raised by these people. It will be the greatest honor of my life to work solely for them in D.C. My opponent, on the other hand, is not from here. He spent his entire career working in the shadowy halls of government and within the past year moved to NC-11 with the desire to seize this congressional seat. If electing a liberal lawyer would fix the problems that this country faces then we would already have solved them long ago.”

Davis: “Experience. I have a lifetime of experience including 25 years of service to the country in the Air Force where I managed budgets and led personnel,” said Davis. “I was Chief Prosecutor at Guantanamo Bay, lead investigator for the Air Force Academy sexual assault scandal and Director of the entire Air Force Judiciary. I also worked as a national security specialist for Congress and judge with the U.S. Department of Labor. Through that experience I have become knowledgeable about many of the issues I will face when I am in Congress. And it is that experience that will help me land key committee assignments in Congress on the Armed Services Committee, the Veterans Affairs Committee and possibly the Select Committee on Intelligence. Voters need to keep in mind that committee assignments reflect the experience you bring to the office – or lack of experience you bring to it.”

4. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians have been vocal regarding their opposition to the Catawba Casino under construction in N.C. What is your stance on the casino and the process in which it was approved by the federal government?

Cawthorn: “I don’t support the Catawbas’ efforts, and I think the Department of the Interior in Washington made a bad decision,” said Cawthorn. “For starters, the EBCI has ancestral ties to the area where the casino is being constructed. Secondly, the Catawbas only applied to take that land because casinos are outlawed in South Carolina. EBCI casinos don’t just help far-Western North Carolina, they are an economic driver across WNC; they employ 4,000 North Carolinians and pump nearly \$180 million into the surrounding counties, which helps the entire district. The EBCI is even supporting the economy as far away as Asheville, given their recent sponsorship of the old Asheville Civic Center. EBCI casinos have had

to abide by 30 years of Indian gaming law, and now one tribe – the Catawba – are going to get an exemption? That’s not fair.”

Davis: “This is the statement I put out in August in support of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians:

“Colonel Moe Davis (USAF, Ret.), Democratic nominee for Congress in North Carolina’s 11th District, is adding his voice to those opposing a bid by the South Carolina-based Catawba Indian Nation to open a casino in Cleveland County, N.C.

“Col. Davis supports the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians’ contention that the casino land is on long-held Cherokee territory and believes a casino there would negatively impact Western North Carolina’s economy. He joins Buncombe County Commissioners, who voted 6-1 Tuesday night to oppose the casino in King’s Mountain. The EBCI, who operate two casinos in Western North Carolina, have been fighting for years to protect their territory and prevent the federal government from taking it away to give to the Catawba Indian Nation.

“I look forward to representing every community in the 11th Congressional District in the next Congress and there is no community with deeper ties to Western North Carolina than the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians,” Col. Davis said. “Harrah’s Cherokee Casino on the Qualla Boundary has been instrumental in the tribe’s efforts to enhance education, healthcare, housing and public safety services, and it plays a major role in the region’s overall economy. Too often, the interests of Western North Carolina are overlooked in the political process. Western North Carolina was already above the national average in poverty before COVID-19 hit and the number of people out of work and who have lost health-care coverage has grown.

“The Catawba Indian Nation is based in South Carolina, where gaming is not permitted. To allow them to encroach into North Carolina and take gaming revenue away from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians would be a significant blow to Western North Carolina’s already suffering economy. I stand with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and will support them and the interests of Western North Carolina in the 117th Congress.”

5. District 11 is quite large and between responsibilities in DC and the size of the district, it is easy for

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residents of outlying counties to feel forgotten by their representatives. How do you plan to ensure equal representation for the entire district?

Cawthorn: “Early on in this campaign, I made a promise,” said Cawthorn. “I promised to visit every single county in this district once a month. I promised to sit and listen to the issues that face each community here on a monthly basis, and then I promised to go back to D.C. and to fix those problems. Being in touch with each county’s needs is the highest duty of any congressman. My opponent has promised to be in the district once a year, and frankly, that’s not good enough. I stand by my promise to be in each county once a month, I know what it’s like to feel forgotten and I assure you you will never be forgotten when I am elected.”

Davis: “We are deeply divided, not just by politics but by location. But as I said earlier, when you are the representative of the district, you must represent the entire district, not just one portion of it,” said Davis. “Not just the party that voted for you and not just the counties and towns that voted for you. Let’s start with that. I hope to have a staff that reflects our district, not just one city or county in it. I plan to have an office closer to the far west counties so they don’t have to travel hours to meet and discuss issues of importance. Unlike our predecessor, who rarely made appearances in Western North Carolina and never took questions in an open forum, I have made a promise to visit every county and meet with voters at least once a year.”

6. Hemp is the fastest rising crop in N.C., but the industry is faced with hurdles both on the state and national level. How would you address these roadblocks for farmers across N.C.?

Cawthorn: “For too long big government has gotten in the way of agricultural innovation,” said Cawthorn. “The simple solution is to reduce harmful regulations and put the power of choice back into the hands of farmers across North Carolina. I am a firm believer that free-market economics will always lead to a better, more prosperous marketplace. The federal government shouldn’t be the one deciding which crops a farmer can grow. We have to take the power out of Washington’s hands and place it back in Western North Carolina’s hands. When I am in D.C. I will work to cut regulations and tear down these hurdles that harm our farmers.”

Davis: “The 2018 Farm Bill legalizing hemp farming opened the doors for a tremendously important crop with real potential for Western North Carolina,” said Davis. “That’s the

good news. The rules and regulation surrounding any new product can be daunting. Perhaps because hemp is so closely associated with marijuana, the emphasis on regulating hemp’s products has led to ambiguities and confusion in rules both on a state and federal level. That has made it difficult for farmers. It’s clear we need greater input from the industry to help craft regulations that cut through those ambiguities and make sense for farmers. That would be a start.”

7. PILT funding has always been a monumental topic for the western counties on the national level and something that changes from year to year, making it impossible for school districts to budget. How would you address this?

Cawthorn: “What NC-11 needs is a set PILT number from the federal government; moreover, that number needs to be greater than what it is now,” said Cawthorn. “That land could be making more money for the counties than what the federal government is paying them through PILT and the people of NC-11 deserves fair and equitable restitution for the public lands that so many enjoy. One of the most helpful things would be to amend the PILT Act to set a consistent formula. One year, these counties like Swain and Graham have X amount of dollars coming in, and another they have Y amount of dollars coming in. When I’m in Washington, amending the PILT Act to get a set formula to help these counties will be one of my top priorities. I love these mountains, I was raised in these mountains and when I’m in Washington I will work hard to send the money the people of these mountains deserve back to them.”

Davis: “According to a June 2020 Department of Interior press release, the government took in \$13.2 billion in revenue derived from federal land. But only about \$515 million was returned to counties as “Payments in Lieu of Taxes” or PILT money – 15 of the 17 counties in Western North Carolina receive PILT money. I would like to see a larger share of the revenue distributed to counties because what they are receiving is not offsetting their loss of tax revenue. I would advocate for five-year guaranteed payments, with dollar figures adjusted after each five-year period so there would be some certainty in funding levels year to year.”

8. Anything else you would like to include and would like for your voters to know.

Cawthorn: “This election represents a tipping point in our nation. Every election cycle people declare that it’s the most important election ever, but I truly believe that this time they

are right,” said Cawthorn. “Our country is under attack. Our cities burn, our civil servants are under siege, and our very way of life hangs in the balance. America cannot be handed over to a mob, we’ve fought too long, and too hard to protect the freedoms our founders won for us to give them up now. My opponent supports the culture of violence that has seeped into Portland, Kenosha, and Asheville. Five separate times my opponent has called for those who disagree with him to have their necks crushed, five separate times he has implied that to disagree with him and his Antifa allies is to be worthy of punishment and persecution. The choice this election cycle is very clear, it is a choice between violence or values, and I pray we make the right decision.”

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PLAN A

Continued from page 1

The decision to allow elementary schools to return at full capacity was made based on data trends in the state for schools who have returned to in-person instruction.

Dr. Mandy Cohen, N.C. Secretary of Health and Human Services, explained that as schools have opened, the science shows that younger children are less likely to become infected, have symptoms, experience severe disease or spread the virus.

"It's great news that we are a step closer to providing the option of in-person learning to families who want their children to return to school," said Superintendent of Public Instruction Mark Johnson. "While the governor, the State Board of Education, and I have our differences, I join with them to encourage local school board members to take advantage of this change and open all schools safely. I thank the many parents and teachers who have been vocal advocates on this important issue."

While the Board of Education considers a transition to Plan A for elementary school students, Franklin High School has announced that all FHS students will be transitioning to two days per week for each grade level beginning Sept. 28. The schedule for students at FHS will be:

– Monday/Wednesday - 9th Grade and 11th Grade

– Tuesday/Thursday - 10th Grade and 12th Grade

Friday - Remote learning for all grades, although extra help is available. Students can email their teacher to make an appointment to come in.

Cases minimal in Macon County Schools

On Wednesday, Sept. 16, a positive case of COVID-19 was confirmed at Franklin High School. On Friday, Sept. 18, a positive case of COVID-19 was confirmed at Macon Middle School, Mountain View Intermediate School and South Macon Elementary School. These individuals are currently under quarantine. Contact tracing is underway through the Macon County Health Department. Any student or staff member identified through the contact tracing will be notified.

Nantahala School reports that no additional cases of COVID-19 have been found during their remote learning week. The decision was made to close the school for in-person learning due to a positive case announced on Sept. 11. Nantahala School returned to its previous status of face-to-face learning on Monday, Sept. 21. Students that have been part of the Nantahala Virtual Learning Academy will continue to participate in that teaching and learning option.

Brittney Lofthouse contributed to this article.

Grant will provide outdoor learning for students

Diane Peltz
Contributing Writer

Jennifer Love, Macon County Schools STEM Coordinator, along with Brent Martin, director of the Bartram Trail Society, have again secured funding for Macon schools, this time to assist students in Macon County through outdoor learning experiences.

The Georgia/North Carolina Bartram Trail Society, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, will be hiring a youth trail work crew for six weeks during the summer of 2021. This is the result of a \$10,000 grant from one of the Society members and volunteers, and committed funding from the United States Forest Service (USFS). The GA/NC Bartram Trail Society is solely responsible for the maintenance of the 110-mile trail, and they are working to build a youth component into their organization, as well as provide local jobs for young people - jobs that they hope will translate into long term interest in a career in natural resource management or outdoor recreation.

Martin explains.

"We have also received funding from the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance to repair trail tread on the trail starting at Wallace Branch near Franklin and on to Wayah Bald. We are working to create volunteer days for this section this fall for Franklin High School students who are interested in learning trail skills that will build their abilities to work on a crew next summer."

Jennifer Love adds, "As Macon County continues to focus on developing its outdoor economy, local organizations are working together to prepare and provide the best outdoor experiences for our community and our visitors. With the



Volunteers clear downed trees on the Bartram Trail near Cheoah Bald.

COVID-19 pandemic, we have certainly seen an increase in usage on our trails and waterways. Thankfully, stewardship of our natural resources is a vocational calling for many of our youth and a civic calling for our dedicated volunteers.

"The GA-NC Bartram Trail Society and local partners have been working to create a program that will engage more youth on the trails while also showing that there are career opportunities for those with a passion for the outdoors. Thanks to the grant, the BTS will be partnering with the Macon County Schools STEM Program to create a Macon Youth Trail Corp."

The purpose of the Macon Youth Trail Corp is to provide an opportunity for local students to learn from and work alongside professionals, educators, retirees, and others who have a passion for the outdoors and who are building up their community by volunteer-

ing on the trail. The goals of the program are not only to provide career development but to:

- Engage and expose students to the skills needed to safely enjoy hiking and conduct trail maintenance;
- Expose student to educational and employment opportunities in outdoor leadership, outdoor recreation, natural resources, and cultural history;
- Foster an appreciation, a "sense of place," and investment in the conservation of trails and natural resources in our southern Appalachian Mountains;
- Appreciate how hiking and other outdoor recreation opportunities are inexpensive options for exercise and to understand how time spent outside and unplugged is necessary for good mental health, stress reduction, and a necessary part of an overall healthy lifestyle.

Starting this Fall 2020, students may register to participate in trail workdays on the Wallace Branch section of trail near downtown Franklin. Funds will go towards equipment/tools and lunch for participants. Four workdays are scheduled this Fall – Oct. 23, Nov. 6, 14, and Dec. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students will learn about the history of the trail, how to build and maintain tread, install water bars and address other issues with erosion, learn about trail etiquette, and help repair signs and blazes along this section. Adult volunteers are also encouraged to participate. In Spring 2021, the goal is to schedule additional workdays and continue to build on skills.

These day-trip workdays are just the beginning and will serve as an opportunity for students to learn some of the skills needed that will help them determine if they enjoy this type of work. For those that want to learn more, the Youth Conservation Corps has committed to running six weeks of summer trail crews on local trails and hiring local youth for paid internships. Students ages 15-18 can apply and preference will be given to students who have participated in one or more of the Fall/Spring day trip workdays.

"We hope that the Macon Youth Trail Corp will continue to grow and with it, a commitment to stewardship of our beautiful home," said Love. "If anyone would like to support this project, donations will be directed to expanding the workday program and summer internships into the future."


If you would like to volunteer or get involved, contact Brent Martin at info@ncbartramtrail.org, or visit the website at <https://ncbartramtrail.org/>

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Lack of Grass Growth delays opening of new dog park on Phillips Street

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Tongues, not tails, have been wagging over why the new dog park on Phillips Street has not opened, even though it was projected to open November 2019. Macon County Parks & Recreation Director Seth Adams said the holdup is the grass.

“We’ve been waiting for the grass to thicken so that it can withstand the heavy use expected,” said Adams. “The grass has been coming in too thin so we’ve had to re-seed it and try different

seeds. It keeps getting better and better and yesterday [Sept. 21] we put down a hydro-

seed to try.”

Because the current dog park on the Little Tennessee River Greenway is next to wetlands, it is prone to flooding.

why we are spending so much time making sure the grass is established and thick.”

Another reason Macon County invested more than \$100,000 to build the new dog

is because the dog park at the Little Tennessee River Greenway is underneath Duke Power transmission lines.

“The existing park will close down when the new dog park opens,” said Adams. “There will be separate areas for small and large dogs.” Plus, there are restrooms adjacent to the new park and a walking trail around the fenced-in dog park area.

Adams added, “We’re doing everything we can to get this new dog park opened. We’re hoping for late October or early November.”

Macon County Parks & Recreation is tasked with managing the new dog



Although it looks like the grass inside the new dog park on Phillips Street is established, Macon County Parks & Recreation Director Seth Adams explained that the grass is not yet thick enough to withstand wear and tear. The goal is for the new dog park to open by November if the newly sown grass is substantial.



“And we don’t want this new dog park to turn into a mud pit,” said Adams. “That’s

park, which is on a 7-plus acre tract and is three times larger than the existing dog park,

ation is tasked with managing the new dog park.

The Pastor of Walnut Creek Baptist Church (Franklin, NC) is calling for everyone to unite in a universal mission of

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Historic Resort Inn in Franklin a place of respite and healing

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Just a few years after the end of World War II when Americans were trying to rebuild their lives and establish a sense of normalcy, Wayah Valley Inn was built on a hill overlooking Wayah Bald and flanked by dramatic mountain ranges. The expansive white-painted, 13-guestroom, 11-bathroom inn with on-site restaurant had no central heat, so it served only as a summer resort for people from all over the United States who desired a view and fresh mountain air.

After about 20 years in business, Wayah Valley Inn was purchased in 1970 by Jay and Sally Fesperman who decided to transform the inn into a restorative way station for struggling and/or weary business executives. According to the couple's daughter, Tracy Fesperman Collins, her busy, working parents came originally to Franklin seeking sanctuary themselves. However, the Fespermans determined quickly that a greater need than respite for business people on the hamster wheel of success was a place for weary pastors and missionaries and their families. The Wayah Valley Inn became the Inn of the Last Resort.

In 1980, Larry and Susan Pons joined the Fespermans in the ministry, which by that time had reached thousands of people globally that simply needed, "a place to furlough, rest, get family in order, learn, regroup, and more," said Larry. "Pastors and missionaries give so much, but who gives to them? The Inn – which became Christian Training Center International (CTCI) in the 1990s – is set up to serve."

Rooms can accommodate around 50 people. Some are for families; others for couples. Common areas inside the inn are situated for activities, worship, relaxing, and more. And the grounds include a multi-recreation court, a pavilion, a playground, amphitheater, "prayer" trails, benches for sitting and taking in the view, and more. Weddings and other events have also taken place on the 40-acre property. A modern cabin, donated by Larry and Beth Rymer, serves as accommodation for guest speakers.

Jay Fesperman died in 1992, but his wife, Sally, 94, still lives next door to the place where she worked for at least a half century and continues to visit regularly. When her father died, Collins, who had moved away from Franklin, moved back and worked for CTCI for 23 years, retiring four years ago. One memory that impressed upon her was how "hungry" people were for biblical truth, especially in the 1970s. She said, "The inn would have Thursday night Bible studies and cars would be lined up down Wayah Road."

The Pons live in a home just up a drive behind the inn, though they lived inside the inn for eight years and raised their four children on the property.

"We came here to work, teach, council," said Susan. "Everyone who works here wears many hats." Currently the



Around 1948, the 13-guest room, 11-bathroom inn was built as a resort and named Wayah Valley Inn. It is now headquarters for the Christian Training Center. CTCI, just off Wayah Road, overlooks Wayah Bald and the expanse of mountains flanking the fire tower summit.

full-time staff at CTCI includes 14 people, from grounds maintenance to childcare to marketing and meal preparation. Zoe Hudgins, a Johnson and Wales culinary graduate who plans and oversees meal preparation for three meals daily at the inn, was 16 years old when she first participated in programs at CTCI. Then she became an intern. Currently, the 24-year-old is a full-time resident and employee of CTCI.

Besides just retreat opportunities at CTCI, there are various and ongoing programs, courses, and internships that were established in the early days of the Fespermans' influence and

have been continued as well as tweaked by the Pons and their 15-person board of directors. Summer internships involve character building, mental and physical challenges, and a taste of what day-to-day ministry involves. Heroes Week is a summer program for teenagers that is similar to the full summer internship but is a more condensed version. Heroes Semester is a full 10-week intensive.

Everything offered at the interdenominational, 501(c)3 nonprofit center revolves around biblical truths regarding relationships, servanthood, and personal discipline.

"These programs are some fun, some work ... a balance, but they all revolve around life skills and spiritual growth," said Larry. "Young people might learn how to balance a checkbook, responsibly use credit cards, bake bread and learn

cooking basics ... practical aspects of life." There is a wood shop and tool shed on-site for utilitarian purposes and for teaching skills in those areas.

CTCI also offers one-on-one counseling for individuals, families, and couples, as well as leadership programs and a Train to Reign Family Training Program, which – according to Susan – is about "strengthening and restoring family relationships. Upcoming program dates are Oct. 25-Nov. 7, Feb.-March 6, 2021, and June 10-19, 2021. Or, individuals can take 10-week or two-week life application courses at CTCI in



A common room serves as a place for periodic worship as well as a gathering place for CTCI guests and Macon County locals who come and worship on Sundays.



Zoe Hudgins a Johnson and Wales culinary graduate, who for several years as a teenager participated in programs at CTCI, now plans and oversees meals at the center for whoever works, stays, and is involved in programs there.

such areas as home maintenance and carpentry, culinary skills, business and leadership basics, and outdoor and survival. The latter includes basic camping, first aid, and more.

“There is something going on all the time,” said Larry. Even during the pandemic, activities have been online, virtual, and in-person with limitations.

“Challenging” activities incorporated into some of the programs, especially for teenagers and young adults, include night river hikes and rappelling. Plus, a Sunday fellowship opportunity is attended by people staying or working at CTCI as well as some local residents. An average of 60 people attend regularly.

“We are not designed as a recovery center for something like addiction,” said Larry, “but we have been able to be a place of healing, restoration, and change for those who have been on the front lines and have been wounded. We are here to get people on track or back on track.”

Nikki Corbin, one of the Pons’ children, oversees marketing for CTCI. She said her upbringing was “unique,” explaining, “When I came home from school, the majority of my friends that I played with were from England, Ireland, South America, Asia, etc.”

She also witnessed time and again how lives were changed. “Growing up, I learned to recognize the ‘look’ in an individual’s eyes. I could tell if there was sadness or brokenness. I may not have known their story, but I knew their reason and purpose for being at the ministry was far greater than my mind could imagine. But what I loved and still love more than anything, is after a few weeks of participating in our programs and learning how great the love of our Lord is, their eyes start changing. It is almost like you see the sparkle come back. Even at a young age, I could begin recognizing healing and transformation taking place in their life. Their posture becomes more upright. They’re smiling. They’re experiencing only what God can

do through the atmosphere created at this ministry.”

Susan said the board has a transition plan in place when she and Larry are unable to oversee CTCI, but they do not plan on retiring until they must. For 40 years, the couple has experienced “total hopelessness turned into joy and contentment ... miracles, really,” said Larry.

Small town benefits

The Pons are native North Carolinians and childhood sweethearts. They believe CTCI’s location in Franklin is ideal for several reasons: natural beauty and outdoor opportunities, affordability, and community support.

“We raised our children here,” said Susan. Nikki, married to Scottie Corbin, general manager for the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts, resides in Franklin, while her siblings, Ellie, Corby, and Chan are scattered in Ohio, California, and South Carolina. The Pons also have eight grandchildren.

“This community here is so family friendly, and when the kids were growing up, we were plugged into PTO, sports, all kinds of things,” said Susan.

“Many people in our local area do not know what it is we do,” said Corbin, about CTCI, “... but big and great things are happening every day here.”



Since 1980, Susan and Larry Pons have been permanent fixtures at Christian Training Center, where more than 100,000 people from 100 countries have participated in its programs.



Rooms at the 1940s built inn can accommodate at least 50.



A modern cabin, located up a driveway behind the historic inn that serves as CTCI headquarters, was donated by Larry and Beth Rymer and primarily houses guest speakers.

are a training center, equipping people locally and all over. It’s given us a very full life,” said Larry. “An unexpected life and a life that will continue until the Lord wills it, but a very full life.”

To date, CTCI has accommodated over 100,000 people from more than 100 countries. The Pons said the board plans to expand, “Lord willing,” as there are ongoing “ideas, visions, and dreams,” said Larry. “We will have to see.”

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Nurses vote in union; HCA retaliates with 'no raises' for union advocates

Kate Martin – Carolina Public Press

In what the union hailed as a “landslide vote,” nurses at Mission Hospital in Asheville voted this week to approve a union — the first in North Carolina to do so and the largest hospital union win in the South since 1975.

National Nurses United (NNU), the labor group that now represents about 1,800 nurses at two addresses in Asheville, said in a statement Thursday morning it believes this is “the largest union election win in the South in a dozen years” for a union of any type.

“We’re all thrilled that we’ve finally won,” said Lesley Bruce, a registered nurse, who works in chest pain observation at Mission. In her statement, she added, “This victory means we can use our collective voice to advocate for patient safety and safer staffing.”

Nearly 1,400 people voted, and the ballots were counted from late Wednesday into early Thursday. Of those, more than 70%, or 965, voted in favor of a union.

HCA signals questioning results

In a statement sent midmorning Thursday, Mission Health/HCA Healthcare North Carolina Division spokeswoman Nancy Lindell said the company respects the nurses’ right to decide on a union but hinted the fight may not yet be over from its end.

“The NLRB’s process allows both parties time to review the election and the conduct of the parties prior to the election; the hospital may utilize that process to ensure that all of our nurses had the fair election that they deserve, said Lindell. “In the coming days, the hospital will thoroughly examine the election process and the manner in which the election was conducted.”

Once the dust settles, the nurses and HCA will hammer out a collective bargaining agreement, which outlines working conditions, pay and raises. NNU represents nurses at 19 other HCA hospitals across the country, the majority of which are in Florida.

The NNU vote count exceeded most others conducted recently by the NLRB, in which many efforts had only a handful or a few dozen votes involved.



The St. Joseph's building is one of the older facilities belonging to Mission Health in Asheville.
Colby Rabon / Carolina Public Press

Collective bargaining by public employees is banned in North Carolina, but Mission Hospital workers are not public employees. Workers in North Carolina don’t have to join a union and cannot be forced to pay union dues under the state’s “right to work” laws.

North Carolina has the second-lowest percentage of union-represented workers in the country, at 3.4%, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data released last year. Only South Carolina has a lower percentage of its workforce unionized, at 2.7%.

HCA bought nonprofit Mission and its suite of North Carolina hospitals and clinics for \$1.5 billion in early 2019. It was then that many nurses started talking about forming a union.

Last fall the hospital raised its minimum wage to \$12.50 per hour, with \$15 for nursing support positions. Nurses may also qualify for tuition reimbursement of up to \$5,250 per year.

Thursday’s Mission Hospital nurse union vote in Asheville made national news as the largest health care union victory in the South since 1975.

Hours after what National Nurses United called a “landslide victory,” Mission Hospital’s new owner, HCA Healthcare, sent an email to all employees nationwide thanking them for their role in weathering the COVID-19 pandemic so far.

“HCA has cared for almost 60,000 COVID-19 inpatients, significantly more than any other health system in the country,” the email read in part.

The Tennessee-based company cut costs at the start of the pandemic, including withholding annual raises and temporarily cutting some salaries. Last week’s email announced the return of those wage levels and raises.

In addition, all full- and part-time workers would also get a one-time bonus, the email from CEO Sam Hazen said. Members of the 19 established bargaining units at HCA were excluded. An HCA spokeswoman said this includes the newly formed unit at Mission Hospital.

The timing of the message was calculated, said Alex Kivett-Kimbrow, a nurse in the recovery room at Mission, who was among those spearheading the organization effort.

“I think that’s HCA’s way of showing their divisiveness toward the union,” he said Friday.

A bargaining director with the National Nurses Organizing Committee said she expects the hospital’s executives to be in touch with the union by January to start the contract negotiation process.

Contentious process

Asheville nurses ramped up their talk of forming a union in March, with new parent company HCA Healthcare pushing back against allegations of poor working conditions.

Around the same time, N.C. Attorney General Josh Stein sent HCA a list of questions prompted by consumer concerns, including those regarding the quality of health care and staffing at the Western North Carolina hospitals.

HCA in turn sought to delay the union vote, citing the pressures from the new coronavirus. At the time, in mid-March, hospitals around the region were bracing for a predicted influx of patients suffering from COVID-19.

Initial hearings with the NLRB were delayed again, in part due to the effects the coronavirus had on public life. Nurses were eventually able to cast ballots in mid-August.

The vote count was conducted over streaming video, with some NLRB staff physically handling the envelopes and ballots


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while lawyers for both sides watched remotely. Normally, such a tally would be done in person, but COVID-19 has changed even this.

The union process at Mission Hospital has been contentious from the start, Kivett-Kimbrow said.

Libby Devlin, national bargaining director for the National Nurses Organizing Committee, said both sides of a National Labor Relations Board vote have a seven-day window in which to review the process.

At the end of that time and if there are no problems, the NRLB will then certify the vote, making the union at Mission Hospital official.

After that, the bargaining unit for the nurses will begin collecting information, Devlin said.

“We are going to want to review what the nurses’ concerns are and the demands they want to make,” Devlin said.

“We need to get some information from the employer about what the status quo is, what current benefits do people have, what current policies are in place at the hospital.”

In the coming few months, perhaps as late as January, Devlin said she expects HCA’s team to reach out to the union to start scheduling bargaining sessions.

“This employer is not a pushover,” she said. “We expect there will be some real struggle there. I will tell you the nurses there are ready to engage in that struggle.”

The union effort began more than a year ago, after HCA made a successful bid for then-nonprofit Mission Hospital and its suite of clinics for \$1.5 billion.

Shortly thereafter, the new parent company started issuing cuts, which fueled the desire for a union among nurses even more. Nurses accused the company of poor working conditions, with HCA rejecting those complaints, according to correspondence with the state Attorney General’s Office.

“The question HCA needs to contemplate is how much do they think they can force onto these nurses?” Devlin said. “They are prepared to stand up in solidarity.”

Throughout the collective bargaining process, federal law says the status quo for pay and benefits must be maintained, Devlin said.

It could take nurses a year or two to ratify a contract, Kivett-Kimbrow said.

COVID complications

Earlier this year, the new coronavirus, which causes COVID-19, started circulating.

By March, many hospital companies around the country, including HCA, halted elective outpatient surgeries to prepare for a possible swell of COVID-19 patients who would require acute care.

Elective outpatient surgeries are the most profitable work most hospitals perform. To compensate for the lost revenue, the company halted annual pay raises, reduced discretionary spending, suspended annual merit increases and cut corporate salaries.

Many workers were told to stay home because of a lack of work, including Kivett-Kimbrow. However, hospital workers in that situation were paid 70% of their take-home pay on days they couldn’t work, a policy called “pandemic pay.”

Last week’s email to workers announced an end to the chain’s cost-cutting measures starting in November. Workers who had their pay reduced will get bonuses that equal half of the pay they should have received, and others will also get a one-time bonus.

However, the email read in part, the restoration of pay and other benefits does “not apply to union-represented colleagues” subject to the collective bargaining process.

Kivett-Kimbrow said normally nurses receive an annual 2%-3% cost-of-living raise. He said he’s under the impression that those raises for Mission’s nurses won’t happen this year.

“This action underlines the importance of us having a collective bargaining agreement at HCA because they are able to take away anything they want to, and to give whatever they want and answer to nobody but the shareholders and themselves,” Kivett-Kimbrow said.

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Letters to the Editor

Locals trashing roads throughout county

Re: Mr. Wright's comments on Mr. Puckett's Letter to the Editor:

I want to thank Mr. Wright for his comments regarding my recent Letter to the Editor on the deplorable condition of our highway rights of way. His derogatory letter prompted several persons to contact me and totally agree with my comments, disagreeing totally with Mr. Wright's comments. It appears to many of the readers that Mr. Wright is probably one of the persons who contribute to the unsightly condition along our highways for he seems to feel that the present policy is quite satisfactory. Of course his past work with the county is understandable in standing up for his friends in the county. His comment that the garbage along our roads is due to our visitors from Florida and Georgia really struck an accord with me. Do you really think that these Florida visitors brown bag their lunches and dispose of them on our roads? Really Mr. Wright, these are the last persons who would carry out such a stupid comment. Several of the calls I received were from Florida people who own second homes in the county, spend money, support our economy and probably pay more taxes than you and I together. An example of those that deface our roadways, I have witnessed on several occasions people tossing garbage out the passenger window, their Burger King and McDonalds garbage. I even tried to report these occasions to the DOT and the Sheriff's office but it went nowhere. The persons I witnessed were all local contractors and local vehicles. Some of these I had on my dash cam. My neighbors and I have actually policed along Rabbit Creek Road and Ferguson Road and picked up bags of garbage, all of which can be identified as coming from local residences and local contractors.

As for going to local community meetings, I have attended several where almost 100% of the attendees spoke against the issue of the meeting only to have the DOT totally disregard any suggestions or comments. A good example, the recent four round-a-bouts where for a few thousands of dollars and a dedicated right turn at Womack Road millions of dollars could have been saved, taxpayer dollars! Were you at any of those meetings Mr. Wright? My opinion of the NCDOT comes with the numerous, I mean numerous examples of the wasted money carried out in our county. Not only the four round-a-bouts, but how about the denuding of the center right of way at both ends of our highways those beautiful Burning Bush, Dog Wood and the Cleveland Flowering Pear trees that are now stacked rotting in the center of another DOT wonder job, the truck turnaround on Highlands Road. No one has yet to see a truck turn around on this access, only the odd RV dumping their holding tanks on the side of the roadway. Shall I go on Mr. Wright, how about the merging lane off

Main Street onto Hwy 23. First they removed the merge lane, then after a few months they went back and spent another half a million to put the merge lane back in, but not as convenient as the original lane. Smart, hey?

Mr. Wright, I am proud of my comments, comments well taken and agreed with by numerous people who feel as I do. As to why I feel confident about my observations, I spent 43 years as a Commercial Construction Consultant, I have been involved in the design and the construction of multi-level shopping complexes, industrial park, and several residential complexes, dealing in all these cases with state and local highway departments. What have you accomplished Mr. Wright that gives you the right to contradict and expound your negativity, your serving summons, or your brief experience with the County? By the way Mr. Wright, have you travelled the roads in your old stomping grounds, Jackson County and Swain County. Their roads are clean of garbage and grass is mowed. The roads south to Clayton is also a pleasant drive. I have no problem with the actual county workers, the problem lies with their bosses. Let me make it very clear, the reason I wrote the letter is because I see what other counties are doing, why can't Macon County do the same or even better?

Gary Puckett – Franklin, N.C.

Experience shows mailing ballots is safe

I have been verifying addresses and phone numbers for the Election, and several registered voters have asked me "if mailing ballots was safe." Government employees, in my experience, are hard-working and honest. My response was, "I have been a Girl Scout leader for decades, and one of the local postal employees was in my troop. I do not think, after years of Scout ethics, she would work for an agency with unlawful practices."

Dr. Swift and I have always voted in person, but last month we applied for mail-in ballots. They came last week with the right forms, a large mailer with strong glue, and clear instructions. Thinking of the questions that I had been asked on the phone, I decided to take my completed ballot in its out-sized, heavy envelope requiring a first class stamp up to the Post Office counter and ask, "Do I have enough postage on this envelope because large envelopes usually cost extra?"

The employee quickly pulled up an outline of my envelope and placed my ballot within its lines. "Your first class stamp is correct because the special envelope is heavy but the contents are light," he said with a smile. Then he took a round official stamper and cancelled my ballot so it would stay here, and not be routed to Asheville or Charlotte, and put it in a pouch to go to the Court House. So, because the Franklin Post Office was prepared for election ballots, I did not have to ask my second question about safety.

Eleanor Swift – 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.

Voter information for November 3 General Election

Absentee ballots requests Sept. 4 - Oct. 27

An N.C. state absentee request must be completed and returned to the Macon Board of Elections in order to receive an absentee by mail ballot. Request forms at www.maconnc.org or www.ncsbe.gov or by calling (828)349-2034 or email Macon.boe@ncsbe.gov.

Voter Registration Deadline Friday, October 9 at 5 p.m.

Name, address and party changes MUST be returned to County Board of Elections by Oct. 9 at 5 p.m. Same day registration is possible only during one-stop voting.

One-Stop Voting - Franklin October 15 - October 31

Robert C. Carpenter Community Building
Hours Mon-Fri, 8-7:30;
Saturdays, Oct. 17, 24, 8-6; Oct. 31, 8-3

One-Stop Voting - Highlands October 15- October 31

Highlands Civic Center, 600 N 4th St.
Hours Mon-Fri, 8-7:30;
Saturdays, Oct. 17, 24, 8-6; Oct. 31, 8-3

General Election Day Tuesday, November 3

Voters will cast ballots at registered polling location.
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Contact the Macon County Board of Elections at (828)349-2034 or visit www.maconnc.org/elections.

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The elusive search for Truth

To me, this is both the most fascinating and most frustrating time to be alive, at least in the last 100 years. One of the most frustrating aspects is the difficulty of knowing what to believe in a time when conflicting information is being released by people who should know what they are talking about. It is especially troubling when contradictory advice is given by different scientists or doctors. In contrast, part of the fascination of living at this time is seeking and finding different sources in order to try to evaluate evidence to determine and understand which of opposing narratives is true.

It has been said that we live in a time of information overload but there is a scarcity of wisdom. How can we have the wisdom to discern what is true amid the conflicting voices of those who would seem to be experts? In the early 1990's my older son had a friend who had a bumper sticker that said "I love my country. It's my government I fear." I liked that concept based on some of the ways that I had come to believe that the public was not told the truth by government sources concerning key events. For many in my generation, I think the assassination of President John F. Kennedy was eye-opening in raising questions about whether the official reports were true in claiming that Lee Harvey Oswald was a lone assassin. A few years later, questions were raised about the "Gulf of Tonkin" incident as the precipitating incident for the U.S. going into Viet Nam. In a different area, I became quite angry when I learned of the revolving door of people in government going from government to agencies or corporations or becoming lobbyists. An example was the approval of aspartame as an artificial sweetener by the FDA after the FDA's own scientists had said it was not safe. The FDA is supposed to protect the public from harmful foods or drugs, not make decisions based on political pressure. Donald Rumsfeld was involved in that. I could give other examples.

Learning that the majority of media is owned by six huge corporations has helped to explain that it is now hard to be certain that main stream media is telling the whole story. Those corporations are Comcast, Disney, News Corporation, Time Warner, Viacom, and CBS Corporation. We also now have Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and other social media which should be open sources of information. However, in recent times these companies have taken it upon themselves to decide what views can be expressed on their platforms. They have thus become publishers, especially banning or deleting conservative views. Who made them our "thought police"?

Early in the current administration, the President called the media "mockingbird media." What did he mean? If you Google "Operation Mockingbird," one source states "Operation Mockingbird was a CIA program that enlisted more than 400 American journalists, as well as journalists around the world, to manipulate public opinion by spreading propaganda or what we call it today, fake news....Among the most prominent reports [on Operation Mockingbird] was writer Carl Bernstein's lengthy 25,000-word cover story detailing Operation Mockingbird, published in Rolling Stone on October 20, 1977...some theorists believe that the program has never officially discontinued, positing that the consolidation of the multinational for-profit corporate media has created the new Mockingbird. In today's world of "fake news" and with social media websites selling user information to manipulate an increasingly wary public it's hard to ignore the parallels with today's allegations of media propaganda."

(Full article: <https://stratejikguvenlik.blog/2019/02/06/cia-files-operation-mockingbird-the-cias-history-of-media-manipulation/....>)

In 1975, The "Church Committee" under Senator Frank Church investigated abuses by the CIA, NSA, FBI and IRS. Officially known as the Senate Select Committee to Study Government Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, that committee questioned William Colby, CIA Director (Sept. 1973 - Nov. 1975). Film of the Senate hearing shows William Colby being asked "Do you have any people paid by the CIA who are contributing to a major circulation American journal?" Colby responded, "We do have people who submit pieces to American journals." When asked the same question about television,

Colby answered that those details should be left for an executive session.

Years later, William Casey, Former CIA Director (Jan. 1981-Jan. 1987), is quoted as saying "We'll know our disinformation program is complete when everything the American public believes is false." Investigative journalist Jack Anderson published an article "CIA's Misleading Tactics" in the 9/22/81 Santa Cruz Sentinel which discussed the "...troubling CIA disinformation campaign being waged against Americans."

Today, almost 40 years later, who is behind the censorship of those who are trying to provide positive documented information related to COVID 19, such as the numerous doctors, including America's Frontline Doctors, who have shared how they successfully treated patients with COVID 19 at early stages? Those 14 doctors spoke in front of the Supreme Court, but social media removed their videos. The heads of social media are not doctors! What has happened to freedom of speech, one of the key values of this country?

Although it has not been publicized widely, many people know that maintaining a healthy immune system is a key to staying healthy and resisting any illness and there are numerous ways to do that including a healthy diet, exercise, and keeping a positive attitude, especially staying out of fear, which lowers the immune system. Dr. Luis de Benito, a Spanish MD whose interview on Spanish TV went viral, said "The first thing we need to do is vaccinate against fear because of all the social panic we have created. We doctors are perplexed by this."

His 7 minute interview can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yr9WusTYPWM> (English captions).

Dr. Joseph Mercola has many well documented articles with references to studies in other countries regarding COVID-19, as well as articles on staying healthy. (www.mercola.com). It is fascinating to discover the many people around the world who are speaking out for what seems to be logical and true. On Aug. 29, 2020 at the Berlin Festival for Freedom and Peace, attended by an estimated over a million people, Dr. Heiko Schoning, who said he represented a thousand doctors, said "The virus of freedom is spreading all over Berlin and all over the world."

Thomas Jefferson said, "If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be

informed." George Washington said "Truth will ultimately prevail where there is pains taken to bring it to light." As people such as Dr. Benito, Dr. Schoning, and Dr. Mercola continue to speak out, and people, including public officials, discern the truth, it is my hope that anxiety and fear will subside and that we will regain freedoms which we hold dear, such as freedom of speech in the media, the right to worship freely, and the right to assemble in gatherings of whatever size at restaurants, beaches, sporting events, concerts, and other events. Being informed gives us the knowledge needed to educate others, including our elected officials.

Panthea Crawford – Franklin, N.C.

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Outdoor concerts, hometown markets and decorating for fall



Streets of Franklin's first week of Hometown Fall on Main saw crafters, balloons, music and more on Main Street. This weekend will host crafters in front of some of the buildings. Plans are to have live musicians and local craftsmen in the coming weeks. Sterling the DJ will return next weekend with oldies, country, and playing a whole range of music, something that will put a pep in your step.

Photos by Gwen Taylor



Folks in Franklin hungry for live music turned out Friday night to hear The Sock Hops in the parking lot of the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. The group performed old favorites on this their eighth trip to the Franklin venue. Photos by Betsey Gooder

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Town employees Scotty Keener and Sabrina Scruggs decorate a light pole on Main Street.
Photos by Betsy Gooder



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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 September 5 - 21. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

September 14

Darrin Kenneth Crisp, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement, possession of drug paraphernalia. Brent C. Ledford made the arrest.

Damian Quin Dutton, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Brent C. Ledford made the arrest.

Avery Allison Bates, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a stolen firearm. Brent C. Ledford made the arrest.

September 15

Kevin Lee Swafford, was charged with injury to personal property. Michael R. Hollifield made the arrest.

John Robert Parker, was charged with violation of court order. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Thomas Behringer, was charged with assault on a female, assault in the presence of a minor, injury to personal property. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

Jeannie Irene Lehtinen, was charged with assault and battery, resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement officer. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Michael Wayne Turpin, was charged with probation violation. Michael R. Hollifield made the arrest.

Kevin Lee Swafford, was charged with injury to personal property. Michael R. Hollifield made the arrest.

Joey Lee Mathis, was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Avery Allison Bates, was charged with flee/elude arrest. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Jacob Lee Norris, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana paraphernalia. David Blanton made the arrest.

September 16

Dalton Ray Gravitt, was charged with failure to appear for failure to return rental property. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

September 17

Randy Cribb, was issued warrant service. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

Ryan David Finn, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation.

Joshua Cataldo Smith, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

William Stephen Shepherd, was charged with breaking and entering, larceny after break/enter, injury to personal property. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

September 18

Alyssa Nicole Anglin, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation, violation of conditions of release. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

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

Zacharia Jacob Lee Barrier, was charged with domestic vi-

olence protective order violation. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Matthew Devon Perkins, was charged with larceny, possession of stolen goods/property, obtaining property by false pretenses. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Misty Bates Israel, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

September 21

Kenneth Hermann Kasper, was charged with domestic violence protective violation. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Joan Beck Hobbs, was charged with failure to appear. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Tiffany Dawn Cullins, was charged with destruction of evidence. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Dennis Paul Kramber, was issued warrant service. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

September 10

Marshal Payne Balding, 19, of Stewart St., was issued a warrant for breaking and entering. An unsecured bond of \$2,000 was set. Officer Bingham made the arrest.

Stacy Lynn Burton, 37, of Franklin, was charged with all other offenses. An unsecured bond of \$2,000 was set. Sgt. Beegle made the arrest.

September 11

Tyler Johnathan Thurman, 20, of Sunny Lane, was issued a warrant for arrest for breaking and entering. A bond of \$2,000 was set.

Andrea Lynn Curtis, 24, of Riverview Lane, Dillard, Ga., was charged with driving while impaired. An unsecured bond of \$1,500 was set. Sgt. Beegle made the arrest.

Adam Lee Collier, 41, of Tessentee Rd., was issued a criminal summons for communicating threats. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

September 13

Kelby Stacey Mashburn, 31, of Kensland Rd., was charged with carrying a concealed weapon, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

September 17

Rickie Antes II, 29, of Cherry St., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

September 5

Buford William Smith, 48, of Beck Branch, Cherokee, was charged with injury to personal property, assault on a female. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Juan Carlos Rosillo Galvez, 42, of Park Place, Cullowhee, was issued a warrant for arrest for possess/display/altered/fictitious/revoked drivers license. An unsecured bond of \$100 was set.

Kristopher Wade Taylor, 38, of South Kindell Ave, Tahlequah, Okla., was charged with driving while impaired. An unsecured bond was set.

September 6

Betty Jean Hilburn, 49, of Webster Rd., was charged with simple possession of a schedule II controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Jamison Lawrence Lassiter, 37, of Sylva, was charged with failure to appear on a probation violation. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

September 7

Bryan Alexander Castillo Santos, 30, of Sylva, was charged

with maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation. A secured bond of \$75,000 was set.

Jose Gutierrez, 28, of Buford Hwy., Brookhaven, Ga., was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, possession of drug paraphernalia, trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, traffic in methamphetamine by transportation. A secured bond of \$70,000 was set.

Jaicelyn Dalyla Shanelle Beck, 21, of Estella Teesatuskie Rd., Cherokee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance on jail premises, possession of fentanyl, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$7,500 was set.

September 9

Jamie Keith Buchanan, 52, of Dalton Rd., was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.

Cecil Eli Walkingstick, 43, of Locust Creek, Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for breaking or entering. A secured bond of \$1,200 was set.

September 11

Vidal Gunzlez, 38, of Cherokee, was charged with damage to real property. A secured bond of \$100 was set.

Hunter Lee Lewis, 24, of Mayor Dr., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Richard Lee Hefner, 40, of Sylva, was issued an order for arrest for habitual felon, possession of stolen goods/property, larceny remove/destroy deactivate component, simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance, possession of a schedule II controlled substance, possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$35,000 was set.

September 12

Joseph Robert Russell, 30, of A. F. Putnam Rd., Charlton, Mass., was charged with possession of stolen property, larceny, communicating threats, damage of property, possession of burglary tools, breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Kala Marie Bueno, 28, of Do Ray Me, Cullowhee, was charged with felony conspiracy, burning of personal property. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Orlando Mandoza Muniz, 19, of Crane Rd., Tuckaseegee, was charged with felony conspiracy, burning of personal property. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

September 13

Christopher Ian Cotterman, of Sylva, was charged with breaking and entering a building, damage to property, larceny after breaking and entering, breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$11,000 was set.

September 14

Quenten Carrie Riggs, 24, of Pyramid Place, was charged with larceny, possession of a stolen property. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Charles Jarrell Allen, 23, of Monty St., Asheville, was charged assault with a deadly weapon causing serious injury. A secured bond of \$500,000 was set.

September 15

Lane Elizabeth Stocker, 40, of Bended Knee Dr., Whittier, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Grayson Lee Shuler, 46, of Bended Knee Dr., Whittier, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

Kristi Danielle Brooks, 35, of Sittin Creek Rd., Bryson City, was charged with possession of a controlled substance on prison/jail premises, possession of methamphetamine, failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine.

Randy Dwayne Stacey, 57, of Sylva, was charged with attempted breaking and entering of building. An unsecured bond of \$2,000 was set.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

"Faith, Family and Freedom Rally" will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 12 to 2 p.m., in the parking lot of The Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts in Franklin. This event is being held in conjunction with "The Return" national prayer event in Washington DC. Local pastors will be leading prayer. Madison Cawthorne, candidate for the 11th Congressional district, and North Carolina Supreme Court Justice Paul Newby will be speaking, and "Mountain Faith" will be leading worship. This is a Christian event of worship, prayer, and devotions from the Word of God to highlight the role of Christian faith in community and government.

Nantahala Hiking Club will take a hike on Saturday, Sept. 26, to Deep Gap and Standing Indian Mountain on the Appalachian Trail. Hike to the summit of Standing Indian for a beautiful view. Pets on a leash are welcome. Hikes are limited to 10 people. For more information, call leader Katharine Brown at (828)421-4178.

US-64 Road Closure Between Buck Creek Rd and Brush Creek Dr. will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 29. US-64 will be closed during the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to all through traffic from the intersection of Buck Creek Rd. to the entrance of Brush Creek Dr. in Highlands. The closure to all through traffic on this section of US-64 is necessary to repair and maintain a damaged section of guardrail. The Department of Transportation anticipates re-opening US-64 to through traffic no later than Thursday, Oct. 1. The detour routes for through traffic for both East and West bound directions will be Buck Creek Rd. (SR 1538) to US-64. Road closure barricades will be placed on US-64 E at the intersection of Buck Creek Rd. and US-64 W at the entrance to Brush Creek Dr. The Department apologizes for any inconvenience this road closure and detour may create for the residents and commuters in this area of Macon County. All are encouraged to drive with caution and obey the posted speed limits. If there are any questions regarding this issue, contact Matthew Miller at (828) 321-4105.

Red Sand Project will be held in front of the Macon County Court House in Downtown Franklin on Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. The Project calls attention to those who metaphorically "fall through the cracks" of human trafficking, including children, girls, and refugees, and spreads awareness in the community. The Zonta Club of Franklin will have a short presentation about the project and hand out bags of red sand that will, as a group, be poured into the cracks of the bricks in front of the courthouse. Wear face coverings and practice social distancing for this event.

Ray Reunion usually scheduled in October has been cancelled for this year.

The Annie Sorrells Reunion will be held Sunday, Oct. 4, at 1 p.m., at Franklin Memorial Park formerly known as the Jaycee building. Bring a covered dish to share.

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

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

Uptown Gallery on Main Street new hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Higdonville Baptist Church Homcoming will be held on Sunday, Sept. 27, 10:30 a.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Scott Mathews. Special music will be provided by Clay Cogdill Family. Fellowship lunch will follow. The church is located on Ellijay Rd.

First Alliance Church Sunday services in person and on Facebook are held at 10:30 a.m. Senior Pastor Scott Eichelberger will deliver the message. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:30 a.m. 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 is now having in-person Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. inside the church building with the Reverend L. E. Angel. Everyone is welcome.

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 discontinuing its 9 a.m. service and will only have one Sunday worship service in its sanctuary beginning 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.

Spiritual Light Center is now open for in-person services every Sunday at 11 a.m. Covid-19 protocols are in place. The public is invited. The center is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., Franklin.

Email your church events to maconcountynews@gmail.com

SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

N	O	S	T	S	I	T	S	E	T
E	A	G	E	S	T	A	C	O	T
M	R	O	M	A	H	A	E	R	E
N	E	M	E	N	O	L	D	M	E
				A	L	E			
E	E			C	O	P	E		
D	I	D		G	R	I	D		
Y	A	R		N	A	R			
L	E	L		C	A	M	E	L	
C	A	I		R	S	A	C		
				S	O	M	A		
				T	S	E	C		
N	A	N		P	O	S	T		
A	R	E		L	E	U			
Y	O	O		M	O	V	A		
A	R			G	E	T			

Constitution Day



A ceremony was held in downtown Franklin last Thursday honoring Constitution Day. Participants read portions from the 233-year-old document upon which America was founded and celebrated in song.

Photos by Bob Scott



We the People

September 24-30 is 'Take A Child Outside Week'

Take A Child Outside Week, an international initiative spearheaded by the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, kicks off Thursday, Sept. 24 and runs through Wednesday, Sept. 30. Designed to help break down obstacles that keep children from exploring the natural world, the program encourages children and adults to spend time together outdoors.

On the newly redesigned Take A Child Outside website (www.takeachildoutside.org), adults can find organizations in their area offering outdoor spaces along with interesting outdoor activities. Activities featured on the website range from general nature observation to finding animals at night and there are activities appropriate for all ages. The newest activities focus on "Dinosaurs Outside" so that young explorers can learn more about dinosaurs on their outdoor explorations.

"Free time in nature has been shown to improve every area of a child's life, from having healthier, stronger bodies, to being more successful in school, to having better relation-



ships in their community," says Beth Cranford, program coordinator for the Museum. "Time outside every day should be part of your regular routine."

Take A Child Outside Week was inspired by Richard Louv's bestselling book "Last Child in the Woods," which identifies the benefits of outdoor experiences for children and addresses some of the problems of what he terms "Nature Deficit Disorder," such as increased stress and feelings of being disconnected from the world.

More than 150 organizations currently participate worldwide, including North Carolina State Parks, various city and county parks, and nature centers of all sizes. Partnership is free, so visit takeachildoutside.org/become-a-partner to sign up. Partner categories include Outdoor Site Partner, School



Partner and Supporting Partner to include organizations that have land as well as those who don't. For more information, please e-mail beth.cranford@naturalsciences.org or call 919-707-9902.

4-H offers Ag workshops

Are you looking for a new opportunity for your children or grandchildren? How about exploring agriculture in WNC? AG H.O.P.E. (Agriculture – Helping Others, Providing Education) is an online series of workshops for 8-11 year olds. This program was created and led by a teen 4-H member, Abigail King, who has been involved in 4-H for five years, served as a District 4-H Officer, raises dairy cows, goats, and various other animals and crops. She plans to go into comparative medicine and biomedical sciences after college. Fall sessions will be virtual.

Register for Fall sessions at Eventbrite.com or contact Heather Gordon, Jackson County 4-H Agent, at heather_gordon@ncsu.edu

The workshops are held the second Thursdays of each month: Oct. 8, and Nov. 12, from 4 to 5 p.m. Online via Zoom (link will be sent after registering)

– Heritage Agriculture of WNC – Oct. 8. Learn about the history and heritage of agriculture in WNC. Topics will include crop growing, livestock, sustainability and craft and youth will also be able to participate in interactive team building activities.

– Agriculture Today – Nov. 12. This session will teach youth about what agriculture is today. From robotic cow milkers to drones, youth will be exposed to the technological advancements of agriculture as well as the push towards global sustainability. Youth will learn about today's agricultural industries and the individuals who keep them going.

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Deaths & Funerals

Xzanthus Burnell Webb Wilson

Xzanthus Burnell Webb Wilson, 82, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Monday, Sept. 14, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, North Carolina, she was the daughter of the late Leonard and Rittie Jenkins Webb. She was preceded in death by her husband, Thaddius Jerry Wilson; brothers, Glen Webb, Duane Webb and Conard Webb; sisters, Joyce Wilburn, Catherine Carpenter, Rindikye Henry, Nevilee Byrd and Mozille Derrberry.



Xzanthus Burnell Wilson

She enjoyed vegetable gardening, quilting, canning and home-steading. She was a good cook, a good woman and an animal lover. She liked everyone and loved her family, but above all, she believed that God came before anything; her love for Jesus was immeasurable and she instilled that love into each of her children.

Survivors include her sons, Jerry Wilson, Robert Clark Wilson and Carver Wilson (Lynn); a sister, Donnavee Bradshaw; four grandchildren, Jason Wilson, Alvin Wilson, Simon Wilson, Dakota Gillespie and husband Patrick; two great grandchildren, Jason Taylor Walkingstick and Winter Nicole Walkingstick; a special daughter-in-law Kathy Sitton; and very special friends, Gail Kling and Lynn Hyde.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Sept. 19, at Miller Cemetery, Highlands, N.C. Rev. Neal Ammons officiated.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Lynne Finney Lehtinen

Lynne Finney Lehtinen, 59, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020.

Born in Germany to an Army veteran, she was the daughter of the late Chester Arnold Finney and Myrna Cochran Finney. She managed several restaurants in Athens, Ga., and when she wasn't working, she could be found reading murder mysteries.

She is survived by her husband of 24 years, Michael Lehtinen; mother-in-law, Sherry Lehtinen of Franklin; brother, Steve Finney; nephew, Brandon Finney and niece, Dana Finney all of Georgia.

No services will be held at this time.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

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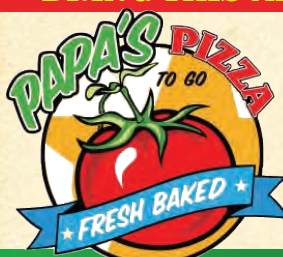
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Deaths & Funerals

Deleda Drinnon McGaha

Deleda Drinnon McGaha, 80, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family, on Monday, Sept. 14, 2020.

She was the daughter of the late William Madison Drinnon and Wellis Smith Drinnon of Franklin, N.C. She attended Greenville General Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1961. She worked for many years as a registered nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Greenville, S.C., until her retirement about 18 years ago. She moved to Georgia to be near her three children, Kathy, Stephen, and Mandy, living the last four years in Athens, Ga. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Athens. She was predeceased by her parents and brothers, J.D. and Ray Drinnon.

She is survived by her younger brother, Bill, and her three children. She loved listening to bluegrass music, gardening, and watching birds from her screened porch, but her greatest joys were her three children and her four "granddogs."

A memorial service was held outside at Burningtown Baptist Church on Friday, Sept. 18. A private burial followed the memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, 2535 Jefferson Road, Athens, Georgia. 30607.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the local arrangements.

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

Robert (Bob) Lowrance Taro

Robert (Bob) Lowrance Taro, 89, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020.

Born in Nutley, N.J., he was the son of the late Thomas Delano and Blanche Lowrance Taro. He loved hunting, fishing, wood carving and landscaping his home. He graduated from the University of Miami, and he was an accomplished athlete who played football and baseball. He played professional baseball for the Brooklyn Dodgers for two years before going into the service. He proudly served his country in the Army through the Korean Conflict in the 101st Airborne Division.

After being discharged from the military, he was appointed the Regional Detention Director for the Florida Division of Youth Services in Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties. Gov. Reubin Askew appointed him to serve on the Miami-Dade Criminal Justice Council, and he was also a member of the Miami-Dade County Police Chiefs Association and of the American Judiciary Council. He and his wife, Nancy, retired to Franklin after Hurricane Andrew hit Florida.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Nancy Taro; four children, Linda Taro of Lakeland, Fla., Gaile Taro and husband Gary Smith of Miami, Fla., Tracy Taro of Franklin, and Robert Taro Jr. of Atlanta, Ga.; five grandchildren, Ashley, Brian, Taylor, Jeremy and Alexis; and one great grandchild, Bailey.

No services will be held at this time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice House Foundation of WNC.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Deleda Drinnon McGaha



Robert Lowrance Taro

Porter Coy Duncan

Porter Coy Duncan, 96, of Franklin, N.C., died peacefully at home Monday, Sept. 14, 2020.

Born in Clayton, N.C., on June 23, 1924, the son of Wilbur Duncan and Leona Patton Duncan, he lived in Franklin for most of his adult life.

Disqualified from active service in WWII due to eyesight problems, he served in the war effort as a civilian by initially working on the Fontana Dam project and later working at the National Defense Facility in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

While at Fontana, he met Cleo Barnes, who transferred there from work on the Kentucky Dam project near Paducah, Ky. They were married on April 13, 1945. The couple returned to Franklin in 1946 and lived happily together until Cleo passed away on Aug. 31, 2011.

After returning from Oak Ridge to Franklin, he initially worked at a service station on courthouse square. He later bought the business and operated it for several years until he went to work for the Nantahala Power & Light Company. He retired from the power company in 1984 and, until his recent decline, lived a full and active life.

He was a lifelong member of the Patton United Methodist Church. He was a role model husband and father, working hard to provide for his family and trying to follow Jesus' teachings to care about and help others.

Surviving are his son, Don, and daughter-in-law Beth Swan Duncan, of Andrews, N.C.; two grandchildren, Lawrence A. Duncan (Laura Altwater) of Scappoose, Ore., and Lisa E. Duncan (Ross Smart) of Brattleboro, Vt.; a cousin, Lawrence (Pat) Patton and wife Donna Poole Patton; and several nephews and nieces.

The family wishes to express special thanks to several close friends and residents of Patton Community, members of Patton United Methodist Church, Dr. Gustav Wilde, and individuals from Carepartners Home Health for their kindness and compassion.

A simple, private graveside service was held with interment following at the Patton United Methodist Church cemetery. A memorial service will be held at a later date at Patton United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Patton United Methodist Church.

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



Porter Coy Duncan

Patricia Ann Hurst

Patricia Ann Hurst, 67, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020.

Born and raised in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Arthur and Eliza Elliott Hurst. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by four brothers, Junior Hurst, Richard Hurst, Bruce Hurst and Leon Hurst. She attended Emanuel Baptist Church.

She is survived by three sons, Jeff Hurst, Calvin Hurst and Matthew Hurst, all of Franklin; four sisters, Ruby Collins of Franklin, Judy Lawing of Westminster, S.C., Myrtle Jones of Hiwassee, Ga., and Evelyn Swafford of Candler, N.C.; eight grandchildren, Kaitlyn Hurst, Alston Hurst, Natalie Hurst, Daylon Hurst, Jessica Chandler, Shyanna Parker, Cayla Hurst and Jonathan Hurst; two great grandchildren, Hazel Hurst and Silas Chandler; and several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held Wednesday, Sept. 23, at Mulberry United Methodist Church Cemetery. Rev. Wesley Price officiated. The family served as pallbearers.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.



Patricia Ann Hurst

Norma Jean Welch

Norma Jean Welch (Jean), 84, passed away on Sept. 16, 2020, at her home in Franklin, N.C. She was retired from an extensive career as band director for the band and music program at Franklin High School. She is loved, admired and missed by the many hundreds of students who were part of music education and marching band programs at the High School.

She was born in 1936 in Franklin to a musical family which influenced her life's work.

The Wilburn Welch family occupied an idyllic valley at the end of Edwards Road in Burningtown where her father, Ralph "Red" Welch, his parents and many brothers and sisters enjoyed playing a wide variety of instruments. She grew up with her father, her mother, Ethel Teague Welch and her sister, Shirley Marie Welch (Rowe) at the same house on Curtis Street where she spent her last night. She attended both Franklin Elementary School and Franklin High School. The old high school burned to the ground before her eyes and she soon found the only surviving instrument in the music department ashes was her horn which she took as a sign for her to set her life's goals. She graduated from Western Carolina "cum laude" with a music degree and returned for her Master's degree in 1970. The next nine years were spent touring Europe in a Volkswagen Camper, seeing the Western U.S., Canada and teaching music in the schools of Craven County. She was elusive as to which she enjoyed most. In 1968, she came home to Franklin where for the next 20 years she became a bit of a legend in band circles, teaching literally thousands of students more than just music. Character, intellectual growth and integrity she felt, were just as important as learning to play an instrument. She taught that developing a love and appreciation of music that her students carried with them for the rest of their lives usually departing with a graduation present of a copy of Max Ehrmann's "Desiderata" and instructions to, above all, live a good life.

She developed a love of golf in later years and was surrounded by new, loving friends who shared her passion for hitting a small white ball, walking after it and hitting it again. The relationships which grew from her love of the game lasted until the end and she was surrounded by their warmth and love every day for the last months of her life. She took to heart her advice to departing students and lived a very good life in order to, "Be cheerful. Strive to be happy."

She is survived by her nephews, Michael Rowe (Susan), Gregory Rowe (Rhonda); niece, Linda Rowe Nolin; and great nephews and nieces, Collin Rowe (Heather) and children Hudson, Vayle, and Isabelle; Tyler Rowe and daughter Skylar; Aaron Rowe, Katie Rowe, Shelby Elaine Nolin Magers (Patrick) and son Anderson, Justin Cotton (Kelly) and daughters Caroline and Allie, and Jonathan Cotton and son Raymond.

A going home service was held on Monday, Sept. 21, at the Bryant-Grant Funeral Home. Graveside services followed at Burningtown Baptist Church Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Burningtown Cemetery maintenance fund.

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



Norma Jean Welch

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Deaths & Funerals

Helen Jacobs Byrd

Helen Jacobs Byrd of Hendersonville, N.C., formerly of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020.

She was one of six children born to Eugene and Bessie Baldwin Jacobs. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Byrd; brothers, J.C. Jacobs, Radford Jacobs, and Carrol Jacobs; and sisters, Kate Jacobs Cowan and Lois Jacobs Meadows.

She was born and raised in Macon County. During her working years, she worked for "The Twins Shop" in both Bryson City and Franklin. She also was the bookkeeper for her husband, Frank, in the farm supply business. Among her many other jobs, she worked as a medical transcriber, dental radiologist and in her later years as a caregiver to others.

Helen and Frank were married for 61 years. They moved to the Hendersonville area over 40 years ago after living in Bryson City, Franklin and Brevard. In Hendersonville, Helen and Frank were members of Mud Creek Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday School. She enjoyed serving in her church; she was in a women's weekly prayer group and cooked Thanksgiving dinner for the entire group every year for many years. She was also a long time member of the Business and Professional Women's Association of Hendersonville. She was an avid dog lover. She had many friends and loved her family, and will be sorely missed.

Surviving are her sons, Ronald Byrd and wife Rhonda, Gary Byrd and wife Phillis; granddaughter, Carley Byrd Nevills and husband Don; and great grandchildren, Abigail Nevills and Samantha Nevills.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Sept. 22, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Her niece, Rev. Janet Greene officiated. Burial was in the Iotla Baptist Church Cemetery.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

William 'Bill' Beik Howard

William "Bill" Beik Howard, 90, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Friday, Sept. 18, 2020, at his home.

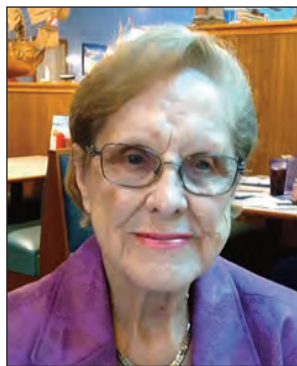
Born in Marion, Ind., he was the son of the late Homer and Ethel Smith Howard. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Barbara Joan Howard, just this past January.

He is survived by his children, William H. Howard of Franklin, Catherine J. Ziegler (Michael) of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Steven W. Howard (Irene) of Lake Wales, Fla.; four grandchildren, Stacy Ziegler, Kevin J. Ziegler both of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Mark Maglischo (Rebecca) of Lakeland, Fla., and Tracy Maglischo of Lake Wales, Fla.; and two great grandchildren, Colt and Brix Maglischo both of Lakeland Fla.

No services are planned at this time.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Helen Jacobs Byrd



William Beik Howard

Kenneth Dan Adcock, MD

Kenneth Dan Adcock, MD, 82, died peacefully on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020. Born on Nov. 12, 1937, in St. Petersburg, Fla., he was the youngest child of Lila Anderson Adcock and Louie Norman Adcock Sr. He graduated from St. Petersburg High in 1955. On Aug. 17, 1957, he married his high school sweetheart and best friend, Judy Liggett. He attended Duke University and was a member of the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity. He continued his education at the University of Florida, earning his bachelor's degree in 1959 and his Medical Doctorate degree in 1963.

From 1963 to 1966, he completed his OB/GYN internship and residency in Charlotte, N.C. In 1967, he joined the United States Air Force and served as Captain at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, La. In 1969, he moved to Greenville, S.C., and developed a thriving OB/GYN practice. He loved his patients and staff and was known for how committed he was to all of those in his care.

After 35 years in practice, he retired to Highlands, N.C., in 2004. He enjoyed life in retirement by becoming active in the Episcopal church. He completed The University of the South School of Theology, Education for Ministry course and completed training to teach and participate in the Stephen Ministries program. At The Church of the Incarnation he served on the vestry and many volunteer positions. He also enjoyed volunteering at the Highlands-Cashiers Hospital and with the Four Seasons Hospice program.

He celebrated life by keeping in touch with friends and family far and wide. He was a compassionate and enthusiastic supporter for the many people he held dear. These connections enriched his life tremendously and brought him great joy and comfort in his later years. He was truly a bright light that illuminated all of our lives.

He was predeceased by his former wife, Judy. He is survived by his partner, Thomas Mitchell Cox; daughters, Sarah "Sally" Adcock Chambers of Diamondhead, Miss., Elizabeth "Betsy" Adcock Baumgardner, and husband Jim, of Greenville, S.C.; four grandchildren, Elizabeth Collett Chambers, William Adcock Chambers, James Krae Baumgardner Jr., and Benjamin Easton Baumgardner; one great grandchild, Charlotte Mae Chambers; a brother-in-law, Frank Rahm Liggett, III and wife Mimi LeBlond Liggett; and several nieces and nephews.

He was also predeceased by his brothers and their wives Louie Norman Adcock Jr., (Mary) and Jack Anderson Adcock (Sarah Jane) and his sister-in-law Sarah (Sally) Liggett Smith (husband George).

A private family service will be held at The Church of the Incarnation (Episcopal) in Highlands. A celebration of life service will be held in Greenville in November.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to Church of the Incarnation, 520 Main Street, Highlands, NC, 28741.

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

Thomas Edwin Gardner

Thomas Edwin Gardner, 69, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020.

Born in Hamilton County, Ohio, he was a son of the late Bertram Joseph and Nancy Jean Gardner. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Gregory Joseph Gardner.

He moved to the area in 2000 and faithfully attended Cowee Baptist Church. He was a great auto salesman and enjoyed astronomy. He was fascinated by and learned a lot about gemstones. He loved his dogs, watching and feeding the wild birds and all animals.

He is survived by his loving wife, Marie Pierce Gardner; his siblings, Christine Kehle Mercier (Ronald) of Sylva, Paul Gregory Kehle (Lara) of Pittsboro, N.C., and Stephanie Shumate of Richmond, Va.

No services are planned at this time.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Dr. Dan Adcock

Samuel Dewey 'Pops' Wykle

Samuel Dewey "Pops" Wykle, 76, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Sept. 18, 2020.

A native of Macon County, he was a son of the late Samuel Pearson Hall and Rosetta Perley Wykle. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, John Henry Wykle and a sister, Ruby Mullins.

He attended the Olive Hill Gospel Chapel where he enjoyed singing in the choir. He enjoyed singing bluegrass music and playing the banjo. He played and sang all over the U.S., including the Grand Ole Opry. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam campaign. He was employed by the U.S. Forest Service as a Park Ranger for 20 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, digging ginseng and sitting under an ole' shade tree.

He is survived by one daughter, Adalia Lynn Wykle; sister, Patsy Lieshman of Havre de Grace, Md.; granddaughter, Sylvia Lynn Bowman and his faithful service dog, "Tuffy" who was by his side for more than 10 years.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, Sept. 24, at 2 p.m., at the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Barry Bowman will officiate. Burial will follow in the Locust Field Baptist Church Cemetery in Jackson County.

The family will receive friends an hour prior to the service at Macon Funeral Home.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Samuel Dewey Wykle

View obituaries online at themaconcountynews.com

The Family of **Robert Randall**

would like to thank everyone for the thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. The love and support was felt through flowers, cards, meals, messages and donations to West Macon Fire & Rescue.

Thank you to Brian Hylton and all the staff at Macon Funeral Home.

Special thanks to West Macon Fire & Rescue, Cowee Honor Guard and all the other emergency service agencies for all the love and help in the services.

With Love,
Velma, Robin, Todd, Jack,
Butch Family and Ellen

Kevin Harvick holds off Kyle Busch for intense Bristol win

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

In a battle of two of stock car racing's titans, Kevin Harvick swapped the lead with Kyle Busch and held off the defending NASCAR Cup Series champion over an intense string of closing laps to win Saturday's Bass Pro Shops Night Race at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Harvick picked up his ninth victory of the season, his second of the Round of 16 in the Playoffs and his third at Bristol. The driver of the No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford finished .310 seconds ahead of Busch, who remained frustrated in a winless season.

Harvick won for the 58th time in his Cup career, ninth-most all-time. Busch has been stuck on 56 wins since his title-winning triumph in the last year's season finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Bristol sold tickets to a limited number of fans who were socially distanced throughout the grandstand. But there were enough voices there to make a significant din, and Harvick noticed.

"Man, I just want to say thank you to all the fans," Harvick said after taking the checkered flag. "I was so jacked up when we started this race because of you guys and Bristol Motor Speedway."

It took all of Harvick's consummate skill to hold off Busch during the final 82-lap green-flag run. Busch is the leader among active drivers with eight wins at Bristol.

"To beat Kyle Busch at Bristol, I kind of got myself in a little bit of a ringer there," said Harvick, who already had secured a berth in the Round of 12 with his win at Darlington in the Playoff opener. "I hit a lapped car and got a hole in the right-front nose, but just kept fighting. We don't have anything else to lose."

"We were here to try to win a race. I know how much (crew chief) Rodney (Childers) really enjoys coming here and, hell, how can you not enjoy coming here with all this enthusiasm. Everybody is tired of being at home."

The Night Race was the cutoff event for the Round of 16, and the four drivers who began the event below the cut line—William Byron, Sunoco Rookie of the Year Cole Custer, Ryan Blaney and Matt DiBenedetto—remained there and were eliminated from the Playoffs.

Busch and Joe Gibbs Racing teammates Denny Hamlin and Erik Jones started in the rear of the field after multiple pre-race inspection failures, but Busch charged through the field to finish second in the first stage and won the second.

In the final run, Busch passed Harvick for the lead in traffic on Lap 459. Ten laps later, Harvick returned the favor when Busch was slowed behind the lapped car of Joey Logano. Harvick led the rest of the way, though Busch tried every racing line available to try to catch the race winner.

"I just didn't have enough there at the end," said Busch who advanced to the Round of 12 on points, joining Richmond winner Brad Keselowski, Hamlin, Martin Truex Jr., Logano, Kurt Busch, Aric Almirola, Clint Bowyer, Alex Bowman, Chase Elliott and Austin Dillon. "The lapped cars were definitely a problem."

"There was just no room for me to do what I need to do to get around him. Came up short—what can I say?"



Kevin Harvick, driver of the #4 Busch Light Ford, celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Bass Pro Shops Night Race at Bristol Motor Speedway on Sept. 19, 2020 in Bristol, Tenn.



Kevin Harvick and Brad Keselowski, driver of the #2 Discount Tire Ford, race during the NASCAR Cup Series Bass Pro Shops Night Race at Bristol Motor Speedway on Sept. 19, 2020 in Bristol, Tenn.

spectively. Custer was eliminated after a 23rd-place run.

Late pass nets Chase Briscoe coveted NASCAR Xfinity win at Bristol

It was a perfect rub-and-run.

In a race that filled the final position for the NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff, Chase Briscoe nudged close friend, fellow Ford driver and regular-season champion Austin Cindric out of the way with six laps left and pulled away to win Friday night's Food City 300 at Bristol Motor Speedway.

Cindric didn't have his full set of resources, having lost the power steering on his No. 22 Team Penske Ford during the final run. Cindric lost second place to Ross Chastain, who had led 117 laps. Chastain finished .651-seconds behind the race winner.

The victory was Briscoe's seventh this season, his first at Bristol and the ninth of his career. Briscoe finished the regular season with 50 Playoff points, tied with Cindric, who won five of the first 26 races.

"The last 15 laps, our car came to life," Briscoe said. "I figured something out. We had to root and gouge our way up there—that's what Bristol is all about."

"If we could end up second in points and win the race, we'd have the same amount of Playoff points as (Cindric). Mission accomplished."

Brandon Brown clinched the final berth in the 12-driver Xfinity Playoff with a 12th-place finish.

Harrison Burton ran fourth on Friday, followed by Justin Allgaier, who swept the first two stages and led 126 of the 300 laps before the handling of his No. 7 JR Motorsports Chevrolet tightened up after the second stage break.

Anthony Alfredo, Noah Gragson, Brandon Jones, Jeb Burton and Riley Herbst completed the top 10.

Racing in close quarters, Cindric grabbed the lead from Chastain one circuit after the final restart on Lap 252. Cindric held the top spot until Briscoe's No. 98 Stewart-Haas

Two drivers who didn't make the Playoffs—Jones and Tyler Reddick—ran third and fourth, followed by Almirola, Bowyer and Elliott. Non-Playoff drivers Chris Buescher, Ryan Preece and Michael McDowell completed the top 10.

Byron's race and Playoff run ended suddenly and unexpectedly on Lap 233. The No. 51 Ford of Joey Gase slowed on the backstretch, starting a chain-reaction wreck in which Byron's No. 24 Chevrolet slammed into the rear of Christopher Bell's No. 95 Toyota.

Unable to continue, Byron exited the race, his Playoff run finished.

"I think the No. 51 car checked up in the middle of the straightaway," a frustrated Byron said after exiting his car. "As fast as we were running the top, I was right behind the No. 95, and I had literally nowhere to go. You can't stop in the middle of the straightaway when everybody is so committed to the top like that."

"Just ridiculous that that's what takes us out. I thought, honestly, we had a shot to run top-five or -seven. The car was really, really good. We just needed a couple good pit stops. We were running probably ninth or 10th there. Just super disappointing—I've got to go back and watch that, because that was kind of ridiculous."

Blaney and DiBenedetto, who needed to win the race to advance to the Round of 12, finished 13th and 19th, re-



Austin Cindric, driver of the #22 Discount Tire Ford, and Chase Briscoe, driver of the #98 Ford Performance Racing School Ford, race during the NASCAR Xfinity Series Food City 300 at Bristol Motor Speedway on Sept. 18, 2020 in Bristol, Tenn.

Racing Ford powered past him on Lap 295.

The victory was even more satisfying to Briscoe after 11th and 16th-place runs in last weekend's doubleheader at Richmond Raceway.

"I was so mad after last week," said Briscoe, who led 11 laps, including the final six. "I told all the guys there ain't no way we're getting beat today. I was so mad after how we ran last week, and I get on the internet all the time and see guys count us out after one bad race."

"I know what this team is capable of... I finished second here the last two races, and I wanted to win here so bad, and it's awesome that I can actually celebrate it with all these race fans."

Cindric struggled after his power steering began to fail 15 laps into the final green-flag run.

"I've never felt so helpless in all my life," Cindric said. "I've never felt such pain in a race car. My body went numb for a while... I've never lost a race that way."

The NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff begins next Saturday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Behind Briscoe and Cindric, Allgaier is seeded third, followed by Gragson, Jones, Justin Haley, Harrison Burton, Chastain, Ryan Sieg, Michael Annett, Herbst and Brown.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: MOVIE TITLES

ACROSS

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 9. Practice in the ring
 13. Popular aquarium dweller
 14. Fertility clinic stock
 15. Dreamy
 16. Brightest star in Cygnus
 17. Romanian money
 18. Athlete's stage
 19. *Ferris Bueller's time away
 21. *He always rings twice
 23. G in music
 24. Dissenting clique
 25. Billy's Harry to ____'s Sally
 28. "Brave New World" drug
 30. Lung pouch
 35. Crematorium containers
 37. X-ray units
 39. Humpy ungulate
 40. One of oldest cities in China or Welsh girl's name
 41. Torcher's misdeed
 43. "____ a soul"
 44. Sudden occurrence of disease
 46. Crimson rival
 47. Power system
 48. "Rock the ____" by The Clash
 50. Deal with it
 52. Happy Gilmore's peg
 53. Bird's groomer
 55. Tap choice
 57. *Dr. Strangelove learned to love it, two words
 61. *No country for these guys, two words
 64. *One green one in John Wayne flick
 65. "Eureka!"
 67. Erasable programmable read only memory
 69. Woven wall hanging
 70. Soldier's bed
 71. "All the world's a ____"
 72. R in RIP
 73. It is
 74. Boxer turned actor
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1. It would
 2. Pauper's permanent state
 3. Europe's highest volcano
 4. Hunts for food
 5. No-noes
 6. The Masters' game
 7. *It's all about her
 8. Greyish brown
 9. Database command
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. *King of Siam's governess 12. *Private that had to be saved 15. a.k.a. tears of Chios 20. Fauna's partner 22. Mozart's "L' ____ del Cairo" 24. Eponymous comic strip character 25. *The hills are alive with the sound of it 26. "Fear of Flying" author Jong 27. Annoying tiny biters 29. *There's something about her 31. Telephoned 32. Bright 33. Eagle's nest 34. *Bonnie's partner 36. Give the cold shoulder | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 38. Musician's time to shine 42. Kathmandu country 45. Wooden shoes 49. Skirt's edge 51. First among siblings 54. Olden day calculators 56. Like worthless promise 57. Tow rope alternative 58. At this point 59. Does something wrong 60. "Don't ____ around the bush" 61. Mares' meal 62. "-zoic" periods 63. Not happening 66. *Some like it this way 68. *There were three, plus a baby |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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Garage & Yard Sales

MAIDENS CHAPEL METHODIST Church Yard Sale, Saturday, Sept. 26, 8am-12noon, 230 Maidens Chapel Rd. Masks are required. Benefits Missions.

REALLY BIG SALE! Friday & Saturday 8:30am-2pm, Lots of Furniture, decor, clothing, books, toys, bedding, much more! 2594 Wells Grove Rd.

4-FAMILY COON CLUB Building, Franklin, Friday 25, Saturday, 26, 8am-? Prentiss Bridge Rd. to 3056 Wide Horizon Dr., Bedroom Furniture, Refrigerator, Recliners, Sofa, Pictures, Comforters, Glassware, Decor, Halloween, Christmas Decorations, Pack N Play, Strollers and Much More! Ladies Name Brand Clothes (All Sizes) Mens, Children. Rain or Shine.

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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.

MAIDENS CHAPEL METHODIST Church Yard Sale, Saturday, Sept. 26, 8am-12noon, 230 Maidens Chapel Rd. Masks are required. Benefits Missions.

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.

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2015	Buick	LaCrosse	28,168
2018	Cadillac	CT6	29,695
2020	Cadillac	Escalade	26,141
2020	Cadillac	Escalade	35,568
2007	Cadillac	Escalade EXT	157,114
2020	Chevrolet	Blazer	4,708
2013	Chevrolet	Camaro	10,190
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado	18,864
1972	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	91,171
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	74,937
2019	Chevrolet	Equinox	26,227
2014	Chevrolet	Equinox	20,707
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	26,211
2009	Chevrolet	HHR	111,785
2018	Chevrolet	Impala	7,188
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	11,584
2017	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	41,705
2017	Chevrolet	Suburban	28,879
2016	Chevrolet	Suburban	112,779
2011	Chevrolet	Suburban 1500	125,781
2015	Chevrolet	Tahoe	84,475
2015	Chevrolet	Traverse	101,068
2014	Chevrolet	Traverse	86,535
2017	Chevrolet	Traverse	91,512
2010	Chrysler	Town & Country	140,383
2018	Ford	EcoSport	5,000
2018	Ford	Explorer	49,216
2020	Ford	F-150	23,354
2013	Ford	F-150	153,636
2016	Ford	F-250	190,896
2018	Ford	Flex	70,276
1930	FORD	MODELA	78,269
2019	Ford	Ranger	2,746
2015	GMC	Acadia	92,733
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500	49,139
2003	GMC	Sierra 1500	214,228
2013	GMC	Yukon	51,248
2019	GMC	Yukon XL	37,969
2002	HARLEY DAVIDSON	FATBOY	2,318
2008	Honda	CR-V	167,881
2014	Honda	Odyssey	125,663
2019	Honda	Ridgeline	12,928
2019	Hyundai	Elantra	36,506
2019	Hyundai	Tucson	36,252
2017	Jeep	Cherokee	81,967
2003	Jeep	Liberty	218,554
2017	Jeep	Renegade	48,579
2006	Jeep	Wrangler	126,792
2019	Mazda	CX-5	36,819
2017	Mercedes-Benz	Metris	57,091
2015	Mercedes-Benz	ML 350	67,933
2018	Nissan	Armada	51,313
2019	Nissan	Rogue	40,105
2019	Nissan	Rogue	39,470
2019	Nissan	Sentra	38,658
2019	Nissan	Versa	35,717
2020	RAM	1500	25,556
2016	RAM	1500	92,141
2017	Subaru	Forester	44,665
2019	Toyota	Camry	34,683
2019	Toyota	Corolla	35,775
2019	Toyota	Corolla	27,529
2018	Toyota	Tacoma	35,770
2008	Toyota	Tacoma	138,530
2008	Volkswagen	Eos	115,733



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.