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See pg. 5 for more info

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Volume 37 Number 32

FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Photo by Bob Scott

Franklin rang in the new year with the sixth annual Ruby Drop. Presented by Crabtree Family Enterprise and Main Street Merchants, the six-foot tall, seven-foot wide Ruby descended shortly before midnight welcoming in a new decade and a new year.

Speeding violation results in trafficking arrest

A New Years Eve traffic stop resulted in seizure of nearly \$10,000 in cash along with more than 100 grams of methamphetamine and other drugs.

Franklin Police Department Officer Randy Dula clocked Tam Tran, 39, going over 70 miles per hour on the Sylva Road near Franklin Ford on Tuesday morning.

Franklin Police Chief David Adams noted that Officer Dula initiated the traffic stop for speeding and after becoming aware of the smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle, initiated an investigation. Officer Dula searched the vehicle and found nearly \$10,000 in cash, more than 100 grams of methamphetamine,



A traffic stop resulted in the confiscation of \$10,000 in cash, a firearm, cell phones and various quantities of illegal drugs.

heroin, ecstasy, crack cocaine, a high-powered rifle, and drug paraphernalia.

Tran, who lists a Georgia address on his license, has family ties to Macon County and according to prior arrest reports, has an extensive record dating back to the '90s in Franklin. Tran was convicted of felony possession with intent to sell a schedule VI and scheduled II substance in 2004 in Macon County, making it illegal to possess the rifle.

Tran served six months on the 2004 conviction and by 2009 was arrested and convicted again of trafficking a schedule I substance. After being convicted in

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Last minute filing results in wide range of candidates this election cycle

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

After eight years serving the United States House of Representative District 11, Congressman Mark Meadows announced his retirement last month. Shortly after the announcement, Senator Jim Davis headed to Raleigh to add his name to the ballot to run for Congress.

“For everything there is a season,” Rep Meadows said in a release. “After prayerful consideration and discussion with family, today I’m announcing that my time serving Western North Carolina in Congress will come to a close at the end of this term.”

The deadline for Congressman Meadows to file for office for a fifth term would have come at noon Friday, Dec. 17, and much speculation has been bandied about whether or not he had planned to do so. Although Meadows has publicly said that the new congressional districts maps wouldn’t impact his decision to run or not, he did not confirm what exactly that decision was until the announcement.

“This was a decision I struggled with greatly,” he said. “These last 8 years, I have been so blessed to serve the people of [District] NC-11 and help give a voice to mil-



In mid-November, Karl Gillespie (center) announced his intention to run for the N.C. House seat being vacated by Kevin Corbin (right), who earlier had announced his bid for the N.C. Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Jim Davis (left). On Dec. 16, Davis traveled to Raleigh to file with the State Board of Elections his intention to run for congressman as Rep. Mark Meadows has decided not to run for reelection.

ions of Americans who feel Washington, DC has forgotten them. Since serving alongside President Trump, I have been a witness to historic economic prosperity, unemployment levels I only dreamed of when I took office, tax and regulatory reforms that are putting the American worker first, our Israeli embassy moved to Jerusalem,

and trade deals that were once thought impossible. I have seen our law enforcement and first responders receive the support they deserve and our military once again put on a path to maintain its superiority. Through it all, I am so thankful to have been able to serve and give back to the great country I call home.”

Meadows has climbed the political ladder over the last four years and has positioned himself to be one of the most powerful conservatives in Congress. His name has been on the top of the watch list for Chief of Staff for President Trump and despite previous claims he was not seeking a job within the Trump cabinet in the past, it looks like that may have changed.

“My work with President Trump and his administration is only beginning,” said Meadows. “This president has accomplished incredible results for the country in just three years, and I’m fully committed to staying in the fight with him and his team to build on those successes and deliver on his promises for the years to come. I’ve always said Congress is a temporary job, but the fight to return Washington, DC to its rightful owner, We The People, has only just begun.”

Congressman Meadows was one of many outspoken Republicans during the recent impeachment vote in the House that ultimately voted to impeach President Trump. Despite the vote in the House, Rep. Meadows stands by the president and plans to continue his support for President Trump and his re-election campaign, which will likely now feature Rep. Meadows in a new capacity in the White House.

Prior to Meadows’ announcement, several Democrats and even a Green Party candidate from Macon County had already announced their candidacy and intent to challenge the eight-year Congressman. After the congressman’s announcement, Haywood County Republican Lynda Bennett announced her intent to run for the District 11 seat. Bennett has been a supporter

of Meadows as well as President Trump.

There was question about whether other local politicians such as Macon County native Kevin Corbin would abandon his candidacy for Senate and run for Congress instead, however, the deadline to withdraw for the Senate was on Dec. 17, which would make Corbin ineligible for a run in Congress, at least in this cycle.

Senator Jim Davis, however, who announced his retirement from the N.C. Senate, saw Meadows’ retirement as an opportunity to seek higher office and immediately set out toward Raleigh to file with the State Board of Elections. Like Davis, multiple Republicans made the trip to Raleigh to file for the seat ahead of the deadline. In addition to Haywood County realtor Lynda Bennett, Buncombe County resident Charles Archerd, also filed Dec. 16. Congressman Meadows’ Deputy Chief of Staff, Wayne King filed for the District 11 seat on Friday, Dec. 17, just before deadline. Along with King, other Republicans filing for the seat include Dan Driscoll, Joey Osborne, Steven Fekete, Jr., Dillon Gentry, Madison Cawthron, Matthew Burrell, and Vance Patterson, who has challenged Meadows in past elections. Republican candidates are from all over the district ranging from Winston Salem to Banner Elk.

Tamara Lynn Zwinak filed to run as a Green Party candidate, and according to her registration with the State Board of Elections, resides in Franklin. Tracey DeBruhl, a Libertarian candidate from Asheville filed late on Dec. 17.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners race also saw several last minute candidates. The District III seat, currently held by Paul Higdon will be an uncontested seat, meaning Higdon will be re-elected to another term. For District II, up until late on the afternoon of Dec. 10, just one name was on the ballot, Terry Bradley, former Franklin Police Chief to run for commissioner. That afternoon two others, both Democrats, filed to run for the District II seat, Olga Lampkin and Betty Cloer Wallace. By the Friday deadline, Republicans Bryan Raders and Josh Young had also filed for District II, resulting in the seat now appearing on the March primary ballot to pick which Democrat and which Republican will appear on the November ballot.

Macon County Republican Karl Gillespie filed to run for North Carolina House District 120 and while he will not have a March primary opponent, he will be running against a Murphy Democrat, Susan Landis in November 2020. Another Macon County Republican, Kevin Corbin, will face a March primary opponent in Sarah Conway, a Republican from Jackson County. The winner of the March primary will appear on the November ballot for Senate District 50.

Primary elections in North Carolina will be held on March 3. The General Election is set for Nov. 3.

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Macon residents celebrate one year anniversary of 'chance' match

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

It's been a year since Shelia Pitts saved Pat Cable's life.

Toward the end of 2018, Franklin resident Pat Cable's kidney function reached just 8 percent and was days away from having to undergo daily dialysis just to survive. But then she met Shelia Pitts, who was a kidney donor match.

Shelia and her husband Isaac live in Franklin and share two children, Aiden, 10, and Ally, 5. After reading a letter Cable penned titled "B positive," the blood type she needed for a match, Pitts instantly made the decision to donate her kidney to Cable.

After making the decision, Pitts started the long and trying process to become an organ donor. She willingly drove back and forth to the University of North Carolina Medical Center in Chapel Hill for frequent tests and screenings, blood draws and even a psychiatric evaluation.

Pitts drove to Cable's house to deliver the good news in person.... Pitts was a match and had been approved for the transplant. Right when she thought she was out of options, the best option drove into her driveway and saved her life.

Kidney disease plagued Cable's family as she lost both of her parents to the diagnosis. Cable was able to manage kidney disease for years, but the time came to where her only option was a transplant. On Dec. 11, 2018, Pitts and Cable underwent the surgery for the transplant and then started the recovery process in adjoining hotel rooms in Chapel Hill.

A year later, both Pitts and Cable are doing well and reunited to celebrate the one year anniversary of the surgery that added years onto Cable's life.

"I am doing well now," said Cable. "I had a rough start from the surgery, I stayed in the



Pat Cable and Sheila Pitts recently celebrated the first anniversary of Cable's successful kidney transplant with Pitts as the donor. Both are well on the road to recovery.

hospital two weeks then came home on Christmas Eve last year. Each day I got a bit better, it took more than six months for the recovery process from all the medications to finally taper off. Recovery at home was better, I had my family to thank for that."

Life has been different for Cable since surgery.

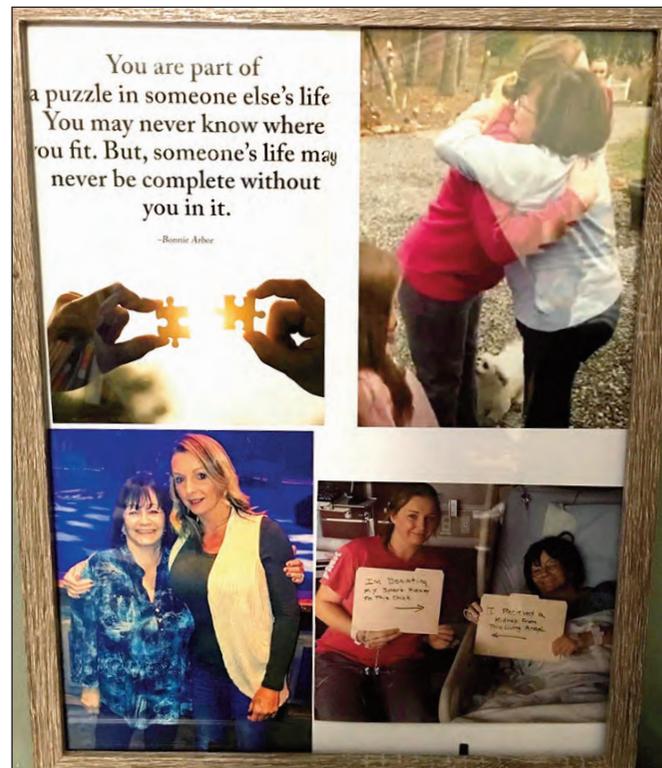
"I have to be careful from germs, colds, the flu etc. When I go to the hospital each month for labs, I have to always wear a mask," said Cable. "I have totally changed my diet, I don't eat as much as I should but I have gained weight but doctors say it's from the meds. I am going to try and get more

physical this year now that I am feeling a bit stronger."

Despite knowing she was able to avoid daily dialysis and she has bonus years to spend with her loved ones, Cable remains steadfast that the highlight of the surgery was connecting with Pitts.

"She has shown me that there are wonderful people out there that really do care about others," said Cable. "We have become friends and she is considered family to me. She is like one of my daughters and her children are like my grandchildren."

Cable and her new "family" celebrated the one year anniversary of the transplant on



Dec. 13, with Pitts' family, Cable's family and a few friends.

"I had a beautiful cake donated from Carolina Cake Company for the occasion," said Cable. "Sara (owner of Carolina Cake Company) was sweet enough to donate it and not charge me. It was important for us to have this celebration as a reminder of how life can be cut short from anyone at anytime. Learning all I could about kidney disease, donations, and the process it takes. I worked so hard for myself to 'be positive,' which is what blood type I am.

When Sheila saw this, she said that was her motto and she decided to get tested for me."

Pitts is also continuing her road to recovery.

"All is well on my end, this past year has flown by," said Pitts. "After surgery I was back to work after just a few weeks. Healing was pretty quick, it took a little longer to get my energy back but I feel better than ever now. I try to live a healthier lifestyle now than I did before surgery and have lost 60 pounds.

"Seeing Pat out enjoying life spending time with her grandkids and doing things she wasn't able to do when she was sick

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means the world to me to know that I was able to make a difference. I never in a million years thought about kidney donation until I came across Pat's story on Facebook, but seeing her plea to find a compatible donor pulled at every one of my heart strings. Something in me thought 'what if I could help her? What if I was in this situation and I was told I was going to die without getting a new kidney?' I would only hope and pray that someone would come forward to give me a second chance. I'm not going to lie, it was scary to think about having surgery taking a risk but the team at UNC in Chapel Hill where the surgery took place answered every question I had and was very informative of everything that would happen before, during, and after surgery. I recently had some lab work done for my yearly check up and everything looks great. The best part of all of this is the friendship that Pat and I share. She has become like a mother to me. My kids and I adore her and her family."

Cable said she hopes their story encourages others to get tested and brings awareness to organ donation.

"There are so many people in North Carolina alone waiting on a list for many years to receive a gift of life, from a live donor or a deceased donor," said Cable. "It is a sad thing for those that wait. So many young children, babies, adults and older adults that are on dialysis awaiting their chance. I happened to be a lucky one. I remained positive during this entire ordeal. I had so much going on in my life at that time, but I continued my journey. If

I could tell everyone one thing it would be to consider becoming a donor, a live donor as we only need one kidney to live."

With a fresh, new outlook on life, Cable said that she doesn't want to take anything for granted.

"I believe that I was given this chance to fulfill some other purpose," said Cable. "I am still trying to find that purpose, but each day I put one foot in front of the other, I spend lots of time with my grandchildren who I adore."

While it has been a year since the transplant, Cable said there is still more recovery she needs and some things she will have to do for the rest of her life.

"My family knows how hard it has been for me since coming home to recover," said Cable. "Taking the many transplant drugs that I take each day for the rest of my life, at first they were very hard on my system, but have finally calmed down, I don't have the shakes like I did, the memory loss was the worst as I would see people that I know and couldn't remember who they were. But it's getting better I am so very thankful to Sheila for her act of kindness and love. I hope that others that are in need of a kidney transplant know never to give up, that their day will come. Also I want to thank those that helped with my fundraiser ... before my operation. It helped with the cost of hotel stays, food, gas for myself and my donor and her family. Thank you for the support in my struggle from a few people that were there for me after my surgery."



Seniors celebrate 90-plus years

The Crawford Senior Services Center recently recognized all participants who celebrated a 90-plus birthday in 2019. Shown here are (seated, L-R) Lucille Green, Olga Bell, and Dorothy Crawford; (standing, L-R) are Nancy Brandon, Molly Gibney, Leroy Miller, Betty Dieckmann, George Moses, Joanna Morris and Pat Kendall. For information on services at the Crawford Senior Services Center, please call (828) 349-2058.



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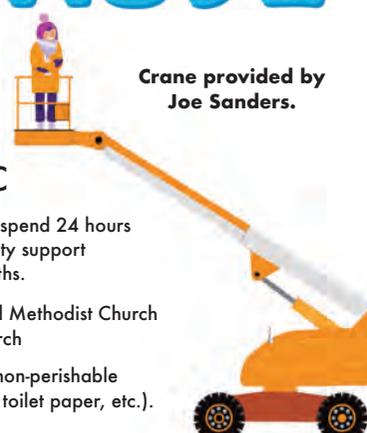
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Blind nonagenarian is still making music

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

A big smile, extended hand, and an offer to play his guitar and sing is commonplace for anyone visiting Frank Webb, who resides at Grandview Manor. Blind since birth, Webb moved there four years ago when he turned 90 to be closer to one of his daughters, Nancy Odom, and her husband, Buddy. His full life, lived mostly in Florida, has included work, marriage for 44 years to Norma Jean (who passed 12 years ago), and four children. Currently, his focus is on his music. If Webb is not in his room enjoying myriad tapes listened to in his tape player with headphones, he is playing his guitar and singing with Grandview Manor's personal care assistant for 18 years, David Woods.

"When he came in that first day with a guitar, I knew we would hit it off," said Woods.

"And we did. We hit it off right away. We like the same kind of music ... gospel, bluegrass, and country. And then he played and sang 'Truck Driving Man' for me. That was it."

Woods and Webb have been playing together ever since. Every Sunday, the duo plays and sings for residents at Grandview Manor, and then weekly, they drive to Franklin House to perform. Woods loads up their guitars in his car. "And Frank knows the way," he said, pointing out that Webb can identify where they are even though he cannot see. "Every time we go I ask him if he wants to drive. He says, 'Maybe next time.'"

Webb said he has always enjoyed music and learned to play the guitar in his late '70s or early '80s after a sister, Mary Ellen Webb, purchased a book on learning guitar. "She showed me where to put my fingers on the guitar she got for me. It was hard at first. You don't learn the guitar overnight. But I practiced and play by ear. I know how to play at least 50 songs." He also plays the harmonica.

Webb has never had a seeing-eye dog, but has used a guide stick to help him get around. He said where he lived in Florida he would walk everywhere. "I would go to the bus stop by myself and go all over the place. After I learned to play, I would go to the radio stations and talk to the announcers and perform for them."

He added, "I've been very content with being blind. It hasn't held me back. It's just the way the good Lord made me."

"He doesn't see color, but he knows it," explained Woods, who has learned much since meeting Webb about what is in-



David Woods (left) plays guitar and sings harmony with Frank Webb at Grandview Manor in Franklin, occasionally taking the show on the road and playing for the residents at Franklin House as well.

involved in living as a blind person. "When I first met him, I shut my eyes to try to feel what he feels. I couldn't. I admire his spirit so much."

Webb's daughter, Nancy Odom, commented: "What a blessing my Dad has been not only in my life, but in watching him touch others with his gift of music," commented Webb's daughter Nancy Odom. "Being blind all his life and the challenges he's had to endure ... yet he continues to keep a great attitude about life. He loves the Lord with all his heart and one day will be reunited with his loving wife (my mother)."

When they perform, Woods sings harmony and Webb sings lead. Their signature songs are Webb's favorites, "Truck Driving Man" as well as "House of Gold." Webb's deeply passionate voice is complemented by Woods' clear harmony.

"I had never played before with any resident, but I found a kindred spirit in Frank," said Woods, a Franklin native who has played throughout Macon County since he was 12 years old. Woods has been given permission by Webb's family to take him to other venues and they played together at Woods' family reunion. "Frank gets all the attention," he quips.

"I look forward to every time we play together," said Webb. "David and I have become good friends ... the guitar introduced us."

"I never thought I would live to be 94 and playing and singing," said Webb. "I have all the faculties that God gave me and I'm happy."



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PRE-OWNED VEHICLES

CARS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES	
2016	Chevrolet	Camaro	27,114	JUST IN!
1972	CHEVROLET	CORVETTE	97,171	CLASSIC!
2017	Chevrolet	Corvette	1,649	LOCAL TRADE!
2016	Chevrolet	Cruze	12,329	MANUAL!
2000	Chevrolet	Impala	183,000	JUST TRADED IN!
2015	Chevrolet	Spark	66,107	LOCAL TRADE!
2016	Dodge	Challenger	18,663	LOCAL TRADE!
1994	Ford	Crown Victoria	74,655	JUST TRADED IN!
2017	Ford	Focus RS	42,584	SOLD!
2013	Ford	Fusion	110,655	SOLD!
2015	Ford	Mustang	56,796	SOLD!
2007	Nissan	Altima	123,622	LOCAL TRADE!
2011	MINI	Cooper	91,698	LOCAL TRADE!
2017	Subaru	Forester	24,993	FRESH ON THE LOT!
2014	Subaru	Forester	95,516	SOLD!
2017	Subaru	Outback	36,193	JUST IN!
2014	Toyota	Camry	65,799	SOLD!
2018	Toyota	Camry	38,045	JUST IN!
2001	Toyota	Camry Solara	228,066	SOLD!
2018	Toyota	Corolla	46,172	FRESH ON THE LOT!

TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES	
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	1,303	LOCAL TRADE!
2012	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	116,631	LOCAL TRADE!
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	13,412	LOCAL TRADE!
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	29,732	LOCAL TRADE!
2017	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	40,014	LOCAL TRADE!
2016	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	51,106	LOCAL TRADE!
2011	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	111,595	LOCAL TRADE!
2006	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	210,299	LOCAL TRADE!
2002	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	266,707	LOCAL TRADE!
2016	Ford	F-150	54,310	LOCAL TRADE!
2009	Ford	F-150	134,186	SOLD
2015	Ford	F-250	77,117	SOLD
2015	GMC	Sierra 1500	54,289	SOLD
2017	GMC	Sierra 3500HD	147,376	FLAT BED!
2017	GMC	Canyon	30,106	DIESEL!
2019	Nissan	Frontier	35,665	JUST IN!
2015	RAM	1500	60,512	MUST SEE!
2017	RAM	2500	45,436	JUST IN!
2006	Ford	Ranger	175,980	SOLD

SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES	
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	25,106	PRICE REDUCED!
2014	Chevrolet	Equinox	82,313	LOCAL TRADE!
2006	Chevrolet	HHR	166,016	SOLD!
2017	Chevrolet	Suburban	43,424	SOLD!
2019	Chevrolet	Suburban	13,010	LOCAL TRADE!
2015	Chevrolet	Tahoe	122,019	PRICE REDUCED!
2015	Chevrolet	Tahoe	84,089	PRICE REDUCED!
2013	Chevrolet	Tahoe	136,908	PRICE REDUCED!
2016	Chevrolet	Tahoe	15,869	LOW MILES!
2016	Chevrolet	Tahoe	70,915	JUST IN!
2019	Chevrolet	Traverse	24,465	LOCAL TRADE!
2017	Chevrolet	Trax	57,819	LOCAL TRADE!
2014	Dodge	Durango	100,373	SOLD!
2017	Dodge	Journey	28,253	PRICE REDUCED!
2014	Ford	Escape	161,964	SOLD!
2018	Ford	Explorer	37,229	LOCAL TRADE!
2013	Ford	Explorer	167,270	SOLD!
2019	GMC	Acadia	13,433	PRICE REDUCED!
2014	Hyundai	Santa Fe	99,623	PRICE REDUCED!
2019	Hyundai	Santa Fe	31,168	JUST IN!
2018	Hyundai	Santa Fe Sport	39,451	FRESH ON THE LOT!
2014	Jeep	Cherokee	108,463	PRICE REDUCED!
2016	Jeep	Cherokee	70,872	LOCAL TRADE!
2007	Jeep	Wrangler	132,742	LOCAL TRADE! MANUAL!
2018	Jeep	Wrangler JK Unlimited	66,498	LOW MILES!
2013	Kia	Sorento	91,873	SOLD!
2017	Kia	Sportage	24,309	FRESH ON THE LOT!
2018	Mitsubishi	Outlander	35,408	THIRD ROW SEATING!
2019	Nissan	Pathfinder	6,873	MUST SEE!
2017	Nissan	Rogue	26,502	LOCAL TRADE!
2019	Toyota	Highlander	25,810	PRICE REDUCED!

MOTORCYCLES

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES	
2002	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ROAD KING	3,261	LOCAL TRADE!
2007	HARLEY DAVIDSON	SCREAMING EAGLE	20,600	LOCAL TRADE!
1997	HARLEY DAVIDSON	ULTRA CLASSIC	26,160	LOCAL TRADE!

BUS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES	
2006	Ford	E-450 Cutaway	79,793	PERFECT FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION! SEATS 25!

Recent home fires spark safety reminders from local officials

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

The threat of winter fires is real. While house fires can happen at anytime, the threat of residential fires in the winter months is significantly higher. According to the United States Fire Administration, 890 people die in winter home fires each year. And there is an estimated \$2 billion in property loss from winter home fires.

Winter home fires account for only 18 percent of the total number of fires in the U.S., but result in 30 percent of all fire deaths with cooking being the leading cause of all winter home fires.

A heat source too close to combustibles is the leading factor contributing to the start of a winter home fire (15 percent) with 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. being the most common time for winter home fires.

In the two weeks leading up to Christmas, Macon County fire-fighters responded to three significant home fires, which resulted in some local families losing everything.

In early December, a structure fire was reported on Nickajack Road and the Cullasaja Fire Department arrived at the scene around 2 a.m. According to Macon County Fire Marshal Jimmy Teem, the house was severely damaged from what appeared to have been a lightning strike.

The house, which was a total loss, had a tree in the backyard that appeared to have completely exploded about 30 yards from the house, which is an indication of a lightning strike.

Just a few days later on Wednesday, Dec. 18, the Macon County Fire Marshal's Office sent out a press release saying a mobile home in the Nantahala community was destroyed as a result of a fire.

Nantahala Fire and Rescue responded to the scene at 1001 U.S. Highway 19 around 7 p.m. and found the mobile home completely engulfed in flames. The two occupants of the home did not sustain any injuries, but the structure was entirely destroyed.

Just a few days following the Nantahala Fire, on a Sunday morning, a fire broke out at a home in Otto which resulted in significant damage. The fire was reported at 115 Marion Thomas Road in Otto and the fire department reported to the scene around 3 a.m. Sunday morning, along with the Clarks Chapel and West Macon Fire Departments.

According to Otto Fire and Rescue, the fire was believed to have originated from a wood stove. Three occupants were inside the home at the time, however, no injuries were reported.

Macon County Emergency Management Director Warren

FIRE SAFETY

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Every day at least one child dies in a home fire.

And every day, 293 children are injured by fire and burns.



Home fires account for nearly 90 percent of all fire-related fatalities.



Working smoke alarms reduce the chance of dying in a home fire by half.



77% of families have not developed and practiced a home fire escape plan, one of the most important components to surviving a home fire.



Fire can spread rapidly through a home, leaving a family as little as two minutes to escape safely once the alarm sounds.



HAVE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS.
PRACTICE AN ESCAPE PLAN.

SAFE KIDS WORLDWIDE

Cabe said that this time of year there is always an increase in residential fires, and homeowners should be more cautious.

"Home fires occur more in the winter months than any other time of year," said Cabe. "Residents should keep anything that can burn at least three feet from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood stoves, and space heaters."

Cabe offered additional advice for residents heading into the New Year.

"Maintain your heating equipment and chimneys and have them inspected by professionals," said Cabe. "Make sure space heaters have an automatic shut-off that shuts it off if it tips over. Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out. Make sure the home has working smoke detectors. Put ashes in a metal container with a lid, outside, at least three feet from your home."

"Now is as good of a time as any to sit down with your children and discuss what to do in the event of a fire in your home," said Safe Kids Macon County Coordinator Corporal Nick Lofthouse.

In 2013, 334 children died in home fires. Eighty-seven percent of all fire-related deaths are due to home fires, which spread rapidly and can leave families as little as two minutes to escape once an alarm sounds.

Top tips offered by Safe Kids Worldwide

Working smoke alarms reduce the chances of dying in a fire by nearly 50 percent. They are a critical first step for staying safe, but in order to be effective, they have to be working properly. For the best protection, install smoke alarms on every level of your home and in every sleeping area.

Teach kids never to play with matches and lighters. Make a habit of placing these items up and away from young children.

Create and practice a home fire escape plan with two ways out of every room in case of a fire. Get a stopwatch and time how fast your family can escape.

Children should know how to respond to the sound of a smoke alarm. Teach them to get low and get out when they hear it. A child who is coached properly ahead of time will have a better chance to be safe.

Use common sense in the kitchen. Limit distractions when cooking and don't leave a hot oven or stovetop unattended.

Blow out candles before you leave the room or before you go to sleep.

What will you do with your free time now that the holidays are over?



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N.C. continues work to assist people living with mental illness to find housing, services

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services submitted an annual report to the legislature on Nov. 1 highlighting significant progress in the Transition to Community Living Initiative (TCLI) to assist people with mental illness find housing and services in the community. A hallmark success of the program was a 27 percent increase in housed individuals over the prior year.

The initiative was created in 2012 as part of the settlement with U.S. Department of Justice in response to an allegation that individuals with serious mental illness were inappropriately served in adult care homes. The settlement also provides that people being discharged from state psychiatric hospitals should have greater opportunities to live and work in the community.

“The TCLI program is key to our Behavioral Health Strategic Plan released by the department in 2018 which aims to integrate care and increase the richness of our community levels of services,” said Kody H. Kinsley, Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. “Our vision is for all persons with disabilities to live, work and thrive in their communities to the fullest of their abilities.”

The annual report highlights several successes. On June 30, 2019, the initiative had a total of 2,114 participants in supportive housing, which exceeded last year’s total by 27 percent. These gains position NCDHHS to exceed its goal of assisting 3,000 TCLI participants to obtain supportive

housing in communities by the end of the settlement. Additionally, a new Referral, Screening and Verification Process (RSVP) tool was implemented for participants. RSVP removes a barrier to community integration by diverting people from settings that may be inappropriate for their needs. The tool also engages Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs) in providing vital, community-centered assistance. The adoption of RSVP helped increase diversions by 14 percent statewide.

On Oct. 26, the program’s independent reviewer released a separate review of the TCLI program. This report noted that the initiative met its annual housing requirement for the first time since 2014. The independent reviewer noted also that NCDHHS has provided leadership to improve the management, budgeting and oversight of the program. With the number of referrals to the TCLI program continuing to rise, the independent reviewer cited the need for continued improvements in services, discharge and transition planning, quality assurance and performance and underlined delays in pre-admission screening and diversion.

“Collaboration with LME/MCOs and the NC Housing Finance Agency has been key to our success,” said Sam Hedrick, TCLI Director and Senior Advisor on the Americans with Disabilities Act. “Our person-centered approach to service delivery and supportive housing program is assisting high-risk individuals to attain health, employment, education and well-being.”

North Carolina’s progress in achieving the goals of the TCLI settlement is measured in six areas: (1) supported housing; (2) pre-screening and diversion; (3) quality assurance and performance improvement; (4) supported employment; (5) discharge and transition planning; and (6) community mental health services.

The NCDHHS annual report assesses substantial progress in the first three of the six areas and acknowledges that significant effort continues under all six areas. This is a meaningful leap forward from the previous year’s annual report, which highlighted some improvements but none of the six areas with substantial progress. NCDHHS has until 2021 to achieve its goals in all six areas and is committed to building on present momentum and working with all its partners to do so.

TRAFFICKING Continued from page 1

September 2009, Tran served six years in the Department of Corrections before being released in July 2015.

Tran’s charges include speeding, possession of drug paraphernalia, felony possession with intent to sell and distribute cocaine, two counts felony trafficking opium or heroin, two counts felony trafficking in methamphetamine, felony possession with intent to manufacture, sell and distribute marijuana, felony possession of a scheduled I controlled substance, felony possession of a firearm by a felon, felony maintaining a vehicle of a controlled substance and other misdemeanor charges.

Tran was booked into the Macon County Detention Center on a \$600,000 bond and will appear in court Jan. 8.



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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

Your mayor isn't Santa Claus, but I've made a list and checked it twice. The town board will decide what is nice, not nice now, or never nice. It will soon be the budget planning season, so let me share what is on my list of budget items.

2020 will be a census year where governments will assess where the country, state and region stands and what plans and adjustments are ahead. Highlands needs to do the same. At the top of my list will be to fund a comprehensive plan for the future of Highlands. This process is long overdue. It will cost money because I believe we should hire a professional consulting firm that specializes in this kind of process to guide our Planning Board and other stakeholders through the process. The notion that we can do a comprehensive plan with in-house resources is not feasible to me. It is standard practice among dynamic municipalities to bring in outside, neutral professionals to advise the community through this arduous process.

At this point, I believe Highlands needs to step back and do a comprehensive plan that will put us in a strategic position to respond to impending change. With rapid changes in our society, especially those driven by technological innovations, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to precisely predict the future in the coming years. But, Highlands needs to have mechanisms in place to make good decisions in order to navigate these inevitable pressures and disruptions.

With that said, I do believe a comprehensive plan can and should help the community envision what we want Highlands to be in the future. It will not be a simple task, and it will take many months to complete the task.

I also want the town to invest in making Highlands more user friendly. It will be time for us to upgrade the town website. I would like to see more emphasis on putting day to day information on the site. For instance, if there is road work being done in a particular area, let's have a page where we can let folks know. I also want the website to be easier for residents to give feedback to their elected representatives.

I also hope we can start broadcasting our town board meetings on an open access TV channel.

With the new fiber network this effort should be possible.

I am also thinking about bringing back an old fashion method of getting community feedback by placing a suggestion box somewhere at town hall. My idea is to have postcard forms where folks can make suggestions. I believe in citizen confidentiality, but I would hope residents would provide their contact information so someone in town hall, probably the mayor, could acknowledge and respond to their suggestion.

So, these items are at the top of my new year list. I will share more items next week.

Letters to the Editor

United Parcel Service (UPS) was my dad

Many of you have seen me riding around in a UPS package car delivering parcels to you this Christmas season. I count it a privilege to once again represent the company that taught me many important life lessons.

I grew up in a dysfunctional home with an abusive father, with whom I never had a serious conversation. When, as a 17-year-old, I finally escaped to college, I still had many lessons to learn. With my paper route earnings, I was able to pay my first semester expenses. Beyond that, I would need money, so on the advice of a friend, who worked there as a pre-loader, I applied for a job at the UPS Des Moines, Iowa Hub.

UPS always hired lots of students from Faith Baptist Bible College. Still, it was a surprise when Gene Jackson called me a couple weeks later to offer me the job. I started as an unloader, making \$4.01/hour (more than double what my classmates got working on campus at minimum wage (about \$1.80/hour). We got out of classes at 11 a.m. and rushed to get lunch and make the 30-minute drive to work by noon start time. It was the perfect schedule for my freshman year. We often worked less than three hours, but were guaranteed three. By the end of each semester, my school bill was paid off.

But it wasn't easy. It was blistering hot in those trailers. I thought I might sweat to death! They encouraged us to take salt tablets and drink lots of water. My supervisor, Dan Damerville, was a frail, sickly looking man, who later, after a long absence, died of cancer. It was said that he rejected Christ because he had never seen a Christian who actually put into practice what he said he believed. I didn't realize he was watching closely and counting packages coming out of my trailer. He wrote me up for putting out less than the 1,000 packages/hour standard for unloaders.

It wasn't that I couldn't have done better: I just didn't think it was important. It was just a job to pay my school bill. After this happened twice, Duane Thornburg, the Hub Manager, called me up to his office. "Aren't you attending that Bible college up there in Ankeny?" "Ye-e-es," I said, already sensing where he was going with the conversation. "What are you studying for?" I said I wanted to be a minister. "Don't you think you will need to have the respect of the people around you to be a minister? The people you work with don't respect you because they know you're not giving 100 percent." Embarrassed and ashamed, I wanted to crawl under my chair. It hadn't gotten through to me that even my peers were watching me, and that it mattered whether or not I did my best on the job. One of the guys I car pooled with, Mr. Porter, a scrawny married student with a couple of kids to support, unloaded over 1,400 packages/hour. Always an athlete, I could easily have done that, or better.

After that awful experience, I was a different employee. I switched to the midnight sort my sophomore year, to accommodate my class schedule. Soon after, as a loader, our "blue belt" got taken out for steak and eggs for breakfast multiple times for having the fewest mis-sorts in a month. It was then that I realized that we were a team, and everyone was important. I never missed work, because I saw that when someone was gone, it made things harder for the rest of us. I took good care of myself, and followed the safe lifting techniques the supervisors taught us.

But it takes time to undo a bad reputation. When I graduated, I wanted to go on to graduate school in Grand Rapids, Mich. But when Stacy Fales, my supervisor, told me he would not recommend me for rehire, I said I wasn't quitting until that changed. A couple of weeks later, he came up to me and said he would recommend me, but that UPS had a policy against rehiring someone who moves to another state. I applied anyway, and was quickly rehired, along with another sorter, my classmate, who did the same thing.

My experience in Grand Rapids was much different. My supervisor, Jim Pediford, nick-named me "Steady Eddie." I was determined to be the best employee I could possibly be, and by the grace of God, by the time I quit there, my supervisor, Larry Dual, an older man, said I had become the best smalls sorter he had ever seen.

Just when I needed it, God provided UPS to serve as my surrogate father. I will forever be grateful to Him and to UPS.

Ed Hill – Franklin, N.C.

Who can trust Donald Trump?

Since the July 25, 2019, phone call from President Trump to President Zelensky we have heard a tale that is incredible. First-we have not even seen the actual call transcript. How can we reasonably decide what was said and meant merely by reading a draft rather than the actual words? Second-some have stated that Ukraine did not even know that the 391 million was on hold. So, that is how Donald Trump "deals" with a struggling ally in desperate need of military aid to hold off an invading world power? He doesn't even inform them of the hold on funds? Thus, no explanation. Why?

Are Americans expected to believe that Ukraine's leaders did not know? Are Ukrainians that inept? Are they that ignorant? I don't think so!

Were other countries withholding aid? Are we knowingly helping Russia with their invasion? Are we unknowingly helping Russia? What is the truth here?

Does President Zelensky trust Donald Trump? Does Vladimir Putin? Who can trust Donald Trump?

Dave Waldrop – Webster, N.C.

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Points to ponder for the New Year

The reason so many of us latch onto a conspiracy theory and never check facts is that some of us are unable to connect the dots with logical thought.

One of the reasons we learned algebra, calculus and other sciences in school was to teach us how to think logically. Many of us failed. This leads us to a propensity to follow conspiracy theories.

Which leads us to the question of equality for all. OK, one guy has an IQ of 70 and someone else an IQ of 140 which in turn asks the question of whether the lower IQ person should earn as much as the smatter fellow.

No doubt this has always been a source of hatred for many and for example while the Iranian IQ is barely 70 the average Jewish IQ is around 116. Jews are very smart folks right up there with the people of Hong Kong and Singapore.

The Left understands this problem and have used it to tear America apart, believing that if they can convert us to Socialism they can then apply an iron fist and force us into obedience. For a fact, I know of some Dems who believe that a dictatorship would be better for us.

Anyone with a brain and able to use it knows that the impeachment junk going on against President Trump is because the Left had hoped to convert our country into a Socialist regime. Trump has been our bulwark against a takeover by the Left and the swamp critters.

Anyone who knows history will tell you that Socialism works for a while when the government steals from the rich but must soon steal from the middle class and finally the poor. At that point, Socialism collapses and everyone suffers and the government owned industries cease operation.

In the meantime, we are dealing with some Dems who have inherited their wealth and had failed at everything they tried to do yet claim superiority over others.

Then we have the Hollywood types who simply because they played a hero or heroine in a movie believe they really do know what the rest of us need. Most are in reality pretty dumb but folks believe in them.

Just ask Kim Darby who had to visit psychiatrists because she kept playing parts years after her movies.

While all this is going on, the radical Left wants to shut down all of our carbon emitting industries including airlines and automobiles.

OK, there is some merit to this idea but wait a minute,

do gooder, when will someone suggest that perhaps China, India and other countries who continue to burn fossil fuels stop their shenanigans and help stop the world's pollution. We're already reduced our pollution by more than 75% but what about the other guys?

China's pollution grows worse every year and they have no intention of stopping soon.

I'm sure President Trump is aware of the problem but he feels it best to rebuild our economy and then take action to control carbon emissions. He does not favor America sacrificing itself first.

OK, we can just become one large farm and just grow food. Ah, but we forget that using organic methods for farming won't feed even 20 percent of our rapidly growing population. Obviously, we will need fertilizer to grow enough food for all and this means we will have to use half of our fossil fuels to do so. Yes, it takes lots of oil and coal to make fertilizer.

Anyway, the intelligent will get the point but most of the lower IQ folks will hate Jews, black Americans, successful people, cops, America and anyone else who can actually connect the dots of logic and reason.

So what do you want, Socialism which is dehumanizing and brings out the worst in us or freedom to be whatever you can be?

Bob Wilson – Franklin, N.C.

Talented bands made parade a fantastic event

Parades are a wonderful part of the Christmas holiday tradition. A Christmas parade with a band is even more special as was the case when the Highlands Christmas parade of Dec. 7 was honored to have two bands.

The immensely talented bands from Franklin High School and Rosman High School were premier attractions and a special treat for all those attending the parade. Their outstanding performance was certainly one of the highlights of the parade and greatly appreciated by the hundreds in attendance.

I want to offer my sincere thanks to each and every band member for their part in helping make the Highlands parade a fantastic community event.

Jack Calloway – Highlands, N.C.

Narcotics Anonymous offers hope for addiction

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) is a worldwide fellowship of people who desire to get, and stay clean from drugs. NA is a group of recovering addicts who follow a 12-step program patterned after Alcoholics Anonymous.

There are no dues, fees, or requirements for membership other than a desire to stop using drugs. NA is a spiritual but not a religious fellowship. NA is about more than attending meetings. It is about a new way of life. Nevertheless, meetings are the best place to start.

Schedule of local meetings:

– Attitudes Can Change Group - Mondays 7-8 p.m., and Fridays 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Presbyterian Church, 26 Church St., Franklin.

– Open Mind Group - Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-8 p.m., at Clayton Presbyterian Church, 150 N. Church St., Clayton, Ga.

– Not High Noon West Group - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 12-1 p.m., Sylva First Methodist Church (back entrance), 77 Jackson St., Sylva.

Find out more online at NA.org, or text a zip code to (855)227-6262 and receive a texted reply of all meetings near that location. To speak to a member, call the help line at (888)764-0365.

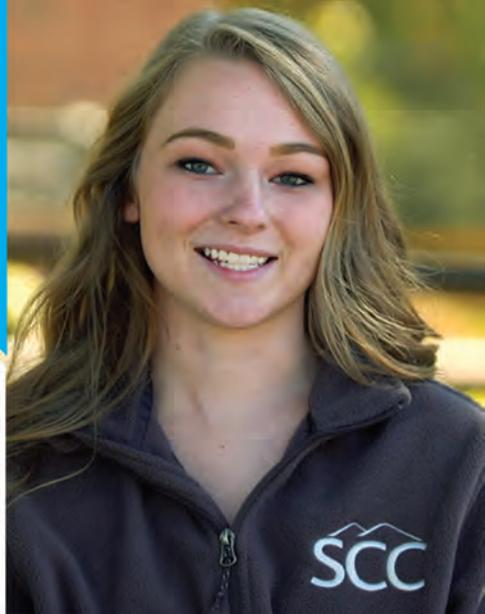
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County honors Gregory for years of service

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Public service is not for the faint of heart, but one Macon County man has dedicated a quarter-century of his life to doing just that.

Miles Gregory was honored during the December meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners after Gregory submitted his letter of resignation from the Macon County Airport Authority board, where he served as the chairman for more than 25 years.

Macon County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair Ronnie Beale, along with commissioners Paul Higdon and Gary Shields presented Gregory with a Michael Rogers landscape painting to show the county's appreciation for his years of leadership.

"Without him, we wouldn't have one of the nicest airports in this area," Beale said.

In addition to serving as chairman of the Airport Authority since its inception more than 25 years ago, Gregory also served as a county commissioner from 1978 to 1986; and served on the North Carolina Board of County Commissioners for six years, including a year as president of the organization. While serving for Macon County, Gregory was instrumental in the water and sewer expansion to the Industrial Park and the creation of the Emergency Management Services.

Gregory has been instrumental in implementing many improvements to the airport including the extension and widening of the runway, construction of a new terminal, security fencing and repaving of the taxiway. Gregory has worked for



Macon County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair Ronnie Beale shakes the hand of the retiring Miles Gregory. Gregory has served in many different capacities for Macon County, most recently as chair of the Macon County Airport Authority, where he served for more than 25 years.

50 years as a local realtor, and one of his successful visions was the creation of the Westgate Plaza. He also had a hand in recruiting Lowe's to Franklin and as well as developing First Citizen's Bank and two years ago, the new Westgate Terrace Apartments.

Gregory said it was an honor to serve with a board that worked well together and kept pushing through even when times were tough and funding was tight.

Area hospitals limit visitation due to seasonal flu outbreak

Due to high levels of respiratory viruses in the community, Harris Regional Hospital and Swain Community Hospital have implemented seasonal influenza precautions. Visitation restrictions will be in place during peak flu season, which generally lasts through the first of April, and the hospitals kindly asks that the following individuals do not visit during this time:

- Children under 12 years of age,
- Pregnant women, and
- People with chronic lung diseases.

In order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of its patients and to help prevent the spread of infection, the community is being asked to:

- Limit the number of visitors to three per patient.
- If you have flu-like symptoms, such as fever, cough or runny nose, please do not visit.
- Remember to wash your hands before entering and exiting a patient's room and after leaving the hospital.
- Patients who are in the hospital for tests or procedures and have a flu-like illness (fever over 100 degrees with cough or sore throat), should ask for a mask.

The best ways to protect against the flu are to:

- Get vaccinated. It is not too late to get a vaccination.
- Practice good health habits. Avoid close contact with others; stay home when sick; practice good hand hygiene; cover your nose and mouth with a tissue; and avoid touching your eyes or mouth.
- If prescribed by a physician, take flu antiviral drugs.

For more information about the flu and effective prevention methods, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>.

Select Bank and Trust purchases three local Entegra Bank branches

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

In early December, Entegra Bank and First Citizens Bank announced that before the Department of Justice would approve the two bank's merger, three local Entegra Bank branches would have to be sold. In a follow up announcement just before Christmas, the two entities announced that Select Bank and Trust would be purchasing the three branches which include the Highlands location, the Entegra branch located near the Holly Springs Plaza in Franklin, and the Sylva location.

Select Bank was founded in 2000 and operates in 18 locations in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

As part of the agreement, Select Bank will assume approximately \$180 million in deposits and will purchase approximately \$110 million in loans.

"Today's agreement with Select Bank represents a step forward in the merger with Entegra. Select Bank is known for its long-standing commitment to customer service. We'll work together to ensure a smooth transition," said Frank Holding, chairman and chief executive officer of First Citizens Bank.

"We're excited about extending our presence to these Western North Carolina communities and look forward to welcoming

our new customers and employees to our bank in the days ahead," said William L. "Bill" Hedgepeth II, president and chief executive officer of Select Bank.

"Select Bank shares the same values and philosophies of our two companies. We believe Select Bank will be a great fit for these customers and communities," said Roger Plemens, president and chief executive officer of Entegra Bank.

The transaction must first pass through state and federal regulatory approvals, and it is expected to close during the second quarter of 2020. It is also contingent upon the completion of the merger between Entegra and First Citizens Bank.

Once the merger of First Citizens Bank and Entegra Bank takes place, Entegra Bank offices will initially operate as Entegra Bank, a division of First Citizens Bank. Customer accounts at the 15 Entegra Bank locations will be converted to First Citizens Bank's systems and operations later in 2020.

Also, on the date of merger, First Citizens Bank will temporarily acquire the three local divested branches in the merger with Entegra Bank, but those accounts ultimately will not be converted to First Citizens Bank's systems. Select Bank will acquire and convert customer accounts at the three local divested Entegra Bank locations.



South Macon gets \$500 grant for Maker Space

South Macon Elementary School was the recipient of the 2019 Educational Alliance Grant from Exxon Mobil. Susie Norton and David Land of Exxon Mobil delivered the award on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Elin Harrell, a first grade student presented Allison Guynn, principal of South Macon with the grant check for \$500. South Macon will use the grant to fund expansion of their S.T.E.A.M Maker Space.

Anna Maria Bridal cuts ribbon at new shop

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed Anna Maria Bridal with a ribbon cutting celebration.

Anna Maria Bridal is located at 20 West Palmer Street, Franklin, and is owned by Connie Millsaps and Lacy Spence.

Anna Maria Bridal is a local bridal boutique in Franklin, that offers a personal experience. The shop has beautiful designer gowns, bridesmaid dresses and offer tuxedo rentals, as well. The staff strive to make every bride that comes through the door feel like the only bride in the world.

Anna Maria Bridal is open Tuesday through Friday noon to 5 p.m., and Saturday by appointment only. Walk-in appointments are welcome Tuesday through Friday.



Pictured at the ribbon cutting of Anna Maria Bridal is (L-R) Candy Presley, Chamber Board; Craig and Connie Millsaps and Lacy Spence, owners; Linda Harbuck, Chamber Executive Director and Cindy Cavender, Chamber director of membership.

For appointments call the shop at 828-369-8009 or through facebook and Instagram @annamariabridal.

Jack the Dipper Ice Cream Parlor Now in Franklin

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon cutting celebration to welcome Jack the Dipper Ice Cream Parlor to the Franklin business community.

Founded in 1976, Jack the Dipper is an ice-cream parlor that began in Cullowhee by the river and after some time moved to the present location in Sylva near the Quinn Theatres. The original family-owned business changed hands a few times and in March of 2019 Dana Smith and Mike Martone purchased the company.

The company specializes in providing more than 32 flavors of Hershey's ice-cream in its unique made-to-order warm waffle cones. Its Mission: "Jack the Dipper will provide its customers with a unique ice cream experience based on value, quality, and presentation of product, excellence in customer service and a clean fun and entertaining atmosphere."

Since March when Smith and Martone purchased the business with locations in Sylva and Waynesville, they have



Pictured at the recent ribbon cutting of Jack the Dipper Ice Cream Parlor located at The Factory are owners Dana Smith and Mike Martone, their staff, and Chamber board members.

added a location in Fletcher right off exit 44 on I-26 and most recently in Franklin in the Factory on Georgia Road. Stop by, welcome the team at Jack the Dipper to Franklin and enjoy some great ice cream.

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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 Dec. 3 - 30. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

December 17

Carmelita May Pike, 24, of Otto, was charged with failure to appear. A secured bond of \$6,000 was set. Troy L. Burt made the arrest.

December 19

Brandon J. Parrish, 20, of Franklin, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule III controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Juanita Marie Cleveland, 44, was charged with failure to appear. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Jesse Alexander Adler, 31, was charged with sex offender/child on premises. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Belinda Ann Clark, 46, was charged with financial card theft. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

December 20

Teresa Marie Roquemore, 40, was charged with failure to appear for felony harboring an escapee, resist a public officer. A secured bond of \$4,000 was set. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Miguel Angel Lopez-Hernandez, 27, was charged with assault on a child under 12. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set. Troy L. Burt made the arrest.

Amber Lynn Williamson, 33, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, larceny of a motor vehicle, larceny, injury to personal property, larceny, injury to personal property. A secured bond of \$7,000 was set. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

December 22

Jason Christian Watson, 41, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon, assault on a female. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

December 23

Austin Lee Connally, 33, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. No bond was set. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

December 24

Sandra Leah Ann Clark Turlington, 30, was charged with trespass of real property. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

December 27

Jamie Lee Young, 30, was charged with fugitive out of state felony. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

December 30

Ashley Marie Vasallo, 20, of Franklin, was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, failure to complete community service, notice to revoke unsupervised probation failure to pay \$550. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

December 17

Tonya Touvouli Lee, 54, of Old Barn Dr., was charged with failure to return rental property. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Officer Kirkland made the arrest.

December 19

Amber Rae Czerok, 27, of Locust Creek Rd., Sylva, was charged with drug/narcotic violations. No bond was set. Officer Evans made the arrest.

December 21

Amanda Joy Lomas, 35, of Watauga Rd., was charged with harboring a fugitive, resisting a public officer. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Officer Dula made the arrest.

December 22

Wesley Wayne Cochran, 45, of Fox Ridge Circle, was charged with criminal summons for failure to work after being paid, obtaining property by false pretense. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

December 25

Maria Eugenia Lozada Gomez, 29, of West Blvd., was charged with simple assault. Officer Beegle made the arrest.

December 28

Donald Ray Van Meter, 38, of Ridgecrest Heights, was charged with assault on a female, simple assault. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

December 3

Jason Leroy Paul, 25, of Long Branch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, possession of stolen goods/property. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Kristy Marianne Sheldon, 26, of Bryson Knob Rd., Franklin, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked not impaired, unsafe lane change. A secured bond of \$2,000.

Robert Allen Blocker, 62, of Scary Branch Rd., Bryson Rd., was charged with impeding traffic, resist, obstruct and delay. A secured bond of \$150 was set.

Layne Michael Kanash, 23, of Dillsboro Rd., was charged with failure to appear on operate a vehicle with no insurance and fictitious or altered tag. A secured bond of \$100 was set.

Anthony Travis Arrwood, 33, of Saint James Place, Cullowee, was charged with attempted larceny, injury to personal property, conspire to commit felony larceny, larceny of a motor vehicle, break or enter a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Zachary Martin Bombay, 25, of Blockhouse Rd., was charged with misdemeanor probation violation, civil contempt for child support. A secured bond of \$2,800 was set.

Julie Anne Smith, 52, of Holly Forest Lane, Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for possession/displayed/altered/fictitious/revoked driver's license, driving while license revoked not impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$750 was set.

Lacie Dawn Brewer, 40, of Andrews Rd., Almond, was charged with possession of a schedule I controlled substance,

possession of heroin. An unsecured bond of \$2,500 was set.

December 4

Dustin Ray Conrad, 26, of Josiah Dr., Waynesville, was charged with failure to appear for habitual felon, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of stolen motor vehicle, possession of a controlled substance on prison/jail premises, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Coy Robert Gunter, 28, of Sols Creek Church Rd., Tuckaseegee, was charged with failure to appear on communicating threats and simple assault. A secured bond of \$750 bond was set.

Mickael Gerad Murphy, 39, of Turtle Rock Lane, Tuckaseegee, was charged with failure to appear for speeding, driving while impaired. A secured bond of \$1,200 was set.

Marcus Brandon Cobaugh, 27, of Rockwood Rd., Canton, was charged with failure to dim headlamps, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession with intent to sell/deliver marijuana. No bond was set.

December 5

Lloyd Joshua Mitchell, 22, of Old Number 4 Rd., Cherokee, was charged with order for arrest for common law robbery. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

December 6

Michael Gene Blankenship, 65, of second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$100 was set.

Robert Larry Sawyer, 50, of Lazy Bear Ridge, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, felony larceny. An unsecured bond of \$3,000 was set.

Ashley Elizabeth Hooper, 32, of Sylva, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. An unsecured bond of \$1,000 was set.

December 7

Isaiah Thomas Frady, 25, of Paint Bucket Dr., Whittier, was charged with communicating threats, assault on a female. No bond was set.

Devon Ray Watson, 26, of East Sylva Circle, was charged with second degree trespass, misdemeanor larceny. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Jonathan Lee Edmonds, 34, of American Lane, Raven, Ga., was charged with fugitive warrant/failure to maintain lane, possession of drug related object, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

Barbara Heather Luker, 35, of Luker Branch Rd., Tuckaseegee, was charged with possession of controlled substance in jail, misdemeanor child abuse. A secured bond of \$2,200 was set.

Clarissa Anne Smith, 30, of Second St., Franklin, was charged with resist/obstruct/delay, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of schedule I controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine. No bond was set.

December 8

William Joseph Conner, 28, of Oak Hill Dr., was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked, domestic violence protective order violation, misdemeanor larceny, assault on a female. A secured bond of \$12,000 was set.

December 9

Janette Louise Millett, 44, of Larkspur Lane, Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$750 was set.

FHS band gets national attention performing at Sugar Bowl

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

The Franklin High School Marching Band travelled to Louisiana this week to perform during the halftime show of the Georgia Bulldogs vs. Baylor Bears football game. The 80-member band performed in front of thousands during the Sugar Bowl Parade, marching down the French Quarter in New Orleans. The Allstate Sugar Bowl New Year's Eve Parade was a Mardi Gras-style parade with floats, bands and more.

The Panthers were selected last March for the honor of performing in the Sugar Bowl parade, and have been fine-tuning their skills ever since. They were chosen from more than 700 bands in the country, classified 2A, and only nine bands were selected for this venue from across the country for a combination performance during halftime in front of 85,000 people. A 2A classification means that the band has between 80 – 120 students enrolled in that program.

“For any Bowl Game, directors across the country have to go through a series of audition materials and sending in videos, tapes, and judges comments from the past two or so years,” Franklin High School Band Director Buddy Huckabee said of the process last September. “You also have to send in pictures, audio, and video files of any extra things you do within the community like jazz band performances, parades, veteran’s celebrations, etc. Directors then can choose the bowl game for which they would like to be considered. After their audition committee goes through hundreds of audition packets and bands are selected for the bowl game (usually 10 per game) for the Sugar Bowl, Alamo Bowl, Gator Bowl, Citrus Bowl, Liberty Bowl, and Orange Bowl.”

In addition to the band performing in the parade, Franklin High School student



Franklin High School Marching Panther Regiment pose for a photo in front of the WWII museum in New Orleans, La., on a sight-seeing tour before their Sugar Bowl performance slated for New Year's Day. At right, the band racks up the awards at the Sugar Bowl Battle of the Bands with six first place trophies and the Jackson Square Best Band Award, the overall highest award a band can receive for the competition.

Travis Carpenter was selected for the Center Snare position for the mass band during the Sugar Bowl Performance, and was given the chance to start the entire production.

Ahead of the New Years Day performance at halftime at Mercedes-Benz Superdome, the Franklin High School Marching band racked up the awards for their performances at the Sugar Bowl Battle of the Bands including the the Jackson Square Best Band Award, the overall highest award a band can receive during the Sugar Bowl Battle of the Bands. The band also received six first place trophies for: General Effect, Music, Marching, Colorguard, DrumMajor, and Class A Band.

“This has by far been the best trip and highest honor I have ever achieved in the 23 years I have taught, and the 18 years at FHS,” raved Huckabee. “We have defi-

nately put our small town on the national map. A segment of our Franklin Band's French Quarter performance was recorded and selected to be used for the nationwide commercial on New Years Eve for Dick Clark /Ryan Seacrest's Rocking New Years Eve program! Seeing our kids on that national commercial brought tears to my eyes.

“We have all had the time of our lives! I want to personally thank all the parents and school board members for helping us get to this milestone. I also want to thank Mayor Bob Scott and the rest of the town and Veterans Groups and Women's Clubs that helped us fund this trip. The students, the chaperones, and everyone involved has really gone above and beyond to showcase our town and we are very proud to be able to honor them in this way. Thank you all and Happy New Year!”



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Franklin Lions Club's Santa Pal project helps more than 50 families



The Franklin Lions Club has been conducting the Santa Pal community project for well over 30 years. Each year Franklin Lions take children shopping for clothing and shoes. The day begins with breakfast courtesy of Franklin's Burger King. Then off for shopping and to top off the event, the group meets for a party and surprise visit from Santa. The club also gives gift cards for food for elderly and disabled persons in need. This year the club assisted nearly 50 families total. Lions Club members thank all who donate to the Franklin Lions Club to make this annual project possible.



Photos by Tony Angel



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Deaths & Funerals

Rev. Howard W. Southard

Rev. Howard W. Southard, at the age of 91, went home to be with Jesus on Friday, Dec. 27, 2019, after a brief period of declining health.

A native of Macon County, he was the son of the late Albert and Iola Henry Southard of Franklin, N.C. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Joyce Ramey Southard and a brother, Rev. Gene Southard.

He is survived by his daughter, Brenda Wooten and husband Bruce; and his son, Steven Southard and wife Cheryl, all of Franklin. He was loved and cherished by four grandchildren, Adrienne Wooten, Tiffany Hurst, Kayla Fenoglio and husband Taylor, Cody Southard and wife Whitney; and one great grandson, Jaydison Hurst of Franklin. He is also survived by his brother, Glenn Southard of Franklin and several nieces and nephews.

He was called by God to be a Baptist preacher at the age of 35, while working at General Motors in Doraville, Ga. He later returned to Franklin to begin his ministry of pastoring in several local churches which included Bible Baptist Church, Central Baptist Church and Victory Baptist Church. He was the founding pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church where he is currently a member. He had a radio broadcast, "The Gospel Light" which aired on WFSC on Sunday mornings for several years. His ministry has touched the lives of many people.

He enjoyed gardening, reading, hunting, fishing, the outdoors, and his pets.

Services were held Monday, Dec. 30, at Emmanuel Baptist Church with Rev. Lewis Smith, Rev. Bobby Cloer, and Rev. Richard Salmonson officiating. Burial was at Woodlawn Cemetery. Pallbearers were Rev. Lewis Smith, Rev. Bobby Cloer, Rev. Frank Rodriguez, Rev. Richard Salmonson, Rev. Rusty Wolfrey, and Rev. Albert Grey. Other ministers of Macon County were honorary pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations be made to Emmanuel Baptist Church, 129 Emmanuel Road, Franklin, NC 28734 or Victory Christian School, 278 Victory Church Road, Sylva, NC 28779.

He will be missed greatly. But we don't say goodbye, just so long, Pappaw, we will see you on the other side. We know that heaven is now sweeter because you are there! We Love You!

Mary Elizabeth Foster Chambliss

Mary Elizabeth Foster Chambliss, 91, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019.

Born in Carbon Hill, Ala., she was the daughter of the late Robert Lester Foster and Ida Williams Foster. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard R. Chambliss Sr. She retired after 30 years from C & C Drywall and was a member of Cowee Baptist Church, Franklin.

She is survived by her son, Leonard Chambliss, Jr (Teri) of Franklin; sister, Margaret McDonald of Birmingham, Ala.; four grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; nine great great grandchildren and two great great great grandchildren; and eight nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Four Seasons Hospice, 571 South Allen Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731. Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Rev. Howard W. Southard

Dale Edward Roy

Dale Edward Roy, 67, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019.

Born in Akron, Ohio, he was the son of the late Clarence and Mary Katherine Roy. He was a member of the Sons of the American Legion and the Auxiliary VFW, VVA Associate and worked at Macon Transit.

He is survived by Dolly Roy; two sons, Jared Roy of Port Charlotte, Fla., and Jason Roy of Florida; sister, Patti Simmons of Akron, Ohio; and a grandson, Jayden Roy.

No services are planned.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Florence Bates Stamey

Florence Bates Stamey, 87, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Monday, Dec. 23, 2019.

Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Jeanette Bates Guest. In addition to her mother, she was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Stamey. She was a member of Prentiss Church of God.

She is survived by two daughters, Diane Queen and Darlene Elkins (Herman) both of Franklin; grandchildren, Jackie Holland (Dewayne), Chris Queen, Carrie Elkins, Derald Queen (Crystal), Chelsie Devito (Levi) and Amy Queen; great grandchildren, Trey, Dustin, Gracie, Bethany, Brylee and Maizy; and close friends, Anne Hodges, Brenda Lee, Destiny Lee and Abigayle Stilwell.

Funeral service was held at Friday, Dec. 27, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. S.J. Waters officiated. Burial was in the Rush Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Billy Baylog, Trey Forster, Dustin Queen, Dewayne Holland, Levi Devito, Jamie Stamey and Derald Queen.

Memorial donations can be made to a charity of one's choice.

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



Florence Bates Stamey

Edyeth Horne Talley

Edyeth Horne Talley, 97, Franklin, N.C., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019. She was born June 23, 1922, in Hart County, Georgia, to the late Fred W. Horne and Arlie Herring Miller. She was a homemaker, she volunteered at the Old Angel Hospital, and was a member of the VFW#7399. She was also a member of South Macon Baptist Church. She enjoyed canning green beans, caring for her cats, and laughing with her many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Jack Talley; daughter, Barbara Ann Talley; sister, Dorothy Barker; two brothers, Theron Horne and Bill Miller; and two sisters-in-law, Phoebe S. Horne and Francis Miller.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews. A special thank you to friends Suzanne Watson and Kristi Worrel for the compassion and love that was given to Edyeth.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Dec. 31, at South Macon Baptist Church with Rev. Albert Grey and Rev. Lewis Smith officiating. Burial followed at the Clarks Chapel United Methodist Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the charity of your choice.

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



Edyeth Horne Talley

Grace Angel Poindexter

Grace Angel Poindexter, 91, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019.

Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Lex B. Angel and Candus Gibson Angel. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Cecil "Britches" Poindexter; two brothers, Lex and JD and a sister, Mildred Tyler. She was the oldest living member of Holly Springs Baptist Church. She enjoyed bird watching, reading, gardening, fishing, crocheting and ceramics.



Grace Angel Poindexter

She is survived by son, Eddie Poindexter (Angela Schewe) of Franklin; daughter, Celia Stancil (Walt) of Rabun Gap, Ga.; sister, Maude Breedlove of Bryson City; brother, Bob Angel of Franklin; three grandchildren, Cale Stancil, Lauren Poindexter Sizer and Kyle Poindexter; and two great grandchildren, Ashlyn Poindexter and Jasper Stancil.

Funeral service was held Monday, Dec. 23, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Cale Stancil, Rev. Bud Haire and Rev. Lewis Smith officiated. Burial was in the Holly Springs Baptist Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Frank Walker, Tebor Pazar, Leighton Bazemore, Brandon Higdon, Jim Green, Chris Jenkins, Tim Lee and Steve Hood. Honorary pallbearers were Bobby Peek and Brandon Peek.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Holly Springs Baptist Church Cemetery Fund.

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

Karen Ann Sauerwein

Karen Ann Sauerwein, 68, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019.

Born in Bay Shore, N.Y., she was the daughter of Walter and Mary Collins Kash. Karen was Catholic by faith.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by four children, Lisa Kash of Ocala, Fla., Wendy Hezinger of Glen Ellyn, Ill., Shannon Sauerwein of Lombard, Ill. and Heidi Kruger of Franklin; eight brothers and sisters, Walter Kash II of Ocala, Fla., Patrick Kash of West Islip, N.Y., Deborah Auer of Babylon, N.Y., Eileen Kash of Ocala, Fla., Daniel Kash of West Islip, N.Y., Darlene Morizzo of Center Moriches, N.Y., Mary Doreen Wildner of West Babylon, N.Y., and Thomas Kash of West Islip, N.Y.; 11 grandchildren, Matthew Kash, Colin Hezinger, Evan Hezinger, Shaelyn Hezinger, Tylor Giza, Andree Giza, Ethan Ortiz, Natalia Ortiz, TJ McHale, Justin Kruger and Bradyn Sauerwein; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Ocala, Fla. Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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



Karen Ann Sauerwein

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Deaths & Funerals

Carmen Helen Greene Jessup

Carmen Helen Greene Jessup, 85, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019. She was born Aug. 7, 1934, in Haywood County, North Carolina, to the late Clifford Wallace Greene and Myrtle Annabelle Wyatt Greene. She was a graduate of Western Carolina University with a degree in Chemistry. She retired after 30 years of service as a school teacher in Texas and Louisiana. She raised sheep in her younger years, knitted, worked in upholstery, and completed a crossword puzzle every morning with a pen.

She was also a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Franklin, N.C.

Survivors include her four children, Margaret J. Kinard of Shreveport, La., Joseph Charles Jessup of Whittier, N.C., Thomas Gregory Jessup of Vicenza, Italy, and Elizabeth Ann Henry (John R.) of Alexandria, Va.; four grandchildren, Daniel Kinard, D'Arcy Holland, Cameron Kinard, and Kaylan Jessup.

She was preceded in death by a grandson, Joseph Charles Jessup II.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Dec. 28, at St. John's Episcopal Church.

Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Jessup family.

Janie Marvin Ensley

Janie Marvin Ensley, 69, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019.

Born in Bradenton, Fla., she was the daughter of the late Frank Marvin and Marian Gaines Westcott. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Bucky Marvin; stepfather, James Laurance Westcott and a special dog, Petey. She was a member of First United Methodist Church, the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and volunteered for hospice.

She is survived by her husband of 13 years, Charles Eric Ensley; two daughters, Holly Hastings Lane (Bob) of Flat Rock, N.C., and Leigh Ann Hastings Lassausaie (Fred) of Easley, S.C.; special dog, Gracie and four grandchildren, Rachel, Noah, Gavin and Sarah.

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

The family will receive friends from 2 to 4 p.m., on Saturday, Jan. 4, at Macon Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Hospice House Foundation of WNC, PO Box 815, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Joyce B. Smith

Joyce B. Smith, 103, passed away Dec. 7, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob Smith. She was very active while in Franklin. She and Bob were instrumental in opening the first Friends of the Library Bookstore; a Honorary Lifetime member of the N.C. Republican Women's Club; and a former Regent in the N.C. DAR.

Surviving are a stepdaughter, Jensine Crossman (Buddy) Franklin; sister, Gwen Guilha, N. Canton, Ohio; Special niece, Jodi Boss, St. Mary's, Ga.; and two other nieces and a nephew.

No services were held.

Jill Holland Yeary

Jill Holland Yeary, 65, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019.

Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Ernest and Pauline "Scoot" Rowland Holland. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Judy Holland Haire. She was a Christian by faith and the much-loved daughter, sister, aunt and friend to many. She will be remembered for her smile and ability to bring joy to others.

She was a devoted mother to her son, Ernest Yeary of Franklin; two stepsons, Charles Yeary and James Yeary both of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; two brothers, Jimmy Holland and Perry (Marie) Holland both of Franklin and several special nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held Sunday, Dec. 29, at Woodlawn Cemetery. Rev. Greg Rogers officiated. A Celebration of her life was held following the graveside service at Pine Grove Baptist Church fellowship hall.

Pallbearers were Robby Holland, Chris Holland, Anthony Holland, John Tastinger II, Trey Woodard and Devan Sanders.

Memorial donations can be made to the Macon County Special Olympics North Carolina, C/O Jennifer Garrett, 1830 Lakeside Drive, Franklin, NC 28734.

Macon Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

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



Jill Holland Yeary

Laura Cascaddan Byrd

Laura Cascaddan Byrd, 87 of Greensboro, N.C., formerly of Franklin, N.C., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2019.

Born in Avon Township, Michigan, she was the daughter of the late Charlie William Cascaddan and Ethel Marie Judd Cascaddan. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Thad Byrd and a brother, Roger Dale Cascaddan.

She is survived by three children, Sheila Keiser (Scott Keiser) of Greensboro, Diana Lynn (Atwood Lynn) of Escondido, Calif., and William Wise of Canton, N.C.; two brothers, Morris Cascaddan and Gordon Cascaddan; six granddaughters and 13 great grandchildren.

A funeral service was held Saturday, Dec. 28, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Gary McCoy officiated. Burial was in the Woodlawn Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to American Cancer Society.

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



Nicholas James Quinif, M.D.

Nicholas James Quinif, M.D., 66, died at his home in Highlands, N.C., on Dec. 17, 2019, due to complications from metastatic melanoma.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, on April 15, 1953, he was the son of the late Richard Quinif and the late Patricia Casey.

A graduate of Case Western Reserve University and the Medical College of Georgia, Nick, as he was known by his friends, continued his medical training at Akron General Medical Center. A board-certified urologist, he practiced for six years in Greenville, Miss., before moving to Thomasville, Ga., where he practiced for the rest of his career. At Archbold Memorial Hospital, he was a revered member of the medical community, serving in a variety of leadership positions, including Chief-of-Staff. He was a deacon and long-time member of First Presbyterian Church of Thomasville.

Upon retirement, he and his wife moved full-time to Highlands, where they had maintained a vacation home for many years. In Highlands, he was a member of Cullasaja Club and Community Bible Church.

He was passionate about his patients and his family, above all, his devoted wife. He preferred to let his actions speak louder than his words and was an ideal role model for his family and community. In his free time, he loved golf, food, and wine (and travel that included all of the above). He was the consummate host and loved sharing his culinary gifts with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Alice McElhannon Quinif; sons, Brian (Kristine) Quinif of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Michael Quinif of Thomasville, Ga.; grandchildren, Kendall and Davis Brown and Gray Quinif; brothers, Terry, Kevin, and Eric Quinif; and step-mother, Lavelle Wisenbaker.

Funeral service was held Saturday, Dec. 21, in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home, Franklin, N.C. Rev. Jo Jo Thomas will officiate. Burial was at Highlands Memorial Park.

For memorial contributions, the family has designated New Life Ministries and The Cancer Research Institute.

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



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ACROSS

1. Imposing abode
6. ____ mode
9. Musical finale
13. Declares to be true
14. Bud or chum
15. Petroleum tanker
16. Relating to a gene
17. "La" precursor
18. Big Dipper shape
19. *Between Stone Age and Bronze Age
21. Concentration equalizing process
23. *E in BCE
24. Youngster
25. *The Romans built one at Bath's hot springs
28. Make like a cat
30. Mountain cover
35. Instinctive motive
37. "General Hospital," e.g.
39. Fresh Prince: "____ ya later!"
40. Lose coat
41. Upside down frown
43. Original thought
44. Not odds
46. Distinctive elegance
47. Feeling great delight
48. Mr. Selfridge's sphere of expertise
50. Green-eyed monster
52. *Early christogram Chi

53. In the back
55. Granola grain
57. *Italian city, Mount Vesuvius' victim
61. *Pharaoh's resting place
65. Tear-jerker
66. *The ____ Peoples, attackers of ancient Egypt
68. *Infamous Athens' legislator
69. Continental money
70. Lincoln lumber
71. Itsy-bitsy bits
72. Pre-Soviet Russian ruler
73. Opposite of WSW
74. *Per Aristotle, there are 3 categories of this

DOWN

1. Gaspar, Balthasar and Melchior
2. Affirm solemnly
3. Wag of a finger
4. Don't cast your pearls before it
5. Inner wall of a trench

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6. Altar holder
7. * ____ Tzu, ancient Chinese philosopher
8. Metallic mixture
9. Bye in Palermo
10. Auto pioneer
11. Kosher eatery
12. *One of Greek mythology's twelve Olympians
15. *Mesoamerica's earliest known civilization
20. One maxwell per square centimeter
22. ____, snowshoe, tube
24. Movie teaser
25. *Mesopotamia's earliest civilization
26. Establish validity
27. End of a shoelace
29. *Romulus' domain
31. Ruler of emirate
32. Mothball substitute

33. 1st letter of Hebrew alphabet
34. *Founder of first Academy in Athens
36. *Virgil wrote of this volcano in the "Aeneid"
38. Blueprint or outline
42. Diplomat on a mission
45. "The Odyssey" temptresses
49. Hula accessory
51. Jamaican gang member
54. Bridal path
56. Divination card
57. *Virgil or Homer
58. Cross to bear
59. Actress Sorvino
60. Standard's partner
61. One side of a leaf
62. *Euclid's sphere of expertise, for short
63. International Civil Aviation Org.

64. Take a nap
67. Long, long time

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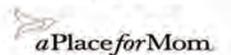
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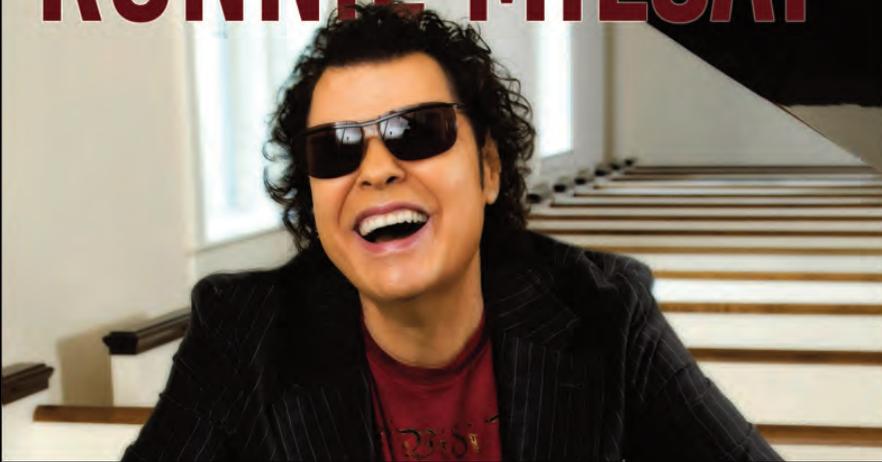
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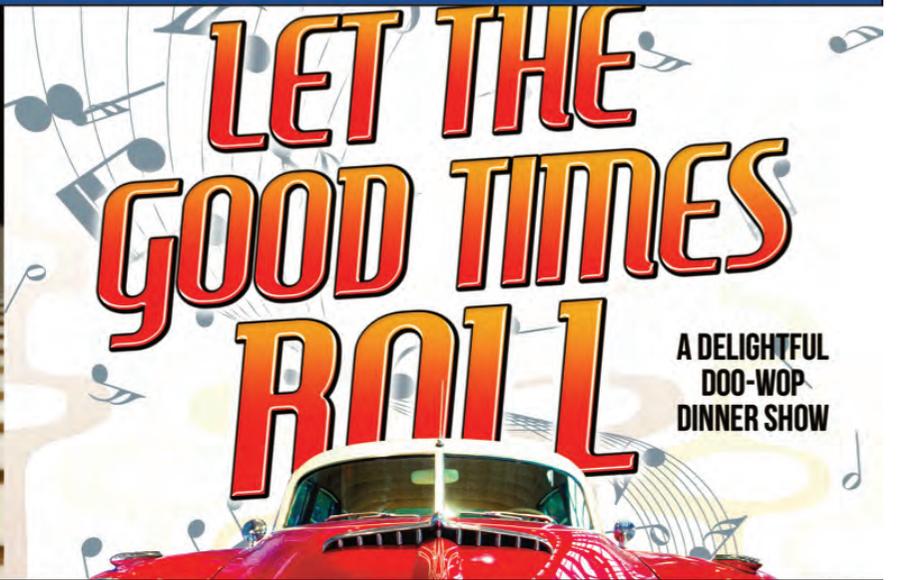
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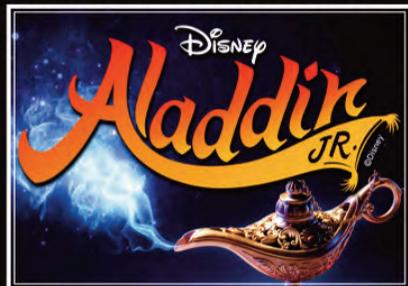
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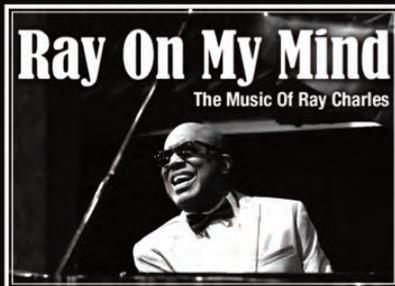


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