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See page 6 for more info

January 23, 2020 • 24 Pages

Volume 37 Number 35

FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Michelle Toleno performs an interpretive dance at the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration Sunday at the First United Methodist Church. The mostly musical program featured beloved spirituals, freedom songs and gospel tunes. Rev. Mozart Moliere read Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" and Victoria Moffitt presented Dr. King's Principles of Nonviolence. Also featured was the debut of the Women's History Trail tribute to local African-American Community matriarch Mrs. Matt Ray, known as "Aunt Nan," written by Barbara McRae and performed by Henrietta Haithcock. For more photos, see page 12.

Photo by Vickie Carpenter

Danny Antoine named 2019 Citizen of the Year

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Awards and Installation Banquet on Thursday, Jan. 16, at The Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Following a dinner prepared by Rockin Rollie Pollie's the following awards were presented.

Danny Antoine was honored with the prestigious Citizen of the Year Award. Antoine is a martial arts instructor whose self-proclaimed mission is to live a selfless lifestyle. "Live for what you can give and not what you can get," he says. He has mentored, tutored and been a friend to countless individuals through his fitness academy. He has been called a father to a fatherless generation, teaching respect for authority and manners and even going to school to help students who are having a hard day, and so much more. He and his wife Mary have adopted more than a dozen children over the years, and have opened their home to numerous others.

Habitat volunteer and veteran Laurel Klonkowski received



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Danny Antoine and his wife Mary Antoine

Photo by Eric Haggart

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Pictured are Citizen of the Year Danny Antoine, his wife Mary and some of the children they have mentored, taught and adopted over the years.

Photos by Eric Haggart

CHAMBER AWARDS

Continued from page 1

the Duke Citizenship & Service Award. Klunkowski became a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity in 2013, and has served on the board of directors and has served two terms as president. Klunkowski has built new homes and rehabbed many more for deserving families. He works side by side with other volunteers with a positive attitude, good humor and humility. "Our community is blessed to have people like Laurel who humbly work everyday to make better the lives of others. I hope that by recognizing him, others will be inspired to do the same," reads his nomination letter.

Appalachian Animal Rescue was named Club or Organization of the Year. The club was nominated by the chamber board.

J & B Disposal received the Chamber Member of the Year Award, who were also nominated by the chamber board.

Entegra Bank received a Legacy Award with sincere appreciation for outstanding service in Macon County since 1922.

Charley Inabinet won the Youth Citizenship Award. Inabinet is involved in her school, her church and her community. She is the student body president at Franklin High School with a 4.03 GPA,

and a member of the National Honor Society. She participates in her church youth group as a part of the 30-Hour Famine, Operation Christmas Child, Stop Hunger Now, mission trips, Greenway cleanup and more. She is a leader and liaison for the Noon Day Rotary and was chosen to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy. As the president of the Rotary Interact Club at FHS, she has been involved in many fundraisers such as a winter clothing drive, a can drive, and polio fundraisers. Last year she started the first Powerpuff Football charity event and this year, the second event raised more than \$3,500 for "Feed the Children."

The Franklin Chamber Board of Directors was also recognized including current, new and outgoing board members. The 2019 Chamber President Curtis Dowdle was presented a plaque by incoming President Candy Presley for his efforts during the past year.

The chamber expressed appreciation to those who attended the sold out banquet. A special thank you to the LBJ's Culinary Department and volunteers from the SMCPA for the great job they did in serving this year's meal.



Laurel Klunkowski (L) was given the Duke Citizenship and Service award. Rick Westerman (R) and Lisa Leatherman with Duke Energy presented the award.



Chamber president Curtis Dowdle presents the Legacy Award to Entegra Bank president Roger Plemens for years of service in Macon County.



Charley Inabinet was given the Youth Citizenship Award for her involvement in school, church and community. Photo by B. Gooder

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Thursday morning fire damages Griffin Lane. residence

Cullasaja Gorge Fire and Rescue responded to a structure fire involving a single wide mobile home located at 87 Griffin Lane last Thursday morning around 9:30 a.m. The fire originated in the kitchen area causing major damage to the residence. No one was home at the time of the fire. Cullasaja Gorge Fire and Rescue was assisted by Franklin and Clarks Chapel Fire and Rescue Departments, and Macon County Fire Services. The American Red Cross was contacted to provide assistance to the resident. (submitted by Macon County Fire Marshal Jimmy Teem) Photos by Vickie Carpenter



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\$30K left in community funding pool; BOC to accept second round of applications

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

For the first time in the history of the Macon County Community Funding Pool, the county did not receive more applications than funds available. With money remaining in the funding pool budget, commissioners decided to open a second round of applications to allow additional organizations to apply.

Macon County Board of Commissioners (BOC) allocate \$75,000 a year for the community funding pool, which provides grants to local nonprofits. While the town of Franklin voted to eliminate their grants for nonprofits, county commissioners voted a few years ago to increase the budget to address a growing need in the community.

In past years, the community funding pool received on average 15 applications from area nonprofits, however this year, only nine organizations applied. While opening the grant application process to allow time for more organizations to apply, the Community Funding Task Force, which is comprised of 10 community members, submitted nominations to commissioners to approve.

Both KIDS Place and REACH of Macon County applied for \$10,000, the maximum amount allowed, and were granted such. The Community Care Clinic of Highlands/Cashiers requested \$10,000, however, the task force recommended that the organization be awarded \$7,416, which commissioners approved.

Hospice House Foundation was awarded a grant for \$4,486; Read2Me received \$4,263; the Arts Council of Macon County received \$3,722; the Literacy Council of Highlands received \$3,461; and the Bascom Corporation received a grant for \$366.

The grants awarded amounted to \$43,714 leaving just over \$30,000 to be awarded during the next phase of applications. Applicants for the second phase of funding will be considered for approval by the commissioners during their March meeting.

Application forms and instructions are available on the Macon County website, www.maconnc.org. Hard copies may be made obtained at Macon County Public Library on Siler Farm Road in Franklin, the Hudson Library on Main Street in Highlands, and the Nantahala Public Library on Nantahala School Road. Call ahead to make sure a copy will be ready for pickup.

Organizations applying for community funding pool funds must provide financial statements such as budgets and federal tax-exempt reports, organization goals and objectives, and program/service descriptions. First-time applicants must contact Karen Wallace, (828)524-3600, or Bobbie Contino, (828)342-7872, to discuss their proposal.

Groups not incorporated as nonprofits may enlist an established nonprofit to serve as their fiscal agent. Collaborative agency proposals are encouraged to leverage limited funding and to share resources.

The Community Funding Pool was established to help the Macon County Board of Commissioners allocate tax-generated funds to local nonprofits in a fair and efficient way. The CFP Task Force is comprised of citizens chosen by the commissioners to consider applications and make recommendations to the board, who make final funding decisions. The Community Funding Pool is a separate entity from the Macon County Community Foundation. For information contact Community Funding Pool secretary Bobbie Contino at (828) 524-2787.

Applications for Golden LEAF Scholarship are due by March 1

Golden LEAF Scholarship information and applications for 2020-21 are now available at CFNC.org/goldenleaf. A total of 215 awards will be offered to first-time recipients from qualifying counties for the 2020-21 academic year. Applications are due March 1, 2020.

The awards are valued at \$12,000 (\$3,000 per year for up to four years) for high school students attending a participating North Carolina college or university. Community college transfer students can receive \$3,000 per year for up to three years.

Recipients are selected based upon multiple factors including the ability to effectively communicate a desire to return after graduation to a rural North Carolina county that is economically distressed. Applicants must be a high school senior enrolling full-time as a first-year student or a currently enrolled community college transfer student enrolling full-time at any participating North Carolina college or university in the fall of 2020; have a GPA of no less than 3.0; demonstrate financial need as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); be a resident of a rural county that is economically distressed and/or tobacco dependent. Click here for the full list of eligible counties.

“For 20 years, the Golden LEAF Scholarship Program has assisted rural students by providing the funding needed for a quality education to prepare them to enter the workforce,” said Scott T. Hamilton, Golden LEAF President, Chief Executive Officer. “There is truly no better investment in rural communities than creating a future generation of skilled, educated workers to come back home to live, work and raise families.”

The scholarship program is funded through a Golden LEAF grant to the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority, which administers the program. A complete list of program requirements, participating campuses and qualifying counties can be viewed at CFNC.org/goldenleaf. Contact the College Foundation of North Carolina toll-free at 866-866-CFNC, for more information.

Scholarship recipients also may apply for the Golden LEAF Scholars Leadership Program. This program, offered through the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, NC, provides leadership-building seminars, a summer internship and a stipend.

Students completing all four years of the leadership program can receive up to \$8,830 in stipends in addition to the Golden LEAF Scholarship award.

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Commissioner candidates talk issues ahead of March 3 primary

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

This is the first in a series of candidate profiles ahead of the March 3 Primary Election. Democratic candidates for District II will be in next Thursday's Macon County News.

The March 3 Primary, which will decide which candidates will appear on the November ballot is less than 50 days away. The Macon County Board of Commissioners District II seat is vacant, which prompted five candidates – three Republicans and two Democrats – to file for office.

The three Republicans, Terry Bradley, Bryan Rauers, and Josh Young, are all newcomers to the political scene, but have strong roots in Macon County's civic and business communities.

Terry Bradley is a life-long resident of Macon County and currently lives in the Clarks Chapel Community. Spending the better part of his life as a public servant, Bradley is a member of the First Baptist Church and a member of Junaluskee Lodge #145.

Bradley has 38 years of law enforcement experience, 18 of which was as Chief of Police of Franklin. He completed the rigorous North Carolina Justice Academy's Management Development Program and he went on to manage not only employees, but also municipal taxpayer-funded budgets. Bradley has been a volunteer of Cullasaja Gorge Fire and Rescue and served as one of the Board of Directors of the department.

"I would like to continue my legacy of public service as a Macon County Commissioner utilizing my experiences to help guide the decisions that will be made by the Board of Commissioners to benefit the residents and visitors of our community," said Bradley.

Bryan Rauers grew up in Charleston, S.C., and after graduating from the University of South Carolina, he moved to Atlanta, Ga., to start his career in the automotive industry. Rauers moved to Franklin in 2002 after purchasing the Franklin Ford dealership. Rauers and Kerry, his wife of 17 years, have two children and have lived in Macon County for nearly two decades.

Rauers worked for Boomershine Automotive Group in Atlanta from 1992-1999 becoming a General Manager of one of their dealerships. He then worked for Hennessy Automotive Group in Atlanta from 1999-2002 as the General Manager of

Land Rover Buckhead and then bought the Ford dealership in Franklin in 2002 along with his brother and stepfather.

"Living and having a business in Macon County for the past 17 years and having both of my children in the Macon County public school system makes me vested in this community," said Rauers. "This gives me every reason to see Macon County succeed. For these reasons, I would like to make a difference in Macon County."

Joshua Young is a 5th Generation Maconian and has been married to his high school sweetheart for almost 12 years and together they have five children. Young supported his wife while she earned her nursing degree and she has been home with their young children. Young was taught how to work at a

curricular activities such as working as a team in the Lineman's Rodeo and being a member of the new employee hiring process in Charlotte, N.C. Young has specialized in N.C. real estate for the past 12 years in which he has moved dozens of properties and gained invaluable experience managing a budget. Young is the owner and operator of Young Tree Services, Inc., specializing in Removing Trees with low or no ground impact and the use of heavy machinery.

"I have no experience in running for public office, but what I do have is a passion to be a part of a solution," said Young. "I could sit back and complain about what is or isn't being done or put my name out there like the other candidates have done and show that I am willing to step up. I would be honored to serve

my community and I would ensure that the tax dollars are spent wisely. I would fight to keep our taxes low and strive to be transparent in everything I do. I want to be a County Commissioner to represent the people of Macon County. I am not a politician. I am a tax paying citizen of Macon County. I work with my hands for a living and likely will show up to many meetings with my dirty work boots. This is a very important position in Macon County. I hope to bring an unbiased, independent mindset and a new energy to the Board of Commissioners. I am prepared to make tough business-minded decisions to represent the tax payers of this county."

What do you see as being the biggest issue facing Macon County and how would you address it if elected?

Bradley: "I think that there is more than one critical issue facing Macon County, continued economic stability and growth, job options for new graduates, health care availability, accessible reliable broadband accessibility, are some of the major issues we are faced with. I will approach each issue with an unbiased evaluation based upon what brings the most value to the citizens of Macon County."

Rauers: "Broadband for our county is a very large issue. It is imperative we have good broadband for new business and business growth. I have spoken with current county commissioners



Terry Bradley



Josh Young



Bryan Rauers

young age on his family's Christmas tree farm and according to him, that work ethic has molded him into the person he is today. Young spent eight years as a lineman for Duke Energy before he stepped away in pursuit of the American Dream. He started Young Tree Service in May of 2015. Young is very active in the community, serving on many youth athletic boards as well as coaching numerous youth football, baseball, softball and basketball teams. He enjoys the outdoors, spending time with family and cooking.

Young's professional experiences includes his eight-year career at Duke Energy in which he was involved in many extra

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as well as Rep. Kevin Corbin and Senator Jim Davis about this issue. The county commissioners are working diligently on this topic now but it is very complex. Our demographic area makes it hard and very costly to install the fiber. This leaves the companies installing the fiber with no profit margin. If elected I would work with our state representatives hoping for state and federal assistance."

Young: "As an employer, employees are our greatest assets. I feel one of the largest issues facing Macon County are the county employee wages. I have been in contact with dozens of county employees and realize that we are losing key players in our county government weekly. The private sector pay far exceeds the county pay rate. The answer is not to "raise taxes" but instead trim some fat out of other areas of our budget and compensate our greatest assets."

Public Education: Commissioners are faced with more and more requests for public education funding. What is your stance on county's role in funding public education? Do you think the current levels are adequate or do you think they should be increased/decreased?

Bradley: "I think it is very important to support public education and there is increased budget pressure placed on Macon County due to increases in school population and unfunded mandates from State and Federal programs. One of the main issues currently facing Macon County will be the future replacement or renovation of the Franklin High School facilities. We also need to continue to evaluate local supplements for teacher pay and support staff in order to retain our investment in these resources."

Rauers: "This is a very complicated question because of the way public education is funded in Macon County. That being said I am pro-education. First and foremost, education for our children should be our #1 priority. If we want Macon County to be better in the next 20 years, we better invest in our children. We need to make sure our school facilities are not only up to date but safe. We also have to make sure our teachers' pay stays competitive so that we can continue to keep great teachers in our school system. From what I have been able to find out our county does stand behind our schools and should continue. I would have to say the schools are in need of more money for many projects. It is very important for Macon County to invest in our children, school facilities, and our teachers. Simply put, better education results in fewer drug-related issues, less crime, and a better economy."

Young: "Our youth is our next generation. It is imperative that our kids get the education they deserve. I feel the problem is at the state level. There is no reason our teachers should be buying materials out of their own pocket. As your commissioner

I want to petition the state for more money. I will go to work for this county and petition Raleigh for what we need."

Macon County is in the middle of a large space needs analysis project to address infrastructure needs. What are your thoughts on the current direction the county is taking to address these issues?

Bradley: "The final report is complete and it can be found at www.maconnc.org," said Bradley. "There are concerns being raised about courthouse security, inmate population, and other departments having growth issues. If elected I would work to find workable solutions that are economically viable and financially sustainable."

"First, let me say I applaud the county manager and the county commissioners for hiring an outside firm to perform a space and needs analysis. The county manager and commissioners should review not only the findings of the analysis but also the county's internal findings. I would then prioritize what we feel has to be done immediately and what can be done at a later date. After you prioritize, funding would have to be figured out. I believe the county is handling this issue the way they should."

Young: "The answer isn't always to build a brand new building. Macon County is overrun with empty space. The old Walmart is a ghost town, K-Mart plaza is bare, several vacancies along 441. Yes, we need more room in our county infrastructure but look at all the available space. I want to do all I can to support local infrastructure and create a pro-business atmosphere. I am thankful for the businesses and restaurants but we need more. This is a huge reason I decided to run for office. The commissioners wisely requested the space needs analysis and once the study has concluded I would be a fiscally responsible representative of our tax dollars."

Any other issues or information that you would like to include for your voters.

Bradley: "There may be issues that I am unaware of and I will work diligently to address any of these issues."

Rauers: "I am honored to be running for Macon County Commissioner. My time in Macon County and my business experience will help me make the correct decisions for the people of this county. The questions have included a couple of my platform points but here are some others:

- Pro Law Enforcement
- Pro Emergency Personnel
- Pro Business
- Continue the fight on our drug epidemic
- Make sure Macon County has long term vision."

Young: "I am excited to have the opportunity to serve the taxpayers of Macon County. I love this community and I'm thankful to call it my home."

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Barrel racer Annie Jenkins heading to World Finals in February

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

No one in Annie Jenkins family nor any of her friends aspired to become a competitive equestrian. Yet, when Jenkins watched barrel racing for the first time when she was 10 years old, she became so hooked that she saddled her mixed-breed horse and practiced running around hay bales in her neighbor's hay field. Fast forward to age 32, and Jenkins practices three to five days a week to ready herself and her horse for the Feb. 6-9, 2020 World Barrel Racing League Finals, for which she is the only known qualifier from Macon County.

Franklin native Jenkins, a part-time assistant at Macon Program for Progress, began competing at age 12. However, she became "serious," entering major competitions, just two years ago. "I decided this is what I wanted to do the rest of my life."

She qualified for the World Finals, to be held in Perry, Ga., by entering several top "races" throughout the year. "You have to earn so many points. If you earn so many, you qualify for higher divisions." Even though she was not able to compete to earn points for as many months that are available in the qualifying season, due to her horse's need to recover from an injury and a hoof issue, she still had enough points to learn in November that she



An average time for Annie Jenkins and her horse, "Fame," to complete the tri-barrel, cloverleaf pattern and cross the finish line is 15 to 15.5 seconds.

was a World Finals qualifier and will compete against hundreds of global competitors for four days next month.

International Barrel Racing Association describes the timed equestrian sport of barrel racing this way: "The course consists of barrels placed in a triangle in the middle of an arena. The rider races into the arena with the timer starting when the team crosses the start

line, and ends after completing the cloverleaf pattern and racing to cross the finish line."

Jenkins said the time to complete the course and cross the finish line varies from rider to rider. She started out at an average time of 17 to 18 seconds, but was able to "shave off" at least three seconds of her time through mentored training and rigorous practice. "My average time now is 15 to 15-and-a-half seconds," she said. "It doesn't matter if it's raining, sleeting, snowing, whatever. I take my horse to the covered arena [in Clayton, Ga.] and work him."

Jenkins purchased "Fame and Fortune" (Fame for short) as a two year old. She started him in barrel racing when he was 4 years old; he is currently 6. However, her horse is not what the barrel racing culture would have deemed a potential champion.

"He's pigeon-toed, so keeping his feet

sound has been blood, sweat, and tears. When I found him, I was really going to look at a different horse. I saw him in his stall and he looked awful. He was 600 pounds underweight. But he put his head up against my stomach. I didn't even look at the horse I went to look at. After a few months, he started getting weight on him. And I put him on a special hoof supplement, he wears horse shoes, and he has a good farrier." Fame also did not cost much, compared to the cost of many champion-bred barrel racing horses.

Although she has owned other horses, she has bonded most with Fame. And Jenkins is so committed to her sport that she has even ridden with a broken hand and wrist.

She said she plans to continue competing indefinitely as a barrel racer. She has met women competing in their 60s and 70s.

"Generally you want to be out on the road competing in your teens," she explained, "but I grew up poor and it wasn't possible until a few years ago.

The entry fees, all the maintenance of the horse, clothing, travel ... it's all pretty expensive. But I love it for the speed, the adrenaline rush. When I'm racing, I'm going about 35 miles an hour, and then stopping and starting."

Jenkins admitted she also likes to "look at all the pretty horses" at barrel racing events.

With serious competitions comes serious money.

"My ultimate goal would be to make money from it and be on the road barrel racing all the time. I love it and my horse loves it."

According to Jenkins, the World Barrel Racing World Finals will attract competitors from as far away as Argentina and Canada, and cash prizes, horse trailers, saddles, belt buckles, and more will be awarded to riders with the fastest times.

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Annie Jenkins practices four to five days each week to ready her horse, Fame, for the upcoming Feb. 6-9 2020 World Barrel Racing League Finals, for which she qualified.

"I will race once each day ... four times. Competitors run every day and judges combine all the times on the 8th and the top 12 in each division go back for the finals on the 9th.

"I'm nervous ... terrified, but I hide it well and I trust my horse. He acted professional before he really was. He gives me 120 percent. Even when I've been sick, he picks up the slack."

Assisting Jenkins Feb. 6-9 will be her fiancée Daniel Dills.

"He has been with me through this. He doesn't ride, but he's best the groomer I've ever had. He can make my horse shine like a copper penny."

No matter the outcome at the World Barrel Racing League Finals, Jenkins said she will continue focusing on the equestrian sport.

She occasionally will purchase young horses and train them to either sell or keep as a future competitor. But a goal is to "work regularly with and teach children how to barrel race and do other show events. I'd like to take them under my wing and haul them to shows."

She added, "Barrel racing has come far. I want to reach out to kids and give them information and opportunities I didn't have. Barrel racing teaches kids responsibility, money management, and care for the horse ..."

A March of Dimes barrel racing competition in Clayton, Ga., April 11 at the Rabun Arena, will showcase Jenkins' barrel racing skills for those interested in seeing her compete locally.

Rule change allows More NC children to receive sealants and avoid cavities

The North Carolina Oral Health Collaborative (NCOHC), a program of the Foundation for Health Leadership & Innovation (FHLI), announced today that the North Carolina Rules Review Commission has given its final approval of a rule change that will open doors for access to preventive oral health care for the state's most underserved.

The rule change — unanimously approved of by the North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners on Dec. 13, 2019 — will allow dental hygienists to provide preventive services such as sealants and fluoride treatments to children in high-need settings without a dentist's prior exam.

"This is a critical step toward improving access to oral health care for North Carolina's most vulnerable populations," said Dr. Zachary Brian, director of NCOHC. "To address the oral health crisis in our state, we must reduce the regulatory burdens that prevent greater access to quality oral health care. This rule change does just that, and we are thrilled to see it pass this final step to become law."

Increased access to oral health preventive measures is paramount when considering that tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease, disproportionately affecting low-income populations. Nationwide, roughly 50 percent of children in low-income families experience tooth decay, and dental disease is responsible for a collective 51 million hours of school missed each year.

Without the requirement for a prior exam by a dentist, dental hygienists can offer sealants in alternative settings like schools or after-school clinics more efficiently. School oral health programs, in particular, are very effective methods for reaching chil-

dren who would otherwise not see a private dentist.

In 39 states across the country, dental hygienists can apply dental sealants without a prior exam or supervision from a dentist. This procedure is within the clinical training of a hygienist. However, in states like North Carolina, regulatory barriers have hindered access to and delivery of these preventive procedures.

Co-sponsored by NCOHC and the North Carolina Dental Society, the rule change eliminates this regulatory obstacle, increasing access to preventive oral health care services for North Carolina's most vulnerable populations.

HCA independent monitor schedules meetings in WNC

Informational meetings led by Gibbins Advisors have been scheduled in communities in Western North Carolina served by Mission Health.

Gibbins Advisors is the Independent Monitor (IM) hired to monitor HCA Healthcare's compliance with the obligations it agreed to when it purchased Mission Health System. In each meeting, the IM team will discuss its role and provide an opportunity to ask questions.

All events are open to the public. Meetings will have limited seating and attendees will be welcomed first come, first served. Doors open 30 minutes before each event.

— Wednesday, Jan. 29, 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Highlands Civic Center Meeting Room, 600 N 4th St, Highlands for services rendered at Highlands-Cashiers Hospital.

The Franklin meeting for Angel Medical Center will be held Thursday, Jan. 30, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Facilities Building, 1288 Georgia Road, Franklin.

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

I'm anxiously waiting for a winter storm to hit, although I hope it doesn't. These storms almost invariably cause road problems and power outages. Since Highlands is situated at 4119 feet above sea level, not having the disruption of a winter storm would not be normal.

In the event we do have a winter storm and lose power, I hope everyone will be patient. Our crews are on standby in these situations and respond immediately. If power goes out during a regular business day, the outage can be reported at town hall at 526-2118. If lines are repeatedly busy, chances are many people are calling to report the same problem. If a power outage occurs in the evening or on weekends, please do not call 911. This emergency line can be overwhelmed with these nonemergency calls. To report an outage after hours please call 526-9431, the nonemergency number.

Another problem in a winter storm scenario is the plowing of roads. Town road crews are also on standby in these situations. Their first priority is to plow all town roads including neighborhood streets. After clearing town roads, our crews may assist the state in plowing state roads. Our crews will also assist in plowing private roads as time becomes available. They do not plow driveways, including the mayor's and town commissioners' driveways.

The North Carolina road system is confusing. What is a state road and what is a town road? Our staff has a map that identifies state and town roads in our main office and on the town website. Drop by, call or go on line if you are unsure whether your road is state or town maintained. Or, look on the street sign. A street sign with a number on its post, or on the sign itself, indicates that road is maintained by the state. If the state road does not get plowed, call the NCDOT office for Macon County at (828) 524-2517.

I announced at the board meeting last week that the Mission/HCA Healthcare Monitor will be holding a public meeting here in Highlands on Wednesday, Jan. 29 at the Highlands Recreation Center, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. For those that can't make this meeting, the monitors will also be at the Cashiers/Glenville Recreation Center on Jan. 28 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Both meetings will focus on services at the Highlands/Cashiers Hospital.

Under the terms of the sales agreement of Mission to HCA, the NC Attorney General required that an independent monitor be hired to track progress and services after the sale was complete. The monitor reports their findings to Attorney General Josh Stein. These meetings are a part of the first of such meetings being held throughout Western North Carolina. The independent monitor, Gibbins Advisors, will be soliciting public feedback and input, so please attend one of these meetings.

Letters to the Editor

Aviation hobbyists need your help

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on Dec. 26, 2019, made available a "proposed" rule for unmanned aircraft operations in the United States. If the rule "as it is written" passes into law it will in essence immediately cripple the hobby of model aviation, and seriously prevent its future growth. There is a 60-day comment period for the public to express concerns and opinions to the FAA regarding this proposed rule.

As a member of one of our local flying clubs in Macon County and a member of the AMA or "Academy of Model Aeronautics" I am very worried that if we don't express our concerns on this matter our Annual Charity Air Shows and other public model aviation events at our airfield in Otto will be no more, not to mention events across the country.

Regardless of how you feel about "drones" in general, model aircraft are typically flown under very controlled circumstances at sanctioned and insured flying sites like ours in Otto. We, as AMA members, are required to follow a set of safety guidelines. AMA sponsored flying clubs have an outstanding safety record since their inception way back in 1936 and many young AMA members go on to full scale aviation careers.

I really want to keep the charity events at our flying site going because we feel giving back to our community is a pretty important thing and from what I hear the BBQ is pretty good, too. So here is how you can help our model aviation community. Whether you fly quad rotors at the local park, your back yard, or model aircraft at an AMA field, or even thought about it in the future, you will be affected by this rule. Anyone who would like to read the proposed rule, comment on the rule or just get more information, you can visit the Academy of Model Aeronautics Website at www.modelaircraft.org/gov; or the FAA's website at www.faa.gov/uas

Any help you can give on this matter is greatly appreciated and we thank you for your efforts.

Greg Doster, president
Macon Aero Modelers, AMA 3114, Otto, N.C.

Health care not a commercial product

Have you a favorite president? I do, Harry S Truman (no period after the S). Truman was the first president I saw in person. In 1947, he campaigned from a caboose in my hometown (Haverhill, Mass.). It was after Labor Day, school had commenced, my third grade class was at the railroad station to greet him.

Truman became president when Franklin Roosevelt died

April 12, 1945, then won the presidency by defeating Thomas Dewey in 1947. One of Truman's accomplishments, he made a sincere effort to introduce national health insurance.

Even in Harry Truman's time (70 years ago) the deep-pocketed American Medical Association (AMA) opposed the program, wanting to protect physicians' superior market power and professional autonomy. Then, as now, the AMA's national network endeavored to stir up fear of "socialized medicine." Opponents of universal coverage have relied on variations of that playbook ever since.

This is well-documented and you can verify these facts through study of William C. Hsiao, K.T. Li Professor of Economics Emeritus at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Hsiao most recently wrote on the subject for Foreign Affairs (Jan-Feb 2000).

Truman, JFK, Johnson, Nixon, Carter, H.W. Bush, Clinton and Obama all recognized the need of establishing effective, affordable health care. The fact remains, across the broad spectrum of health care, Americans pay more and get less... Why?

The root of the problem (deferring to William Hsiao), as the United States became a prosperous, industrialized society in the early 20th Century, it chose to treat health care as a commercial product rather than a social good, such as education. As a result, whereas government-mandated universal schooling was the norm by the 1920s, health care still remains primarily a private-sector commodity driven by the profit motive.

According to statistics (confirm them - please) 28 million Americans are uninsured, 44 more million are under-insured contributing to an inequality in that the top quarter of American wage-earners live 10 years longer (on average) than the bottom quarter.

Finally, the flagrant fraud, waste and abuse driving up the price of health care, tens of billions of dollars in unnecessary spending year after year. Hsiao tells us that a cottage industry has sprung up to advise hospitals and physicians how to game the claims system by fragmenting bills and "upcoding services" - exaggerating their complexity - in order to maximize payments.

Large providers employ workers whose primary task is to find ways to pad charges. Some hospitals and clinics take a blunter approach: they simply file claims for services they've not actually performed. It's been going on for decades.

Some of us have experienced and reported irregularities over the years with only minimal success. Unless public attitudes shift drastically, we'll never achieve full and affordable health care.

However, should American values and urgencies change and we decide we've had enough scheming and scamming, we have only to look to Canada, Taiwan, Germany (and a few other nations) for guidance with systems that work.

David Snell - Franklin, N.C.

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The road to nowhere

As a United Parcel Service Driver Helper this past Christmas season, I rode on hundreds of miles of back roads in Franklin, Murphy and Andrews, delivering packages to thousands of customers, including many of you. I saw many beautiful places I would never otherwise have seen.

One night after dark, we were looking for an address which was not posted, so we unwittingly drove right past it on a steep, winding, bumpy road. We finally realized we were on a road to nowhere. There were no more homes and no place to turn around, so we had no choice but to back up about half a mile. I craned my neck to look out my side with a flashlight, while the driver did the same on his side. It wasn't easy, but we finally got back to the house we had passed.

Many people go through the road of life in the wrong direction, only to realize too late, that there is no place to turn around. Proverbs 14:12 says, "There is a way (road) that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."

Another of those long, winding mountain roads led up to a huge, beautiful house with a spectacular view of the valley below and the mountains beyond. I couldn't help wondering if the owners thought they lived in paradise! The Bible says, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." That last phrase is frightening. Many people may be deceived into thinking they are headed in the right direction, when actually they are not.

One night, on our last stop, after dark, we needed a signature from the recipient, so we knocked on the door. No one came, but the light was on and the door open, so we started looking around. Around back, a man came out from under his car, with one hand missing. He said he had blown his hand off. He signed for his package with the other hand. Then he proceeded to tell us that he had been on heroin for 23 years. It had taken recently losing his hand to get his life turned around and headed down the right path. He said some things about the power of prayer. Then he told us that the Lord Jesus Christ had delivered him from his drug addiction. He said that now he is in church every time the doors are open. He said it was too bad it took the loss of his hand, but that it was worth it!

I'm guessing the man was in his 40s. Jesus said, "And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw

it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell." Clearly, it is far more important to be on the right path, even if it takes a great tragedy to get you there.

When I was a young child, my mother read the #2 best-seller of all time to me: John Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." Even though written in 17th century English, I understood and was captivated by it, so that I cried when she stopped reading! That book has helped millions of people to better understand how difficult it is to stay on the "straight and narrow road" and to reach the "celestial city." I pray that you will find that path, and get on it in the right direction before you reach the end, and find no place to turn around!

There are other roads, but only one will take you where you want to go. Jesus said, "I am the Way (road), the Truth, and the Life: no one comes to the Father except through me."

Ed Hill – Franklin, N.C.

Hospital visit results in bill dispute

I just took my wife to our local hospital here in Franklin. She slipped and hurt her ankle. Young lady at check-in was very pleasant. Short wait in to see the doctor. She was put into a room, doctor, a woman, ordered an x-ray. When wife came back, a nurse told her she has a small bone break. No cast, no instructions and go home. We never saw the doctor again. Now I get a bill from their office in Virginia for \$491.69. OK but they tell me on the bill Medicare paid \$43. It didn't seem right, called Medicare. They tell me something was filed wrong at the hospital. I called their office in Virginia. Guess what? They tell me the bill is right, that they have a special deal with Medicare and that's it. She then tells me their hospital is a for profit now. I guess so. She also tells me if I don't pay in 30 days I am put in collection. Well, all you local politicians who were sold a bill of goods with Mission, thanks for the ripoff. Oh well, thank the Lord, Harris hospital is close. I've dealt with them before.

William Trapani – Franklin, N.C.

Email letters to the editor to
maconcountynews@gmail.com

HCA independent monitor schedules meetings in WNC

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All events are open to the public, and no invitation is necessary. Members of any community are welcome to attend the meetings of their choosing. Meetings will have limited seating and attendees will be welcomed first come, first served. Doors will open 30 minutes before each event.

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The Franklin meeting for Angel Medical Center will be held Thursday, Jan. 30, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Facilities Building, 1288 Georgia Road, Franklin.

**Voter info for
March 3 Primary Election**

**Voter registration deadline
February 7 at 5 p.m.**

**Absentee ballots by mail
January 13-February 25**

Request forms at www.maconnc.org or www.ncsbe.gov or by calling (828)349-2034 or email Macon.boe@ncsbe.gov.

**One-Stop Voting
February 12- 29**

Macon County Community Building
Highlands Civic Center
Hours Mon-Fri, 8-7:30; Saturday, Feb. 29, 8-3

**Primary Election Day
Tuesday, March 3**

Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Contact the Macon County Board of Elections at (828)349-2034 or visit www.maconnc.org/elections.

We have a will.* (*but it was done in 1970, in a different state, their children are grown, they own different property, have new investments and retirement funds, it names Uncle Joe as a beneficiary (he's deceased)

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Franklin community celebrates life and legacy of Martin Luther King

Photos by Vickie Carpenter



Claudette Burston - 'I Know I've Been Changed'



Rev. Mozart Moliere - 'I Have a Dream'



Michelle Toleno - Interpretive dance



Franklin Mayor Bob Scott



Moderator Synethia Owens



Richard Lugo and Quashona Antoine perform a mime "A Change is Going to Come"



Ann Miller Woodford - 'Wade in the Water'



Henrietta Haithcock - Nan Ray monologue



One Heart



Ericka Washington

Interactive Third-World experience fosters elevated compassion

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

On Friday, Jan. 17, a long trailer pulled into the parking lot of Macon Center. Inside was an “interactive tour of life in the developing world.” In fact, for four days, The Compassion Experience drew more than 500 visitors, who stepped inside, donned headphones, and journeyed into a real child’s life of poverty in such countries as the Philippines, Kenya, Uganda, and Guatemala.

Coinciding with The Compassion Experience, which is an immersive program that includes about a half dozen trailers that travel throughout the United States, was Compassion International child sponsorships at the Macon Center-located Discover Church during all three Sunday morning (Jan. 19) services. Pastor Ben Windle pointed out that although Discover Church offers Compassion International sponsorships annually, it was the first time the event coincided with the actual Compassion Experience.

Attendees to Discover Church were shown a video that explained how sponsorship of a child in an impoverished country provides access to clean drinking water, food, education, and more.

Around 200 children received sponsorships, as of Monday Jan. 20, due to The Compassion Experience and education about Compassion International presented by Pastor Windle and John Adams, also with Discover Church. Sponsorships were for children in Honduras and Haiti, since Discover supports ministry efforts in those countries. However, sponsorships through Compassion International are available for children around the globe.

Anyone sponsoring a child has access to an app on which sponsors can write letters to the child as well as get medical and school reports and general information about the child’s well being.

P.J. Johnson, a brand ambassador for The Compassion Experience, explained that the hands-on, audio, and visual experience

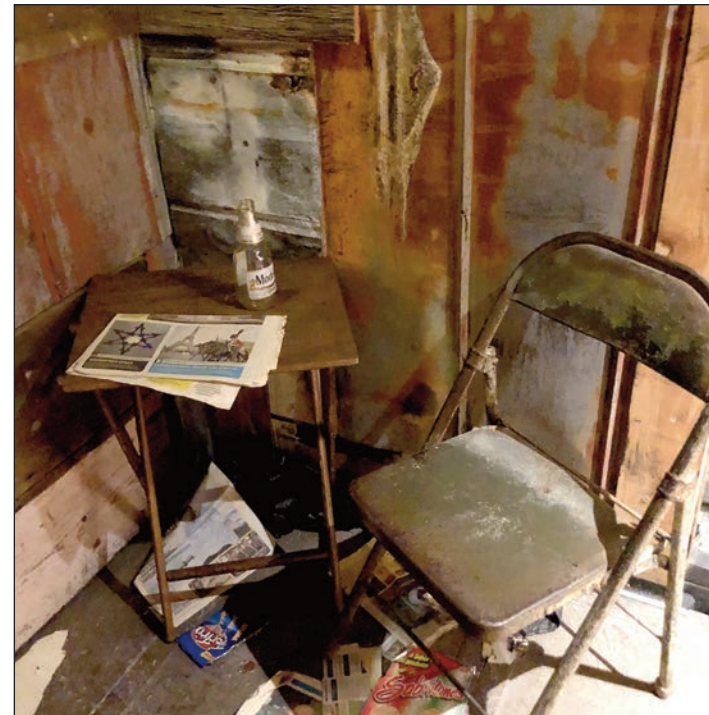
makes a connection with children and adults that statistics and photographs fail to do on their own.

“You can walk into a child’s world ... see where they live, go to school ... how they have to have a survival mentality. Some people leave the trailer somber, or in tears. It’s so realistic that it’s as if they’ve visited the country, even if it’s just for a few minutes. The experience speaks to them.”

Sheila Myers, who attends Discover Church, volunteered to assist visitors to The Compassion Experience.

“You don’t realize what your sponsorship and involvement in a child’s life means to that child until you go through this,” said Myers.

For example, “entering” Guatemala unveiled details of the life of young Carlos. He explained how his mother wanted him to go to school, but his father was an alcoholic who, from the time Carlos was five years old, just wanted him to work. The simulated “house” was a tiny, minimalist space of pieced together walls, cloth for doors, rusty metal chairs and tables. Carlos shared in the audio that as a small boy he worked dyeing yarn, collecting pieces of wood to sell in markets, and making shoes so that his fam-



The Compassion Experience came to Franklin Jan. 17-20 to provide a simulated, audio visual opportunity to “visit” an impoverished country.

ily could have money for food. When Compassion International told him he had a family that wanted to sponsor him, his life changed for the better. He was then able to attend school, graduate, and is now an internal auditor and teacher in Guatemala.

“Compassion International changed my story,” he said. On the walls of Carlos’ final “room” is a photograph of him with his mother on graduation day, and him as a young adult.

“The whole thing is about understanding what kids in other countries are going through,” said Myers. “And you realize that something like a sponsorship can actually help some of them get out of poverty.”

On Sunday, Myers chose to sponsor a girl from Haiti.

“It’s important for our kids to see how some children are growing up poor – especially when children here have so much,” said Yvonne Johns, who has sponsored Compassion International children for the last few years. “Children in other countries have to pay for school. If they don’t, they can’t go. And children here often take school for granted. The Compassion Experience shows clearly how life in some other countries is very different.”

So far, The Compassion Experience has been in 150 locations and has been seen by 600,000 visitors. Upcoming locations are available online, and anyone can sign up to host The Compassion Experience, volunteer at an event, and sponsor a child.



Yvonne Johns and Sheila Myers, of Franklin, volunteered at The Compassion Experience Sunday, Jan. 19.



The Compassion Experience traveled to Franklin Jan. 17-20 and parked at Macon Center to coincide with Discover Church’s Compassion International child sponsorship presentation.

ELECTION INFORMATION

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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 January 6 - 20. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

January 13

Brandon Michael Hart, 33, of Franklin, was charged with all other offenses, possession of stolen goods/property, second degree trespass. An unsecured bond of \$2,000 was set. Troy L. Burt made the arrest.

Christopher Warren Hooper, 38, of Franklin, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Mark Alexander Anderson, 51, of Franklin, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$500 was set. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Selena Renee Nicole Lewis, 22, was charged with possession of heroin. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

January 14

Jason Christopher Webster, 43, of Cashiers, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture/sell/distribute methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Jaclyn Sturgis, 35, of Cashiers, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, resist/obstruct/ delay law enforcement. No bond was set. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Joshua Damon Ayers, 42, of Franklin, was charged with failure to appear. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. Joel Lynch made the arrest.

January 15

Miguel Angel Lopez Hernandez, 27, of Franklin, was charged with assault on a child under 12 years of age. A secured bond of \$7,500 was set. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

January 16

Brandon Jacob Oteri, 29, of Franklin, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. James E. Crawford made the arrest.

Antonio de Jesus Ortega Gallardo, 25, of Franklin, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set. Parrish W. Young made the arrest.

January 17

Jeremy Edward Stepp, 28, of Franklin, was charged with first degree trespass. An unsecured bond was set. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Wylene Elizabeth Wall, 31, of Otto, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, drug/narcotic violations. A secured bond of \$6,000 was set. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

January 18

Ricky Lane Mason, 55, of Franklin, was charged with obtaining property by false pretenses. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Joshua Lee Sutton, 38, of Tiger, Ga., was charged with larceny merchant product code fraud. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Jamie Lee Young, 30, of Tiger Ga., was charged with fugitive out of state felony. No bond was set. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

January 20

Brendan Makenzie Williamson, 19, of Franklin, was issued warrant service for offense committed in jurisdiction, flee/elude arrest with a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

Ian Sloan Nixon, 34, of Franklin, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set. Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

January 10

Joseph Thomas McCord, of Country Club Dr., Cullowhee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while license revoked, possession of stolen property, larceny, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of stolen property, larceny. A \$2,200 bond was set. Officer Norman made the arrest.

January 12

Luis Angel Molina Robles, 32, of Cherry St., was charged with driving under the influence. A \$1,500 bond was set. Officer Evans made the arrest.

January 13

Matthew Scott Winters, 26, of Pressley Rd., was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Lisa Margaret Blanchard, 42, of Katie Lane, was charged with obtaining property by false pretenses, forgery of instrument. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

January 6

Jessica Robinson Melton, 37, of Dakota Dr., was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, possession of burglary tools, larceny after breaking and entering, breaking and entering, felony conspiracy. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Joshua William Walsh, 25, of Webster Rd., was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, possession of burglary tools, larceny after breaking and entering, breaking and entering, felony conspiracy. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Johnnie Ray Arch, 46, of Savannah Dr., was charged with second degree trespass. An unsecured bond of \$250 was set.

January 7

Angel Elizabeth Gibson, 47, of Old Cullowhee Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Matthew Daniel Mincy, 30, of Martin Rd., Whittier, was charged with communicating threats, assault on another person in the presence of a minor, assault on a female, assault by strangulation. No bond was set.

Heather Nicole Steele, 26, of Lands End Dr., was issued a child support purge, failure to appear for violation unsupervised probation, possession of stolen goods/property. A secured bond of \$352 was set.

Adrian Artemio Ontiveros Ledezma, 25, of Speedwell Rd., was charged with fictitious/altered title/registration card/tag, failure to appear for driving while license revoked no impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$300 was set.

Laura Marie Jensen, of Cheerful Cove, Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked not impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Dillon Stone Wilson, 26, of Clayton St., was charged with

failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, failure to appear for possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Keonta Monteece Ardrey, 41, of Whittier, was charged with failure to appear on a felony. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Johnnie Ray Arch, 46, of Sparks Dr., Cope Creek was charged with communicating threats. A \$500 bond was set.

January 8

Anthony Caleb Nicholson, 31, of Sylva, was charged with misdemeanor assault with a deadly weapon. No bond was set.

Dontavius Juan Cox, 27, of Sylva, was issued a U.S. Marshals warrant for heroin. No bond was set.

Zachary James Warman, 28, of Collie Court, Glenville, was charged with driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, driving while impaired. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

Blake Pearson Henry, 25, of Leatherwood Rd., was charged with possession of firearm by a felon. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Stacey Cameron Hoyle Lowe, 27, of Leatherwood Rd., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. No bond was set.

January 9

Pascual Cuatlayotl Tochihiuitl, 45, of Glenville School Rd., Glenville, was charged with resisting a public officer, maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, simple possession of a schedule II controlled substance, possession of a schedule II controlled substance. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Nekeisha Altonette Smith, 30, of Craven Rd., Waynesville, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, larceny, breaking or entering a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Cory Clyde Keith Case, 30, of Huckleberry Cove, was issued a true bill of indictment for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Laura Marie Jensen, 52, of Cheerful Cove, Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked not impaired revocation, probation violation, school attendance law violation, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$12,650 was set.

Darius Davontae Royal, 27, of Bradock Way, Asheville, was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, possession of a firearm by a felon. An unsecured bond of \$5,000 was set.

January 10

Amanda Nicole Sherrill, 31, of Snowy Lane, Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for simple possession of a schedule II controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of heroin, possession of stolen goods/property, misdemeanor larceny, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Megan Emily Tate, 25, of Race Lane, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver oxycodone, maintain a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance, trafficking opium or heroin, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance, simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance. A secured bond of \$75,000 was set.

Yolanda Gale George, 49, was charged with failure to appear for possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance, exploit disable/elder trust. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set.

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Couple's teamwork results in handcrafted basketry

Deena C. Bouknight
 Contributing Writer

Carol Vanhook has been retired for eight years from a 36-year career as a kindergarten and first-grade teacher. Yet her retirement years have been filled with activity. Always a crafter, she decided to focus on the art of basketry, and her husband Gary, who is not fully retired, assists her.

"He makes the bases from palettes for my baskets," she said. "He sands and grooves them in his garage workshop. He reinforces the baskets' pine handles to the bottoms before I begin weaving so that the basket is stronger. I tell him what I'm working on and he makes me what I need."

Gary has also made his wife several different sizes of "jigs" (forms) to work within as she is making baskets. She makes utilitarian baskets from large market sizes to hold books, magazines, or a throw, for example, to gardening, all-purpose utility, and mail baskets.

Carol said she has always been interested in crafting items by hand. Currently, she is working on quilt, crocheting mats out of plastic bags for the homeless, knits, and works to-



Carol Vanhook's husband Gary creates bases for the baskets in his garage workshop and Carol weaves gardening baskets, among others.

gether with her husband to create fused glass items. However, basketry appealed to her during a Western Carolina University Heritage Festival she attended years ago. "I was walking around looking at beautiful baskets and I thought, 'I could learn to do this.'"

She took classes from an instructor with The Arts Council of Macon County. She also attended a weekend of basketry classes at John C. Campbell Folk School in Cherokee County.

"It's one of those skills you can continue to improve on ... learn things about," said Carol. "While I'm weaving, I add pressure or relieve pressure depending on tightness of the weave and the shape. I use a level to keep the basket uniform."

She orders flat rattan strips for her baskets from a basketry supply source. If she does not want baskets to be natural in color, she uses Ritz dye for a dye lot and then allows the strips to dry on a rack in her gazebo. "I've found that Ritz dye is better than powdered dye because I can control the colors better."

Carol keeps her basketry materials in a finished basement, "so I can walk off and leave the mess." But she will weave



Rattan strips are used to make the Vanhooks' baskets. The bottoms are made of parts of repurposed wood palettes.



Gary Vanhook makes the bottom and other wooden aspects for his wife, Carol's, woven baskets.



Carol Vanhook's basketry includes utilitarian designs that are also decorative.

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anywhere and describes the craft process as relaxing.

“It’s a way for me to be creative. I used to have to take out some of the weave, when I was first learning, but now I’m proficient at it. And there’s a sense of accomplishment finishing one ... coming up with ideas and colors and ways to embellish.”

So far, Carol has made at least 300 baskets. For a while she was giving them away as gifts, donating some for special charity events, or keeping and using them. In fact, she and her husband have their baskets all throughout their home that they use for kitchen utensils, mail, dried flowers, knitting, and more.

“We decided a few years ago to start selling some of the baskets to at least cover the cost of the hobby,” said Carol. Prices do not reflect the amount of time – at least three hours a basket – and the expense of the materials. One of the couple’s utility baskets, for example, sells for \$45. Elsewhere, handmade baskets might sell for \$100 or more due to the tediousness of the process, explained Carol. “Time and money is definitely invested in each basket we make.”



Carol Vanhook dyes the tartan strips for some of her baskets.

Carol and Gary show their baskets annually on Main Street in Franklin at PumpkinFest and the Hometown Heritage Festival. Plus, she has demonstrated basketry at the



Carol Vanhook’s basketry includes utilitarian designs that are also decorative.

Franklin Area Folk Festival at the Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center. The Vanhooks plan to show their baskets this summer in Minneapolis, Minn., where their daughters reside.

She enjoys coming up with distinct decorations, like handmade rosin hearts that include a bit of Macon County Clay, “so that no matter where you are there will always be a bit of Macon County in your heart;” incorporated repurposed items; and, seasonal theme wraps to tie at the top of baskets. “I really enjoy working on these baskets and knowing that my husband and I did the project together,” said Carol, pointing out that a future project is a backpack basket.

Music series to feature Frogtown band

The Mountain Heritage Center holds the next concert in its annual First Thursday Old-Time and Bluegrass Jam series on Thursday, Feb. 6, starting at 7 p.m. at HomeBase on the Western Carolina University campus.

Frogtown will continue the series of concerts and open jams that includes some of the region’s best old-time and bluegrass musicians. The concert will be followed by an open jam session during which traditional musicians of all skill levels are invited to participate.

Frogtown has been in existence since 2001. The band gets its name from a locally known spot in Macon County called Frogtown located between the Franklin High School and downtown Franklin. As bands often go, various members have come and gone over the years, but the core remains. Currently the lineup includes Shane Blackwell, Barry Clinton, Will Putman and Mark Queen. The music ranges from hard core bluegrass of musicians like the Stanley Brothers, to the bluesy melodies and ballads of Doc Watson and Norman Blake.

First Thursday concerts are free and are held inside HomeBase. For more information or directions, call 828-227-7129 or visit www.wcu.edu/mhc



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Sand Town: Cherokee/White community lost, but not forgotten

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

In his basement of his Franklin home, Willard Dills has thousands of pieces of Cherokee pottery on display on walls and in jars that he has picked up on his multi-generational family land in Cartoogechaye. He has found shards of pipes, game balls made of stone, arrowheads, and his most exciting find – a small unblemished ceremonial effigy in the shape of a man. Alongside these Native artifacts are utilitarian items such as a water dipper made from creek-bed cane and dogwood, as well as hand-made saws, hammers, guns, and more.

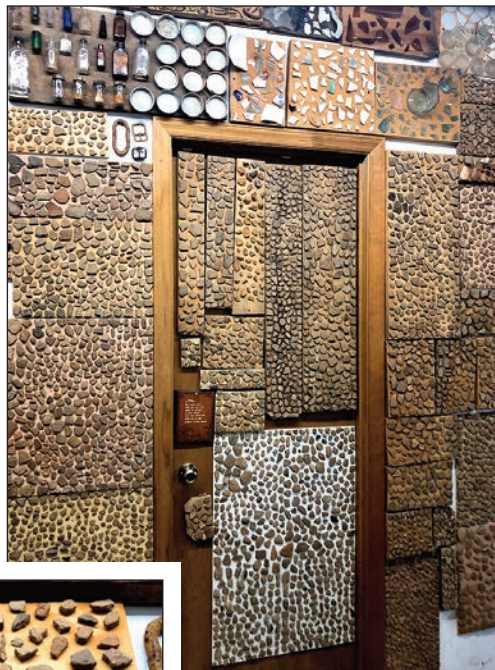
“This is my museum,” he said, explaining that the reason family and Cherokee items were found on the same land is because it was all considered the Sand Town community at one time.

“Sand Town in Cartoogechaye was situated on a few hundred acres at the mouth of Muskrat Brook and along Dills Creek,” said Robert Shook, curator at the Macon County Historical Museum on Main Street in Franklin. “That’s where the chief of Sand Town, Chuttahsotee, built his cabin when he came back after being part of the Indian Removal Act [1830] ... William Siler deeded land back to the Cherokee. William’s house was in sight of the chief’s house. They were best friends. In fact, when William died, the chief followed the wagon with his casket in the pouring rain for eight miles until it got to the graveyard in Franklin.

“People need to understand that families, white and Cherokee, had homes in Sand Town together. There was even a trading post out there,” he added.

A hand-drawn map of the community, which existed just off what is now Hwy. 64 before the pass at Winding Stair, shows homesteads all along the creeks and branches. An 1851 “Census of Cherokee ... Cartoogechaye Macon County, N.C.” included close to 20 Cherokee families with names such as Choo-tah-so-tih (or Jim Woodpecker), Eno-leh (or Catamount), and Cos-kello-kih (or Hog Bite). Also, families with the last names Siler, Rush, Addington, Moore, McDowell, etc., occupied homes and land.

Currently, no formal remains exist of what was known as Sand Town. Farm land, developments, individual homes, and wilderness exist there.



However, families have passed down the history so that not forgotten is the fact that some Cherokee and white families did live peacefully in close proximity.

Margaret Redding Siler, who married Dr. Fredrick Lawrence Siler in 1900, documented the Sand Town history in the 1939-published “Cherokee Indian Lore & Smoky Mountain Stories,” available for sale at the Macon County Historical Museum. In it, she writes that her father-in-law, Albert Siler, was so familiar with the Cherokee language that he spoke it “as he did his own. He grew up with the Cherokee children for playmates.”

She explained in her book about the formation of Sand Town.

“Near the Cartoogechaye Creek, in a cove that was sheltered on the north by high mountain walls, but open to the fertile valley to the south, the homesick Cherokee built their cabins. ... It was called Sand Town because of the white sand



Pottery shards that Willard Dills found on his family’s property, which was once part of the Sand Town community, only represents a small portion of the thousands of pieces that he has found. Dills has also collected utilitarian items that were used by both his ancestors and Cherokee families in Sand Town.

along the banks of the stream (Muskrat Brook). Albert Siler grew up with the Sand Town Indians. He had six sisters and no brothers, so the Indian boys taught him to trap, and to still-hunt without gun or dog. The only weapons they used were the bow and arrow and blowgun. ... As Albert Siler recalled them, the Sand Town Indians were always loyal to their friends, and it was evident from the way he talked that he was deeply attached to them.”

The small, historic St. John Episcopal Church is situated where the Sand Town community was once located, and Chuttahsotee and his wife are buried there. [See Sept. 19, 2019 article on St. John’s Episcopal in MCN.] Margaret Siler wrote: “One of Albert Siler’s daughters had the marble top of a dresser broken in two and placed at the heads of the Indian graves in the St. John’s churchyard ...”

She also pointed out in her book that often the Cherokee and white families in Sand Town would worship together.

“When the Cherokee attended services at the white churches, they joined in with the utmost reverence and sang, but in their own language.”

Dills’ family settled in the early 1800s in what became Sand Town. Both his great grandmothers were full Cherokee: Tiny Rogers and Elda Patterson. On his display wall is the water dipper he remembers his grandmother, Elise Patterson Dills, who was half Cherokee, making. “I was with her when she made it. I grew up on every inch of that property out there. She knew how to make that dipper because her mother, full Cherokee, taught her.” The intricately made dipper has thin cane woven so close together that it held the water.

Several men in Dills’ family were employed by the Ritter Lumber Company, located in the late 1800s and early 1900s in nearby Standing Indian. Some family members died while logging. And, even though the Dills family “old homeplace” of the mid-1850s succumbed to decay, Dills still maintains his family’s 51 acres and has a 1980s-built getaway cabin

there. He walks the property several times a week to see what he can find.

One item from Sand Town that is on Dills’ wall features still legible Cherokee writing. However, extensive research determined that the writing most likely pre-dates the Cherokee syllabary of the early 1800s. Some of the pottery pieces feature consistent designs and colors.

“I’m always finding things that the Cherokee or my family used for eating, drinking, living ... My family thinks I’m nuts collecting all this stuff but I don’t want it to just lie there and get lost.”

The effigy, which Dills had framed, (pictured at lower left) along with a few other “treasures,” such as tiny sharp arrowheads, was dated by the Cherokee at around 11,000 years old. Even though it was found in what was Sand Town, it must have been passed down from Cherokee family to Cherokee family for multiple generations, ascertained Dills.

Dills said that the history of his family, the Cartoogechaye Cherokee, and Sand Town, will continue to live on in his and wife Tammy’s children, Christopher and Elizabeth, and their grandchildren. Lawson, 7, the oldest grandchild, has already been accompanying Dills to the family property to help him search for and preserve as many historic artifacts as possible from those years when Sand Town thrived. “Lawson loves going with me,” said Dills.



Willard Dills and his grandson, Lawson, in the basement “museum,” which includes artifacts and photographs from life in Sand Town.



Willard Dills was with his half-Cherokee grandmother when she made this water dipper out of cane from Dills Creek. The weaving is so intricate, the dipper is able to hold water.

Joseph 'Joe' Dennis Kuhn

Joseph "Joe" Dennis Kuhn, 77, of Otto, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2020.

Born in Tampa, Fla., he was the son of the late Joseph George Kuhn and Estrella Failde Kuhn. He enjoyed woodworking, playing golf, dogs, working with horses, watching old westerns, and listening to music. He was a member of Hickory Knoll United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Vivian Kuhn; three sons, Joseph D. Kuhn Jr of Petersburg, Va., George C. Kuhn (Tamra) of Concord, N.C., and James P. Kuhn of Baton Rouge, La.; daughter, Kathryn Keller of Louisville, Ky.; three step-children, Sal Penzol (Christie) of Lake In The Hills, Ill., Jackie Strange (Dale) of Groveland, Fla., and Vivianne Penzol of Apopka, Fla.; sister, Mary Morton (Paul) of Tampa, Fla.; 16 grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 25, at 11 a.m., at Hickory Knoll United Methodist Church. Rev. Stephanie Thompson will officiate. Burial will be in the Hickory Knoll UMC Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Hickory Knoll UMC, PO Box 26, Otto, NC 28763 or Appalachian Animal Rescue, PO Box 81, Franklin, NC 28744.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Barbara Joan Howard

Barbara Joan Howard, 87, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020.

Born in Detroit, Mich., she was the daughter of the late Paul Walter Hill and Florence Renaud Hill.

She is survived by her husband of 68 years, William Beik Howard; three children, William H. Howard of Franklin, Catherine J. Ziegler (Michael) of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Steven W. Howard (Irene) of Lake Wales, Fla.; four grandchildren, Stacy Ziegler of Fort Lauderdale, Kevin J. Ziegler of Fort Lauderdale, Mark Maglischo (Rebecca) of Lakeland, Fla., and Tracy Maglischo of Lake Wales, Fla.; and two great grandchildren, Colt and Brix Maglischo both of Lakeland.

No services have been planned at this time.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Carol Smith Horner

Carol Smith Horner, 87, of Englewood, Fla., formerly of Franklin, N.C., passed away Jan. 17, 2020.

Born in Jacksonville, Fla., she was the daughter of the late Clarence Edward Smith and Dorothy Deaton Smith. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, James Herbert Horner, a son, Michael Clarence Horner and a grandson, Jason Michael Horner.

She was exceptionally proud to have worked as a legal assistant to Russell Bowling of Franklin, and retired from his firm after many years of service. She was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church and enjoyed boating and traveling extensively with friends and family.

She is survived by one sister, Marian Smith Franklin, three children, James Herbert Horner Jr., Ann Brandenberger and Laura Hamilton; 11 grandchildren; nine great grandchildren and two nieces and nephews.

Graveside service will be held Saturday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m., at Rush Cemetery. Pastor Eric Henson will officiate.

The family will receive friends at Macon Funeral Home from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m.

Memorial donations can be made to the American Lung Association, 55 W. Wacker Drive, Suite 1150, Chicago, IL 60601.

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



Deaths & Funerals

Ernest Charles Golding

Ernest Charles Golding, 80, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Jan. 17, 2020.

Born in Hillside, N.J., he was the son of the late Claude Golding and Lillian Meriwede Golding. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Ann McGowan Golding and nine brothers and sisters. He graduated from All State Construction College; served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict and was a retired general contractor. He was a member of First Alliance Church; was a pro golfer, avid bowler, enjoyed cribbage and watching football.



Ernest Charles Golding

He is survived by his fiancé, Gracie Ledford Greene of Franklin; two children, Bob Golding (Jenny) and Deanna Wagner (Bernie) both of Franklin; six grandchildren, Josh Jones, Josh Wagner, Melissa Zaidman (Ben), Daniel Sevigny (Katelyn), Katherine "Kayti" Tallent (Dalen) and Deaven Golding (Cody Peavy); four great grandchildren, Henry Zaidman, Alex Zaidman, Caroline Zaidman and Raylen Tallent.

A visitation will be held Saturday, Feb. 1, at 3 p.m., at First Alliance Church, followed by a memorial service and fellowship supper. Pastor Scott Eichelberger will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Relay for Life (Macon County), C/O Tony Young, 347 Knob Hill Estates, Sylva, NC 28779, or First Alliance Church, 31 Promise Lane, Franklin, NC 28734.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

Donna Lee Estes

Donna Lee Estes, 84, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Monday, Jan. 13, 2020.

Born in Akron, Iowa, she was the daughter of the late John Henry Sholts and Elizabeth DeRoussee Sholts. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd Edward Estes; two brothers, John and Joe Sholts; and three sisters, Barbara Finch, Addie Mae Hustick and Lydia Yanke.

She worked at Burlington and CR Industries and attended Riverside Fellowship Church. She will be remembered for her love for everyone, especially her grandchildren.



Donna Lee Estes

She is survived by three children, Milton Estes (Joan) of Franklin, Sharon Morehead (Claude) of Westminster, S.C., and Steve Estes (Leoda) of Franklin; sister, Mary McGaughey of Union Lake, Mich.; six grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; one great-great grandson; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was held Friday, Jan. 17, in the Chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Frank Rodriguez officiated. Burial was in the Salem Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Levi Estes, Spencer Houston, Jake Michael, Colin Field, Wyatt Yates and Eric Peters.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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

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NASCAR makes technical updates to improve racing at short tracks

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. -- NASCAR has adjusted the 2020 NASCAR Cup Series technical package for road courses and race tracks measuring 1.058-miles or less in an effort to improve racing on short tracks and road course circuits.

Eight of the sport's most celebrated venues – from the Bristol half-miler and Phoenix mile to the Sonoma and Watkins Glen road courses – will feature a new look this season that includes a smaller spoiler (2.75 inches vs eight inches), smaller splitter (0.25-inch overhang vs. two inches) and radiator pan modifications.

The sanctioning body has, for years, been willing to adjust its technical rules in the spirit of competition and worked closely with teams in analyzing data that supports these new rules that are closer to the regulations of the 2018 season.

In 2018, for example, both races on the Bristol Motor Speedway high-banked half-mile were decided by less than a second; Kyle Busch's .628-second win over Kyle Larson in the spring and Kurt Busch's .367-second victory over Larson in the fall.

Joey Logano edged Denny Hamlin to the line by a scant .107-second for his fall Martinsville Speedway short track win in 2018 and both the 0.75-mile Richmond Raceway trophies were determined by less than a second: Kyle Busch's .511-second victory over Chase Elliott in the spring and his .777-second win over Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Denny Hamlin in the fall.

The modifications for the short tracks and road courses announced by NASCAR on Tuesday will be more reminiscent of the technical guidelines from 2018. NASCAR is confident this package designed for short tracks and road courses will produce the same compelling competition as seen on intermediate and larger tracks last season – which saw an increase in green flag passing for the lead in 23 races.

“Our goal has always been to provide the best possible racing for our fans, regardless of venue,” NASCAR Executive Vice President and Chief Racing Development Officer Steve O'Donnell said in announcing the technical modification.

“The 2019 Cup Series race package delivered some of the most exciting races on intermediate and larger tracks that our sport has seen, however, we felt we could make improvements to short tracks and road courses.

“We believe we have found the right balance for 2020 that will allow teams to build off their previous knowledge of this package and showcase exciting side-by-side racing at tracks of all sizes.”

The complete list of tracks affected by the new technical rules includes: Bristol Motor Speedway, Charlotte Motor Speedway ROVAL, Dover International Speedway, Phoenix Raceway, Martinsville Speedway, Richmond Raceway, Sonoma Raceway and Watkins Glen International.

“We ended up in a really good place I think for short tracks and road courses in 2020,” O'Donnell said, adding, “I really applaud the teams for working together with us to going back to a package that we know works. The drivers had asked for that low downforce package as well at the short tracks. We're going to see that.”

“The fans have wanted that and asked for it and we're going to deliver on those tracks that are outlined and think it will certainly make an impact on the racing and hopefully be a big improvement for 2020.”

NASCAR Xfinity Series set to run Indianapolis Motor Speedway road course on July 4 weekend

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. -- The Indianapolis Motor Speedway has announced that the summer NASCAR Xfinity

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This Week's Racing News



Xfinity Series to race on Indy's road course

The Xfinity Series will race on Indianapolis Motor Speedway's road course this year, track officials announced last week. The July 4th race, sponsored by Pennzoil, will take place at 1:30 p.m. ET and air on NBC. The Cup race on July 5 also will be on NBC at 3:30 p.m. ET. “As all the Xfinity drivers are looking into this weekend, I think we're all going to be excited to be in the first NASCAR road race at Indy,” Justin Allgaier said during the press conference. “We're all going to want to win that first race. I remember the first time coming here and racing in the Xfinity Series how exciting that was.” Moving the Xfinity race from the oval to the road course is the first major move made at the track since Roger Penske's company purchased the speedway. One of Penske's priorities has been putting more emphasis on the track's NASCAR weekend, which has suffered significant attendance declines for more than a decade. This will be the fifth road course event on the 33-race schedule for the Xfinity Series this season.

Racing History

January 21, 1973 - Penske driving ace Mark Donohue took a surprising victory in the season opening 500 miler at Riverside. Donohue's first career Cup win came in only his 5th start, driving a Matador. That race was Penske's first NASCAR win in a long history of NASCAR participation and remains to this day, the last non-regular (non-full schedule) driver to win a NASCAR Cup Series road race.

Racing Trivia

Jeff Gordon won his first Cup Series Championship in 1995. In what year did he win his first Cup Series race?

- a) 1991 c) 1993
b) 1992 d) 1994

Series race in 1994 and went on to win the championship the following year.
Answer: d) Gordon won his first Cup

All-Time Top Driver's Bio



Jeff Gordon

Born: Aug. 4, 1971
Cup wins: 93
Cup top-tens: 477
Cup championships: 4

Jeff Gordon was five years old when he first performed laps on a makeshift racetrack. After his childhood and teen years, Gordon moved on to NASCAR and won Rookie of the Year in 1991. The next year he signed with Hendrick Motorsports and has gained 93 wins during his career, third on the all-time Cup wins list and the most wins in NASCAR's modern era (1972-present). Gordon's 81 pole positions lead all active drivers, and is third all-time. He has won at least one pole in 23 consecutive seasons, a NASCAR record. He is also the active iron man leader for consecutive races participated in with 797 through the 2015 season. In 2009, Gordon became the first NASCAR driver to reach \$100 million in career winnings. Gordon, along with Rick Hendrick, co-own the No. 48 Chevrolet driven by Jimmie Johnson, who won six Cup championships from 2006 to 2010, and 2013.

ity Series race there will be held for first the time on the facility's infield road course, a day prior to the annual Brickyard 400 which will continue to be contested on the historic 2.5-mile oval.

NASCAR executive Ben Kennedy sat alongside track owner Roger Penske – whose acquisition of the historic speedway was made official earlier this month – in announcing the new-look Indianapolis NASCAR Weekend.

“I can't think of a race in NASCAR history when a track ran a road course and oval back-to-back,” Kennedy said of the Indy plans.

According to IMS President Doug Boles, the Xfinity Series race will be held on Saturday afternoon, July 4, then there will be a 90-minute break so track workers can reconfigure the facility back to a racing oval for a pair of NASCAR Cup Series practices Saturday afternoon. Cup Series qualifying will be Sunday - race morning - followed by the Big Machine Vodka Brickyard 400 race Sunday afternoon.

Boles shared that the impetus behind the change was to make the NASCAR Fourth of July race weekend as special and celebratory as the national holiday timing it shares. The Indy weekend will also include concerts, a fireworks show and for the first time, there will be infield camping inside the famed course.

“It's something we want our fans to look at this and see if it's something they want, so we can grow this in the future and certainly it can put on some good racing,” Penske said, making what is his first major announcement since officially acquiring the historic Speedway on January 6.

“Guess what? The 500 was the 500 for I don't know how many decades and once the decision was

made to bring NASCAR in, we felt we wanted to take it to the next level,” Penske continued. “We've had some great racing here on the Brickyard weekend but we think with the concerts, the road course racing on Saturday and the oval on Sunday will make a big difference for our fans and certainly for our TV partners.”

Kennedy said the sanctioning body had been contemplating running the Indianapolis road course for “a while.”

“It's an exciting announcement for us in NASCAR,” Kennedy said acknowledging that road course racing “is some of our best racing.”

It has historically been a fan favorite as well, Kennedy said, especially in the Xfinity Series which will have five road course events on its 2020 schedule – at Mid-Ohio, Road America, Watkins Glen, the Charlotte Motor Speedway ROVAL and now Indianapolis.

NASCAR driver Matt DiBenedetto will test the road course configurations at Indianapolis next week.



Paul Menard, driver of the #21 Menards/Dutch Boy Ford, drives during practice for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Big Machine Vodka 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on September 07, 2019 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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- 6. "Stinging" Muhammad
- 9. Greek portico
- 13. She turned to stone, mythology
- 14. Loud noise
- 15. *Like many football fans
- 16. At full speed
- 17. VHS successor
- 18. Omit
- 19. *Miami _____
- 21. *They won their first two Super Bowl appearances
- 23. Time division
- 24. Do like phoenix
- 25. "Swan Lake" steps
- 28. It often follows tooth or back
- 30. What oars do
- 35. Part of a jousting outfit
- 37. Dickens!
- 39. Donkey in Mexico
- 40. Glazier's unit
- 41. *Like Bud at a party
- 43. Farm structure
- 44. Fraternal letter
- 46. Miso bean
- 47. Make wet
- 48. Unmoved
- 50. Agitate
- 52. Tasseled hat
- 53. Colloquial approval
- 55. Opposite of paleo
- 57. *Tonowanda _____, shortest-lived team in NFL history

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64						65	66			67			
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- DOWN
- 1. Angler's enemy
- 2. Type of cotton fiber
- 3. Sound of pride
- 4. Do like a good citizen
- 5. Family subdivisions
- 6. Contributes

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- 7. *54
- 8. Lemur from Madagascar
- 9. The only one
- 10. *Ronde to Tiki or Maukice to Mike
- 11. *Gambling _____
- 12. Pirate's "yes"
- 15. Echo
- 20. *Popular stadium snack
- 22. Nile reptile
- 24. Clergy house
- 25. *Halftime show sponsor
- 26. "Encore!"
- 27. *What halftime performer does
- 29. 43 Across residents
- 31. "That hurts!"
- 32. Measure of alcohol
- 33. Jagged, as a leaf's edge
- 34. *Halftime performer
- 36. Highway hauler
- 38. Boxer's last blow
- 42. House coat
- 45. Not seeing eye to eye
- 49. Tiny Tim's guitar
- 51. To the lowest degree, pl.
- 54. Relating to axis
- 56. Theater to Socrates
- 57. Leafy green
- 58. Similar
- 59. *Hall of Famers Ed or Andre
- 60. Neuter
- 61. Division word
- 62. _____ agreement
- 63. BÈBÈ's mother
- 64. *Super Bowl owner
- 66. Wharton degree

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