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Photo by Vickie Carpenter

Past president Fred Haller, who has helped coordinate the Macon County Senior Games for 30 years, passes the torch to current president Mike Townsend, marking the 32nd anniversary and officially declaring the opening of the 2022 games. The games will run through May 6 with a banquet on July 2. For more about the games and the opening ceremonies, see page 12.

Candidate profiles: District II commissioners

Early voting across North Carolina begins April 28 with the Primary voting day set for May 17. The Macon County Board of Commissioners currently has three seats up for election. Two seats in District II, which covers the Franklin area, and one seat in District I which serves Ellijay, Flats, Highlands and Sugarfork. The May 17 primary ballot will feature Republican candidates for office. Since only two Democrats have filed to run – Ronnie Beale and Betty Cloer Wallace – a primary is not needed for the Democrats. The top Republican vote getters will be placed on the November ballot to face the two Democrat challengers or an independent challenger who secures enough signatures to be placed on the ballot by the deadline.

Leading up to the primary, The Macon County News will publish candidate profiles for local offices included Macon County Board of Commissioners District I, District II, Clerk of Superior

Court, and Macon County Sheriff.

Gary Shields, Dan Reitmeier, Danny Antoine, Richard Lightner, and Gregg Jones are vying for the two District II commissioners seats. The candidates were asked to provide a short bio and were asked the same questions.

Gary Shields

Gary Shields was born and raised in Macon County. Shields attended Franklin High School, Walhalla High School and Waynesville Township High School where he graduated in June 1966.

After high school, Shields joined the United States Army where he served two tours of duty in Vietnam before finishing his military service in May 1969. Shields attended Gardner-Webb

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Easter Bunny visits in downtown Franklin



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Creative photography exhibit at Macon library

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CANDIDATES

Continued from page 1

College in August 1969 where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in December 1973 and then began his career in public education. Shields completed his Masters Degree in School Administration from University of North Carolina-Charlotte and later completed his Masters Degree in Guidance and Counseling from UNC-C via Western Carolina University (WCU).

Shields' professional educational career began in Kings Mountain, N.C., where he served as a teacher and school administrator for eight years. He then had the opportunity to move back to work in the Macon County School System where he worked for 29 years, 21 of which was as principal of Franklin High School. Shields retired in June 2010 after 37 years in education.

After retiring, Shields ran for the Macon County Board of Education and was elected to serve a four-year term. After one term on the Board of Education, Shields ran and was elected for his first term on the Macon County Board of Commissioners in November 2014 and was re-elected in 2018.

"In November 2022, my plans are to seek a third four-year term on the Macon County Board of Commissioners," said Shields. "I have two major reasons for running for a third term. ... I have invested time and energy by serving our country that enabled me to recognize my strengths and weaknesses to include an appreciation for the values of the United States of America. My 37 years invested in education allowed me to view the past while recognizing the need to assist our youth in preparing for their future so they will become productive citizens and leaders in their respective communities. My 29 years invested in the Macon County School System, working with professional educators, showed patience allowing me to grow and reshape my philosophy of life for the betterment of mankind. My 21 years invested as the principal of Franklin High School was a blessing and due to all the lives that I interacted with, I was blessed because we grew up together. I can say my growth was greater because those memories will always be cherished."

Shields continued, "My second major reason for seeking a third, four-year term is because of unfinished business," he said. "COVID-19 exposed our weaknesses when our schools had to transition from the classrooms to the living rooms. Regions, states and our nation, as a whole, realized that another "utility" called broadband was a link that had to be addressed. I have been on the Macon County Broadband Committee for six or seven years and never felt so helpless until recently when federal and state funds were combined in the American Rescue Plan allowing counties to coordinate with federal and state providers. These "rescue" monies are once in a lifetime and we have a short time to complete a plan and then put the plan in place for



Gary Shields

broadband services in Macon County.

Continued unfinished business in progress includes:

– Macon Middle School: This renovation began [nearly] years ago and at our last commissioners meeting we are on target to completing this project in 2023.

– Macon Middle School Athletic Building: This project is with the architects at this time and is being built to assist the school's curriculum and athletic programs played on the MMS campus.

– Southwestern Community College: At this time the state is reviewing the specifications for a new Burn Building on the campus of the National Guard Armory in Franklin. The National Guard Armory was leased to SCC and will be used to expand the curriculum and studies now being taught in the Jerry Sutton

Facilities Building

– Nantahala Community Center and Library: This project is in the final stages of completion and will enhance the community opportunities for social events and media and Broadband activities.

– Highlands School Pre-K and school renovations. This need was brought to the attention of the county commissioners via community presentation at the February/March meeting.

– Additional classrooms to be built at Cartoogechaye Elementary and East Elementary School via ESSER FUNDS with a 2024 end-date for funds to be used."

Danny Antoine

Danny Antoine was born and raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was raised in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. He moved to Macon County in 1998 and has been married to his wife Mary for 13 years. Together, the couple have 15 children and 11 grandchildren. Antoine is an ordained minister as well as a family and marriage counselor and has also owned and operated a small business in Macon County for the last 22 years. He is a 6th Degree Black Belt, was the 2002 Karate World Champion and is the 2021 Legends of the Carolinas Martial Arts Hall of Fame Inductee. He serves as the volunteer chaplain for the Franklin Police Department and the Franklin Fire Department.

Antoine serves as a board member for Macon County Care Network and for KAVOD Family Non-Profit Foundation.

"I am not a politician. I am simply a concerned citizen unwilling to sit on the sidelines," said Antoine. "My desire is to serve my community to the fullest extent of my abilities and will consider it an honor to do so. I love our county and I want to be able to add to our beautiful culture, not merely receive from it. I truly believe in the title of 'public servant,' and serv-



Danny Antoine

ing this county has been my lifestyle for over 20 years. Many issues revolving around helping our youth and families in general can be solved by county officials who work well together for the greater good of the citizens. I would like the opportunity to be an elected county official who will serve the people of Macon County with integrity, striving to give my very best at all times."

Richard Lightner

Richard Lightner's father was a career Marine, so he grew up attending schools in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina. He graduated from WCU with a BSBA in Finance and Economics in 1980. While attending WCU, Lightner was elected president of a national fraternity and met his wife, Judy Dillard Lightner. The two were married in 1980 and started life in Franklin, Judy's hometown. Lightner has been a member of Cowee Baptist since 1978, where he has served as deacon for 35 years.

After WCU, Lightner was finance manager with Carolina Tire, Student Services Director at Macon Program for Progress, Professional Sales and Management at Lowe's where he was recognized as the top 10 salesman with Lowe's Company. From 1985-2019 Lightner worked as Macon County's Tax Administrator. He was elected the WNC Tax Association President two times, North Carolina Association of Assessing Officers President, Outstanding Tax Assessor for North Carolina, best tax office in North Carolina twice, and recipient of the Order of The Long Leaf Pine by the Governor of North Carolina for dedicated service to the state and its citizens.

While Lightner was not elected by the citizens for an office, he was an appointed county official, (Tax Administrator) with a legal appointment every four years by the Macon County Commissioners. The county manager and Lightner's position are the only two positions in the county that directly report to the elected commissioners.

"I have been a part of the county's management team since 1985 and I have worked with every county manager except the very first one," said Lightner. "I have worked with all the commissioners since 1985 either Democrat or Republican. My 85,000 hours involved with all county issues prepare me to make a difference on day one. I have retained the knowledge of how the county established procedures and dealt with issues for the pass 35 years."

Danny Reitmeier

Danny Reitmeier was raised in Franklin with his sister, Beth Corbin and their brother, Chris. Reitmeier was a student athlete and very involved in student government all through his school years. After graduating from Franklin High School, Re-



Richard Lightner

itmeier joined the Air Force and served for 8.5 years. Reitmeier is a proud veteran, having served in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm. He is married to his wife, Kim. Reitmeier is a born again Christian, saved by the blood of Jesus and serves as a member of Holly Springs Baptist Church, where he has attended for 28 years.

After the U.S. Air Force, Reitmeier began his professional career where he has experience working as a tax software programmer, landscape maintenance accounts manager, small business owner, operating his own landscape business, as well as working for the U.S. Post Office.

"My reason for running for commissioner is simple," said Reitmeier, "I love our county and the people that live here. I think it's time for a change. It's time for new ideas, new energy, new personalities, and new ways of looking at things. I want to move our county forward in a positive way and make it economically viable for people to make a good living here and not move away. I am a 'people person' ... I've never met a stranger. I truly care about people. I believe those character traits will help me connect with the citizens in our county and earn the trust necessary to move our county forward and help all of our citizens. I want ALL of our citizens to have a true, strong voice that will listen to them and be a transparent, tireless worker for them. They deserve that."

ties, and new ways of looking at things. I want to move our county forward in a positive way and make it economically viable for people to make a good living here and not move away. I am a 'people person' ... I've never met a stranger. I truly care about people. I believe those character traits will help me connect with the citizens in our county and earn the trust necessary to move our county forward and help all of our citizens. I want ALL of our citizens to have a true, strong voice that will listen to them and be a transparent, tireless worker for them. They deserve that."

Gregg Jones

Gregg Jones is a native of Macon County, growing up his family owned and operated Jones Ruby Mine for which he contributed 20 years of his life helping his family succeed with the business. Today, Jones is a small business owner, owning and operating a small grading business. He is active in the community, serving on volunteer boards and coaching community basketball.

"I want to give the citizens of Macon County their voice back to help make decisions where their tax money is spent," said Jones. "I want to be the county commissioner that is transparent, available, and willing to work for the citizens of Macon County. I would like to see more citizen participation in their community."

What do you see as being the biggest issue facing Macon County?

Shields: "School Capital needs are ongoing and our schools have to be maintained. Broadband is not a luxury but a necessity for the health and safety of our communities. Quality workforce. Affordable housing/rent. Safety, Health and Education make up 70%-plus of our annual budget."



Danny Reitmeier



Gregg Jones

Providing senior services, Mental Health (young and old),” he said. “Nothing is free so monies have to be allocated accordingly by need and you budget and seek studies that show you the major needs of the county. Our Capital Improvement Plan, with other data, gives the board a guide for going forward and the board does this with high concern of property owners having to provide the necessary funds via increased taxes.”

Antoine: “There are many issues confronting our county; the levels of importance can be fairly relative,” said Antoine. “Drugs are a major issue here plaguing all age groups. The assets that are available to our children and teens are lacking. Young people are our greatest asset and the leaders for our county’s future. I firmly believe we can help alter this drug epidemic by raising a strong generation of young men and women with their identities intact. I believe in teaching the youth how to contribute to our society rather than just take from it.”

Lightner: “The largest items in a small community vary very little from that of a large community. The top four items are items of safety, education, economic growth, and budgets. Macon faces all these issues just as our larger sister counties in N.C. We need to have public safety adequately funded but not at the cost of shortchanging other vital services such as education and senior services. Economic development is mentioned to me by everyone I meet. We need to establish an office of Economic and Grants Director within the county. We already have the funds in the budget to do so. We see the importance of grants with some recent grants making the local news.”

Reitmeier: “It’s pretty much impossible to name only one ‘biggest’ issue in our county. However, with that being said, I believe we have to find a way (or ways) to give our citizens the means to find good employment which would allow them to keep their families here while making a good living. Be it some type of industry, making sure we get as many people connected with broadband internet, which would allow people to be employed in ways that were never possible before, or other things like that. We also have to be vigilant when it comes to public safety, our schools and health and human services.”

Jones: “Building schools: I would address this by getting grant writers to bring in rural area grants to cover our needs and help distribute different funds for the needs of Macon County,” said Jones.

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? Do you support the sales tax referendum that will be placed on the ballot in November?

Shields: “I feel the ‘brick and mortar,’ via the county, is a hardship for some counties because they do not have a tax base that is sufficient for 2022 public education. The state has looked at counties with ‘brick and mortar’ needs and have designated lottery monies to assist with school projects but the monies are scarce. My greatest concern is mandates from the state that are not accompanied with funds and the commissioners are held responsible for providing the needed mandated services. The state should supply 100% of the current expenses that are passed on

to the county via school mandates,” said Shields. “I do support the .25 sales tax that will be on the referendum in November 2022. Our Region A is made up of seven counties (Haywood west) and six of those counties have passed the .25 sales tax and speaking to many of those county leaders, it is a fair tax that visitors can participate in without all the burden falling on the local property owner. Yes, this is another revenue that the property owner would not have to endure because this revenue would be earmarked for the schools/education.”

Antoine: “I believe the county’s investment in public education is crucial to our county’s future. Without sufficient information, I cannot say in all certainty whether or not our current spending levels on public education here are adequate. However, that doesn’t seem to be complicated to answer once I understand the accurate numbers on our spending. I am not for raising taxes when, at our current tax rate, we are not properly allocating the taxes currently collected. If the choice were between a sales tax vs. an ad valorem tax, I would choose sales tax because at least the pass-through traffic can help cushion this tax. Ad valorem property tax would only hit our citizens. I will also say, being that we are maintaining approximately \$32 million in savings, I think we should consider the potential use of those funds rather than placing the burden of heavier taxes on the citizens.”

Lightner: “Education is one of the pillars of our community. In fact, public education started in our county by parents and their neighbors coming together and paying for the small schools in areas like Ellijay, Cowee, Clarks Chapel, and many others areas. Locally we spend 19% of our budget on education while our neighbor, (Jackson) a very similar county, spends 24.06%. North Carolina law establishes that the county is responsible for the school facilities. Our children deserve schools that meet 21st Century needs and not that of the 1950s. The question is how do we pay for them? We can establish a tax district for the schools just like the fire districts we have. By doing this, we can see where every dollar is budgeted and spent. No longer will school dollars be misinterpreted going to different programs or lost in the general budget.

Yes, I support the sales tax increase of ¼ cent. Many travel to Clayton or Asheville to shop and pay a higher tax there to support their needs so why would we not want our services to our citizens to receive the same type of funds?”

Reitmeier: “I know the county’s role in funding public education is primarily ‘brick and mortar.’ The state is responsible for pay/salary. The county should fund adequately, based on needs and be prudent economically as those needs are being taken care of. I do support the tax referendum being on the ballot. Our citizens should have their voices heard as to whether or not the tax increase should be put in place.”

Jones: “How I stand on public education in Macon County, we need to expand the schools to downsized classrooms to make learning more attainable,” said Jones. “Our school buildings need to be updated for better operation and maintenance for the safety of our children and faculty. I do not support the sales tax referendum.”

Macon County has completed 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?

See CANDIDATES page 8

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US Appellate Court denies deputy's qualified immunity claim in shooting of Scott Knibbs

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

On March 30, 2022, a 2-1 majority of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit denied former Macon County Sheriff's Deputy Anthony Momphard's qualified immunity claim, stating, "... Knibbs was only exercising his constitutional right to protect himself and his family by coming to the door with a loaded gun" and that there was no objective way for Knibbs to know who was actually on his front porch."

The case, which is a result of the 2018 officer-involved shooting that claimed the life of Macon County resident Scott Knibbs was dismissed by U.S. District Judge Max O. Cogburn Jr. on Nov. 5, 2020, who granted the defendants' motion for summary judgment per the standard of review by stating "Summary judgment shall be granted 'if the movant shows that there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law.'"

The lawsuit was filed by Haywood County based attorney Mark Melrose on behalf Melissa Knibbs, wife of Michael Scott Knibbs. While portions of Judge Cogburn's decision were upheld, parts of the judgement —specifically Momphard's qualified immunity claim, were rejected.

Qualified immunity is a type of legal immunity. "Qualified immunity balances two important interests — the need to hold public officials accountable when they exercise power irresponsibly and the need to shield officials from harassment, distraction, and liability when they perform their duties reasonably."

Due to the March 30 ruling ... the civil rights and wrongful death claims against Momphard can proceed, which means the claims against MCSO's surety bond against Momphard and Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland, up to \$25,000, can also move forward to trial.

As first reported by Cory Vaillancourt with The Smoky Mountain News, U.S. Appellate Court Judge Agee wrote the opinion, in which Judge Rushing joined.

"In the course of responding to a dispute between neighbors just after midnight on April 30, 2018, Deputy Sheriff Anthony Momphard, Jr., of the Macon County, North Carolina, Sheriff's Office fatally shot Michael Knibbs while Knibbs was standing inside his home holding a loaded shotgun. Knibbs' widow, Melissa Knibbs, as personal representative of his Estate ("the Estate"), subsequently brought this action, asserting that Deputy Momphard used excessive force in violation of Knibbs' Fourth Amendment rights, along with various related state law claims. The district court held that Deputy Momphard was entitled to qualified immunity from the Estate's 42 U.S.C. § 1983 claim and that the Estate's state law claims against Deputy Momphard, Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland, and the insurance companies that issued the Sheriff's Office a liability insurance policy and a surety bond (collectively, "Defendants") necessarily failed. For the reasons set forth below, we affirm the district court's judgment in part, vacate it in part, and remand for further proceedings."

According to the opinion written by Judge Agee, the qualified immunity claim was rejected due to conflicting expert testimony. While the report of forensic pathology expert Dr. Jonathan Arden, M.D., proffered that it is more likely that Knibbs "was holding his shotgun left-handed with his right hand and arm across his chest in a safe stance with the barrel pointed upward, and the muzzle of the shotgun was not aimed at [Deputy] Momphard..." the defendant offered the opinion of crime-scene reconstruction expert Rod Englert, who opined that the forensic evidence is more consistent with Knibbs having pointed his shotgun at Deputy Momphard. He posited that

the stippling that the medical examiner and Dr. Arden claimed to have observed on Knibbs' right arm was not stippling at all; it was blood spatter. In his opinion, that pattern of blood spatter matched the pattern on Knibbs' gun, which was "consistent with [Knibbs'] shotgun being in a raised horizontal position, below the upper chest wound, allowing the back-spatter to spray the right side of the shotgun" and the edge of his right forearm aligned with his thumb."

"Viewing this case in the light most favorable to the Estate, there is sufficient evidence for a reasonable jury to find that Knibbs never pointed his weapon at Deputy Momphard or made any furtive movements, thereby rendering unjustified the deadly force used against Knibbs. The district court therefore erred in finding that there were no genuine issues of disputed material fact, and ultimately erred in finding that Deputy Momphard's use of force was reasonable as a matter of law at this stage in the proceedings," reads the court ruling.

Judge Paul V. Niemeyer wrote a dissenting opinion and stated that he supported the qualified immunity claim because of evidence that showed Knibbs knew the officer was there and heard the officer's announcement identifying himself.

"The record in this case contains, to be sure, a few disputed facts, but none of them is material to the legal determination of whether the law enforcement officer violated the deceased person's legal rights or whether the officer is entitled to qualified immunity. The record shows the following," wrote Judge Niemeyer.

"The officer, reasonably believing he was about to be shot through the door, seeks safety from that position and, in doing so, sees [Knibbs] holding the gun," Niemeyer wrote. "Not waiting to be shot, the officer fires his service pistol. Despite these facts, the majority rules that the officer is not entitled to qualified immunity because a jury could find that the officer shot Knibbs while he was only 'possess[ing] a firearm in his own home in a non-threatening manner while investigating a nocturnal disturbance on his premises.' This makes no sense to me."

Due to the March 30 ruling by the Appellate Court, the Macon County Sheriff's Office will retain its governmental immunity from suit, but now the civil rights and wrongful death claims against Momphard can proceed, which means the claims against MCSO's surety bond against Momphard and Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland, up to \$25,000, can also move forward to trial.

A trial date will be determined at a later date, however it is possible for the case to be moved to the United States Supreme Court entirely, depending on if the defense petitions the case to the Supreme Court.

In his dissent of the ruling, Judge Niemeyer wrote that the Supreme Court has been clear in past rulings involving qualified immunity.

"Over the years, the Supreme Court has repeatedly admonished courts of appeals to recognize police officers' immunity. And only recently, perhaps in some exasperation, it again reminded courts of appeals of this fact. In City of Tahlequah, the Court reiterated that 'qualified immunity protects all but the plainly incompetent or those who knowingly violate the law' and noted that it has 'repeatedly told courts not to define clearly established law at too high a level of generality.' It is not enough that a rule be suggested by then-existing precedent; the rule's contours must be so well defined that it is clear to a reasonable officer that his conduct was unlawful in the situation he confronted."



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CANDIDATES

Continued from page 3

Shields: "The county has completed a large 'Space Needs Analysis' and we need to review this analysis often to measure immediate needs and need changes that occur with time," said Shields. "Needs seem to change often and the 'new needs' will replace previous 'needs' and the 'Capital Improvement Plan' and 'Space Needs Analysis Plan' should be reviewed often for a summarization of changes needed. I, as a commissioner, should review both products and assess and bring thoughts or questions to the county manager or board for additional input."

Antoine: "It seems like the analysis was done, but there hasn't been much forward motion on it. Getting refocused on the results acquired from the analysis can get us moving in the right direction for the county."

Lightner: "A \$300,000 study was completed in 2019 and has seen little movement on it. Until we commit to keeping our present buildings in good repair, we need to be frugal on building new ones. We also need to involve the public in the plans on new buildings."

Reitmeier: "The large space needs analysis identified all the county buildings and their inner workings that needed attention, repairs, improvements or potentially to be replaced. I think this analysis/report is a great working tool. It should help the decision-making process as far as what the priorities are in the future. I know there have already been some improvements made, such as LED lighting, which will help save some money."

Jones: "The direction the county is taking to address the large space needs analysis needs to have additional planning in our fast pace growing county," said Jones. "The county currently has unfinished projects that need to be completed. Otherwise, they need to be done away with so held up funding could be used for other projects."

Any other issues or information you would like to include for the voters?

Shields: "I am proud to work with each commissioner or discuss concerns with the total board. As a commissioner, one has to 'agree to disagree' in a respectful manner," said Shields.

Antoine: "I want to encourage all of our citizens that although the many grievances you have shared with me are very critical and valid concerns, you have the opportunity to elect officials that will respond to your voices. There needs to be better maintenance on existing projects and infrastructure where we have put substantial investments. I believe we can do a better job with activities for the elderly of Macon County. I would like to see our active voter numbers hit an all-time high in this election, which is why I'm calling out to the younger generation, the age group of 18-55 to be more exact. I am calling on you for your participation in helping to bring about the right changes for our county."

Lightner: "We need public input from the beginning, not after hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent and decisions are already in the process of being approved. Citizens' input before monetary output are vital because visions lead to plans that become reality."

Reitmeier: "These are some of the things that are important items/issues in our county that I believe we need to concentrate on. It is not a comprehensive list, but some main points/ideas..."

- Education/invest in our youth
- Emergency services (all departments...fire, sheriff, police, EMS)
- Economic growth
- Veterans services
- Senior citizens services
- Keeping taxes low
- Broadband internet access

I am always willing to listen and discuss any ideas, thoughts, concerns, questions, etc. from any of our citizens. We have to take care of all of our citizens. We have to be transparent, listen, and be true voices as their representatives. We are there for them!"

Compiled by Brittney Lofthouse



Couple celebrates 65 years

Bob and Elizabeth Waldroop Cabe of Upper Cartoogechaye recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with their family. They were married on April 16, 1957, at the South Macon Methodist parsonage by Rev. Robert Poindexter. The couple has two children, Marie Johnson (Tommy) or Rockwell, N.C., and Marty Cabe (Karlene) of Cartoogechaye; six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. Before they settled in Cartoogechaye, Bob served 20 years in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a Senior Chief Cryptological Technician. Some of his duty stations were Alaska, England, Philippines, Hawaii, Ft. Meade, Md., at the National Security Agency and Washington, D.C. at the Naval Security Station. During the Vietnam War, he served in the Gulf of Tonkin aboard the flagship of the Seventh Fleet. The ship's homeport was Yokosuka, Japan and during that period of time the family lived in Yokohama.

SHERIFF CANDIDATE FORUM

The Macon-Jackson Lodge #81 Fraternal Order of Police along with the Macon County Republican College Team is hosting a Sheriff Candidate Forum of candidates for Sheriff of Macon County

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Courtroom A,
Macon County Courthouse

This event is open to the public and will be live-streamed via www.facebook.com/FOP-Lodge-81-MaconJackson-121275472609850, www.facebook.com/MaconCountyRepublicanPartyNC and other social media outlets. Questions will be pre-selected by the FOP board. At the conclusion, candidates may make closing remarks.

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

Last week I attended the Newly Elected Officials Seminar in Asheville. The event was sponsored by the University of North Carolina School of Government and the North Carolina League of Municipalities. While I was recently elected to a third term, I like to attend these events to learn about new issues and brush up on old ones.

The professors covered a number of important topics such as town government structures, North Carolina statutes regulating municipalities and budget planning. I learned a lot, such as reserve fund levels that other towns maintain. I was prepared in discussions to tout that Highlands maintains very high reserves. But, I discovered several other nearby towns maintain budget reserve percentages equal to or even higher than we do in Highlands. I kept silent. The instructor emphasized that the tendency in North Carolina is for small towns to maintain higher reserve fund percentages than do larger cities.

At the end of the workshop Professor Carl Stenberg led a presentation called "Public Choices, Public Values." The presentation and group response focused on values that town councils have to address when making decisions about public policy. Professor Stenberg shared the Public Values Compass Model that has been created by the NC School of Government. He pointed out that public issues reflect four major public values. These public values were illustrated as if they are opposite points on a compass needle, for example, north versus south, east versus west.

The values on the opposite compass points are: Liberty versus equality in one direction and prosperity versus community in the other direction. When elected officials make public policy decisions these polar values can cause tensions in the decision making process. For instance, liberty is a overall value encompassing associations of freedom, choice, opportunity autonomy, personal responsibility and self sufficiency. Those treasured values can come into conflict with the values of equality and related associations such as fairness, justice, tolerance, equal rights, diversity, equity and a level playing field. The challenge for elected officials, and for that matter a community, is to find the right balance in making policy between these two points on the public values compass.

Another set of values at opposite points on this compass model is prosperity versus community. Related values of

Continued on page 11

Letters to the Editor

Compare presidential Easter messages

Former President Trump's Easter message:

"Happy Easter to all including the Radical Left Maniacs who are doing everything possible to destroy our Country. May they not succeed, but let them, nevertheless, be happy, healthy, wealthy, and well!"

President Biden's Easter message:

"Jill and I join fellow Christians around the world in celebrating Easter Sunday — a day of joy and hope, of renewal and rebirth.

Once again, Holy Week has taken us on a journey from sorrow to salvation. As we reflect today on Christ's Resurrection, we are reminded that with faith, hope, and love — even death can be defeated.

And, as we emerge from this pandemic, we are grateful that so many are able to celebrate this day of joy and renewal with services and family gatherings in person and together again. But we know this Holy Day falls on heavy hearts for those who have lost loved ones and those among us living in the dark shadow of war, persecution, and poverty.

On this day and each day, we pray for them, and for peace, freedom, and the basic dignity and respect for all of God's children. As we look ahead with His blessing, may we share a common hope for the future, reaffirm love and compassion for one another, and cherish the blessing of the dawn of new possibilities.

From our family to yours, we wish you hope, health, joy, and the peace of God, which passes all understanding.

Happy Easter and may God bless and keep you. "

Trump does not even mention Christ or the Resurrection. I wonder if he even knows why we celebrate Easter.

John Barry – Franklin, N.C.

Candidates need to understand impact of government

An election for Macon County Commissioners is coming up soon, and we need some changes.

Experience counts, but the experience that counts for one position may not be suitable experience for a different position.

A commissioner may be a person of as fine a character as you are ever likely to know. The person may be someone that is highly regarded by many people for personal life, integrity, character, and intelligence. But, if that commissioner has never had the necessity in life of creating wealth, that commissioner does not belong on the county commission. If the commissioner has been a life-long wage or salary man, if the commissioner has never created a dollar, then the commissioner does not know how the actions of government impact the people and businesses who do create our wealth. Not knowing that, the commissioner cannot govern to the

best benefit of the county. Experience counts.

A commissioner may be a person who does have the experience of creating wealth, but even so, makes tax transfers to and makes regulations favorable to one or another special interest. That commissioner, in my opinion, is flawed. He knows right from wrong, but he does wrong. Perhaps the commissioner is merely unable to say "no." Whatever the flaw, that commissioner is not governing to the best benefit of the county.

The county is best served by commissioners who both possess strength of character and know how the actions of government affect the man who is trying to create a living for his family and a surplus so he can pay his taxes.

George Crockett – Franklin, N.C.

Customer service lacking at local post office

I mailed out four Easter cards from my community outgoing mailbox one and a half weeks before Easter. Apparently, they were not received by the three out of four people that I contacted to see if they got their card. I called the Franklin Post Office and was told that I had to contact an online website. I did not see a click-on site for my inquiry so I called a toll-free number. I then received a text to send my information to a site which would contact me in two to three days so I could make my complaint. I'm wondering if that would actually solve my issue. Why all the delay and need to do all these steps with a questionable outcome? Why all the stonewalling? Why can't the local post office handle a local postal question? It's a simple matter for what seems to me to be a local postal pick-up or drop-off issue.

Christine Matthews – Franklin, N.C.

*Email letters to the editor to
maconcountynews@gmail.com*

The Macon County News letters page is a public forum open to a wide variety of opinions as a right guaranteed in the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Letters are neither accepted nor rejected based on content. Letters must be signed and contact information provided. Views expressed are not necessarily reflective of the opinions of publisher, editor or staff. Writers are asked to refrain from personal attacks against individuals or businesses.

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TAYLOR

From previous page

community are safety, belonging, family, neighborhoods, tradition, security and quality of life. These community values are sometimes contrasted with prosperity which relates to growth, efficiency, productivity, profit, competition, privatization, return on investment, and also quality of life.

As Professor Stenberg emphasized, solving public problems requires solutions that consider these competing values. That point made me think about current issues in Highlands, especially short term rentals. I have listened to many residents about STRs. So many of our friends and neighbors hold different values identified on the compass model that shape their position. Some think the prime issue is liberty and property rights. Others embrace the position of community, fairness. Others want equity and a level playing field, but how that translates into policy may vary among individuals and groups. Switching to the other compass points, some residents embrace community, neighborhoods, quality of life while others support growth, productivity and return on their investment.

The challenge for the board, our elected officials, will be to strike a balance that will ensure the longterm viability for Highlands. Like so many other communities, the town will have to set a direction very soon. Making no decision is not an option.

LETTERS

Continued from page 10

You Might Be a Democrat if ...

You Might Be a Democrat if.....

You hate Trump because you have been told he is mean, yet you are fine with grossly incompetent and obviously corrupted Biden.

You support murdering innocent babies in the womb calling it "choice," yet want to force ineffective and dangerous COVID vaccines on others without their choice.

You are worried about so-called misinformation while at the same time cheering gender confusion and psychological child abuse at schools even though there are clearly only two genders, male and female.

You rabidly say we should follow the science yet do not accept universal medical facts and real science when orthodox medicine doesn't fit your collectivist mentality; therefore you are controlled by fear and propaganda.

You think that extended early voting, better access, and absolute transparency and accountability are an attack on voting rights while you superficially give lip service to protecting democracy.

Furthermore, you might be a Democrat if you are brainwashed and thus want to censor and cancel opposing views (just as the Nazis did) because you do not want to debate the facts; instead calling anything that you don't like "hate speech."

You support Ukrainians defending themselves with machine guns yet want to take away guns from law abiding American citizens.

You claim we need to talk about race relations more but only if you can silence the truth of historical facts and ignore reality while stomping on white people's individual rights and cultural identity.

You idiotically believe a group of unarmed protesters should be denied free speech on Jan. 6 and be unconstitutionally detained without due process, yet gleefully supported violent riots, looting, and murder in the summer of 2020.

You cannot answer the basic questions that remain unanswered about the stolen 2020 election while you regurgitate Marxist talking points as a distraction that never addresses any of the real issues.

You want to cram homosexual and queer ideology down everyone's throats yet refuse to tolerate differing opinions and label anyone who disagrees with you with buzz words of white supremacist, homophobe, or racist.

You believe citizens should have their rights taken away (just as the Nazis did) and be forced to show vaccine cards to do business while claiming that showing an ID to vote is somehow racist. Is it racist to show an ID to pick up your football game tickets too?

You wrongly thought Hunter's laptop was fake news in 2020 even though it was completely legitimate, and now, continue to believe a proven pathological liar such as Fauci and countless other leftist lunatics hellbent on destroying truth.

Finally, you might be a Democrat if you virtue signal by wearing masks (or worse, actually believe masks prevent the spread of viruses which the CDC has even admitted they do

not). You are totally fine with today's manufactured crisis that has been designed to destroy your freedoms and condition your mind for future government over reach and false flags.

You want to keep the Southern border open to illegals and rob the working class through taxes in the self-righteous name of tolerance and diversity yet do not want homeless people camping in your yard.

You think the status quo from Washington DC monkeys is acceptable because their self-serving agendas and our loss of freedom through unconstitutional legislation contributes to a sanctimonious "more perfect union."

In other words, you might be a group think socialist unwittingly destroying America if you practice any of this hypocrisy by blindly believing the media/government endless lies and refusing to change your mind after you have been shown real truth.

Jim Gaston - Franklin, N.C.

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Senior Games, a Spring tradition, resumes in Macon County

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer



Kim Crawford with the Macon County Senior Center; and Cody Brooks, Senior Games Coordinator



Karen Symonds passes the torch to the other Ambassadors.

Senior games in Macon County kicked off this month with a luncheon ceremony. Locally, senior games began 32 years ago. The qualifying games, open to anyone 50 years of age or older, involve several weeks each spring of such activities as badminton, shuffleboard, cornhole, table tennis, bocce, croquet, pickle ball and more. This year, more than 100 people have signed up to participate. Some activities take place at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building on Georgia Road in Franklin, while others are at Parker Meadows Complex on Patton Road.

On a state level, North Carolina Senior Games (NCSG) began in 1983 with a vision to create a year-round health promotion and wellness education opportunity for middle-aged to older adults. The Senior Games' mission, according to NCSG, is truly grassroots in North Carolina.

Karen Townsend, who has been involved in the Macon County Senior Games for many years with her husband, Mike, said, "For senior citizens, this is a program to keep body, mind, and spirit fit ... and to have fun, fellowship, and enjoy good food."

Whoever "qualifies" during the spring games is able to advance to Raleigh to participate in state Senior Games' competitions.

Senior Games on a national level this year are in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., May 10-23.

For more information about current and future Macon County Senior Games, email Cody Brooks with the Macon County Parks & Recreation at cbrooks@maconnc.org.



Commissioner Gary Shields spoke at the opening ceremonies.



A group of line dancers performed for those assembled for the opening ceremonies of the 2022 Senior Games.



Following the ceremonies, the seniors were treated to lunch.



Fred and Eva Haller were presented gifts in appreciation for their dedication to the Macon County Senior Games for more than 30 years.



Photos by Vickie Carpenter



Easter Bunny visits downtown Franklin

The Streets of Franklin Heritage Association sponsored an Easter Basket with more than \$1,000 in downtown goods and services, donated by Franklin Merchants. Bere Hernandez, pictured, was the winner. For merchant updates and downtown Franklin happenings, including sales, giveaways and events, follow the Facebook page at Streets of Franklin Heritage Association. If you'd like to sign up to become a vendor for any of our events, email thestreetsoffranklinnc@gmail.com.



Photos by Brooke Reale



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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 April 8 - 17. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

April 11

David George Collins, was charged with assault on a female and unauthorized use of motor vehicle. Costin Jigla made the arrest.

Timothy Michael Carson, was charged with felony possession of schedule I controlled substance. Costin Jigla made the arrest.

Dustin Lynn Busby, was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Deputy Cody Tiger made the arrest.

Kayla Nicole Woods, was charged with misdemeanor larceny. Cassie J. Shuler made the arrest.

Robert Gary Dye, was charged with failure to appear for driving while intoxicated. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

April 12

David Collins, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. Deputy Cody J. Howard made the arrest.

April 17

Timothy Ray Hill, was charged with assault on a female, assault by pointing a gun and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Deputy Cody J. Howard made the arrest.

Matt D. Laws, was charged with communicating threats. Cassie J. Shuler made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

April 7

Sean C. Mason was issued an order for arrest for domestic violence protective order violation. J.A. Riles made the arrest.

April 8

Jamie Patrick Oneal, was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession with intent to sell/deliver fentanyl and possession of drug paraphernalia. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Michala Cheyenne Taylor, was charged with possession with intent to sell/deliver methamphetamine, possession with intent to sell/deliver fentanyl and possession of drug paraphernalia. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Nathan Daniel Green, was charged with felony flee to elude, careless and reckless driving, speeding (130 MPH in 55 MPH zone), speeding (70 MPH in 45 MPH zone), speeding (60 MPH in 45 MPH zone), failure to stop at steady red light, hit and run, driving while license revoked, improper passing and resist/obstruct/delay. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

April 10

Joshua Ray Carver, was charged with driving while impaired. G.D. Hovis made the arrest.

April 14

Kristy Danielle Cabe, was charged with probation violation. A.R. Holland made the arrest.

Tyler Johnathan Thurman, was issued an order for arrest for probation violation. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

April 8

Shira Lynn Littlejohn, 32, of North Country Club Dr., Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked not impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$250 was set.

Jimmy Wayne Edwards, 62, of Begonia Lane, was charged with assault on a female. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

April 9

Alexander Martinez Garcia, 26, of Bertha Saunoke Rd., Cherokee, was charged with obtaining property by false pretense. An unsecured bond of \$7,500 was set.

April 11

Crystal Lee Queen, 44, of Indian Mound Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with simple assault. A bond of \$1 was set.

Samantha Katurah Phillips, 41, of Wahalla Rd., Highlands, was charged with extradition fugitive from other state. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

April 12

Christopher Todd Jones, 35, of Cloudy Valley Rd., was charged with possession of stolen goods and felony probation violation. A secured bond of \$85,000 was set.

Thomas Paul Trantham, 27, of Touchstone Way, was charged with child support purge and theft of a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Whitney Allison Downs, 29, of Huntington Ridge, Whittier, was charged with child support purge arrest order. A \$392.87 bond was set.

Christina Marie Jenkins, 41, of Laurel Knob Rd., Cashiers, was charged with larceny by an employee and obtain property by false pretenses. No bond was set.

April 13

William Kenneth Drasdo, 42, of Sylva, was charged with breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

April 14

Michael David Touger, 38, of Cheerful Cove, Cullowhee, was charged with possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a schedule VI controlled substance, possession of a schedule III controlled substance and possession of a schedule I controlled substance. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

April 15

Derrick Lane Bryson, 40, of Sutton Branch Rd., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

April 16

Tyrese Dalton Slaven, 20, of Ped Rd., Winfield, Tenn, was charged with communicating threats. No bond was set.

Peyton Noelle Wood, 22, of Helm Dr., Cullowhee, was charged with simple assault. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

April 17

Kimberly Ann Santy, 41, of Newport Dr., was charged with misdemeanor larceny. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Ray Charles McCall, 34, of Old Mill Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with assault on a government official, resist/obstruct/delay and simple assault. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Legendary A.T. hiker Grandma Gatewood continues to motivate

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

As Appalachian Trail (A.T.) northbound hikers stop in Franklin for a respite after hiking 110 miles from the starting point in Springer Mountain, Ga., many point out that they have read – or at least heard about – the legendary A.T. hiker known as “Grandma Gatewood.”

Recently, at the Macon County Public Library as part of its “Walking With Spring” programs, local storyteller Nancy Reeder presented “Grandma Gatewood Returns,” about Emma Rowena (Caldwell) Gatewood, born Oct. 25, 1887. She became legendary because although she was a farmer’s wife and the mother of 11 children, in 1955 she also became the first solo female thru-hiker of the 2,200-mile A.T. at the age of 67. Plus, she became the first person (male or female) to hike the trail three times, the last time as a section hiker, finishing at age 77.

Before hiking the A.T. the first time, she reportedly told her grown children she was simply “going for a walk.” Gatewood slung a homemade sack over her shoulder, foraged for berries and edible plants when she ran out of food, and sung the first verse of “America the Beautiful” when she reached Mount Katahdin in Maine the first time she completed the A.T. Into her 80s, she continued to help clear sections of the A.T. She died in 1973 at age 85.

At the April 13 library event, Reeder presented as a storyteller the history of Gatewood.

“By sharing her life through her eyes as her, I hoped the audience felt this powerful aspect of storytelling,” explained Reeder.

Even though she has shared about Gatewood through storytelling in the past, Reeder prepared for the April 13 event by getting to “know her even better.” She studied “Grandma Gatewood’s Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail,” by Ben Montgomery, and “visited the places she loved: Gallipolis, Ohio, and Hocking Hills State Park, also in Ohio. ... her favorite place to hike was a six-mile stretch from Old Man’s Cave to the Ash Cave at the Hocking Hills State Park, about an



Local storyteller Nancy Reeder presented *Grandma Gatewood Returns* at Macon County Public Library April 13 as part of its “Walking With Spring” programs to complement Franklin’s AT-Mile110 Celebration.

hour’s drive from Gallipolis. She was part of the founding group that created the Buckeye Trail that extends all over the state and includes this six miles.”

Reeder also studied, though library collec-

tions at the Gallipolis Bossard Memorial Library, Gatewood’s published notebook entries, newspaper articles she collected, as well as her poems.

Reeder pointed out that Gatewood’s story continues to inspire and encourage. “We, as a people of this country, have often forgotten what we are. She was a lover of the beauty that surrounds us. Grandma helped to open our eyes to what is life.”

A lifelong educator and storyteller, Reeder added that researching Gatewood’s life and then offering a storytelling presentation about the hiker was also personally inspiring.

“As I began reading the book and preparing for this first session, I realized I wanted to become her. I had already hiked the entire trail [A.T.], and in some sections of the book, I could recall certain places.”

During the presentation, Reeder portrayed “in character” Grandma Gatewood for about 45 minutes, even answering questions as Gatewood.

Although numerous books and blogs have been written by A.T. hikers as testimonies to the challenges and rewards of completing the 2,200-mile hike, Gatewood’s story continues to encourage modern-day hikers decades later.

The library’s “Walking With Spring” programs were created to complement Franklin’s AT-Mile110 Celebration, which began the first day of spring and ends on Earth Day.

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Creative photography exhibit at library through end of April

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Photography by Wendy Kates is on display in the Macon County Public Library’s Meeting Room until April 30. The images are dimensional, with primary subjects various buildings in Washington, D.C., where Kates is a permanent resident.

Kates has been a photography hobbyist for many years. Although she was trained as and enjoyed a career as a clinical developmental psychologist, a hearing loss issue caused her to become “more visually attuned. It caused me to get more interested in photography as a visual medium.”

She was first interested in nature and bird photography, but “my interests have really expanded.”

Since she retired in 2018, Kates’ photography has transitioned primarily into architectural scenes, images, and landscapes that are abstract and creative. “I find buildings and focus on their three-dimensional aspects instead of just focusing on the front of them.”



Milkweed in Autumn

She uses a digital Canon full-frame, mirrorless camera and selects a 24-105 millimeter lens for architectural and landscape photography; plus, she uses Photoshop to manipulate and transform some of the images.

With nature photography, she uses a 100-400 millimeter lens or a macro lens.

“It’s about reflecting the diversity of nature and color and the peacefulness of it – just like with the image of the milkweed [pictured above],” she said.

“Wendy Kates’ work is amazing!” commented Kristina Lynn Moe, the library’s Adult Services Assistant. “I learned about her through her neighbor, Jean Hunnicutt, who recommended she exhibit her photography here, and I’m so glad she did. Wendy spent some time telling me and other library visitors about where some of the photos were taken [during the exhibit’s opening reception]. They’re amazing as they are, but it was even more fun to learn about what city, what building, and what neighborhood the pictures were taken in. She’s currently on the lookout for old cabins to photograph.”

For more information about her photography, Kates’ email is wendy.kates.30@gmail.com or visit her website at <https://wendykatesphotography.zenfolio.com>.



Barns in Macon County

Kates continues to photograph nature, especially birds, when she visits Franklin to stay at her husband’s family vacation farm seasonally for a few weeks to a month each time.

But she said, “In terms of architectural photography, I love the symmetry and geometry. The other part of that is transforming the images into something creative and whimsical.”



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Deaths & Funerals

Carolyn Clayton Barber Wolfe

Carolyn Clayton Barber Wolfe was born on Feb. 28, 1937, to William Joseph and Margaret Snyder Barber. She passed from this life on April 14, 2022.

From the time she was introduced to art, she was recognized as being a very talented artist with paintings that were both eclectic and lovely. Even as a small child, as young as kindergarten age, her work was displayed at distinguished art shows. She enjoyed her art and embraced her talent but never forgot the inspiration and support she received early on from Mrs. Matniak, who was one of her teachers.

She enjoyed going to the Senior Center where she made friends with Reasa, who was always very kind and helpful, making her visits enjoyable. She was also blessed to receive excellent attention from her caregiver, Donna Keyworth.

She was predeceased by her husband, Tom Wolfe, and her son, Jay Paul Galasso, along with her parents and her brother, Jerry Barber.

She is survived by her children, Karyn Margaret Galasso (Juanita) of Tampa, Fla., GiGi Carlene Galasso of Crystal River, Fla., and Kim Gale, also of Florida; grandchildren, Ravyn Gale, Dylan Gale, Wayne Jackson, and Paul Jackson; a number of great-grandchildren; a brother, William Barber of Portchester, N.Y.; and her sister-in-law, Kristin Barber.

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



Carolyn Wolfe

Rev. Dr. Tommy Dean Lamb

Rev. Dr. Tommy Dean Lamb, 64, passed away Wednesday, April 13, 2022, in Huntsville, Ala. He was born on June 4, 1957, to the late William Dean Lamb and Agnes Hampton Lamb. He was a Southern Baptist Minister, and he preached the gospel for more than 30 years. He was a partner in Attentive Health & Wellness. He loved to ride his Harley Davidson, play the piano, and watch the Georgia Bulldogs play football. He loved his wife, children, and grandchildren. He had a great love for people and had a great sense of humor.

Survivors include his wife, Kathy Lamb; a son, Benjamin Thomas (Brittany) of Morganton, Ga.; a daughter, Amberly Griffith (Garrett) of Owens Crossroads, Ala.; one stepdaughter, Chelsey Karr (Nick); four grandchildren, Foster Thomas, Annistyn Thomas, Coulson Griffith, and Bryson Karr.

In addition to his parents, she was preceded in death by his brother, Dwayne Lamb.

A funeral service was held Monday, April 18, at Newman Chapel Baptist Church with Rev. J.D. Grant officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family ask donations to be made to Russell Hill Cancer Foundation, 3601 CCI Drive Huntsville, AL 35805.

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

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



Rev. Dr. Tommy Lamb

Stephen Robert Murphy

Stephen Robert Murphy, 76, of Franklin, N.C., passed away peacefully on April 14, 2022.

He was born in Washington County, Pa., on May 20, 1945, to Harry W. and Marion (Williams) Murphy.

He was a long-time resident of Franklin. Upon his graduation from high school, he enlisted in the United States Army and served his country honorably (Sergeant - E5) for five years from 1963 to 1968. Following his military service, he was employed by Belden Wire & Cable and Tektone Sound & Signal Manufacturing, Inc. and was a member of Mensa and a member of the National Audubon Society.

He was a beloved son, brother, uncle, and friend. He is loved by all who knew him, family, friends, and neighbors. He was always there with encouraging and uplifting words for everyone he met. His life was grounded by his faith, and he lived it accordingly. He represented the good that we all need every day in our lives. His integrity, love of life, laughter and his independent spirit will be dearly missed. He will be forever in our hearts, and we know he will always be watching over and guiding us. Rest in peace.

He will be lovingly remembered by his family, as well as his treasured friends Shelly Barrett, Kim Cunningham, and Virgie Yonce, all of whom he considered to be family (Stephen called them his angels); his nieces, Margaret Elaine Cressaty (Cherif), Pamela Cronan and Barbara Cronan; six grandnephews, and one grandniece, many great-grandnephews, and great-grandnieces as well as many cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters, Mary Lou Murphy, Marilyn Roberta Murphy, Margie Marie Murphy Cronan; brother-in-law, John L. Cronan and niece, Roberta Arlene Cronan Underwood.

A Celebration of Life memorial service was held Tuesday, April 19, at the Clarks Chapel United Methodist Church cemetery with Rev. David Lee Williams officiating. Military honors will be provided by VFW Post 7739 and American Legion Post 108.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

His loved ones wish to send a special thank you to the entire staff at Macon Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Franklin, for their care and compassion.

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

Macon Funeral Home will be handling the arrangements.

Patricia Helen Trombly Rocha

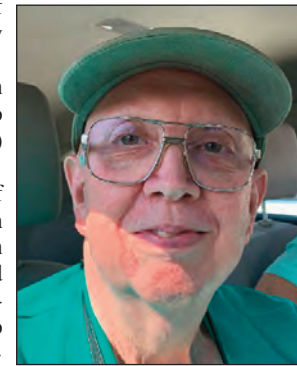
Patricia Helen Trombly Rocha, 79 passed away Tuesday April 12, 2022. She was born Oct. 17, 1942, in Albany, Ga., to the late Leo Trombly and Dorothy Rump Trombly. She loved the North Carolina mountains and making people laugh. She enjoyed arts and crafts and considered her cats as part of the family. She had retired from a career in teaching. She was Christian and raised her family trusting in God. She will be deeply missed.

She is survived by her daughter, Kathy Farris-Stoneham and husband Al Stoneham of Franklin; a son, Ricardo Rocha II; three grandchildren, Kathryn Farris Suminski, William Farris, and Anna Farris.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, William Howard Kincaid Jr.

A private Celebration of Life service will be held.

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



Stephen Robert Murphy



Patricia Helen Rocha



Deaths & Funerals

James Bryant 'Jim' Ballew

If his goals were to be remembered for his love for Jesus, love for his wife, Nancy, and for his integrity, James Bryant Ballew met and surpassed each of them. He consistently showed his honesty and trustworthiness in all he did.

Born on Oct. 11, 1932, to Bryant and Mabel Pike Ballew, he was the youngest of three children with two older, adoring sisters. He had a deep love for family that was evident in the way he cared and provided for them.

He thoroughly enjoyed bouncing up and down on his lawn mower as he pondered his golf game and how to improve it. Golf was his "other" life love. He was challenged constantly to correct imperfections and hit "dead center." He was also a great story teller, entertaining friends and family.

God took Jim home on April 14, 2022. Left with many memories of a life filled with difficult challenges, continuing growth and an abundance of blessings are his wife, Nancy LaVerne Garrett Ballew; his grandchildren, Melissa Unger (Brian) of Franklin, N.C., and James Neal of Charlotte, N.C.; his step-daughter, Lori Londeree of Franklin; his great-granddaughters, Bethany and Emilia Unger; his niece, Beverly Wing; and his nephews, Glen and Stanley Dixon. He was preceded in death by his son, Jimmy Ballew, along with his parents and sisters.

A Remembrance of Jim's life will be held Thursday, April 21, at 1 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Franklin, with friends and family mingling in the sanctuary beginning at 12:30 p.m. Dr. Robert Brown will officiate. Burial will be at Rush Cemetery in Otto, N.C., at 3 p.m.

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

Sheila Ann Goodwin

Sheila Ann Goodwin passed away April 14, 2022. No public services are planned.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve.

Online condolences may be made at www.moffittfunerals.com.

Willa Mae Jones

Willa Mae Jones, 88, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Jake and Edna Cabe. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Jones; and siblings, Charles W. Cabe, James Donald Cabe and Phylliss Cabe. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Lilburn, Ga., and a hairdresser for more than 50 years.

She is survived by sisters, Catherine Keener, Betty Cole, both of Franklin, and Mary Jo Freeman of Lawrenceville, Ga.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A service was held in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home on Saturday April 16. Rev. Janet Greene and Rev. Vic Greene officiated. Burial was at Clarks Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Clarks Chapel UMC Cemetery Fund, in memory of Willa Mae Jones.

Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneral-home.com.

Macon Funeral Home will be handling the arrangements.



James Ballew

Edith Ann Sheffield Stoudemire

Edith Ann Sheffield Stoudemire, 79, went home to be with the Lord April 15, 2022, surrounded by her family. She was born in Macon, County May 13, 1942, to the late William Coleman Sheffield and Nola Estella Sheffield-Blanton. She worked in food service for the Macon County School system and for Burcliff Industries as an assistant manager. She loved music and dancing, playing all kinds of sports such as volleyball, softball, bowling, and basketball. She was a four-year starter for the basketball team in high school and she loved to coach softball and baseball teams. She loved and was a member of the Riverside Fellowship Church. Most of all she loved her family and her grandchildren.



Edith Ann Stoudemire

Survivors include her husband of 61 years, Junior Stoudemire; two sons, Rickey Stoudemire and wife Danita and Randy Stoudemire and wife Michelle, all of Franklin; four grandchildren, Natasha Boatwright and husband Broc, Trance Stoudemire, Tyler Stoudemire, and Kirkland Stoudemire; seven great-grandchildren, Landon Malloy, Baylie Boatwright, Axle Boatwright, Bentley Boatwright, Chevelle Boatwright, Wrenleigh Tomkins, and Kingsleigh Tomkins; and one brother, James Sheffield of Franklin.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a sister, Bobbie Joe Judge, six half-sisters and eight half-brothers.

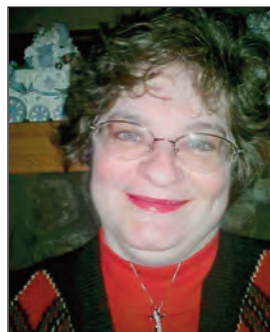
A Celebration of Life service was held Monday, April 18, in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with the Rev. Richard Salmason and Rev. J.D. Woodside officiating.

Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneral-home.com.

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

Rhonda Lynn Fair Arvey

Rhonda Lynn Fair Arvey, 63, passed away Tuesday April 12, 2022. She was born Jan. 6, 1959, in Liberty, N.Y., to Alma Coffey Fair and the late Wilbur Fair. She was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, she loved spending time with her family. Christmas was her favorite time of the year.



Rhonda Lynn Arvey

She is survived by her husband of 26 years, Keith Max Arvey; her children, Amanda Lynn Maxwell of Franklin, Travis Lee Meyer of Texas; stepchildren, Jason Keith Arvey of Franklin, Michael Jordan Arvey of Franklin, and Kelly Renee Arvey of Florida; 15 grandchildren and five great grandchildren; mother, Alma Fair and a brother Jo Fair of Tennessee. In addition to her father, she is preceded in death by her brother, Roger Fair.

A celebration of life service was held Saturday, April 16, in the Chapel of Bryant Grant Funeral Home.

Bryant Grant Funeral Home is serving the Arvey family.

Online condolences can be made at www.bryantgrantfuneral-home.com.

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Maxie Lee Corn Carpenter

Maxie Lee Corn Carpenter, 99, of Sylva, N.C., passed away on Good Friday, April 15, 2022, one month shy of her 100th birthday. Born in Macon County, she was the daughter of the late Lee and Flora Corn. She was preceded in death by her husband, Earvin A. Carpenter; son, William Lee (Bill) Carpenter; sisters, Bertie Holt, Virgie Crunkleton, Bessie Corn, Bonnie Dean; and brother, Norton Virgil Corn; son-in-law Carter Deitz, and Robert Washington.



Maxie Lee Carpenter

She was a homemaker, attended Wilkesdale Baptist Church and was a member of Mulberry Methodist Church. She loved visiting with friends and family, reading, singing old hymns, and cooking. She was looking forward to a large Easter dinner with all her family.

Survivors include her daughter, Starlotte Deitz; son, Jeff (Mary) Carpenter; daughter-in-law, Teresa Carpenter, all of Sylva; five grandchildren, Janna Deitz of Bethesda, Md.; Shelly Deitz of Sylva; Shea (Chris) White of Columbus; Kamisha Carpenter of Asheboro; and William Carpenter of Ruskin, Fla.; two great grandchildren, Makenzie Ballard and Landon White; plus many nieces and nephews.

Maxie's family grew in the last decade of her life to include two beloved caregivers, Rene Fish and Donna Massingale. Julie Woodard always made sure Maxie felt beautiful, as she was.

A funeral service will be held at Appalachian Funeral Home on Thursday, April 21, at 11 a.m. with Joe Wolf officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery.

Donations in her memory to Four Seasons (or your local) Hospice are suggested.

An online registry is available at www.appalachianfuneralservices.com

Appalachian Funeral Services of Sylva is serving the family.



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Kyle Busch steals a milestone win in wild one on Bristol Dirt

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

BRISTOL, Tenn. – Kyle Busch has a special fondness for Bristol Motor Speedway, but the driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota needed a huge stroke of luck on Sunday night to rekindle his love affair with the half-mile track.

Busch won the Food City Dirt Race from a distant third place after the Ford of second-place Chase Briscoe slid up the high-banked dirt track into the Chevrolet of leader Tyler Reddick in the final corner, turning both cars sideways.

Reddick righted his Camaro and steered toward the finish line, but Busch's momentum off Turn 4 carried his No. 18 Camry past the flag stand .330 second ahead of Reddick, who was denied his first NASCAR Cup Series victory.

Busch, on the other hand, notched his 60th career victory, ninth-most all-time and most among active drivers. With his first win of the season, he matched Richard Petty's series record streak of 18 years with at least one trip to Victory Lane.

An eight-time winner on Bristol's traditional concrete surface—again, most among active drivers—Busch won the second NASCAR Cup Series dirt race since 1970 and the first featuring the new Next Gen race car.

"Yeah, we got one," Busch said with a wry smile.

"Doesn't matter how you get 'em. It's all about getting 'em. Can't say enough. I mean, man, I feel like Dale Earnhardt Sr. right now (as the crowd booed his unexpected victory). This is awesome. I didn't do anything."

After the second of two rain delays, Busch restarted second on Lap 227, but he fell back as Briscoe passed him on Lap 232 of 250 and began to chase Reddick for the lead.

"I don't know why, we couldn't fire off after it rained, both times," Busch said. "It just would not fire. Took it about 20 laps to get going."

"Overall, just really pumped to be back. Real pumped to get a win. This one means a lot. I can win on any surface here at Bristol. Bring it on, baby."

A chagrined Briscoe took full responsibility for the accident that handed Busch the win.

"I was running Tyler down and tried throwing a slider and didn't expect him to drive in there on me, and I got loose," Briscoe said. "I was spinning either way. I feel terrible. I didn't want to wreck him. That was my fault 100 percent. I hate it for Tyler. He's a good friend of mine."

Reddick took the disappointment with consummate grace.

"I don't think I did everything right, to be honest with you," Reddick said. "Briscoe was able to run me back down there. Just looking at it, I should have done a little bit better job of just... I don't know. I shouldn't have let him get that close. He ran me back down. Worked really hard to do that."

"I mean, you're racing on dirt, going for the move on the final corner. It's everything that, as a driver, you hope to battle for in his situation. Made it really exciting for the fans, so... It does suck, but we were able to finish second still. I'm being honest. I should have done a better job and pulled away so he wasn't in range to try to make that move. That's how I look at it."

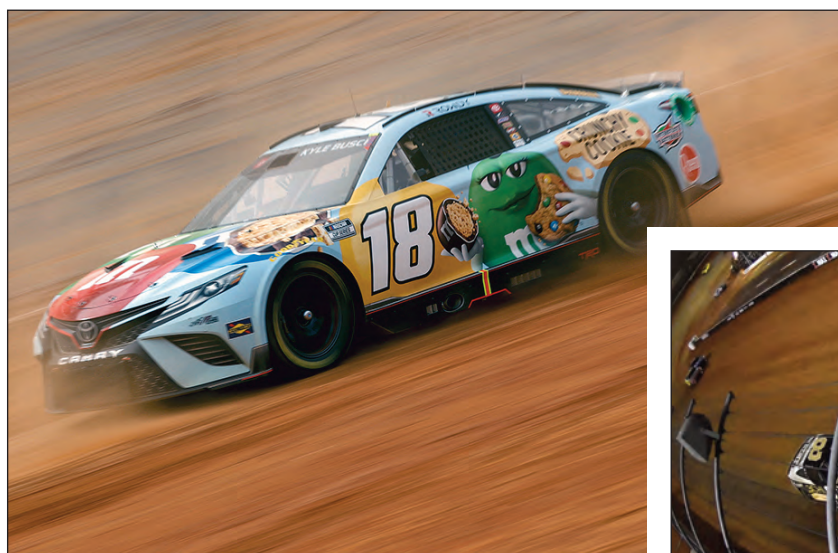
Reddick took control of the race after a restart on Lap 151 to begin the final stage. With a ferocious run through Turns 1 and 2, he shot between the cars of Kyle Busch on the top and Joey Logano on the bottom to take the lead for the first time.

He held the top spot for the next 99 laps, through five cautions and the second rain delay. The final lap was the only one Busch led.

Briscoe was credited with a 22nd-place finish after running second into the final set of corners.



Kyle Busch, driver of the #18 Mars Crunchy Cookie Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Food City Dirt Race at Bristol Motor Speedway on April 17, 2022 in Bristol, Tenn. Photo by Logan Riely/Getty Images



Joey Logano came home third, 4.004 seconds behind the race winner. Kyle Larson was fourth, followed by Ryan Blaney, Alex Bowman, Christopher Bell, Chase Elliott, Michael McDowell and Ty Dillon.

With late rally, Ben Rhodes takes hard-earned NASCAR Truck Series win at Bristol

BRISTOL, Tenn. – Overcoming a mistake in communication, Ben Rhodes charged to the front in the closing laps of Saturday's Pinty's Truck Race on Dirt snatched the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series victory from runner-up Carson Hocevar.

One circuit after the final restart on Lap 146 of 150, Rhodes, the defending series champion, buried his No. 99 ThorSport Racing Toyota into Turn 1, slid to the outside of third-place finisher John Hunter Nemechek and dived to the inside of Hocevar to take the lead.

The dramatic charge to victory atoned for Rhodes' failure to bring his truck to the pits at the end of the first stage on Lap 40 after missing his entrance to pit road. Forced to pit after winning Stage 2, Rhodes restarted 13th on Lap 91 and worked his way forward with the aid of four cautions in the final 60-lap stage.

"My crew gave me such an awesome Tundra this weekend that I wasn't going to let them down," said Rhodes, who led 95

laps and won the first two stages on the way to his first victory of the year and the sixth of his career. "I had to go back up there and earn the spot back. I'm really proud of all their effort."

Rhodes and Hocevar were the only two drivers credited with leading laps. The driver of the No. 42 Niece Motorsports Chevrolet grabbed the top spot after restarting fourth on Lap 91 and held it until Rhodes passed him for the win.

In hindsight, Hocevar said he could have done a better job defending against the decisive pass.

"Either ripped the top or crashed him," Hocevar said of his alternatives. "I hate saying that, but it's part of this racing, right? I just couldn't compete with him. He just had better (fresher) tires, and he was the fastest truck all day. I was just trying to hold on..."

"He slide-jobbed me, and I should have prepared for it, crossed him over and race him really hard. Second just sucks. It's terrible, especially being that close."

The race marked the NASCAR national series debut of reigning USAC National Midget champion Buddy Kofoid,

who started 32nd after his No. 51 Toyota overheated during the first qualifying heat earlier in the afternoon.

Methodically working his way forward, Kofoid ran as high as third before spinning in Turn 2 as he tried to cross over to the inside of Rhodes' truck in a battle for fourth place on Lap 139, after Rhodes drove deep into the corner and slid toward the top of the track.

Collected in the ensuing wreck were Ty Majeski, who saw a probable top-five effort go awry, and Derek Kraus.

The race also had a taste of the bizarre. On Lap 96, Austin Wayne Self nudged the Chevrolet of hard-luck Matt DiBenedetto after the latter had passed Self. The front bumper of Self's Silverado locked with the rear bumper of DiBenedetto's Chevy, and the two drivers could not power them apart.

It took a red flag and a handful of track workers to separate the trucks. That incident ruined the race for both drivers, but the subsequent restart on Lap 106 put Rhodes on his path to the eventual victory. By the time caution flew again on Lap 112, he had climbed to fifth and was well on his way to the front.

Darlington Raceway & Goodyear extend sponsorship of NASCAR's Throwback Weekend DARTLINGTON, S.C. – Darlington Raceway and Goodyear, the "Official Tire of NASCAR," announce a renewal of its entitlement sponsorship of

the Goodyear 400, NASCAR's Official Throwback Weekend Cup Series race for 2022. The Goodyear 400 will celebrate the history of stock car racing and signify another milestone chapter in Goodyear's 68-year affiliation with NASCAR.

"Our entitlement sponsorship of the Goodyear 400 represents a continuation of our six-decade commitment to NASCAR through tire innovation and allows us to celebrate the sport's storied history and talented drivers of today," said Karen Maroli, Goodyear's vice president of marketing. "NASCAR's Official Throwback Weekend is always a highly-anticipated stop on the circuit, and alongside Darlington Raceway, we look forward to providing race fans with an unforgettable experience."

Amid a race weekend known for drivers' nostalgic paint schemes honoring former drivers and memorable stock cars, Goodyear will sport a vintage sidewall design on its Eagle race tires, last used during the 1980-1992 Cup Series race seasons. The throwback tires mimic the spray-painted logo designs of the past, paying tribute to the first time Goodyear featured "Eagle" on its race tires' sidewalls in NASCAR. The tire design will be used at all three national series races during the Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR.

"From the paint schemes to the historic track and throwback tire design, few races capture NASCAR's tradition like the Goodyear 400," said Kerry Tharp, president of Darlington Raceway. "As NASCAR's longest-running continuous partner, Goodyear is uniquely woven into the fabric of the sport and is an ideal partner for the Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR at Darlington Raceway."

Goodyear has a rich history at Darlington Raceway as it conducted its first official NASCAR tire tests at the track in 1954 and earned its first NASCAR victory in the 1959 Southern 500® with driver Jim Reed.

To bring spectators closer to the action, Goodyear is introducing the "Bring Home the Win Sweepstakes," giving one lucky fan the chance to win one of the throwback Goodyear Eagle race tires from the winning driver's stock car. Now through May 9, fans who visit Goodyear400Sweepstakes.com and complete the online entry form will automatically be entered for a chance to win one of the limited-edition tires, used exclusively by the winner of the Goodyear 400*.

The Goodyear 400 is a continuation of Goodyear's longstanding relationship with the sport of racing. As the "Exclusive Tire Supplier" for NASCAR's top three series, Goodyear is the longest-running continuous partner in NASCAR history. From the introduction of the racing slick in 1972 to the radial tire in 1989 and multi-zone tread design in 2013, Goodyear and NASCAR have consistently innovated to deliver compelling racing.

Tune in to watch the Goodyear 400 on Sunday, May 8 at 3:30 p.m. ET on FS1, Motor Racing Network and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio where Goodyear will provide aerial coverage of the race.

2022 NASCAR Season

Darlington Raceway will host the Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR on May 6-8, featuring all three national series with the Dead On Tools 200 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on Friday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m., Mahindra ROXOR 200 NASCAR Xfinity Series race on Saturday, May 7 at 1:30 p.m. and Goodyear 400 NASCAR Cup Series race on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8, at 3:30 p.m.

The Tradition Continues at Darlington Raceway with the Labor Day Race Weekend on Sept. 3-4, featuring the Sport Clips Haircuts VFW Help A Hero 200 Xfinity Series race on Saturday, Sept. 3 at 3:00 p.m. and start of the Cup Series Playoffs in the 73rd running of the crown jewel Cook Out Southern 500® over Labor Day weekend on Sunday, Sept. 4, at 6 p.m.



Ben Rhodes, driver of the #99 Tenda Toyota, takes the checkered flag to win the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Pinty's Truck Race on Dirt at Bristol Motor Speedway on April 16, 2022 in Bristol, Tenn. Photo by Logan Riely/Getty Images

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Franklin, NC - Five Day Forecast

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
75°/46°	79°/48°	79°/50°	80°/53°	80°/53°
6%	8%	8%	8%	24%

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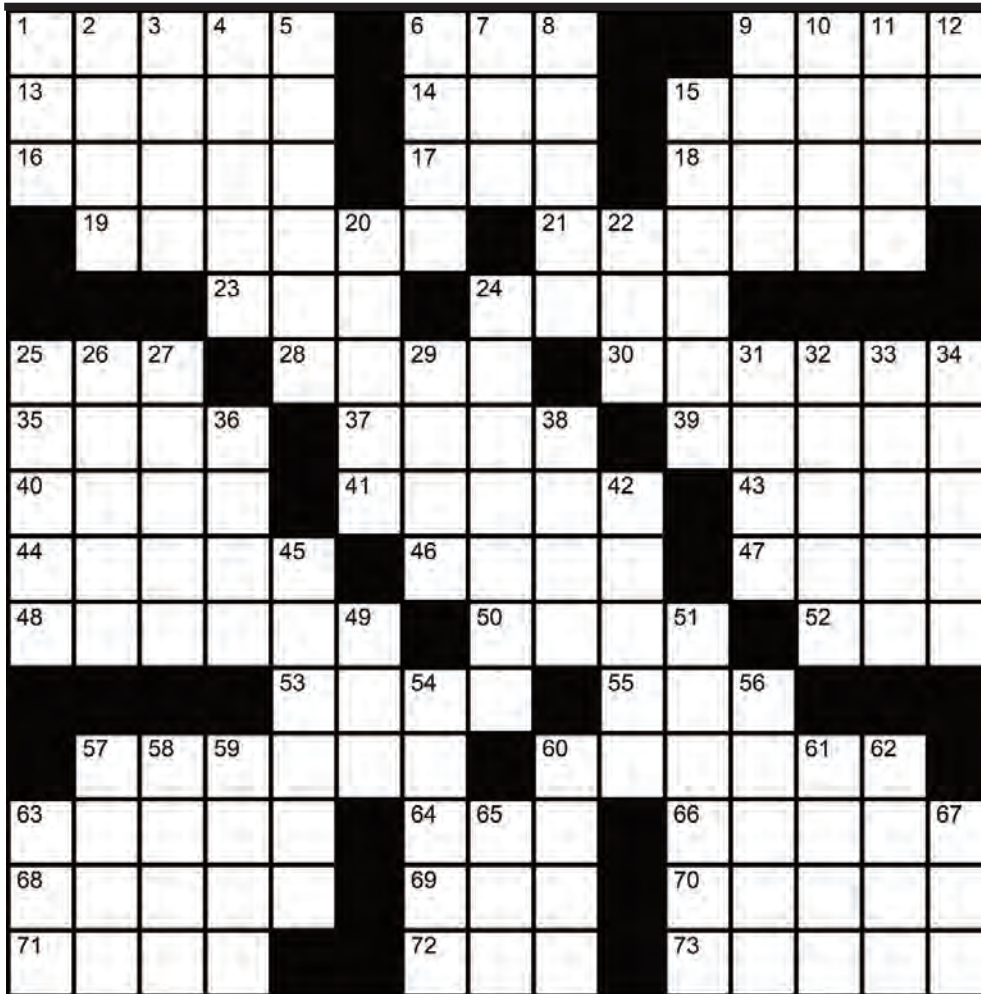
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: BEATLEMANIA

ACROSS

1. In the Queen of Hearts' oven?
6. Indiana Jones' quest
9. Dance with leis
13. Sheikh, alt. sp.
14. Opposite of paleo
15. Hedgehog of movies and video games
16. Toilet, to a toddler
17. Pilot's estimate acronym
18. One deserving of respect?
19. *Like submarine
21. *Abbey Road location
23. Lobe location
24. Per person
25. To the ____ degree
28. **"Twist and Shout" endearment
30. English confection
35. Wraths
37. Swarm like bees
39. Not taken and taken
40. Skiing helmet manufacturer
41. Homework assignment
43. Kamakawiwo'ole's strings, pl.
44. Thermonuclear weapon
46. Type of list
47. Frost residue
48. "God, We Praise You" (2 words)
50. Redecorate, e.g.
52. What Carl Lewis did
53. Doctor's order
55. December 31st, e.g.
57. **"Whisper words of ____"
60. **"Please ____ Me," 1st album
63. Amusement
64. Rage



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- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 66. Scary movie consequence 68. ____ del Carmen, Mexico 69. Corn spot 70. Reach a goal (2 words) 71. Unit of heredity 72. Cry of alarm 73. Wipe out <p>DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cough syrup amt. 2. Greeting at sea 3. Blood vessel network 4. Ownership document 5. NASA's first space station 6. All over again 7. Retired, abbr. 8. Aussie bear | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. **"I want to ____ your hand" 10. Editing arrow 11. Bank holding 12. Acronym, abbr. 15. Mister in Brazil 20. Speak from a podium 22. Month X 24. Hideous sight 25. **"It's been a hard day's ____" 26. Social group 27. Roman king of Judea 29. *Starr's predecessor 31. *Fabulous number 32. Faquir, alt.sp. 33. Swelling 34. Ruhr's industrial center | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 36. Not all 38. Like a full-fledged Mafia man 42. Cry of the Alps 45. The enlightened one 49. Barn sound 51. Nervous (2 words) 54. Inflict a blow 56. Truth or Dare player? 57. ____ E. Coyote 58. Persian Gulf country 59. Eye infection 60. Peephole glance 61. ____ good example 62. Chows down 63. Frugal driver's acronym 65. Fish eggs 67. Unidentified Jane |
|---|--|--|

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Classifieds

Garage & Yard Sales

ESTATE/YARD SALE Saturday April 23, 8-? Chain Saws, Climbing Gear, New & Old Tools, Power Tools, Tree Stands, Hunting Items, Kids Clothing, Lots of Misc. 64 Jegs Ridge Franklin

MULTI FAMILY Saturday 9-2, Indoor/Outdoor, 51 Union Otto Daycare Rd., Franklin, NC, Antique Farm Items, tools, clothing, household, decor, antiques, large wooden spool, much more! Cancel if rain.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE Brand name women's & men's clothing/shoes, Tie-Dye, home goods, some Free Stuff, everything in great condition! 525 East Main St., May 7-8, 8am-2pm

SELLING OFFICE FURNITURE & Equipment Plus Household Items and Stuff. Friday and Saturday, May 22 & 23, 9-4, 2-Story Building at 57 Mills St., Across from Franklin Body Shop.

Real Estate

20.24 ACRES unrestricted and backs up to USFS land. Road in place, easy access yet very private. Gentle slope with nice views. Desirable Cartoogechaye township. Tract has been subdivided into six lots and recorded with county. \$299,000. Call or text (727)460-0714.

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Motor Vehicles

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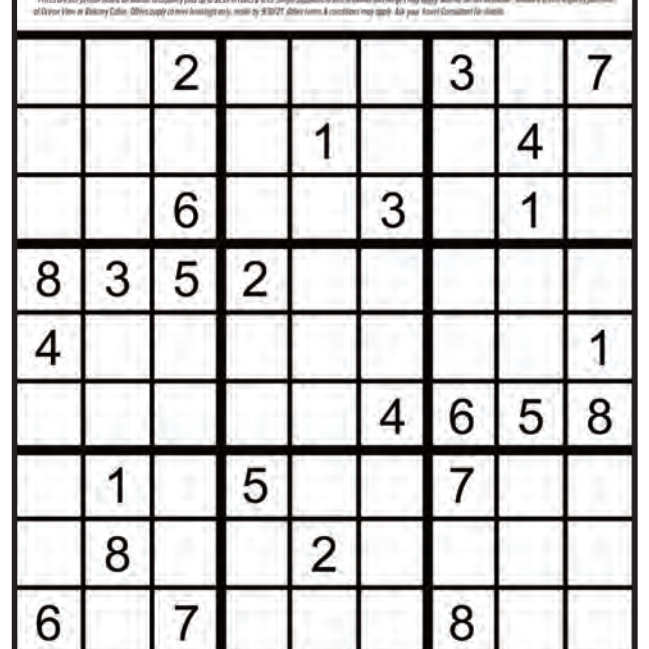
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The Classifieds

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GREENTHUMB LAWN SERVICES Do you need Spring Cleanup? Lawn Maintenance, Landscaping, Leaf Blowing, Handyman Services. 18 Years Experience. Call (828)421-8847.

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CAROLINA CUTTERS Accepting New Clients Offering Mowing, Weed Eating, Hedge Trimming, Pressure Washing, and more. Call Chris (828)347-0943.

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Misc. For Sale

DINING, SOFA, CHAIRS, Quilt Sets, Pitchers & Bowls, Lamps, Household Decor. Reasonable Make Offer. (407)415-4651.

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FARMERS MARKET 8-12, Every Saturday. Please Come Out and Support Your Local Farmers Market. Spring Vegetables, Honey, Fresh Chicken, Pastries, Cookies, Preserves, Eggs. 200 Block East Palmer.

Animals

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

Help Wanted

REGISTERED NURSE If you are a Registered Nurse licensed in the State of North Carolina and want less stress than the typical medical, hospital structure requires we need your nursing skills to supervise the daily operations of home care services provided through Home Care Partners. This position supervises the aides, scheduling, training and day to day activities to assure our clients can remain independent in their home environment. No medical services administered. Mon-Fri 40 hours per week. Benefits include vacation, sick, holidays and dental, life, health insurance. Please call Julie Van Hook at (828)507-6065 for more information. You can apply at Disability Partners, 525 Mineral Springs Drive, Sylva, NC 28779.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Pathways For The Future, Inc. dba Disability Partners is seeking a dynamic, forward thinking person for the position of Executive Director. Disability Partners is a local Center for Independent Living serving 14 counties in Western North Carolina, with offices in Sylva and Asheville, North Carolina. People with disabilities are served through the Center for Independent Living, HomeCare Partners and Person First Services, a provider of the Innovations waiver through Vaya. The Executive Director job description and application can be found at <https://www.disabilitypartners.org/employment-opportunities>. All applicants must submit by email: cover letter, current resume and a complete application to: ssacco@disabilitypartners.org. The deadline to apply for the position is April 29, 2022 at 5pm. Documents submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply for the position.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SPECIALIST Are you someone with a disability who has overcome obstacles relating to a personal disability and will use that strength to help others with disabilities set and reach goals to live more independently. If so, Disability Partners has a full-time position available for you. Work experience and education will be considered. Benefits vacation, sick, holidays and dental, life and health insurance. Mon-Fri 40 hours per week. You can make a difference. Applications available at Disability Partners, 525 Mineral Springs Drive, Sylva or on our website: disabilitypartners.org. Call Barbara Davis for more information (828)226-8263.

IN-HOME AIDE AND CNA'S We can work around your schedule starting at \$12.00 per hour to provide in home aide services based on the consumer needs through the Home and Community Block Grant. You can make a difference in someone's life age 60 and older in Jackson County. Benefits for full time PTO, dental, life and health insurance. Part time positions available. Please apply at 525 Mineral Springs Drive, Sylva NC or call Home Care Partners at 828-586-1570 for more information.

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CASHIERS COLOR CENTER IS looking to hire a full-time individual to assist in the paint department. Duties will include mixing paint, assisting customers with color selections and sundry items, stocking shelves and daily cleaning. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. This individual must be dependable, self-motivated, have great customer service skills and be willing to learn. We will offer on-the-job training, so experience is not necessary. For more information, call Derek Taylor @ (828)200-9226, or stop by Cashiers Color Center to fill out an application.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR in Sylva looking for helper electricians. Must have tools, transportation, references, and willingness to work with others. Pay based on experience- Call (828)631-0341 for interview.

Community Fundraisers

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

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

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CARS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	BMW	Alpina XB7	536
2022	BMW	530	240
2022	Chevrolet	Corvette 2LT	201
2021	Kia	K5 LXS	4,963
2021	Tesla	Model 3 Standard Range Plus	15,196
2021	Chevrolet	Spark	1,167
2020	Chevrolet	Corvette 3LT	8,263
2019	Nissan	Sentra SV	15,009
2019	Volkswagen	Golf SportWagen	56,048
2019	Volkswagen	Beetle	42,676
2018	Chevrolet	Cruze	34,692
2018	Chevrolet	Cruze LS	54,872
2015	Nissan	Altima 2.5 S	59,261
2014	Chevrolet	Cruze	113,152
2008	Corvette	Coupe	9,007

SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2021	Chevrolet	Tahoe Z71	14,918
2021	Chevrolet	Suburban	388
2021	Ford	Bronco Badlands AWD	1,237
2021	Chevrolet	Equinox Premier AWD	16,427
2021	Jeep	Wrangle High Altitude	17,132
2020	Grand Cherokee	Trailhawk	26,226
2020	Tahoe	Premier 4x4	24,476
2020	Cadillac	Escalade Premium Luxury	7,309

2020	GMC	Acadia AT4	28,261
2020	Subaru	Outback Onyx Edition XT	27,594
2020	Subaru	Crosstrek Limited	14,430
2020	Hyundai	Palisade	34,462
2019	Chevrolet	Equinox Premier AWD	34,109
2019	Chevrolet	Tahoe LT	46,162
2019	GMC	Yukon XL Denali	63,696
2019	Land Rover	Range Rover Sport HSE Dynamic	37,751
2019	GMC	Terrain	63,316
2018	Chevrolet	Tahoe	84,386
2018	Volkswagen	Atlas 3.6L V6 SE	71,947
2018	Kia	Soul	58,573
2017	Toyota	RAV4 LE	83,441
2017	Volkswagen	Tiguan Wolfsburg Edition	59,132
2017	Subaru	Outback	36,658
2016	Buick	Enclave CXL AWD	81,859
2015	Chevrolet	Equinox LTZ AWD	107,485
2015	Chevrolet	Equinox IT AWD	87,398
2015	Jeep	Wrangler Unlimited Altitude	39,030
2014	Ford	Explorer 4x4	68,342
2013	Ford	Escape SE AWD	89,455
2013	Mazda	CX-5	94,754
2011	Jeep	Wrangler	73,137

TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 LT Trail Boss	651
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	5,822
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	435

2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	16,244
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	8,432
2021	Ford	Bronco Sport	209
2021	Jeep	Gladiator	2,054
2021	Ram	2500 Tradesman	3,647
2021	Toyota	Tacoma TRD Off-Road	8,507
2021	Toyota	Tacoma 4WD	4,746
2020	Chevrolet	Colorado	31,506
2020	Ram	3500 Dump Truck	19,267
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 High Country	22,601
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 RST	90,498
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500 HD High Country Diesel	23,536
2020	GMC	Sierra 1500 AT4	15,588
2020	Ram	2500 Longhorn Diamond	23,286
2019	Toyota	Tacoma TRD 4x4	43,577
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	30,903
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 3500 HC Dually	45,535
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 High Country	44,359
2019	GMC	Sierra 1500	18,811
2019	Nissan	Frontier SV 4x4	60,592
2019	Toyota	Tacoma SR5	43,420
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado Z-71	23,542
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	31,379
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	44,668
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500 Denali	25,059
2017	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	55,201
2017	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	61,657
2016	Ram	Diesel Crew 2500	60,495
2015	Chevrolet	Colorado	95,530
2012	GMC	Sierra 2500 Diesel	192,749



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