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FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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The Overlook Theatre Company is staging an encore presentation of "The Magic Lamp of Aladdin" April 29 at 7 p.m.; and April 30, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Aladdin, a down on his luck orphan discovers a magic lamp and the Genie who has the power to grant three wishes. Aladdin embarks on an adventure that will test his will and his moral character. This magical stage show has rollicking tunes, tons of heart and a lot of eye-popping wow! For ticket information, visit SmokyMountainArts.com or call (866)273-4615.

Candidate profiles: Macon County sheriff, part 1

Early voting across North Carolina begins today (April 28) with the Primary voting day set for May 17. Leading up to the primary, *The Macon County News* will publish candidate profiles for local offices. This week is Part I of the sheriff's candidate profiles with Clay Bryson, Bob Cook and Dereck Jones.

Candidates were asked to provide a short bio and were asked the same questions.

Clay Bryson

Captain Clay Bryson was born and raised in Macon County and has spent half of his life, 21 years to be exact, as a law enforcement officer with the Macon County Sheriff's Office.

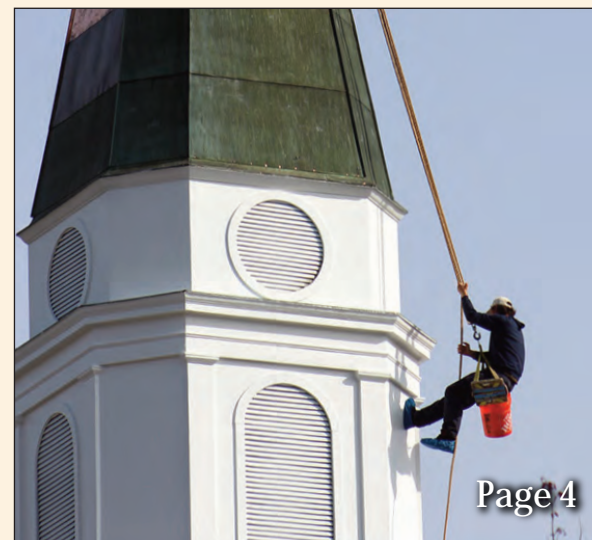
Bryson enrolled in Basic Law Enforcement Training at

Southwestern Community College in the Fall of 1999 to begin his career and on April 11, 2000, Bryson's 21st birthday, he took his Oath of Office with the Macon County Sheriff's Office. In January 2005 Bryson received his first promotion within the agency and has spent the last 21 years working in various capacities and now serves as Captain over Patrol.

Throughout his career, Bryson has served in many roles within the Sheriff's Office, first as a patrol deputy. From there, he began working his way through the ranks as a corporal, sergeant, first sergeant, narcotics investigator, SWAT commander, K9 Supervisor/ Trainer, and now as Captain over Patrol.

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First Baptist Church celebrates 200 years



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Chamber holds yearly award ceremony

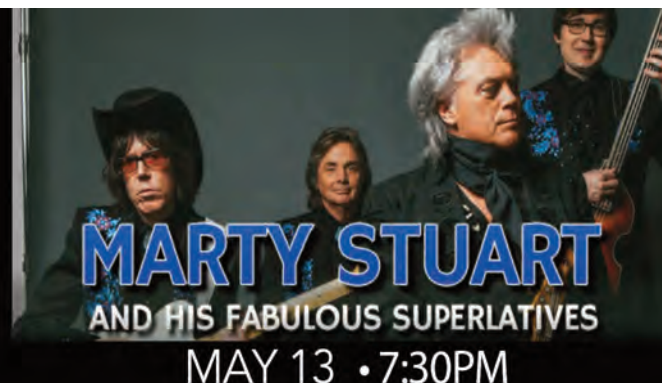
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CANDIDATES

Continued
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Bryson and his wife Ariel have been married since 2014 and currently reside in the Cullasaja Community of Macon County. Bryson is the proud father of four daughters and in 2019 became a grandfather for the first time. Bryson attends Community Bible Church in Highlands and is an active member of the community.

Bob Cook

Bob Cook is married (newly) with four daughters, nine grandchildren and one on the way plus one great grandson. He was born and raised in Newton, Iowa. He joined the Navy in August 1972 during the Viet Nam War and remained in the Navy until August 1992 during the Gulf War. Cook retired after earning the rank of Chief Petty Officer with Surface Warfare Qualifications.

He has three years of college through the Columbia College, Columbia, Mo., and an Associates in Arts degree through the Los Angeles Community College.

Upon retirement from the Navy, I went to the Police Academy in Jacksonville, Fla., after which I was hired by the Jacksonville Beach Police Department, Jacksonville Beach, Fla. After approximately two and a half years, I applied to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office where I remained for approximately 20 years. As a law enforcement officer, Cook has experience in Patrol, Evidence Technician, Traffic Officer, Burglary, Scrap Metal Task Force, Economic Crimes (Food Stamp Fraud), Gang Unit, Homicide Unit where he was on the Aggravated Battery Squad. He also spent approximately 14 years working in Narcotics where I was also on the Violent Crimes Task Force and the DEA Task Force.

Dereck Jones

Dereck Jones and his wife Jessica – who works as a public health nurse – have three children. He has served as a law enforcement officer since 2005, first with the Highlands Police Department and presently with the Macon County Sheriff's Office, totaling over 17 years.

"I am the only candidate who has experience in every division under the Sheriff's Office running for this position. I have served as a detention officer, deputy sheriff, corporal/field training officer, Special Response Team, patrol sergeant, juvenile investigator, criminal investigator, lieutenant, and currently captain - jail administrator who has overseen a budget of at least \$2.5 million and was tasked with updating the detention center policies and procedures in 2019," said Jones.

Jones graduated Franklin High School in 2000, Southwestern Community College in 2008 with an Associate of Arts degree, and Western Carolina University in 2012 attaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice. He is also employed as an adjunct instructor of law enforcement training at Southwestern Community College where he instructs Basic Law Enforcement Training cadets, National Park Service, in-service training, and anything else at the request of the college.

Why are you running for office?

Bryson: "With Sheriff Holland's announcement that he will be retiring at the end of his current term, after much prayer and with the support of my family, I decided that I wanted to be part of progressing the sheriff's office forward.

I have been asked many times by many people why I don't go somewhere else to make more money and the answer is simple – Macon County is my home. This is where I grew up; where my children and grandchildren are growing up. As a father, my goal has always been to protect them, love them, and defend them to the best of my ability. I know that I can't always be by their side, so what better way to protect them than to work for an agency that allows you to face the evil in our communities head-on.

"I want to further our agency just as Sheriff Holland has worked to do for many years. The honest truth is, no, we aren't exactly where we need to be, but I want to continue to build on what so many in this department have worked hard to create. Just like criminal enterprise is constantly evolving, so is law enforcement and I want to ensure that we evolve quicker and smarter for the betterment of my friends



Clay Bryson



Bob Cook



Dereck Jones

and neighbors."

Cook: "I am running for office because I see a need for a course correction. Prior to my announcement in April 2021, I had been approached by several citizens in Macon County who related their concerns to me. Most of these concerns centered around the drug problem in Macon County. Additionally, I was told by several citizens they would never vote for a member of the Sheriff's Office again. They wanted a change in leadership. They felt disenfranchised and saw what they considered as the 'good old boy club' being treated differently than everyone else. I felt that the only way to ensure these concerns were addressed properly was to no longer sit on the sidelines. I decided to enter the race as a candidate to make a difference not only in the lives of the citizens of Macon County, but also in the operation of the Sheriff's Office."

Jones: "Macon County is my home. This election and change of administration is not about reinventing the wheel, but about putting the right person in office to move this county forward. I want to see the best for Macon County and feel that with my extensive experience, education, leadership, and communication skills, I am the candidate that will move this agency forward. This isn't something that I take lightly, as I have been preparing for this day for many years."

The drug problem in Macon County and surrounding areas is epidemic. How do you think law enforcement can strengthen its response to these problems?

Bryson: The drug tragedy in Macon County continues to grow; drug dealers are advancing quicker than law enforcement resources can evolve and it seems like we are always one step behind. My number one priority to the citizens of Macon County if elected as your next Sheriff, is to protect you and your families with the same vigilance I protect my own. And I am confident that one of the most important ways of doing that is to continue fighting the war on drugs. For most of my entire law enforcement career, I have prioritized combating this horrible epidemic and I assure you I will continue to do so as long as I serve Macon County. My

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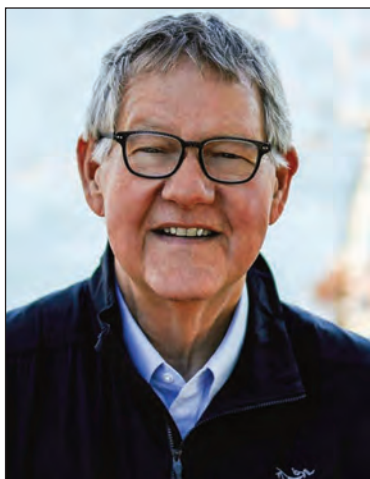
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Macon County's Economic Development Director resigns to pursue other opportunities

As of April 15, Macon County's full-time Economic Development Director Tommy Jenkins is reducing the number of hours he is available with intentions to fully resign from his position by June 30.

In an email sent to county leaders, Jenkins stated, "I will be stepping down as Director of the Macon County Economic Development Commission effective Friday, April 15, 2022. I informed county manager Derek Roland and EDC chair Plemens of my decision earlier, but asked that an announcement be delayed as I was working ongoing projects. I will continue, on a part-time basis, to assist the county through June 30."

Jenkins was hired as Macon County's Economic Development Director in November 2011 after serving stints in both the North Carolina House of Representatives and NC Senate. He was hired on a contract basis at \$5,000 a month, with the first contract being for 8 months — he has since been renewed



Tommy Jenkins

for work each year, serving more than 10 years as the county's Economic Development Director.

Jenkins is leaving Macon County to pursue other career opportunities which will allow him to return to his roots. He will be joining Highlands Sotheby's International Realty Firm as a Real Estate Broker. Prior to his run in politics and leading Macon County's Economic Development, Jenkins spent over 30 years in real estate.

"I want to thank each of you for your support during my ten year tenure, as we worked to build a better economic foundation for Macon County," Jenkins said in his email to the county. "It has been a honor and a pleasure to work with an outstanding group of community and business leaders."

According to Macon County Vice-Chair Ronnie Beale, Jenkins will remain on part-time while the county searches for Jenkins' replacement.

Next generation New Century Scholars inducted

Walking across the same stage on which they'll one day receive their college degrees, seventh-graders from Jackson, Macon and Swain counties were inducted into the New Century Scholars program on Tuesday, March 29, in Myers Auditorium on Southwestern Community College's Jackson Campus.

Made possible entirely by the generosity of private donors, the New Century Scholars program guarantees support and last-dollar tuition assistance to a total of 30 inductees this year (10 from each county).

"All of these young students were chosen to be New Century Scholars because they have bright futures," said Dr. Don Tomas, SCC's President. "We're very proud to celebrate their inductions with their parents and loved ones, and we look forward to seeing them back here in five short years as our students."

During the ceremony, students received induction certificates from their respective superintendents: Dr. Dana Ayers of Jackson County, Dr. Chris Baldwin of Macon County, and Mark Sale of Swain County.



These seventh-grade students from Macon County were inducted into the New Century Scholars program during a March 29 ceremony at Southwestern Community College in Sylva. They are, front row, from left, Alison Lozada, Elly Bowman, Geovanni Anderson and Lacey Prince; back row, from left, Tucker Sharp, Yaneli Ramos Soriano, Danni Ledford and Juan Espinoza. Not pictured are Taylor Hays and Timothy McDowell.

Established in 1995 by the late Dr. Charles McConnell, who was superintendent of Jackson County Schools, and then-SCC President Dr. Barry Russell, New Century Scholars is designed to improve academic readiness, bolster student persistence toward high school graduation and increase the college attendance rate. More than 2,500 students have been inducted into the program over the years.

For more information about the program and how to support it, visit www.SouthwesternCC.edu/new-century-scholars.



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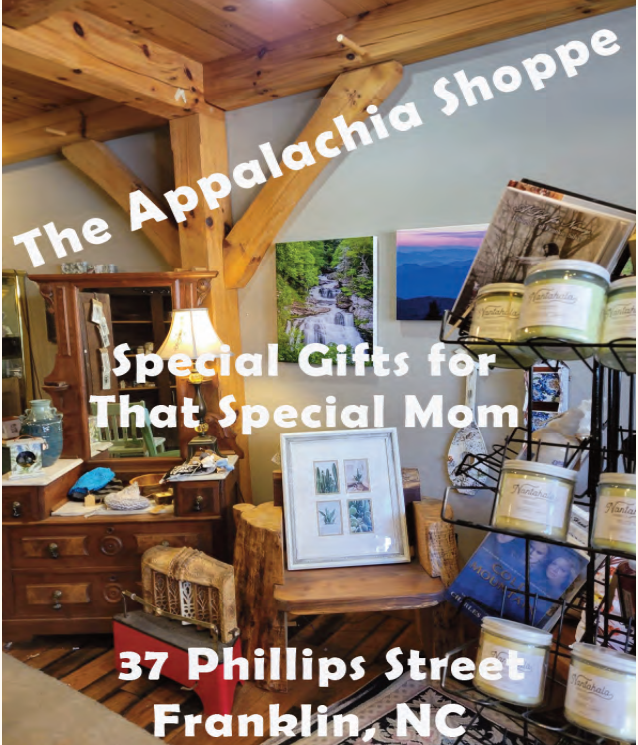
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CANDIDATES

Continued from page 2

approach to attacking Macon County's drug problem centers around pooling resources and looking at all angles. Incarceration isn't going to solve the tragedy impacting our friends and neighbors struggling with drug addictions. That is why I plan to constantly seek out grants and funding opportunities to make mental health resources and substance abuse treatment more readily available and accessible in Western North Carolina. We need to offer our community members an alternative to turning to drugs and the power and knowledge to break free from addiction.

Cook: I am uniquely suited to address the drug epidemic in Macon County. As I have noted, I have spent approximately 14 years as an undercover Narcotics Detective. As such, I have experience in making hand to hand drug buys for a \$20.00 crack or heroin purchase to as much as multiple kilogram amounts of methamphetamine. I also have been the affiant on 99 separate telephone facility wire intercepts. As such, I have had to learn to step back and look at whatever the situation is and think outside the box to develop a successful plan of attack. I feel that my experience in that area coupled with my leadership and management experience makes me uniquely and more qualified to address the burgeoning drug problem.

We can strengthen the response in several ways. I intend on installing a drug tip hot line and making the supervisor over narcotics responsible to responses to the complaints. Many people in our county do not have smart phones or internet service and this will ensure they are all able to register complaint. Next, I will meet with the Assistant Supervisor in Charge of the DEA as well as other federal authorities to discuss our needs. I intend to ask for a partnership with our federal partners who will work with us and the U.S. Attorney's Office to ensure we are getting the sentences we need to rid our community of those who supply the poison to our families.

Jones: I have been blessed to have worked with some really good law enforcement professionals over the years while on patrol and in investigations. We are all fighting the same problem and dealing with many of the same offenders across jurisdictions. I have said from the time I announced my candidacy for sheriff that we must work together to fight this issue. I want to work with other agencies around the area (city and county), state, and federal agencies and pool our resources to combat the ever growing drug problem. At the same time, we must continue to expand upon mental health and substance abuse programs within the detention facility and beyond to help those in need that request assistance. I have a proven track record of doing just that while being the jail administrator since 2018.

What specific areas within the existing department can be changed in terms of budgetary items to fund additional officers in Nantahala, is it even possible?

Bryson: As the new Captain over patrol, I have gotten a crash course in the struggles our agency faces to cover all 500 miles of Macon County. With much of my career being spent on patrol, I have experienced the shortages — but it wasn't until I became Captain that I was able to see the administrative and structural difficulties of ensuring coverage across the county. It isn't as sim-

ple as promising extra bodies in remote areas — it's a complex puzzle of peak call times, types of calls received, areas that can afford to go with less to bolster other areas of need. I am the only candidate who is currently in a position to transition to Sheriff with the immediate knowledge of the agency's needs and budget from day one. One of the first ways I plan to accomplish this is to refocus the agencies SRO [School Resource Officer] program and to improve the program for all these officers to be more than SROs — I want them to be active community law enforcement officers that are geared toward proactive policing and reform. SROs play an invaluable role in our agency. They are often the first faces our youngest community members meet and may be the first law enforcement officers our children encounter. I want to boost their role in the agency as focusing our SROs on being the first line of defense for proactive policing and reaching the next generation. This starts within our schools and each individual community. This proactive approach, outside of the day-to-day in-school role of an SRO will increase the responsibility of SROs to be entire community representatives.

Cook: "Considering the Nantahala Community currently has only as a School Resource Officer in their community, they absolutely need additional officers. In 2007, Nantahala was given four Deputy positions specifically for the Nantahala area. They were never stationed out there. In 2017, once again it was promised they would get some officers out there for coverage and to this day, the only time they get a patrol unit out there is in response to a call for service."

"Since April 2021, I have made the proposal to get patrol coverage to not only Nantahala, but to Scaly Mountain, Otto and the Cowee area among others. I spoke to a MCSO Street supervisor and asked what it would take to get coverage into those areas. I was advised they would need seven road deputies, including the supervisor. Currently they have five on a shift including the supervisor."

"My plan would be to first meet with the Chief of Police in Franklin to discuss turning over the School Resource Officer positions inside their city limits to their responsibility, like Highlands is right now. That would give me one more per shift for a total of six. Next, I would take the four K-9 Officers and place one per shift. The K-9 Officers would be stationed in a zone that would enable them to be mobile in the event of a requirement for their services. Additionally, they would be primarily a backup officer to keep them free for K-9 duties. That would result in seven per shift. Lastly, I would look at the manning in the courthouse and other areas to see who may be able to move to this vital area."

Jones: I have spoken to many residents across the county who share the same concerns as the Nantahala community whether they live there or not. I believe in adequate coverage for all citizens. Many citizens make the comment that they are told that it depends upon call volume. I have stated before and will state it again, the agency will be reorganized and all areas of the county will have adequate coverage at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

What do you see as the strongest area currently within the department?

Bryson: The strongest area within the Macon County Sheriff's Office is our employees. The men and women who make up the agency — from administrative units, to courthouse security or from patrol to investigations — are dedicated

to making Macon County better not only for their families, but for yours and for mine. Because they are our most valuable asset, it is imperative that we find ways to incentivize our agency and make the retention and recruitment of employees a priority, otherwise, we will continue to put time and money into training new officers only for them to leave to go to other agencies. It is my goal to create an environment within the agency that supports and uplifts all employees while providing them with the salary, benefits, and continued training needed to better themselves — which will allow them to better serve our community.

Cook: “While it is difficult to pick between the Detention Center and Patrol, the strongest area of the department appears to be the patrol division. Both divisions conduct themselves with professionalism with limited manpower. The Detention Center is one of the highest liability areas in the Agency.”

Jones: “Personnel. We have one of the best group of law enforcement officers across the country who dedicate their lives to protect and serve the citizens of Macon County every day. These officers don’t always get the recognition they deserve, but I appreciate each and every one of them more than they will ever know.”

What areas can be improved?

Bryson: I believe one significant area of improvement within the Sheriff’s Office comes with building community relations. At over 500 square miles, the majority of Macon County sits outside of the Franklin town limits. Macon County’s rural nature, paired with geographical challenges puts the outlying areas of the county just as Nantahala and Burningtown at a disadvantage. Those residents deserve the same response and service from the Macon County Sheriff’s Office as someone who lives in the center of town. I am a member of the Cullasaja Fire Department and have seen firsthand the integral role our volunteer fire departments and community centers have within our communities. I believe it is imperative as Sheriff to visit these departments and the various community clubs throughout Macon County on a regular basis to bolster community relations and hear from citi-

zens about what needs to be done and how we can better serve the county. I don’t want this to be one occurrence — I want to be a regular face at these events in these various communities because I believe you, the citizens, know what is best for your neighbors. What Otto needs from me as Sheriff may be different from what Highlands needs and I want to hear that from those who work and live in those communities every day. That increased presence and visibility will only benefit the county as a whole. I can’t be successful as Sheriff without you, which is why I promise to work alongside you to continue to improve the quality of life here in Macon County, together.

Cook: While each area can be improved upon, the Investigations area can use some improving. This is one of the most frequently mentioned areas that citizens are unhappy with whether it is with drugs or property crimes.

Jones: Combating the drug epidemic, community relations/partnerships, and training in specific areas.

Lastly, is there anything else you would like voters to know?

Bryson: Having the unique advantage of experiencing first-hand the multitude of ways law enforcement serves Macon County, I promise to lead the Macon County Sheriff’s Office with experience and integrity to best serve the community as Macon County’s next Sheriff.

Cook: I would like the voters to know I am not one that is used to failure. I will also not lie to them. The proposals I have made thus far are not new ideas. The many be new to Macon County, but they are tried, and true methods used in most areas in the country. If I says I will accomplish something, I will make every effort to get it done. That is something the military instilled in me. They will be able to count on me and I will not let them down.

Jones: I am not a politician. I am a dedicated and passionate law enforcement professional with the education, training, and experience to lead the Macon County Sheriff’s Office into the future. It just happens to be a political position, but I am elected by the people and always for the people.

**Chris Browning’s Chief Deputy Choice
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Tony has served his whole life, from the United States Army, the Hendersonville Police Department and the North Carolina Highway Patrol. Tony has committed to serve once again as the Macon County Sheriff’s Office Chief Deputy. I have ran my campaign on the platform of change. Mr. Tony Hawkins is prepared to help bring about that change once I am elected as your Macon County Sheriff.

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor

Last Friday afternoon the weather was warm. Sallie was on the front porch listening to the birds. She asked me to join her. We began to hear voices talking over the Billy Ray Cyrus 1992 hit song, Achy Breaky Heart. We realized it was coming from a nearby neighborhood house.

We are not "no noise freaks," so the music wasn't a major concern late in the afternoon. Living in a residential neighborhood does not guarantee freedom from noise generated by neighbors. On weekends we hear lawn mowers, leaf blowers, traffic dogs barking, and children playing in yards. All those routine sounds are a part of community life.

But, there are limits to noise and nuisance levels. As it became dark the music continued from the house in question. In fact, it seemed to intensify as well as shifting from country to more contemporary hip hop selections.

We were faced with two options, call the police or ask the people to turn the music down. Like many residents I don't like to involve the police if at all possible. I decided to go to the house, and ask them to turn the music down.

The doors and windows were open and the music was very loud. I had to knock rather hard to get the attention of the people inside.

A young man came to the door. I told him I was the mayor and that I lived in the neighborhood. I asked him to turn down the music. As I was speaking, a woman came up and informed me that they were having a wedding party, as if that was justification for the blaring music. She seemed offended by my demeanor and request.

I responded that they were in a residential neighborhood and that the music was disturbing the peace. I informed them that they could either turn the music down, or I could call the police. The music was turned down and the problem was resolved.

I know my transient neighbors did not like my visit, and me messing up their weekend celebration. They were from out of town and were coming to the mountains for a fun weekend.

Here lies the problem, full time residents want the simple and peaceful enjoyment of their property, but some visitors want to celebrate, kickback and have a good time. Some folks who embrace the STR model would tell me I just have to call the police when there is a noise issue or



Patrick Taylor

Continued on page 11

Letters to the Editor

Customer experiences great service from PO

This is in response to the letter from Christine Matthews about service at our post office. I've always experienced great customer service from our mail carrier and at our loyal post office. I mail numerous handmade cards every holiday to several distant states. Maybe your issue is with the post office where you sent the card. Our staff is always courteous and very helpful. I think you owe every associate at our post office an apology.

Deborah James – Franklin, N.C.

Letter a waste of good ink and paper

Normally I do not answer letters to the editor, even after I was portrayed in this publication two weeks ago as a despicable, liberal ex-mayor. And that was the kind part of the letter.

However, the letter to the editor from Jim Gaston, in the April 21 edition, was the most anti American, atrocious, waste of good ink and paper I have ever seen in print. Well done Mr. Gaston.

I trust it made your day to rant about whatever happened to cross your mind as you set pen to paper hoping somehow to make yourself a local tower of fairness in political correctness. Unfortunately, I do not believe it was original. Seems I have seen it, or something very similar, on Facebook or Fox News. One of those outlets of integrity.

Obviously, Mr. Gaston has a problem with anyone who does not drink at the fountain of Trump. It is apparent Mr. Gaston is not happy with his fellow Americans who he views as horrible people because they lean toward the democrat party. Very similar to the harangues of Hitler against Jews.

Gaston overlooked Madison Cawthorn, Mark Meadows, and Marjorie Taylor Greene as examples of great Americans in his hot air fueled letter.

Bob Scott – Franklin, N.C.

America has lost ability to abide by the Constitution

Martin Luther King Jr. always believed "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Half a century later, would he be as convinced? I'm not so sure.

America's tolerance of dishonesty, lying and unethical behavior over several decades has been exceeded only by our willingness to plunge ever deeper into the abyss of stomach-churning, abhorrent practices.

It's no longer deniable that the United States has squandered its long-held reputation as the world's foremost constitutional government and become (unmistakably) an anocracy. Anocracies are governments neither entirely democratic or autocratic; they're something in between. Referred

to sometimes as "partial democracies" or "illiberal democracies," it's in anocracies that most civil wars occur.

Barbara Walter (professor of political science, University of California, San Diego) states, "The January 6th, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol was a window into what has been brewing beneath the surface of the United States for years.

Over a year ago, former President Donald Trump called Georgia Secretary of State (Brad Raffensperger) and brazenly asked him to "find 11,780 votes" and give him Georgias' electoral votes. That phone conversation became public knowledge, we all heard it with our own ears.

Also over a year has passed and the former president hasn't been held accountable for his improprieties. In a strong, healthy democracy, a government is transparent and is also well-conditioned to be accountable to its citizens and has the ability to manage a change in administrations without experiencing civil unrest.

The reason the U.S. is on the verge of becoming a full-blown dictatorship is because we have lost the will to abide by our own Constitution, to follow fundamental rules of law and the basic tenets which define democracies; commitment to the people's welfare, to govern by consensus, and to maintain a high regard for solidarity among our citizens.

Instead we indulged a president who led an insurrection against his own government, incited a deadly attack on our Congress and our Capitol with the clear intent to overturn an election and, all the while, seeking help from a foreign government (an adversary), and with the blessing of the Grand Old Party, attempted to block the legitimate constitutional transfer of power.

We may well be the world's most powerful nation, but with men like Donald Trump, Mitch McConnell (R/KY), Kevin McCarthy (R/CA) and numerous other Republicans willing to feed off Trump's "Big Lie," we are burdened with an inept, dysfunctional Congress and look, to the world, very much like a banana republic.

We are living in dangerous times. Countries least expected to experience a civil war – such as the United States and the United Kingdom – are showing unambiguous signs of unrest.

To regain the trust of the American people in government and institutions, policies enacted in state capitols and Washington, DC have to ensure all Americans are allowed to vote and that all votes count. Americans also need the assurance government serves and represents all of us, not just the rich, the powerful and the famous.

David L. Snell – Franklin, N.C.

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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NCHSAA Awards FHS AP Special Person of the Year

Diane Peltz- Contributing Writer

The Macon county School Board met on Monday April 25, 2022 for its regularly scheduled meeting.

The Board recognized Blair King, Franklin High School (FHS) Assistant Principal, for receiving the North Carolina Athletic Association Award for Special Person of the Year 2021. Marilyn, Que Tucker is the Commissioner of the NCSAA, and she personally nominated Mr. King for this award.

Blair King had served as a Coach, Teacher, School Health Director, Vice Principal and Athletic Director in Tennessee and North Carolina since 2006. He was accepted to Maryville College and graduated with honors, becoming the first person from his father's side of the family to graduate from college. He then went on to receive his masters from Tennessee Tech University and his Education Specialist Degree from Lincoln Memorial University. King started several programs as a School Health Director that garnered national and state attention. Safe Kids Hero Award, Safe Kids Partner of the Year Award, Governor's Council Shining Star Award, General Mills Champion for Health Kids, Ambassador of Goodwill being awarded the Healthy Living Innovation Award by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and a special exemplary project award from the Rural Health Association.

In 2018, King was asked to take over as Athletic Director at Franklin High School, for Jay Brooks, who was resigning from the role. As an Athletic Director, King was awarded the North Carolina Soccer Coaches Association Administrator/Athletic Director of the Year award for 2019. He served as Athletic Director/Vice Principal position until the summer of 2021 when he decided to take the AD hat off and focus on his duties as an Assistant Principal. He also wanted to focus on rehabbing injuries associated with the break in his neck that he had from high school and desired to spend more time with his two sons. Mr. King suffers from several bulging discs in his neck and has recently sought therapy for his injury. He had little time for therapy over the years and his headaches were getting

progressively worse so he decided it was time to get some help. He is now receiving physical therapy which has alleviated much of his pain.

Academically Intellectually Gifted Program Brooke Keener, Director of Exceptional Children/AIG/PreK, spoke about several areas of service for the Academically Intellectually Gifted (AIG). The plan covers the 2022-2025 school year. The plan addressed six components.

Student Identification, Comprehensive programming within a total school environment, differentiated curriculum and instruction, personal and professional development, partnerships and program accountability. Every School in Macon County offers AIG classes.

Academically or intellectually gifted students perform or show the potential to perform at substantially high levels of accomplishments when compared with others their age, experience or environment. Academically or intellectually gifted students exhibit high-performance capability in intellectual areas, specific academic fields, or in both intellectual areas and specific academic fields. Academically or intellectually gifted students require differentiated educational services beyond those ordinarily provided by the regular educational program. Outstanding abilities are present in students from all cultural groups, across all economic strata, and in all areas of human behavior. The board unanimously approved the plan.

Graduation Dates Set

Graduation Ceremonies for Macon County Schools is as follows.

May 21, 2022 Highlands HS 10am May 27, 2022 Union Academy 6pm

June 3, 2022 Nantahala High School 6pm June 4, 2022 Franklin High School 9am June 5, 2022 Macon Early College 2:30pm

Face Coverings Remain Optional

With the number of quarantines for teachers and students remaining at zero, the board voted to keep masks as optional in school and on the busses.

Town of Franklin Budget Overview Presented for FY 2022-23

Deena C. Bouknight - Contributing Writer

At a meeting April 19, Town of Franklin's council and staff met to discuss a budget overview for fiscal year 2022-23.

"As this was the first meeting, and prior to any cuts, the budget presented was not balanced," noted Amie Owens, Town Manager, adding, "Council instructed staff to meet with department directors and find ways to decrease the amount of fund balance that would need to be utilized to balance the budget."

One of the main topics discussed at the meeting was a request for a \$0.03 cent tax increase to take the rate to \$0.35 per \$100 valuation in order to provide approximately \$215,000 in revenue.

She shared that there is an unrestricted fund balance available at \$2.9 million, with \$893,657 projected to use to bal-

ance the budget at this time.

Some budgeted proposed personnel changes, as a result of the meeting, are possible new positions, such as: Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Operator, Meter Reader, and Fire Fighters (3).

Some other considerations by the council include: the use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds for such recommended appropriations as \$350,000 for sidewalk repair/maintenance and the beautification of roundabouts with the possibility of a clock and landscaping.

Final thoughts during the meeting included the budget allowing for the continuation of baseline operations without cutting services – with no new services added.

Owens pointed out that the Town of Franklin council will be presented a proposed budget at the May 2, 6 p.m. meeting, with some changes as directed. Then, another budget work session will be held on May 9 at 6 p.m.

TAYLOR

From previous page

other violation of the peace. My response is that I should not have to be a constant visual- ante of the peace as the transient residents come and go.

There were two short term rental houses occupied in my neighborhood this past weekend. One house was absolutely quiet while the other was the party house. I guess we should be thankful that both were not party houses.

We should have known Billy Ray Cyrus foreshadowed a problem. Next weekend it might be Miley Cyrus singing Party in the USA!

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Commissioners' race highlights county's struggle to attract business, foster a qualified workforce

Election 2018

Arts Council of Macon County hosts Student Talent Showcase

Talented Macon County youth took the stage Saturday, April 23, in the annual Student Talent Showcase, a non-competitive talent show for selected third to 12th graders. Held in the Franklin High School Fine Arts Building, this annual event featured students chosen from the county's public schools, performing a variety of entertaining acts from vocal and instrumental numbers to dance, gymnastics, comedy routines, and more. Proceeds support the Arts Council's Artists-in-the-Schools Program, an Arts Council/Macon County Board of Education partnership that brings diverse interactive, instructive arts programs to our public schools. The Showcase is produced by the Arts Council of Macon County, 524-ARTS or arts4all@dnet.net.



**To the citizens of Macon County,
I am submitting my resume to be your next sheriff.**



Clay BRYSON

for Macon County Sheriff

Leadership driven by experience & integrity



MISSION STATEMENT

Having the unique advantage of experiencing first-hand the multitude of ways law enforcement serves Macon County, I promise to lead the Macon County Sheriff's Office with experience and integrity to best serve the community as Macon County's next Sheriff.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Narcotics Investigations
- K9 Operations & Training
- Crisis Intervention
- Unit Supervision & Management
- Specialized Law Enforcement Instruction
- Drug Interdiction

OTHER SKILLS

- The ability to analyze complex technical information
- Can analyze, design and implement problem solving methods
- Detail oriented
- Community focused

GET IN CONTACT

- www.ClayBrysonforSheriff.com
- Clay Bryson For Macon County Sheriff

WORK EXPERIENCE

PATROL OFFICER

- Joined Macon County Sheriff's Office on April 10, 2000
- Promoted to Corporal on January 1, 2005
- Promoted to Sergeant on December 12, 2005
- Promoted to First Sergeant in 2012
- Promoted to Lieutenant over Patrol in 2021
- Promoted to Captain over Patrol in 2021

SPECIALIZED RANKS

- SRT Commander since 2012
- K9 Supervisor/ Trainer since 2012
- State certified General Law Enforcement Instructor
- State certified Firearms Instructor

EDUCATION*

SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- Basic Law Enforcement Certification – 1999 to 2000
- Drug Interdiction – May 2000
- Community Policing– May 2000
- Basic SWAT– 2002
- Tactical/Combat Firing – April 2002
- Intermediate SWAT– October 2002
- Defensive Driving– July 2003
- Tactical Woodland Operations– May 2005
- Ethics– June 2003
- Juvenile Gang– June 2003
- Meth Investigation– July 2006
- Haz–Mat response– July 2006
- General Instructors Training– April 2017
- Ethics Off–Duty– December 2007
- Domestic Violence– December 2007
- Interacting with special populations– December 2007
- Response to critical incidents– February 2008
- Lidar Operations Certification– May 2009
- Crisis Intervention Team Training– December 2010
- Victim Management– July 2011
- Basic SWAT Operator Certification– July 2012
- Advanced SWAT Operation Certificate– November 2013

North American Police Work Dog Association

- K9 Legal Updates and Testimony– January 2011
- K9 Trauma & First Aid– March 2011
- Tactical Obedience, Level II– November 2012
- Advanced K9 Training February 2013
- Decoy Development & K9 Training March 2019
- Nationally Accredited Police K9 Trainer in both Narcotics & Utility Phases– 2021

NORTH CAROLINA JUSTICE ACADEMY

- Street Officers' Legal– April 2001
- Police Law Institute– July 2001
- Criminal Interdiction for Patrol– December 2001
- Case Preparation– April 2002
- Basic Anti–terrorism Awareness– June 2014
- LE Sniper Course – November 2004
- Specialized Firearms Instructor Training– September 2008
- Early Stage Street Encounters– May 2012

BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- Drug Enforcement for Patrol Officers– December 2001

Haywood Community College

- Alcohol Sensor Testing Certification– March 2008
- K9 Law– March 2010
- Police Dog Scenario Workshop– October 2019

Miscellaneous

- US Department of Justice/FBI–Survival Awareness– May 2004
- Federal Law Enforcement Training Center–Rural Policing/Drug Interdiction– February 2012
- Federal Law Enforcement Training Center–Suspicious Activity Reporting Training– February 2012
- Shallow Creek Kennels– Dual Purpose Police K9 Trainer's Course– April 2020
- Shallow Creek Kennels– Narcotics Detection & Patrol Police Service Canine– April 2020

*This is NOT a complete list of training and certifications, just a highlight of specialized areas

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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 14 - 22. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

April 18

Jeffery Michael Miller, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Jason Justin Edwards, was charged with drug/narcotic violations. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Gregory Thomas Bufkin, was charged with possession of stolen goods/property and larceny. Jay Wright made the arrest.

April 19

Ronald Lee Wickham, was issued warrant service. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

Jason Robert Mock, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

April 20

Bernice Garcia, was charged with failure to appear. Costin Jigla made the arrest.

Nicole Dee Stewart, was charged with assault on a government officer/employee and resist/obstruct and delay law enforcement officer. Deputy Cody Tiger made the arrest.

April 21

Mark Daniel Castro, was charged with trespass, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods/property, injury to personal property and possession of burglary tools. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Travis Scott Mason, was charged with trespass, injury to personal property, possession of burglary tools, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering and possession of stolen goods/property. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Madeleine Marie Taylor, was charged with trespass, breaking and entering, larceny after breaking/entering, possession of stolen goods/property, injury to personal property, posses-

sion of burglary tools, possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Dakota Charles Mathis, was charged with breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny of a motor vehicle and receiving stolen goods/property. Costin Jigla made the arrest.

Clarissa Anne Smith, was charged with failure to appear. Sargent Jonathan A. Taylor made the arrest.

Warren Jackson Morgan, was charged with second degree trespass. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

April 22

Toni Leann Brewer, was charged with possession of a schedule I controlled substance and possession of a schedule II controlled substance. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

April 24

Warren Jackson Morgan, was charged with trespass of real property. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

April 14

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

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

April 18

Kelly William Brasier, was charged with driving while license revoked, careless and reckless driving and failure to maintain lane. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Ivry Tallent, was charged with aid and abet driving while license revoked and careless and reckless driving. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

April 19

Patrick Benjamin Kropp, was charged with driving while impaired, misdemeanor flee to elude, careless and reckless, failure to yield for blue light and siren, possession of open container, fail to maintain lane, follow too closely and unsafe lane change. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

April 19

Angela Watson Torres, was charged with breaking and/or entering. A.R. Holland made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

April 18

Gabriel Jobe Belcher, 23, of Whittier, was charged with resisting a public officer. A secured bond of \$300 was set.

April 19

Devon Chase Beck, 18, of Cedar Cliff Rd., Hiwassee, Ga., was charged with breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, larceny and conspire to commit felony larceny. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Robert Lee Bigwitch, 45, of Adam Welch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set.

April 20

Ernest Victor Collins, 34, of Hidden Hills Lane, Whittier, was charged with resisting a public officer. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

April 21

Jeremiah Gentry Gunter, 31, of Bidwell Rd., Whittier, was charged with child support purge, resisting a public officer, possession of a firearm by a felon, conspire to commit felony larceny, possession of stolen firearm, possession of stolen property, larceny of a firearm, larceny after breaking and entering and breaking and entering. A bond of \$156,533.62 was set.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Manna Food Bank is now at Bethel United Methodist Church. To reserve a food box, call (828)634-1116 and leave a message with the following information: your first name and last initial; phone number to confirm pick-up time; number of people in your family; if there are allergies in the family; and any specialty items you might need, like diapers, etc. Pick up is at Bethel UMC, 81 Bethel Church Road, off Highlands Road.

Franklin Covenant Church Drive through Hot Lunch, Food Pantry and prayer as requested will be held on Saturday, April 30, starting at 11 a.m., 265 Belleview Park Rd.

Nantahala Hiking Club on Saturday, April 30, to Darnell Creek Trail near Rabun Gap, GA. Darnell and Ramey Creeks make a loop hike where we will see waterfalls and many cascades. Ramey Creek Falls is 45'. There is a creek crossing where you will most likely have to wade across. Meet at the Smoky Mountain Visitor Center at 10 a.m. For more information, call Laura Lauffer (919)444-1478.


Valley River Arts Guild will be offering a Fearless Watercolors for Adult Beginners, on Saturday, April 30, 1 to 4 p.m., a class for children to make Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day Cards, on Saturday, May 7, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., the first Art Walk of the season, Friday, May 6, 5 to 8 p.m. in downtown Murphy. Art Walks will continue throughout summer and fall seasons. at Murphy Art Center. Classes are open to the public. For more information, call (828)360-3038.

Nantahala Hiking Club will take a moderate 3 mile hike on Sunday, May 1, in Warwoman Dell. They will meet in the north end of Ingle's parking lot in Clayton, Ga, at 1 p.m. and carpool to Warwoman Dell, about 5 miles from Hwy 441. Bring gear and fluids as needed. There should be lots of Spring wildflowers still blooming. There is no charge. Reservations are not needed. Visitors and well behaved dogs are welcome. For more information or in case of foul weather call, hike leader David Stearns, (828)349-7361.

Women's History Trail Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2 to 4:30 p.m., at the Tasse Shelter on the Franklin Greenway. Volunteers and supporters are invited and folks who are interested are welcome. Updates on the Trail and the sculpture project, "Sowing the Seeds of the Future." RSVP Mary Polanski at (828)349-0201 or email marypolanski@gmail.com.

North Shore Cemetery Association, in cooperation with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, will be hosting a decoration at Woody and Hoyle Cemeteries on Sunday, May 1. Decorations are held rain or shine. To attend this decoration, you will need to drive to the Cable Cove Parking Area off NC Hwy 28 near Fontana Village and catch the boat shuttle at 7:30 a.m. or you may catch the boat at Wilderness Marina (Flat Branch) at 9:30 a.m. Another option is hiking in via the Lakeshore Trail from the Lakeview Drive Trailhead: 2 1/2 miles generally taking a little over an hour. For a more detailed description, the latest information, or cancellations, please check www.facebook.com/NorthShoreCemetery-Decorations

Shine Your Light for Firefighters on May 4. National Fallen Firefighters Foundation are asking the public to light their homes in "red" to celebrate International Firefighters' Day. Buildings, bridges and landmarks across the country will also be participating. Families can share their story on social media by using #Shine4Firefighters. For creative



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-- Bahá'u'lláh

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and compassionate kids (and adults) who want to let firefighters know that they are grateful for everything they do, draw or color, and share your thank by emailing a photo of your artwork to photos@firehero.org and using on social media with the hashtag #WeThankFFs.

Highlands Nature Center invites birders of all skill levels to join Nature Center staff on Wednesday and Saturday mornings till May 7 from 8 to 9 a.m. for an easy walk around campus to find what birds have arrived in Highlands. Interested participants will meet at the Highlands Biological Station's North Campus at 111 Lower Lake Rd. The walks are weather dependent. Binoculars will be provided and masks are encouraged. No registration is necessary. For more information, visit highlandsbiological.org.

The Town of Franklin Water/Sewer Division will have temporary road closures continuing into early June, on West Palmer Street in front of the Franklin Fire Department and on Maple Street to improve an existing sewer line. The closure will be a hard closure from a point at the intersection of Commerce Street and West Palmer Street to include both lanes and continue to Maple Street. Signage will be in place for the closure area and detours. Information will be shared via social media on the Police and Fire Department pages and will be updated on the town's website. For more information, call Public Works Department at (828)524-2516 x 397

Macon County Master Gardener Association will meet on May 13, 10:30 at the Environmental Resource Center on Lakeshore Drive. Speaker will be Bill Messina, garden manager at Ace Hardware. The public is welcome to attend.

Free Sports Physicals will be held on Wednesday May 18, 2 p.m., at Franklin High School, 100 Panther Dr. All rising 6th-12th grade students that will participate in NCHSAA sanctioned sports, must undergo a state-mandated sports physical prior to trying out for any sport. Parents/Guardians should plan to attend the sports physical, in order to answer questions the medical team may have during the exam. For more information, contact Lynette.Gibson@HCAHealthcare.com and Justin.Byland@HCAHealthcare.com

Franklin Alcoholics Anonymous "Open Meetings" are for anyone who thinks they may have a drinking problem or for anyone interested in the A.A. recovery program. Meetings are held Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. at No Wrong Door, 102 Thomas Heights Rd.; Sunday, 1 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 5:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Outreach Center, 66 Harrison Ave.; Tuesday, 8 a.m., and Thursday, 12 noon at St. Agnes Episcopal Church on 66 Church St.; Wednesday, 7 p.m. at St. Cyprians Episcopal Church, 216 Roller Mill Rd. Online meeting information is available by visiting www.aawnc80.org. To speak with a member of A.A., call (828)349-4357.

Thursday Painters has moved to Mondays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at The Uptown Gallery located at 30 East Main Street in Franklin. All skill levels and mediums are welcome. Bring your project and supplies and a bag lunch. For more information, call Pat Mennenger (828)421-5194 or Uptown Gallery (828)349-4607.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

First Alliance Church will be holding on Sunday Service May 1, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages is held at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Scott will speak on 1 Thessalonians 5:12-2. Sons of Thunder will be performing special music. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane (off Womack, next door to Trimont Christian Academy).

Spiritual Light Center on Sunday, May 1, 11 a.m., Kim Webster will speak on "Beliefs that Bind." Wednesday a movie is shown at 3 p.m. and then out to eat afterward. The church is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., behind the Gazebo Restaurant. For more information or to stream services go to SpiritualLightCenter.com.

National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday May 5, noon, at the Gazebo downtown. Various area ministers will leading in prayer. The Sponsored by the Macon Christian Ministers Fellowship

Memorial United Methodist Church Worship Services in person and on Facebook at 11 a.m. every Sunday. They have communion the first Sunday of each month. The church is located at 4668 Old Murphy Rd. (across from Loafers Glory). The pastor is Evan W. Hill. For more information, call (828)369-5834.

Franklin First United Methodist Church Sunday In-person Worship is held at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. or on Facebook at Franklin First United Methodist Church, either live or later on recorded video. The church is located at 66 Harrison Avenue in downtown Franklin; senior pastor is Rev. David Beam. For more information, call (828)524-3010 or visit us at http://www.firstumcfranklin.org

Son Rise Ministries is a non-denominational, full-gospel, Christian fellowship that meets Friday evenings at 7 p.m., Intercessory Prayer is Monday night at 6:30 p.m., Ladies prayer and Bible study is Wednesdays, 1 to 3 p.m. The church is located at 462 Depot St. For more information, call (828)369-2465 or (828)421-4153.

Prentiss Church of God is holding Sunday worship service in its sanctuary beginning at 10:30 a.m. Services are also streamed online on the Prentiss Church of God Facebook page. Prayer and Worship service is the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. The church is located at 59 Church Hill Lane, off Addington Bridge Road. Phone: (828)369-3885.

Snow Hill United Methodist Church Sunday worship with music is held at 10:45 a.m., morning worship service 11 a.m. Pastor D'Andre Ash is the pastor. The church is located at 330 Snow Hill Rd., in the Cowee Community.

Grace Baptist Church services are held on Sunday, 11 a.m. Frank Rodriguez is the pastor. All are welcome to attend. The church is located at 130 Setser Branch Rd.

Email your church events to maconcountynews@gmail.com

SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

A	M	E	N	S	E	N	S	A	M
S	R	A	H	R	O	E	R	A	G
G	L	O	G	S	E	R	O	R	A
S	T	I	R	S	A	L	I	B	U
D	A	T	M	I	T	E	R		
R	E	D	R	A	F	T	E	N	A
E	T	N	A	A	L	L	U	R	E
S	A	U	C	Y	O	W	E	G	H
I	L	O	D	A	C	O	I	T	C
R	E	S	E	W	N	L	E	G	I
M	O	I	S	T	G	E	L		
M	C	C	O	R	M	I	C	K	I
E	R	I	N	A	X	I	L	R	I
T	A	T	E	L	A	V	A	G	E
S	M	O	G	Y	E	S			

Academic Awards ceremony honors Southwestern's high achievers

The highest-achieving students at Southwestern Community College were honored in the annual Academic Awards Ceremony on April 7 in Myers Auditorium on the college's Jackson Campus. Among the honorees were 74 students who received "high honors" for maintaining a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA.

Isaac Quillen was named the N.C. Community College System Academic Excellence award recipient.

The Charles McConnell New Century Scholar Award went to Kaci McMahan, and Kayla Cooper received the Dallas Herring Achievement Award – given annually in honor of one of the state's earliest advocates for community colleges.

Kristin Farmer won the Bob Scott Leadership Award, named after the former N.C. governor who also served as president of the state's community college system for 12 years.

The following "Students of Distinction" were also honored: Gabrielle Ardisson, Kara Birchfield, Brooke Bird, Ashley Buchanan, Susan Clark, Kayla Cooper, Roman Creasy, Sayumi De Silva, Rebekah Dills, Christopher Edelmann, Kristin Farmer, Jacqueline Holland, Crystal Jenkins, Michael Lambert, Summer Lewis, Jenice Mckin, Christopher McMillan, Ellie Padgett, Dawson Post, William Pritikin, Isaac Quillen, Samara Salmond, Wendy Suttles, Stella Walborn, Dee Wilder, and Ayana Yan.

To qualify for the "Academic Honors" portion of the program, each student had to earn a minimum of 30 semester hours of credit within the last four years by the end of the fall semester at SCC, be enrolled in the spring semester and have a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.5 or above.

For more information, call 828.339.4000, visit www.southwesterncc.edu.



Macon County residents honored at SCC's Academic Awards ceremony on April 7 included, front row from left: Cadence Houser of Franklin, Emilee Duke of Franklin, Nicole Sadagursky of Franklin, and Analee Webb of Franklin; second row, Christopher Edelmann of Highlands, Briseyda Rios of Franklin, Anika Zuiderveen of Franklin, Kaci McMahan of Franklin, Arlene Jones of Franklin, Jacqueline Holland of Franklin, Erin Welch of Franklin, and Nathan Crawford of Franklin; third row, Stephen Moore of Franklin, Dalton Jones of Franklin, John Cabe of Franklin, and Patrick Woods of Highlands.

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Two Centuries of Services and Fellowship Celebrated at First Baptist Church

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Two Centuries of Services and Fellowship Celebrated at First Baptist Church By Deena C. Bouknight, Contributing Writer

Just two years after the town of Franklin officially organized in 1820, First Baptist Church was established. On Sunday, May 1, the church celebrates two centuries of service in the community.

“Two hundred years just shows the faithfulness of the Lord, and that His purpose of seeking to save the lost (all of us) is that great,” said Senior Pastor Robert Brown, who has been at First Baptist for 12 years.

The first pastor for the church in 1822 was Elder Humphrey Posey, with serving deacons Thomas Kimsey and James Bryson, clerk Benjamin Stiles, as well as first trustees Luke Barnet, Thomas Kimsey, and James Poteet.

The first official church building was constructed in February 1829 on three acres of land, purchased for \$11.15, on the south side of White Oak Street in Franklin. By the end of the 19th century, First Baptist was established well enough in Western North Carolina to be considered the “mother” church of not only seven churches in and around Macon County, but also for one in Dillard, Ga.

In 1920, a new church building was completed and the first service was held April 4, 1920, with the current and final sanctuary at 69 Iotla Street finished in 1963.

Membership at the church over the last two centuries has included many recognized

names throughout the region as well as generations of established families. Mildred Swafford, 97, has lived her entire life in Macon County and is one of the longest living members of the church.

She originally resided outside of town, but after she married, she moved into Franklin. She shared that the only factor keeping her from initially attending First Baptist was that she did not own a hat. “All the ladies wore hats on Sunday,” she explained. Once she purchased a hat, she began attending First Baptist and has been a member for 62 years. Her children attended First Baptist and were active in the church’s children, junior, and youth departments.

Swafford helped with Sunday School in the children’s department. “I was amazed at how many Bible verses the children knew,” she said, admitting that she was inspired by the children to memorize verses herself. After retiring from teaching school for 40 years, Swafford became the Sunday School director and continued to serve in the position for 25 years. She pointed out that a highlight during her time as director was the establishment of a Sunday School class, known as Special Friends Class, for mentally challenged individuals.

She remembered a time when the church did not have air conditioning



Repairs were recently done on the First Baptist Church steeple in preparation for the churches 200th anniversary. photo by Vickie Carpenter

and some summers were particularly hot, especially during vacation bible school, which many children attended.

“I also remember the church getting new stained glass windows, cushions for the pews, ... many changes in 62 years,” said Swafford.

In 62 years, she has also seen many pastors come and go. One memory she shared was when a pastor choose to go on a mission trip to Japan. “I told him that the same Carolina moon that shines over us would be shining over him in Japan.”

Another favorite memory of Swafford’s was when deacons were called on to pray and one deacon started his prayer with: “I was glad when He said unto me, ‘Let us go into the House of the Lord.’”

“Good memories of good people,” said Swafford. “First Baptist made me closer to the Lord in every way. I tried to be a blessing to others and was there every time the doors were opened. Picking up individuals to carry them to church was one thing I especially enjoyed doing for others.”

Attending Sunday’s anniversary recognition will also be Jim Conley, 90, who has been attending since 1945, “except when I was in the Navy for four years,” he said, adding “I grew up in Macon County and attended the church growing up. I’ve been a Sunday School teacher, a deacon, and a trustee. My one child, Jim Conley, Jr., grew up in the church as well.”



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 *Deaths & Funerals*

Dorothy Kavanaugh Arnold

Dorothy Kavanaugh Arnold, Age 92, passed away on April 18, 2022. Born in Kansas City, Mo., she moved to West Palm Beach, Fla., in 1944. She married in June of 1950 and then moved to N.C. She was the daughter of the late John Franklin and Gertrude Louise Simmerman

She was preceded in death by her husband, Claude Jack Arnold in 1995, her sisters, Helen Marie Fine, Anna Belle Mooney and Beverly Jean McMillian and a twin brother Donald Simmerman.

She is survived by two sons, Larry Arnold and wife, Kathy, of Louisville, Ky., Mike Arnold and wife, Nita, of Franklin, 6 grandchildren, and 9 great grandchildren. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

She was a member of Cowee Baptist Church and very active at the Senior Center in Franklin. She loved working with flowers and doing crafts, especially cross-stitched crosses. She enjoyed baking and was well known for her delicious carrot cake.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 3 p.m. in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at Macon Funeral Home.

Rev. Jason Smith and Rev. Ronnie Branson will officiate. Burial will be at Sugarfork Baptist Church Cemetery.

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

Macon Funeral Home will be in charge of the arrangements.



Dorothy Arnold

Dorothy Taylor Fewell

Dorothy Taylor Fewell, a precious child of God, went to Heaven on April 17, 2022. Known as Dottie to family and friends, she enjoyed sharing her faith and being a ready witness for Jesus was the number one thing in her life. Using pennies with crosses cut out in the center as conversation starters, she shared God's love to many in five states.

After the passing of her first husband, Gilbert Fewell, Dottie and Vernon Randall Owens, Sr., married and successfully blended their families into one big family. Second to her love for Jesus was her love for her husband and their children. She was a quality, caring individual with no pretense and an unending positive attitude. What you saw was the real Dottie through and through.

She had a blessed and interesting life. She was a licensed airplane pilot and loved snow skiing along with horseback riding. Her family always owned a dog, her favorite pup being Camelot, a female English Staffordshire Bull Terrier, whose supposed stay of only three weeks somehow turned into eight years.

She always said she was God's favorite child, was born on June 28, 1934, to Louis Blocker Taylor and Winona Mae Boutlier Taylor. She was predeceased by her parents, her first husband, and her children, Mike Fewell and Hal Fewell.

She is survived by her husband, Vernon Randall Owens, Sr.; her son, Scott Fewell (Dawn) of Knoxville, Tenn.; her step-son, Vernon Randall Owens, Jr. (Susie) of Inglis, Fla.; her grandchildren, Taylor Jones (Brad), Ian Pickle, Gabrielle Fewell, Geronimo Fewell, Gershonna Fewell, Golda Fewell, Dallas Owens (Amy), Dalton Owens, and Delaney Owens; her great-grandson, Corbin Owens; her sister, Betty Bass, Seffner, Fla; and a special niece, Cindy Duncan (Bruce).

No local services are planned.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve Ms. Dottie's family.

Online condolences may be made at www.moffittfunerals.com



Dorothy Taylor Fewell

Georgia "JoAnn" Smith

Georgia "JoAnn" Smith, 89, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Thursday, April 7, 2022.

Born in Dover, Fla., she was the daughter of the late William W. and Ollie Ethel Roberts Smith. In addition to her birth parents, she was preceded in death by her adopted parents, Wyman Hinson and Dora Engle; her husband, Thomas Smith; siblings, Lloyd Smith and Virginia Prevatt; and a grandson, Brian Stanley.

She was a member of Memorial United Methodist Church. She enjoyed keeping a clean home, her flower gardens, and working in the yard.

She is survived by a daughter, Cindy Stanley (Jerry) of Lutz, Fla.; a son, Larry Smith (Patti) of Lutz, Fla.; three grandchildren, Jaime Davis, Lindsay Golden, and Lainie Wells; and eleven great grandchildren.

Graveside service was held on Monday, April 25 at Woodlawn Cemetery. Rev. Evan Hill officiated; special music was provided by Cindy and David Bohner.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Memorial United Methodist Church.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Georgia "JoAnn" Smith

Violet Spencer Cox

Violet Spencer Cox, 88 passed away Wednesday, April 6, 2022. She was born January 29, 1934 in Union County, S.C. to the late Robert Henry Spencer and Pearl Ochiltre Spencer. She was a homemaker and served as president and secretary for the VFW Auxiliary for over 20 years. She did all types of volunteer work from helping out at the Macon County Fair, selling crafts, highly active in the Heart Association to being part of the Carson Community Crafters. She was of the Baptist faith.

She is survived by her son, James Robert Cox of Greenville, S.C.; two daughters, Terri C. Shuler of Franklin, N.C. and Cullie C. Raby (Greg) of Franklin, N.C.; eleven grandchildren, Jennifer Gullede, Steven Cox, Chris McGuire, Sarah Shuler, Robert Cox, Shannon Dendy, Amanda Yates, Ryan Cox, Jordan Raby, Kylie Raby and Cullie Raby, six great grandchildren, Chelsea McGuire, Christopher McGuire, Corey Gullede, Jayden Gullede, Kylie Cox and Deanna Dendy. In addition to her parents she is preceded in death by her husband, Rufus C. Cox, Jr. "Hoot-Sarge" and a son, Rufus "Rock" Cox, III.

A private family service will be held on Sunday at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with Rev. Scott Holland officiating.

Bryant Grant Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the Cox family.

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



Violet Spencer Cox

Walter "David" Deats IV

Walter "David" Deats IV, 54, of Franklin, passed away on Wednesday, April 20, 2022.

Born in Ft. Worth, Texas, he was the son of Walter David Deats III and Karen Kelly Higdon. He was a painter by trade, and an extremely gifted artist.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra Sanderlin Deats; mother, Karen Kelly Higdon (Bob) of Franklin, N.C.; four sons, Chris Deats, Johnathan Deats, Tyler Deats, all of Franklin, N.C. and Zach Deats of Ga.; three sisters, Dori Coakley of Franklin, N.C., Carrie Manning (Jeremiah) of Franklin, N.C., and Robin Little (Rich) of Ga.; stepdaughters, Heather Chavez Alvarez of Jarvisburg, N.C., Heidi Lewis of Maple, N.C., Leilani Sanderlin of Shawboro, N.C., and Myra Lewis of Camden, N.C.; and several grandchildren, step grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations to the Appalachian Animal Rescue, PO Box 81, Franklin, N.C. 28744.

Online condolences can be left at www.maconfuneralhome.com Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Walter Deats IV

Joan Silke Trapani

Joan Silke Trapani, 89, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Saturday, April 23, 2022. She was born June 25, 1932 in Brooklyn, N.Y., to the late Edward S. Silke and Ruth Egidy Silke. She had lived in Franklin for twenty years. She had worked in doctors offices and was a Catholic by faith. She loved to travel and loved to color adult coloring books.

She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Survivors include her husband of 69 years, William Trapani; daughter, Sherry Taylor of Franklin, N.C.; two grandchildren, Lori Duncan and Derrick Janzer; six great-grandchildren, Candace, Mason, Raegan, Kenlie, Branson, and Addilyn.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Bryant-Grant Funeral Home is serving the Trapani family.



Deaths & Funerals

Teresa Jane Corpening

Teresa Jane Corpening, 56, passed away Saturday, April 16, 2022. She was born in Macon, County on April 26, 1965 to the late Frank D. Corpening and Mary Ruth Miller Corpening. She worked at Belden several years and then worked in food service. She had a degree in culinary and a bachelor of science degree in business administration. She was of the Christian faith. She was funny, had heart of gold, and loved her family and friends. She also loved animals, music, and thrift store shopping.



Teresa Corpening

Survivors include her brother,

Kevin Corpening and his wife, Colleen of Franklin, N.C., and a nephew, W.R. Corpening of Franklin, N.C..

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Keith "Wolfie" Corpening.

A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, April 30, at Woodlawn Cemetery with the Rev. Don Bates officiating.

Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com

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

Tim Woodall

Tim Woodall, 67, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Friday, April 22, 2022.

Born in Macon County, he was the son of the late Fred Woodall and Imogene Tilson Wicker.

He was a member of Windy Gap Baptist Church, where he formerly served as a R.A. leader, Sunday School Superintendent, and Sunday School teacher; and was a faithful choir member. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, reloading, sharpening knives, and gunsmithing. He also loved reading, especially Louis L'Amour.



Tim Woodall

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Christine Tallent Woodall; two daughters, Robin Henry (John) of Arden, N.C. and Crystal Teem (Josh) of Franklin, N.C.; two sisters, Pam Henson (Newt) of Canton, Ga., and Sharon Cochran (Cliff) of Bryson City, N.C.; and a brother, Joey Woodall of Atlanta, Ga. He is also survived by his five grandchildren whom he dearly loved, Dakota Henry, Dawson Henry (Haley), Blair Teem, Hadlee Teem, and Hayes Teem; and a host of nieces, nephews, and other family members.

Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, April 26, at Windy Gap Baptist Church. Rev. Mark Bishop, Rev. David Lee Williams, and Rev. Brian Browning officiated. Burial was in the Windy Gap Baptist Church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Bobby Bishop, Scotty Bishop, Kevin Rogers, Brian Tallent, Adam Tallent, Brandon Peek, Jody Mason, and Toby Mason. Honorary pallbearers were Austin Bishop, Slade Peek, and Weston Peek.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Windy Gap Baptist Ch. Bldg. Fund, C/O Edith Holland, 123 Edgewood Avenue, Franklin, N.C. 28734 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn., 38105.

Online condolences can be left at www.maconfuneralhome.com Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

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Chamber Award winners

Award Banquet was held on Wednesday, April 21, at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts.

Photos by Eric Haggart



Max West received the Club Organization of the year award for Friends of the Library presented to him by John Hamlin



Charles and Gloria Thun were the recipients of the Duke Energy Citizenship and Service Award.



Matt Corbin Presented Debra Williams from Zonta Club with the Above & Beyond award.



Mia Overton presented Callie Roper with the Youth Citizenship award.



Joey Gibson was presented the Citizen of the Year award from Hunter Stricklan.

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Noah Gragson triumphs at Talladega in three-overtime thriller

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

It was an Earnhardt Saturday in Earnhardt country.

Grabbing the lead on a restart in the third overtime, Noah Gragson—driving for Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s JR Motorsports—won the Ag-Pro 300 NASCAR Xfinity Series at Talladega Superspeedway.

Gragson beat Jeffrey Earnhardt, grandson of seven-time NASCAR Cup champion Dale Earnhardt Sr., who was driving a black No. 3 Chevrolet in a special appearance for Richard Childress Racing, which fielded Dale Sr.'s car during his heyday.

On the mammoth 2.66-mile track where Dale Sr. won a record 10 times and Dale Jr. added another six, Jeffrey Earnhardt crossed the finish line .131 seconds behind Gragson, who won for the first time at Talladega, the second time this season and the seventh time in his career.

Gragson grabbed the lead when JR Motorsports teammate Justin Allgaier ran out of fuel as he led the field to the third-overtime restart on Lap 123. The driver of the No. 9 Chevrolet held the top spot the rest of the way as Earnhardt worked his way forward from his eighth-place restarting position.

Moments after the race, Gragson was already planning his celebration in the notorious Talladega infield.

"This team at Jr. Motorsports, they never quit," Gragson said. "We've had a kind of a rough last month, just not getting the finishes that we wanted ... I couldn't make moves on the top there very much at the beginning of the race, so I just kept running the bottom—running the bottom—and we'd get shuffled back and keep moving back up.

"I've got to run in the Cup race (on Sunday), but the Talladega Boulevard looks a lot more enchanting right now and inviting, so I might have to go out there and then throw some beads."

On the second of the two overtime laps, Earnhardt slipped past AJ Allmendinger for second but couldn't catch Gragson through the tri-oval.

"I'm living the dream here—I'm just so thankful to get this opportunity," said Earnhardt, whose crew chief, FOX Sports broadcaster Larry McReynolds, was serving his first stint on a pit box since 2000. "Thanks to RCR for building this amazing race car. We were fast all weekend long.

"We just fell a little short there, but congrats to Noah. He's good at plate races."

Allmendinger had led on the second overtime restart and appeared to have control of the race when Jeremy Clements' Chevrolet stalled in Turn 2 to cause the 10th and final caution of the race. With his third-place result, however, Allmendinger claimed the \$100,000 Xfinity Dash 4 Cash bonus available to the top finisher among four eligible drivers.

"I thought I crashed about seven times on the last lap," Allmendinger said. "I really appreciate what Xfinity and Comcast do to allow us to race for 100 grand at these four races. I didn't realize that the 7 (Allgaier) started laying back, and you can't take off before him. I was really checking up when he ran out of fuel.

"At that point, the 9 (Gragson) had such a run. This Chevy handled really well. We just lacked kind of the top-end speed, so they could get to my bumper, then basically boot me out of the way. I was just hanging on there. Jeffrey did a good job to make the move (for second place)."

Austin Hill, winner of the season opener at Daytona, led a race-high 67 laps and was out front with fewer than four laps left when Sam Mayer lost control of his Chevrolet in the outside lane and knocked Hill's Chevy into the infield wall. Both cars were damaged too severely to continue.

Ryan Sieg and Landon Cassill finished fourth and fifth behind Allmendinger, with Cassill scoring his second straight top-five result. Anthony Alfredo, Riley Herbst, Joe Graf Jr., Myatt Snider and Brett Moffitt completed the top 10.



Ross Chastain, driver of the #1 Moose Fraternity Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series GEICO 500 at Talladega Superspeedway on April 24, 2022 in Talladega, Alabama. Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images

Ross Chastain captures checkered flag at Talladega on thrilling final lap

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

One lap. That's all it took for Ross Chastain to drop a watermelon and raise a trophy in celebration. The 29-year old Floridian led only the last - typically frantic - lap in the GEICO 500 at Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway on Sunday to take his second career NASCAR Cup Series victory.

Chastain was running third behind Erik Jones and Kyle Larson with one lap remaining. Larson pulled out of line to the outside poised to make a pass for the lead. But, Jones pulled in front of Larson to block the momentum while Chastain kept his No. 1 Trackhouse Racing Chevrolet steady below them maintaining pace ultimately pulling away to the win as the other two cars lost momentum battling each other.

"Holy cow, we didn't do anything," Chastain yelled on his team radio after taking the checkered flag by a mere .105-second. "We just stayed down there."

And it worked.

"I'm always the one going to the top too early and making the mistake and there at the end, with like eight to go I was like 'I'm not going up there again, I did that a couple times today,' said Chastain, who earned his first career series victory at Austin's Circuit of the Americas on March 27.

"I was like, I'll just drive the bottom, I'm not going to lose the race for us. They just kept going up and moving out of the way."

Richard Childress Racing's Austin Dillon crossed the line in second, followed by Joe Gibbs Racing's Kyle Busch while the Hendrick Motorsports driver Larson was able to finish fourth for his first top-5 finish in a restrictor plate race in 31 tries.

Joe Gibbs Racing driver Martin Truex Jr. was fifth followed by Jones, who came less than one lap away from giving GMS Petty Motorsports and team owner Richard Petty its first win since 2014.

"Just the last lap, it's typical here," said a disappointed

Jones, who finished sixth. "I've been close here so many times in this race and the fall race."

"Looking back," he continued. "I wish I'd stayed in the bottom but didn't realize they were coming with that much speed. Tried to defend the 5 (Larson), but was too far ahead already and obviously it opened the door for the 1 (Chastain)."

He did take solace in the showing, however.

"Happy to run up front and lead laps, just would really love to get that 43 to victory lane and thought today might be the day," Jones said. "We were fast all day long, had speed and especially being out front there at the end I know we had a shot, just couldn't quite close it out."

Larson was equally as disappointed hoping to turn his best race performance at Talladega into a trophy.

"I felt like I did a pretty near perfect job for me at a superspeedway until the last lap there," said Larson, the reigning NASCAR Cup Series champion. "I should have faked going high and gone back low. I had that run there."

"Just that little inexperience there, probably," he added.

Larson's Hendrick teammate Chase Elliott, a former Talladega winner, finished seventh, followed by former DAYTONA 500 winner Michael McDowell, Hendrick's Alex Bowman and Stewart-Haas Racing's Kevin Harvick.

The race ending capped off a typically dramatic day featuring 41 lead changes among 16 drivers. Hendrick Motorsports' William Byron led a race best 38 of the 188 laps and won Stage 2, but finished 15th unable to make up ground after his final pit stop in the dicey closing laps.

Bubba Wallace, who won last fall at Talladega and led 15 laps on Sunday, won Stage 1 - his first stage win of the season - but as with Byron, lost positions in the final laps. He was involved in a wreck coming to the checkered flag and finished 17th in the No. 23 23XI Racing Toyota.

Elliott's top-10 was good enough for him to extend the championship lead over 11th place finisher, Penske Racing's Ryan Blaney. He's now 21 points up on the field heading to Dover (Del.) International Speedway next weekend where the NASCAR Cup Series will race Sunday in the DuraMAX Drydene 400 presented by ReLaDyne (3 p.m. ET, FS1, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). Bowman is the defending race winner.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME:
INVENTIONS
AND INVENTORS

- ACROSS**
- Urban haze
 - Da, oui, or si, e.g.
 - Drug-induced state
 - UK art museum
 - Molten rock
 - Hip-hop or classical, e.g.
 - Sportscaster Andrews
 - Angle between branch and offshoot
 - Bioweapon
 - *Reaper inventor
 - Muslim holy man
 - Dampish
 - *The invention of hand sanitizer centered on alcohol as this
 - Stitched again
 - Decipherable
 - United Nations labor agency, acr.
 - Armed robber, on an Indian subcontinent
 - Heart of the matter
 - Impertinent
 - Be in arrears
 - Belgian port city
 - European erupter
 - Popular women's magazine
 - Back then
 - Make a new sketch
 - Canine's coat
 - Digital audiotape, acr.
 - Corner joint
 - ____ crazy
 - *Ground beef steak inventor
 - Nordic gl_hwein
 - Substance abuser
 - Kind of testimony
 - Soft twilled fabric of silk or rayon
 - Casanova, e.g.

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| <p>61. Anger on road</p> <p>62. Flock's affirmation</p> <p>63. Short for ensign</p> <p>64. NBA shot</p> <p>DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Flower part Painter Chagall Ear-related DNA sequence Vertical coordinate axis Put out on a curb *Poliomyelitis vaccine inventor *Life-saving maneuver inventor Machu Picchu group Sinister | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pecking mother Thin layer Romantic Norwegian composer Disturbing public peace Acquire Early one Carry away, in a way *Edison invented things for its reproduction Stead Flesh of fish Foot-forward squat Glorify *First commercial revolver inventor Harry Potter's mail carrier | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> *Knitted sweater with open front inventor #4 Down matter, pl. Back of the boat Withdraw from working life Frustration, in print Pergolas *Wide-mouth jar inventor Intestinal obstruction Undesirable location Ruptured Certainly Russia's mountain range Indian music Big Bang's original matter Geological Society of America |
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HOLLY SPRINGS COMMUNITY Development Club, Indoor Plant and Yard Sale, Saturday, April 30, 8am-noon, at the Community Building, 2720 Cat Creek Rd. Items for sale can be dropped off at the community building on April 28 & 29, 1-5pm. Proceeds Benefit Community Club for Facility/Grounds Upkeep and Improvement.

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SUDOKU ANSWERS ON PG. 15

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The Classifieds

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FRONT DESK afternoon/evening hours (no later than 10:00 pm) House-keeping: days 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Up to \$15. per hour plus bonus. Must be able to work weekends and holidays. This is a non-smoking property. Please call: (877)524-3380 for interview or apply in person at: The Carolina Motel 2601 Georgia Road, Franklin, N.C. 28734.

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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.

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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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