

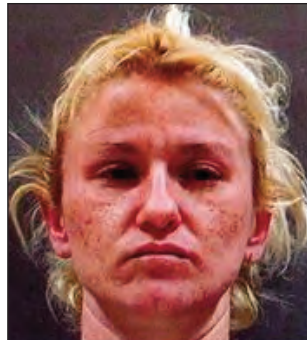
Missing persons report turns into homicide investigation

Brittney Lofthouse
Contributing Writer

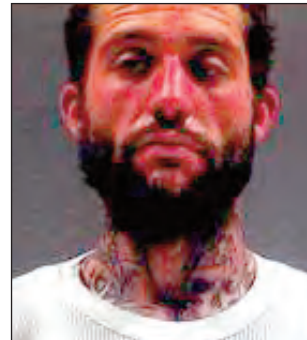
Derek McCrackin, Jessica Smith, and Christopher Shields have been arrested and are in custody in Rabun County, Georgia awaiting extradition to Macon County in connection to a homicide investigation launched on Friday, May 20.



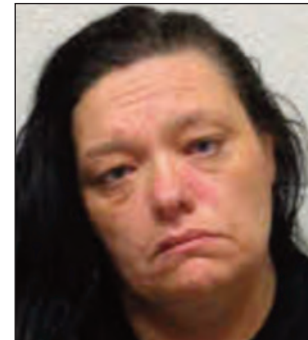
Chris Shields



Jessica Smith



Derek McCrackin



Lenore Wilson

A Macon County woman has also been formally charged with two counts of felony kidnapping. Lenore “Lenoka” Wilson of Otto was arrested Tuesday in connection to the homicide of the individual reported missing on Friday, May 20. Bond for Wilson has been set at \$200,000 and she remains in the Macon County Detention Center.

A Missing Person report was filed on Friday with the Macon County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) by a family member who had not heard from his sister for several weeks which prompted an investigation. Detectives with the MCSO worked with the family member and the Rabun County Sheriff’s Office attempting to locate her and other individuals with whom she was known to associate. Throughout the day, MCSO detectives also communicated with other law enforcement agencies attempting to locate anyone who had seen or been with the missing person. The investigation eventually led detectives to two specific areas of Macon County.

“Based on credible information, two locations were considered to be possible crime scenes and meticulous searches would be conducted by our team,” said Sheriff Robert Holland. “The first crime scene was a location where the missing person was last seen alive and the second was where the missing person may have been currently located.”

Both scenes were secured by deputies and additional assistance by the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) was requested. By late Friday evening, MCSO detectives along with assistance from the SBI and the District Attorney’s Office executed search warrants at the two locations. Members of the Otto Fire Department and the Chief Medical Examiner’s Office also provided substantial assistance. Following the execution of search warrants in the two locations, human remains and other evidence were collected by MCSO detectives and the SBI agents.

During the course of the investigation, Christopher Shields

of Otto, was identified by detectives as a person of interest and was located, interviewed and released as the investigation continued. Additional interviews were conducted and it was not until later in the day that Shields would become a prime suspect in the investigation. Following a field interview with Shields, Rabun County Sheriff’s Office detained him during a traffic stop where he was the passenger in a vehicle entering into Rabun County. This traffic stop was a collaborative effort by detectives between Macon and Rabun County sheriff’s offices.

“Investigators continue to gather evidence and conduct additional interviews,” stated Sheriff Holland. “We are no longer treating this investigation as a Missing Person case. We have recovered human remains and we believe these remains will eventually be identified as our original missing person. ... Positive identification and cause of death may take some time but I am confident detectives will find these answers and the answers to many more questions.”

Shields was charged with kidnapping, with additional charges expected pending positive identification and the autopsy results.

Felony warrants for desecration of a corpse were issued

See **HOMICIDE** page 2

Bill introduced to expand Medicaid

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Wednesday morning, North Carolina Senator Kevin Corbin joined his fellow Republican Colleagues for a press conference announcing “NC Health Works,” a bill proposing the overhaul of North Carolina’s health care industry, pairing a Medicaid expansion that would provide health insurance to hundreds of thousands across North Carolina.

“Today I was proud to stand with my colleagues in the North Carolina Senate to discuss NC Health Works — legislation aimed at increasing access to healthcare through things such as telehealth, amendments to the state’s CON [Certificate of Need] process, and closing the health insurance coverage gap through Medicaid Expansion,” said Corbin. “This is arguably the biggest news to happen in North Carolina in 100 years. Not only would this extend health insurance coverage to 600,000 North Carolinians, but

See **MEDICAID** page 2

Dereck Jones requests recount in sheriff’s race

On Thursday, May 19, 2022 the Board of Elections office received an official “Notice of Recount Request” of the 2022 Primary Election ballots from candidate Dereck E. Jones.

Unofficial election results on Tuesday, May 17, reported Dereck Jones trailed in the Sheriff election to Brent Holbrooks by 54 votes. Because the margin of victory was less than 1 percent, a recount can legally be requested.

Candidates have until 5 p.m. on the next business day after a canvass to request a recount. The Canvass of an election is held 10 days after an Election per general statute. Macon County will hold its canvass in the Board of Elections office boardroom at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 27.

The recount was initially scheduled to be performed on Saturday, June 4, at 9 a.m., however, due to the fact that the time overlapped with Franklin High School graduation, the recount was moved to Thursday, June 2. The recount will be held at the Macon County Community Building, 1288 Georgia Road, in the gymnasium. All ballots cast in the primary will be recounted. The recount is open to the public.

IN THIS ISSUE



Page 18

Gem mining a decades-long tradition in Franklin

828.369.6767
www.themaconcountynews.com
maconcountynews@gmail.com

PRST STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 22
GOODER PUBLISHING CORP.
FRANKLIN, NC 28734-3401



Sen. Kevin Corbin speaks during a press conference on Wednesday touting House Bill 149 which would expand Medicaid and healthcare to 600,000 uninsured North Carolinians.

MEDICAID

Continued from page 1

it would improve quality of healthcare in the state in an efficient and effective manner while having no negative impact on the state's budget."

Senator Phil Berger spoke alongside Corbin Wednesday morning admitting that he has probably been the state's most vocal opponent to Medicaid Expansion, however, the time to do so is now to boost the supply of health services in the state.

According to Berger, House Bill 149 will start moving through committee Wednesday in the state Senate, where it is expected to pass. Senate Republicans acknowledged that the legislation faces an uphill battle in the House, which remains vocally opposed to

the measure.

All but 12 states have accepted federal funding to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act since its enactment in 2010. The latest to join, Oklahoma and Missouri, expanded eligibility last year, after voters approved ballot measures. Utah, Idaho and Nebraska adopted Medicaid expansion in 2020.

In North Carolina, where about 2.7 million residents are currently enrolled in Medicaid, the additional federal funding available for states to expand Medicaid would give the state \$1.5 billion over two years, a factor Berger noted was considered during his shift from opposition to support.

The draft bill summary indicates the state would pay its 10% of Medicaid expansion costs through a new assessment on hospitals, and expansion would end if Congress increased the state's share of the expense.



Rotary Club observes EMS Week

Brittney Lofthouse – Contributing Writer

Macon County Emergency Services coordinator Todd Doster said that the county's emergency services sees an average increase of 3 percent in call volumes from year to year... until 2021 when Macon County Emergency Services experienced a surge of calls, with a 21 percent spike over the prior year.

From 2019 to 2020, EMS calls within the county fell from 6,618 calls to 6,334 – a drop of just over 4 percent – but the following year saw a dramatic uptick in calls as the department responded to 7,698 requests in 2021.

Doster spoke to the Rotary Club of Franklin Noon Club on Wednesday where the Rotary Club hosted employees of Macon County's emergency services in honor of National EMS Week. May 15-21, 2022, is the 47th annual National EMS Week. In 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate EMS practitioners and the important work they do in the nation's communities. The theme for the 2022 EMS Week was "Rising to the Challenge" something Doster explained Macon County EMS has done, especially in the face of a global pandemic.

The cause of the increase in calls is not 100

percent clear, however, Doster said people just appear to be calling 911 more frequently, whereas in the past people would wait as long as possible to call 911.

Just as EMS was experiencing an unprecedented spike in calls, Macon County's EMS, like most organizations, was experiencing staffing shortages that threatened the future and functionality of the program. Doster said at its worse, EMS had 11 openings in an agency that typically employed 41 people. That staffing shortage was reported for around six months until after a pay increase was approved by Macon County leadership. Doster said that currently EMS has three openings and while he believes that is still too many, it is far better than a few months prior.

"The pay increase that was provided for us a few months ago has helped, but all the areas around us have had to do the same to remain competitive," Doster told Rotary members.

During lunch, Doster also announced that Matt Pruett was named EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) of the year. He was selected by his peers for this award. Pruett has been with Macon County EMS for 11 years and is currently serving as the "B" shift, Field Training Officer.

FRUSTRATED WITH LOW RATES ON YOUR CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSITS?

3.5% interest rate GUARANTEED

(Rates subject to change without notice)

- No up-front sales charges or fees!
- Tax deferred interest! • 100% of your deposits earn interest!

For more information call:
Jeff Cloer
 Wayah Insurance Group
 295 E. Palmer St, Franklin, NC
 (828)524-4442 ext. 237
 www.wayah.com

WAYAH INSURANCE GROUP
 Trust our Experience, Strength, and Service

Ultimate Truck Accessories & Golf Cars

MACON COUNTY'S ONLY AUTHORIZED RHINO LININGS SPECIALISTS

YAMAHA, CLUB CAR & EZ GO CERTIFIED MECHANIC ON SITE!

BACKED BY WARRANTY.

Rhino Linings
 NOTHING BEATS A REAL RHINO

ULTIMATE TRUCK ACCESSORIES

NATIONWIDE LIFETIME WRITTEN WARRANTY | Authorized Dealer

Ultimate Truck Accessories & Golf Cars
 555 Wells Grove Rd. | Franklin, NC | 828-349-5255
 ultimatetruckaccessoriesonline.com

VBS - Knights of North Castle
 first alliance church
 Off Womack Street • Franklin, NC

June 6th - 10th • 9am - Noon
 Ages 4 years - rising 6th Grade

Pre-register online at FranklinCMA.org through Monday May 30th. After that date you may register on-site the week of VBS.

For more information call **828-369-7977 x103**

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE



LEMLY SOFA \$599



LARKINHURST SOFA \$799



PINNACLE RECLINING SOFA \$1299



MORRISON RECLINER \$499



JASPER RECLINER \$499



GIBSON RECLINER \$599



PINNACLE RECLINER \$599



DRYSTAN QUEEN BED \$499

12" MEMORY FOAM QUEEN MATTRESS ONLY



\$499

12" PILLOW TOP QUEEN MATTRESS ONLY



\$449



REALYN QUEEN BED \$699



MACON FURNITURE MART

560 DEPOT ST. • FRANKLIN, NC
(828)369-8296 MaconFurnitureMart.com

School board informed on career and technical education classes

Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer

During the regularly scheduled Macon County school board meeting on Monday night, Colleen Strickland, principal of Virtual School Academy and Director of CTE, Testing and Accountability, gave an update regarding CTE (Career and Technical Education) classes.

Strickland referred to the three R's, Re-opening, Recovering and Revitalizing, explaining that Macon schools were in the Recovering phase. This phase entails, six schools' full week schedule, eight Pathways, 137 Potential Concentrators, and 232 Potential Credentials. A Pathway is a group of related career specialties within the career cluster. A concentrator is a student who has earned two or more technical credits in a Career Cluster Pathway, at least one of which is a completer course. The CTE Credentialing Program is designed for both new and experienced teachers to earn their Designated Subjects Credential.

The CTE Pathways include, Animal Science, Plant Systems, Natural Resources, Food and Nutrition, Apparel & Textile Production, Early Childhood Development, Healthcare Professional, Biomedical Technology, Carpentry, Welding, Public Safety, Automotive, Project Management, Travel and Tourism, Sports and Entertainment Marketing, and Computer Science.

Credentials included, OSHA's (Occupational, Safety and Health Administration) 10 hour course, food handler, first aid, CPR, stop the bleed, pesticides, certified guest service professional, hunter safety, national incident monitoring system, community emergency response, 911 basic communication, welding safety, national center for construction education, EXCEL, certified nurse aid, and child development associate.

Included within the CTE classes are internships, guest speakers, clinical practice, field trips, career fairs, onsite demonstrations and business visits.

Beginning in 8th grade, students will dive into Major Clarity for an interactive opportunity to identify personal career interests, test drive career pathways, and build a plan of study. Major Clarity helps ensure that every student's education leads to a successful career outcome-whether through a four-year degree or going into the workforce.

Studies have shown that students only retain 10% of what they read, which is why interactive "test drives" can be critical to driving student outcomes and how to achieve 189% increase in students building career aligned course plans of study. CTE has a career development plan which includes, career readiness, academic planning, college readiness, school leadership, work based learning, and micro-credentials.

In order to better offer these comprehensive CTE benefits Macon Schools has developed new partnerships with Drake Software, Mission Health, and Southwestern Early Childhood.

CTE is an educational opportunity for those wanting more of a technical career that can also be combined with a college degree. Eight years after their expected graduation date, students who focused on Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses while in high school had a higher median

annual earnings than students who did not focus on CTE.

For more information on CTE visit the Macon County Schools web page or Facebook page.

School Lunch Prices Increased

David Lightner, School Nutrition Director, sought approval for several bid renewals for the 2022-23 school year. The bid renewals were for August Produce - Fresh Produce; PET Dairy - Milk and Dairy; and Coke - Low Calorie Beverages.

Lightner also obtained approval for a new bid for the 2022-23 school year with US Foods, who supplies a majority of food and supplies. The Lunch Program procures their food and supplies as a part of the Far-West Co-op, which includes Macon County, Jackson County, Clay County, Cherokee County, Swain County, Graham County, and Cherokee Central Schools. US Foods has increased the fixed fees from \$1.70 to \$6.00/case for the upcoming school year, which will cost Macon County Schools an estimated \$150,000. Due to the fact that US Foods was their only bidder, they had no other option but to approve them as their food and supply vendor for the upcoming school year.

For the past two school years during the pandemic federal waivers have allowed the lunch program to offer all students breakfast

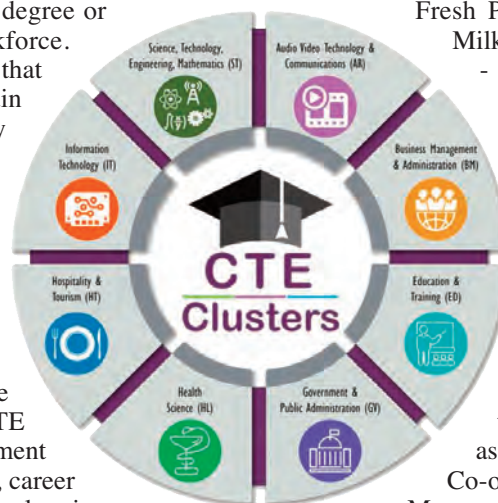
and lunch at no cost. These waivers are due to expire, and as a result, school meals will be based upon free, reduced, or paid status for the 2022-23 school year. The program received approval for a price increase of full paid status lunches to \$3.75 for Pre-K-4th grade and \$3.85 for 5th-12th grade. These prices reflect an average of a \$1 increase across all grade levels. The price increase is a result of an estimated \$210,000 increase in food cost and wages for the '22-23 school year. All students will continue to be offered breakfast at no cost, and the program will be available to help families complete free and reduced lunch applications. Union Academy and East Franklin Elementary continue to qualify as Community Eligibility Provision schools, which means all students will continue to eat lunch at these schools for free.

Teacher bonuses

Josh Lynch, Associate Superintendent and Homeless Education Coordinator, explained the situation regarding certain teacher bonuses. Per NC SL 2021-8 Section 7.(b), each Local Education Agency is required to provide a signing bonus of at least \$1,200 (with total amount to be determined by the local board of education) to any teacher that meets all of the following criteria:

- Is associated with high growth in reading based on EVAAS data;
- Was awarded a reading performance bonus administered by the Department of Public Instruction; and
- Accepts employment to provide instruction during a reading camp.

Lynch also provided information on the Read to Achieve Camp. The Camp will be for Grades 2-3. The dates will be from July 6-22 from 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thirty



Appalachian Animal Rescue does it again!

**ANIMAL
ADOPTION DAY**
SATURDAY, MAY 28 • 11AM - 2PM

AT **BURKES OUTLET**
FRANKLIN PLAZA • GEORGIA RD., FRANKLIN, NC

**DOGS & CATS
AVAILABLE**

Looking Forward to seeing you!

Thank You to all of our Supporters!



American Legion Macon Post 108
invites the public to a

Memorial Day Ceremony

Honoring the men and women who died
while serving our country in the U.S. military

Monday, May 30th, 2022 at 11:00

Veterans Memorial
1288 Georgia Road, beside
Macon County Recreation Park

**Please join us in honoring those
who gave all to our country**



licensed teachers and two instructional coaches will be teaching the program. The Summer Bridge ELL Camp (CAE) will be held for second and fourth grades and will pre-teach third and fifth grade vocabulary skills. This Camp will be held on July 11-22 from 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. This camp is for students deemed "at-risk" or disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program will respond to the academic, community building, emotional and mental health of students by providing explicit and appropriate grade-level content, learning acceleration and enrichment opportunities using vocabulary preview strategies, content standards, comprehensive toolkit, finish line, Visualize and Verbalize STEAM, PE and three Signature Practices. Transportation and meals will be provided.

Macon Middle School Principal resigns

In the personnel report approved at the Monday board meeting, among the resignations listed was Macon Middle School prin-

incipal Kevin Bailey effective June 30. Bailey was hired as the principal of Macon Middle School in July 2021 after the retirement of principal Scot Maslin. In April, Bailey was suspended with pay for an undisclosed reason. At the time officials with the Macon County School System were able to confirm that the suspension was not related to any issues involving students. Mark Sutton is currently serving as interim principal, having previously served as MMS principal prior to being reassigned to Macon Early College. Brian Moffitt, who was assistant principal at South Macon Elementary has been reassigned as interim principal at Macon Early College.

June board meeting date changed

The June School Board Meeting date was changed for June 27 to June 30 at 6 p.m. in the Macon County board room. Dr. Baldwin also wanted to remind everyone that the last day of school is Friday, May 27, with an 11:30 dismissal time.



Men's center holds mortgage burning

Adult and Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center held a graduation and mortgage burning Saturday, April 16. Staff and management expressed a deep gratitude to all who helped make the mortgage burning possible. Above, men and staff of the program sing for those assembled. At left, executive director Mike Barres burns the mortgage. In July 2019, Teen Challenge purchased the property at \$567,000 with a 0% loan with N.C. Assemblies of God matching funds raised, dollar for dollar. Sen. Kevin Corbin also secured a grant that helped pay off the loan in record time.



Rev-it-Up For the Vets

Cruise In & Benefit for the Macon County Veteran's Associations

Saturday June 11th 10am - 2pm

Music, Food, and Fun for the whole family!

\$10 Entry Fee Per Vehicle

Come out and have a day of fun supporting those who have done so much to serve us!

All Proceeds go to Vietnam Veterans





COUNTRYSIDE CHEVROLET
FRANKLIN, NC

PLEASE CONTACT KEVIN SINDEN FOR MORE INFO
71 CAT CREEK ROAD, FRANKLIN, NC • 828-524-0734 • WWW.COUNTRYSIDECHEVY.COM



Black Bear Paving & Construction, Inc.

(828) 349-3390






PAVING; Residential & Commercial

Grading & Road Repair • Rock & Gravel Hauling
Excavating • Land Clearing • Water & Sewer

6456 Sylva Hwy., Franklin, NC 28734

HIGHTS is opportunity for struggling youth in Macon County

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Nightly news reports point to youth in crisis in this country. Recently, a 2022 Mental Health America report stated that more than 2.5 million youth in the U.S. currently suffer from severe depression, and the rate of substance use in youth – and suicidal thoughts or actions – have increased.

In 2004, in an attempt to help youth in crisis, Marcus Metcalf created HIGHTS (Helping Inspire Gifts of Hope, Trust, and Service) as a volunteer organization to work alongside Jackson County Psychological Services. The goal was to provide youth adventure programming that utilizes the area's natural resources while at the same time provide services and mentoring opportunities. In 2008, HIGHTS officially became a nonprofit organization with Metcalf as executive director and his wife, Greta, who joined in 2018, as clinical operations director.

For the past few years, HIGHTS has been serving youth in not only Jackson County but also Macon County.

"Youth are referred to us by DJJ [Department of Juvenile Justice], the area's school system, social services, and other community partners," said Julia Heckert, community engagement coordinator for HIGHTS. "We are continually growing to meet the crushing needs of youth, especially right now in our pandemic world."

HIGHTS' main focus has been connecting youth to the outdoors through such activities as hiking, rafting, caving, and more. But



HIGHTS' main focus has been connecting youth to the outdoors through such activities as hiking, rafting, caving, and more.

HIGHTS has also established a continuum of care, including clinical mental health services, a Workforce Development and Education program, free after-school and summer programs that utilize outdoor adventure, recreational therapy, art education, animal-assisted therapy, and community service/restitution to help youth develop important life and job skills, and Bee Well Mentoring, explained

Heckert.

For example, one element of HIGHTS' offerings is to help youth with schooling and employment. HIGHTS will also fund GED testing and incentives for participants to receive a diploma.

Mentoring matches are also important, and the key is to match "vulnerable" youth with someone who is able to stand by them and see

that they are exposed to HIGHTS' helpful, life-affirming resources, conveyed Heckert, adding, "Research shows that youth who thrive have at least one caring adult role model in their lives. Connection to a community has the ability to counterbalance adversity."

HIGHTS volunteers will, if necessary, provide transportation to youth, make sure they have access to healthy meals, introduce them to skill-building or community service activities, and much more. In fact, HIGHTS mission is to "... transform youth in Western North Carolina by inspiring trust in their own abilities, connection to a caring community, and hope for a better future."

Heckert, who is also an ordained Methodist minister, added, "HIGHTS has great faith community support. Churches provide us with office, therapy, and program space, help us meet our youths' basic needs, and provide volunteers and mentors. I've also been working with local UMCs [United Methodist Churches] to help them launch community after-school programs for middle schoolers. While these are church-led programs for the wider community, HIGHTS is walking alongside them to offer support and training as they live into their desire to serve vulnerable youth."

Besides Jackson and Macon counties, HIGHTS also currently serves youth and their families across five other Western North Carolina counties. For more information, visit www.hights.org or contact Marcus Metcalf at marcus@hights.org; or, call (828)507-7231.

.50%
APY
23 MONTHS

**LIMITED
TIME ONLY**

.65%
APY
36 MONTHS

Annual Percentage Yield (APY). Rates & APY effective April 26, 2022. \$1,000 minimum deposit to open and obtain Certificate of Deposit (CD). Rates & Terms subject to change without notice. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Fees could reduce earnings on the account.

MAKE THE MOST
of your investment

Maximize your earnings with one of our CD Specials.

Ask us for more information!

Franklin | 828.369.2265

Hayesville | 828.389.0700

Murphy | 828.837.1402

NMLS# 781977
Member
FDIC
LENDER



Nantahala

BANK & TRUST COMPANY

nantahalabank.com



SATURDAY, MAY 28 9 AM – 4 PM
MAIN STREET, FRANKLIN, NC

MERCHANTS

OFFERING DEEPEST DISCOUNT OF THE YEAR AS THEY GET READY FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON, SO SHOP FOR BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARIES, AND EVEN CHRISTMAS.

PLUS VISIT OUR RESTAURANTS, COFFEE HOUSES & MUSEUMS

ALSO ANTIQUE & MUSCLE CARS WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN FRONT OF THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND THE COURT HOUSE.

Sponsored by The Streets of Franklin Heritage Association / Main Street Merchants

Soccer team marks Senior Night



Megan Davis - parents Jeff and Rebecca Davis.



Joselyn Hernandez & family



Britany Hernandez Molina and family



Kaitlyn Riddle - parents Bruce Riddle and Diana, and Alyson Hovis



Photos by Patri Cabe



Karli McMahan - parents Jennifer and Kevin McMahan

In last week's issue, the FHS Soccer Senior Night appeared with portions of the page missing due to a printing error. We are happy to rerun the page in its entirety with thanks to Patri Cabe for taking the photos.

CHEROKEE/ SCOTTISH HERITAGE CELEBRATION JUNE 18, 2022 · 10AM - 2PM DOWNTOWN FRANKLIN

- 10am - Cherokee/Scottish Heritage Celebration Opening Ceremony (Town Gazebo)
- 10:30 - Music: John Mohr MacKintosh, Pipes & Drums (Town Gazebo)
- 11am - Cherokee/Scottish lecture by Barbara Duncan (Outdoor 76: Rock House Lodge)
- 11:30 - Music: Wild Blue Yonder (Town Gazebo)
- 11:45 - Cherokee lecture by Freeman Owl (Outdoor 76: Rock House Lodge)
- 12pm - Scottish Shortbread Contest (Kitchen Sink, Inc.)
- 12pm - Music: John Mohr MacKintosh, Pipes & Drums (Town Hall Entrance)
- 12:30 - Music & Lecture: Gaelic Scotland & North Carolina by Nancy Gaines (Town Gazebo)
- 1pm - Highlands Dress History by Breacan Clann (Outdoor 46: Rock House Lodge)
- 1:15pm - Music: Wild Blue Yonder (Town Gazebo)
- 1:45pm - Music: John Mohr MacKintosh, Pipes & Drums (Rathskeller Coffee Haus & Pub)

SCOTTISH TARTANS MUSEUM & heritage center

86 East Main Street • Franklin, NC
(828)524-7472 • scottishtartans@gmail.com

MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS
Town of Franklin • Streets of Franklin Heritage Association
Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center • Franklin Chamber of Commerce/TDC
Doodlebugs • Outdoor 76 • Kitchen Sink, Inc. • Liberty Wood Products
Lake Chatuge Storage • Haire & Woolbright CPAs, PA • Motor Company Grill

Chamber celebrates new owners of The Great Outdoors RV Park

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce recently welcomed the new owners of The Great Outdoors RV Park to the business community at 321 Thumpers Trail.

The Great Outdoor RV Resort is located just outside Franklin (Macon County) in the Smoky Mountains of Western North Carolina. The park is surrounded by the Great Smokies and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The Great Outdoors RV Resort is open year-round and the only Perfect 10/10*/10 rated resort in the Smoky Mountains. Cozy cabins are available for those that do not have an RV. For those that do have an RV, there are wide paved roads with easy access, big rig sites with full hook-ups, 30/50 amp, fire pit, picnic tables and cable. The park also has a laundry room, exercise room, private shower/bathrooms, community fire pit, pool and gift shop/store.

The park is well-equipped for rallies. The clubhouse features two fully equipped kitchens areas, restroom facility, a wide screen TV, rocking chair porch and fabulous views.

Located about two-hours north of Atlanta, an hour south of Asheville and close to Cherokee with easy access, big rig sites within a wooded setting with beautiful mountain range views and spectacular sunsets.

Every campsite and cabin easily connect to WIFI and cable. Fur babies welcome and will enjoy our Bark Park, an enclosed off leash area. Patrons can also take advantage of the park's Doggy Wash Station.

Visit www.GoRVResort.com or call at 828-349-0412 for more information or reservations.



The Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes the new owners of The Great Outdoors RV Park to its membership. The park is located at 321 Thumpers Trail just outside Franklin.



Bill DeWandeler and his staff have relocated his Edward Jones office to 81 West Main Street.

Edward Jones office moves downtown

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce joined Bill DeWandeler, Julie Lucas, Ivan Ellis and their clients in celebration of their new Edward Jones location in downtown Franklin.

DeWandeler and his professional team relocated to the historic two-story brick building at 81 West Main Street across from Motor Company Grill.

"We moved from our Highlands Road location into this building in January 2021 but weren't able to have a Grand Opening until now due to the pandemic. The exterior renovations generated a lot of attention in the community, and we were excited to finally be able to show all the work that has been done on the inside," says DeWandeler.

DeWandeler began his career with Edward Jones during the Great Recession of 2008. "I

was struck by how many people I met who were receiving little, if any, communication from their financial advisors during the financial crisis," recalls DeWandeler. "That has served as a powerful reminder of how important it is that people feel cared for and properly advised about their money and their personal financial goals."

DeWandeler and his professional team of Julie Lucas and Ivan Ellis work closely with a group of families both locally and across the country towards achieving their financial goals.

"We partner with motivated people to solve financial complexities, live comfortably in retirement and create a meaningful legacy with actionable strategies."

The office is located at 81 West Main Street or call (828)369-5383.



We would like to welcome Ty Payseur to our team. Ty enjoys spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Ty has over 30 years of experience in tractor service, please help us welcome him to the team!

We are currently booking appointments for tractors services. Please call 828-369-9655 and speak with a service advisor to schedule your appointment.



461 Highlands Rd., Franklin, NC (828) 369-9655

- Residential
- Commercial



Heritage Garage Doors, Inc.

Specializing in Custom Garage Doors
and Automatic Openers

Authorized Dealer

Steve Raby
Owner

Office (828) 369-5014
Fax (828) 369-5013



Kaylee's Closet

*Faithfully giving to
foster families*

4462 Highlands Road, Franklin, NC • (828) 371-0992

Established 1960

FRANKLIN BODY SHOP

*Longest Operating Body Shop
in Franklin and Macon County*

Insurance Repairs • Frame Straightening

Custom Color Matching

Factory Direct Parts

Auto Detailing

Window Tinting

Expert Body Repair • Auto Glass

24 Hour Towing • Large Well Equipped Facilities

**7 Body Men / Technicians and
3 Expert Painters Ready to Serve You**

56 Mill Street • Franklin, NC • (828) 524-7494



PICKIN' ON THE SQUARE



We are so happy to tell you that the entertainment for Memorial Weekend is the J.W. Band. A great country band that plays classic and modern country. They have been a favorite concert at Pickin' on the Square for a long time.

So come early [6:00pm] bring you a chair and get ready for a great evening of good country music at the Gazebo Downtown Franklin. Remember these concerts are given to you free of admission by the Town of Franklin. See ya there!

Donnie Clay, Coordinator for Pickin' on the Square



Free Entertainment Every Other Saturday!

Pickin' on the Square is fun, free entertainment every other Saturday night throughout the summer. Main entertainment starts at approximately 6:00 p.m.

For more information call 828-524-2516 Donnie Clay - Coordinator

MOSSY ROCK
GIFTS • HOME DECOR • ACCESSORIES
37 E Main Street • Franklin, NC
828.369.1612

Rusted Arrow Market
Farm House - Shabby Chic - Antiques
828.421.0820
Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-3pm
19 East Palmer Street • Franklin, NC
(across from Wells Fargo Drive Thru Bank)

Repeats
Upscale Consignment
NOW IN OUR 35TH YEAR! - AFTER HOURS APPOINTMENTS
LADIES & CHILDRENS CLOTHING - SHOES & ACCESSORIES
(828)369-9600
Mon. - Fri. 10AM-6PM • Sat. 10AM-3PM
107 Highlands Rd., Franklin, NC

B&K moda
RESORT COLLECTION 2022
DIVA'S ON MAIN
BOUTIQUE • JEWELRY • ACCESSORIES
24 E. MAIN ST. FRANKLIN, NC
828.369.7300

YOUR NEXT CHAPTER AWAITS
NOVEL ESCAPE
Visit us in our new location on Main Street in early June!
across from Wells Fargo
828-369-9059
NEW/USED BOOKS & MORE Tues - Sat 10am to 5pm

NEW ARRIVALS DAILY!
Arise & Shine Thrift Store
Carson Community Bldg.
3001 Old Murphy Rd. • Franklin, NC
Call for Info (828) 634-0217
SPRING HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday 10AM - 4PM

THE ATTIC Antiques
Re-Imagined Vintage Finds & Ethnic Treasures
268 Palmer Street
Franklin, NC (REAR)
(828)349-2900

MEMORIAL DAY SALE STARTS TOMORROW!
BRYANT'S ANTIQUE MALL
Open: MON - SAT 10AM - 5PM, SUN 11AM - 5PM
10114 GEORGIA RD., OTTO, NC • (828) 524-0280

NEW ITEMS ARRIVING WEEKLY!
BUTTERCUP'S TREASURES
Antiques • Collectibles
Furniture • Kitchenware
Jewelry • Tools • And Much More!
828-634-6142 7322 Georgia Rd, Franklin, NC
HOURS Thursday - Saturday 10am-4pm

CLIP & SAVE!
4 Seasons Putt-N-Play
\$4 off 18 holes of Golf with this ad
Friday 5pm to 10pm • Twilight Golf & VR Games
Saturday • Race Day (Call for times)
Sunday • Party Specials (Call to schedule)
• Daily Putting Contest
• Starting Sunday May 1st Talent Show
7570 Georgia Rd., Otto, N.C.
828-421-8647
(Across from Ellen & Owens Furniture)

What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

The Highlands community has been polarized over short term rentals (STRs). The amendments to the zoning ordinance concerning STRs that were passed by the board last Thursday night did not completely resolve this divide.

Some folks believe the board went too far in regulating and restricting STRs in R1 and R2. I know other people feel the board did not go far enough in restricting and even eliminating them in residential areas. Then there are those who will accept the new requirements and restrictions.

The grandfathering provision of the changes is illustrative of this polarization. Some people, especially in R1, did not want grandfathering of any kind. Their argument was that grandfathering would reward residents who had not followed the zoning restrictions of R1 and R2. They point out that by grandfathering STRs the town has created a new zoning overlay district in R1 and R2. The opposite view was that the R1 and R2 zoning ordinances did not expressly prohibit STRs, therefore property owners had the right to use their properties in that manner.

The town board engaged two excellent North Carolina law firms to review ordinances related to short term rentals. While these two firms have a record of not seeing the STR issues through the same legal lenses, they both advised the board that our previous ordinances were not clear in addressing short term rentals. Many towns and cities across the country have had problems with ordinances not specifically prohibiting or allowing short term rentals.

Based on sound legal advice, the board voted to permit grandfathering of residences that had previously been used as short term rentals. There are other provisions such as intensification and capacity levels that some people opposed. Others think those parts were necessary to regulate and limit future proliferation of STRs in residential areas.

I know there will be questions, disagreements and some challenges to the new amendments as the town moves forward to implementation. I am realistic that some level of division and disagreement will continue. In the long run I hope these differences can be resolved for the long term benefit of Highlands.

Memorial Day is on Monday. For the first time in

Continued on page 11

Letters to the Editor

More issues need to revert back to sovereign states

Most educated people will recognize there is a huge difference between rights and choices. An irresponsible personal choice is not applicable as a right when harming an innocent baby. It is ironic that every abortion supporter has already been born, but they have it dead wrong calling abortion a right. What about the baby's rights?

If we are truly following the science, life begins at conception, so why doesn't another human (innocent baby) have a right to live? Science proves babies have heartbeats by week seven of living in the womb. Many court rulings have charged assailants with also murdering the baby if the assailant kills a woman who is pregnant with a baby, so we have a clear precedent. But, seriously, this truth should already be common sense.

In a free America all citizens, including women, should have the choice to do whatever we want as long as it does not violate the non-aggression principle which is simply that no violence may be employed against a non-aggressor or his property. A baby hasn't been aggressive towards anyone, yet millions are killed and denied their rights. However, there are many other cases when governments have usurped our liberties by passing unconstitutional laws that hinder us from truly free lives. Most of society does not care because we still have bread and circus – for now. Thankfully, during the Covid lies and propaganda, we witnessed sovereign states not abiding by federal government's one-size-fits-all mantra. This same 9th and 10th amendment approach is how abortion needs to be dealt with. If Roe v. Wade is overturned despite the domestic terrorism from the lunatic Left in threatening judges at their residences as well as spreading false information about the abortion debate, it will be a victory for basic human rights to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. Love and tolerance will have won when babies have a right to life instead of being discriminated against.

Countless independent studies have shown that many women have regret and depression for killing their babies especially when so many families are waiting to adopt those babies and give them love. Do abortion supporters not believe in adoption or love and instead get mixed up with what are rights and choices? Even Norma McCorvey, aka Jane Roe, admitted she was wrong and expressed deep sorrow that she had caused so much pain and suffering. She spent the latter part of her days as a pro-life advocate educating people of the emotional and psychological dangers of killing babies under the guise of "choice." Of course, you will never hear her testimony from the lying news media.

Finally, if Roe v. Wade is tossed out by the Supreme Court, will the Left accept democracy in action or will they riot and cause destruction as they have done so many times before when the outcome didn't suit them? Even the Biden

regime is expecting violence from them over this issue. These people have repeatedly proven they are a domestic threat to democracy as they use mob violence to force their radical agendas while censoring the truth and spreading misinformation just as the Nazis did in the 1930s to gain control of Germany. George Carlin said it best, "never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups."

If Roe v. Wade is overturned based on its weak constitutional standing because it was never sound, abortion will not be fully banned; it will correctly become a State's rights issue. If only more issues would revert back to the sovereign states as our founders intended rather than a corrupted centralized government. We would then have more freedom and tolerance with better choices of living standards based on limited government and regional political environment. The Constitution is crystal clear of what federal government's limited jobs are; everything else resides solely with the people and the independent states as we see cemented in the 9th and 10th amendments to the Bill of Rights. If we want to remain free, America needs to fully resurrect the 10th Amendment, and nullifying Roe v. Wade is a step in the right direction to protect individual rights as well as preserve democracy. It is past time for real Americans to demand this return to sanity.

Jim Gaston – Franklin, N.C.

Empty square on a Saturday night

The town square last Saturday night without Pickin' on the Square for the first time in 30 years, was empty, 500-800 no shows. People who won't be spending money at restaurants, gift shops, coffee shops or ice cream shops. Merchants should be screaming and fans of Pickin' on the Square should also. If fans would pass the hat at each concert and merchants chipped in, we could raise the funds to bridge the gap between what the town will provide for the entertainment and what is lacking. But at no time on a beautiful Saturday night, from May through October, should that gazebo ever go empty.

Because the town mayor and its leaders are as ignorant as Joe Biden when it comes to economics!

Ken Bowden – 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.

The Macon County
NEWS
& Shopping Guide

26 West Main Street, Franklin, NC 28734
(828) 369-6767 • FAX: 369-2700

www.themaconcountynews.com

Email: maconcountynews@gmail.com

Deadline for display advertising is Friday at
4 p.m. Classified deadline Monday, 3 p.m

Betsey Gooder

Publisher /Advertising Director/ Editor

Jay Baird

Advertising Representative

Shana Bilbrey

Graphic Designer

Emily Hughes

Graphic Designer

Vickie Carpenter, Classifieds/Photographer

Deena C. Bouknight

Contributing Writer

Brittney Lofthouse

Contributing Writer

Diane Peltz

Contributing Writer

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The publisher assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions of any advertisement or supplement beyond the actual cost of the advertisement or supplement. In no event shall publisher be liable for any consequential damages or any damages in excess of the cost of the advertisement or supplements. The Macon County News and Shopping Guide reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. No brokering of advertising space or supplements will be accepted without prior approval of publisher. Third Class Mailing Privileges Authorized at Franklin, N.C. 28734

We can learn a lot from reading the Bible

Most Christians know that there are [66] books in the Bible and most people know that the first book of the Bible is Genesis and the last book of the Bible is Revelation. They were written about 4,228 years apart and one was written in Hebrew and the other in Greek and yet they have so much in common.

In Genesis the curse begins and in Revelation the curse ends. In Genesis death begins and in Revelation death ends. In Genesis the tree of life is removed from man and in Revelation the tree of life reappears to man. In Genesis light begins and in Revelation God is the light. In Genesis God created Heaven and Earth and in Revelation God will create a new Heaven and a new Earth.

We can learn a lot by reading the Bible because our lives are a lot like the Bible. The Bible has a beginning and an end and we have a beginning and an end here on Earth. The Bible tells us that only God knows when Jesus will return and this world will end and the Bible tells us that only God knows how many days each of us have on this Earth. That reminds me of the chorus of a great country Christian song.

"Cause whether you're a farmer in the field praying for rain. Or you curse him at a gravesite cause he called a love one's name. You can thank him, you can blame him. Either way you gonna face him. Whether you believe in him or not. Cause in the end everybody talks to God."

The Book of Revelation tells us that someday we will all stand before God's throne and that every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. I guess you could say that in the end "everybody talks to God."

Mike Townsend – Franklin, N.C.

'Hugely enjoyable' film brought to Franklin

If you are a "Downton Abbey" fan, you will be thrilled by this year's release of the final sequel to the Crawley family's saga. For some odd reason, Hugh Bonneville appears throughout the film as radiantly, deeply tanned (he's an Englishman, remember) and all the exterior scenes involving woodlands and sky are strangely washed out, as though the director detested saturated or vivid colors. However, the emotive quality of this film is intense and, contrary to staid, placid country life, ongoing. The pace is electric as the viewer is transported from one surprising cliffhanger to the next with barely time to process the implications. This reflects Julian Fellowes' ongoing excellence as a dramatic writer as well as absolutely spot-on, superb acting by all the cast from the television series. I was pleased, satisfied, and uplifted by viewing this film, but then became awash in tears of joy when I exited and thanked the owner, David, for bringing this hugely enjoyable film to our little town of Franklin.

"Downton Abbey" was brought back to life once more. As a die-hard fan, I am so grateful to have had the chance to lose myself in its pleasurable embrace once more.

Narelle Kirkland – Franklin, N.C.

What's on your mind?
 Email letters to the editor to
maconcountynews@gmail.com

Click It or Ticket enforcement through June 5

Fasten your seatbelts - summer's heating up, and so is the statewide Memorial Day Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign, which kicked off Monday, May 23.

Through June 5, law enforcement officers in all 100 N.C. counties will be patrolling the roads to make sure citizens are buckling up, whether they're behind the wheel, in the passenger seat or in the backseat.

"Although citizens could face a citation and fines for not wearing their seatbelt, the real goal here is saving lives," said Governor's Highway Safety Program Director Mark Ezzell. "Your chances of being killed or seriously injured in a car crash are reduced by nearly half when you wear a seatbelt."

In 2021, 555 North Carolinians who were not wearing seatbelts lost their lives in vehicle crashes, including nearly 30 over last year's two-week Click It or Ticket enforcement period.

North Carolina law requires all passengers in a vehicle to be properly restrained and violations are punishable by fines of up to \$180. Children younger than 8 years and under 80 pounds must be properly restrained in an approved child safety seat or booster seat. If a passenger under 16 is not properly restrained, the driver faces a \$266 fine.



The statewide Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign runs May 23-June 5. During this time, law enforcement will place increased emphasis on making sure everyone - drivers, as well as front and backseat passengers - fastens their seatbelt.

When North Carolina launched the Click It or Ticket initiative in 1993, only 64 percent of North Carolinians used their seat belts. Today, that number hovers around 90 percent.

In addition to increased enforcement statewide, the campaign will include a paid media component, including an influencer campaign where Tik Tok and Instagram influencers will share their own seatbelt messages with North Carolina audiences.

The Governor's Highway Safety Program, which is an arm of the N.C. Department of Transportation, provides grants to law enforcement agencies for various traffic safety initiatives, including campaigns like Click It or Ticket.

TAYLOR

From previous page

many years I will be visiting family out of town this weekend. But, there are several important events in Highlands to commemorate the fallen who have served our country. On Monday, Memorial Day, American Legion Post 370 will be holding a public commemoration ceremony at 10 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in front of the police department. The post will also be selling poppies in front of Bryson's Food Store tomorrow, Friday, May 27, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The wearing of red poppies is a traditional way of remembering those who died in service to our country. At 5:30 p.m. on Friday the American Legion will also place American flags on the graves of veterans at the Highlands Cemetery.

I hope everyone will take time during this holiday weekend to remember our fallen heroes and their families.

Read the entire paper online for free at
TheMaconCountyNews.com
 Click on the interactive ads to learn about our advertisers.

BAHÁ'Í FAITH
LIGHT OF UNITY

"He who is your Lord, the All-Merciful, cherisheth in His heart the desire of beholding the entire human race as one soul and one body."
 -- Bahá'u'llah

Weekly devotions and discussions in Franklin, open to all. Call 302-383-6835.
1-800-228-6483 www.bahai.us
 Franklin • Murphy • Sylva • Waynesville

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE

Member Appreciation Day
Friday, May 27th 10:30am - 2:30pm

FOOD · FUN · PRIZES
 Our Way to Say
Thank You,
Macon County!
828.524.6147
 1866 Highlands Rd. • Franklin, NC 28734

Franklin High School holds its annual Athletic Awards ceremony

The Franklin High School ATHletic Department held its annual award banquet last Thursday at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. Anya Valentine performed the National Anthem on the harp and Kyler Cochran offered the opening prayer.

Awards were presented first to the Cross Country, Indoor Track & Field & Outdoor Track & Field teams first as those teams were on their way to state competitions.

Above and Beyond Award - Crystal Parker
FCA Coach Goldsmith Coach Award - Josh Brooks
FCA Award - Braxton Mira-Knippl

Scholarship Presentations

Tom Raby Memorial Scholarship - Sydney Williams and Miles McClure
Walter Scruggs Memorial Scholarship - Claire Holland and Isaac Jennings
Brandon Stiwinter Memorial Scholarship - Isaac Jennings
Stan Sloan Memorial Scholarship - Kellen Stiles and Nic Sanders
Parker Mathis Memorial Scholarship - Bradley Stiles and Kevin Cabe
Walter Wright Memorial Scholarship - Bradley Stiles
Eric Witherington Scholarship - Sydney Williams, Claire Holland, Corey Burrell, Kellen Stiles, Miles McClure
FHS Booster Club Scholarship - Sydney Williams and Corey Burrell
Scholar Athlete of the Year - Helen Martin and Ethan Farrell

Fall MVP and Panther Award winners

Football - MVP Chris McGuire; Panther Award - Nic Sanders and Bradley Stiles
Volleyball - OMVP Anya Valentine and DMVP- McKayla Barnes; Panther Award - Sydney Williams and Bethany Jenkins
Mens CC - MVP Logan Russo; Panther Award - Barrett Stork
Womens CC - MVP Jasmin Valencia; Panther Award - Hannah Ludwig
Women's Tennis - MVP Alyssa Smith; Panther Award - Carmen Sgro, Alyssa Smith
Cheer - MVP Lauren Shannon; Panther Award - McKenzie Holland
Men's Soccer - MVP Caleb Pevia and Luis Torres; Panther Award - Isaac Jennings

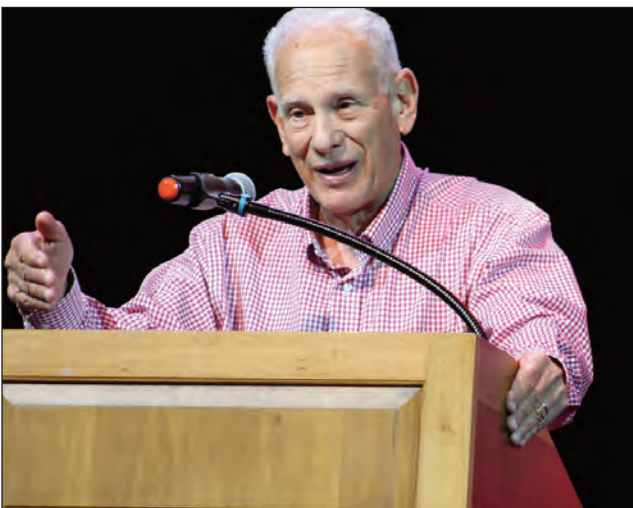
Winter MVP and Panther Awards

Mens Basketball - MVP Miles McClure and Griffin Green; Panther Award - Grant Adams and Kellen Stiles
Wrestling - MVP Isaac Jennings; Panther Award - Bryan Rodriguez and Phillip Terrell
Mens Swim - MVP Luke Borgman, Hunter Cabe; Panther Award - Clayton Guynn
Womens Swim - MVP Natalie C. Ballard, Claire Holland; Panther Award - Callie Roper, Zoi Walker
Mens Indoor Track - MVP Luis Torres; Panther Award - Aaron Jennings
Women's Indoor Track - MVP Isabelle Duchemin; Panther Award - Hailey Bryant

Womens Basketball - MVP Tori Ensley; Panther Award - Sydney Williams and Corey Burrell

Spring MVP and Panther Awards

Women's Soccer - MVP Jasmin Valencia; Panther Award - Kaitlyn Riddle and Claudia Zalapia
Men's Tennis - MVP Jack Sgro; Panther Award - Caleb Pevia, Gavin Rinker
Mens Track - MVP Barrett Stork; Panther Award - Logan Russo
Women's Track - MVP Hope Smith; Panther Award - Laura Covarrubias
Baseball - MVP Davis Anders, Dawson Plouffe; Panther Award - Chris McGuire, Ian Knepp
Softball - MVP Tori Ensley; Panther Award - Bethany Jenkins
Mens Golf - Max McClure; Panther Award - Ashton Shope
Most Outstanding Male and Female Athletes of an Individual Sport - Carmen Sgro and Isaac Jennings
Most Outstanding Male and Female Athletes of a Team Sport - Sydney Williams and Christopher McGuire
Panther Pride - Jami Waldroop
 Trophies were sponsored by First Bank in Franklin.



Photos by Vickie Carpenter





Senior Scholar Athletes

- Adams, Grant
- Barnes, Makayla
- Burrell, Corey
- Davis, Megan
- Espinal, Samuel
- Farrell, Ethan
- Holden, Ciara
- Holland, Claire
- Martin, Helen
- McClure, Miles
- McMahan, Karli
- Mira-Knippel, Braxton
- Riddle, Joseph
- Shaw, Traveler
- Stiles, Bradley
- Stiles, Kellen
- Torres Zamudio, Luis
- Tyler, Caden
- Valentine, Anya
- Vernelson, Joseph
- Williams, Sydney

Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests May 13 - 21. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

May 13

Robert Samuel Snyderbum, was charged with breaking and entering, larceny and trespass. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Dennis Paul Kramber, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and driving while license revoked. Sargent Jonathan A. Taylor made the arrest.

Nicole Julian Wend, was charged with trespass. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

May 15

Bryan S. Garringer, was charged with probation violation. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Christopher Bryan Lococo, was charged with driving while impaired, driving left of center and driving while license revoked. Deputy Cody Tiger made the arrest.

May 16

Jeffery Daniel Zimmerman, was charged with failure to appear. Costin Jiglaou made the arrest.

May 17

Rolando Duvergel Jr., was charged with trespass and resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement officer. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

Ian Alexander Neal, was charged with warrant service. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

May 19

Marissa Kristen Shook, was charged with destroying criminal evidence, possession of heroin, possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Janelle Catherine Johnson, was charged with failure to appear. Costin Jiglaou made the arrest.

May 20

Justin Michael Connell, was charged with possession of

methamphetamine. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

Kaylan Jo Moore, was charged with warrant service. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

Matthew Devon Perkins, was charged with failure to appear. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

Justin Michael Connell, was charged with larceny and possession of stolen goods/property. Troy L. Burt made the arrest.

May 21

Jesus Gabriel Damien Mejia, was charged with driving while impaired and possession of drug paraphernalia. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Ricky Jordan McCall, was charged with probation violation. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

Harry Daniel Elkins, was charged with driving while impaired. Matthew L. Long made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

May 18

Angel Chavez-Zalapa, was issued a warrant for arrest. M. A. Bingham made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

May 16

Martin Gary Noone, 58, of Mollybe Lane, Whittier, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.

Timothy Colton Barron, 19, of Furguson Rd., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, maintaining a vehicle/place/dwelling for a controlled substance, trafficking in opium, opiate, opioid, heroin by possession and trafficking opium, opiate, opioid, heroin by transportation. A secured bond of \$250,000 was set.

Travis Wayne Fisher, 36, of Squeak Valley Rd., was charged with misdemeanor child abuse, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Noah Zachary-Daniels Saunier, 27, of Little Savannah Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with injury to personal property. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Rhodalee Brenda Cochran, 31, of Shadrack Lane, was charged with failure to appear for fictitious/alterd/title/registration card/tag and driving while license revoked for impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

May 17

Kristian Michael Ellis, 31, of Cattle Dr., Whittier, was charged with domestic violence order violation, interfere with emergency communication, assault with a deadly weapon, injury to personal property and resist/obstruct/delay. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

James Phillip Howell, 64, of Arnold Hill, was charged with maintaining a vehicle/dwelling/place for a controlled substance and possession of cocaine. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

May 18

Darren Ray Carter, 32, of Molasses Mountain Rd., was charged with failure to appear for defraud drug/alcohol test. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Christopher Ian Cotterman, 38, of Adams Creek, Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for injury to personal property, break or enter a motor vehicle and first degree kidnaping. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Andrew Doyle Boggs, 31, of Dalton Rd., was charged with failure to appear for reckless driving with wanton disregard and speeding. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Benjamin Scott Martinez, 45, of Mink Branch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Sheyenne Victoria McClellan, 22, of Allman Rd., was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Benjamin Scott Martinez, 45, of Mink Branch Rd., Cherokee, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine and possession of a controlled substance on jail premises. A secured bond of \$20,000 was set.

Jacob Radostin Bass, 30, of Ribbon Lane, Whittier, was charged with second degree trespass and resist/obstruct/delay. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

May 19

Jace Christopher Milkey, 23, Gizzy Dr., was charged with failure to appear for carrying a concealed gun, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 ounce and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

Jessica Gail Conway, 36, of Columbus George Rd., Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for second degree trespass, possession of stolen goods/property and misdemeanor probation violation. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Casey Leanna Mark, 35, of North Star Lane, was charged with resisting a public officer and trespass of real property. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

May 20

Clay Silas-Tanner Jones, 29, of Barkers Creek Rd., Whittier, was charged with first degree burglary. A secured bond of \$40,000 was set.

Edith Marie Taylor McCall, 55, of Dynasty Dr., Whittier, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and felony possession of a schedule I controlled substance. An unsecured bond of \$5,000 was set.

May 21

Zachary Jarrett Randolph, 41, of Heavenly View Dr., was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

The Macon County NEWS & Shopping Guide

Angel Medical's Cancer Center opens
Ribbon cutting marks completion of state-of-the-art facility

SUBSCRIBE FOR ONLY

\$29.00 PER YEAR

Includes Tax

(828)369-6767 • maconcountynews@gmail.com

26 W. Main Street • Franklin, NC 28734

Food truck options are varied and unique in and around Franklin

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Food trucks are expected during festivals and events, but in the past few years permanently located food trucks have become common in Macon County at breweries, gas stations, and others spots. Even recently, the Franklin Food Truck Park opened up on Siler Road with Brain Freeze Fun, offering frozen custard cones, cups, sundaes, avalanches (ice cream mixed with other treats) as the first to park there.

Sometimes the food trucks are configured in storage trailers, but increasingly they are made of campers – whether old and vintage or new and unique. The latter is the case for the

Tie-Dye Food Truck in the parking lot at Currahee Brewing Company. Managed by Tina and John Burkhart, the couple work out of a 2016, 30-foot, aluminum alloy Airstream camper that was once the vacation travel accommodations of the business’s owner’s family. However, this particular Airstream, which is an iconic travel-trailer concept originally established in the early 1900s, has been converted by John to include a full-sized, commercial kitchen and a small office, as well as an order window.

Both Burkharts have years of experience in the restaurant industry, she as a waitress and manager; he has worked in construction and as an all-round handyman. When the couple essentially fled Florida during Hurricane Irma, they ended up in Macon County and decided to stay. Empty nesting recently afforded them an opportunity to start the food truck, first in another location, and then secure a silent partner/investor so that they could concentrate on providing quality food and service in Franklin, which “needs good restaurants,” pointed out Tina.

Even though Tie-Dye, named both for the couple’s early “hippie years” and the propensity for bright colors and designs, is parked at Currahee and the Burkharts acknowledge the importance of the two businesses’ relationship, the food truck is a separate entity and anyone in the community can order food from Tie-Dye, whether they patronize Currahee Brewing Company or not. In fact, Tie-Dye’s owner is working on an addition to an app that enables people anywhere in Franklin to order pick-up or delivery from the food truck. Currently, the designated app is accessible



Tina and John Burkhart operate the Tie Dye Food Truck parked at Currahee Brewing Company. Anyone can order food whether they patronize the brewery or not via a barcode at outside tables.

Dye Food Truck’s menu is: “It’s ‘ToDyeFor’ ya’ll.”

The menu also includes such items as “Big Eats” smash burgers, Tex Mex, and a hearty Greek salad, as well as a children’s menu.

“The main ingredient in this whole thing is love,” noted Tina. “Tie Dye Food Truck is our passion, and for people to be able to order and enjoy good food – on the river in front of Currahee if they want to, or wherever ... that makes us happy and why we do what we do.”

In the near future, the couple plans to offer vegetarian options. Plus, they are currently hiring and John said, “We will compensate well” experienced cooks.



The remodeled 30-foot Airstream includes a commercial kitchen and an office.

via a barcode at inside and outside tables at Currahee. Patrons can order directly on their phones without having to walk to the food truck’s window.

“A misconception about food truck food is that it’s fast food, or of lower quality,” said Tina. “That’s just not so. We have a full kitchen and can achieve anything a regular restaurant’s kitchen can achieve. We make all our own salad dressings in house, and we cook all meals from scratch.”

Tina drew from her 30 years of experience in the restaurant industry to develop the menu and recipes. She and her husband are most pleased with their in-house made pimento cheese, offered on the “Grown Up Grilled Cheez,” which “has a little something extra ... a secret ingredient,” said John.

A play on words, the slogan to describe Tie



EATING OUT

YOUR GUIDE TO AREA DINING



PAPA'S PIZZA
TO GO
FRESH BAKED

**THE WAIT IS OVER!
WE ARE NOW OPEN**

At Our New Location
38 Palmer St Circle - Franklin, NC
Downtown Beside The Old Ingles

Hours
Mon - Thurs 11am - 8pm
Fri & Sat 11am - 9pm • Closed Sun

Delivery **828.369.9999**



the TIE DYE Food truck

located at
Currahee Brewing Co.
100 Lakeside Dr. • Franklin, NC
828-200-1180

The Tie Dye Food Truck will be closed for Vacation until Memorial Day Weekend.

We'll Reopen Sunday
May 29th

See You Then! 

ROOT + BARREL
KITCHEN AND BAR

828.369.3663

77 East Main St. Downtown Franklin, NC - at the top of town hill

Summer Hours: Monday-Thursday 11am-9pm Friday • Saturday 11am-10pm

Drinks & Appetizers 4-5PM

Reservations Suggested

ROOTANDBARREL.COM

Check out our website, Facebook & Instagram

Honeysuckle

BAKEHOUSE

Everything made from scratch!

828.567.0064

28 E. MAIN STREET • FRANKLIN, NC
Tues. Thurs. Fri. 8-5 • Wed. 8-4 • Sat. 10-3

NOW OPEN






Book touts historical figures who influenced culture

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

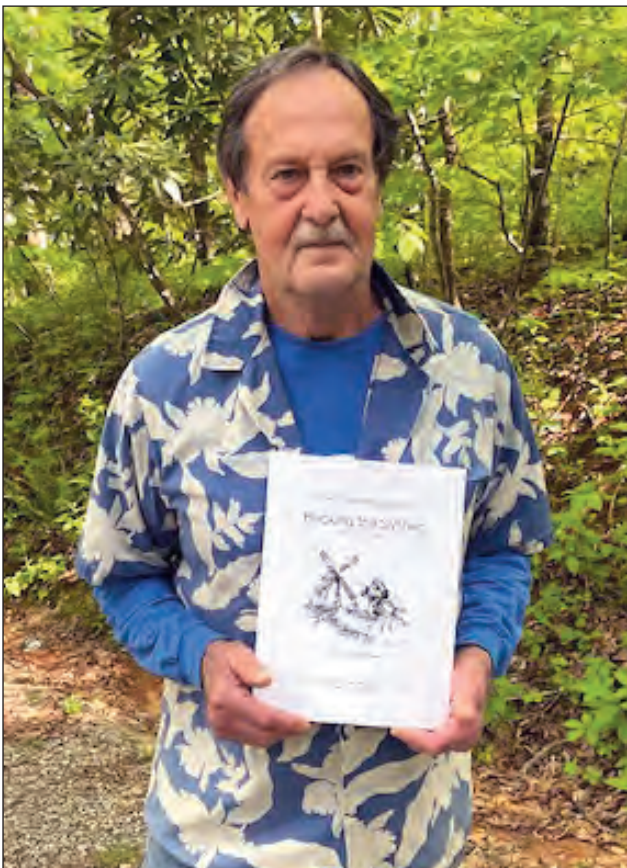
Words, written and spoken, can effect change. And that is exactly the focus of local writer David Stearns' 2022 self-published book, "Bucking the System." Stearns, an Otto resident and a member of the Bascom: A Center for the Arts' writer's group, Stearns has been working on his non-fiction book for years.

His research led him to spotlight approximately 50 influential and historical figures, starting with Jesus and including such notables as Socrates, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Martin Luther King, Gandhi, and Nelson Mandela. Stearns' prologue conveys his intentions: "The purpose of this book is to make more of us aware that we can change the system. In fact, we must, if the human race is to move forward."

The book provides some background on each chosen individual and dates of when they lived, if they are historic. It also includes his own commentary regarding the person and how he or she might have influenced culture. At the end of the book are various quotes, including the concluding quote by 19th century formerly enslaved orator and author Frederick Douglass: "Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where any one class is made to feel that society is in an organized conspiracy to oppress, rob, and degrade them, neither persons nor property will be safe."

Stearns can be reached about his book by emailing him at dspvbf@gmail.com.

Note: Information about and reviews on books, as well as interviews with local authors, are in no way an endorsement of the book or the author by Macon County News or the article's writer. Such articles simply provide to readers information about both.



David Stearns of Otto is the author of a non-fiction, self-published book entitled "Bucking the System."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Friends of Library hosting 50th anniversary Open House

The Friends of the Macon County Public Library invites the community to attend the 50th Anniversary Open House at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 5, at the Macon County Public Library, 149 Siler Farm Rd. in Franklin. The event, which was postponed from last year due to the pandemic, is free and open to the public.

Everyone is invited to tour the visual history of the Friends from 1971 to present, share their memories, see the installation of the time capsule at the library, dance to live music, enjoy refreshments and review the mock-up of stained-glass windows that the library will receive as a gift from the Friends.

The Friends of the Macon County Public Library seek to develop and maintain citizen interest and participation in the growth and development of the Macon County Public Library and to stimulate the use of the library's resources and services. The Friends raise money to support library programs and the purchase of equipment and technology through memberships and sales from the used bookstore located in the Shops at Riverwalk, 115 Highlands Rd. in Franklin.

Lions Club Annual Poker Run for scholarships

The Franklin Lions Club is holding its annual Poker Run Saturday, June 11, rain or shine. The Poker Run will start and end at Dowdle Mountain Pitstop taking participants out to Wayah Road, through the Nantahala Community and back to Franklin via Hwy 28 South. Four checkpoints will be positioned along the way with the last card to be received at check out.

This year additional cards may be purchased at the end to enhance your hand of cards. The entry fee is \$25 in advance or \$30 on the day of the event. Tickets will be sold at \$1 each or six for \$5 for a variety of door prizes. At the conclusion of the event, a barbecue sandwich, chips and a water may be purchased for \$7.

Registration is from 9 to 9:30 a.m. with the first group of ve-

hicles out at 9:30 a.m. Pre-register by going to FranklinLionsClub.org and print out a registration form to mail in or go to the PayPal registration online.

The prize for first place is \$300; second place, \$200; third place is \$100 gift card to Appalachian Ace Hardware. Prizes and door prizes will be awarded at 12:45 p.m. after the two-and-a-half hour ride.

Poker Run proceeds benefit the Lions Club scholarship fund.

Presentation on WNC place names June 2

Dick Sellers will be presenting "Facts & Stories of the Origins of WNC Names of Ridges, Hollows and Creeks" at the June 2 meeting of the Swain County Genealogical and Historical Society.

Maps show that Swain County has many labels with odd and unusual names such as Slab Camp Branch, Desolation Ridge, Ad Valorem, Shot Beech Ridge, Bone Valley, Dog Eater Branch, Heartbreak Ridge and many others. Throughout history, people have marked places and happenings by designating a specific name with a place to commemorate the occurrence of important life events. The settlers of Western North Carolina were no different.

As a result, many ridges, creeks and hollows have been identified with some very unique names, reminding us of specific people or families while others capture a picture recalling the event that occurred on that spot. Sellers will be presenting stories some of which are from oral history and others with a more factual basis that tells about the origins of those names and the meaning behind them.

This presentation is on Wednesday, June 2, at 6:30 p.m., at the Swain County Regional Business Education and Training Center, 45 East Ridge Drive, Bryson. East Ridge Dr. is a right turn off Buckner Branch Road which is west of Ingles. The event is free and open to the public. Conversation and refreshments will follow the presentation.

Sophisticut

308 Depot St.
Franklin, NC
(828) 524-2419 or
(828) 524-3395

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT
Alyssa Shumaker

is an enthusiastic, energetic person who cannot wait to get started! Alyssa specializes in cuts, color, highlighting, perms, waxing and make up. She will also be offering bridal and special occasion make up and hair to make your day even more special. In her free time she likes to spend time with her family, fiance and friends. She loves to read and listen to true crime podcasts.

MATHIS

Mathis is a 2 y.o. neutered
Staffordshire Terrier mix.

He loves people, other dogs,
and playing fetch with the ball!

Contact Macon County Animal Services
828-349-2106

A Stocked Catch Out Pond with
Rainbow, Brook, Brown and even Golden Trout.

• KID FRIENDLY! • WE HAVE FISHING RODS AND BAIT

We can clean your catch and pack on ice

TELLICO

TROUT FISHING

NO LICENSE, NO LIMIT

828-349-9034

OPEN Weekends Only April, May & Oct.
OPEN 7 Days a Week June & July

4175 Tellico Rd., Franklin, NC

TELLICOTROUT.COM

Visit Us Online
TheMaconCountyNews.com

Gems mining a decades-long tradition in Macon County

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Gem mines are prevalent in Franklin, and indeed, throughout Macon County, and surrounding counties for good reason. Tourist attractions for generations, gem mines actually deliver on myriad gems because the geological forces that made the mountains involved the right amount of applied heat and pressure over millennia to forge beautiful, varied, and valued substances.

As a result, close to a dozen gem mines exist either immediately in the town of Franklin, or within a 30-40 mile driving range. Visitors can purchase bags or buckets of what looks like dirt, until the soil and silt is washed away to reveal stones of various shapes, sizes, and hues. Amateur miners young and old enjoy the discovery involved in gem mining, and gem mine specialists can identify the stones.

Some businesses even offer cutting, polishing, and setting services.

Gems commonly found in Western North Carolina include aquamarine, beryl, citrine, emerald, garnet, moonstone, ruby, sapphire, smoky quartz, staurolite, rose quartz, topaz, tourmaline, and many others. In fact, the N.C. General Assembly of 1973 designated the emerald as the official state precious stone. And rubies and sapphires aplenty have been found over the years throughout the area.

Franklin native Willard Dills has picked up so many gems on his multi-century family lands that he has become a gem expert of sorts and invested in a gem polisher. He has found valuable gems from pea- to almost soccer-ball size.

“One of the sapphires is 37 pounds and the largest gem I have is a 55-pound ruby,” said Dills. He also invested in a black light, which especially illuminates rubies to a brilliant fuchsia. “I’m always on the look out for them when I walk my properties.”

Not one but two gem museums are located in Franklin. Ruby City, located on Main Street, also offers jewelry and cut stones, gem cutting and mounting, mining information, and more. And located in Franklin’s Old Jail is the Gem and Mineral Museum with eight rooms filled with gems and minerals from not just the local area but from around the world. At this site is also a selection of hand-crafted gem jewelry made

by the museum’s volunteers.

Residents and visitors can attempt to find their own gems at places like Rose Creek Mine, near the Tennessee River, Old Cardinal Gem Mine in Cowee, Gold City Mine, just outside of Franklin on Sylva Road, Sheffield Mine – which has a “honker” club, meaning large gems found – and more. Most gem mines have been in operation for decades and many are family-owned. And local mines are typically open from spring to fall.

There are even gem galleries, such as the stone castle-like edifice on Georgia Road called Artisan Jewelers Mineral and Gemstone Gallery, where all types of minerals and gems are on display and “expert lapidary work [the practice of shaping gems into decorative items, such as jewelry]” is offered.

“Last year exceeded all our expectations,” said Linda Sterrett, co-owner with her husband, Tom, of Rose Creek Mine. “With the gas prices this year, we are getting a lot of locals who have never been gem mining. It’s something families and couples can do on the cheap. And rainy days can sometimes be the best days because we have a covered flume [trough of running water] and you can

sit underneath and just search through the dirt to pick out the pretty rocks and stay dry. You might get dirty, but most people are prepared for that. They can search through a dig-your-own bucket with just local gems or the enhanced bucket that includes some gems from around the world.”

She added, “Here, at least, people can come and they don’t worry about a thing. The creek is running right in front of them. It’s the adventure of the find ... the thrill of the hunt, finding that nice stone. They can just enjoy being in a quiet spot, except for the sounds of birds and the water.”

“About 100 different varieties of gems are in the dirt around here,” said Tom Sterrett, who explained he and his wife are in their 17th season of running the mine. However, he began mining at Rose Creek Mine in the 1970s when he vacationed in the area. When the Sterretts retired, they purchased the mine, which Tom believes has been in operation since at least the 1950s.

“Milky quartz makes up about 80% of what you find ... they’re pretty common. Minerals cause more variety metamorphically. I’m not a geologist, but I love rocks. I’ve been a member of the Gem and Mineral Society and a past president, and our volunteers run the educational museum in



Every bucket of dirt at every area’s mine reveals a wide variety of different gems and minerals.



Locals and visitors seek out area gem mines as an affordable recreational experience. Jan and Ed Emerson are from Warner Robbins, Ga.

the old Franklin jail. I love all the aspects of gems and mining.”

In the past, customers have found large rubies and sapphires at Rose Creek, but a few pigeon-blood rubies have all been found as well.

“They are deep, deep red with a tinge of blue ... really neat,” said Tom. “And someone found a 6-8-inch milky quartz with a quarter-inch gold vein running through it in 2008.”

Sheffield Mine’s manager for 14 years, Richard Peak, agreed with Linda Sterrett that last year was booming at gem mines, but he is concerned gas prices may slow business this summer. However, he said, “The good thing about the mines here is that people will always find something. It may be just a chip, but our native dirt has something in it. Already, there have been 10 rubies mined that have been over 30 carats so far this year, and the biggest was 68 carats.”

Peak said he has heard of and seen many large gems, with the largest reportedly at 746 carats – a gem he unfortunately did not view himself. “But the one I’ve seen myself, and held, was 488 carats,” he said. “And last year, the biggest one we had at this mine was a 152-carat ruby.”

Tom Sterrett pointed out that while some mines this year have not yet opened because of a lack of workers, anyone interested in gem mining has options. “All the mines have a little different variety of minerals and gems,” he said.



Tom and Linda Sterrett are in their 17th year operating Rose Creek Mine and Tom is a member and past president of the Gem and Mineral Society.



Deaths & Funerals

Geralene Stiwinter Henry

Geralene Stiwinter Henry, 83, a native of Franklin passed away on May 14, 2022, after a brief illness. She was the daughter of the late Roy and Bessie Stiwinter and the wife of the late Howell Henry. She retired from Macon County School System as a teacher. She loved traveling and reading books. She is at home now with her Lord.



Geralene Henry

She is survived by two brothers; Lavaughn Stiwinter (Karen) and Dean Stiwinter; her daughter, Sherry Vinson (Ronnie); and her son, Chris Henry and the late Jill Mann Henry; three grandchildren, Ashley Vinson Webb (Nathan), Katelyn Vinson and Evan Henry (Andrea); three great grandchildren, Anna, Austin, and Andrew Webb; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held Thursday, May 19, in the Chapel of Bryant Grant Funeral Home with Rev. Don Moffitt officiating. Burial followed at the Woodlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that donations be made to the St. Jude's Foundation or Adult & Teen Challenge of the Smokies.

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

Sherry Ann Kenney

Sherry Ann Kenney, 73, of Franklin, N.C., passed away May 20, 2022. She was born Oct. 19, 1948, in Detroit, Mich., to the late Cy and Rita Chapman. She retired as an executive secretary for Scott's Paper Company. She loved friends and family and was always making friends. She loved to read, loved butterflies and animals and liked going to garage sales. She was Catholic by faith.

Survivors include her husband of 41 years, Michael Kenney; a son, Mike Kenney (Stephanie) of Michigan; and a daughter, Molly Boismier (Darin) of Michigan; three grandchildren, Margaret Petkus, Corrine Kenney and Elka Kenney.

Services will be private.

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

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

LeRoy Shane Lee

LeRoy Shane Lee, 40, has passed from this life. He was born on Aug. 20, 1981, and was a great listener who thought about what he had heard and what he wanted to say in return before he ever commented. He had a big tender heart and could always be counted on to lend a hand whenever he could.



LeRoy Shane Lee

He was one of those people who could do just about anything he set his mind to whether it be building, plumbing, or electrical work. He had a knack for repairing things and enjoyed a challenge. He was quick to learn different skills and also had worked as an auto body repairman and painter.

Some might have called him a Jack-of-all-Trades or a mechanical genius, and he was gifted enough to qualify for both of those titles. He was innovative and truly knew how to think "outside the box." Even though he enjoyed spending time on the river, his real hobby was fixing whatever was broken.

He will be dearly missed by his big blended family which includes his mother, Donna Lee (Kurt Stewart); his children, Alexis Danielle Lee and Preston Cole Newsome; his brothers, Lance Jordan Lee (Christina) and Dustin Kyle McConnell; his grandmothers, Mary Frances Lee and Claudette Scruggs Burston; and his nieces, Piper Grace Lee and Ary Catalina Lee. He was predeceased by his grandfather, LeRoy Lee.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, May 27, at 2 p.m., at Burgess Chapel. Rev. Mozart Moliere will officiate.

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

Sara Jo Bell Hedgepeth

Sara Jo Bell Hedgepeth was born in Guilford County, to the late Joseph Bell and Minnie Garris Bell.

She loved her family and enjoyed collecting dolls, playing golf, traveling, needlework, cooking, reading, her cat Muzzy, visiting the beach and playing games. She was a skilled and very musical piano player, having played since the age of 5. She was a member of Monday Morning Music Makers, a Cub Scout Den Mother, and the Little Bridge Club and Happy Bookers Book Club in Franklin. Those who knew her will always remember her cooking, especially her fudge, fried chicken, homemade pimiento cheese, pear preserves, homemade soup, biscuits, waffles, spaghetti and poundcakes.



Sara Jo Bell Hedgepeth

She was active in the Ladies Auxiliary of the Professional Engineers of North Carolina (PENC), and the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE). She served as president of The Ladies Auxiliary of the NSPE from 1986-1987. Prior to this she had served as the president of the PENC South Piedmont Chapter and vice president of the Southeast Region Auxiliary of NSPE. She also received a NC State College Good Wife diploma and worked at Albemarle Road Junior High School and Belmont Abbey College.

She is survived by her husband of 71 years, Elbert Hedgepeth Jr; her sons, Nelson Hedgepeth (Beth), Byron Hedgepeth (Elise), Tommy Hedgepeth (Angela); eight grandchildren; and 11 great grandchildren.

A service will be held on Sunday, June 5, at 4 p.m., at First United Methodist Church in Franklin. Rev. David Beam will officiate. A visitation will be held from 2:30 to 4 p.m., prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to First United Methodist Church of Franklin.

Online condolences may be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

- Replacement Windows
- Storm Windows
- Under Deck Roof Systems
- Mobile Home Roof Over
- Screen Rooms
- Sun & Vinyl Rooms
- Patios
- Awnings
- Carports
- Retractable Awnings
- Retractable Screens



Install yourself, or professional installation available

(828) 524-8074 | 3791 Highlands Rd. • Franklin, NC

CORNERSTONE MEMORIALS



DOYLE YORK, Owner

Located at Rabun Flea Market

(706) 746-2548

(706) 746-9977

Please Call For Appointment

(706) 746-2837

134 Market Circle • Rabun Gap, GA 30568



Moffitt Family FUNERAL CARE

David Moffitt OWNER/FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Because Funeral Care Shouldn't Cost So Much

828-634-1966

668 Highlands Road • Franklin, NC

THE VAN WINKLE LAW FIRM CONGRATULATES

KORAL F. ALMAN

ON HER RECENT

FLORIDA BAR LICENSURE



Whether you live in Florida, North Carolina, or split time between both states, Korah is perfectly positioned to support you in all facets of your estate plan. Korah is licensed to assist clients in both North Carolina and Florida with creating or updating estate plans, as well as probate and trust administrations.



VW is proud to serve clients throughout the Southeast with attorneys licensed in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Florida.

VWLAWFIRM.COM | 828.258.2991



WE MAKE LAW WORK FOR YOU ASHEVILLE | HENDERSONVILLE

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!



WHISTLE STOP DEPOT

ANTIQUES, SHOPS & RV PARK




Located in the old Cullasaja School off the Highlands Rd.
145 River Rd., Franklin, NC • (828) 349-1600 whistlestopantiquesnc.com

Ryan Blaney wins 2022 NASCAR All-Star Race

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

FORT WORTH - Ryan Blaney won his first career NASCAR Cup Series All-Star Race Sunday night at Texas Motor Speedway earning a \$1 million payday in the annual fan favorite non-points event. And he and his team celebrated twice.

Blaney's No. 12 Team Penske Ford ultimately beat Denny Hamlin in the No. 11 Joe Gibbs Toyota by .266-seconds in an overtime finish. But at one point, Blaney thought he may have taken the checkered flag twice - a caution flag flew the first time he was approaching the finish line in regulation - only seconds before he crossed the line.

He and his team thought he had won the race, not realizing the yellow light was on for an incident involving Ricky Stenhouse Jr. on the backstretch. Moments after cruising across the finish line, Blaney unstrapped the driver side window netting preparing to celebrate the big win with his team, which was high fiving one another and jumping onto pit road to applaud their apparent win.

NASCAR, however, ruled with video evidence that the caution light had activated for the Stenhouse incident on-track - yards before Blaney actually crossed the finish line.

As the cars made laps on the 1.5-mile track preparing for the overtime restart, Blaney could be seen trying to re-fasten the driver-side safety-net with one hand, steering the car under caution with the other. After finally getting the net secured, the race restarted and Blaney pulled away from the field going down the backstretch to take the checkered flag - the 26th different driver to win NASCAR's prestigious All-Star event.

"It was about to be real bad for us, I thought the race was over," Blaney said after the race. "Everyone thought the race was over. I already had my window net down.

"I do want to thank NASCAR for letting me kind of fix it and not make us come down pit road. But yeah, that was really tough. Then having to do it all over again after trying to get that window net back up there.

"Great car, [crew chief] Jonathan Hassler, everybody on this 12-group did a great job.

"I know it's not a points-winning race," he added. "But it's going to be a lot of fun. Party is going to be pretty big."

The runner-up Hamlin was unhappy with the extra accommodation - the extended laps under caution - to allow Blaney to get the safety net back up and secured.

"You know, it's tough because he deserved to win the race, but if you mess up and you break a rule - not intentionally, but there's rules and we have rules in place for safety," Hamlin explained. "My crew chief is taking four weeks off [a penalty from a pit road infraction earlier in the season] because of safety.

"I nearly crashed him off of Turn 2 when I got squeezed there. If I send him into traffic and he's got no window net, then what, right? Luckily, that didn't happen."

Not only did the 28-year-old North Carolinian Blaney hoist the winner's trophy, he certainly put in the effort on track all evening to deserve it. His 84 laps led was most in the field and he won Stage 3.

He ran up front all race and was fortunate to stay out of some early race drama involving winners of four of the last five All-Star races.

Defending All-Star race winner Kyle Larson was eliminated only 11 laps into the second stage when his No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet blew a right front tire sending



Ryan Blaney, driver of the #12 Menards/Wrangler Ford, celebrates with the million dollar check in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series All-Star Race at Texas Motor Speedway on May 22, 2022, in Fort Worth, Texas. At left, Austin Cindric, driver of the #2 Keystone Light Ford, contends with Blaney for the lead. Getty Images

GMS Motorsport's driver Erik Jones earning the fourth and final entry into the big show as the Fan Vote winner. It was the second time Daniel Suárez had won the NASCAR All-Star Open (2017, 2022).

The NASCAR Cup Series returns to points competition next week with the traditional Memorial Day weekend Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Tyler Reddick takes Xfinity win at Texas; first series victory for Big Machine Racing

FORT WORTH - After running among the leaders all afternoon, Tyler Reddick took the point himself with a dramatic pass from third place with 31 laps remaining and held off the field to take the checkered flag in Saturday afternoon's NASCAR Xfinity Series SRS Distribution 250 at Texas Motor Speedway.

It was Reddick's 10th career Xfinity Series victory, coming in only his second start of 2022, and his first trophy since his 2019 Xfinity Series championship year.

It marked the first ever win for the new Big Machine Racing team's No. 48 Chevrolet, with Reddick taking the checkered flag a distant 1.825-seconds ahead of fellow NASCAR Cup Series regular William Byron in an action-packed afternoon.

There were 11 caution periods, the second-most in the series' history at the 1.5-mile Texas high banks, and tight racing on the ensuing restarts with the two-time Xfinity Series champion Reddick pulling off that impressive pass and ultimately earning his team's debut victory.

"First off, just a huge opportunity and thank you to Big Machine Racing, it [the car] was just so good," the 26-year-old Californian said, noting he was motivated to take the drive this week to help the Richard Childress Racing-partnered team improve the Xfinity Series program overall.

him hard into the wall. He nursed the car through the infield to pit road but had to retire.

Only eight laps later, Kyle Busch - who had led every lap of the race at that time (47 laps) and won Stage 1 - suffered a tire problem and slowed toward the inside of the track. Ross Chastain, who was running second at the time guessed wrong on which lane Busch would slow into and hit him on the left side, slid up the track and into Chase Elliott's No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet before hitting the wall.

Busch's pole-winning No. 18 Toyota was unable to continue as was Chastain's No. 1 Trackhouse Racing Chevrolet and Elliott's Chevrolet.

"Felt like the driver of the 1-car chose the wrong lane to go," Chastain said, managing a smile as he left the infield care center. "Our car was tight all night and just managing the tightness and saw Kyle have an issue, like a tire down, and I guessed left, and I should have guessed right. Big hits.

"Tough break," he continued, "But fast cars."

NASCAR Cup Series rookie Austin Cindric, this year's Daytona 500 winner, finished third in this first All-Star Race, followed by Team Penske teammate Joey Logano - giving the team three cars among the top-four finishers.

Trackhouse Racing's Daniel Suarez, who advanced out of the All-Star Open race held earlier Sunday evening, finished fifth. Hendrick Motorsports driver Alex Bowman was sixth followed by A.J. Allmendinger, Chris Buescher, Brad Keselowski and Christopher Bell.

Stenhouse Jr., Buescher and Suárez each won a Stage in the All-Star Open to advance to the All-Star Race with Petty

“Chevrolet was just so good,” he added. “Nobody at RCR was really happy with where the cars were at, and I wanted to help and try to make these cars get better and to figure out what we needed to do to get these cars better.”

“Well,” he smiled. “We figured it out pretty quick, I guess.”

Reddick’s victory snapped a three-race winning streak by the JR Motorsports Chevrolets, which combined to lead 118 of the 167 laps on Saturday.

Race runner-up William Byron, driving the No. 88 JR Motorsports Chevrolet, was making his first Xfinity Series start since claiming the 2017 series championship and came within two-seconds of earning JRM what would have been a historic fourth consecutive win by four different drivers.

The team had three cars finish in the top-five and four finish inside the top-10, including Byron, Sam Mayer in third, Justin Allgaier in fourth and Josh Berry in seventh. Berry led a race best 46 laps, Allgaier was out front for 33 and Byron paced the field for seven laps.

Gragson, who is ranked second in the series driver standings, ended up scored 36th in the 38-car field after first, being collected in a chain reaction accident then secondly damaging the car beyond repair when a tire problem put the car in the wall only five laps afterward.

It was a rough ending to a great start on the weekend. The 23-year-old Las Vegas native earned his first career pole position, led 32 laps, and won Stage 1 – his series best sixth stage victory of the season - twice that of any driver.

Ryan Truex finished sixth in the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota, scoring his best finish in five Xfinity Series starts this season. Stewart-Haas Racing’s Riley Herbst was eighth – his sixth straight top-10 finish and ninth of the season. Kaulig Racing’s Landon Cassill was 10th; his seventh top-10 of 2022.

All three of the championship leaders faced adversity on Saturday. Current points leader A.J. Allmendinger – the only driver to finish inside the top-10 in every race this season – looked like that streak may have been stopped when his No. 16 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet had a tire rub racing Allgaier in the closing laps. He was able to maintain his top-10 season run, however, salvaging a ninth-place finish. Allmendinger will take a 44-point advantage over Gragson into next week’s race at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Ty Gibbs, who is third in the driver standings, was in-



Tyler Reddick, driver of the #48 Big Machine Racing/JAG Metals Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series SRS Distribution 250 at Texas Motor Speedway on May 21, 2022 in Fort Worth, Texas. Photos by Chris Graythen

involved in the initial Gragson multi-car accident on Lap 89. He already had a challenging day, sent to start the race at the rear of the field for an inspection violation.

Stewart Friesen snags overtime Truck Series win at Texas FORT WORTH – It was a hard-earned, deeply-appreciated victory for Stewart Friesen in Friday night’s SpeedyCash.com 220 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race at Texas Motor Speedway – the first win for the popular Canadian driver since November 2019.

His 60 laps out front in the No. 52 Halmar Friesen Racing Toyota more than doubled his year-long total laps led and were enough to land his first win in the last 53 races and to secure his place in the 2022 Playoffs.

Friesen, 38, lined up alongside Toyota driver Christian Eckes for a final overtime re-start and after a close side-by-side battle through the opening two turns, Friesen pulled his Toyota Tundra ahead to clear Eckes exiting onto the backstretch. He was able to hold off Eckes to take a close 0.122-second win on the famed 1.5-mile Texas high banks.

“I made all the mistakes I needed to make in the first two segments,” said Friesen, who had only one other top-five finish this season, a third place at Las Vegas in March. “We had an awesome truck.”



Stewart Friesen, driver of the #52 Halmar International Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series SpeedyCash.com 220 at Texas Motor Speedway on May 20, in Fort Worth, Texas.

fourth with ThorSport Racing’s Ty Majeski rounding out the top-five in a race that had 34 green flag passes for the lead and 18 lead changes among seven drivers.

John Hunter Nemechek, who won the pole position but had to start at the rear after a penalty for an unapproved adjustment, finished sixth – twice having to drive up through the field. Although he didn’t match his qualifying work with a victory Friday night, his sixth-place showing was good enough to take the Camping World Truck Series driver standings lead for the first time this season. Nemechek is the fourth different Truck Series points leader this season.

Ben Rhodes, who had led the points for a four-race stretch, finished 27th after his No. 99 ThorSport Racing Toyota was involved in an accident bringing out the final caution period forcing the overtime.

Corey Heim, Chandler Smith, Matt Crafton and former NASCAR Cup Series driver Matt DiBenedetto rounded out the top-10 – the second consecutive and fourth top-10 finish of the season for DiBenedetto.

Decks & Additions Tractor Service
Home Remodeling Driveway Repair
Flooring Grading

KZ CONSTRUCTION
828-283-0659
BuildwithKZ@gmail.com

HIGHLANDER 828-524-7773
ROOFING SERVICES INC. highlandernc.com

Franklin, NC - Five Day Forecast

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
70°/56° 80%	74°/51° 69%	78°/52° 24%	81°/54° 10%	83°/58° 23%

In Stock Now! **BUCK** 1800
While Supplies Last **OREGON**

etco Makita HILTI G
HONDA ENGINES Honda Power Equipment HUSTLER GRAVELY
CARLTON BRIGGS & STRATTON RedMax MQ MULTITRIP
rock exotica KARCHER SIMSON ALTOZ

0% Financing Available
Hours: M-F 8AM-5PM Sat 8AM-12PM

MACON RENTAL CO.
SINCE 1978

537 W. Main Street • Franklin, NC
828-524-8911 • maconrentalco.com

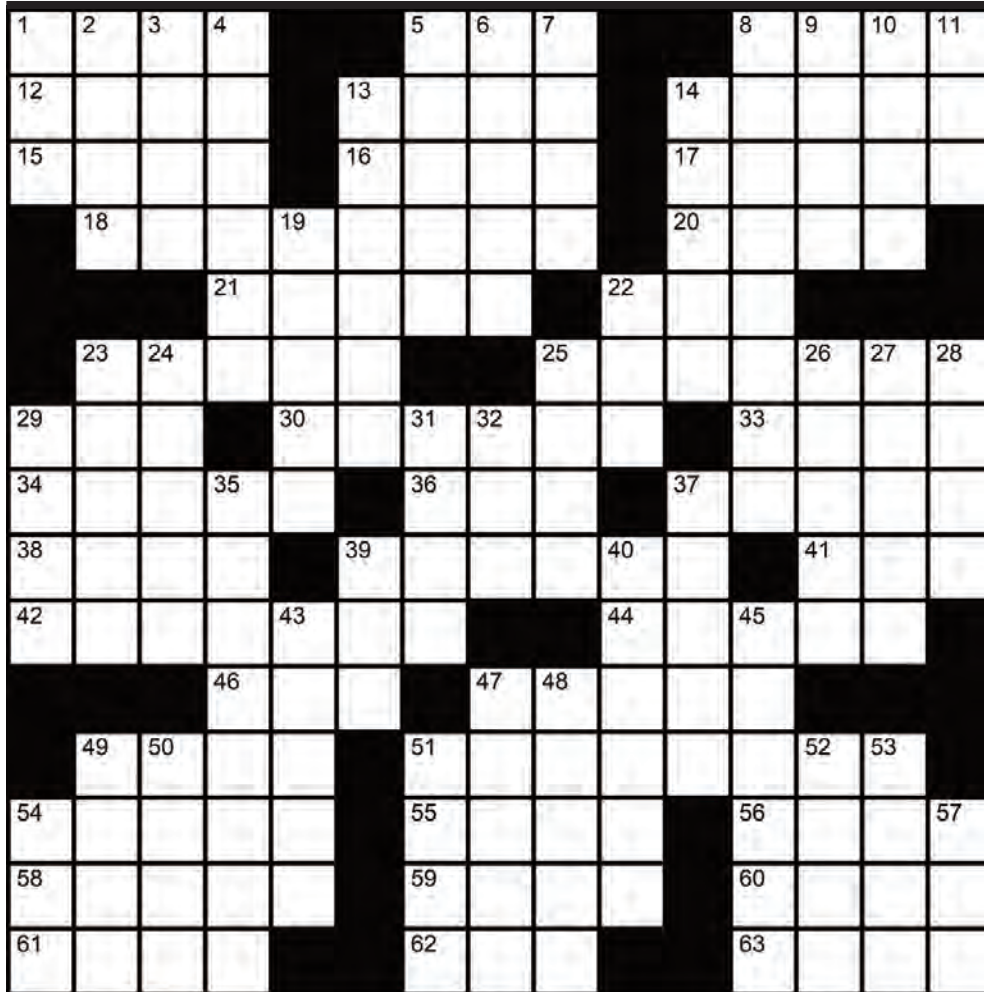
CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME:
WEATHER 101

ACROSS

1. Found in Pandora's box
5. Kind of trip
8. Toothy freshwater fish
12. Medieval headdress
13. Ne on periodic table
14. Golfer's weapons
15. Biblical twin
16. Russian river or Russian mountains
17. Understand (2 words)
18. *Moisture in the air
20. Law school test acronym
21. Layers in plywood
22. Trigonometry abbr.
23. Uses a laser
25. Squawked or crabbed
29. Bitty
30. Two dots above a letter
33. Jasmine of "Aladdin," e.g.
34. Forbidden, in Islam
36. Bruin legend Bobby
37. Lays in peace
38. "Metamorphoses" poet
39. Charge with crime
41. "For ____ a jolly..."
42. Easily irritated
44. *No clouds
46. Gremlin or pixie
47. *Check the weather before hitting this hiking path
49. Speech defect
51. *Cloudy
54. Classic TV's Mrs. Brady
55. Same as island
56. "Cheers" regular
58. Elephant poacher's ware
59. Pb on periodic table
60. *The first sign of rain?



HAULING

- DIRT
- GRAVEL
- MULCH



Otto • Dillard
Franklin

(828) 371-2432

DOWN

1. *Road hazard
2. Eyelid hair
3. Oahu shindig
4. Assumes bad posture
5. Chill-inducing
6. Bearded ruminants
7. Unrivaled
8. *Barometer reading
9. Tiny bit
10. Purl partner
11. Three ahead of PST
13. Certain beachgoers' philosophy
14. *Cold weather is needed for this meltable home
19. Part of small intestine
22. Cathode-ray tube
23. Hit the road
24. Falcon's home
25. Mentor or expert
26. The Obamas' daughter
27. Bruce Lee's "____ the Dragon"
28. Treat without respect
29. Wallop
31. Scottish lake
32. *Rainbow shape
35. *Weather warning
37. Archeologist's find
39. Venom source
40. Filled with dread
43. State indirectly
45. African antelopes
47. Living room centerpiece? (2 words)
48. 4 x 4 race
49. Cleanse
50. #14 Across, sing.
51. They don't mix with water
52. Sight for what eyes?
53. Between walk and canter
54. El ____ of medieval Spain
57. *Knot alternative, acr.

© StatePoint Media

BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!

Blazing Fast Internet! ADD TO YOUR PACKAGE FOR ONLY \$19.99/mo. where available

2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE

\$69⁹⁹ MO. for 12 Mos.

America's Top 120 Package
190 CHANNELS
Including Local Channels!

CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card Promo Code: DISH100

Offer ends 4/13/22

All offers require credit qualification, 24-month commitment with early termination fee and eRatePay. Prices include Hopper Duo for qualifying customers. Hopper, Hopper w/Sling or Hopper 3 \$5/mo. more. Upfront fees may apply based on credit qualification.

AWARDS & ENGRAVING
IMPRINTED APPAREL
SIGNS

gooderorders@gmail.com
1021 East Main St. • Franklin, NC

Guy & Alicia Gooder
828-349-4097

SQUID'S

Small Engine Repair & Sales

Pick Up & Delivery Available.

828-342-5135

867 HIGHLANDS RD. • FRANKLIN, NC
in the Flea Market, on the curve

Classifieds

The Macon County NEWS & Shopping Guide

\$8.⁰⁰ 20 words or less

26 W. Main Street • Franklin, NC 28734
(828) 369-6767

SUDOKU ANSWERS ON PG. 15

GRAND ALASKAN CRUISE & TOUR

12 days, departs May - Sep 2022

1-855-208-9533

promo code N7017

FROM \$1,949 \$1,699*

FREE ONBOARD CREDIT

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

© StatePoint Media

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Take care of the Earth

RECYCLE!

SALE OR RENT \$800/ or buy \$157,000. OBO. 3BR/2BA. Living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen, bonus room. New windows. 3BR/2.5BA with 2 Fireplaces and 3 BEDROOM PLUS ROOM decks. Doublewide 4BR/3.5BA, 3000sqft. Need room? This home has plenty! \$259,900. On the web factured Home, Hd \$129,900. For more please contact. Ow

The Classifieds

Services

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

GIBSON'S PAINTING & Home Repairs, 30 Years Experience, Insured, Satisfaction Guaranteed, Interior and Exterior Painting, Pressure Washing. Free Estimates, Beat Any Price. (828)200-7549.

GUTTER & DOWNSPOUT Cleaning and Repair. New Installation, Leaf Guards. No Job Too Small, Free Estimates. Call Rick Hall (828)371-3566.

HALL'S WINDOW Cleaning 25 Years Experience, Insured, Great References, Call (828)369-9662.

HAUL-4-U Pick-up of Appliances Furniture, Garbage, Trash, Rubbish. Residential/Commercial Clean Outs. (828)332-7175.

HANDYMAN HOME REPAIRS Carpentry, Pressure Washing, Gutter Cleaning, Decks, Drywall, Painting, Electrical/Plumbing, Repairs of any kind. 40 Years, Fast/Reasonable/Reliable. (828)332-7247.

SKILLED CERTIFIED NURSING Assistant/Companion, Available 12-hour Shifts, Cooking, Cleaning, Laundry. Experience working with matters of dementia and sundowning. (845)807-4121.

DAVID CHEEK'S WELL PUMPS Sales Service & Installation of Pumps and Iron Removal Systems. For All Your Water Needs. (828)369-5176.

AFFORDABLE CPR CLASSES American Red Cross Certified Instructors. CPR, Adults, Children, Infants, AED, First Aid for Breathing and Bleeding Emergencies. Cathy Minter RN (941)374-2210 Email: minterca6@yahoo.com

FREE LAWN CARE Estimates, \$5. Off With Ad, Fall Clean Up & Care, Mulch/Fertilizer, Pressure Washing, Gutters Cleaned. No Yard Too Large or Too Small. Bob (828)342-5273.

SQUID'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR & Service, 867 Highlands Rd., by Franklin Flea Market. (828)342-5135.

HYDROSEEDING & SOD LAWNS Now Is The Time! Ron's Hydroseeding. (828)332-4415.

CAROLINA PAINTING & Remodeling, Pressure Washing, Painting, Home Repairs, 28 Years Experience in WNC. Cell (828)371-9754.

STALLSWORTH PAINTING Interior/Exterior, Pressure Washing, Handyman, 35 Years Experience. Cell (239)860-0117, home (828)332-4382.

GRADING, FINISH GRADING Hydroseed, Driveways, Roads, Hauling, Land Clearing, Chipper. Install Septic Systems, Retaining Walls, Rock Work, Boulders, Patio, Perez. (828)524-8650, (828)347-6793 Excellent References.

NEW CREATIONS Landscaping LLC. Landscaping Projects, Cleanup, Annual Color, Mulch, Pine Straw, Aerating, Fertilizing, Hard-scapes, Steps, Retaining Walls, Grading, Gravel, Design, Grounds Maintenance and Much More! Licensed & Insured, Free Estimates (828)524-6959.

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

PROFESSIONAL KNIFE and scissor sharpening Mon-Sat. Kitchen Sink Inc. 72 E. Main Street, Franklin (828)524-2956.

DIESCHER ELECTRIC Professional service. Reasonable rates. NC Licensed and fully insured. 20+ years experience. (845)807-1326.

LAWNS MOWED in Macon County Area, 26 Years Mowing Experience. Starting at \$35. Call (828)524-0114.

CRANE BROS. WELL Drilling, 6" Drilled Wells for Farms Homes and Industries, Free Estimates. 248 Crane Circle, Franklin. (828)524-4976.

Real Estate

2 ACRES UNRESTRICTED Land w/30x50 Metal Building on HP McCoy Just North of Cowee, Beautiful River and Mountain Views. \$149,000. Call (352)603-4249.

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.

Rentals

VACATION RENTAL Romantic and Cozy, 1BD/1BA, Lake Front, Fully Equipped, Close to Town, Weekend, Weekly, Monthly, Seasonal. Franklin, NC. Call Rick & Sarah Miller (770)757-7500.

Garage & Yard Sales

REALLY BIG DEALS & Steals Sale, Saturday 28, 8am-4pm, 2594 Wells Grove RD. Furniture, Art, Rugs, Decor, Clothes, Tons more

TWO FAMILY SALE Friday & Saturday, Rain or Shine. 8am-4pm. Lots of Goodies for Everyone. Name Brand Women's & Children's Clothes, Bicycles, Stove and Lots, Lots More! 35 Holland Drive, Franklin.

Help Wanted

HANDY COUPLE NEEDED Misc. House & Yard Chores. Sarah @ Diva's (770)757-7500.

ZAXBY'S OF FRANKLIN Now Hiring Full-time, Cooks, Cashiers. Apply at www.zaxjobs.com. Come grow with us!

FRANKLIN BODY SHOP has Opening for Experienced Body Man/Painter. Hourly or Commission. Paid Days Off/Sick Days. Apply at 69 Mill St. or Franklinbody@frontier.com

LANDSCAPE TEAM MEMBER work outdoors in the fresh mountain air for an established small business. Landscaping experience preferred, but willing to train. Driver's license required. Cornerstone Landscaping (828)342-2706.

LIBERTY WOOD PRODUCTS Liberty Wood Products is hiring cabinet installers, assemblers, woodworkers. To apply call (828)524-7958 or visit LibertyWoodProducts.com/contact-us

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.

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.

HIRING! CARPENTERS Apprentices Needed for Local Framing Crew. Good Pay! Jim Byrd Construction. Text (828)421-3009.

Animals

POMERANIAN PUPPIES Male & Female, CKC Registered, Current Health Records. (828)524-7232.

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

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

HOT DOG COOKOUT Saturday, May 28, 11am-2pm, AARC Thrift Store 1521 Murphy Rd. Franklin.

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.

Misc. For Sale

CRAFTSMAN TABLE SAW 3HP \$200. Craftsman Band Saw 12" 2-speed \$200. Electric Hedge Trimmer \$50. (828)524-5780.

FARMERS MARKET 8-12, Every Saturday. Please Come Out and Support Your Local Farmers Market. Spring Vegetables, Honey, Garden Seedling, Soap, Wooden Bowl & Spoons, Pastries, Cookies, Preserves, Eggs. 200 Block East Palmer.

MRE'S MILITARY BOOTS Clothing, Rain Gear, Cold Weather Gear, Sleeping Bags, Vests, Packs, Bags, Field Gear, G.I. 5 gallon Gas/Water Cans! We buy, sell all Types Clothing, Field Gear. B & M Military Surplus, Open Monday-Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-5, Closed Sunday, 329 Bennett Ridge Rd. Franklin, (828)349-3140. bandmilitarysurplus.com, bandmsurplus@gmail.com



TONNEAU COVERS

Roll Up • Tri-Fold
Hard Folding • Clam Shell

Top Name Brands!

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

Anglin
RV • TRUCK & TRAILER
In Otto Since 1998!

828-349-4500
9957 Georgia Rd.
Otto, NC

Felix's Tree Expert, LLC

For All Your Tree Needs!

- Complete Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Firewood Delivery/Mulch

Accepting All Major Credit Cards

Insured & Reliable • Call Us Today for FREE ESTIMATES
(828) 200-1052

TreeServiceFranklinNC.com

Since 1997

FAMILY AUTO CARE

Complete Auto Repair Shop

Thank you to all of our customers for another successful year of business!

GOODYEAR U-HAUL ASE

Mon. - Fri. 8-5
(828) 369-2155

976 E. Main St.
Franklin, NC

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

NO CREDIT CARD FEES!

COUNTRYSIDE CHEVROLET REGIONAL SUPERSTORE

**WE NOW OFFER
WINDOW TINT
SERVICE!**



PRE-OWNED INVENTORY

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
2020	Chevrolet	Corvette 3LT	8,263
2019	Nissan	Sentra SV	15,009
2019	Buick	Enclave	24,669
2019	Toyota	Corolla LE	11,095
2019	Volkswagen	Beetle	42,676
2018	Camaro	SS	23,515
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	53,520
2018	Chevrolet	Cruze	34,692
2015	Nissan	Altima 2.5 S	59,261
2015	Mustang	GT	45,724
2014	Challenger	SRT8 Core	29,436
2014	Chevrolet	Cruze	113,152
2014	Ford	Focus SE	84,984
2009	BMW	i28	86,081
2008	Corvette	Coupe	9,007

SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2021	Chevrolet	Suburban	388
2021	Ford	Bronco Badlands AWD	1,237
2020	Grand Cherokee	Trailhawk	26,226
2020	Cadillac	Escalade Premium Luxury	7,309
2020	GMC	Acadia AT4	28,261

2020	Subaru	Crosstrek Limited	14,430
2020	Hyundai	Palisade	34,462
2019	Buick	Enclave Premier AWD	24,669
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	Ford	Explorer	69,517
2018	Grand Cherokee	4x4	48,031
2018	Kia	Soul	58,573
2017	Nissan	Rogue	122,708
2017	Rogue	SV	58,866
2017	Toyota	RAV4 LE	83,441
2016	Mazda	CX-5 AWD	56,700
2015	Chevrolet	Equinox LTZ AWD	107,485
2015	Jeep	Wrangler Unlimited Altitude	39,030
2015	Suburban	LT	92,352
2014	Ford	Explorer 4x4	68,342
2013	Ford	Escape SE AWD	89,455
2012	Chevrolet	Express 2500 VAN	160,946

TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 LT Trail Boss	651
2021	Chevrolet	Colorado ZR-2	10,842
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	5,822
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	435
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	16,244
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	8,432

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 ZR-2	36,463
2020	Chevrolet	Colorado	31,506
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado	52,944
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 High Country	22,601
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 RST	90,498
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 W/T	52,560
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	61,657
2016	GMC	Sierra SLT	61,530
2016	Ram	Diesel Crew 2500	60,495
2016	Toyota	Tacoma	127,336
2015	Chevrolet	Colorado	95,530
2015	Toyota	Tacoma	98,618
2014	Ram	1500 Sport Crew 4x4	107,828
2012	GMC	Sierra 2500 Diesel	192,749



COUNTRYSIDE
CHEVROLET.
FRANKLIN, NC

YOUR HOMETOWN DEALER

FIND NEW ROADS™



71 CAT CREEK RD., FRANKLIN, NC 28734 - HWY. 441 • 828.524.0734 • WWW.COUNTRYSIDECHEVY.COM