



Franklin held its annual 80s Flashback Weekend fundraiser for Shriners' Hospital of Greenville this past weekend. Organizer Dave Linn said that he expects to surpass last year's fundraising and reach \$20,000 after the final donations are tallied. The charity events comprised of concerts at Lazy Hiker Brewing Company and Currahee Brewing, silent auctions, raffles, beauty pageants and event donations, and just for fun, an 80s theme parade on Saturday. For more photos, see page 12.

Photo by Betsy Gooder

Recovered remains positively identified

Brittney Lofthouse
 Contributing Writer



Tina Walkingstick Frizzell

After a forensic investigation of the bone fragments recovered in May from a residence off Mulberry Road in Macon County, the victim has been identified as 42-year-old Tina Walkingstick Frizzell. Frizzell was residing in Mountain City, Ga., when her brother, Gregory Justus, contacted local law enforcement reporting her missing in late May.

"Her family was instrumental in helping us identify her by providing DNA samples," Macon County Sheriff Holland said. "Her family lives out of state and made trips back to Macon County to work with our staff."

Frizzell, formerly of Cherokee was thought to be murdered on May 16, one day prior to her 43rd birthday. Frizzell left behind two children.

"Based on credible information, two locations were considered to be possible crime scenes and meticulous searches would be conducted by our team," Sheriff Robert Holland said in May. "The first crime scene was a location where the

See IDENTIFIED page 2

Wilson pleads guilty; gets life without parole

Brittney Lofthouse
 Contributing Writer

Jesse Wilson has remained in custody since he was first arrested and charged in May 2017 for the murder of his 3-month-old son Liam Wilson. On Wednesday, Aug. 10, Wilson pled guilty to first degree murder and Macon County Superior Court Judge Bill Coward sentenced him to life without the possibility of parole.

Wilson agreed to plead guilty and forego a trial as part of a plea arrangement with the District Attorney's office that would allow Wilson to avoid the death penalty.

Wilson was set to begin trial for the 2017 murder at the end of August, however, while addressing Judge Coward on Wednesday, District Attorney Ashley Welch noted that a plea



offer was made to avoid a trial due to the overly graphic nature of the evidence against Wilson.

"We made the decision for a plea instead of pursuing a trial, which we were prepared to do in a few weeks, because the photographs and the videos that would need to be submitted in this trial were very difficult for the officers that responded, and these were seasoned officers...they haunted EMS workers, and frankly it haunted prosecutors," said Welch. "And to have to subject citizens that don't do this kind of work to this kind of evidence is something we needed to avoid because it was so bad."

Liam was pronounced dead after his father, Jesse Wilson, called 911 the morning of May 9. According to

See WILSON page 2

IN THIS ISSUE



Page 7

Women's History Trail sculpture nearing completion

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IDENTIFIED

Continued from page 1

missing person was last seen alive and the second is where the missing person may currently be located.”

It is believed that Frizsell was shot in a shed on South Tryphosa Road near the border of Rabun County and then her body moved to an encampment off Mulberry Road where it was burned.

Christopher Shields of Otto, N.C., was identified by Macon County Sheriff's detectives as a person of interest early on and after initial investigation was initially arrested and charged with kidnapping. Three other individuals, Derek McCrackin, Jessica Smith, and Lenore Wilson were also arrested in con-

nection with the disappearance of Frizsell and were charged with desecration of a corpse.

McCrackin and Smith were initially held at the Rabun County Detention Center after arrest while Shields was transported to Raleigh for safekeeping pending a positive identification of the remains.

After the remains found at the crime scene were identified as Frizsell, a Macon County Grand Jury heard evidence in the case and issued additional indictments for Shields, McCrackin, Wilson, and Smith related to the murder of Frizsell. As of press time, the indictments had not yet been served.

WILSON

Continued from page 1

Macon County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) reports, Wilson was caring for Liam while the child's mother, Julia Angel Vance, was at work. Wilson told authorities he placed Liam to sleep face down in his bassinet after feeding him at 6 a.m. that morning.

Wilson told detectives he had checked on Liam every 15 minutes and the last time he checked on the infant and observed him breathing was at 8:20 a.m. The call to Macon County dispatch was placed at 8:44 a.m.

Court documents show that first responders arrived on scene just before 9 a.m. to find the child unresponsive. MCSO deputies who responded to the call observed that Liam appeared to have bruises on his forehead before being transported to the hospital. According to Dr. Theodore Sikorski, who spoke to detectives after Liam was pronounced dead, the bruises on Liam's head appeared to look similar to fingerprints.

Nearly a year after authorities responded to a call in Franklin of an unresponsive infant, the autopsy of Liam Wilson was released in April 2018 and confirmed that the baby died as a result of suffocation due to smothering and blunt force trauma to the head.

After several interviews, Wilson admitted that he often got frustrated with Liam and would squeeze his head. Wilson stated that when he would do that Liam would, "look at him all funny with his eyes and go down to a whimper." Wilson admitted that he had been reacting that way to the infant in the month and a half after he became the primary caretaker for Liam since he was out of work and the child's mother was employed. He also ad-

mitted to squeezing the child's head the morning of the infant's death.

Welch summarized pieces of the photographic evidence and videos used during the investigation on Wednesday, however due to the explicit nature of the description, further details of that evidence will not be provided.

Wilson will be transported to the North Carolina State Correctional Prison system where he will remain for the rest of his natural life.

"This case was extremely difficult on many levels but as always our officers did an outstanding job as well as our District Attorney and her staff," said Macon County Sheriff Robert Holland. "My only regret is that his supporters appearing in court each time he appeared who have been so incredibly rude to my staff during the past couple of years did not attend today to see the evidence we collected. Unlike my officers and our District Attorney, they did not have to see the videos of a three-month-old being tortured. This case has been heartbreaking. I'm glad my citizens did not have to serve as jurors and will not be traumatized by the evidence they would have been provided. They would have never forgotten it, just as we will not. Mr. Wilson receiving life without parole is a good ending here. The fact is the death penalty conviction for him would be the easy way out and he now has a lifetime to think about what he did."

Due to evidence obtained during the investigation, Liam's mother, Julia Vance, was also arrested in 2017 and charged with felony murder and felony neglect child abuse causing serious bodily injury. Vance's case is still pending in Macon County Superior Court with her next court appearance is scheduled for Nov. 28, 2022.

N.C. Longleaf Commitment Grant provides free tuition

High school graduates can qualify for free tuition to any of the 58 community colleges across the state through the North Carolina Longleaf Commitment Grant simply by completing the FAFSA.

Research has shown that national college enrollment declined in 2020 by around 16%. The North Carolina Longleaf Commitment Grant aims to make community college more accessible for all students.

North Carolina high school graduates who haven't enrolled in college can still receive free tuition through the grant—all they have to do is fill out FAFSA, establish NC Residency, and enroll in at least six hours of classes. But time is running out to receive this free money for tuition. NC high school 2021 and 2022 graduates, with financial need, attending community colleges immediately following their graduation may be eligible. Longleaf grant awards range from \$700-\$2,800 per year for tuition and fees and are available for a total of two years. The average in-state tuition for a two-year college in North Carolina is around \$2,500, meaning that the Longleaf Grant could mean a free two-year college degree for many North Carolina students. The grant has already helped around 11,000 2021 graduates attend two-year colleges. The Longleaf Commitment Grant program will end after the 2024 spring semester.



GOOD NEWS

Grades K-6

Vacation Bible School

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Family Block Party 3-5PM

FOOD! GAMES! BOUNCE HOUSES!



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UPTOWN GALLERY'S ART FEST

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Fundraising Concert by Blue Jazz

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13 • 7PM AT TARTAN HALL

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Lecture series continues

The Highlands Biological Foundation (HBF) will present its next installment in their annual Zahner Conservation Lecture Series Thursday, Aug. 18, at 6 p.m. This free, public program will feature Dr. Paul Manos, Professor of Biology at Duke University, as he presents "The Hitchhiker's Guide to Biological Dependency: Plant and Fungal Support Networks on the Highlands Plateau."



Dr. Paul Manos

Several common plant species on the Highlands Plateau display unusual forms and habits. These phenomena send signals to even the casual observer that something different is going on here. But what? A deeper dive reveals ancient support networks with consequences that will alter your perception of basic plant structure and function, both below and above ground.

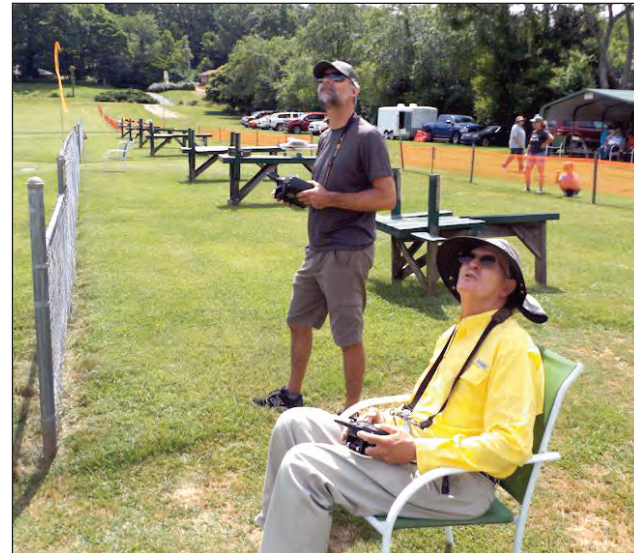
Dr. Manos is a Professor of Biology at Duke University in Durham, NC and Chair of the Board of Directors at the Highlands Biological Station (HBS). He studies the evolution and systematics of Northern Hemisphere woody plants with an emphasis on oaks and other nut-bearing trees, and regularly teaches Blue Ridge Flora at HBS. His interests include natural history outreach, forest ecology, and plant biogeography.

HBF's Zahner lectures are held at the Highlands Nature Center, 930 Horse Cove Road, on Thursday evenings through Sept. 8. To preview HBF's full Zahner lecture lineup, visit www.highlandsbiological.org. The Nature Center is part of HBS, a multi-campus center of WCU.

Learn to fly model aircraft this Saturday

Saturday, Aug. 13 is National Model Aviation day. On this date Macon Aero Modelers will be holding an open house to give lessons on a flight simulator and allow participants to fly actual radio control model airplanes, at no charge. The event will be held at 516 Tessentee Road, Otto at their flying field "OTX" beginning around 9 a.m.

Most folks think flying radio control model airplanes is for adults, but that is not the whole truth. It can be excellent experience for young people in an effort to find a career. Aviation careers are wide open. One may become a pilot, airline or private, crop duster, haul cargo, join the Air Force



or be involved in aircraft design, engineering, maintenance or Air Traffic Control (ATC) and many other areas of the aviation industry.

A fun hobby sport for adults, learning to fly a model aircraft may be a stepping stone for the young looking for a rewarding career in life.

The public is cordially invited to come and begin to learn to fly with experienced instructors to guide you.

For further information call Gary Sorenson (828) 508-4201.

Submitted by Bob Wilson, retired pilot

This month by donation, with 100% proceeds going to on going mission of the church

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16th Annual Franklin Area FOLK FESTIVAL

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51 Cowee School Drive, Franklin, NC

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- Heritage Center Artisans
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- Kids' Activities & Border Collie Show
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Information: (828) 524-6564
FranklinFolkFestival.com

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Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center
with support from the Franklin/Nantahala TDC & Franklin TDA

*Subject to Covid-19 Guidelines

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CARS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	BMW	Alpina XB7	536
2022	Chevrolet	Corvette 2LT	201
2022	Edge	Sport	101
2022	Volkswagen	Taos AWD	7,825
2020	Chevrolet	Corvette 3LT	8,263
2020	Jaguar	XE AWD	5,214
2019	Dodge	Grand Caravan SXT	55,584
2019	Nissan	Sentra SV	15,009
2019	Toyota	Corolla LE	11,095
2019	Volkswagen	Beetle	42,676
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	53,520
2018	Chevrolet	Cruze	34,692
2018	Cruze	LS	25,170
2018	Focus	SE	44,403
2018	Traverse	LT AWD	95,105
2017	Dodge	Journey	110,982
2016	Chevrolet	Cruze RS	30,685
2015	Nissan	Altima 2.5 S	59,261
2015	Mustang	GT	45,724
2014	Chevrolet	Cruze	113,152
2014	Ford	Focus SE	84,984
1990	Corvette		125,701

SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2021	Ford	Bronco Badlands AWD	1,237
2021	GMC	Yukon XL	53,356
2021	Grand Cherokee	L	13,279
2021	Tahoe	LT	16,432
2020	Cadillac	Escalade Premium Luxury	7,309
2020	GMC	Acadia AT4	28,261
2020	Grand Cherokee	Trailhawk	26,226
2019	Chevrolet	Equinox Premier AWD	34,109
2019	Chevrolet	Tahoe LT	46,162

2019	GMC	Terrain	63,316
2019	Kia	Sedona EX	40,858
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox LT	23,569
2018	Chevrolet	Tahoe	84,386
2018	Ford	Explorer	69,517
2018	ForeRunner	TRD Sport	65,055
2018	Kia	Soul	58,573
2018	Nissan	Murano	53,903
2017	Rogue	SV	58,866
2017	Toyota	RAV4 LE	83,441
2016	Lexus	RX 350	72,919
2016	Sorento	LX	112,933
2016	Toyota	Sequoia	96,869
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	2500	High Country	10,050
2022	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 LT Trail Boss	651
2022	Ram	2500	5,273
2021	2500	LT 4x4	16,442
2021	Chevrolet	1500 4x4	10,243
2021	Chevrolet	1500 High Country	17,551
2021	Chevrolet	Colorado ZR-2	10,842
2021	Chevrolet	LT Trailboss	34,069
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	5,822
2021	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	8,432
2021	Colorado	Z-71	12,912
2021	F-150	Crew 4x4	32,251
2021	Ford	F-150 SuperCrew Cab	32,251
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	2500	30,233
2020	Chevrolet	2500 Diesel	8,241
2020	Chevrolet	Colorado ZR-2	36,463
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado	52,944
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 High Country	22,601
2020	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 RST	90,498
2020	Colorado	Ext Cab ZR2	26,842
2020	GMC	Sierra 1500 AT4	15,588
2020	Ram	2500 Longhorn Diamond	23,286
2020	Silverado	1500 Regular Cab	21,430
2020	Toyota	Tacoma SR	12,448
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 2500HD	30,903
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 3500 HC Dually	45,535
2019	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500 High Country	44,359
2019	Colorado	WT 4x4	6,261
2019	GMC	Sierra 1500	18,811
2019	Nissan	Frontier SV 4x4	60,592
2019	Toyota	Tacoma SR5	43,420
2019	Toyota	Tacoma TRD 4x4	43,577
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado Z-71	23,542
2018	Chevrolet	Silverado 1500	31,379
2018	Colorado	ZR2	36,012
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	44,668
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500 Denali	25,059
2017	F-150	Reg Cab	113,305
2017	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	61,657
2016	Chevrolet	1500 LT Crew	118,872
2016	GMC	Sierra SLT	61,530
2016	Ram	Diesel Crew 2500	60,495
2015	Chevrolet	1500 Ext Cab	68,636
2014	Ram	1500 Sport Crew 4x4	107,828
2012	GMC	Sierra 2500 Diesel	192,749
2007	GMC	Sierra 4x4	115,221



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TekTone receives Silver Safety Award

TekTone Sound & Signal Mfg. Inc. was recognized recently for outstanding safety and health efforts for the 2021 calendar year by the North Carolina Department of Labor at the Asheville Safety Awards Banquet.

TekTone's Compliance and Training Manager, Betty Smith, attended the banquet to receive the First Year Silver Safety award for TekTone from NCDOL Labor Commissioner, Josh Dobson. To qualify for an annual safety award, an organization must meet the following criteria:

- Have no fatalities during the calendar year at the site or location for which the award was given; and
- Have maintained an incidence rate at least 50 percent below the average for its particular industry group.

Gold and Silver are the two Safety Award levels. According to labor.nc.gov, "The Gold Award is based on the days away, restricted, transferred (DART) rate, which includes cases of days away from work, restricted activity or job transfer." and "The Silver Award is based only on cases with days away from work. They are recorded when the worker misses at least one full day of work, not including the day of the injury."

A formula used to compute the incident rate of the organization which is then compared to a table that "lists the incidence rate calculated to 50 percent for each industry group."



NCDOL Labor Commissioner Josh Dobson presents the First Year Silver Safety Award to TekTone's compliance and Training Manager Betty Smith at the Asheville Safety Awards Banquet in June

About TekTone

Founded in 1973, TekTone designs and manufactures nurse call, apartment entry, wireless emergency call, rescue assistance systems, and alert integration systems. TekTone healthcare communications systems are found in hospitals, retirement communities, skilled nursing, and assisted/independent living facilities worldwide. TekTone® headquarters is Franklin, N.C. Visit www.tektone.com or call 800.327.8466.



Staff and management of Bryant's Antique Mall and members of the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce participate in a ribbon cutting welcoming them to the business community.

Bryant's Antique Mall moves to Main Street in downtown Franklin

Bryant's Antique Mall has moved to downtown Franklin and was welcomed by the Franklin Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting celebration.

Located at 71 E. Main Street in downtown Franklin, Bryant's Antique Mall specializes in antiques, primitives and collectibles. With more than 100 dealers, Bryant's Antique will be sure to have something amazing to cherish for a lifetime.

They've got you covered with items small and large and something to fit every budget. Convenient location with parking lot in rear and within easy walking distance of restaurants and shops in downtown Franklin.

Visitors and residents alike are invited to check out their Facebook page at Bryants Antique Mall. Drop by, browse and welcome Sarah, Erik and Madelyn Bryant to the downtown business community.

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Women's History Trail sculpture in final stages

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

At the August 1 Town of Franklin Council meeting, Marty Greeble and Mary Polanski presented an update on the Women's History Trail (WHT) sculpture, a public art piece that has been in process for the last four years. The presentation, titled "Sowing the Seeds of the Future," provided background on the WHT, as well as the late vice mayor Barbara McRae's vision for a permanent sculpture to celebrate the history and achievements of women in the area.

"The reaction from the Council was very positive," Polanski, who is a WHT project leader with Greeble, reported to the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County board. "This is such an exciting and gratifying time for all who have worked to make 'Sowing the Seeds' a reality."

Part of the presentation to the Council members involved a proposed timeline regarding the final bronzing stages of the sculpture, the official installation, and the public unveiling festivities – all of which will occur in 2023.

Internationally renowned sculptor Wesley Wofford, who resides in Cashiers, has been at work since 2018 on the various stages of the sculpture, from drawings to maquette to seven-foot final version. Wofford moved to Cashiers in 2003 with his wife, Odyssey, who is also studio director. Prior to the move to Western North Carolina, Wofford's interest in advanced translucent silicones led him to develop his own formulas and techniques, which in turn projected him into the Hollywood scene and specifically the makeup effects industry. He has worked on more than 75 motion pictures and television shows, including "A Beautiful Mind," "Hannibal," "Batman and Robin," "The Rock," and "Collateral." He also achieved awards for his work, including an Academy Award.

Currently, Wofford concentrates on commissioned sculpture pieces, and a few years ago, created the nine-foot Harriet Tubman "The Journey to Freedom" sculpture, using Macon County models. The sculpture was permanently installed in a private building in Dallas, Texas. A replica of "The Journey to Freedom" has toured the United States.

Area models were also selected to represent the three important figures in the WHT sculpture. Sculptor and artist Angela Cunningham modeled Timoxena Siler Sloan, a white woman; Blue Jazz lead singer Delphine Kirkland modeled Sally (last name unknown), a slave; and, Wahlahah Brown of the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians modeled Rebecca Morris, a Cherokee woman. The women depicted in the sculpture are of different cultures, yet they played significant parts in the tumultuous years of settlement in Macon County's history.

McRae, who was a historian and writer, helped develop WHT, a project of the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County. The trail's 15 plaques throughout Franklin provide information about how women contributed to the area. For example, a plaque at 266 Harrison Avenue focuses on Arrah Belle Wilson Johnson, the first female editor of The Franklin Press, while at 5 West Main Street is a plaque explaining that Nellie Cleveland West Cook was the first Macon County woman elected to the N.C. House of Representatives. WHT maps – for walking and/or driving tours – can be picked up in Franklin at Crabtree's on Iotla Street, the Franklin Cham-

ber of Commerce, and the Macon County Historical Museum on West Main.

McRae envisioned a sculpture that would celebrate women's achievements. While working on the sculpture project, McRae commented, "The Women's History Trail is about focusing on the contributions of women in Macon County. [The Folk Heritage Association] was intrigued by connected lives uncovered by research we learned about three matriarchal figures: a white woman, an African American woman, and a Cherokee woman."

A grassroots campaign raised the necessary funds, mostly from local individuals and businesses, to pay for the \$400,000 sculpture; currently, funds are being raised to pay for the sculpture's final installation and site work costs, which will be around \$50,000. Polanski explained that so far about \$25,000 has been raised to cover the final expenses.

To bring accuracy and authenticity to the women repre-



The Women's History Trail sculpture is in its final stages and will eventually be installed next year in Franklin.

sented in the sculpture, Kathryn Sellers, a Franklin-based historic costume designer and seamstress, dressed the models in historically accurate clothing.

Wofford commented during the staging of the models: "Because a sculpture technically has a forever year shelf life, it's time consuming to get it right, but it is so important to do so." Wofford further expressed to Macon County News in a March 12, 2020, article, "I do projects all over the country, but it's rare I have a geographical or personal connection. I think of myself as a translator, and I love the beauty of what this is saying. It's inspiring and I'm honored to be a part of it."

The sculpture will eventually be installed somewhere near the Nikwasi Mound at the entrance to Franklin on Main Street by the bridges at the Little Tennessee River.

"All the specifics are evolving," indicated Polanski, "but recognition of Barbara [McRae] will definitely be part of the celebration. She will also have her own plaque on the Women's History Trail."

Polanski added that at the September Town of Franklin Council meeting is expected official recognition and acceptance of the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County's gift of the sculpture to the town of Franklin. More information about the sculpture's 2023 installation and festivities surrounding the unveiling will be forthcoming.

Macon County, NC Prayer Walk

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- **EAST FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY**
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- **IOTLA VALLEY ELEMENTARY**
- **MACON MIDDLE SCHOOL**
- **MOUNTAIN VIEW INTERMEDIATE (MVI)**
- **NANTAHALA SCHOOL**
- **SOUTH MACON ELEMENTARY**
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**AUGUST 18, 2022
@7:00 PM**

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1 THESSALONIANS 5:17**

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Make plans to attend the Franklin Area Folk Festival Saturday, Aug. 20

The 16th Annual Franklin Area Folk Festival, “A Celebration of Appalachian Heritage” will be held on Saturday, Aug. 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center. Nestled in Cowee West’s Mill Historic District at 51 Cowee School Drive in Franklin, the Center is a unique showcase for demonstrating the everyday skills, crafts and music of our ancestors. And it is a free event. CDC and NC state mandates/guidelines will be followed in regard to COVID19.

What to expect

Celebrating all things Appalachian, this family-friendly festival features live heritage demonstrations, Appalachian crafts, jammin’ sessions that feature old-time mountain music and bluegrass, kids’ activities, food, textiles and more. Artisans inside Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center will exhibit Macon County’s rich heritage by teaching about pottery, textiles, painting, old toys and local culture and history. By linking our future to our past, the Franklin Area Folk Festival sponsors hands-on activities through demonstrations to allow visitors to experience what mountain life was like years ago. These folks learned at their parents’ knee woodcarving, moonshinin’, weaving and spinning, and all the many other heritage skills they’ll be demonstrating.

Some additional highlights include special quilts on display (like the famous Cabarras Quilt, The Celebrate America Autograph Quilt, etc.), flint napping, woodworking/



Border collie herding sheep

woodcarving, Border Collie demonstrations, bee keeping, weaving, old-time music and more. Performances of mountain music, gospel and bluegrass tunes exemplify an important cultural heritage of the Appalachian region. Special musical performances will

include Kornbread Kreek, Rainbows End, Frank Lee & Emolyn Liden, Nikwasi Dulcimers, Lady & the Tramps, Susan Pepper and Shelia Kay Adams, the White Sisters and roving musicians Wyatt Duvall and Richard Tichich. J Creek Cloggers, sponsored by the Arts Council of Macon County and storytelling with Shelia Kay Adams, sponsored by Suminski Family Books, are sure to be crowd pleasers. In addition to performance stages inside and outside, the Folk Heritage Association is partnering with Old Time Music groups to provide jammin’ sessions. Festival-goers are encouraged to bring their instruments and join in.

Once known as the Quilting Capital of the World, displays from the Smoky Mountain Quilter’s Guild and Cowee Quilters will help showcase this important heritage. Vendors will be selling Appalachian crafts and demonstrators will also have their goods available for purchase.

Free parking will be designated offsite with a shuttle to the front door of Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center. Follow signs for offsite parking and take the shuttle to the school from one of these two parking locations:

- Cowee Baptist Church (6301 Bryson City Rd) – Regular and Handicapped Parking Shuttles
- Snow Hill UMC (330 Snow Hill Rd) – No handicapped parking shuttles at site.
- There will be free downtown parking and shuttle service to Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center located at 17 West Palmer Street (vacant lot adjacent to Appalachian Ace Hardware/below the Lazy Hiker Brewery on the corner of West Palmer & Porter Streets). 9:30 a.m. until



Franklin native Bruce Conley fashions walking sticks from tree branches.



Kornbread Kreek

3 p.m. – shuttle will run every 30 minutes out to Cowee School.

Kids Activities begin at 10 am

Beginning at 10 a.m. at the Kids’ Activity Tent located mid-field, kids of all ages are encouraged to play old-fashioned lawn games such as egg races, sack races, and tug-o-war or take the milk “cow” challenge. At designated times under the tent, kids can also



A demonstration in hand-weaving

Macon County 4-H crafts with exhibit of traditional toys and friendly goats, free books from Read-to-Me, face painting by Macon Faces and Henna, ornament making in the pottery room or weaving in the hall by Cowee Textiles. Also, kids can take a step back in time and use a washboard to clean clothes, stop by the Civil War Re-enactors Camp, or experiment with antique implements and old tools at the Back Porch for a heritage photo op. Kids young and old are invited to participate in this historic day and embrace life as it was in the early days.

Learn about the culture and folkways of the Southern Appalachian Mountains by engaging in one of the many living history experiences, a trademark of the Franklin Area Folk Festival, “A Celebration of Appalachian Heritage.” This free event is co-sponsored annually by the Folk Heritage Association of Macon County and the Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center with support from Cowee Community Development Organization, Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, Arts Council of Macon County and others. This festival is made possible by grants from the Franklin/Nantahala Tourism Development Committee, the Tourism Development Authority of the Town of Franklin along with funding from local businesses and individuals. For more information visit FranklinFolkFestival.com or call (828) 524-6564.

make crafts (banjos and corn husk dolls) or try their hand at weaving or butter churning. Additional kid-focused activities scattered around both inside and outside on the grounds include the Smoky Mtn. Quilter’s Guild Make-it/Take-it sewing item, corn shellin’, Border Collie demonstrations, dancing jacks with fiddle music by Richard Tichich,



Civil War Re-Enactors

PICKIN' ON THE SQUARE



Free Entertainment Every Other Saturday!

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

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



Due to health issues, we are changing bands for Saturday August 20th. We have the J.W. Band stepping in to cover, who are a Pickin' favorite.

Be sure to bring your lawn chair! These summer concerts are given to you by the town of Franklin, free, no admission. We start at 6:00 p.m. at the gazebo in downtown Franklin. See ya there!!

Donnie Clay, Coordinator for Pickin' on the Square



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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

We got it, you got it too! What? We have all recently received our Macon County 2022 Property Tax Notice, aka tax bill. The bills go out every August and are due by Jan. 5.

Often I review what appears on the tax notices because some folks conflate the numbers into one bill and claim that is their town tax bill. The county tax office sends out one bill with both Highlands and county taxes. They basically collect taxes for the town for a small administrative fee. Therefore, three to four items are on a tax bill depending on where one lives.

Town residents have four items, specifically a bill for county taxes and an additional bill for town taxes. Folks living outside the town limits pay only county taxes. Everyone pays a landfill residential fee and the Highlands Fire District Tax.

I frequently stress that Highlands residents pay the same taxes as all Macon Countians do. But, much of the town's operations are in cooperation with Macon County. For instance, we all support the operation of the Macon County Landfill which is a bill appearing on everyone's tax notice. Also, both people living inside and outside the town limits pay taxes that support the Highlands Recreation Department, therefore everyone has full access to those programs.

Also, on the tax notice is a column that states the millage rate for the county property tax, as well as the Town of Highlands property tax. Currently, the county tax rate is 40 cents per \$100 of valuation. For Highlands the rate is 15.65 cents. To be fair, one can not compare the two rates. The county has many more service obligations, such as operating the Macon County Schools, the Macon County Health and Emergency Services Department, the Macon County Sheriff Department, as well as Macon County Social Services.

Macon County has a rather low tax rate when compared to some nearby counties. For instance, Transylvania County with the county seat at Bevard has a 60 cents tax rate per \$100 of valuation. I say that is a good comparison because the property valuation of both counties parallel one another.

Highlands for the most part has a low tax rate when compared to nearby towns because of our very high property valuations. In the last decade our tax rate per

Continued on page 11

We need to be the squeaky wheel that gets the grease

Out on the ranch or the farm cowboys know that the "squeaky wheel" that aggravates the "dickens" out of you always gets the grease.

Our North Carolina Attorney General, Mr. Josh Stein, is about to have to apply some "grease." Our prayers are being heard. As of Friday [7/29] as per the *Asheville Citizen Times*: "Buncombe County and the City of Asheville have filed a joint class-action lawsuit against HCA Healthcare and Mission Health, alleging the companies have been involved in anti-competitive practices." In addition the City of Brevard has filed a similar law suite. It's about damn time!

The effects of this "monopoly corporate raider" deal is really hurting people. Some friends stopped by from Madison County and their personal pain of experience with Mission Health was sad to hear. Another part-time neighbor had to go back to Florida just to get critical medical attention now; Mission here in Franklin couldn't help him until October. He said, "Hell, I could be dead by then!" The personal stories posted on Mountain Maladies will make you cry and become furious at the same time.

Now you folks who have been here in Franklin/Macon County a lot longer than me maybe could start calling your Mayor, Town Council members and County Commissioners to start applying a loud "squeak." Perhaps we could convince them to "Cowboy Up" and join the class-action law suit with Asheville and Brevard. That's a total of five lawsuits against HCA/Mission and that's just here in our neck of the woods. You need to hear about all the others in various other states.

This bunch of heartless [expletive] need to be put out of business! Let's all keep praying and "squeaking" until the Attorney General and the courts have to give us a wagon load of Bear Grease and our wonderful nonprofit hospitals back.

God Bless all y'all. In the Spirit,

G.M. Newton – email:21charley21@gmail.com

Inflation Reduction Act thoughts and questions

Many economists say this Act will not decrease inflation despite its name. Even Senator Ernie Sanders said it will not decrease inflation. This bill, like many others, only provides some benefits for a couple years to make it look like spending is lower. Has Congress ever stopped a benefit program?

Perhaps the major factor in our current high inflation are fossil fuel prices. This bill puts new taxes on imported oil and on domestic oil produced on Federal lands. The bill increases taxes on all coal mined. Another new energy tax on methane is estimated to increase natural gas prices about 17%. All of these will increase fuel prices and add to higher energy costs for everyone. Remember, about 61% of electricity in the U.S. comes from fossil fuels. Does the government have a plan on how to get from where we are today to

the green energy future they want, while making sure the U.S. has abundant and reliable electricity?

The bill provides federal payments to energy companies that use union labor and excludes non-union companies from these funds. Democrats favor unions because they say those jobs pay more than non-union jobs so it follows that that will also increase costs. Could it also be that unions contribute almost exclusively to Democrats?

The bill establishes a new tax on companies who are not "paying their fair share." No one has ever defined that phrase. Companies collect income taxes from customers when a product or service is sold and then send the money to the government. People pay the income taxes, not companies.

The president and Democrats say that income taxes on those earning under \$400,000 are not being raised in this bill. Income taxes may not go up but many prices will increase as a result of this bill. I think everyone will see a decrease in after-tax income.

The bill is also to decrease drug prices by allowing the government to negotiate prices. Under this law, if a company does not agree to the price desired by the government, they can increase the income tax rate on the company to 95%. Is this really a negotiated price and will these lower forced prices slow research into new and better drugs?

The bill is 775 pages long. Does anyone think that any Senator read the bill before the vote?

Another question on gas prices in this country – if the president is right that selling oil from the government stockpile has reduced gas prices, when the government restocks oil, won't that cause gas prices to increase? What will the president say then?

Ken Stonebraker – Franklin, N.C.

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

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N.C. justices should be able to think for themselves

Until 2018 Justices in N.C. had been non-partisan, after which the Republican legislature changed the law to require candidates for judges to declare party affiliation. Even though judges and justices are now partisan candidates, impartiality is still the cornerstone of their job.

One way to understand impartiality is to look at their listing of endorsements and their written decisions. Are they endorsed by other judges or leaders from both parties? Do they show respect by listening? Do they write opinions that show they are following the law? Do they cite rulings and precedent? And, do they deliberate and apply the law equally?

In the case of the N.C. Supreme Court, it is important to recognize the candidates' experience in lower courts. Have they served on Superior Court or the Appellate Court? In the best case, a Supreme Court justices should have experience in either or both of the lower courts.

On the N.C. Supreme Court, there are Republican justices that seem to vote as a partisan block. Since the last election, it has been noted that Republican justices have ruled as a unit and demonstrated a lack of independent thinking until they were called out on this by the Raleigh News and Observer last fall. Then, all of a sudden, they changed their tack and did not vote "in lock step" for one decision.

Judges must be able to give assurance that justice is happening, not politics.

Karen Hawk - Highlands, N.C.

EV charging station now operational at Town Hall

The Town of Franklin has partnered with Duke Energy to install a level 3 fast-charging station in the town hall parking lot. Town Planner/IT Director Justin Setser worked closely with Duke to have the installation done without cost to taxpayers.

The fast-charging station and the cost is set through Shell Recharge via the Green Lot App. The fees are paid via a credit card scanning system and the Town does not receive any funding from the stations.

"The need for EV charging was brought to our attention and we felt that the location would be beneficial for downtown visitation," Setser said.

There are two charging stations available with one indicated for handicapped accessibility. The charge time is de-



The new fast charging station is located in the parking lot of Town Hall just off Main Street.

pendent upon a vehicle's battery status at the time of charging.

TAYLOR

Continued from page 10

\$100 of property has gone down because of increasing property valuations. The town has adopted a revenue neutral policy to where the tax rate decreases as property values increase. With that said, in 2014 the town did have a small tax increase to address critical maintenance and improvements to the recreation facilities. After those improvements were made the tax earmarked for the recreation capital improvements was transferred to road paving improvements.

Everyone will also notice that their tax notice has a fire tax bill. Currently, the tax is at 3 cents per \$100 of valua-

tion. It was recently raised from 1 cent to 3 in order to build the new fire station. The station will be paid for in 20 years, but will be in service for 50 to 75 years. The Highlands Fire District still has a low tax rate when compared to other districts.

I bring the tax issues up because next year there will be a property tax re-evaluation that always gets folks' attention. Also, Macon Countians will be involved in how to finance a new high school in the coming months. Property tax rates and a quarter cent increase in sales taxes will be on the table. I believe a property tax and sales tax increases have to be considered in order to insure our young people have access to a safe, accessible and an up-to-date education.

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Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests July 26 - August 7. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

August 2

Michael Shawn Davis, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Joshua Adam Rider, was charged with assault on a female and communicating threats. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Justin Messer, was charged with violating a domestic violence protective order. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Michael Shawn Davis, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

August 4

Jose Luis Damian-Mejia, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, maintaining place for a controlled substances, possession of a weapon of mass destruction, possession of drug paraphernalia, simple possession of a schedule II controlled substance, simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance and simple possession of marijuana. William R. Younce made the arrest.

Joan Beck Hobbs, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine by possession, trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation, maintaining a place for a controlled substances and possession with intent to sell/manufacture/deliver methamphetamine. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Nicholas James Keith, was charged with offenses committed in jurisdiction. Brent C. Ledford made the arrest.

August 5

Jacquelyn Elyssa Miller, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.

Jamie Patrick Oneal, was charged with possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver a schedule II controlled substance. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

Bryan Scott Garringer, was charged with flee/elude arrest, possession of stolen motor vehicle, assault with a deadly weapon, resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement officer and injury to personal property. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Bruce Edwards Davis, was charged with assault on a female. Corporal James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

August 7

Michael Perkins Jr., was charged with offenses committed in jurisdiction. Deputy E. Sands made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

July 31

Isaiah Jaqjan Fisher, was charged with possession of a weapon of mass destruction, carrying a concealed gun, pos-

session of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Zachary Markez Burnside, was charged with felony possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

August 2

Mika Briana Marcotte, was charged with carrying a concealed gun/driving while license revoked and misdemeanor probation violation. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

July 26

Austin Levi Ewart, of Ray St., Waynesville, was charged with failure to appear for domestic protection order violation and communicating threats. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Zachary Jarrett Randolph, 41, of Cutting Edge Dr., was charged with failure to appear for damage to property, probation violation, assault on a female, attempted breaking and entering and resisting a public officer. A secured bond of \$21,000 was set.

April Bryson, 38, of Johnquil Dr., was charged with failure to appear for school attendance law violation. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Steven Wayne Bumgarner, 45, of Webster Rd., was charged with failure to appear for larceny by an employee. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Lisa Renee Schrader, 61, of Speedwell Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for failure to exhibit/surrender license, driving while license revoked impaired revocation and possession of stolen goods. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Ashley Savannah Frady, 36, of Eagles Ridge Rd., Sapphire, was charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. No bond was set.

July 27

William Eric Woodard, 58, of Leatherwood Rd., was charged with child support purge. A \$2,000 bond was set.

Ishmael Perez Hernandez, 24, of Nikyu Ave., Glenville, was charged with simple assault. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Dora Carrion Alvarado, 51, of Toohow Rd., Whittier, was charged with child support purge. A secured bond of \$40,569.74 was set.

July 28

Allan Jordan Yonker, 18, of Huff Hollow Rd., Newport, Tenn., was charged with assault by strangulation and injury to personal property. No bond was set.

Darrin Ray Talley, 34, of Bismarck Loop, was charged with child support purge. A \$10,834.89 bond was set.

Deborah Sue Brayman Connolly, 32, of Wicker Rd., was charged with child support purge. A \$55 bond was set.

King Allen Lackey, 37, of Tall Oaks, was charged with failure to appear for flee/elude arrest with a motor vehicle, no operators license, larceny, obtain property by false pretense, identity theft, possession of stolen goods/property, shoplifting/concealment of goods, felony probation violation, possession of methamphetamine, possession of dimethylamphetamine, resist a public officer, possession of drug paraphernalia and felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance. A secured bond of \$97,541 was set.

Lucinda Faye Childers, 40, of Rough Branch, Cherokee, was charged with failure to appear for unauthorized use of motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Cheyenne Robin Arneach, 30, of Tsali Enola Rd., Cherokee, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

Kathleen Jarosz, 61, of Armour Rd., Whittier, was charged with misdemeanor larceny and simple assault. No bond was set.

July 29

Ruben Jimenez Lopez, 41, of Valor Mtn., Glenville, was charged with domestic violation protective order violation. No bond was set.

Tivan Dean Saunooke, 18, of Stacy Saunooke Rd., Cherokee, was issued an order for arrest for no operators license and reckless driving. A secured bond of \$500 was set.

July 30

Brandy Patricia Martin, 23, of Troy Martin Rd., Whittier, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. No bond was set.

July 31

Felicia Dawn Marr, 32, of Passmore Lane, Whittier, was charged with simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Sandra Ledford Evans, 47, of Corn Flower Lane, Dillsboro, was charged with failure to appear for larceny. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Joshua Lawrence Bradley, 40, of Seagull Hollow, Sevierville, Tenn., was charged with failure to appear for operate a vehicle with no insurance, drive/allow a motor vehicle with no registration, driving while license revoked impaired revocation, expired/no inspection, possession of methamphetamine, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver methamphetamine and second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$21,500 was set.

Missey Fern James, 50, of Vintage Dr., was charged with failure to appear for violation of unsupervised probation, possession of stolen goods property and misdemeanor larceny. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.

Nikki Ann Cagle, 29, of Locust St., Bryson City, was charged with larceny by an employee. An unsecured bond of \$40,000 was set.

August 1

Tanya Les Stevens, 48, of Candy Lane, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

Mike Alexander Green, 42, of Peppermill Lane, was charged with second degree trespass. No bond was set.

August 2

Miranda Conner Bryson, 48, of Fruitful Place, Cullowhee, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

Brett Leo Bryson, 55, of Fruitful Place, Cullowhee, was charged with assault on a female. No bond was set.

Jeremy Lee Gunter, 37, of Boo Holler Rd., Whittier, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$30,000 was set.

Bobby Joseph Johnson, of Charley's Creek, Tuckaseegee, was charged with child support purge. A secured bond of \$246 was set.

Jon Kyle Jordan, 45, of Queentown Rd., Canton, was charged with trafficking in methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$75,000 was set.

Alexander Milan Valdez-Hensley, 20, of Kokopelli Place, was charged with fleeing to elude, resisting a public officer and drive after consuming under the age of 21. No bond was set.

August 3

Christopher Nathan Stephens, 36, of Luis Cove Rd., Whittier, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana paraphernalia, possession of marijuana up to 1/2 oz, simple possession of a schedule II controlled substance, simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance, felony possession of a schedule I controlled substance and possession of methamphetamine. No bond was set.

Piper Ann Betances, 40, of Audubon Trail, Cashiers, was issued a true bill of indictment for habitual felon. No bond was set.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

American Red Cross Blood Drives will be held in Franklin on Aug. 11, 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., at First Baptist Church, 69 Iotla Street; on Aug. 13 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Discover Church, 47 Macon Center Dr.; in Highlands on Aug. 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Highlands School, 545 Pierson Dr.; on Aug. 29, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Highlands United Methodist Church, 315 Main St.; on Aug. 29, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Community Bible Church, 3645 Cashiers Rd. All who come to give this month will be entered to win gas for a year and will also receive a \$10 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Details are available at rcblood.org/fuel.

Macon Aero Modelers Open House will be held on Saturday, Aug. 13, 9 a.m., 516 Tessentee Rd., Otto. Take lessons on a flight simulator and may fly actual radio control model airplanes, at no charge. Excellent experience for young people in an effort to find a career. For more information, call Gary Sorenson (828)508-4201.

Music at "The Frog" will be held on Saturday, Aug. 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Friends of the Greenway/ FROG Quarters, 573 E. Main St., Franklin.

Lecture series Where We Live: History, Nature, and Culture will present a program by Stacy Guffey, "Mountain Talk 2, A Serious and Entertaining Look at Our Local English." Will be held on Monday, Aug. 15, 6:30 p.m., at Cowee School, 51 Cowee School Drive, off NC 28 N in Franklin. He'll take a serious and humorous look at why Mountain Talk or Southern Appalachian is a real accent, variant, or even dialect with its own grammar and rich history that should be respected and preserved.

Macon County Republican Women's Club will meet on Tuesday, Aug. 16, 11:30 a.m., at Fat Buddies BBQ. The monthly speaker will be Christy Kinser, Field Director with NC GOP Victory.

Adult and Teen Challenge of the Smokies Men's Center Graduation will be held on Saturday Aug. 20, 10 a.m., at the center, 336 Living Hope Way, Franklin. Worship, a message, and a short video and graduates giving their testimonies. There will be refreshments and a reception after. For more information about their addiction recovery program for men go to www.livinghopeway.com or call (828)524-2157.

FHS Class of 1968 Class Reunion will be held on Aug. 20, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., at Holly Springs Community Center, 2720 Cat Creek Rd.. Soft drinks, tea, water and paper products will be provided. Please bring snacks to share.

North Shore Cemetery Association will be hosting decorations for Higdon and McCampbell Gap (Wilson) Cemeteries on Sunday, Aug. 21, first boat shuttle leaves at 8:30 a.m., last leaves at 10 a.m. from the Cable Cove Boating Access Area off of NC 28 near Fontana Village. This will be the last 'Hazel Creek trip' of the year. There will be a pot luck. Bring a dish to share or provide your own lunch and drink. Pets are not allowed in accordance with Park rules and regulations. Service animals must have papers and be vested. Check Facebook/NorthShoreCemeteryDecorations for additional information, changes, cancellations, and to message regarding mobility needs.

Bascom Center for the Visual Arts July Free Exhibitions "Like No Other Place," through Dec. 31, at the Joel Gallery; at the Thompson Gallery, "Members Challenge: Place" through Sept. 10; Thursday, Aug. 11, 5 p.m. free Exhibitions Reception (Like No Other Place and Members Challenge: Place); Saturday, August 13, 1 p.m., The Ballet of Place, performance by Ballet Memphis (free to the entire community, with special encouragement for young people to attend, first-come, first-served seating. The gallery is located at 323 Franklin Rd., Highlands. For more information, call (828)526-4949.

Share the Journey Support Group for Caregivers whose loved ones are experiencing memory loss will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church, 26 Church St. Enter the church from the parking lot, come through the double red doors in the courtyard and follow the signs. For more, call (828)524-3119.

Joseph Carrol and Alvarado (Alva) Allen Gibson Annual Reunion and Potluck Lunch will be held on Sunday, Aug. 14, at Cowee Valley Volunteer Fire and Rescue Station, 1309 Ruby Mine Rd., in Franklin. Music by the Vagabonds will begin at 12:30 p.m.

School Supply Drop-off at Edward Jones Branch Office at 81 West Main Street during regular business hours. Items needed include backpacks, pencils, pens, one inch binders, Clorox or Lysol wipes, crayola crayons, and more. The school supply drive will run through Aug. 12.

Historic TM Rickman Store located at 259 Cowee Creek Road is now open for visitors on Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Discover unique items and listen to local musicians. Parking is limited with additional parking available at Cowee Arts and Heritage Center a short walk from the store.

Gem & Mineral Museum, located in the Old Jail on Phillips Street in downtown Franklin is now open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 12 to 4 p.m., featuring gems and artifacts from North Carolina as well as all over the world.

Uptown Gallery Childrens Art Classes will be held on Wednesdays afternoons. Adult workshops in acrylic, watercolor, acrylic paint pouring, encaustic, and glass fusing are also offered. Free painting in the classroom Monday's 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Membership meeting second Sunday of the month 3 p.m. The gallery is located at 30 E. Main St. in Franklin. For more information, contact mtully1001@gmail.com.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Bob Sellers formerly of the Kingsmen will be at Ridge Crest Baptist Church on Sunday, Aug. 14, 6 p.m. 206 Sylva Highway, Franklin. Everyone come and enjoy singing and worship.

Spiritual Light Center on Sunday, Aug. 14 at 11 a.m., Ashley Russell will be speaking about the law of karma & how it relates to spirituality. On Monday, at 6 p.m. all levels yoga class; no cost to attend. On Thursdays, a movie is shown at 3 p.m. and then out to eat afterward. The church is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., behind the Gazebo Restaurant. For more information or to stream services go to SpiritualLightCenter.com

Churches and believers in Macon County are invited to join a Prayer Walk on Thursday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m., at the following schools: Cartoogechaye Elementary, East Franklin, Franklin High School, Highlands, Iotla Valley, Macon Middle, Mountain View Intermediate, Nantahala, South Macon Elementary, Union Academy and Macon Early College, to unite in the mighty name of Jesus.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship An inclusive faith community that celebrates life in all its joy and mystery. Inspiring and sharing journeys of love, learning, justice, and hope. For information, call (828)342-0546.

Seventh Day Adventist Church meets on Saturday, with Sabbath School at 9:30 a.m., Worship Service at 11 a.m. Masks are optional. The church is located at 71 Brendle Rd.

All Saints Episcopal Church, Franklin Services are held Rite I, 8 a.m. without music and Rite II, 10:15 a.m. with music, every Sunday. First and third Sundays at St. Agnes Chapel, 66 Church St. and second and fourth Sundays at St. Cyprian's Chapel, 216 Roller Mill Rd. Sunday 10:15 a.m. services can be viewed live on the website: www.allsaintsfranklin.org and past Sundays can be viewed on YouTube search "All Saints Franklin".

Olive Hill Church Services are held on Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Pastor is Keith McWhite. The church is located at 2389 Olive Hill Road.

Lifespring Community Church is holding Sunday services beginning at 10 a.m. Brian Lamb in the pastor. The church is located at the intersection of Cheek Road and Addington Bridge Road.

Tellico Baptist Church is now having in-person Sunday School at 10 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. inside the church building with the Reverend L. E. Angel. Everyone is welcome.

West Franklin Church services are held on Sunday, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The church is located on Sloan Rd. next to the Forest Service Office.

Email church items to maconcountynews@gmail.com

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SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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Tuxedo Junction returns to Sylva this Friday

The 13th annual season of Concerts on the Creek continues on Friday, Aug. 12, when the series welcomes the band Tuxedo Junction, "WNC's premier dance band," back to Bridge Park in Sylva from 7-9 p.m.

Tuxedo Junction is renowned for always adding the right music, consummate professionalism and magnetic personality to every event.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a chair or blanket. These events are free but donations are encouraged. Dogs must be on a leash. No smoking, vaping, coolers or tents allowed in the park. Food trucks on site.

These concerts are organized and produced by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Sylva and the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department. For more information, call the chamber at (828)586-2155, visit www.mountainlovers.com or Concerts on the Creek's Facebook page.



Tuxedo Junction

Mountain Talk is topic of next Where We Live lecture

On Monday, Aug. 15, the lecture series Where We Live: History, Nature, and Culture will present a program by Stacy Guffey, "Mountain Talk 2, A Serious and Entertaining Look at Our Local English."

Guffey will take a serious and humorous look at why Mountain Talk or Southern Appalachian is a real accent, variant, or even dialect with its own grammar and rich history that should be respected and preserved. The program will also reveal a look at some of the words, patterns, and sayings that make it so much fun to hear and speak.

Stacy Guffey, a Macon County native, works on projects to promote and preserve mountain culture and studies languages as a hobby. He is the director of the Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center.

"You'ns ain't got nothing else to do on a Mondee, so come on down," says Guffey.

The program will begin at 6:30 p.m., at Cowee School, 51 Cowee School Drive, off NC 28 N in Franklin.

Chloe Maxmin & Canyon Woodward: In Conversation with BPR's Lilly Knoepp

The public is invited to City Lights Bookstore for a conversation between Chloe Maxmin, Canyon Woodward, and Lilly Knoepp on Saturday, Aug. 13, at 3 p.m. The talk will center around the book Maxmin and Woodward collaborated on, "Dirt Road Revival." The book details the journey of the young Maine politician Chloe Maxmin and her campaign manager, Canyon Woodward, to win two unlikely elections. Throughout "Dirt Road Revival" Maxmin and Woodward demonstrate how Democrats must radically reorient to re-engage with rural voters.

Chloe Maxmin, hailing from rural Maine, is the youngest woman ever to serve in the Maine State Senate. She was elected in 2020, unseating a two-term Republican incumbent and (former) Senate Minority Leader. In 2018, she served in the Maine House of Representatives after becoming the first Democrat to win a rural conservative district.

Canyon Woodward was born, raised, and homeschooled in Macon County, North Carolina. He served as campaign manager for Chloe Maxmin's successful 2018 and 2020 state senate campaigns. He earned an honors degree in social studies from Harvard College.

Lilly Knoepp serves as BPR's first full-time reporter covering Western North Carolina. She is a native of Franklin, who returned to WNC after serving as the assistant editor of Women@Forbes and digital producer of the Forbes podcast network. She holds a master's degree in international journalism from the City University of New York and earned a double major from UNC-Chapel Hill in religious studies and political science.

To reserve copies of "Dirt Road Revival," call City Lights Bookstore at (828)586-9499.

Food Truck Boot Camp is coming to WNC



The Food Truck Boot Camp aims to empower local food artisans to bolster their business with mobile kitchens.

The boot camp is offered by Empowering Mountain Food Systems, Mountain BizWorks, NC Cooperative Extension, and the EBCI Division of Commerce and will take place Nov. 7-10 across Cherokee. The Street Food Institute based in New Mexico is a nonprofit organization of business owners and food professionals that believe in a healthy, sustainable, and creative food future. They will be sharing their expertise along with other foodservice professionals in Western North Carolina.

At left is Sugar's Place, a local vendor that is joining this event.

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This weekend's ArtFest celebrates 60th anniversary of art association

The Macon County Art Association is celebrating its 60th Anniversary with a new weekend ArtFest Aug. 11, 12 and 13, sponsored by the association's Uptown Gallery, 30 Main Street, Franklin.

Free events for children and adults will include art demonstrations, classes, workshops and films, all at the Macon County Library, 149 Siler Road.

In addition, MCAA members will display their art work at the library throughout August.

Local musical trio Blue Jazz will cap off the weekend celebration Saturday night, Aug. 13, with a 7 p.m. Tartan Hall concert to benefit art programs in Macon County Schools. The event, will include a Silent Auction, refreshments, and a raffle for an original painting by MCAA award-winning member Carol Conti.

Tickets may be purchased at MCAA's Uptown Gallery beginning July 1. Pre-event price is \$25 per ticket; price at the event is \$35 per ticket. Raffle tickets for Carol Conti's painting may also be purchased at Uptown Gallery and at the concert.

"We hope to grow this festival of art and artists to become an annual and regional celebration," said Conti. "Art of all kinds is so important to the cultural health of a community. By focusing on art education in Macon County schools, we hope to develop more artists and art enthusiasts for the future."

Throughout its history, MCAA has welcomed local artists to display their work at Uptown Gallery, which has been in the same Main Street location for 30 years. The gallery operates year-round solely with MCAA volunteer staff.

Today, MCAA is more than 100 members strong, including displaying artists, supporting patrons and business members. Membership is open to all art enthusiasts.

MCAA membership meetings, held at 3 p.m. the second Sunday of each month at Uptown Gallery, are open to the public. Each meeting includes member demonstrations of art techniques. Contact the Uptown Gallery at (828) 349-4607 or email franklinuptown-gallery.com for more information.

Follow MCAA and Uptown Gallery on Facebook at Fb.me/franklinncart.





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Thanks to relatives, friends, Cowee Baptist Church, and Macon Funeral Home for the love and support during illness and our loss.

All prayers, calls, texts, food, cards, visits, flowers and memorials were greatly appreciated.

The Family of
Joe Paul Anderson



Deaths & Funerals

Riley Elaine Stiwinter

Riley Elaine Stiwinter, infant daughter of Jesse Ronnie and Laurel Raye Henry Stiwinter, went home to be with Jesus on Thursday, July 28, 2022.

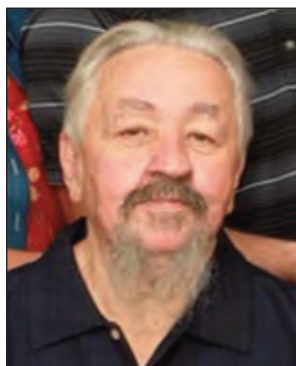
Riley is survived by her parents, Jesse and Laurel Henry Stiwinter of Franklin; sister, Natalie Stiwinter of the home; grandparents, Michael and Missy Henry, and Ronnie and Donna Stiwinter all of Franklin; great grandparents, Peter and Jean Baker of Franklin, and Edward and Mary Rogers of Murphy; and a host of aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A memorial service was held Thursday, Aug. 4, at Macon Funeral Home with Rev. Morris Tippet officiating. Burial was in the Oakgrove Baptist Church cemetery.

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

Lawrence Anthony Miller

Lawrence Anthony Miller, 81, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022. He was born Dec. 17, 1940, in Kings Count, N.Y., in the city of Brooklyn to the late William Miller and Blanche Fenn Miller. He was a Union Carpenter and Craftsman for 41 years. He was a loving son, brother, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He was always helping others, he had a passion for music, travelling, gardening, poker, cookies and yoo-hoo, and good old western movies. He will be missed by all his family and friends.



Lawrence Miller

He is survived by his daughter, Kelly Anne Miller; three sons, Ronald Anthony Miller (Dianna Molnar), Jason Miller (Stephanie) and Charles Henry Miller (Toni); a sister, Louise Valentino; a brother, William Miller; 12 grandchildren, Larry Miller (Carla Anderson), Stacey Cross (Haywood), Ashton Miller, Nicholas Manos, Kevin Andringa (Racael), Todd Miller, Joseph Miller (Christina Soto), Patrick Miller, Jacqueline Miller, Scott "BoBo" Miller, Hailley Miller, and Maggie Miller; twelve great grandchildren, Josey Miller, Revey Miller, Gabriel Miller, Bella Miller, Payton Manos, Aulora Manos, Jake Miller, Aubry Andringa, Isaiah Collett, Destinie Collett, Monroe Cross and Nico Cross; several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his wife, Alice Mary Pomposello.

A celebration of Life will be in the Franklin area on Labor Day weekend of 2023. A formal announcement will be made.

Lawrence Miller would like everyone to, "Keep Smilin"

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

Moffitt Family FUNERAL CARE David Moffitt OWNER/FUNERAL DIRECTOR

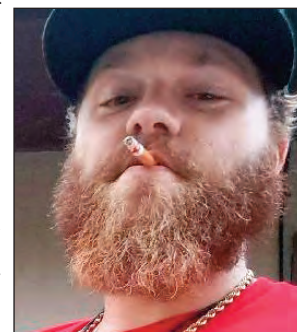
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Michael Ryan Crippen

Michael Ryan Crippen, 24, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2022.

Born in Gilroy, Calif., he was the son of Elizabeth Rogers Crippen and the late James Michael Crippen. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Justin Crippen, and Gabriel Crippen. He enjoyed rapping and was always known for being "the life of the party." He will be remembered a great dad and always playing with his sons.



Michael Ryan Crippen

He is survived by his wife, Mykaylah Laws Crippen; three sons, Justin, Jaxson, and James; mother, Beth Crippen; siblings, Jason Crippen, Daniel Crippen, Nolan Rogers, Nick Rogers, and Tyler Rogers; mother-in-law, Christina Laws (Chris Houston); sister-in-law, Mary Jane Laws; brother-in-law, Jeremy Laws (Ariel); and numerous other family members who loved him dearly.

A funeral service will be held Thursday, Aug. 11, at 2 p.m., at Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Alan Waters will officiate. Burial will be in the Addington Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 1 till 2 p.m., one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Macon Funeral Home to help the family with expenses.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Michael 'Mike' Reid Cox

Michael "Mike" Reid Cox, 75, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Friday, Aug. 5, 2022.

Born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, he was the son of Rachael Waldrup Cox and the late Evans Blair Cox. He attended Patton United Methodist Church and had been a member of the VFW. He was an Army veteran who proudly served during the Vietnam War.



Michael Reid Cox

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his longtime companion and best friend, Pam Wallace; daughter, Kerridyn Cheyanne Cox of Franklin; and siblings, Tim Cox (Lydia) of Lucia, N.C., Mary Wilson (Doug) of Belmont, N.C., Mona Morgan (Mike) of Lake Norman, N.C., and Matthew Cox (Sherri) of Stanley, N.C.; and a host of other family members.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Patton United Methodist Church, Youth Fund, c/o Gary Holland, 65 Scroggs Rd, Franklin, NC 28734 or VVA Chapter 994, 249 Sloan Road, Franklin, NC 28734.

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

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Deaths & Funerals

David Earl Nicholson

David Earl Nicholson, 66, of Cullowhee, N.C., entered his Heavenly home on Monday, Aug. 1, 2022. He passed at his residence surrounded by his family. He was born on Feb. 2, 1956, in Baton Rouge, La., to the late Lyman and Ruby (Lonis) Nicholson.

He was an active member of Black Mountain Baptist Church. He retired from Western Carolina University after 30 years of service. He loved his friends and family, as they did him.

He will be dearly missed by his loving wife of 45 years, Sheila (Bryson); daughter, Crystal (Katdim) Smith; brother, Charles (Dottie) Nicholson; grandchildren, Madalyn, Landon; mother-in-law, Ada Bryson; his grand-dogs; and his many other family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Baxter Nicholson; and sisters-in-law, Sherry Gunnels and Kay Bryson.

A funeral service was held Friday, Aug. 5, at Appalachian Funeral Services, Sylva. Interment followed at New Hope Baptist Church Cemetery.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Appalachian Funeral Services. Online registry: www.appalachianfuneralservices.com.



David Earl Nicholson

George William Thurmond

George William Thurmond, 82, of Rabun Gap, Ga., passed away surrounded by his family, on Thursday, Aug. 4, 2022.

He was a lifelong member of Wolfork Baptist Church where he served as chairman of the deacons, was a member of the House and Grounds Committee, was a trustee, and in years past taught Royal Ambassadors.

He was a graduate of the 1959 class of Rabun Gap Nacoochee School. He earned the American Farmer Degree, the highest achievement in FFA.

Farming, bluegrass gospel music, and storytelling were close to his heart. He grew up as the son of dairy farmers, learned how to play the mandolin after his retirement, regularly attended Saturday night bluegrass singings, and told stories with specific dates about his teenage escapades and his life over the years.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lula Jo; four daughters, Teresa Gentry (John) of Cartersville, Ga.; Sheri Hooper (Mike) of Clayton, Ga.; and Sandra Thurmond and Laura Thurmond of Rabun Gap; two grandchildren, Will Gentry of Atlanta, Ga., and Eryn Gentry of Cartersville; brother-in-law Tom Pressley; and sister-in-law Gail Thurmond; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Ann Thurmond, his sister, Annette Pressley, and his brother, Harold.

Services were held on Saturday, Aug. 6, at Wolfork Baptist Church in Rabun Gap.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the local Future Farmers of America Alumni, c/o Rabun County High School, 230 Wildcat Hill Drive, Clayton, GA 30525.

Beck Funeral Home, in Clayton, Ga., is in charge of the arrangements. An online Memorial Register Book is available at www.beckfuneralhome.com.



George Thurmond

Robert 'Bob' Martin Cabe Sr.

Robert "Bob" Martin Cabe Sr., 85, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022. He was born in Macon County on Dec. 1, 1936, to the late Claude W. Cabe and Grace Ramey Cabe. He served in the Vietnam War and retired after 20 years of service from the U.S. Navy and retired from the U.S. Post Office after 20 years of service.

He loved traveling, gardening, camping at Standing Indian Campground with his family. He greatly enjoyed watching all college sports on television, especially all the great North Carolina basketball teams, recording the games so he could keep watching them. He also loved keeping up with worldwide current events and watching nature shows.

He had an unwavering faith in Christ, and was a long-time member of First United Methodist Church in Franklin, N.C.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Elizabeth Waldroop Cabe; a daughter, Marie Cabe Johnson (Tommy) of Rockwell, N.C.; a son, Marty Cabe (Karlene) of Franklin; grandchildren, Nicholas Johnson, Logan Johnson, Jeremy Cabe, Kristen Cabe, April Woodall, and Autumn Fury; great-grandchildren, Ryan Johnson, Race Johnson, Parker Cabe, Brennan Cabe, Madison Spates, Payton Manos, and Aulora Manos; and a sister, Jeanette Holland of Franklin.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Doris Pauline Cabe; and two brothers, Charles Cabe and Claude "Max" Cabe.

A celebration of life service was held on Saturday at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home. A military graveside service followed in the Woodlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Wounded Warriors or St. Jude's.

Online condolences can be left at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.



Robert Martin Cabe Sr.

Johnny L Baldwin

Johnny L. Baldwin, 65, of Winnabow, N.C., and formerly of Franklin, N.C., passed away at his home on July 18, 2022, from a long illness with his wife, family and his beloved dogs by his side.

He was born in Franklin, N.C., on Sept. 13, 1956, to the late Carl and Vergie (Clampitt) Baldwin.

His work career with the NCDOT from which he retired spanned 40 plus years.

He was affectionately known as "Johnny B," "JB," "John Boy," "Daddy" and "Pop-Pop," and for his infectious laugh and wonderful smile and for doing things HIS way!

He is survived by his wife, Kimberly Baldwin; three sons, Steve Baldwin of Denver, N.C.; Forrest Carman and Tyler Dickens (Amber) of Winnabow, N.C.; two grandchildren, Rett and Regan Baldwin of Denver, N.C.; and a sister, June Sorrells of Shelby, N.C.; as well as numerous cousins, nephews, and nieces.

He was greatly loved and will be sadly missed by all that knew him.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Aug. 13, at 3 p.m., at Iotla Baptist Church. Rev. Tim Trexler will officiate.

The family would like to thank the Lower Cape Fear Hospice for their excellent care.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lower Cape Fear Lifecare, 1414 Physicans Drive, Wilmington NC 28401 and thru their website.

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

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



Johnny L Baldwin

Harold William Moore

Harold William Moore, 78, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Sunday, Aug. 7, 2022.

A native of Macon County, he was the son of the late Windle William and Allie Jennings Moore. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Edward Moore; sister, Virginia Tal- lent; and two infant brothers.

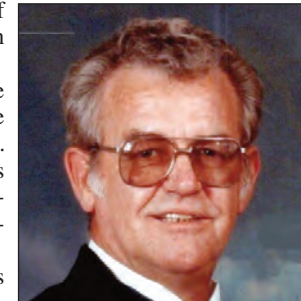
He worked for thirty-five years at Slack Auto Parts. He loved hunting, fishing, and roaming the mountains, he was a true outdoorsman. He was of the Baptist faith.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mary Haire Moore; daughter, Melissa Jane Moore of Franklin; son, Phillip William Moore (Charlene) of Seneca, S.C.; three grandchildren, William Edward Watson, Allison Kay Moore, and Andrew Kyle Moore; one great granddaughter, Chloe Isabelle Watson; and one sister, Betty Nichols Holland (Edward) of Franklin; and numerous other nieces, nephews and other family members.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Aug. 10, at Macon Funeral Home. Rev. Steve Reeves officiated.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Kidney Association at www.kidneyfund.org or the American Lung Association at www.lung.org.

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



Harold William Moore

Thomas William Parsons

Thomas William Parsons, 89, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022.

He was born in Carmel, N.Y., to the late John Herbert Parsons and Marian Doty Smith Parsons. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Beverly Gerner Parsons; daughter, Cheryl Parsons; and siblings, John Parsons and Ethel Gelinias. He attended Bethel United Methodist Church. He was a Yankees fan and loved music, old cars, and old movies.

He is survived by his children, Debra Bowden (Ken) of Franklin, Patti Buker (Bub) of Milford, Conn., Thomas Parsons Jr. (Jenny) of Milledgeville, Tenn., and Lori Moore (Joe) of Seymour, Conn.; three grandchildren, and several great grandchildren.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Macon Funeral Home will be handling the arrangements.



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Kevin Harvick breaks 65-race drought with NASCAR Cup win at Michigan Speedway

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

On a blustery Sunday in the Irish Hills of Michigan, Kevin Harvick saved his season.

Grabbing the lead and pulling away after a restart on Lap 166 of 200 at Michigan International Speedway, Harvick won the FireKeepers Casino 400 by 2.903 seconds over pole winner Bubba Wallace and leap-frogged bubble-riding Martin Truex Jr. in the NASCAR Cup Series Playoff standings.

Harvick's victory ended a 65-race drought for the 46-year-old former series champion from Bakersfield, California. The win was his sixth at Michigan and his fifth in the last seven races at the 2.0-mile track.

Harvick now has 59 victories in the series, 10th-most all-time. With the win, the eighth straight at the track for Ford drivers, he is likely to qualify for the NASCAR Cup Series Playoff. Harvick is the only driver to have earned a post-season spot every year since the current elimination format was introduced in 2014, the same year he won his series title.

"Everybody who doubted us doesn't know us," said Harvick, who led 38 laps on Sunday, 25 more than he had led in the previous 22 races combined. "They, obviously, know we thrive in these types of situations. And a lot of things went our way today, which we haven't had all year long—have things go our way and have things fall our way.

"And then there at the end we pitted, didn't go a lap down, and the caution came out, got control of the race. That's the thing I struggled with the most today was traffic and the restarts and just having to make up ground. Once I got clear track, that baby was hunting."

As Harvick indicated, the race broke his way. The driver of the No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford brought his car to pit road on Lap 158 for a green-flag stop. A lap later, NASCAR called the seventh caution of the afternoon when Ross Chastain's Chevrolet and Christopher Bell's Toyota collided in Turn 4.

Harvick remained on the lead lap and inherited the top spot when the contending cars ahead of him pitted under the yellow. With Wallace bottled up behind Joey Logano's Ford after the Lap 166 restart, Harvick opened a gap of more than four seconds in clean air and cruised to his first win since Sept. 19, 2020 at Bristol.

Wallace was disconsolate as he replayed the final restart in his head.

"Just replaying everything I could have done," said Wallace, who led twice for 22 laps. "Took the top there on the restart. Thought I could hang with the 4 (Harvick), and just got to racing the 5 (Kyle Larson) and the 22 (Logano). And 22 did a good job of getting another Ford contract, helping a Ford win.

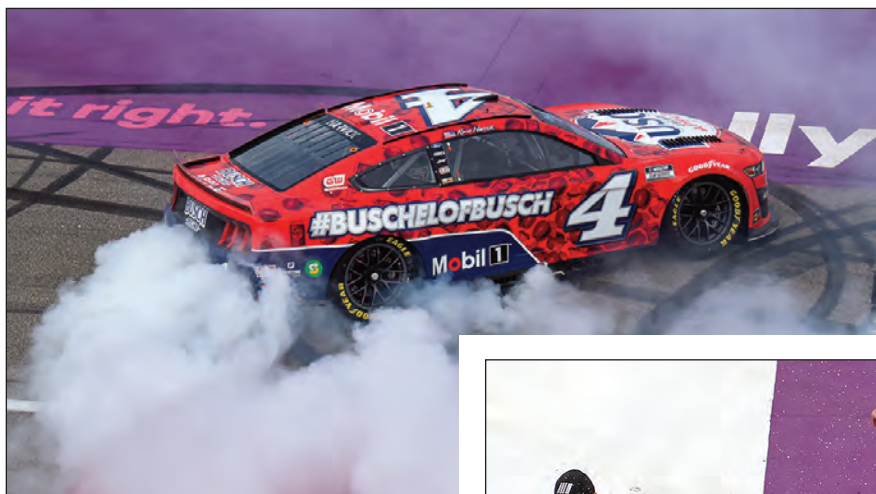
"Just all in all an incredible weekend. Appreciate my team. Wished we could have got Toyota in the Victory Lane. Wish we got (sponsor) McDonald's back in victory lane. She was fast all week, man. Just I'll wear this one on my heart for a while. I failed everybody."

Denny Hamlin finished third in arguably the fastest car in the race. On his final pit stop under caution on Lap 160, Hamlin incurred a penalty for too many men over the wall



Kevin Harvick, driver of the #4 Busch Light Apple #Busch-IOfBusch Ford, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan International Speedway on Aug. 7, 2022 in Brooklyn, Mich.

Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images



when his crew corralled a runaway tire from an adjacent pit stall.

Hamlin restarted 22nd and charged to third, 3.910 seconds behind the race winner.

Logano came home fourth, followed by Team Penske teammate Ryan Blaney. Martin Truex Jr., Larson, Erik Jones, Alex Bowman and Ty Gibbs (subbing for injured Kurt Busch) completed the top 10.

The race was delayed just over an hour due to inclement weather. That didn't deter the fans in the grandstands, the largest crowd at Michigan International Speedway since 2016. In addition, infield camping was sold out for the weekend for the first time since 2012.

Blaney now leads Truex by 19 points for the final Playoff berth, which will be determined on points if there are no additional unique winners in the next three races.

An early nine-car accident in Turn 2 eliminated two of the top five qualifiers—Kyle Busch and Austin Cindric. Moments after a restart on Lap 25, J.J. Yeley's No. 15 Ford got

loose, checked up and turned sideways in the middle of the pack.

In the ensuing melee, Cindric's No. 2 Ford crashed nose-first into the outside wall and Buch's No. 18 Toyota also sustained terminal damage. The cars of Yeley, Almirola, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. and rookie Harrison Burton also were knocked out of the race.

"Just chaos ensued on the restart there, and I don't know what started it, but the 10 (Almirola) got spun in front of me, and then I got wedged between him and the wall," said Busch, who had elected to pit on Lap 22 under a competition called because of a rainstorm that delayed the start of the race.

“When you get back there, things happen on restarts, especially when you have guys that stayed out and don’t have tires versus those that have four tires. Was not really in a hurry and knew we were coming to stage points in another 40 laps or so and it was going to be a long run to get there—and then we all just crashed.”

Ty Gibbs picks up ninth career Xfinity win at Michigan

Taking control of the race in the final stage, Ty Gibbs sped to his NASCAR Xfinity Series-best fifth victory of the season in Saturday’s New Holland 250 at Michigan International Speedway.

The tenor of the race changed markedly near the end of the second stage when pole winner Noah Gragson opted to stay on the track and compete for the stage win on the high-speed 2.0-mile track.

Gibbs had pitted under caution on Lap 55 and inherited the lead when Gragson and others who had stayed out until the completion of the stage came to pit road during the stage break.

The race ran caution-free from the final restart Lap 68 to the finish on Lap 125, and Gibbs beat runner-up Justin Allgaier to the stripe by 1.160 seconds. Gragson worked his way up to third but trailed Gibbs by 2.472 seconds at the finish.

“I think this type of racing shows the strategy in the pit stops,” said Gibbs, who led twice for a race-high 54 laps, matching the number of his No. 54 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota. “My guys did such a great job. I work out with them during the week, so I see how hard they work. They do a great job—every one of them.

“So I’m very thankful and glad to be part of the organization that motivates me like that week in and week out—not motivates, because that’s temporary—but being relentless, and I feel like that’s what they showed me.”

The victory was Gibbs first at Michigan and the ninth in 39 Xfinity Series starts for a remarkable winning percentage of 23.08.

Allgaier opted for the same strategy as Gibbs, but a slow green-flag pit stop on Lap 100 cost him a chance to compete for the win.

“I pitted to try and get clear of some lapped cars, and, unfortunately, we merged back on the race track right behind those same lapped cars, right before they made their pit stops,” Allgaier said. “So not only did we have to contend with getting by them, as soon as we got by them, they all pitted.

“Second place is tough, but my daughter’s birthday’s on Monday, so we’ll celebrate, even though it’s second.”

Gragson’s No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet arguably was the fastest car in the race, but strategy and the absence of



Ty Gibbs, driver of the #54 Monster Energy Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series New Holland 250 at Michigan International Speedway on Aug. 6, 2022 in Brooklyn, Mich.

Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images



cautions in the final stage doomed his prospects.

“We won the first stage and then had a caution with about five to go in the second stage and opted to stay out, won the second stage (by .035 seconds of AJ Allmendinger),” Gragson said. “Then just flipped.

“Restarted the third stage 12th, and that kind of hurt us there at the end, but overall good day for our Bass Pro Shops, Black Rifle Camaro. We were running him down—

just needed more laps there at the end.”

Brandon Jones and Austin Hill finished fourth and fifth, respectively. Josh Berry, Allmendinger, Daniel Hemric, Riley Herbst and Landon Cassill completed the top 10.



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ACROSS

- 1. Frill on a blouse
- 6. Consumed
- 9. Toothy freshwater fish
- 13. *Site of famous Texas Revolution battle
- 14. "Losing My Religion" band
- 15. Opposite of crazier
- 16. Marine polyp
- 17. "___ Te Ching", book
- 18. Gastric woe
- 19. *First Catholic President
- 21. *Underground Railroad conductor
- 23. Knot-tying vow (2 words)
- 24. Cold transmitter
- 25. Definite article
- 28. Popular fairy tale beginning
- 30. Woody tissue
- 35. X-ray units
- 37. Women in habits
- 39. It follows eta
- 40. Quantity of measurement
- 41. Crosswise, on deck
- 43. Old flames
- 44. Carryalls
- 46. Pavarotti's song
- 47. European money
- 48. Hairy, of plants and animals
- 50. Charitable contribution
- 52. Wrath, e.g.
- 53. American Girl, e.g.
- 55. Life story, for short
- 57. *Louisiana Territory's previous owner
- 60. *Infamous 1995 Oklahoma City event
- 64. Olympic torch, e.g.

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- 65. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
 - 67. The press
 - 68. Fake duck, e.g.
 - 69. "Home of the brave"
 - 70. Choose by a vote
 - 71. Stink to high heaven
 - 72. Third degree
 - 73. Hazards
- DOWN**
- 1. "Boxed" clown
 - 2. Burn-soothing plant
 - 3. Owl's hangout
 - 4. Saudi neighbor
 - 5. Canadian city on Lake Erie
 - 6. Bohemian
 - 7. *1773 cargo overboard
 - 8. Bring character to life
 - 9. Rodeo Drive tree
 - 10. Machu Picchu builder
 - 11. Hiking sandals manufacturer
 - 12. Make a mistake
 - 15. Hand over
 - 20. Ritchie Valens' 1958 hit
 - 22. Modern address
 - 24. *Grant, Patton or Sheridan
 - 25. "'Ain't I a Woman?" speaker
 - 26. Capital of Vietnam
 - 27. Marks on a manuscript
 - 29. *Bay of Pigs location
 - 31. Clarified butter
 - 32. Connection in a series
 - 33. Wombs
 - 34. *Dixon's partner
 - 36. Dance move
 - 38. Go yachting
 - 42. Lou Bega's "___ No. 5"
 - 45. Actor Poitier
 - 49. Brown of "Back to the Future"
 - 51. Cook on low heat
 - 54. Reduce pressure (2 words)
 - 56. Obelus, pl.
 - 57. What refugees do
 - 58. Speed test
 - 59. Crazy
 - 60. Actor Pitt
 - 61. "___ of March"
 - 62. One of Jonas brothers
 - 63. Gangster's pistols
 - 64. *The New Deal Pres.
 - 66. Campfire residue

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