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First Presbyterian Church • Franklin, NC  
*See Pg.17*

September 15, 2022 • 24 Pages

Volume 40 Number 18

FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Community members and elected officials, along with hospital staff and leadership, gathered Tuesday morning for a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new \$68 million Angel Medical Center in Franklin. The new hospital located at 124 One Centre Court, is slated to open at 6 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 18.  
Photo by Vickie Carpenter

## New hospital facility slated to open Sept. 18

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

On the first cool fall day of 2022, community leaders, Town of Franklin and Macon County employees, representatives of the health care community, the press, and many more congregated in front of the new Angel Medical Center for its ribbon cutting. As a new flag was raised on the hospital ground's flag pole, Delphine Kirkland, of the local band Blue Jazz, led the Sept. 13 morning crowd in the singing of the national anthem.

Several officials spoke about how the facility came to fruition and what it offers the region.

Ground-breaking at the 124 One Center Court site occurred in May 2021 with the targeted goal of fall 2022 for competition. The new 30-bed, 82,000-square-foot hospital has three operating rooms, dedicated endoscopy and radiol-

ogy spaces, and a 17-bed emergency department with three behavioral health rooms. Angel Medical Center's new building was dubbed by many who spoke as a state-of-the art, high technology facility that provides larger, more spacious patient rooms as well as the ability to offer such outpatient services as a wound clinic, a full laboratory, digital mammography, CT (computed tomography scan), MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) nuclear medicine, and physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

Before the official ribbon cutting, Cara Smith, Angel Medical Center's director of clinical operations, said, "This is a day of celebration for the whole community ... a milestone in Western North Carolina."

Greg Lowe, president of Mission Health, expressed

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# HOSPITAL

Continued  
from page 1

appreciation for “everyone involved,” adding that “construction is not quite finished” on what will be the heliport and entryway – a \$4.6 million project – from which the MAMA (Mountain Area Medical Airlift) team will transport patients.

“I never imagined we would ever be building a \$68 million facility in Franklin,” said Johnny Mira-Knippel, who is chairman of Angel Medical Center’s board of trustees, president at TekTone Sound & Signal Mfg., Inc., and president at Stay Smart Care, Inc.

“We tried to make the existing facility work but could not. With this new facility, there is more space for patients to have visitors ... more inviting for those who have to be here.”

Mayor Jack Horton characterized the ribbon cutting event as “a historic occasion in the life of our community – one that will have a lasting impact on our lives. So many communities are suffering because of a lack of medical facilities, but here we have this one, and I’m so grateful for the board and their foresight. The hospital will be a catalyst for growing jobs and providing opportunities in this area.”


Horton quipped that one of the questions he is asked most is: “What’s going to happen to the old hospital building?” We are working on plans and determining how it can be a benefit to our town, county, and region.”

The new hospital officially opens Sept. 18. The original hospital at 120 Riverview Street opened in 1926 and was added to and updated over the years. The Medical Center is named for Dr. Furman Angel who, in 1923, set up a clinic in some rooms on the second floor of the historic Cunningham Building in Franklin. Dr. Angel was born in 1887, was a Franklin High School graduate, and died in 1969, in Franklin, at the age of 71. The year after he started his clinic, he purchased the Cope Elias house on the Riverview Street and started Angel Hospital. The Cope Elias house served as the hospital until 1926, when the new hospital building was completed.

Besides the official ribbon cutting ceremony prayer by Angel Medical Center board member Janet Greene, who offered that the new facility is a “beacon of healthcare in our community,” Bonnie Peggs, who has overseen chaplain services at Angel, blessed the doors of the new hospital with frankincense and myrrh, a nod toward Biblically espoused Old Testament traditions.



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Photos by Vickie Carpenter

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# County moving forward on new voting machines, broadband expansion

Dan Finnerty – Contributing Writer

The Macon County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, Sept. 13, to hold public hearings, discuss new business, and receive reports/presentations on previously addressed issues. Highlights from the meeting included updates on broadband projects and the purchase of new voting equipment.

Macon County Board of Elections (MCBE) presented a recommendation for purchasing new voting equipment to be first used in municipal elections for the county in 2023. Board of Elections Chairman Kathy Tinsley and Vice Chairman Gary Dills provided the commissioners with a proposal from Hart Intercivic to purchase 144 voting machines for \$197,000. With current utilized county machines being 40 years old, MCBE provided input supporting their recommendation.

According to Dills, the proposed company will be \$14,000 less expensive than its competitor (North Carolina only approves two companies to provide election equipment); delivers state-of-the-art, voter-friendly equipment; will provide three days of training in Franklin upon the set-up of the machine, and any recurring costs should be \$9-14,000 less than any other option reviewed. MCBE also lobbied that following commissioners' approval, a contract with Hart Intercivic would be signed in early October. Next, a simulated election will be held locally in January and if voting machines perform as expected, MCBE will prepare to



Macon County Board of Elections' Chairman Kathy Tinsley and Vice Chairman Gary Dills presented a proposal for new voting machines.

finalize the purchase and approach the North Carolina Board of Elections for final approval.

The commissioners approved \$200,000 for the contract in order to allow for moving forward in October. MCBE also discussed advertising options locally to solicit Macon County residents for paid temporary positions during election season. Dills also opined that making Election Day a day off

from work would greatly increase the potential more people might be available to assist with election tasks.

Commissioner Joshua Young stated, "A lot of people in this community care about election integrity ... election integrity is a must."

## Broadband update

Another high-interest topic covered at the meeting was an update on area broadband internet access projects and grant award status. Jeff Lee, Little T Broadband Services, a 501(c3) non-profit organization that provides advocacy and support for the development of high-speed broadband in rural Western North Carolina, provided the Board and meeting attendees with the current status of both efforts. Lee offered that despite both ambiguous Federal Communications Commission guidance and State legislative prohibitions, Little T and the Macon County Broadband Committee generated a Request for Proposal of \$585,000 for the South Macon Expansion Project (SMEP) that has now blossomed into more than \$1 million for funding. The project will make accessible direct broadband connectivity to approximately 2,500 area residents and businesses and will run from Franklin to Highlands city limits, via Otto, Skyline, and Scaly Mountain. In addition to SMEP, it was announced Aug. 31, that Frontier Communications received a GREAT Grant Award of \$3.8 million for expansion of its existing broadband network connectivity. GREAT Grant funding was born out of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (COVID-19 driven). This award is expected to yield broadband access for an additional 2,700 customers when completed.

## Other business

Other business discussed at the meeting included Highlands School additions, for which the Board authorized release of a Request for Quotation in order to generate input that can then be evaluated for selection. The initial estimate is around \$8 million, but after an architect is chosen, more defined cost estimates will be required. Commissioners also announced completion of the Macon County Middle school renovation, which was finished ahead of schedule and under budget.

Three public hearing topics were also approved. These included the 2023 Schedule of Values, Standards and Rules; a proposed resolution requesting North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission establish a new "no wake zone" in the Little Choga Cove area of Nantahala Lake; and a Macon County Community Transportation Program application.

New business involved the parking lot and garage apron resurfacing/replacement at Franklin and Highlands EMS bases; consideration of an easement for Duke Energy for a Buck Creek Road improvement project; consideration of N.C. Legislature requirements for environmental health specialists; a grant agreement for Dogwood Health Trust and Macon County Housing Department; and, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Franklin concerning the acquisition of property and extension of the Little Tennessee Greenway.

Macon County Board of Commissioners meet the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is Oct. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Macon County Courthouse in Franklin.



Jeff Lee, of Little T Broadband Services, updated Commissioners on expansion projects status.

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# NCDOT seeks input on 10-Year Transportation Plan for 2024-33

The public is invited to learn more about and comment on the N.C. Department of Transportation's draft 10-year transportation plan for 2024-2033, called the State Transportation Improvement Program, or STIP.

Over the next several weeks, each of the department's 14 highway divisions will host week-long open houses during normal business hours. The sessions will serve as opportunities for people to review the funding and proposed schedules for projects in their area, ask questions of local NCDOT staff and submit comments.

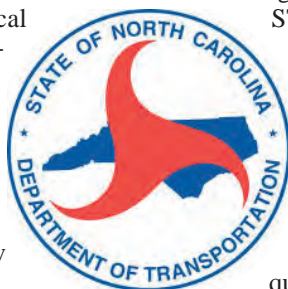
The Division 14 open house will be held Sept. 12-16 the Division 14 Office, 253 Webster Road, Sylva. Contact Steve Williams at (828)586-2141 or sjwilliams@ncdot.gov prior to arrival.

The department will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to provide input. Anyone requiring special services should contact their local NCDOT division as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

People who cannot attend the public comment sessions have the opportunity to submit comments online and participate in an online survey to indicate which projects matter most to them. The department initially unveiled its proposed funding and construction plan in May and has revised the draft document to

reflect new sources of revenue.

The STIP is typically updated every two years. This draft plan, however, was developed under unique circumstances. Material and labor cost escalations led local, regional and state transportation planning partners to recommend, and the Board of Transportation to concur, with foregoing the usual process for prioritizing projects. Instead, they decided the new plan should be built from existing projects in the current (2020-29)



STIP to the extent that funding allows, while giving planning organizations the opportunity to propose project swaps that meet the needs of their communities.

The draft plan still adheres to the Strategic Transportation Investments law using the required data-driven process and input from local officials and the public.

Projects scheduled in the first five years are generally considered to be committed, while those on the latter half of the schedule are subject to be re-evaluated when the next STIP is developed.

The NCDOT plans to use public input and the requests of planning organizations from around the state to produce a final draft STIP that will state transportation officials will adopt next year. More information on the STIP process can be found on the NCDOT webpage.

## MACON COUNTY HOUSING DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

### URGENT REPAIR

The Urgent Repair Program provides funds from North Carolina Housing Finance Agency to owner occupied, very low and low income households with special needs. This program was sponsored by North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, with funds provided by the N.C Housing Trust Fund. They can help address housing conditions which pose imminent threats to their life and/or safety, provide accessibility modifications and other repairs necessary to prevent displacement of low income homeowners with special needs. We are currently accepting applications for Urgent Repair '22 at Macon County Housing Department.

#### To be eligible for assistance under Urgent Repair applicants:

- Must live in Macon County.
- Must own and occupy home in need of repair.
- Must have a household income which does not exceed 50% of the estimated statewide median household for the household size.
- Must have a special need: elderly- 62 or older, handicapped or disabled, a Veteran, a single parent with dependent child living in residence, a large family with 5 or more members or a household with a child below the age of six with lead hazards in the home.
- Must have urgent repair needs, which cannot be met through other state or federally funded housing assistance programs.

### WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low-income North Carolinians save energy, reduce their utility bills and stay safe in their homes. The mission is to keep NC Citizens warm in the winter, cool in the summer and safe all year long while educating the public about energy efficiency and household safety. This program's focus is on the elderly, the disabled, families with children, high energy users, and the energy burdened. The N.C. Department of Environmental Quality administers the program with annual funding from the U.S Department of Energy.

If you are interested in applying for Urgent Repair '22 or Weatherization Assistance you will need to fill out an application with Macon County Housing Department at 23 Macon Ave Room # 101 Franklin, NC 28734 or call Dana Engstrom, Administrative Assistant, at (828)369 -2605 /email: dengstrom@maconnc.org, to set up an appointment. We will also have a booth at Macon County Fair Grounds for The County Fair **September 21-24, 2022** and you can come out and ask questions/ see demonstrations. Applications will also be available to fill out or pick up.

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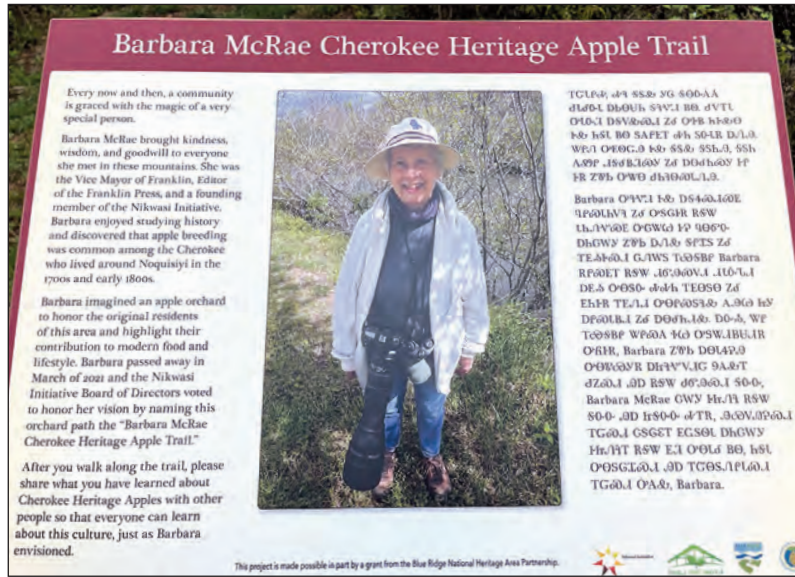
# Cherokee heirloom apple trees now a part of Little Tennessee River Greenway

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Anyone walking, running or biking on the Little Tennessee River Greenway during the past few weeks may notice various additions and happenings.

A project in the works for a few years has been the Apple Trail. In late August, signage was erected to educate the public regarding why a grove of about a dozen trees was planted approximately halfway between Big Bear Park and Suli Marsh. While the Apple Trail is a Nikwasi Initiative project, Friends of the Greenway (FROG) volunteers have been involved.

Nikwasi Initiative's Executive Director Elaine Eisenbraun explained that the heirloom varieties of fruit trees planted on the Trail were varieties originally cultivated by the Cherokee people. The Apple Trail project was first suggested by former newspaper editor, Franklin vice mayor, and historian, the late Barbara McRae. In fact, new signage erected in late August pays tribute to McRae by stating "Every now and then, a community is graced with the magic of a very special person. Barbara McRae brought kindness, wisdom, and goodwill to everyone she met in these mountains. ... Barbara imagined an apple orchard to honor the original residents of this area and highlight their contribution to modern food and lifestyle. Barbara passed away in March of 2021 and the Nikwasi Initiative Board of Directors voted to honor her vision by naming this orchard path the 'Barbara McRae Cherokee Heritage Apple Trail.' After you walk along the trail, please share what you have learned



A sign near the recently planted grove of heritage apple trees touts the late Barbara McRae's vision for the project.

about Cherokee Heritage Apples with other people so that everyone can learn about this culture, just as Barbara envisioned."

Each variety of apple tree has English and Cherokee signage explaining its origin as well as the variety of apple's uses, description, and more. Apple varieties include Junaluska, Horse, and Cullusaga.

"It could be 3-5 years before apples will grow and can be

picked," said Eisenbraun, "but we're hoping that walkers or bikers can just pick one and eat it. And, if there is an abundance, maybe the fruit can be picked to meet area food needs."

She added, "FROG has been extremely helpful. We put together and funded it, but FROG and the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian (EBCI) have worked together on this, and David Anderson, a member of the tribe, has been the horticulturist for the project."

Eisenbraun shared that the apples will be grown traditionally, with no pesticides used.

"We do hope to add some companion plants that will attract pollinators to the orchard area."

Eisenbraun said she hopes to have an Apple Trail grand opening in the fall, and she pointed out that funds needed to maintain the apple orchard are ongoing. "Anyone can make a contribution to Nikwasi Initiative for the heritage and history of the Trail and/or in honor of Barbara McRae," she said.

Summertime on the Greenway also means FROG volunteers are busy weeding, planting, trimming, and mulching. Elena and Tom Marsh are board members of FROG, and she oversees volunteer activities for the maintenance of the Kay Coriell butterfly garden.

"We always enjoyed walking the Greenway, and then we started volunteering," said Marsh, who explained she and her husband moved to Franklin in 2008.

FROG volunteers for the butterfly garden meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays and tackle whatever is necessary.

"Some are novices while some are already, or are becoming, master gardeners. Anyone who wants to volunteer needs

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to first become a member of Friends of the Greenway. And if they have questions, they can email me at marsh67@frontier.com.”

**Historic Hops**

A historically significant stand of hops is once again thriving in an area designated by split rail fencing and future educational signage in the section of the Greenway just up from the Shops at Riverwalk entrance, past the butterfly garden.

“I’ve been tending the patch over the summer, which amounts to just an occasional weeding out of encroaching plants,” said Stan Polanski, a local writer, educator, and lecturer on the topic of native plants, who has been involved with the hops for the past few years. “I have noted a lot of in-



New informational signage on the Little Tennessee Greenway accompanies an apple orchard, the Apple Trail, that focuses on varieties originally cultivated by Cherokee.

and McRae learned through her research about the area that hops were cultivated first by Cherokee and then by settlers for their various medicinal and food-related purposes.

The stand of hops emerges voluntarily from the ground and then grows, via a vine, up to 30 feet. Eventually, cones form. Polanski and other volunteers work to keep invasive plants from overtaking the hops plants so they can be seen by anyone on the Greenway.

Visitors can actually witness living history, pointed out Polanski.

For more information about how to get involved as a FROG volunteer, visit [www.littletennessee.org](http://www.littletennessee.org); to get involved or to donate to Nikwasi Initiative, visit [www.nikwasi-initiative.org](http://www.nikwasi-initiative.org).

terest from passersby, who often stop to admire the plants, read the signs, and ask questions. The hops are certainly thriving this year. The female plants are covered with cones.”

The hops plants were first discovered more than 15 years ago

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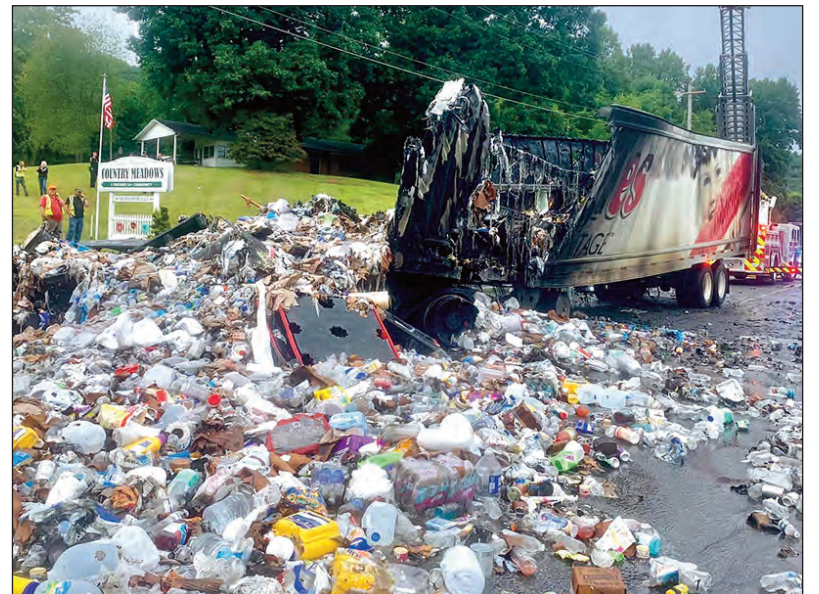


# Three-vehicle wreck on 441 Saturday

A three-vehicle accident involving a series of collisions occurred on Saturday, Sept. 10, just before 5 p.m., in the vicinity of Country Meadows community, on Georgia Road. Ricardo Mendoza-Mendoza from Franklin was traveling North in a 2004 Ford SUV. An Ingles 2001 Freightliner tractor-trailer driven by Albert Edward Davis of Waynesville, was traveling south in the left lane. Edwin Patton Hendricks from Demorest, Ga., was driving a 2016 Toyota, was traveling South in the right lane attempting to pass the Ingles truck. Mendoza then lost control and crossed over the center turning lane toward southbound traffic. Davis then swerved to the left into the center turning lane to avoid a collision, but was struck by Mendoza head on. After impact, Mendoza's vehicle crossed over both southbound lanes and ran off the road to the left onto the southbound shoulder and came to rest. Following impact, Davis traveled back into the southbound lanes on U.S. 23 and was struck by Hendricks's Toyota, attempting to swerve to avoid the collision. After a second impact, Edwards's and Hendricks's vehicles came to rest against each other and caught on fire in the southbound lanes.

Hendricks was transported to Angel Medical Center. Mendoza and a passenger, Jose Hector Mendoza de Los Santos were transported to Northeast Medical Center in Gainesville, Ga. Mendoza was charged with driving while intoxicated, reckless driving, driving while license revoked, driving left of center, open alcohol containers, and seatbelt violation.

The estimated damage to the Ingles truck at the time of the accident was \$80,000. Trooper B.R. Padgett was the investigating officer. Franklin Police Department and Macon County Sheriff Department also responded. Macon County Emergency personnel that responded included Macon County Fire Service, with assistance from Franklin, Otto and Clarks Chapel Fire departments.



Photos courtesy of Franklin Fire & Rescue


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Donnie Clay, Coordinator for Pickin' on the Square



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## What's new on the plateau

**Patrick Taylor**  
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

Tonight [Thursday] is the September Highlands Board of Commissioners meeting. It will begin at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center next to the ball field. Public comment is the first item on the agenda.

The board will again review short term rental (STR) amendments. At the work session on Sept. 8 the board asked our attorneys to research and identify options concerning the issue of home stays, bed and breakfast and tourist inns. Specifically, the board wanted a review of existing state statutes related to these classifications.

I don't know if there will be a final approval of the proposed STR ordinances tonight. The board may request the attorneys to do more work on the structure and language of the amendments and bring those changes back for review.

As written now, the ordinance contains an amortization provision. Dependent on a final board decision, people who are currently operating short term rentals could continue to do so until a specific date to where all short term rental operations would have to cease operation in R1 and R2. I suspect that the board will approve a three-year amortization period. Residents who have not operated a STR prior to the enactment of the ordinance could not operate STR rentals during this period. Basically, the proliferation of new STRs in residential zones would be halted.

For folks who have been operating a STR, there would be no registration or permit requirements. Within the new ordinance a number of basic regulations would have to be followed. For example, there would be on-site parking requirements and a limitation on large gatherings.

The board is aware that an amortization provision could trigger legal challenges. The attorneys representing the town believe there is a strong legal argument supporting amortization. Nevertheless, they also acknowledge others entities do not concur. A decision by the courts would resolve the issue, and of course all parties would abide by any final court decision.

We have a full agenda tonight beyond the STR review. For several months our staff and crews have been involved in replacing a critical sewer pump system on Arnold Road. This project is costing the town more than first estimated,

Continued on page 11

## Letters to the Editor

### 'Refreshing' letter to the editor appreciated

It was refreshing, to say the least, to see a letter to the editor, Sept. 8 edition, which was thoughtful, accurate, factual, and most of all, did not contain the juvenile, small minded rhetoric which has been coming from the "D" side of the aisle, all the way to the top! I commend Loretta Hastings for her documentation of the facts, policies and occurrences with which our democratic Republic is having to deal right now. Every person who loves our country and cares about our children's future, who considers himself/herself to be a "red blooded American," should talk to their families, friends, and neighbors, get on their soapboxes and spread the word, and get every possible individual who is a legal U.S. citizen, to vote in the Nov. 8 election, and to vote Conservatively!

There has been nothing but division from a so-called "leader," who vowed as he was campaigning, to be a "unifier." Evidences of the division are: inflation, the economy, the open border for millions to come into our country needing to be provided with food, housing, medical care and work, as well as drugs and drug cartels; criminals who are released without the criminal justice system ever dealing with them; an education system which is leaving our children and their education far behind, as well as teaching them immoral and unrealistic "values" about themselves and even their sexual gender. Wake up, people! Our nation was founded on spiritual principles, and it is time for us to get back to the foundation on which we were built, with faith and hard work guiding us. The outcome of the battle still belongs to the Lord!

Joyce Roberts – Franklin, N.C.

### A taste of true freedom

Freedom is defined differently for many. Some view freedom as doing what one wants, without any restrictions, as in entering our borders or criminals controlling our cities. Freedom of or against religion, freedom of speech, or freedom from government oppression. And there again this depends who is on the giving or receiving end, because both say it's their freedom to impose or oppose. You can have the Hitlers of the world claiming they have their right to be superior and exercise their freedom, and in the opposite you can have those like Mother Teresa using their freedoms to help the poor and needy.

So the word freedom seems watered down or meaningless. Just saying the word freedom brings to our minds what we want it to be. It's lack of it being meaningful is reflects our personal view of life itself being meaningful or meaningless. If freedom has only a value of me, myself and I, then freedom's definition really becomes a selfish type of

freedom, in what's in it for me, with no concern for any other. But yet we can tell in most all occasions where the true and unselfish part of freedom takes hold and flourishes.

Today's freedom is blurred and viewed differently. The evils and depravity of Hitler, is surprisingly OK for some modern people. They cannot say with certainty that he was wrong in what he saw as a freedom to achieve supremacy over others. Sadly, we deal with this today, and many in leadership while condemning this, are following this same pattern of thought. They show themselves in hate and evil towards those who choose the freedom to disagree, then they try degrading and pushing many into silence, and so, too, freedom is silenced. But freedom shines itself in those who look at freedom for "all" as in the care and sharing of freedom toward others in unselfishness, as in the Mother Teresas of the world. I more than ever see freedom as a reflection of what God has given to us all in a freedom of a self directed choice and we having our say in what reflects Godly values and worth within life and living. I truly cannot find where else we find these values that are good, just, peaceful, pure in truth and trustworthiness.

God gives the taste of freedom and we either degrade or uphold these freedoms. He gives freedom to put Him first, and He also gives the freedom in allowing us to put ourselves first. His freedom is not forced, it's a freedom to choose. To choose God is the beginning of a freedom we all long for but few choose to follow within the freedom he gives each of us. God gives the most freeing and peaceful living one could ever hope for. For it's a personal relationship with the creator the Divine, who walks and guides a life he created of a heart willing to freely follow Him. He Himself is the truest definition of freedom. Here is where you truly begin to know yourself as well as the one who created you. It's the beginning of a true taste of ... "Freedom."

Re-thinking life,

Deni Shepard – nds13@frontier.com

Email Letters to the Editor to  
maconcountynews@gmail.com

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

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### It all comes down to foundational ideology

In response to another David Snell letter again generically blaming Trump for all the problems of America, many of us would agree with him that our nation hasn't upheld many of its institutions. Namely, the U.S. Constitution. When the entirety of federal government and the unelected deep state becomes absolutely criminal and politicized, the Constitution is dead. Americans on both sides of the aisle do not trust "institutions" anymore. The FBI, CDC, EPA, CIA, Federal Elections Commission, etc. have all lied repeatedly to the American public and are no longer credible. We should have learned by now there will not be political solutions from the government, but rather intellectual solutions from the people in a decentralized system.

Just as the 13 Colonies were better without British rule, Texas was better without Mexican rule, Eastern Europe was better without Soviet rule, so also would our sovereign states be better without WashDC rule. Our founders gave us the 9th and 10th Amendments for a reason and never intended for a population of over 330 million to be ruled by centralized elitists. Just as a hypothetical North American Union with the U.S., Canada, and Mexico all being ruled by one centralized government would be unsustainable, we also have freedom disappearing with 50 independent states under one umbrella. There is a peaceful and simple solution to this dilemma because neither side is willing to compromise. For further reading beyond our status quo bias, freedom lovers should check out [www.nationaldivorce.com](http://www.nationaldivorce.com) or [www.thetenthamendmentcenter.com](http://www.thetenthamendmentcenter.com) because why should Alabama be forced to live like California and why should New York be bothered by what happens in Tennessee? Sovereign states can still collaborate to repel foreign invaders (aka national defense) which was the primary reason the U.S. was even created from the independent states.

Furthermore, it is reasonable to say that the Republican party and the Democrat party are two long-standing institutions, now both compromised, but they are just two paws of the same wolf in sheep's clothing that has created the current banana republic atmosphere that we have today. It should be noted, however, that the Democrat party has completely lost its way as a defender of the lower and middle class as they have torn down American democracy at a much higher rate than the GOP. The Democrats are now the institution of blatant deception funneling money to corporations among other crimes. Their supporters refuse to believe this basic fact, but an easy search will reveal the truth. Both parties have blood on their hands for sure, but it comes down to what someone has as their foundation for ideology and the Democrats have abandoned the institutions of democracy and freedom while ruining historical and scientific truth. If someone believes in limited government, low taxes, and genuine freedom as our founders did, there is no way an honest person could be a member of the Democrat party today. The Democrat party in 2022 is not the same as the Democrat party of 1970 or even 1990. I would be willing to go back to the Bill Clinton days rather than this obviously irreconcilable cluster of chaos today... I have friends who are Democrats, but their party has been the institution to tear

down other institutions. Democrats are as dangerous to the local treasury as the charlatans in WashDC. Even Democrat county commissioners who might be nice people wrongly dole out goodies like Santa Claus against the wishes of constituents. Democrats have proven that they desire for government to get bigger, not better. This is done by taxing more and spending more despite uncertain economic times. A pattern of endless government growth tears down society and actually hurts the lower and middle class by driving up prices and hindering the free market of business opportunities. Just ask the people fleeing from Democrat-controlled cities and states. Taking from the producers and giving to the non-producers is un-American and lacks consistency when local magistrates hand out public money to their friends and pet projects instead of cutting wasteful spending.

Everyone in Macon County who desires for our area to stay conservative needs to vote against any and all Democrats up for election despite how well they might be known in the community. We should also ask Independent candidates who exactly they voted for in the 2020 election because it has been said that, "our vote is the currency of our virtues." When it comes to protecting sacred institutions such as freedom, there are several Democrats and an Independent candidate that might have good intentions, but they are drastically compromised for conservative Macon County. They either support special interests instead of fiscal responsibility or they are ignorant of government's proper role in a society. For example, government should never be the referee of businesses. That is not their constitutional job. No government is capable of managing a complex local or national economy. Besides, the free market solves all problems if government does not interfere. Government has proven it kills competition and attempts to pick winners and losers because it never acts (aka referees) without bias, thus insuring we have monopolies which are the very thing Democrats claim they hate, yet they enable. Any member of the Democrat party running for election should be asked why they are members of an institution that supports killing babies, keeping borders wide open for illegals, focusing on gender confusion instead of economic stability, taking God out of everything, spreading fear by ignoring proven science, stirring racial division to their benefit, censorship/denying of 1st Amendment rights, and printing money out of thin air to give to lazy people in an effort to buy votes. This is what the Democrat institution represents today. Period. A far cry from what the party used to be. Voters should take note and not be fooled by big personalities, word salads, and cliché slogans from local candidates. See what institutions a candidate aligns himself with and if it is the Democrat party, that is all you need to know because association always trumps superficial "experience."

Jim Gaston – Franklin, N.C.

Email Letters to the Editor to [maconcountynews@gmail.com](mailto:maconcountynews@gmail.com)

# TAYLOR

Continued from page 10

so a budget amendment will need to be approved in order to get the new pump system on line.

The board will also be reviewing our current and proposed ordinances concerning overnight parking and camping on town property. Our police department has been investigating the issue and will make recommendations. The town has a lot of undeveloped property, especially around the recreation department. We need clear ordinances prohibiting overnight parking and camping in these areas.

The board will also be given an update concerning the intermodal test conducted on the Big Bear Pen Tower. There has been a concern of interference between the radio and the cell phone antennae on the tower.

I will be facilitating a discussion concerning electric vehicle charging stations. Before moving forward, there are several policy questions that the town board needs to address.

Tonight's meeting can also be accessed on YouTube through the town website.

## Voter information for Nov. 8 General Election

### Absentee ballots request Sept. 9 - Nov. 1

Request forms at [www.maconnc.org](http://www.maconnc.org) or [www.ncsbe.gov](http://www.ncsbe.gov) or by calling (828)349-2034 or email [Macon.boe@ncsbe.gov](mailto:Macon.boe@ncsbe.gov).

### Voter Registration Deadline Friday, Oct. 14 at 5 p.m.

Same day registration is possible only during one-stop voting.

### One-Stop Voting - Franklin Oct. 20 - Nov. 5

Robert C. Carpenter Community Building  
Hours Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.;  
Saturdays 8:00 a.m. - 3 p.m.

### One-Stop Voting - Highlands Oct. 20 - Nov. 5

Highlands Civic Center, 600 N 4th St.  
Hours Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.;  
Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. - 3 p.m.

### General Election Day Tuesday, Nov. 8

Voters will cast ballots at their respective precincts.

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

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

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# Overlook Theatre Co. continues to amaze with stellar productions

The Overlook Theatre Company is still amazing audiences with its latest production "Tommie Sawyer and Huckmary Finn," a new twist on the classic tale by Mark Twain this past weekend. The two friends witness a murder one night in a graveyard and their friend Muff gets blamed for it. Tommie and Huckmary make a plan to redeem Muff and expose the real killer, which leads to an adventure along the banks of the mighty Mississippi River. The one-act comedy was filled with laughs, thrills and a loads of friendship.

Photos by Beth Payseur





## ‘Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories’ exhibit open at Heritage Center

Beginning in the 1870s, the U.S. government attempted to educate and assimilate American Indians into “civilized” society by placing children — of all ages, from thousands of homes and hundreds of diverse tribes — in distant, residential boarding schools.

Many were forcibly taken from their families and communities and stripped of all signs of “Indianness,” even forbidden to speak their own language amongst themselves. Up until the 1930s, students were trained for domestic work and trade in a highly regimented environment. Many children went years without familial contact, and these events had a lasting, generational impact. “Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories” explores off-reservation boarding schools in a kaleidoscope of voices. The exhibit will run through Oct. 20, at Western Carolina University’s Mountain Heritage Center.

Native Americans responded to the often tragic boarding school experience in complex and nuanced ways. Stories of student resistance, accommodation, creative resolve, devoted participation, escape and faith in one’s self and heritage speak individually across eras. Some families, facing increasingly scarce resources due to land dispossession and a diminishing way of life at home, sent their children to boarding schools as a refuge from these realities. In the variety of reactions, Ojibwe historian Brenda Childs finds that the “boarding school experience was carried out in public but had an intensely private dimension.”

Unintended outcomes, such as a sense of “Pan Indianism” and support networks, grew and flourished on campuses, and advocates demanded reform. Boarding schools were designed to remake American Indians but it was American Indians who changed the schools. After graduation, some students became involved in tribal political office or the formation of civil rights and Native sovereignty organizations. The handful of federal boarding schools remaining today embrace Indigenous heritage, languages, traditions and culture.

Note that “Away from Home” contains stories of resilience and revitalization, agency and honor. Please be aware that it also contains descriptions of human indig-



Angel DeCora, Untitled painting, ca. 1900; oil on canvas.  
Courtesy Darling Family Collection

nities and hardships and terms that reflect historically racist perspectives and language from past eras. In speaking the truth about acts of seemingly unfathomable violence and suffering in the lives of Native peoples, this exhibition is advised for more mature audience members, grades eight to adult.

This Exhibition is made possible by NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is brought to you by Mid-America Arts Alliance. It was adapted from the permanent exhibition, “Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories” and organized by the Heard Museum in Phoenix. Additional support was provided by WCU’s Campus Theme committee. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Mountain Heritage Center is located in the Hunter Library Building at 176 Central Dr. in Cullowhee. This exhibit will be on display from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday through Oct. 20. The exhibit will also be open select Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. including Sept. 24 and Oct. 15. Admission is free and special tours for groups are available with advance notice. For more information, call (828) 227-7129.



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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 September 3 - 10. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



## Macon County Sheriff's Department

### September 6

Hailey Madison McCall, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

John Hoyt Atkinson, was charged with breaking and entering, larceny, possession of stolen goods/property and probation violation. Corporal James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

### September 7

Crystal Leeann Thomas, was charged with larceny. Corporal James E. Crawford II made the arrest.

### September 8

Alvin Dewayne Ervin, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. Costin Jiglaue made the arrest.

John Hoyt Atkinson, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. Costin Jiglaue made the arrest.

Seldon Trent Bateman, was charged with trafficking opium or heroin, possession of methamphetamine and maintaining a place for a controlled substance. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Devon Ray Watson, was charged with trafficking in cocaine, conspire to traffic in cocaine, felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance and maintaining a place for a controlled substance. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

Paul Joseph Howarth, was charged with trafficking in cocaine. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

### September 9

Jose Antonio Contreras-Rios, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Santiago Reynaldo Mendoza, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

Travis Scott Mason, was charged with larceny after breaking/enter, breaking and entering, possession of stolen goods/property, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a schedule I controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

Madeleine Marie Taylor, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of a schedule I controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, larceny after breaking and entering, breaking and entering and possession of stolen goods/property. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

### September 10

Jose Luis Gracia-Huerta, was charged with assault on a female. Joel Lynch made the arrest.

## Franklin Police Department

### September 3

Levar Roland Bryson, was charged with misuse of 911. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Payton Tyler Johnson, was charged with assault on a female. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Angela Guerrero-Araujo, was charged with simple assault.

R.S. Dula made the arrest.

### September 4

Scott Lynn Marchant, was charged with larceny of motor vehicle. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

### September 8

Carl David Fernin, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of stolen firearm, carrying a concealed gun and careless and reckless driving. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

## Jackson County Sheriff's Department

### September 3

Joshua Adam Rider, 37, of Cashiers, was charged with failure to appear for communicating threats and assault on a female. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Daniel Lee Snelson, 28, of Griffin St., was charged with resist a public officer and breaking and entering of a motor vehicle non-forcible. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Travis Dean Mathis, 31, of Rocky Face Rd., was charged with failure to appear for possession of stolen goods/property, larceny, violation of a court order and child support purge ar-

rest order. A secured bond of \$10,129 was set.

### September 4

Zachary Jarrett Randolph, 41, of Cutting Edge, was charged with resisting a public officer and assault on a female. No bond was set.

Kimberly Ann Santy, 41, of Newport Dr., was charged with failure to appear for school attendance law violation. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

Jaquelyn Ruth Stewart, 36, of Golf Estates Rd., Franklin, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance on prison/jail premises and felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance. A secured bond of \$2,500 was set.

Johnathan Aaron Wheatley, 48, of Fort Wilderness Rd., Whittier, was charged with injury to personal property and simple assault. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

Thomas Zachary Stewart, 40, of West Buffalo Rd., Robbinsville, was charged with larceny of ginseng. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Daniel Lee Snelson, 28, of Griffin St., was charged with possession of stolen goods/property, larceny after breaking and entering and breaking and entering. A secured bond of \$2,000 was set.

## Asheville man pleads guilty to illegal drug activity in Macon

An Asheville resident who pleaded guilty last week in Franklin to illegal drug activity will spend 90 to 120 months in prison, District Attorney Ashley Hornsby Welch said.

William Zachary "Zach" Patterson, 52, recently admitted in Macon County Superior Court to two felony charges: trafficking by possession of four grams or more but less than 14 grams of heroin and possession of a controlled substance on the premises of a local confinement facility, Welch said.

In addition to serving an active prison sentence, Patterson



William Zachary Patterson

must pay a mandatory \$100,000 fine.

On July 26, 2021, Franklin Police Sgt. Randy Dula spotted Patterson driving a vehicle on Georgia Road. Dula knew Patterson's driver's license was suspended and that he was evading multiple warrants.

Dula initiated a traffic stop. A subsequent search of Patterson's vehicle uncovered a large quantity of heroin.

A May 3, 2018, case led to the second charge, possession of a controlled substance on the premises of a local confinement facility.

After Macon County deputies Jonathan Bean, Matt Canzone and David Blanton initiated a traffic stop, searched a vehicle and found drugs, they transported Patterson – a passenger in the car – to the detention center.

Once there, a search uncovered additional illegal drugs, hidden in one of Patterson's socks.

Assistant District Attorney Jim Moore prosecuted the case.

## Traffic stop turns into high speed chase

A traffic stop turned into chase by Macon County Sheriff's Office on Wednesday. Deputy Matt Breedlove attempted to make a traffic stop of a vehicle near the Robert C. Carpenter community building on Georgia Road, occupied by a male and a female by the Robert C. Carpenter Building. The car took off through the construction zone then turned onto Gulf View Dr., and continued onto the Franklin Golf Course and then through the Trimmont Christian School Parking, back onto Gulf View Dr. The driver then tried to avoid stop sticks veering into a bank and hitting a tree. The suspect was identified as Adam Sackman and was transported to Angel Medical where he was treated for his injuries. A female passenger was

identified as Adriana Garcilita was not injured. As of press time Sackman was being charged with fleeing to allude arrest, reckless driving, multiple counts of trafficking in narcotics and possession of a firearm by felon with more charges to be added. Garcilita was arrested and charges have not been released.



Photo & caption by Vickie Carpenter



**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.

**Mountain Voices Community Chorus** is beginning rehearsals for their Christmas concert. Practice is every Monday evening at First United Methodist Church, 66 Harrison Avenue, Franklin, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Now recruiting new singers. For more information, call (828)524-3644.

**Prentiss Church Food Pantry** will be held on Thursday, Sept. 15, 2 to 5:30 p.m. The church is located at 59 Church Hill Lane. For more information, call (828)369-3885.

**American Red Cross Blood Drives** are being held in Franklin on Sept. 16, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Lowe's 0717 Franklin, 161 Franklin Plaza, Ga Hwy.; Sept. 27, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Macon County Library, 149 Siler Farm Rd.

**Discover Girl Scouts Bring a Friend Event** will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, 9:30 to noon, Parker Meadows Complex, Pavillion A, 4199 Patton Rd. in Franklin. Current Girl Scouts are invited as well as non-Girl Scouts ages 4 to 18. Learn about Girl Scouting including troop opportunities. Registration for new memberships available on site.

**Bascom Center for the Visual Arts September Free Exhibitions** through Dec. 31, "Like No Other Place," at the Joel Gallery; Lasting Impressions: Japanese prints from the Read-Simms Collection, Bunzl Gallery on Display through Dec. 3; Curator talk with Sara Arnold, The Gibbes Museum Director of Curatorial Affairs, Sept. 17, 11 a.m.; Highlands Porchfest venue host, Sept. 18, 1 to 6 p.m.; A Sense of Place: Presentation by Gary Wein, executive director of the Highlands Cashiers Land Trust, Thursday, Sept. 22, 5:30 to 7 p.m. The gallery is located at 323 Franklin Rd., Highlands. For more information, call (828)526-4949.

**Wayfarers Unity Chapel Free Summer Concert Series** will finish up on Sunday, Sept. 18, from 2 to 4 p.m., 182 Wayfarer Lane, in Dillard, Ga. Bring your favorite folding chair and enjoy the music of Cicalada Rhythm. For more information, call Jennifer Utley at (901)581-2404.

**Holly Springs Community Development Association** will meet on Monday, Sept. 19, 6 p.m., at the community building, 2720 Cat Creek Rd. Kami Ahrens, Curator and Educational Outreach Coordinator at Foxfire Museum and Heritage Center in Mountain City, will be talking about all the great classes and events taking place at Foxfire. Cake and ice cream will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Macon County Republican Women's Club** will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 11:30 a.m., at Fat Buddies BBQ Restaurant. The guest speaker will be Diedre Breeden, who is a candidate for the Board of Education. A Bake Sale will be held. Items are requested of all attendees. For more information, contact Crystal Stamey at crystal.prwc@gmail.com

**Share the Journey Support Group for Caregivers** whose loved ones are experiencing memory loss will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 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 information, call (828)524-3119.

**Tuckaseegee Chapter of Trout Unlimited Meeting** with NCWRC Biologist Powell Wheeler will be held on Oct. 4, 6 to 8 p.m., at Sylva First United Methodist Church, 77 Jackson St. in Sylva. Anyone interested in hearing about the commission work in the district is invited to attend. You do not need to be a member. A meal with dessert will be provided.

**Girl Scout Daisy and Brownie** volunteers needed for Troop 2996 in

Franklin. This is a great opportunity to help 5 to 8 year olds learn and grow. For more information, call Diane Peltz at (828)371-2823 or email dianepeltz1953@gmail.com

**Historic TM Rickman Store** at 259 Cowee Creek Rd. is 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 Wednesday through Saturday from 12 to 4 p.m., featuring gems and artifacts from North Carolina as well as all over the world.

**Uptown Gallery Children and Adult Art Classes** workshops in Media includes acrylic, watercolor, acrylic paint pouring, encaustic, precious metal clay and glass fusing. 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, call (828)349-4607.

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

**Dorothy and John Crawford Senior Center** is now offering limited in-person classes at the Robert Carpenter Community Building. A variety of exercise classes and a writing group are offered in the afternoons for adults over 50. For more information, call (828)349-2058.

**Macon Chips, Franklin's Wood Carving Club** meets on Thursdays, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. inside the Franklin High School Wood Shop just off McCollum Drive. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call (828)342-8126.

**Franklin Seventh Day Adventist Community Services** are open on Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., to help Macon County residents in need with rent, power bill and a fully stocked food pantry. The church is located at 93 Church St., Suite 212. For more information, call (828)369-9000.

**Habitat for Humanity of Macon/Jackson County needs volunteers** to share skills or gain some experience learning new ones. From carpentry to cleaning, marketing to moral support, computer skills, planning and organizing or just plain common sense, the greatest gift you could ever give is time. Any amount is good. Some great times, lasting friendships and rewarding experiences await. Call (828)369-3716 or (828)371-5442

**CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

**First Alliance Church** is holding Sunday Service on Sept. 18, at 10:30 a.m., Sunday School for all ages will be held at 9:30 a.m., Pastor Bradley Bennett will be preaching. Daughters of Grace will be performing special music. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane (off Womack, next door to Trimont Christian Academy).

**Son Rise International Ministries** has Christian Fellowship Services are held on Friday evenings at 7p.m., Wednesday ladies prayer and Bible Study at 1 to 3 p.m. Mens Bible Study Thursday at 7 p.m. The church is located at 462 Depot St. For more information, call (828)369-2465.

**Spiritual Light Center** 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 visit SpiritualLightCenter.com.

**Mountain Synagogue in Franklin** conducts services the first Friday and third Saturday of each month. For information, visit the website at mountainsynagoguewnc.com, email us at mountainsynagogue@gmail.com, or call (828)634-1312.

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

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

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

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

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

**Email church events** to maconcountynews@gmail.com

**SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22**

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5	6	7	1	8	9	4	3	2
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4	5	3	2	9	7	6	8	1
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2	4	1	3	6	8	7	5	9
3	8	5	7	2	9	6	1	4
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**CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22**

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B	L	I	T	Z	B	A	A	M	A	S	T		



### Duo pianists play four-hands-on-one this Sunday

Julie Coucheron and William Ransom will play a program of classical piano music Sunday, Sept. 18, at 3:00 pm, in the sanctuary of Franklin's First Presbyterian Church. Selections will include Beethoven's Symphony #7, Gershwin's Cuban Overture, and works by Borodin and Lalo. The two pianists have been making music together for over a decade, performing from Atlanta to Mexico to Alaska at one and two pianos. Their repertoire ranges from Mozart Sonatas to Beethoven Symphonies to Gershwin's Preludes and everything in between.



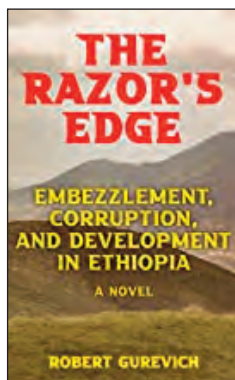
Julie Coucheron studied at the Royal Academy in London and performs around the world. Born in Oslo, Norway, she appears as a soloist, in duet programs with Ransom, and with her brother David, Concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. She is on the faculty of Kennesaw State University.

William Ransom graduated from The Juilliard School and is Emerson Professor of Piano at Emory University, where he is also Artistic Director of the Emory Chamber Music Society of Atlanta. In the summers he directs the Highlands-Cashiers Chamber Music Festival.

First Presbyterian Church is at 26 Church Street, a block north of Main Street in Franklin, with wheelchair access from the church parking lot. Admission is by donation; doors will open at 2:30. This program is presented by the Arts Council of Macon County, 828-524-ARTS or email arts4all@dnet.net.

### Robert Gurevich Reading and Book Signing

Former WCU Anthropology professor Robert Gurevich will visit City Lights Bookstore on Friday, September 16th at 5 p.m. He will present his novel, "The Razor's Edge: Embezzlement, Corruption, and Development in Ethiopia." His novel stems from his experience as a Chief of Party, Project Director, and evaluation consultant on several development projects funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and other sponsors.



What's it like being the only expatriate manager of a multi-million dollar development project with an Ethiopian staff of over 200 that could be complicit in major embezzlement? What's it like dealing with a government that views you with deep mistrust while demanding that you get projects up and running quickly?

"The Razor's Edge" deals with ethnicity, gender, kinship, bureaucracy, management, staff recruitment, local politics, relations with the donor, and much more.

To reserve copies of "The Razor's Edge," call (828)586-9499.



Heidi Brodgen & Kinley Young



JackTomasch & Nichole McRae



Kassidy Mixer & Lexi Tallent

## Streets hosts scarecrow building event downtown

The Streets of Franklin Heritage Association held its first-ever scarecrow-building event downtown on Sunday. This event was a partnership between the Streets of Franklin Heritage Association, Macon County Schools and the Town of Franklin. More than 20 scarecrows were made and when the town begins decorating for the fall season on Sept. 19, the original creations will be incorporated into the downtown decor.

Photos by Betsey Gooder



Emily Lopez, Naomi Lopez & Yaritza Lopez

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## WCU exhibition ‘The Way I’m Wired: Artist Reflections on Neurodiversity’

The WCU Fine Art Museum is open for the Fall 2022 season with four exhibitions in its galleries. A major focus of these exhibitions is Mental Health and Wellness, which is Western Carolina University’s campus theme this year.

In this exhibition, artists share their experiences with neurodiversity and how these experiences have impacted their creative practice. Their perspectives shed light on a variety of ways that the brain can function and how this intertwines with their art. Visitors interested in psychology, neuroscience, mental health, and reframing society’s assumptions about neurological differences will especially appreciate hearing these artists’ perspectives on the world.

The term “neurodiversity” was first coined by sociologist Judy Singer in the 1990s and is the idea that everyone’s brain is “wired” differently. We all perceive, think, learn, and relate to those around us in a wide variety of ways. Neurodiversity challenges the notion that some types of brain functioning are “normal” versus “abnormal” and encourages a greater acceptance and understanding of brain differences. The Way I’m Wired springs from a curiosity about neurodiversity in artists. It brings together the work of eleven artists who share their experiences with autism, anxiety, dyslexia, aphantasia, and other ways of being to explore how neurological frameworks can both help and hinder artistic practice. Artists featured in the exhibition include Chuck Bowdish, Margaret Curtis, Martin DeWitt, Jeff Edwards, Laura Grosch, Anna Jensen, Adam Larsen/Hum-Bar LLC, Alex S. MacLean, Katie Miller, Richard Ritter, and Douglas White.



Margaret Curtis, *Woman Swarmed by Flies (Small #3)*, 2019, ink on paper, 15 x 11 inches.

Courtesy of the Artist and Tracey Morgan Gallery, Asheville

Join the WCU Fine Art Museum as it pushes the conversation forward for discussions about the need for greater acceptance and understanding of neurological variation. The exhibition will be available for viewing until Dec. 9, and parking is available at the Bardo Arts Center parking lot at 199 Centennial Drive, Cullowhee.

Visit [arts.wcu.edu/wiredto](https://arts.wcu.edu/wiredto) to learn more about the exhibition and reception. To see BAC’s full calendar of events, please visit [arts.wcu.edu/explore](https://arts.wcu.edu/explore) or call (828)227-ARTS. WCU Fine Arts Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Last two Fontana decorations for 2022

On Saturday, Sept. 24, The North Shore Cemetery Association will make the last lake trip to Mitchell/Chesquaw Valley Community Cemetery. The boat shuttle will leave Cable Cove at 10 a.m. It is a steep 3/4-mile hike from the lake to the cemetery. While the slowest person will set the pace for this hike, no vehicle assistance will be available to access the cemetery. Lunch will be on the boat when we return from the cemetery. Pack your own lunch, drinks, and snacks.



Parking Area, turning there, and then taking the first road to the right and driving four miles upstream to Campsite 64. A high-clearance vehicle is required or carpool from the parking area. The first shuttle to the cemetery will begin at 10:30 a.m. Potluck is at the campground and you may bring your own lunch or a dish or two to share. You may also desire to bring folding chairs and a table. Afterwards, the Stiles and Conner Cemeteries are about 3/4-mile east of the Noland Creek Parking Area just south of Lakeshore Drive.

On the second Sunday in October, Oct. 9, the group will drive up Noland Creek to decorate Upper Noland/Wiggins Cemetery. The gate will open at 9 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. Take Lakeshore Drive to the Noland Creek

Check Facebook/NorthShoreCemetery-Decorations for the latest information. This is a public site and you do not have to be a Facebook member to view.

## Women’s Conference

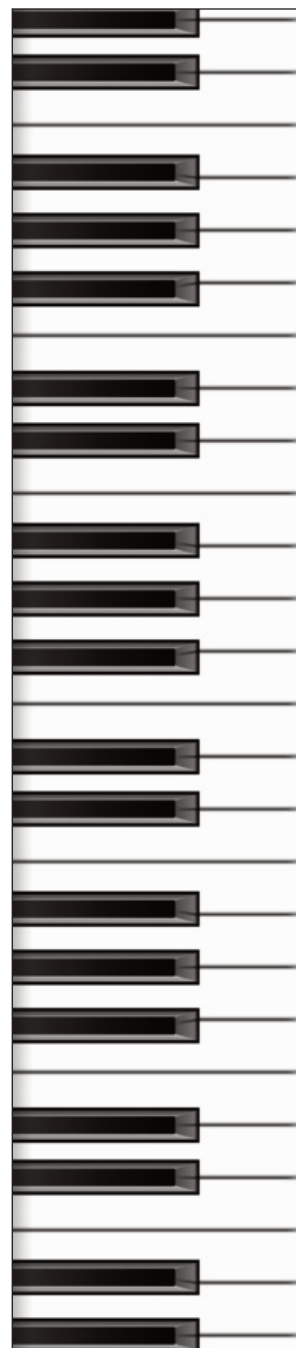
### *What a Mighty God We Serve!*

Guest Speaker, Jennifer Thoppil

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Duo Pianists Julie Coucheron  
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*Program included Beethoven’s  
Symphony #7, Gershwin’s Cuban Overture  
and Lalo’s Norwegian Rhapsody.*

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AT 3PM**

Doors Open at 2:30

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# Creative ways to use flowers for fall decor

Melinda Myers – Columnist

Pansies have long been a fall and winter garden favorite. These cheery flowers are sure to brighten landscapes and containers and add a smile to any occasion. Look for fun and new ways to add them to your garden and fall celebrations.

Pansies thrive in the cooler temperatures of fall and during mild winters when your summer annuals fade or succumb to frost. They make great fillers in garden beds and containers or displayed in their own planter.

Trailing pansies are perfect for hanging baskets, as trailers in container gardens, or as edging plants in garden beds. You will need half as many of these pansy varieties to cover the same garden space.

Plant a basket of white trailing pansies, add some sunglasses and you have a ghost for Halloween. Scoop out the inside of a pumpkin, add some drainage holes and use it for a planter. Fill it with potting mix and you'll have a biodegradable pot for the compost pile when finished. Or simply set a container of pansies inside your pumpkin pot.

Include pansies in your fall meals and gatherings. Only use pansies and other edible flowers that have not been treated with pesticides. Be sure to let your guests know that the pansies are safe to eat, so they can enjoy this unique dining experience. Otherwise, you will find blossoms at the bottom of glasses or left on plates.

Pick a few flowers, remove the reproductive parts, and freeze them in ice cube trays to serve in your favorite beverage. Float a few of the flower ice cubes in your favorite punch.

Add a gourmet touch, some unique flavor, and color to your salads by topping a bed of greens with a few flowers. Continue the theme by decorating cookies or cakes with a few of your favorite pansies. The cheerful flowers will generate happy thoughts and for some, a way to enjoy the last of this season's garden.

Brighten the start of school and your classroom while showing your favorite teacher a bit of appreciation. A do-it-yourself planter filled with cheery pansies is sure to elevate the mood of both students and teachers alike.

Other creative ways to utilize them this fall is simply use them as colorful fillers for voids in gardens and containers.

## Colorful mums for fall gardens and containers

Add a burst of fresh color to the fall landscape with mums. This traditional fall flower is still a favorite of many. These fall beauties come in a wide range of colors and provide weeks of floral beauty. Mums are great in containers, the garden, and cut flower bouquets.

When shopping for mums you may see them labeled as garden, perennial, gift, or florist mums. All these different names for plants that basically look alike can be confusing. The an-



Scoop out the inside of a pumpkin, add some drainage holes, and plant some pansies for a festive fall planter.

Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com

swer lies in their response to day length, hardiness, and use.

Mums set flowers based on day length. Growers can force them into bloom by covering them to create the shorter days that initiate flowering. Those grown as gift and holiday plants are often called florist mums. These usually require the longest periods of uninterrupted darkness or shorter days. When these mums are grown under natural daylight they usually don't flower until late fall or early winter. These late bloomers are usually killed by cold temperature before or soon after the flowers appear in colder parts of the country.

Nurseries selling mums in full bloom in the fall often refer to them as garden mums. These may be perennial or "florist" mums forced to flower for fall displays. The intent is to use them as annuals. Set a pot on the steps, pop a plant in a vacant spot in the garden or combine them with other fall favorites.

Even if these garden mums are hardy and suited to your growing conditions, they may not survive the winter. Since all the energy of flowering fall-planted mums is directed to the flowers, little is left to establish a hardy robust root system. If you have success overwintering your garden mum, feel free to brag. If your plants don't survive or you don't try, don't worry. You are using them as a fall annual as they were intended. This provides space for new plants in the spring and an opportunity to try a different color mum next fall.

Those mums sold as perennials are hardy enough to survive the winter and flower in late summer or early fall, providing weeks of color in the garden. They are often sold alongside other perennials, labeled as perennials, or promoted as hardy for the area. Increase your success by planting them in spring. This allows the plant time to develop a root system before it begins flowering. This increases the plant's ability to survive the cold.

Increase overwintering success of fall planted perennial mums with proper care. Make sure the plants receive sufficient moisture throughout the remainder of the growing season and leave the plants intact in the garden for winter. Those in colder climates may want to add winter mulch. Wait for the ground to freeze. Then cover with weed-free straw or evergreen boughs. Remove the mulch in spring as temperatures hover near freezing or the plants begin to grow. Cut back the dead stems and wait for new growth to appear.

Whatever you call them, add a few mums to your fall display and enjoy that last blast of color before winter arrives.

Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).



Mums mixed with ornamental grass in a fall garden.





# Deaths & Funerals

## Geraldine Henderson Berry

Geraldine "Nana" Henderson Berry, 84, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Friday, Sept. 9, 2022, surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Macon County, North Carolina on Aug. 10, 1938, to the late Burney and Violet Mae Stiwinter Henderson. She was a nurse for more than 30 years. She loved gospel singing, talking on the phone, and cooking for family and friends. She was a member of Walnut Creek Baptist Church for many years and was a Eastern Star of the Glenville Chapter.



Geraldine Berry

She is survived by a daughter, Shelia Regina Berry Keever (Danny) of Sylva; a son, Ricky Dean Berry (Misty) of Cullowhee; three grandchildren, Brittney Keever Stevens (Jason), Emily Berry Milligan (Dustin), and Ricky Nathan Berry; three great-grandchildren, Ella, Will, and Ava Milligan.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband of 62 years, William A. "Paw" Berry; two sisters, Frances Evitt Smith and Melba Bish; and a brother, Morton Henderson.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Sept. 13, in the chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home with the Rev. Eddie Stillwell and Rev. Jason Stevens officiating. Burial followed in the Pine Creek Baptist Church Cemetery in Cullowhee, N.C. Pallbearers serving were Nathan Berry, Rev. Jason Stevens, Dustin Milligan, Jeffrey Stewart, Larry Dills, and Bobby Hunt.

The family wishes to thank Skyland Care Center and Four Seasons Hospice for the loving care provided for Geraldine.

Online condolences at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

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

The entire family of the late Robert (Bob) Cabe, Sr. sincerely appreciates all the loving prayers, wonderful food, caring phone calls, memorial donations and beautiful cards of support and sympathy that were sent during his illness and after his death.

Rev. Margaret Freeman, Rev. David Beam, and Rev. Vic Greene from First United Methodist Church; Doctors and Staff of Angel Medical Center, Care Partners of Asheville and Mission Hospital; Bryant-Grant Funeral Home, and the Military Honors Team that he had proudly served with for many years all helped bring us much comfort and peace.

God bless you all!  
The Family of Bob  
& Elizabeth Cabe



## Elizabeth 'Lib' Lauffer

Elizabeth "Lib" Lauffer, 87, of Otto, N.C., passed away at her residence on Sept. 3, 2022.

She was born in Freeport, Pa., to the late Bruce and Pearl Josephine Reed Overholt. She moved from Lost Creek, Ky., 22 years ago to call North Carolina her home. While living in Lost Creek, Mr. and Mrs. Lauffer served as missionaries at Riverside Christian School. She loved music, sung with the Carolines, The Primetime Singers, and her church choir. "Lib" enjoyed sewing and cooking. She attended First Baptist Church of Franklin.



Elizabeth 'Lib' Lauffer

She was preceded in death by her parents, and two brothers, Edward Overholt and James Overholt.

She is survived by her husband, Deane Lauffer; five children, Deane Edward Lauffer (Teresa) of Jonesboro, Tenn., Michael Lauffer (Peyton) of Felton, Pa., David Lauffer (Sharon) of Otto, Daniel Lauffer (Donna) of Turnerville, Ga., and Lisa Elliott of Hebron, Ky.; 12 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

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

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to Riverside Christian School, 114 Riverside Rd, Lost Creek, KY 41348.

Online condolences at [www.maconfuneralhome.com](http://www.maconfuneralhome.com).

Macon Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

## Barbara Jane Hardie

It is with great sadness the family of Barbara Jane Hardie announces her passing on the morning of Aug. 30, 2022. Born on April 9, 1956, she was a devoted mother and wife and an inspirational teacher. As the wife of Rev. Michael Hudson of St. David's Episcopal Church in Cullowhee, N.C., she was known as a vibrant and well loved member of the church. She was a deep thinker and a passionate person.



Barbara Jane Hardie

She loved to garden, both vegetables and flowers. She was a gifted artist with wonderful fine motor skills and would make one-of-a-kind gifts for friends and family. She wanted everything she gave to be from the heart. She also loved to write. She received her masters in Creative Writing and wrote many beautiful pieces including poems and short stories. She was a voracious reader who had over 500 books in her home library, and she shared her love of reading and critical thinking with her students at Western Carolina University and Southwestern Community College.

She spent most of her time hiking with her family, especially with her husband Michael and their sweet dogs Nova and Simon. They traveled all of the mountains of Western North Carolina and have walked almost every path, especially ones that ended in waterfalls. It is no coincidence that her favorite author was Mary Oliver whose work was inspired by nature and who also had a lifelong passion for walks in the wild. Part of their morning breakfast ritual was reading one of Mary Oliver's poems.

Left with many wonderful memories and marks on the heart are Barbara's husband, Rev. Michael Vincent Hudson; her daughter, Ruth Hardie Hudson; her sisters, Becki Hardie, Leslie Hardie, Trisha Washer, and Sara Lawson; and her dear friend, Marilyn Jody. She was preceded in death by her parents Bradford Hardie and Rebecca Boone.

A memorial service was held Saturday, Sept. 3, at 2 p.m., at St. David's Episcopal Church in Cullowhee with Rev. Gaelyn Lei Evangrene officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.moffittfunerals.com](http://www.moffittfunerals.com).

[TheMaconCountyNews.com](http://TheMaconCountyNews.com)

## Wanita Eldora Dingman Johnson

Wanita Eldora Dingman Johnson, 70, passed from this life on Sept. 7, 2022.

She was born on Dec. 3, 1951, to Ralph James and Darlene Mae Dozark Dingman.

She was a loving and caring woman. Her family knew her as passionate, selfless, and a perfectionist in her work. She was always there for anyone who needed her, and she was the glue that held her family together through the brightest and darkest days. She lived each day to the fullest as it came, but always looking forward to the next adventure, visit, or project.

She loved to travel with her family, discovering unique sights and people along the way. She enjoyed many different crafts over the years; there was almost nothing she couldn't create with her own hands.

Her family, her husband, Robert Lee Johnson; her sons, Bradley David Johnson and Jeffrey Adam Johnson; and her granddaughter, Jordan Riley Johnson, are left with many wonderful memories of her. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Marlene Townsend.

Her last thoughts for her boys: "I just ask don't fight or be mad about any of this. I will truly miss all of you every day, but I will be your guardian angel forever and always. Love to my guys."

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family.

Online condolences may be made at [www.moffittfunerals.com](http://www.moffittfunerals.com).



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# Bubba Wallace streaks to convincing win at Kansas

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – Driving the same car number that carried teammate Kurt Busch to victory in the May race at Kansas Speedway, Bubba Wallace claimed a dramatic win at the same track in Sunday's Hollywood Casino 400, the second event in the first round of the NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs.

Wallace regained the lead on Lap 225 after the final cycle of green-flag pit stops at the 1.5-mile track and stayed out front for the final 43 circuits as his car owner, Denny Hamlin, chased him to no avail.

Wallace crossed the stripe exactly one second ahead of Hamlin, as a driver not competing for the drivers' champion won for the second straight week. Hamlin finished second for the second straight Playoff race, having trailed Erik Jones to the line last Sunday at Darlington.

"Man, just so proud of this team, so proud of the effort that they put in each and every week," said Wallace, who won for the first time this season and the second time in his career. "Just thankful for the opportunity, right? Just so proud. Pit crew was awesome today. We had one loose wheel. Just thankful. Thanks for the opportunity, and thankful to shut the hell up for a lot of people."

Wallace is competing for the Cup Series owners' championship in the car Kurt Busch drove for the first 20 races of the season before suffering lingering concussion-like symptoms after a wreck in qualifying at Pocono. With his win, Wallace qualified for the Round of 8 in the owners' competition.

Christopher Bell, who ran third, is the first driver to lock himself into the Playoffs' Round of 8 on points. The other 15 championship contenders will have to establish their positions in the final 12—or suffer elimination—next Saturday night at Bristol Motor Speedway.

During the final run, Hamlin passed Bell for the second position on Lap 252 of 267. With 10 laps left, Hamlin trailed by 2.066 seconds but could get no closer than the final one-second deficit the rest of the way.

Hamlin clearly had mixed feeling about his pursuit of the No. 45 23XI Toyota he co-owns with NBA legend Michael Jordan.

"It's been a good overall day," said Hamlin, who recovered from an equipment interference penalty—his 34th pit road infraction of the season—on Lap 27 under a competition caution. "Still frustrated about the first half of the race. We just aren't executing all that well..."

"Really happy for our 11 Toyota team. They fought hard. They really stepped up that last half. We made the car quite a bit better. Just really happy about the outcome and really happy for that 45 team and Bubba Wallace and (crew chief) Bootie (Barker). Bubba has just really worked hard on his craft, and we've just given him fast race cars, and now he is showing what he has got."

Alex Bowman finished fourth, followed by non-Playoff driver Martin Truex Jr. Championship contenders William Byron, Ross Chastain, Kyle Larson, Ryan Blaney and Daniel Suarez completed the top 10.

Other Playoff drivers weren't as fortunate.

A sudden disaster knocked Kevin Harvick out of the race before the end of Stage 1. Racing side-by-side, Chastain and Wallace steered up the track in front of Harvick's No. 4 Ford as the cars sped through Turn 4.

Harvick's Mustang snapped loose and the right front of his car pounded the outside wall. With damage too severe to repair, Harvick retired from the race in last (36th) place.

"When those two cars came up in front of me, I just got super



Bubba Wallace, driver of the #45 ROOT Insurance Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas Speedway on Sept. 11, 2022 in Kansas City, Kan. Photos by Chris Graythen/Getty Images



tight," Harvick said after a visit to the infield care center. "When I lifted, it grabbed and got loose. I just wasn't expecting them to come up and my car getting that tight."

Harvick entered the race 16th in the Playoff standings. The last-place results puts him in a must-win situation next Saturday at Bristol Motor Speedway.

"Yeah, it is what it is," Harvick said. "We were racing to win anyway today, so that's what we will do again next week."

Harvick wasn't the only casualty of the first stage. Pole winner Tyler Reddick blew a right rear tire while leading on Lap 65 and slammed into the outside wall in Turn 2. He brought his No. 8 Chevrolet to pit road, but attempts to repair the car proved futile, and Reddick was eliminated in 35th place.

"The right-rear tire just blew like we've had a few times," said Reddick, who fell to 11th in the Playoff standings. "At Fontana (Auto Club Speedway), I was able to save it. But here, it snapped at the worst possible point, and we just killed the wall."

"It broke the control arm on the right-front, so our day was over. We leave here with not a lot of points, so we'll have to fight hard at Bristol."

Troubles continued for Playoff drivers when Kyle Busch, whose team had already incurred two equipment interference penalties on pit road, spun off Turn 4 on Lap 137. Busch's right-side tires went flat as he skidded toward the infield grass, and Busch lost a lap as he nursed his wounded car to pit road.

Busch got his lap back as the beneficiary under caution at the end of Stage 2, but he lost two laps during the final 96-lap green-flag run. His 26th-place finish dropped him two points

below the current cut line for the Round of 8, trailing Tyler Reddick and Austin Cindric by that margin.

Joining Busch and Harvick in the bottom four are Austin Dillon (14th Sunday) and Chase Briscoe (13th). The Playoff field will be cut from 16 to 12 drivers after next Saturday's race at Thunder Valley.

## Noah Gragson picks up fifth NASCAR Xfinity victory with win at Kansas

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – In what is turning out to be a banner season for Noah Gragson, the driver of the No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet scored his fifth NASCAR Xfinity Series victory of the year in Saturday's rain-shortened Kansas Lottery 300 at Kansas Speedway.

Gragson charged from sixth in the running order past cars on older tires—and past the dominant Toyota of Ty Gibbs—to grab the lead after a restart on Lap 76.

A light rain interrupted the proceedings on Lap 82, but Gragson held the top spot in a two-lap shootout at the end of Stage 2. When rain began to fall harder and drenched the track, NASCAR red-flagged the race on Lap 94 and subsequently declared Gragson the winner.

The victory was Gragson's second straight, his first at Kansas—the only active Xfinity Series track where he had previously failed to record a top 10—and the 10th of his career.

"The 54 (Gibbs) was really fast all day," Gragson said. "The pit crew did a good job all day keeping us in contention. That restart (on lap 76) was the most important part of the race today. Yeah, it's a rain victory, but we came off pit road third behind the 54 and 19 (Brandon Jones)."

"They both took the top, and I chose the bottom, third row. I restarted inside the 19, and I could see the 54 pushing the 07 (Brett Moffitt, who along with Ryan Sieg and Austin Hill had stayed out on older tires). He (Moffitt) was spinning his tires pretty bad."

"I got to the lead on those guys, and that kind of was the game-changer on today's race. I think we all knew that we were racing to halfway or a little after."

After the restart with two laps left in the second stage, there was drama right behind Gragson. As Justin Allgaier battled





Noah Gragson, driver of the #9 Bass Pro Shops/TrueTimber/BRCC Chevrolet, and crew celebrate in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series Kansas Lottery 300 at Kansas Speedway on Sept. 10, 2022 in Kansas City, Kan.

chances to win, had the race resumed.

“If we were to go back green, I think it extremely limited his day and probably was going to limit our day as well,” Allgaier said. “Frustrations get the best of you a lot of times, but I just hate it that we tore up a race car that wasn’t really torn up before that.”

Pole winner Brandon Jones ran fourth, followed by Ross Chastain. AJ Allmendinger, Josh Berry, Sammy Smith, Sam Mayer and Mofitt completed the top 10. Mayer and 16th-place finisher Riley Herbst clinched Playoffs spots on points with one race left before the cutoff.

**John Hunter Nemechek wins at Kansas, spoils Carson Hocevar’s long-shot bid**

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – With less than a lap left in Friday night’s Kansas Lottery 200 at Kansas Speedway, John Hunter Nemechek passed Carson Hocevar and spoiled one of the unlikeliest long-shot gambles in the long history of the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series.

At the end of a dominant evening, Nemechek had the race victory and two stage wins to go with the pole he had won earlier in the afternoon.

All Hocevar had was a fourth career runner-up finish and a pink slip where the 2022 Truck Series Playoffs are concerned.

Over the final 28 laps, Nemechek, who pitted under green on lap 103, overcame a 20-second deficit to Hocevar, who had made his last pit stop on Lap 80 to top off the fuel cell

in the No. 42 Chevrolet and tried to make it the rest of the way without another pit stop.

Hocevar gained the lead on Lap 106 when the last contender in front of him came to pit road during the final 53-lap green-flag run. Throughout the final run, Hocevar’s advantage shrank by more than a second per lap, as Nemechek pursued him.

After Hocevar’s truck sputtered coming to the white flag, Nemechek charged to the front and powered his No. 4 Kyle Busch Motorsports Toyota across the finish line 1.815 seconds ahead of Hocevar’s Silverado. The victory was Nemechek’s second of the season, his second at Kansas (with one coming in the NASCAR Xfinity Series) and the 13th of his career.

Hocevar was eliminated from the Playoffs by three points, as Christian Eckes rallied to run 10th and claim the final berth in the Round of 8. Fifteenth-place finisher Matt Crafton, a three-time series champion, was also ousted from the Playoffs.

Nemechek advanced to the Round of 8, along Grant Enfinger, Chandler Smith, Zane Smith, Ty Majeski, Stewart Friesen, defending series champion Ben Rhodes and Eckes.

“It’s huge,” said Nemechek, who added seven Playoff points to his total entering the Round of 8. “I just want to say thank you to everyone at Kyle Busch Motorsports. I can’t thank them enough for the truck they gave me tonight. It was absolutely unreal.

“We started on the pole, won both stages, led a ton of laps and won the race. We came in really good in points, but we were able to get some more Playoff points, and it puts us in a

good spot. We have some momentum on our side heading into Bristol (for the first race of the next round).”

Hocevar was crestfallen after crew chief Phil Gould’s strategic gamble fell just short.

“Into (Turn) 3 coming to the white flag, I started to sputter, and I knew it was game-over,” Hocevar said. “The 19 (Derek Kraus) had an issue, and I lost three seconds there. Looking back, I wish I could have gotten those back. ... “We deserved to win that race, just on strategy. We were nowhere near the best car. Seems like I always run second to him (Nemechek), but they were the class of the field all



John Hunter Nemechek, driver of the #4 Mobil 1 Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Kansas Lottery 200 at Kansas Speedway on Sept. 9, 2022 in Kansas City, Kan.

Stage 1 winner Gibbs for the runner-up spot, Allgaier forced Gibbs’ No. 54 Toyota high into the outside lane.

Gibbs brushed the wall and subsequently turned down and door-slammed Allgaier’s No. 7 Chevrolet as the cars approached the finish line. Allgaier held second, .670 seconds behind the race winner, with Gibbs finishing third, 1.266 seconds back.

After the race, Gibbs apologized for losing his cool on what proved to be the final lap.

“I came back down, frustrated, and hit the 7,” Gibbs said. “The worst part is, I hurt my day more than it’s going to hurt anybody else’s. It’s just stupid of me to do that. I just think I need to fix those things... It’s easy for all of us to get angry—me especially. I just didn’t make the right decision there.

“I apologize to them. I apologize to my group. I should be the one taking the door off the race car, because I hit him.”

Allgaier had mixed feelings about the stoppage. His car was improving with every pit stop, but the damage he suffered during the run-in with Gibbs would have limited his

night. We got beat. We had the winning strategy. It just didn’t work out...

“I think I’ll be the bridesmaid at my own wedding.”

Non-Playoff driver Ryan Preece finished third on Friday night, followed by Zane Smith, Enfinger, Chandler Smith, Corey Heim, Ty Majeski, Colby Howard and Eckes.



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# CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT  
CROSSWORD

THEME: THE 1920s

ACROSS

- 1. The Sweet's hit "Ballroom \_\_\_\_\_"
- 6. Farm cry
- 9. Schooner pole
- 13. Barrel racing meet
- 14. "\_\_\_\_ Quiet on the Western Front," 1920s novel
- 15. Move sideways
- 16. Southeast Asia org.
- 17. Hula dancer's garland
- 18. Like the Vitruvian Man
- 19. \*New type of movie in the 1920s
- 21. \*Jack Dempsey's sport
- 23. Triple \_\_\_\_\_ liqueur
- 24. Prep flour
- 25. "Hamilton: An American Musical" singing style
- 28. Floppy data storage
- 30. Smack
- 35. Not much (2 words)
- 37. \*Prolific playwright \_\_\_\_\_ Coward
- 39. Sacrum, pl.
- 40. "Nana" author ...mile \_\_\_\_\_

- 41. Flash of light
- 43. Not kosher
- 44. Convex molding
- 46. \*Football legend Graham, born in 1921
- 47. Furniture wood
- 48. Not wholesale
- 50. Aquatic snakes
- 52. Reggae precursor
- 53. Animal den
- 55. CafÉ alternative
- 57. \*Assassinated Villa
- 60. \*St. \_\_\_\_\_, 1928 Olympic site
- 63. East Asian peninsula

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>64. Nope</li> <li>66. "Bite the bullet," e.g.</li> <li>68. Relating to Quechuan people</li> <li>69. B&amp;B, e.g.</li> <li>70. Foul smell</li> <li>71. Challenge</li> <li>72. Langley, VA agency</li> <li>73. Decorates, as in Christmas tree</li> </ul> <p><b>DOWN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Type of undergarment</li> <li>2. *Like generation described by Gertrude Stein</li> <li>3. Brain wave</li> <li>4. Shades of blue</li> <li>5. Very tired</li> <li>6. "The Fighter" actor Christian _____</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Bass or Redhook</li> <li>8. Defendant's excuse</li> <li>9. Longer than mini</li> <li>10. Port in Yemen</li> <li>11. Smelting waste</li> <li>12. _____ Aviv</li> <li>15. 6 equal parts of 6</li> <li>20. Cake layer</li> <li>22. Short for oftentimes</li> <li>24. Mosquito, slangily</li> <li>25. Schick's product</li> <li>26. Beyond's partner</li> <li>27. *Amelia Earhart, e.g.</li> <li>29. *Like Charles Lindbergh's 1927 transatlantic flight</li> <li>31. W on a bulb</li> <li>32. TV classic "Green _____"</li> <li>33. Floorboard sound</li> <li>34. "The Trial" and "The Castle" author Franz _____</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>36. Samoan money</li> <li>38. Not on time</li> <li>42. Much, in Italy</li> <li>45. Tin Man's prop</li> <li>49. Follows soh</li> <li>51. Confession, archaic</li> <li>54. Not Doric nor Corinthian</li> <li>56. Downy duck</li> <li>57. Kind of cornbread</li> <li>58. Rainbows and such</li> <li>59. Like a drink in a snifter</li> <li>60. Mimicking bird</li> <li>61. _____caca, South American lake</li> <li>62. Type of modern meeting</li> <li>63. *American Girl character born in 1923</li> <li>65. American cuckoo</li> <li>67. Robinson to "The Graduate"</li> </ul> |
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# COUNTRYSIDE CHEVROLET REGIONAL PRE-OWNED SUPERSTORE



## CARS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	BMW	Alpina XB7	536
2022	Edge	Sport	101
2021	Kia	Optima EX	20,010
2020	Chevrolet	Corvette 3LT	8,263
2020	Toyota	Corolla SE	20,740
2019	Dodge	Challenger SXT	16,993
2019	Dodge	Grand Caravan SXT	55,584
2019	Nissan	Sentra	66,190
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	Focus	SE	44,403
2018	Traverse	LT AWD	95,105
2017	Dodge	Journey	110,982
2015	Nissan	Altima 2.5 S	59,261
2015	Mustang	GT	45,724
2014	Chevrolet	Cruze	113,152
2013	VW	Beetle Convertible	67,099

## SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	Honda	Pilot TrailSport	4,512
2021	Chevrolet	Tahoe	33,592
2021	Ford	Bronco Badlands AWD	1,237
2021	GMC	Yukon XL	53,356
2021	Grand Cherokee	L	13,279
2020	Buick	Encore	34,808
2020	Chevrolet	Suburban Premier	58,652
2020	GMC	Acadia AT4	28,261
2020	Grand Cherokee	Trailhawk	26,226
2020	Kia	Telluride	71,254

2019	Chevrolet	Blazer RS	45,231
2019	Chevrolet	Equinox Premier AWD	34,109
2019	Chevrolet	Tahoe LT	46,162
2019	Chevrolet	Trax AWD	16,288
2019	GMC	Terrain	63,316
2019	Honda	Pilot EX	40,801
2019	Jeep	Cherokee 4x4	65,409
2019	Kia	Sedona EX	40,858
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox LT	23,569
2018	Chevrolet	Tahoe	84,386
2018	ForeRunner	TRD Sport	65,055
2018	Kia	Soul	58,573
2018	Nissan	Murano	53,903
2017	Rogue	SV	58,866
2016	Lexus	RX 350	72,919
2016	Sorento	LX	112,933
2016	Toyota	Sequoia	96,869
2015	Chevrolet	Traverse AWD	121,286
2015	Jeep	Wrangler Unlimited Altitude	39,030
2015	Suburban	LT	92,352
2014	Jeep	Wrangler	59,335
2007	Jeep	Wrangler	65,541

## TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	2500	High Country	10,050
2022	Chevrolet	2500 LTZ	4,635
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 RST	34,026
2021	Chevrolet	1500 High Country	17,551
2021	Chevrolet	Colorado	8,980
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 4WD	4,746
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	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	Ram	3500 Flatbed	58,192
2019	Toyota	Tacoma TRD 4x4	43,577
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado Z-71	23,542
2018	Colorado	ZR2	36,012
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	44,668
2018	GMC	Sierra 1500 Denali	25,059
2017	GMC	Sierra 1500 SLT	61,657
2016	Chevrolet	1500 LT	126,328
2016	Chevrolet	1500 LT Crew	118,872
2016	GMC	Sierra SLT	61,530
2015	Ram	3500 Laramie	184,881
2014	Ram	1500 Sport Crew 4x4	107,828



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