

**OTTO VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE'S
ANNUAL
BARBEQUE**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
60 FIRE HOUSE RD., OTTO, NC**

SEE
PG. 2

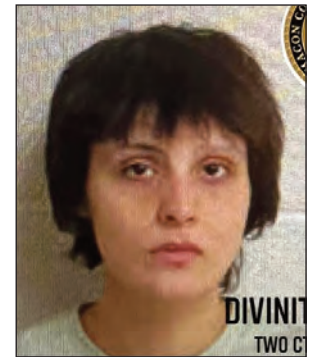



Franklin High School crowned a new Homecoming Queen at half-time of Friday night's football game against North Henderson. Tori Ensley was selected as Homecoming Queen and Taylor Moss was named Maid of Honor. Escorting Tori is her father Todd, and Taylor's father, Timmy is her escort. The court is chosen by the entire student body in their respective homeroom classes. The Homecoming Committee, made up of select faculty members chose the queen and the runner up. For more photos of the Homecoming Court as well as a wrap-up of the football game, see pages 12 & 13.

Suspect charged in Mack Branch double homicide

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, Sheriff Robert Holland published a statement regarding a possible double homicide occurring on Mack Branch.

On Monday, Oct. 10, at approximately 10 p.m. the Macon County Sheriffs Office received a call from the Jackson County Sheriff's Office advising they were in contact with a female from Macon County who had made some statements during the course of a field interview with their officers. The JCSO requested that MCSO conduct a welfare check at a residence on Mack Branch Road in Macon County.



Divinity Aleza Guest

After arriving at the Mack Branch residence, MCSO deputies saw what appeared to be a body on the floor. Deputies immediately made entry into the home and discovered two bodies within the residence. The bodies were located in two different locations. Both victims appeared to have died as a result of gunfire. Deputies immediately secured the residence and the property and notified detectives with the MCSO Criminal Investigations Unit.

Once on scene, an investigation was initiated and shortly

See SUSPECT page 2

Site approved for Barbara McRae memorial

Dan Finnerty – Contributing Writer

March 2021.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the location of the Barbara McRae Memorial Project (a birding viewing platform on the Little Tennessee River Greenway) at the Oct. 11 monthly meeting. Rita St. Clair, board member of Friends of the Greenway and member of the Franklin Bird Club, both of which McRae was a founding member, stated that "doing something in honor of her was important to us." Several members from Friends of the Greenway were in attendance at the meeting. On behalf of the group, St. Clair requested approval for the proposed site of the viewing platform. She further offered that "Barbara loved the Greenway, but she especially enjoyed time at the wetlands at Big Bear Park. The site was chosen in particular because McRae spent a great deal of time taking in all that nature has to offer."



An artist's rendering of the viewing platform planned in memory of Barbara McRae.

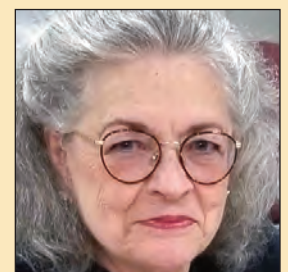
Cowee Heritage Center update

Town of Franklin Council member Stacy Guffey presented an update on Cowee School Arts and Heritage Center (CSAHC) that included introducing school Assistant Director Laura Brooks. Guffey pointed out that the center started in 2010 with a three-day public meeting that conveyed ideas for the Cowee center. Actual operations started in 2012 and the organization has been continuously working on putting numbers together for a grants push that will lead to additional improvements. He estimated that 22,000 people have been served since opening the Cowee heritage center. Guffey also pointed out that typically the center has about 7,500 visitors annually – 5,000 local and 2,500 from outside the region. He thanked the commissioners and taxpayers for

McRae was a local historian, journalist, and more, who was highly involved in the community. She passed away in

See COMMISSIONERS page 2

IN THIS ISSUE



Page 6

Candidate profiles: County Commissioners Part I

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SUSPECT

Continued from page 1

thereafter the State Bureau of Investigations crime scene unit was requested to assist the MCSO. Throughout Monday night and the next day investigators conducted interviews and followed up on leads. Following an interview with a suspect, information led investigators back to Jackson County. A vehicle believed to be owned by one of the victims was located down an embankment. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office and SBI assisted Macon County investigators in a search at another location in Jackson County where a firearm was recovered.

Early on the evening of Tuesday, Oct. 11, Divinity Aleza Guest, 22, was formally charged with two counts of second degree murder without regard; breaking or entering; and injury to real property. Guest is the daughter of one of the victims. Investigators are attempting to locate next of kin of the second victim.

"From the start we had little to no information and no substantial suspects," said Sheriff Robert L. Holland. "Because of the exceptional work of our investigators and the great working relationship with our law enforcement partners, we progressed throughout the day. While investigators worked all night and through the following day, they were able to recover the murder weapon and make an arrest before the sun set again."

Guest remains in the Macon County Detention Center under a \$1 million bond.

The Macon County Sheriff's Office is continuing to follow up with other information including seeking others who may be involved. Autopsy of both victims is currently being conducted in Winston Salem at Wake Forest Baptist Hospital.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact MCSO Criminal Investigations Unit Capt. Dani Burrows (828) 371-1201 or Det. Matt Breedlove at (828) 349-2573.

COMMISSIONERS

Continued from page 1

their support that has provided a "place where people can go to listen to traditional music through concerts series, various arts and crafts programs, and a place where mountain culture and local culture can be passed down to future generations."

Guffey went on to say that the Cowee School is an example of a successful public, private, and nonprofit partnership. Over the past three years, the center has operated on a baseline of \$17,000, which has been leveraged, through grants and donations from private and corporate donors, to approximately \$100,000. Brooks will be stepping into the role of director at Cowee School as Guffey moves on to other endeavors. The school was also recently recognized with a Mountain Heritage Award as the Mountain Heritage Organization of the Year from Western Carolina University.

Nantahala library remodel discussed

Under old business, County Manager Derek Roland and Jack Morgan, director of planning, permitting and development, provided an update on the Nantahala Library and Community Center. After multiple architecture services firms backed out on their support for the remodeling project, a resolution was approved to

exempt architectural services for the project, which is in effect until January 2024. A new proposal came in at \$28,000 and a draft scope of work is in place. A start date for the project has not yet been determined.

The next regular scheduled meeting is on Nov. 8, Election Day. The board still intends to hold the meeting as scheduled at 6 p.m. at the Macon County Courthouse Annex.

In addition, the Board announced a joint meeting with the Macon County School Board, Tuesday Oct. 18, at 6 p.m., at the Franklin High School campus Fine Arts Center. The meeting will include schematic drawings presented by LS3P for the new Franklin High School building project. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.



Macon County commissioners meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.

OTTO VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE'S

ANNUAL BARBEQUE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
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- FUN EVENTS FOR THE BIG KID-AT-HEART
- MAIN EVENT! PIE MR. DANNY IN THE FACE
- BAKED GOODS SALE
- SWEET CAROLINE'S ICE CREAM TRUCK

★ Date: Sunday, October 16, 2022
 ★ Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm
 ★ Location: Parker Meadows Pavillion

Hosted By: Danny Antoine's Martial Arts Academy

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TDA approves support for Conquer the Mountain Half Marathon

Dan Finnerty – Contributing Writer

At the monthly Franklin Tourism Development Authority (TDA) meeting on Oct. 11, the Committee approved \$2,000 in funding support for the 8th annual Conquer the Mountain (CTM) Half Marathon and 5K. Sponsored by the Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center (SMPCC), CTM is scheduled for Nov. 5 this year and has continuously grown in status amongst the running community, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The USA Track and Field (USATF) organization certified CTM in 2020, which according to SMPCC Executive Director Jenny Golding, is “one of the few half marathons in the Blue Ridge Mountains.” It is also unique because it allows two-person teams. In 2021, a 5K event was added to CTM in order to increase participation. After having 59 people participate last year, Golding is counting on even more interest this year with 36 runners already signed up for both the Half Marathon and the 5K. Because most runners come from outside the Macon County area, hotels and private rentals should benefit from the event, as well as restaurants and retail establishments. SMPCC has spent significant time

and funding on advertising and after 22 years in Franklin is confident that awareness of their organization will be heightened.

Golding also pointed out that “because the marathon route allows runners to be seen by friends/family four times, it provides multiple opportunities to cheer on participants through the event.”

Other new business discussed included the Monster Mash on Main (MMM), scheduled for Oct. 29. Monster Mash started in 2020 and according to Brooke Reale, co-owner of Kitchen Sink in Franklin and the president of Streets of Franklin Heritage Association, is a “family-friendly event for all ages.” Merchants of Downtown Franklin will be participating and many will have a table set up outside their stores, handing out candy and trinkets to children. Additionally new this year, the Town of Franklin, in cooperation with Ruby Cinemas, is playing the movie “Hocus Pocus” at Town Hall.

Also scheduled for Oct. 29, and in support of the SK828 Franklin Skatepark Project (SKSP), is PUNK’ins for the PARK (PFTP). Tim Shaw, representing SK828, provided information on the event, which will be held at the Altered Frequencies entertainment venue. Located at 110 Carolina

Mountain Drive in Franklin, the event will run from 4 p.m. until midnight. The goal is to raise at least \$10,000, at which point Hot Spot Gas and Convenience Stores has promised to match with a \$10,000 donation of its own. The event will include 10 different bands and sideshow entertainers. It will also include family-oriented activities, such as a Halloween Costume contest, a Pumpkin Painting contest, other prizes and raffles, and a Hot Dog dinner. SKSP is hopeful \$20,000 can be raised to help build a 6,000-square-foot concrete community skate park.

Lastly in new business, Tim Crabtree presented a request for \$2,500 to support the 9th Annual Franklin Ruby Drop, scheduled for Dec. 31. Sponsored by Motor Company Grill and Crabtree General Store, this year’s event will begin at 10 p.m. in order to encourage more family participation. The Franklin Town Board approved the closing of Main Street, Iotla, and Phillips streets for this year’s celebration. Music will be played from 7-10 p.m. and Carolina Horse and Carriage is also returning this year for rides at the event.

Closing out the meeting was consideration and discussion of TDA funding of capital projects, such as recreational

infrastructure. Town Council members Stacy Guffey and David Culpepper presented input in support of funding consideration by the TDA. Under distribution and use of tax revenue, as stated in General Assembly of North Carolina Senate Bill 1060, the Town of Franklin TDA “shall use at least two-thirds of the funds remitted to it ... to promote travel and tourism in Franklin and shall use the remainder for tourism-related expenditures.” These expenditures are “designed to increase the use of lodging facilities, meeting facilities, or convention facilities in the town or to attract tourists or business travelers to the town.


According to Culpepper, “Outdoor rec[reation] recently took over building as the number-one industry in North Carolina.”

As potential investments, he also pointed out a walkway or birding path through the marsh in town and possible changes to the Bartram Trail by rerouting into the Rec Park and eventually into downtown Franklin and directly by the Nikwasi Mound can result in increased exposure and ultimately more tourism dollars.

The next TDA meeting is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 14, at 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Board Room.



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10am - 5pm

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FREE ADMISSION – but please feel free to bring a pet item to put in the donation barrels for the rescues, Appalachian Humane Society, Saving Paws of Lakeland and Horse Tales Farm.

Leaf Lookers Gemboree coming to Franklin

This October will find the mountains alive with color in more ways than one as the 30th Annual Leaf Lookers Gemboree opens at the Macon County Community Building just south of Franklin, NC off U.S. Highway 441. Gem and mineral dealers from across the Southeast will be on hand displaying and selling their products against the backdrop of spectacular fall color October 21-23, 2022.

The Leaf Lookers Gemboree will feature a wide variety of items including fine finished jewelry, rough and cut gems, lapidary equipment, minerals, fossils and collectibles. Dealers will also be available to custom make that special piece of jewelry you've always dreamed of.

"We have a lot of new dealers setting up at our show this year because the Franklin shows are among the best in



the country," said Linda Harbuck. "A variety of dealers and a special demonstration booth setup by the Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin add great value to this show in contrast to similar shows in the southeast." concluded Harbuck.

Admission price is only \$2.00 and those 15 and under will be admitted free. The Gemboree will be open from 10am until 6pm on Friday and Saturday and 10 am until 4 pm on Sunday. For more information, contact the Franklin Chamber of Commerce at 828-524-3161.



Hello my friends, this is Sarah aka 'Diva' asking for your help for my sweetheart husband Rick Miller. Rick has been hospitalized 7 times this year from his weak heart and sepsis from a UTI infection twice. Sepsis is so serious and he is once again fighting to survive. I am trying to raise money to enable him to live in his home. We have 22 cement steps and a ramp has to be built to wheelchair him in and a walk in shower put in for him to function. We currently have the old bathtub type and he cannot lift his leg.

As you all are aware, Rick is a strong 'American' man and has a strong love of life, his wife, family, dogs and friends. We have been happily married 47 years and together 52! Many of you know him Divas on Main, the apparel business in Atlanta and his political and community involvement in Franklin. Anything would help and be very much appreciated.

Love to you all, Rick & Sarah.

Motorized wheelchair badly needed.

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Candidate profiles: County commissioners Part I

The deadline for voter registration for the upcoming mid-term election is Friday, Oct. 14. Early voting begins on Thursday, Oct. 20. In Franklin, voters can cast their ballots at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building on Georgia Road; and Highlands early voters may vote at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 N. 4th Street, Highlands.

The Macon County News traditionally provides an opportunity for candidates to address potential voters with their experience and credentials as well as their stance on issues facing the county. This week, Part I of commissioner candidate profiles include District 2 candidates Betty Cloer Wallace, incumbent Ronnie Beale, incumbent Gary Shields; and District 1 candidate John Shearl.

Betty Cloer Wallace

Betty Cloer Wallace's experience includes a lifetime of public service: is a 5th generation Maconian; has four university degrees in California, Georgia, and North Carolina, including Doctorate in Public Administration, UGA; was an associate superintendent, Macon County Schools; director, Western Regional Education Center (WNC); superintendent, Vance County Schools (17 schools, 1,100 employees); assistant State Superintendent, NC Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh; US Department of Education Fellow, Washington, DC; Associate Superintendent, NW Arctic Borough, Alaska; Adjunct Professor, WCU and SCC; numerous boards and commissions for industrial recruitment, facilities planning, and economic development. She is also an Amazon book author; a tree farmer (native hardwoods); the NC Democratic Party, State Secretary (elected two terms), State Executive Committee, and Executive Council.

Gary Shields

Gary Shields' career occupation was a teacher and school administrator in public education for 37 years. He had the opportunity to teach and be a school administrator in the Kings Mountain School District for eight years. Shields returned to the Macon County School System where he taught and provided Guidance Counseling services at Nantahala School then later transferred to Franklin High School as counselor and assistant principal. He was given the opportunity to become a principal at Union Elementary School for 5 years then in 1988-89 school year, returned back to Franklin High School and had the honor to become the principal for the next 21 years, retiring in June 2010.

After retiring in June 2010, he was elected in November to a four year term with the Macon County Board of Education. In 2014, he was elected to the Macon County Board of Commissioners and will finish his second four-year term in November 2022 and is actively pursuing a third four-year term beginning in 2023.

Shields said his greatest education was serving in the United States Army and serving his country and being a Vietnam veteran.

"To understand one's Oath to his country and the true meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, was, too, an educational moment that still lasts today," he said.

Shields is a product of the benefits of public education and the college and university systems in North Carolina. I completed my undergraduate degree in Social Science in 1973 from Gardner-Webb College (University). In 1975, he completed his Master of Education Degree from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, at night, and upon returning back to Macon County, while working with the MCBOE, he received my MA Degree in Guidance and Counseling from WCU via UNC-Charlotte.

Ronnie Beale

Ronnie Beale is a 1973 graduate of Franklin High School and attended Southwestern Community College. He has been

married to Lena (Cissy) Beale for 42 years and is the proud parent of three children, Cara Beale Higgs, Evan and Barrett. He has been president of Beale Construction, Inc. since 1980; owned and operated All Seasons Storage from 1998 to 2022; and owned and operated Carolina Mini Mart from 1999-2020.

Serving in the community, Beale has been: Past President of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce; Past President of the Franklin Daybreak Rotary Club; Past Chairman of the Macon County Planning Board; Served on the Board of Directors of Entegra Bank for 20-plus years; Past Chairman of the March of Dimes; Past Master of Junaluskee Masonic Lodge; Ambassador to Oasis Shriners; presently serves as Vice Chair of the Southwest Commission; Presently serves as Vice Chair of Vaya Board of Directors (Mental Health for 31 western counties); presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Macon County Fair; presently serves on Board of Directors of the Cherokee Preservation Foundation

Elected Positions: has served the citizens of Macon County as a County Commissioner since 2006; was elected president of the North Carolina County Commissioners Association in 2014 by the vote of County Commissioners from across the state; currently serves on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina County Commissioners Association; was named County Commissioner of the year in North Carolina in 2016.

"During my tenure as County Commissioner, we have managed to keep one of the lowest property tax rates in the State of North Carolina; Capital outlay has increased by 33% to approximately \$9.9 million in fiscal year 2023. the county's outstanding debt has decreased by 22%; the unassigned fund balance has increased by 100% which plays a key role in Macon County's solid financial position," said Beale. "If re-elected my door is always open, as it has been for the past 16 years, to all Macon County citizens. My goal is simple. To help our community in any way possible."

John Shearl

John Shearl and his wife Lila have been married for 36 years. They have three sons Allen, Michael and Jared, and two daughters-in-law, Sarah Kimsey and Jenna Jasinski; four grandchildren, Cameron, Weston, Ruby, and Peyton.

Shearl is a 1987 graduate of Franklin High School; a NC Licensed Contractor; owner of J & J Lawn and Landscaping Services in Highlands; founder of Shearl Produce in Otto.; and a retired Highlands Firefighter and Medical Responder.

Why are you running for commissioner?

Wallace: "My experience and credentials in public service administration and economic development have been a half-century of preparation for serving as a Macon County Commissioner. I want to work toward practical and sustainable change, to help reverse the top-down authoritarianism that has controlled our Board of Commissioners for many years, to give a greater voice to our citizens in our local government, and to help create a more moderate and balanced governmental representation of our residents as per gender, community, vocation, social needs, and financial wherewithal.

"We must change our current societal and economic trajectory if we want to slow down the exodus of our young families, take care of our elderly and disabled citizens, and move forward as a viable and economically competitive county."

Shields: "Having served two, four-year terms, I have become invested in Macon County and I enjoy helping to give and receive input on the direction of Macon County. I believe that public education is an 'investment' not a 'expense' because the returnable benefits for the county and youth of today and tomorrow will be long lasting.

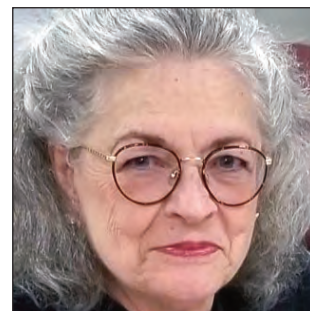
"Unfinished business that I have been involved in for the past eight years is the magnet or driving force that pushes me on for closure in many areas. I serve on nine chairman-appointed, local liaison boards and committees and serve on six



Gary Shields



John Shearl



Betty Cloer Wallace



Ronnie Beale

non-appointed liaison boards to include the Southwestern Community College Board of Trustees and the Regional Southwestern Workforce Development Board

Beale: I am running to:

- 1) Continue working with our local school board to give all of our students the best opportunities to succeed.
- 2) Stay committed to provide broadband to as many households as possible in Macon County.
- 3) Work every day to improve the quality of life for all Maconians.

4) Work diligently in mental health and substance abuse area which affects all of our families as I have done since being elected in 2006.

Shearl: To instill conservative values and leadership to district 1 County Commission seat.

What do you think the role of a commissioner is?

Wallace: "The role of the Board of Commissioners is service through policy-making and oversight of legal matters pertaining to the public, oversight of administrative functions to ensure that all citizens are heard equitably and fairly, and responsible expenditure of tax money provided by citizen shareholders for the public good of everyone. Local government belongs to our citizens and should transpire from the bottom up, not from the top down. It is not a business with a bottom-line profit and should not be operated as a business; it is a public service for ensuring that taxpayer money is used according to the wishes of 'we the people' who generate it—all the people, not just some with special interests."

Shields: "Being a Macon County Commissioner is not just coming together once a month to talk about the agenda. The agenda provides directional movement of what has occurred and what needs are to occur. The greatest assets a commissioner has is the time and energy to assist with liaison assignments and help in providing directions for the betterment of Macon County. Through one's liaison assignments, you will meet the businesses, people and many 'volunteers' who help keep Macon County great."

Shearl: Levy taxes, collect taxes, adopt a budget and provide essential services.

Macon County has been hard hit in the last few years with major retailers pulling out of the county. Do you think anything can be done to recruit retailers to Macon County?

Wallace: "Retailers go wherever there are profits to be

made. Simple as that. A local economy must be advantageous for 'we the people' before it can support significant retailers; and a local economy is dependent on jobs that can support families, educational opportunities, healthcare, public safety, and affordable housing. Otherwise we are left with our current dollar store economy, service jobs, and proliferation of inferior cheapness.

"We have an Economic Development Commission that is virtually unknown and functions outside the purview of the Board of Commissioners. The EDC should be brought under the administrative oversight of the commissioners (or a new one formed), become transparent to the public it is supposed to serve, and recruit retailers and industries by aggressively marketing our county through numerous commercial associations and networks."

Shields: "I serve as a liaison member to the Economic Development Commission and Franklin Area Tourism Development Committee. As a EDC member, we do not have the available 'workforce' to fill our many vacancies today. We have numerous 'underemployed' people working today but skilled workers are at a minimum.

"Major retailers leaving Macon County is a 'signal' to businesses that may view Macon County as a prospect for their business. Our employment rate is great but this high percentage rate does not show a 'workforce' that is available for immediate work. I still believe there is a 'honor' code among major retailers that they will not build their businesses by enticing others to leave their immediate jobs causing additional problems.

"The 'magnets' that attract people to come to Macon County are many and our tourism industry is environmentally clean and retirees bring a tremendous ideology to our area. But presently Macon County is in a 'affordable housing' crunch

and to add the lack of 'affordable rental dwellings' gives great concern to our tourist industry to include major retailers in the decision to invest in Macon County. Our new AMC hospital is a tremendous plus for attracting investors to our area and the Macon County Broadband Committee is making strides to seek GREAT Grants providers to connect our communities together."

Shearl: I believe we need a very strong economic development team.

Do you support the quarter cent sales tax referendum and the county's plan for the more than \$2 million it is estimated to generate?

Wallace: "Yes, if it is clearly designated for schools without displacing other funding, which is highly unlikely. The sales tax hike has been disingenuously oversold by our commissioners in several ways—primarily as an income from tourists without acknowledging that most buying in our county is done by our own residents year round. Also, the minuscule amount of revenue from the sales tax is not a drop in the bucket when applied to the exorbitant cost of our projected little toy high school, a cost that conservatively will reach \$150 million over the next three decades.

"Furthermore, the only reason the commissioners are putting a sales tax on the ballot now is because public voting on sales tax is state law; and they are obfuscating the fact that it will do very little to help our overall economic wellbeing, that we will be paying the sales tax forevermore, and that their top-down decision (without a public hearing) to build an inadequate little toy high school has not been popular.

Shields: "100%! When the 2007 legislative session of the

See PROFILES page 8

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Wednesday, October 19, 2022
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Nantahala School
213 Winding Staircase Rd,
Topton, NC

- Please bring you insurance or Medicare/Medicaid card
- Wear a short sleeve shirt
- Stay in your vehicle and wear a mask if possible
- We accept cash and checks for co-pays

High dose (recommended for those 65+) \$73
Regular dose \$34

For more info call 828-349-2081 www.maconnc.org



FHS Marching Panther Regiment Grand Champions

The Franklin High School Marching Panther Regiment brought home five first place trophies from the Jaguar Classic last Saturday. Awards include 1st Place Overall Percussion of the day; 1st Place Overall Colorguard of the day; 1st Place Overall Music Performance; 1st Place Overall Visual Performance; and 1st Place overall Grand Champions. The band competed at New Manchester High School just outside Atlanta, in Douglasville, Ga., against some of the top 12 bands in the southeast. Director Buddy Huckabee said, "We have continually improved over the semester and I am very proud of the progress this group has made over the past semester. We have a very young group with a lot of freshmen, and they are stepping up to the plate and the whole band is hitting home runs." This Saturday the band will attend the southern invitational championships in Atlanta against bands from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama and is the last competition of the season. After this weekend, the band will be preparing for the Veterans Day parade, and will perform in three Christmas parades. The annual fruit sale is under way to offset the fuel costs of their Universal Studios trip coming in January, where they will be playing at the Harry Potter anniversary celebration in Orlando, Fla.

PROFILES

Continued from page 7

North Carolina General Assembly granted the 'County Boards of Commissioners the authority to levy, subject to voter approval, an additional one-quarter-cent county sales-and-use tax,' I see this as an opportunity to reduce our property tax.

This 1/4-cent sales tax is projected to generate \$2 million annually and could help capital needs in our school system which relies on our property taxes. Of our region of seven counties, six of those counties have voted in favor of the one-quarter-cent sales tax."

Shearl: "The proposed sales tax increase is exactly where it should be – on a referendum and the voters will decide by vote on the Nov. 8th ballot.

What do you see as the greatest challenge facing Macon County?

Wallace: "Economic development, primarily jobs. Statistics for two decades shows that our poverty level remains at 30% and that we are continuously losing our young families because of lack of good jobs, healthcare, vocational options, and social opportunities. Those areas should be our immediate and long-range focus with emphasis on comprehensive facilities planning for our schools, court system, law enforcement, senior services expansion, healthcare options, and a multi-purpose civic center.

"Better communication between our local government and public could be greatly improved by way of a Public Relations and Public Information Office with broadband expansion into all parts of our county. Furthermore, we the people must insist that our local government illuminate the will of the people rather than continuing their authoritarian top-down decision-making."

Shields: "As a member of the Macon County Broadband Committee and the "necessity" of today of having cell and broadband service, this has shown to be the greatest challenge for me."

Beale: Top three issues facing our county:

1) Providing our children with the tools to succeed. We must continue investing in our children as they are the future of Macon County. Since being elected we have constructed two new schools, placed additions on three schools and totally renovated several schools; and provided a teacher supplement while working closely with our local board of education.

2) Access to quality broadband. Macon County must continue working with local providers to expand broadband internet access. In August 2022, we completed the \$1.5 million South Macon Fiber Backbone project. This would not have happened without support of the majority of the county commissioners, which appropriated \$580,000 to this very important project.

3) Housing is crucial to economic development. We have excellent schools, a new medical facility, low crime rate, abundant natural resources and great recreational facilities. These qualities combined which the continued expansion of broadband internet makes Macon County a very attractive location for potential employers/individuals. What we are missing? Affordable housing. It is the most important factor. Not only to economic development, but to the future of our county. We must work with federal and state governments in providing affordable housing.

Shearl: The 50.7% increase in land values in Macon County from the 2023 reevaluation.

JERRY MOORE

FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

★ I'm running as an independent candidate for the Macon County Commission. I'm not beholden to any national political party or any special interest. The only interests I commit to understand and support are those of families and businesses here in our county.

★ To overcome the challenges and to make the most of opportunities ahead, we need to be looking for partners, not adversaries. I plan to work with others, including non-profits and businesses, as well as other government agencies, to deliver the best possible services at the lowest cost to taxpayers.

★ I believe government's job is to ensure taxpayers' investments serve a better future, which is why I fully support the proposed 1/4 cent sales tax increase. Almost half of this increase will be paid by visitors to Macon County, helping us keep property taxes low while we address the critical education and infrastructure needs that will improve the lives of Macon County residents.

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Donnie Clay, Coordinator for Pickin' on the Square



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Sanctuary Relief missionary returns from Ukraine with war effort update

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

In the July 28 edition, *The Macon County News* reported on 64-year-old, local missionary Loren Kennedy, who is traveling periodically to Ukraine to deliver food as well as the Biblical Gospel to Ukrainians. At the end of September, he returned to Franklin after traveling in Ukraine for seven weeks.

“The main reasons to come home are to see my wife and family and to provide updates to churches and organizations about what’s happening in Ukraine,” said Kennedy. “There is so much need, physically and spiritually. I’m able to share the Gospel almost daily.”

Following the publishing of the report of Kennedy’s efforts, an increasing number of people donated to Sanctuary Relief, which provides the funds in Ukraine to purchase food, medicine, and – for the winter months – blankets, coats, hats, gloves, socks and more. Through August and September, Kennedy assisted Ukrainian volunteers, many of whom represent churches in the country, to distribute thousands of boxes of non-perishable food.

Kennedy visits churches and villages that were previously occupied by Russian forces. One area of focus is in northeastern Ukraine and is seven miles from front-line fighting. Although many villages and cities in Ukraine are shelled daily by Russian soldiers, Kennedy said most missiles are intercepted. However, the Ukrainian people regularly tell him stories “too graphic to print” of the horrors they have experienced since Russian soldiers invaded Ukraine in February.

Many people look to churches for help, and Kennedy said Ukrainian pastors are overwhelmed and exhausted.

“It’s amazing what the churches are doing in the midst of the chaos. Pastors are burned out with people needing physical and spiritual help. It’s a constant seven-day-a-week job right now.”

One goal, when he visits the country, is to give pastors and church leaders a break. He said anywhere from a few people to hundreds will gather to hear “the encouraging message of



Local missionary Loren Kennedy returned to Franklin in late September to provide updates on all the assistance efforts through Sanctuary Relief that are occurring in war-torn Ukraine. One church in Ukraine has fed 65,000 families in six months. Kennedy plans to return to the war-torn country in November.



the Gospel.”

“The people might come to a gathering looking depressed, not interested in singing or praying. But then I share the hope that is found in a relationship with Jesus – a simple Gospel message and some basic stories from the Bible. And I share my testimony. The change in people’s eyes and countenance ... Soon they are smiling, responding, and praying ... from total despair to almost joy,” he said.

Two gatherings on the same day included 900 people total. Around 1,800 food boxes were provided to refugees, who are people who have either lost their homes due to shelling and Russian soldiers invading their communities or who have been displaced to other areas in Ukraine for the same reasons. One church that Kennedy assisted “has fed 65,000 families in six months – with food being supplied by various organizations and churches,” he said.

Some of the stories Kennedy has heard include how homes’ windows are blown out due to shelling. Kennedy and volunteers have replaced some homes’ windows in preparation for the approaching winter. Families are having to crowd into surviving homes when their homes are destroyed from shelling.

“We can’t rebuild everyone’s homes or replace windows on

everyone’s homes, but they know we care about them and we do what we can,” said Kennedy.

Common reports from Ukrainians are that Russian soldiers who invaded their towns and villages dug holes in back yards to park their tanks. “Can you imagine a tank in your back yard?” asked Kennedy, who shared, “A 90-year-old woman also told me she saw a helicopter fly over her house and it destroyed dozens of homes in her neighborhood within a few minutes. People are also hiding out in root cellars.”

He learned of a married couple that was part of a convoy of 10 cars trying to get away from intense fighting. The convoy of 10 turned into about 100 cars, with all the people in the group “praying constantly” and ultimately getting through intense fighting unscathed.

“I’m seeing and hearing miracles daily.”

Although Kennedy said, “People in Macon County have honestly been so great about supporting Sanctuary Relief and the efforts in Ukraine,” many people are either weary of hearing about the war in Ukraine or they think the war is not very serious.

“We need to keep people informed and help them to realize that the war is still going on and the people there are still suffering and struggling. To see their country damaged, their homes and properties damaged, their friends and loved ones hurt or killed ... Many Ukrainians I talk to don’t think people in the United States really care. Communication services are out in many areas, so they don’t know what Americans are doing to help.”

Kennedy will return to Ukraine in November and will be there for a few months. Even after the war is over, he plans to assist – through Sanctuary Relief – in whatever way is needed to help people reclaim their lives.

“There are lots of good sides to why God has me over there,” he commented.

Besides items already mentioned, Sanctuary Relief will also provide some Ukrainians with solid-log-type fuel for wood stoves and small electric or propane heaters.

“We are still trying to purchase as much as possible in the country so that the Ukrainian economy benefits. The economy in the country needs to keep going and it needs to make a comeback.”

Kennedy’s goal is to feed 10,000 families on his next trip.

Anyone interested in donating or assisting Ukrainian refugees can visit the website or contact Kennedy at sanctuaryrelief@gmail.com.



Homes in Ukraine have undergone intensive shelling from Russian forces, blowing out windows and leaving rubble in its wake.

Relief teams helping with Hurricane Ian aftermath

Deena C. Bouknight
Contributing Writer

As soon as the high winds stopped blowing and flood waters receded, N.C. Baptist Disaster Relief via Baptists on Mission was requested by Florida Baptist Disaster Relief to serve Hurricane Ian survivors in some of the hardest hit parts of Florida. Answering this call has been at least a dozen Macon County residents, thus far.

According to the National Satellite Data and Information Service, "On the morning of Sept. 28, Ian intensified into a Category 4 hurricane over the Gulf of Mexico, with maximum sustained winds of 155 mph, just shy of a Category 5 storm. ... It was the strongest hurricane to hit Florida since Michael in 2018. ... Ian thrashed parts of Florida's western coast, bringing intense winds, heavy rainfall, and catastrophic storm surges. A storm surge with inundation of an unprecedented 12 to 18 feet above ground level was reported along the southwestern Florida coast, and the city of Fort Myers itself was hit particularly hard with a 7.26 foot surge — a record high."

Gary Holland, the local director of missions for Macon Baptist Association in Franklin, quickly organized a disaster relief crew of about seven individuals to travel to Florida the morning of Oct. 3. Another crew left the following Monday, Oct. 10.

"Crews are housed at New Hope Church in Cape Coral, Fla., and crews are involved with assisting the community with clean up and in other essential ways," Holland said.

Wayne Hughart was part of the first team of disaster relief volunteers. He returned to Franklin after spending a few days primarily covering roofs damaged by high winds. Hughart, who specializes in sheet rock construction, has been involved in disaster relief since the 1980s and has assisted not only Baptists on Mission but the efforts of Samaritans Purse as well with everything from rebuilds and clean-up to sundry emergency response needs.

"I use my construction skills where needed," he said.

He pointed out that anyone willing and able can assist for a few days, a week, and longer with covering roofs, removing debris and trees, cleaning up trash, and tearing out flooded materials from homes.

Already trained and in place is a Baptists on Mission team that manages a food trailer that has the capability of providing more than 20,000 meals a day.



Some of the tasks that disaster relief groups from Macon County are tackling in Florida due to Hurricane Ian, include tree and debris removal and covering damaged roofs.

"They are feeding residents in need and volunteers. Churches house volunteers. And often a van or other vehicle takes groups down to the disaster relief sites, so people who want to help typically do not have to spend any of their own money except maybe to get a meal on the way down and on the way back," said Hughart.

He added that needs for groups of volunteers will continue for months to come. He assisted with repairing and rebuilding of homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Florence months after those hurricanes hit.

He compared the damage in the Ft. Myers area by Hurricane Ian to Hurricane Katrina, citing the September natural disaster as "not quite as devastating. But because of the population, the hurricane impacted so many people. It seems everyone knows someone who lost their life because of the flooding. Someone commented to me that there may not have been enough warning for people to think of getting out of the area, which is why the high death rate (close to 100 so far)."

Hughart said his motivation to help people in need, "springs from my Christian faith. If you say you love your neighbor, helping them is putting that love in action. When people are at a crossroads due to a setback, there is also an opportunity for them to hear of the good news of eternal life through Christ. They are more willing to a message of hope and encouragement."

He is planning on returning to Florida at the end of October. "There's so much work for months to come."

Anyone interested in learning more about Baptists on Mission Hurricane Ian relief efforts can visit www.baptistsonmission.org and fill out an application; or call Gary Holland at (828) 524-3215.



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Panthers wallop Knights, 35-3

Dan Finnerty – Sports Writer

On a beautiful, crisp October Friday night, the Franklin High School (FHS) homecoming queen was announced and the Panthers routed North Henderson, 35-3. The FHS Homecoming Committee chose a queen and runner-up from a court made up of 14 nominees. Senior Taylor Moss garnered Maid of Honor (2nd place) while Senior Tori Ensley was named Homecoming Queen for 2022. Prior to the crowning, each Homecoming Court member was driven around the football field track in a convertible to the cheers of football fans and family members and then escorted to the 50-yard line for photographs.

As for the Oct. 7 football game, the Panthers led the Knights from start to finish to go 3-1 in conference play and 5-2 overall. Junior Chance Pitts (#20) was named Player of the Game. From his inside linebacker position, Pitts had four tackles, some for crucial yardage losses, that helped solidify the dominating performance. Junior Beau Paulson (#16) also had a strong offensive game, including an option pass to Ashton Shope (#2) for a touchdown (TD) to close out the first half scoring for a 21-0 lead. Place kicker Daniel Riddle was once again accurate and productive, making all five points after touchdown. Franklin was very balanced overall on offense with 184 yards on the ground and 180 through the air. Quarterback Davis Anders (#12) had one of his best games thus far in the season, going 12/13 for 160 yards with one touchdown and one interception. Running back Ty Handley (#15) again delivered with two TDs, one rushing and one receiving.

Head Coach Josh Brooks is taking a predictably wise and cautious approach regarding the next phase of the season. Brooks commented that the last two weeks have been “two good wins for us – one turnover and limited penalties, very efficient throwing the ball ... [we are] playing for a share or at worst, a second place conference finish with two wins.” He went on to add that while both upcoming games will be critical to overall conference success, “Smoky [Mountain] is very balanced, very physical ... Smoky is our only focus at this point — glad to be playing in the middle of October with a lot to play for.”

A crucial stage of the season is upcoming, including two games against schools with winning records: at Smoky Mountain (4-3, 2-1 in conference) Oct. 14, and then home versus West Henderson on Oct. 21. The Falcons are 7-0 overall, 4-0 in 3A West Conference 54.



Franklin Panther Ty Handley, #15, made two of the touchdowns at the game against North Henderson.



Avery Moffitt & Justin Moffitt



Olivia Owle & Katai Bouakhamphong



FHS principal Michael Noe escorts 2021 homecoming queen Gracie Cochran.

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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 October 2 - 4. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

October 3

Travis Hamilton Potts, was charged with assault on a female. Adrian L. Mace made the arrest.

October 4

Keegan Clebe-Plumer Phillips, was charged with carrying a concealed gun. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

October 5

Juanita Marie Cleveland, was charged with breaking and entering. Corporal James E. Crawford III made the arrest.

Hannah Elizabeth Erdman, was charged with consume alcohol by 19/20 year old. Jordan C. Sutton made the arrest.

October 6

Matthew Brock Kelley, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. Deputy Cody J. Howard made the arrest.

Chandler Reed Stanley, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of fentanyl and possession of drug paraphernalia. Jonathan C. Bean made the arrest.

Haley Morgan McCall, was charged with possession of a schedule II controlled substance. Nick Lofthouse made the arrest.

October 7

Brendan Makenzie Williamson, was charged with failure to appear. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Casey Ray Murphy, was charged with failure to appear for serious bodily injury. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

October 8

Michelle Marie Nicholson, was charged with larceny. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Willie Eldon Watts, was charge with communicating threats and assault on a female. Joseph A. Raby made the arrest.

Danny Michael Cook, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of a schedule II controlled substance felony and resist/obstruct/delay law enforcement officer. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

October 9

Jeffery Lynn Carpenter, was charged with offense committed in jurisdiction. Sgt. Anthony Hopkins made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

October 2

Andrew Parker Casto, was charged with larceny of property, receiving stolen goods or possession of stolen goods and second degree trespass. J.A. Riles mad the arrest.

October 3

Chanler Lennon, was charged with misdemeanor larceny and second degree trespass. G.D. Hovis made the arrest.

October 4

Tyler Kyle Smith, was charged with trafficking fentanyl, possession with intent to manufacture/sell/deliver, counterfeit instrument +5, carrying concealed weapons and child abuse. E.D. Kirkland made the arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

October 3

Robert Lee Talley, 35, of Sylva, was charged with failure to appear for misdemeanor larceny, resisting a public officer, misdemeanor child abuse and school attendance law violation. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.

Michael Dustin Brooks, 37, of Camden Place, was charged with interfere with jail/prison fire system. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

October 4

Donathan Nathaniel-Colby Shelton, 30, of Magnolia St., was charged with true bill/sex act: Sub Parent/Custodian. A secured bond was set.

Steven Allen Butman, 50, of Morningstar Dr., Bryson City, was charged with failure to appear for breaking and entering and trespassing. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

Eric Michael Bengivenga, 21, of Manor Trace, was charged with failure to appear for resisting a public officer, failure to wear seat belt-driver, canceled/revoked/certificate/tag, operate a vehicle with no insurance and driving while license revoked not impaired revocation. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.

October 5

Shealyn Harris Young, 27, of Manor Trace, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon and break/enter to terrorize/injure. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Tami Lynn Thornhill, 54, of Dark Ridge, was charged with true bill for habitual felon and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$7,500 was set.

October 6

Martin Amador-Mendez, 23, of Devin Dr., Cullowhee, was charged with possession of stolen motor vehicle, breaking and entering a motor vehicle, larceny of a motor vehicle and no operators license. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Alyxzandrya Kaylenn Bell, 27, of Bell St., Whittier, was charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$10,000 was set.

Charles Edward Henson, 44, of Laurel Knob Rd., Cashiers, was charged with failure to appear for injury to personal property, attempted breaking/enter a motor vehicle, attempted larceny, possession of stolen goods/property, larceny and break or enter a motor vehicle. A secured bond of \$60,000 was set.

Owen Randall Pheasant, 38, of Kate Mambert Rd., Cherokee, was charged with probation violation. A secured bond of \$15,000 was set.

Sandra Taylor Rhinehart Maddy, 47, of Thontosassa, Fla. was charged with larceny, conspiracy and possession of stole property. A secured bond of \$100,000 was set.

October 7

Clover Camille Gilchrist-Myers, 54, of Gilchrist Dr., Bryson City, was charged with driving while impaired. An unsecured bond of \$500 was set.

October 9

Heather Nicole Moose, 32, of Gardina Lane, was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

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Another busy weekend for Franklin



Scenes from Saturday's Mountain High Music, Craft & Car Show at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts.



At left, Franklin's own Regina Duke with WestSound brought Motown to Main Street Saturday night inspiring some to "dance in the streets." Photos by Betsy Gooder

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Deaths & Funerals

Charlotte Dyer Miner

Charlotte Dyer Miner, 95, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022. She was born in Massachusetts Aug. 26, 1927, to the late Robert Theodore Dyer and Catherine Hanks Dyer.

She enjoyed cooking, quilting, sewing, and knitting. She was of the Presbyterian faith.

She is survived by two sons, Lane Miner (Jennifer) of Franklin, and Matthew Miner (Katherine) of Belfast, Maine; a grandson, Cory Miner. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, George Miner, and several brothers and sisters.

No services are planned.

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



Charlotte Dyer Miner

Beverly Sherie Collins Carini

Beverly Sherie Collins Carini, 75, went on to Glory on Oct. 1, 2022. She was born on April 1, 1947, to Fred Owen and Gladys Evelyn Hardy Collins.

She had a servant's heart through her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She loved music and took pleasure in playing the piano for services at both Hickory Knoll and Maiden's Chapel United Methodist churches.

She was a lover of roses, especially yellow ones, and was Mimi to her family. She had the sweet and unique way of awakening them in the morning by playing the piano. She wanted others to have her love of music and was willing to share her talent by teaching piano throughout the years.

She also truly enjoyed being a Trail Angel for hikers along the Appalachian Trail. She and her dog, Chloe, operated a shuttle that brought hikers to Franklin to rest and resupply and later returned them to the trail.

Sewing was another big part of her life. She delighted in making matching garments. Sometimes those garments got a thumbs up and sometimes a thumbs down. While her music and sewing were top notch, her family teased her about her cooking, saying they knew dinner was ready when the smoke alarm sounded.

Most important in her life, however, besides her faith, was her great love for her family. She absolutely doted on her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. In return, they adored their Mimi, and she leaves them with many wonderful memories.

She is survived by her children, Carolyn Grace Reeves and Barbara Ruth Kelley Emmons both of Pensacola, Fla., and Benjamin Lamar Reeves (Karrie) of Highlands Ranch, Colo.; 18 grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her parents; her husband, Frank Carini; a daughter-in-law, Allison Reeves; and a son-in-law, 2nd Lieutenant Shannon Patrick Kelley.

A Celebration of Life was held on Friday, Oct. 7, at Hickory Knoll United Methodist Church with Rev. Stephanie Thompson officiating.

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



Beverly Sherie Carini

Nan Kelso Preston

Nan Kelso Preston, 82, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022.

Born in Providence, R.I., she was the daughter of the late John Jarvie and Isabelle Wilson Milligan Porter. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, James Donald Preston. She was a registered nurse. She was a member of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, where she served as an Elder and secretary. Her hobbies included jewelry making, walking the greenway, knitting, and crocheting.

She is survived by her sister, Mary Phillips of Franklin; two nephews, David Alan and Michael Brandon Hanson; one great niece, Faith Eileen Hanson; one great nephew, Brandon Alan Hanson; and four great great nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her extended family, Dr. Tommy Jordan, Karen Jordan, and their children, Thomas, and Camile.

A Celebration of Life will be held Monday, Oct. 10, at 3 p.m., at Cornerstone Presbyterian Church. Dr. Tommy Jordan will officiate. Interment will follow in the memory garden.

The family will receive friends from 2:30 to 3 p.m., 30 minutes prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Cornerstone Presbyterian Church.

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



Nan Kelso Preston

Ellen Kaye McCall Hardy Plemmons

Ellen Kaye McCall Hardy Plemmons, 66, of Franklin, N.C., passed away peacefully on Oct. 10, 2022.

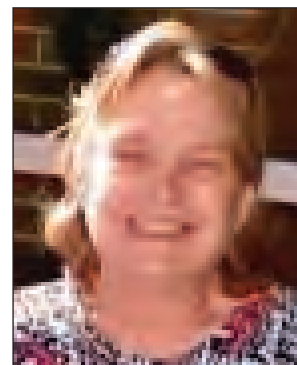
She was born Dec. 2, 1955, in Franklin to Janice and Lenis McCall. She spent most of her life in the Cowee community. She was full of life, kindness and empathy, and there was no emotion that she didn't feel to its fullest. When she laughed, it was with her whole chest. When she loved, it was with her whole spirit. When she grieved, it was with her whole soul. She loved the first tomato sandwich of the summer; music of every genre (as long as it was loud and she could dance to it); bragging on her kids and grandkids; and sitting next to the creek morning, noon and night. Her fried taters were as perfect as her jokes were inappropriate. Today and for many days to come, the people who knew and loved her grieve with our whole souls – even though she would tell us to celebrate her life and do the twist in her honor or she'd haunt us forever. Sorry, Mom, we're not quite ready for that. Haunt away.

There will never be another like Kaye, and we are grateful to have known her.

She is survived by her children, Nichole Esmon and husband Alex of Asheville, Justin Hardy and wife Carrie of Rogers, Ark., and Andy Plemmons of Bryson City; grandchildren, Piper Esmon, Graham Esmon, Truemner McCall Hardy and Lincoln Hardy; brother, Jerry McCall and wife Janet of Franklin; nieces, Lindsay Leopard and Amelia McCall; aunts, Linda Garner, Connie Curtis, Judy McCall, Betty Ramey, Susie Curtis and Gayle Tallent; a great brood of cousins; ex-husbands, Rick Hardy of Saginaw, Mich., and Mike Plemmons of Bryson City; and a host of beloved friends including her lifelong best friend Jeanne Tastinger. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Teresa McCall; aunts, Lucille and Dorothy; uncle, Steve Miller; and stepfather, Charles Henderson.

In keeping with her wishes, the family will hold a private memorial with a celebration of life to be held at a later date.

Donations in Kaye's memory can be made to the Community Care Clinic of Franklin.



Ellen Kaye Plemmons

Susan A. Bishop

Susan A. Bishop, 65, of Franklin, N.C., died Oct. 4, 2022, at Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville.

She was born June 14, 1957, in Media, Pa., daughter of the late William and Ruth Carrigan Bishop. She attended Wake Forest University, where she earned a master's degree in psychology. She later worked as an editor for several consumer and trade magazines.

She never met a stranger, and friends and family valued her wit and humor along with her loving and caring nature. She could not drive past stray dogs, and she risked life and limb to carry turtles across the road to safety. She will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her husband, Lee Buchanan of Franklin; daughter, Maggie Conner and son-in-law Ben Pannenbacker of Morganton; beloved grandchildren, Owen, Ellis and Liam; a sister, Jodi Bishop Macko (husband John); nephew, William Edward Macko (wife Amber Wiggins) and his son, Jameson Keith Macko.

No public services are planned.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling arrangements.



Susan A. Bishop

Janet Ann Anderson

Janet Ann Anderson, 64, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Oct. 8, 2022. She was born Oct. 13, 1957, in Franklin, to the late Turner Cleveland Anderson and Annie Lou Waldroop Anderson. She was a CPA and worked for the Town of Franklin as town accountant and clerk for 35 years. She attended the Cartoogechay Church of God and was a member of the N.C. Clerk Association and International Town Clerk Association. She liked to cook, bake, and have family gatherings.

She is survived by two brothers, Jerry Turner Anderson (Karon) and David Eugene Anderson (Gail); two sisters, Jane Elizabeth Anderson, and Patricia Anderson Davis (Gary); nephews, Steve Anderson, Charles Anderson, Will Davis, and Jonathan Anderson; nieces, April Anderson, Jennifer Anderson and Janice Mason; two great nieces, one great nephew; one great-great niece; and two sisters-in-law, Sandra Anderson and Marie Anderson.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Ellis Steve Anderson, and Paul Stanley Anderson.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Oct. 12, in the Chapel of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home, with Rev. Robert Dryman and Rev. Phillip Cochran officiating. Burial was at Woodlawn Cemetery. Pallbearers were Charles Anderson, Steve Anderson, Clint Anderson, Will Davis, Eddie Knight, Lloyd Mashburn, Clifford Waldroop, and Claude Waldroop.

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

Online condolences at www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com.



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Deaths & Funerals

Timothy Joseph Brown

Timothy Joseph Brown, 71, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Saturday, Sept. 24.

He was born April 18, 1951, to Irene and John Brown in Pasadena, Calif. He is preceded in death by his brothers, David and John.

He drove truck for 14 years in California. After moving to North Carolina, he was a carpenter/painter. He loved to grill and smoke for friends and family. His burgers and steaks will be missed.

He didn't know a stranger and would share the gospel with anyone who would listen.

He is survived by his wife, Christina; his brother, Tom of Kenesaw, Ga.; his sons, Derek Brown of Paso Robles, Calif., Ian Lister of Franklin, Nicholas Lister of Franklin; and daughters, Desere Brown, of Paso Robles, Danielle Brown of Ft Myers, Fla., and Patty Montez of Bakersfield, Calif.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, Oct. 1, at Franklin Covenant Church. Rev. Bobby Crawford officiated.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Nancy Woods Stamp

Nancy Woods Stamp, 44, left us on Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022.

She was born on Jan. 31, 1978, along with her twin Benjamin, in Newnan, Ga., to parents, John P. Woods Jr. and Elizabeth Anderson Woods.

She had a beautiful soul and found the best in everyone. She was a constant ray of sunshine to all who knew her. Whoever receives her blue eyes will be blessed to find goodness, kindness, and sincerity in everything. She was a partner and Vice-President of Operations with BCDA, LLC of Cashiers.

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents John and Nancy (MaMa) Anderson of Florence, S.C., and John P. Woods (Big John) of Cashiers and Martha (Gams) Woods of Jasper, Ga.; her paternal grandparents, Dehra Harrell and Grandad Stamp of Florence.

She is survived by her husband Jim, and Shelby, their golden retriever of Cashiers, N.C.; three brothers, John, DeWitt (Amy), and Benjamin (Ericka), all residing in the Cashiers area along with Pangie (Scott) Yeager of Newnan, Ga.; her aunt and dear friend, Joan Anderson of Cashiers; nieces, Caroline, Mackenzie and Anne-Elizabeth; nephews, Patrick, Anderson and Hank of Cashiers; her mother-in-law and father-in-law, Von and Bob Stamp of Florence, S.C.; and her sister-in-law, Vonni Stamp of Round Hill, Va.

A private family memorial service will be held on Sunday Oct. 9, with Pastor Aryn officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to MD Anderson, Houston, Texas; The Cashiers -Highlands Humane Society, or the charity of your choice.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Timothy Joseph Brown



Nancy Woods Stamp

Winifred Colleen McFadden

Winifred Colleen McFadden, 87, passed from this life in Franklin, N.C., on Oct. 7, 2022. She was born to Edward M. and Olive S. Hark McFadden in Smith Center, Kan., on Dec. 18, 1934.

Even though she was born in a small town in Kansas, she was not a small town girl. She never wanted to stay in just one place and managed to travel the world during her lifetime. She was a classy lady who excelled in high end fashion sales including jewelry and dresses for weddings and other special occasions. A social butterfly who loved people, she was known as a genuine person who had high ethical standards and spoke her mind.

She was resilient and dependable. She had many interests and led an active and exceptional life. She was an artist, producing works on both canvas and porcelain. She loved visiting museums and had a special regard for Great Britain's royal family. She knew their history as well as the royal lineage. She was an Elvis fan and enjoyed listening to the Blues. She also loved cats and was the owner of five black cats, each named Thomas, during her lifetime.

Most of all, however, she loved her family and provided them with many wonderful memories.

She is survived by her life partner of 39 years, Bryan Spooner of Franklin; her sons, Mitchell Shane Wyman (Kris) and Stuart McFadden (Karen) both of Charleston, S.C.; her grandchildren, Maggie, Tina, Joshua, and Dakota; and her great-grandson, Mason. She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Mona Isom; and her brothers, Stanley, Zane, and Jerry McFadden.

Memorial contributions may be made to CarePartners Hospice, 170 Church Street, Franklin, NC 28734, or a local animal shelter. Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family. Online condolences may be made at www.moffittfunerals.com.

Raymond Michael Johns Jr.

Raymond Michael Johns Jr., 90, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Oct. 3, 2022, at his residence in the Rose Creek Community.

He was the son of the late Raymond Michael Johns Sr. and Viola Florence Johns who retired to the Clarks Chapel community. His wife, June Anita Johns preceded him in death in 2000 after a brief illness.

He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War with the 17th Infantry Regiment as a Medic. He received a Purple Heart after being hit by a mortar during the battle of Pork Chop Hill in 1953. After moving to the Rose Creek Community in Franklin, N.C., in 1965 he began work for the U.S. Forest Service and later retired from government service.

During retirement, he enjoyed life with his family, local flea markets, tinkering around the house and cooking. He will be loved and missed dearly by his family and friends.

He is survived by four sons, Raymond Michael Johns II and wife Linda of Asheville, N.C.; Thomas Johns of Greenville Tenn.; Steven Johns and wife Julie of Black Mountain, N.C., and Timothy Johns of Greenville, Tenn.; nine grandchildren; two great grandchildren; and a brother, Wayne Andrew Johns and wife Marianne of Cherry Valley, N.Y.

In accordance with his wishes, no memorial or funeral services will be held.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Winifred McFadden



Raymond M. Johns Jr.

Elizabeth 'Betty' Jane Majors

Elizabeth "Betty" Jane Majors, 92, passed away quietly in her sleep on Oct. 8, 2022. She was born on Sept. 13, 1930, in Floral Park, N.Y. She was the only child of the late William "Bill" Henry Snedeker and Florence Gladys Saltsman.

She moved from New York to the Florida Keys in the mid-1950s and fell in love with the sun and saltwater. At 26 years old, she purchased a small bar on Islamorada and it soon became quite the hot spot for thirsty fishermen. She met and married her husband, Charles Floyd Majors. In search of new opportunities, the couple moved to Palm Beach County in the early-'60s where they eventually purchased a hotel, restaurant, and nightclub on Singer Island. In 1985, she was named Senior Vice-President with Universal Hotels as well as serving on the Board of Directors for the Palm Beach and Martin County Hotel and Motel Association. After working in the hotel/restaurant business for 40 years, she began a new career in her late '60s working for AAA where she received many accolades as top sales performer.

Following her husband's death, she moved to Franklin, N.C., to be near her daughter. She was a devoted daughter and wife, and a loving mother and grandmother. She was also a proud member of the DAR.

She is survived by her daughter, Monique Sutton (Hardee Sutton); and stepson, Richard Michael Majors; grandson, Jordan Sutton (Asia); and granddaughter, Kayla Youstin (Ty); and two great-grandchildren, Olivia and James Youstin, as well as many cousins in and around Palatine, N.Y.

At her request, a private family service will be held. Online condolences can be made at www.maconfuneralhome.com.

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Gladys Menalee Gibson

Gladys Menalee Gibson, 93, passed away at her residence on Sept. 30, 2022.

She was the daughter of the late Fred Crisp Sr. and HESSIE Grant Crisp. She loved crocheting, gardening, and taking care of her great grandkids. She worked at the hospital many years in house-keeping. She took her job seriously and was a blessing to the staff and patients she was around. She was very proud of her family.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Fred L Crisp Jr., Troy Crisp Sr., Doug Crisp; sisters, Hazel Hylton, Marie Smith, Joyce Stiwinter and Blanche Younce; her daughter, Barbara Gibson Ammons (Harold) of Franklin; granddaughters, Missy Tysinger (Jonathan) of Lexington, N.C., Mandy Phillips (Michael) of Franklin; sister, Shirley Hodgins of Franklin; brother, Gene Crisp of Franklin; four great grandchildren, Chandler Tysinger, Emma Tysinger, Madison Phillips, Caitlyn Phillips, and honorary great grandson Keegan Knepp; and several nieces and nephews.

In honoring her wishes, no services are planned.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Elizabeth Jane Majors



Gladys Menalee Gibson



View obituaries
online at

themaconcountynews.com



Deaths & Funerals

William Nathan Stewart

William "Billy" Nathan Stewart, 45, passed on Friday, Sept. 30, 2022, in his second hometown of Nantahala, N.C. He is best remembered fishing and hunting with his son, Elijah Stewart, trying to convince his daughter, Abigail Stewart, classic rock is better on tapes or vinyl, educating and befriending generations of Trade and Industry students, serving our country, coaching after his own athletic achievements in high school, and always getting a laugh.

He was born in Shelby, N.C., to Harold Nathan and Brenda Gail York Stewart. After high school he first attended Brevard College and later transferred to Appalachian State University where he earned his Bachelors degree. He taught vocations at several schools but primarily at Nantahala School. He also served his country as a member of the National Guard.

He absolutely adored his children. Eli's favorite memory is his dad allowing him to drive when they went fishing in Pumpkintown to celebrate his 16th birthday. Abby's favorite is her dad letting her skip school to go bear hunting which included a five-mile hike.

He had a great personality and a wonderful sense of humor and was always looking for a laugh either because of him or with him. He was a caring soul, not only about his family but also about his students. He wanted to give them the best start in choosing which vocation they planned to pursue. He enjoyed a variety of music, but hard rock and country music were his favorites. He loved animals, especially goats and wild animals. He doted on his Redtick-Treeing Walker mix hound named Sara.

He is survived by his children, Abigail "Abby" Grace Stewart and Elijah "Eli" York Stewart.

He was preceded in death by his parents along with his siblings, Harold Brian Stewart, and an infant sister, Lisa Renee Stewart.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, Oct. 15, at 11 a.m., at Watauga Baptist Church. Rev. Wesley Price will officiate. Military honors will be conducted by VFW 7339/American Legion 108 Honor Guard and the United States Army Honor Guard.

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

Richard Edward Allen

Richard Edward Allen, 70, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022.

Born in Medford, Mass., he was the son of the late Robert G. and Doris Withrow Allen. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Eric Lee Allen.

He loved sports and animals; and he will always be remembered as a loving husband and father.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Dawn Louise Asdot Allen; son, Rich Allen (Pat) of Clyde; and two brothers, Bobby and Ken Allen of Massachusetts.

No services are planned as per his wishes.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Appalachian Animal Rescue, PO Box 81, Franklin, NC 28744.

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



William Nathan Stewart



Richard Edward Allen

Richard Melvin

Richard Melvin, 81, passed from this world the morning of Oct. 1, 2022, with his wife, Margie Edwards Melvin, and daughter, Elizabeth "Betsy" Melvin Batten, by his side. He was born in New York City in 1941, a second generation American, to naturalized immigrant parents fleeing Czechoslovakia during World War II. He grew up in Palm Beach, Fla., and Highlands, N.C., the eldest son of his mother, Marie Kreysa Melvin, and William Harvey Melvin.



Richard Melvin

After completing high school at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School, he attended Duke University. He was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity and earned an undergraduate degree in English Literature. He completed his Juris Doctor degree at the University of Florida.

In tandem with his law studies, he completed a thesis on the 16th-century Spanish exploration of America. This proved to be a satisfying, lifelong adventure. Through 60 years of study on the subject, he found himself traversing rivers and swamps and flying airplanes across North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, poring over ancient texts, maps, and property records and spending hours of study into the wee morning hours in libraries along the eastern seaboard and across the globe. In a time before internet searches, he did the painstaking work of translation and discovery born of intense passion and curiosity. He was no "armchair scholar." Even into the final days of his life, he was having meetings to discuss his theory with friends, scholars, and archaeologists. He was one of the first members of The Society for the History of Discovery, where he presented and discussed his research at various national meetings.

He was a faithful American and volunteered for service in the Navy as a JAG officer during the Vietnam War. He served for five years attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He always said he learned to be a true professional in the United States Navy. He was stationed on the USS Independence and in Subic Bay, Philippines, but travelled around the world twice on various assignments, including investigation of the Forrestal fire and the Jordanian Crisis in the Mediterranean.

After his time in the service, he returned to Highlands and began over 50 years of service to the community as a lawyer with the firm, Jones, Key, Melvin, and Patton. He was a true counselor, known for his professional integrity. He had incredible foresight and an uncanny ability to see simple solutions through complex legal issues. He was devoted to his clients and pursued each day with the determination to use his gifts and his knowledge to accomplish some part of a greater good. In fact, he often began his daily conversations with his daughter with a pressing question: "Did you do any good today?"

In addition to his law practice, he served his community in various roles at Highlands United Methodist Church, Highlands Playhouse, Highlands Biological Station, Highlands Planning Board, Macon County Historical Society, Macon County Library, and Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust.

Along with his wife and daughter, he is survived by his son-in-law, Wise Batten Jr.; cherished grandsons, Wise Henry Batten III and William Rhain Batten; his brother, William Melvin; brother-in-law, Donnie Edwards (Linda); and a host of treasured nieces and nephews, who have been a source of joy and support. He was predeceased by his sister, Pauline Melvin Stevenson, and brother, Paul Douglas Melvin, and his loving parents.

Richard Melvin captured the treasure of a simple life. He knew the blessings of a home filled with family and friends, laughter, delicious, home-cooked meals, and lots of good books.

A celebration of Richard's life will be held on Friday, Oct. 7, at 2 p.m., at Highlands United Methodist Church. The family will receive friends at a reception after the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust.

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

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

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Christopher Bell advances in Playoffs with dramatic win

Reid Spencer – NASCAR Wire Service

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – In a turn of events that bordered on the unbelievable, Christopher Bell found his only path to the Round of 8 in the NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs.

On fresh tires, thanks to a strategic pit stop under caution on Lap 105, Bell passed Kevin Harvick to the outside through Turns 1 and 2 after a restart on Lap 111 and pulled away to win Sunday's Bank of America ROVAL 400 at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Road Course.

With the victory, Bell transferred to the Round of 8 and simultaneously eliminated reigning series champion Kyle Larson, who brought his No. 5 Chevrolet to pit road on Lap 98 after hitting the wall and breaking the right-rear toe link on his car.

Larson finished five laps down in 35th and was ousted from the Playoffs by two points. After spinning in the backstretch chicane on Lap 107, Chase Briscoe recovered to finish ninth on fresh tires and grabbed the eighth and final berth in the Round of 8 by the two-point margin over Larson.

Bell didn't have the fastest car on Sunday, but he and crew chief Adam Stevens took advantage of two late cautions to make the winning move.

"Man, you've just got to be there at the end of these things," said Bell, who entered the race 33 points below the cut line for the Round of 8. "I keep watching all these races where the fastest car doesn't always win. No secret that road courses have not been our strength this year.

"We were just there at the right time. We obviously weren't in position to win (before taking tires). We rolled the dice, gambled, and it paid off for us."

A chastened Larson blamed himself for his ouster.

"I just made way too many mistakes all year long," Larson said. "Made another one today. Ultimately cost us an opportunity to go chase another championship.

"Just extremely mad at myself. I let the team down a number of times this year, and let them down in a big way today."

Austin Cindric and Daniel Suarez also suffered elimination. Cindric spun entering the backstretch chicane after the final restart on Lap 111 and finished 21st, missing the Round of 8 by 13 points. Suarez fought his No. 99 Chevrolet after his power steering failed during the third stage and came home 36th, leaving him nine points behind Briscoe for the final transfer spot.

Briscoe restarted outside the top 20 on Lap 111 and took advantage of Cindric's spin, his own aggression and a block from Stewart-Haas Racing teammate Cole Custer, who held up cars Briscoe needed to pass on the final lap.

"Yeah, man, what a wild day," Briscoe said. "It took every bit of it there at the end. To be easily in, then that debris caution comes out (on Lap 104). Still, I thought we had a really good shot of making it in. Get wrecked on the backstretch. Crazy at the end of these races, especially the road course races, how much can change so quickly.



Christopher Bell, driver of the #20 DeWalt Toyota, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Bank of America ROVAL 400 at Charlotte Motor Speedway on Oct. 9, 2022, in Concord, N.C. Photo by Jared C. Tilton/Getty Images



"I had no idea we were even going to have a shot (on the final restart). Truthfully, I knew we were probably out. I saw the 2 (Cindric) wreck, I thought maybe there's still a chance. We had so much fresher tires than anybody. (Crew chief Johnny (Klausmeier) pumped them way up to qualifying pressures, let me go attack, have the ball in my hands."

What had been an orderly race for 103 laps descended into chaos after NASCAR called the third caution of the race on for debris in Turn 6, ending a 50-lap green-flag run.

That's when Bell brought his No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota to pit road for tires. He restarted 12th on Lap 107, and by the time he returned to the finish line—due in part to a pile-up in Turn 1—Bell was pursuing Tyler Reddick for the second position.

On Lap 108, Bell slipped past Reddick and was chasing Harvick when a second debris caution for a melee in Turn 2 forced the race to overtime. On the final restart, Harvick was a sitting duck on older tires, but he managed to hold off Kyle Busch for the second spot.

Joining Bell and Briscoe in the Round of 8 are Chase Elliott, Ryan Blaney, Joey Logano, Denny Hamlin, William Byron and Ross Chastain. Elliott led a race-high 30 laps and appeared headed for his third victory at the ROVAL before the caution on Lap 104.

After the Lap 107 restart, Elliott, who had qualified for the Round of 8 with last Sunday's victory at Talladega, spun through the grass outside Turn 6 following contact from Reddick and came home 20th.

Logano, the pole winner, took the first stage wire-to-wire but was buried in traffic after a pit stop on Lap 27 and finished 18th.

AJ Allmendinger ran fourth after leading 24 laps, followed by Justin Haley, Chris Buescher, Bubba Wallace, Reddick, Briscoe and Austin Dillon.

With points reset entering the Round of 8, Elliott holds the top spot in the NASCAR Cup standings with a 20-point edge over second place Logano.

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AJ Allmendinger wins fourth straight at Charlotte ROVAL CONCORD, N.C. – It took a bit of thievery for AJ Allmendinger to preserve his perfect record at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Road Course.

“We got that one—we stole that one,” shouted Allmendinger after spinning his car like a dervish during a celebratory burnout at the finish line of the 2.32-mile, 17-turn road course.

Indeed, the 40-year-old Allmendinger swiped the lead from Ty Gibbs—a driver half his age—after an overtime restart on Lap 68 of the Drive for the Cure 250 presented by BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina, the Round of 12 elimination race in the NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoffs.

After lagging behind Gibbs into Turn 1 on three previous restarts, Allmendinger kept his No. 16 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet to the outside of Gibbs No. 54 Toyota through the first corner, surged ahead into Turn 2 and cleared Gibbs from the inside line through Turns 3 and 4.

“It’s unbelievable,” Allmendinger, who won for the fourth time in four starts at the Charlotte ROVAL. “Ty was really good there at the end, and I didn’t know if I was going to be able to get him. I knew if I could just get to one restart on the outside of him, at least we’d have a chance.”

Once in the lead, Allmendinger survived a second overtime restart before beating Gibbs to the finish line by .582 seconds. The victory was Allmendinger’s second straight in the series, his fifth of the season and the 15th of his career — 10 of which have come on road courses.

“I was wanting it pretty bad there,” Allmendinger said. “I didn’t think we had a shot, but I’m always going to put it on

my back when it’s time to go. We got that one. We stole that one!...

“I drove it in as deep as I could (on the final restart), probably used Ty up just a little bit, but I’d expect the same if the

proud of the effort.

“I had a fun out there and learned a lot.”

Allmendinger already had clinched a spot in the Playoffs’ Round of 8 with last Saturday’s victory at Talladega. So had third-place finisher Noah Gragson, who won his fourth straight race a week earlier at Texas Motor Speedway.

Gibbs clinched his spot in the Round of 8 by finishing second to Allmendinger in the first stage of Saturday’s race. Justin Allgaier, Josh Berry, Sam Mayer, Austin Hill and Brandon Jones also advanced to the next round, with Jones finishing seventh in the race and claiming the final spot by two points over Ryan Sieg.

All four JR Motorsports drivers—Gragson, Allgaier, Berry and Mayer—will be competing for positions in the Championship 4 race at Phoenix Raceway.

In addition to Sieg, reigning series champion Daniel Hemric, Riley Herbst and Jeremy Clements were eliminated from the postseason.

Hemric qualified third but slammed into the outside barrier between Turns 5 and 6 on Lap 3. He recovered to finish 17th but ended the round 11 points behind Jones after contact from Sieg on a late restart.

“I made a mistake on Lap 3 that you just can’t make,” Hemric said ruefully.

Road course specialist James Davison ran fourth, followed by Allgaier, Alex Labbe, Jones, Berry, Sieg and Landon Cassill.



AJ Allmendinger, driver of the #16 Nutrien Ag Solutions Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series Drive for the Cure 250 presented by BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina at Charlotte Motor Speedway on Oct. 8, 2022 in Concord, N.C.



roles were reversed.” Gibbs was diplomatic in his assessment of the final two restarts.

“I just lost the lead on that one restart and didn’t execute the right way and lost it there,” Gibbs said. “The last one, I caught the fence when I got ran wide, and it just kind of hurt my momentum... I feel like I gave it my best run, but I was



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RECYCLE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PG. 15

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME:
GREEK MYTHOLOGY

ACROSS

1. Food-contaminating bacteria
6. *Meliae are nymphs of the ____ tree in Greek mythology
9. Chris Hemsworth's superhero role
13. Come by without warning (2 words)
14. Type of patrol
15. You are
16. "That is," Latin
17. *Half man, half goat
18. German surrealist Max
19. *One-eyed giants
21. *One part human, part divine
23. Eastward compass bearing
24. Gauche or Droite, in Paris
25. Bar bill
28. Convenience
30. "Stop right there!"
35. 15th of March
37. Loot
39. State indirectly
40. *Collected by the mythological ferryman at the River Styx
41. *Winged symbol of Zeus
43. Copied
44. Give or take
46. Indian Lilac tree
47. Close by
48. Inexperienced newcomer
50. Beaks
52. Genetic info carrier, acr.
53. Swamp stuff
55. Bo Peep's follower

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 57. *She opened an infamous box 61. *Poseidon's spear 65. Distant 66. Bit of sun 68. Tea variety 69. Font embellishment 70. Econ. indicator 71. Make improvements or corrections 72. Email folder 73. Hurry 74. Carpentry grooves <p>DOWN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Beowulf," e.g. 2. Buffalo Bill's last name 3. Petroleum exporters' org. 4. Type of cotton thread 5. Chant | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Pharaohs' vipers 7. Reggae's cousin 8. Indic vernacular 9. Actress Spelling 10. Like undecided jury 11. Approximately (2 words) 12. Retired, shortened 15. Saudi's southern neighbor 20. Peas, in Middle English 22. Adam's biblical partner 24. Chemical agent in a reaction 25. *Cronus or Oceanus 26. Hacienda brick 27. Under 29. *One of Zeus' disguises 31. Arabian Peninsula country 32. Stimulant 33. Gather 34. *Hercules' Lernaean foe | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 36. Lump in yarn 38. High school club 42. Hot coal 45. Alert (2 words) 49. Ever, to a poet 51. Used a credit card 54. Frustration, in a comic book 56. Swelling 57. School hallway permit 58. Sheltered, nautically 59. Female Norse deity 60. "I dare you!" (2 words) 61. Use a Smith Corona 62. Squeezed or ____ out 63. Faux pas 64. Koppel and Turner 67. "Wheel of Fortune" request (2 words) |
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The Classifieds

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YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	BMW	Alpina XB7	536
2022	Edge	Sport	101
2021	Kia	Optima EX	20,010
2020	Chevrolet	Camaro	25,641
2020	Chevrolet	Corvette 3LT	8,263
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	Volkswagen	Beetle	42,676
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox	53,520
2018	Chevrolet	Cruze	34,692
2018	Traverse	LT AWD	95,105
2017	Dodge	Journey	110,982
2017	Honda	Fit	59,209
2013	Hyundia	Genesis 6 SPD	69,381
2013	VW	Beetle Convertible	67,099

SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	BMW	X5	1,402
2022	Buick	Enclave Essence	1,372
2022	Honda	Passport Trailsport	4,512
2022	Jeep	Wrangler Sahara Unlimited	10,539
2021	Chevrolet	Tahoe	33,592
2021	Ford	Bronco Badlands AWD	1,237
2021	GMC	Yukon XL	53,356
2021	Grand Cherokee	L	13,279
2021	Jeep	Wrangler Sport	8,094
2020	Acura	MDX AWD	46,606
2020	Buick	Encore	34,808

2020	Chevrolet	Trax	7,250
2020	Chevrolet	Trax Premier	28,030
2020	GMC	Acadia AT4	28,261
2020	Grand Cherokee	Trailhawk	26,226
2020	Jeep	Wrangler Rubicon Unlimited	24,249
2019	Chevrolet	Blazer RS	45,231
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
2018	Chevrolet	Equinox LT	23,569
2018	Ford	Explorer Sport	57,475
2018	Forerunner	TRD Sport	65,055
2018	Nissan	Murano	53,903
2017	Rogue	SV	58,866
2016	Chevrolet	Traverse LS AWD	62,942
2016	Dodge	Grand Caravan	76,458
2016	Lexus	RX 350	72,919
2016	Sorento	LX	112,933
2016	Toyota	Sequoia	96,869
2015	Suburban	LT	92,352
2011	Jeep	Wrangler	108,260

TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	Chevrolet	2500 LTZ	4,635
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	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	Chevrolet	Trailboss Crew	22,256
2021	Colorado	Z-71	12,912
2021	F-150	Crew 4x4	32,251
2021	Ford	F-150 SuperCrew Cab	32,251
2021	GMC	Canyon Elevation	50,934
2021	Ram	2500 Tradesman	3,647
2021	Toyota	Tacoma TRD Sport	10,557
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	1500 Trailboss	36,741
2019	Chevrolet	2500 LTZ Crew	38,248
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	Ford	F-150 Punisher	53,682
2019	GMC	Sierra 1500	18,811
2019	Nissan	Frontier	90,486
2019	Ram	3500 Flatbed	58,192
2018	Chevrolet	1500 LT Crew	28,131
2018	Chevrolet	1500 LT Crew	50,934
2018	Chevrolet	2500 LTZ Crew	56,558
2018	Chevrolet	Colorado Z-71	23,542
2018	Colorado	ZR2	36,012
2013	Ford	F-250 DSL	85,920



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