

Waterfalls and autumn colors go hand in hand in the mountains and the Highlands Road falls do not disappoint. Take a drive in any direction in Macon County to view spectacular colors and find out why visitors flock to this area for the experience. For more fall photos in and around Macon County, see page 17.
 Photo by Betsey Gooder

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Hospice House receives \$100K in grant funding



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FHS Tennis team undefeated in conference play

New high school focus of joint meeting

Dan Finnerty – Contributing Writer

The Macon County Board of Education and Macon County Board of Commissioners held a Special Called Joint Meeting at the Franklin High School (FHS) Fine Arts Center on Oct. 18. On the agenda were numerous topics, with the new high school project being the central item.

Macon County Commission Chairman Jim Tate opened the meeting and introduced school board chairman Jim Breedlove. Tate spoke about children being Macon County's greatest asset and that both boards are charged with an "important step in the history of the county."

A public comment segment opened the meeting and Richard Lightner, a Macon County Tax Administrator for the past 35 years, expressed his opinion that the county take steps to acquire additional real estate to help ensure there is

ample space for when expansion is needed. His primary emphasis was deeding the old drive-in theater, consisting of nine plus acres, which was purchased for FHS and cost more than \$450,000. He further pointed out that approximately 40 acres are available that can be incorporated into eventual FHS property. Lightner lobbied the county to approach the project from a wise real estate angle.

"Spend the \$3 million (for the additional land) you need right here now," he said. "Macon County can afford to invest in their youth more than they can afford to invest in the jails we are sending young people to when they get in trouble."

Another speaker, who did not share her name, expressed concern about not making the project political and whether the proposed one-quarter percent tax for the cost of the

See MEETING page 2

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MEETING

Continued from page 1

project would remain in Macon County. She also voiced concern over how the eventual new school grounds would be designed, and how funding can be wisely spent, such as for trade school training incorporation in addition to athletic fields and facilities.

Paul Boney, chief executive officer of the architectural firm LS3P, led a long segment of the meeting that covered both the need for and design of the new high school facilities. As a third generation architect, Boney brought experience and expertise to the discussion. He voiced his personal opinion on the inefficiency of current school buildings and structures as compared to new facilities, with the current high school having been built in 1952. At the same time he acknowledged concern over the cost.

“What this is about is saving money for the county so your

taxes don’t go up to run these buildings,” said Boney. “These (the current school facilities) buildings right here take a lot of energy. They have a lot of doors and are made up of energy deficient systems.”

He also pointed out that while building the school seems costly, it is also taking eventual money savings into account through much more efficient energy consumption.

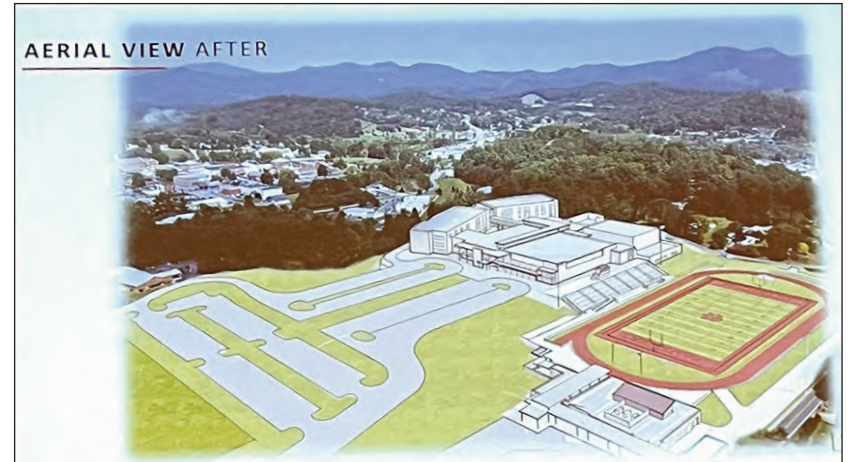
The three-person LS3P team then covered some slide representations of the current school grounds compared with schematic design of the new main complex and surrounding facilities, athletic fields, parking, etc. Economic development, student/faculty

safety, energy savings, and community pride were all incorporated into the presentation. The first slide focused on economic development, safety for students/faculty, energy savings, and community pride. A site plan showing a new stadium, a new building, and demolition of the existing school buildings was presented. Additionally, level one and two schematics displayed secure entry and courtyard areas as well as outdoor learning incorporation, primary and auxiliary gymnasiums, classrooms, an auditorium, and media center.

A slide covering budget data, including cost of work, construction contingency, and cost escalation, was also shown and dis-

cussed. While the grand total cost equaled \$118,420,233, the present day value was listed as \$73,603,998. Boney pointed out that construction contingency and cost escalation adding up to \$17,664,960 were areas built in to avoid glaring overages and could very well result in the project eventually coming in under budget rather than over.

The final segment of the presentation included a video that covered numerous aspects of the American Disabilities Act (ADA) allowances being incorporated into the design of the facilities and how the current school buildings fall short of ADA requirements. Commissioner and former FHS



A “before and after” aerial view shows the consolidation of seven buildings that now make up Franklin High School into one structure.

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principal Gary Shields introduced the video and emphasized its impact on the overall project approach. The video was filmed at the current Franklin High School and focused on its existing ADA limitations.

LS3P concluded their presentation with a project recommendation that read: "LS3P recommends that the Macon County School Board and Macon County Commission authorize LS3P to submit the Schematic Design Package for Franklin High School and Design Development for the Stadium local and state review agencies."

Additional comments from the panel and audience included some questions on agricultural building(s) eventual inclusion and availability of soccer and softball/baseball fields/facilities. With the new football field being artificial turf, expectations are that it will result in a multiple use area, including being utilized as a soccer field/stadium. At the conclusion of the discussion, Shields stated that additional information on the project can be accessed and reviewed by the public on the county website (maconnc.org).

"On the website today is the real reason also why you need a new high school," said Shields. "It shows you the pros and cons of the old school."

He further emphasized that commissioners cannot possibly meet with everyone

who has questions and concerns about the project; that is why utilization of the website is so valuable in informing the public about the new high school project.

A motion was made to approve L3SP moving forward with the project that was unanimously approved by the board of education.

Other items of business included the Macon County Middle School locker room bid acceptance.

County manager and Liaison Committee Chairman Derek Roland presented information on the project. Bids were submitted by three applicant companies with the proposed cost of \$2,519,250 bid by Carolina Specialty Construction (CSC) being the lowest. This bid also falls within the funds appropriated for the project (\$2,640,000). The Liaison Board requested that the Commission consider awarding the bid for the construction of the locker room project to CSC. This request was approved by a unanimous vote.

Lastly, a Macon County Middle School track resurfacing project was discussed. After providing some information on the project, and receiving input from meeting attendees, Roland advised that due to the existing bid being dated the Board motioned to have the project rebid before moving forward. That motion was approved.

Chance to support vets this Saturday

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Western North Carolina residents, and even visitors to the area, are invited to celebrate the one-year anniversary of 828 Vets' inception at their First Annual Warriors Walk on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Beginning at Franklin's Tassee Shelter at 877 Ulco Drive, the walk will continue for approximately 828 meters along the Little Tennessee River Greenway in honor of local veterans and all that 828 Vets has done for the community. Walkers will return to Tassee Shelter for food, friendship, and fun. With a round-trip distance of about a mile, all are welcome to join this easy trek.

Starlett Henderson, an organizer of the event, hopes the event will give the community a chance to show their patriotic camaraderie.

"This is just a time to be together, com-

memorate our first year, and engage the community in a common outdoor venue. Everyone is invited, not just veterans or those affiliated with the military."

The 828 Vets group is overseen by veterans to assist their fellow veterans. Their goal is to promote growth, awareness, and success for veterans in business. They also offer support to local veterans in need by connecting them with area resources and supportive community members, meeting every Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. at CareNet on Bidwell Street for fellowship and networking.

To find out more about this event and the 828 Vets' mission, visit 828vets.com.

In addition, 828 Vets will oversee the local Toys for Tots effort. In fact, Toys for Tots 75th Christmas Campaign has launched. To find out more about the 828 Vets Marine Reserve Toys for Tots program, visit: <https://828vets.com/services/828vetstoysfortots>.



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Think Pink: Breast cancer awareness is for everyone

Clint Kendall
Angel Medical Center CEO



Clint Kendall

I want to start off with a huge thank you to the community and our amazing staff for making the opening of our new community hospital a success. I enjoyed meeting many of you and those I did not get to meet, I'm hoping we can in the near future. Your continued support of your community hospital is the only way that we can continue to offer state-of-the-art technology and the services that you need close to home. If you have a need or concern, please reach out to the team here at Angel Medical Center (AMC) and we will ensure it gets addressed. The leadership team at Angel is here to serve this community — every person, every day.

Most people recognize October as a month filled with pink — from pink ribbon logos on clothing, food packaging, and every other product imaginable, to temporary NFL team uniforms, and even firetrucks swathed in pink. This is the visual cue we all recognize that signifies it must be October, Breast Cancer Awareness month. You might wonder why breast cancer receives so much attention. It's because, according to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, the disease is the most common cancer in women worldwide.

Even with all the progress that has been made in diagnosing and treating breast cancer, the statistics are still alarming. One in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer this year. The good news? When detected early, at a localized stage, the five-year survival rate for a woman who is diagnosed is an amazing 99%.

This is ultimately the positive reason why there is so much emphasis on breast cancer — it is treatable and survivable, especially when it is discovered early. What are the best ways to detect breast cancer? The number one way is through routine monthly self-breast exams. Knowing your body is key to knowing if anything has changed or feels unusual, so it's important to start doing self-exams early and be religious about taking the time to do them every month. A good tutorial on how to do a breast self-exam is on the breastcancer.org site, and women should start performing them at age 20.

The second important step in supporting breast health is for a woman to make sure she schedules yearly visits with her pri-

mary care practitioner and her OB/GYN, who are partners in everyone's healthcare. Your practitioners may do a manual and visual breast assessment, as well as discuss when you should start receiving mammograms. If any abnormality is found, they are key practitioners who can connect you to an oncologist, a cancer specialist who can provide lifesaving treatment.

There has been some disagreement in the larger community of cancer-related organizations about when to receive your first mammogram. Some, like the American College of Radiologists and the Mayo Clinic, advise starting annual mammograms at age 40, while others, like the American Cancer Society, recommend starting screening at age 45, with the option to start at age 40. This is something you should address with your doctor, but it's important to know that one in six diagnoses are received by women in their 40s. Also, getting your mammogram for the first time at 40 as opposed to 45 is associated with a lower breast cancer death rate, and we therefore recommend starting your screenings at age 40.

AMC offers the latest screening technology for detecting breast cancer to women in our community, including 3-D mammography, ultrasound, and stereotactic biopsy procedures, which help your provider better locate an abnormality.

Angel also has a team of highly skilled radiologists that have specialized training in reading the studies. This allows them to deliver the best information back to your provider. We also have practitioners in the community who are focused on providing preventive care and information on lowering your breast cancer risk, such as primary care providers, oncologists, and OB/GYNs.

The wide range of services that women in our community have when it comes to preventing, screening for, and treating breast cancer are second to none. Our goal, as always, is to keep care close to home, because home is where healing can begin.

If you need more information about breast cancer or preventative diagnostic exams, reach out to your local practitioner or contact Angel's mammography department at 828-369-4259. We are here for you.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to announce that AMC is partnering with local law enforcement agencies to host a Crush the Crisis prescription medication take back event. Community members can anonymously and safely drop off any unused and expired medications for disposal here at AMC on Saturday, Oct. 29, at 124 One Centre Court in Franklin, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please note that we will not be able to accept needles, syringes, lancets, inhalers, or liquids. Participating in this event keeps our community safer. For more information, call (833)582-1970.

Four important considerations for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Dr. Odicie Fielder – Kaiser Permanente of Georgia

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 287,000 U.S. women are projected to be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2022. It is the most common cancer in women, accounting for one in every three new female cases. This sobering reality is the focus of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual October observance that serves as a vital reminder for all women about precautionary steps that can be the difference between life and death.

Increased awareness, advances in detection technologies and more effective treatment regimens have greatly improved breast cancer outcomes, but preventative measures should be a priority for all women.

Routine medical care and screenings: Regular health checkups and breast cancer screenings greatly increase the likelihood of early diagnosis and positive outcomes. All women should see their primary care physician annually for clinical breast exams and expect to begin mammograms around age 40.

While not replacing professional healthcare, self-examinations are essential in monitoring breast health and should be completed after a menstrual cycle in premenopausal women. Any unusual pain, nipple discharge or skin changes should be reported to a doctor immediately.

Know your risk: A family history of breast cancer and/or certain genetic factors can greatly influence risk, underscoring the importance of knowing your heritage and personal health profile. Women with family members who have or had breast cancer should begin regular mammograms earlier than age 40 if a first-degree relative was diagnosed prior to turning 50. In such instances, subtract 10 years from that relative's age at the time of diagnosis to determine when to begin regular mammograms and consider genetic testing to better understand the risks.

Lifestyle: A healthy lifestyle is an effective means of mitigating breast cancer risk. Women should maintain weight in proportion to their height — a Body Mass Index of 25 or less — eat a well-balanced diet rich in fruits and vegetables, and exercise moderately for at least 30 minutes five days a week.

Smoking should be avoided, and alcohol consumption limited to four or fewer drinks per week.

If you are diagnosed: Though undoubtedly serious, a breast cancer diagnosis is no longer as dire as it once was, with significant advancements made in treatment options. Surgeries have become less invasive, radiation treatments have been refined to minimize side effects and may preclude the need for chemotherapy in some patients, and new, better technologies and treatment options are emerging.

If you are unfortunate enough to face a breast cancer diagnosis, take comfort in knowing skilled and compassionate professional care is available. Expect to meet with a surgeon and a team of oncologists and work with them to draft an effective treatment plan specific to the type of cancer as first steps toward a cure.

As we mark National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it is vital women remain vigilant. With continued awareness, we can all play our part in mitigating the impacts of breast cancer.



SCC is now offering dental assistant program

Southwestern Community College is now offering a new dental assistant program through its Workforce Continuing Education Division.

The two-part online program lasts 24 weeks. New classes will begin on the first Tuesday of every month. Students will develop skills to prepare a patient for treatment, prepare dental instrument setups, and assist a licensed dentist in the treatment of patients. Employment opportunities include working for dental offices and physicians.

"We're excited to be able to offer training for this fulfilling



Above, a client receives dental care.

career for the first time," said Scott Sutton, SCC's Dean of Workforce Continuing Education. "Anyone who's ever wanted to work in the dental field can get started this fall, and they can complete the program in less than half a year."

The registration fee for the program is \$180, and there is no application deadline for students.

Scholarships are available to students who meet eligibility requirements.

For more information about this program, contact Latresa Shuler at 828.339.4425 or lashuler@southwesterncc.edu

Hospice House Foundation of WNC receives almost \$100,000 in funding

Hospice House Foundation of WNC (HHFWNC), whose mission is to construct an in-patient hospice facility in Franklin to serve the residents of far western North Carolina and northeastern Georgia, has been awarded grants totally nearly \$100,000 in the past four months. This major support brings the Foundation within \$250,000 of its final fundraising goal, according to Foundation President Michele Alderson

The Foundation's most recent grant awards include:

- ◆ The Church of the Good Shepherd - \$10,000
- ◆ Highlands Cashiers Health Foundation - \$31,420
- ◆ Mountain Findings - \$25,000
- ◆ Philip L. Van Every Foundation - \$25,000

"SECU Hospice House of WNC, so named in recognition of and appreciation for an extraordinary \$1 million lead gift from the State Employees' Credit Union Foundation, is slated to open this time next year," Alderson said. "It will be through the philanthropic spirit of organizations like those listed here, individuals and corporate donors that our mountain region will one day soon be blessed with a Hospice House."

The need for an in-patient hospice facility in the far western mountain region is great, said Alderson, considering that 25 percent of the population in this geographic area is age 65 or over, the age group most served by hospice.

"When we open the doors next year, SECU Hospice House of WNC (SECUHH) will become the only in-patient hospice facility in North Carolina west of Asheville, increasing the percentage of WNC residents living within 35 miles of such a facility from zero to nearly 75 percent," she said.

SECUHH was designed incorporating a 50+ year old 3,300 sq. foot home at 272 Maple Street in Franklin which will provide the home-like environment with which Hospice Houses have become synonymous, where loved ones of SECUHH patients can access comfortable areas for resting, cook-

ing, and spiritual reflection. And, because of the sloped topography of the property, the facility has been designed to include a 3,000-square-foot lower level that will be utilized in support of palliative care and hospice services. Palliative care helps improve quality of life in people with serious illnesses, including but not limited to hospice patients, through relief of pain (and other troubling symptoms) and stress management, as well as helping the patient understand treatment options and answering questions about their illness/care.

An immediate funding need facing the Foundation is for architectural/engineering services related to renovation of the residential home and completion of the in-patient facility's lower level, an estimated \$35,000 expense that was not part of the original fundraising campaign budget, Alderson said.

SECUHH is a collaborative initiative between two not-for-profits, HHFWNC and Four Seasons The Care You Trust. It aims to address three health and wellness gaps existing in the western counties:

- 1) A lack of quality end-of-life in-patient care – SECUHH will address the area's long-distance barrier to receiving dedicated end-of-life in-patient care, including symptom and pain management;
- 2) Inadequate access to mental health support – As a result of SECUHH, Four Seasons is projected to increase its grief and loss support by helping more families cope with the illness and death of loved ones;
- 3) Health risks associated with caregiving – SECUHH will provide respite care (temporary institutional care of a sick individual, providing relief for the caregiver), helping caregivers get the rest they need to stay well.

Construction of the in-patient care unit is 80 percent complete. Its completion, along with renovation of the residential home and construction of the lower level of the in-patient facility, is anticipated to be finished Summer/Fall 2023.

Once HHFWNC completes construction, Four Seasons will operate this new in-patient facility.



This view of the back of the SECU Hospice House of WNC shows patient suites and a sunroom.

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Candidate profiles: Macon County Commissioners Part II

Early voting begins today, Thursday, Oct. 20, in Franklin. Voters can cast their ballots at the Robert C. Carpenter Community Building on Georgia Road Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays through Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Highlands early voters may vote at the Highlands Civic Center, 600 N. 4th Street, Highlands, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Saturdays through Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Absentee ballots may be requested through Nov. 1 at www.maconnc.org; www.ncsbe.gov; by calling (828)349-2034 or email to Macon.boe@ncsbe.gov.

General Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 8. Voters will cast ballots at their respective precincts. Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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 II of commissioner candidate profiles include District 1 candidate Jerry Moore and District 2 candidate Danny Antoine.

Jerry Moore

Jerry Moore has been married to Kay for 29 years and they have four children. Moore has been actively involved in the Highlands

community since his arrival in 2007, volunteering as little league baseball coach, youth basketball coach, youth soccer coach, Highlands School baseball and golf coach, past chairman of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, past secretary of Highlands Tourism Development Commission, past president and current treasurer of the Highlands Rotary Club, past chair of the Highlands Zoning Board, current member of the Macon County Economic Development Council and finance chair of the Highlands-Cashiers Health Foundation.

Moore has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Public Administration Degree.

He has been a small business owner for the past 15 years. From 2007 until 2019, he operated Kilwin's Chocolates & Ice Cream in Highlands. He was also employed by the U.S. court system for more than 10 years as a federal probation officer, spending the last four years as the supervisor of the pre-sentence and pretrial investigation unit. He currently operates Main Street Payments which provides credit card processing and book-keeping services to small businesses in Western North Carolina.

Danny Antoine

Danny Antoine is the owner of Danny An-



Jerry Moore



Danny Antoine

toine's Martial Arts Academy, having been in business here in Macon County for 22 years. He has been married to Mary Antoine for 14 years. Together, they have 15 children and 11 grandchildren. He is a local Pastor, and a volunteer Chaplain for Franklin Police Department and Franklin Fire Rescue.

"At our karate academy and through our home, my wife and I (along side our children and amazing staff) have served families in Macon County tirelessly. I currently serve on two nonprofit boards: CareNet, and KAVOD Family," said Antoine.

Why are you running for commissioner?

Moore: I believe my life and work experi-

ence will allow me to bring a fresh perspective to the commission. Additionally, Macon County is clearly experiencing a period of significant change and I would like to be a part of the solution to help maintain the character of what makes this a great place to live. I also believe the need to maintain our economic viability and improve our education system will require someone with analytical skills and the ability to work

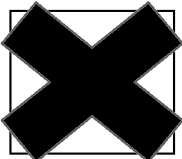
with others. I believe I am the best person in this race to accomplish those goals.

Antoine: "I am running for County Commissioner to continue to serve Macon County at a greater capacity. Government is supposed to serve the people. I feel like we have gotten away from that in our nation."

What do you think the role of a commissioner is?

Moore: I believe the role of the county commissioner is to be the voice of the people as it relates to the business of the county government, but also on other issues outside of the role of county government that are still crucial to the success of our county. The

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commissioner should be well prepared regarding the financial issues of the county and how tax dollars are spent, and be willing to hold county employees accountable for the services they provide to the residents. The commissioners must empower the county manager and department heads to carry out the vision of the commissioners' constituents, and commissioners must be prepared to report back to their constituents on the work of the government and how their tax dollars are being spent. The average citizen does not have the time to carefully analyze the budget and other issues of the county, but as a commissioner you agree to take on that role on behalf of the citizens of Macon County.

Antoine: County commissioners are responsible for the county's annual budget, but more importantly, county commissioners are responsible for serving the people of their county well and to give the citizens a voice.

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?

Moore: It appears we have secured a few new retailers in the past year, with Chik-Fil-A and the soon to be opened Aldi grocery store. I also think the expansion of the Ingles footprint will allow for greater competition in the grocery market. Large scale clothing retailers is clearly a missing link, but I think this also creates opportunities for small businesses to fill that void. Our Economic Development Council needs to continue to strategize in an effort to bring a variety of good paying jobs to our county that will enhance the quality of life for Macon County residents. I think county government can collaborate with a variety of entities, but I believe a true free market will bring the best results for sustainable economic security.

Antoine: "I think many things can be done to recruit businesses to Macon County. But we have to understand that we must address housing needs to help facilitate this. The wonderful thing about having a new board of commissioners along with what can potentially take place on Nov. 8, is that with all of our different areas of expertise in the private sector, we have a chance to come together to add significantly to the betterment of Macon County."

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?

Moore: I fully support the proposed ¼

cent sales tax increase, which will round-up our sales tax to 7%. All five of the other counties in Western North Carolina have taken advantage of this increase, and they are moving forward with infrastructure projects with these funds. Approximately 45% of retail spending in Macon County is transacted by visitors who will be paying the extra ¼ cent on their purchases that will benefit our county's bottom line. This alternative funding method will allow us to keep our property taxes fair and reasonable for our residents, while still allowing us to meet the demands of our county's future.

Antoine: "Concerning the sales tax referendum, the citizens of our county will be the ones to let us know whether or not they are up for pouring into this tax. I personally feel that Macon County should give me a chance to see what we can do with our current budget, and if you like what we do then we can revisit this quarter cent sales tax.

From speaking to many citizens here, I think people are not quite happy with not having much to show for our current tax base. I say give a new board a chance to make some great changes beneficial to all Macon County citizens. Plus in this recession, I don't think it's fair to raise taxes when people are already suffering. I was for this increase for a while, but after careful considerations and hearing many of your hearts on the matter, I think we should wait for our economy to turn around before adding insult to injury."

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

Moore: Clearly the most significant issue that will impact the county financially is the building of a new high school in Franklin. The existing structure is unsafe, outdated and not an adequate learning facility for students or teachers. We must be creative in our approach to financing this project, working hard to get state funding and other funding sources in lieu of an excessive increase in property taxes. Although the county does not have control over the outcome, access to broadband is a critical need for our county residents, and the commission will need to work with all stakeholders to deliver reliable broadband to all of our residents. I have found broadband access to be the number one topic on the campaign trail.

Antoine: Drugs are claiming far too many lives. Job/career opportunities are not competitive here in Macon County, and housing here is seriously lacking. We need planned growth and housing solutions for that growth. Industry brings about livable income.



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Five running for two open seats on the Macon County School Board

According to the the Macon County Board of Education policy manual, the board consists of five members. Terms are for four years with the terms staggered so that as nearly equal to one-half as possible will expire every two years. Elections are to be held at the time of the November general election in even-numbered years.

Six names appear on the ballot for the nonpartisan position of Macon County School Board member. Two seats are open – one for District 2 and one for District 4. Running in District 2 is Danny Reitmeier, Stephanie Hyder Laseter and Billy Handley. Long time board member Tommy Cabe's name is also on the ballot even though Cabe passed away last month.

Running in District 4 are incumbent Carol Arnold and Diedre Breeden. Arnold was appointed to replace Fred Goldsmith when he resigned in 2020.

Danny Reitmeier

Danny Reitmeier was raised in Franklin with his sister, Beth Corbin and their brother, Chris by their two parents. He was a student athlete and very involved in student government all through his school years. He graduated Franklin High School, joined the Air Force and served for 8.5 years. He is a proud veteran, having served in Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm. He is married to his wife, Kim, and "we have a wonderful family," said Reitmeier. They are "very proud" parents and grandparents. He am a "born again Christian, saved by the blood of Jesus." He is a member of Holly Springs Baptist Church, where he has attended for 28 years. He has been a Sunday school teacher, sang in the choir, and helped



Danny Reitmeier



Diedre Breeden



Carol Arnold



Stephanie Hyder Laseter

with the church youth group. He has coached many youth sports teams, and has umpired and refereed in youth leagues for many years. He has volunteered at many school activities. He was the equipment manager for the high school football team for many years and is the public address announcer for Macon County Youth Football games.

Diedre Breeden

Diedre Breeden is a wife, mother of three and a follower of Christ. Native to Macon County, I was raised by a family of educators and highly value the role of education and learning in our lives. Pouring back into my own childrens' education has been second nature to me from the time my oldest entered school. I have been a lifelong member of Cowee Baptist Church, serving in a variety of ways there, as well as within the community. I have a B.A. in Psychology and M.A. in Professional Counseling. Currently I own and operate a private Christian counseling practice in Franklin. In addition to this, my husband, Barry, and I lead Heart for Families, a local non-profit that specializes in bringing Bible based marriage and family resources to our community.

Carol Arnold

Carol Arnold is running for the Macon County School Board (District 4 - At Large) seat. She was previously appointed to this position December 2020, upon the resignation of Fred Goldsmith to complete his four-year term. She is asking for support to elect her to another four-year term, to complete projects that are currently in progress. These projects include capital building projects as well as curriculum programs.

She has been "happily married" to Jerry Arnold for 47 years. Educating children, working with parents, and helping fulfill educational dreams have been their life-long mission. They both attended and graduated from Macon County Schools and Western Carolina University. The couple has one son, Jason Arnold, who is currently Chief Assistant District Attorney for the 43rd Prosecutorial District. He also graduated from Franklin High School and UNC-Chapel Hill.

She has 38 years of experience in education including as an elected member the Macon County Board of Education from 1998-2002.

Education includes Bachelor of Arts in Education; Master of Arts in Education; six-year educational degree; current educational li-

censes in Early Childhood, Middle Grade, Mentor, Curriculum Specialist, Principal and Superintendent licenses.

Experience includes teacher in Swain County; Macon County teacher (Teacher of the Year 1984); Exceptional Children Director (EC and gifted) Macon County; Central Office Executive Program - UNC Chapel Hill; Ed/Consultant NC Department of Public Instruction - Region 8; Education Me-

diator - Region 8; Adjunct Professor - Western Carolina University; Associate Superintendent - Clay County Schools; Contract Consultant - Federal Programs - Macon County Schools.

Stephanie Hyder Laseter

Stephanie Hyder Laseter is running for school board District 2.

She is a native Maconian and graduate of Franklin High School. She is a biologist, volunteers in Franklin athletics clubs and PTO. She is a wife to Ben, mother to Laurel (10th) and Reid (7th).

Why are you running for school board?

Reitmeier: "My reason for running for School Board is simple...I love our county and the people that live here and want to serve them in the best way possible. Our students deserve the best education and chance to succeed in life. I have a strong desire to preserve and improve the quality of our school system. It's time for new ideas, new energy, new personalities, and new ways of looking at things.

"I am a 'people person'....I've never met a stranger. I truly care about people. I believe those character traits will help me


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connect with the citizens in our county and earn the trust necessary to move our school system forward. All of our citizens, teachers, administrators and support staff deserve someone to truly listen to them, be transparent and speak on their behalf. I would be that voice.”

Breeden: “I am running because I have a desire to serve and believe I can make a difference. I am a parent of children currently in the school system so I have insight to current issues and my professional background gives me a perspective I believe would be an asset to the board. I can bring new thoughts and ideas to discussions, which is important to our community finding ways to move forward and giving our students the best possible start after high school, in whatever path they may choose.”

Arnold: “Franklin High School is deteriorating. Fred Goldsmith left me a responsibility to see a new high school completed. This accompanied by increased parental involvement in all areas, academics promoted in all subjects, safe schools, and Pre-K classrooms in all elementary schools. Our county’s parents deserve no less.”

Laseter: I have a passion for public education, for supporting our schools (which directly impact our community) and teachers.

What do you think the role of a school board member is?

Reitmeier: “Provide every child with the opportunity to receive a “sound basic education.” Set educational policy within the limits of its authority and overseeing the implementation of its policies and the state’s educational program. Make decisions about the superintendent’s personnel recommendations. Manage the budget wisely. Provide adequate school facilities.”

Breeden: “The purpose of the school board is to promote the success of our students, but this is multifaceted and requires addressing the whole child, which includes

supporting their families, finding ways to bring balance to their lives within the academic realm, all while setting them up for future success.”

Arnold: “School board members help build public support and understanding of public education, lead the public in demanding a quality education for all students, and oversee policy and budget. Board members should continually keep abreast of requirements/statutes of school law, finance, physical plant, personnel, curriculum, etc.”

Laseter: “It’s not what I think the role is it is by definition to provide support to the staff of Macon County schools, an excellent learning environment for students and teaching environment for teachers.”

Do you support parental/community involvement in schools? Explain why or why not.

Reitmeier: “I absolutely support their involvement in our school system! The parents know their children better than anybody else. Their input and insight would be invaluable when deciding how to provide the best education and resources for our students. The community should be involved as well because they pay taxes that are used to operate the school system budget. It would be a good way to ensure transparency with our citizens.”

Breeden: “I believe it is essential. I am a parent of three, and strongly believe in parents having input and choice in their child’s education, which will only become more important over the next few years. In speaking to the parents out there, I will always do my best to listen, that is my career after all, and am passionate about bringing change wherever needed to promote the success of our students who are our future.”

Arnold: “Parent engagement in schools is a shared responsibility between parents and school staff. They work together to support and improve the learning, development, and

health of children. Parent engagement is one of the most important components of having a successful school program. I fully support parent/community involvement in all schools.”

Laseter: “100%. Several years ago I felt that parents weren’t as informed as they should be on important issues. I co-created a social media platform to help with this: Macon Co Support Our Schools can be found on Facebook.

“Parents and guardians have to be engaged in their child’s classroom. Community members can volunteer, mentor, assist with after school programs or drive buses. This only strengthens the community.”

What do you see as the greatest challenge to improving Macon County Schools?

Reitmeier: “Personally, like life, everything is a challenge to a certain degree. Some challenges are greater than others, but when it comes to our schools and children, they are all equally important to me. Advocating for current and future facility needs and understanding the expenses and ramifications to our community is important. Wading through the curriculum and trying to figure out how to better prepare our youth for the real world is important. Involving everyone in our community and making sure their voices are heard is important. Getting as much feedback and input from the teachers, administrators and support staff is important! The greatest challenge to me in regards to the current school system is to keep everything balanced equally because they’re all important to me. Not just as a candidate, but also as a father and grandfather. There’s not a singular item in mind that trumps one over the other. Everything is important and challenging in regards to our children because we only have one chance to set an example and prepare them to excel in this world. If you’re looking for a candidate that is singular on one issue, then that’s not me. If you are

looking for a candidate that prioritizes everything equally with our children in mind, then vote Danny Reitmeier for school board.”

Breeden: “Mental health is one of the greatest challenges described to me in multiple recent conversations with school administration and employees I have been able to connect with during this process. Over the last few years we have seen a significant rise in mental and behavioral health issues within our students and families. Every school in our county has expressed to me the need for adequate mental health support within the school system.

“We also have some significant infrastructure needs across the county, like the new Franklin High school, for example, which need to continue to be a priority. Above all, the ongoing need to prioritize student success, which encompasses so much; protecting the learning environment, supporting teachers, promoting parent involvement and a continued emphasis on growth of opportunities for our future.”

Arnold: “The greatest challenge facing Macon County schools is to continue our path toward ‘excellence’ in all areas. Working in tandem with our county commissioners, county manager, all communities, and parents will ensure safe, modern facilities and effective programs. Our goal for all students is to learn how to communicate effectively, compute efficiently, and develop scientific literacy. These required components set the the foundation for ‘student success.’”

Laseter: “Aging infrastructure. We’ve put this off for years and now the bill is coming due. The reality is we have to replace, improve, and maintain our schools. For far too long we’ve argued about the cost and then kicked the can down the road.

“It’s time we addressed the issues, without cutting corners.”

Candidate for District 2 Billy Handley had not responded as of presstime.

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What's new on the plateau

Patrick Taylor
Highlands Mayor



Patrick Taylor

Today, Thursday, Oct. 20, is the start of early voting. It continues to Nov. 5. I don't know why we call it early voting anymore, a whole lot of folks now vote well before Election Day on Nov. 8. The early voting format has become a standard way ballots are cast.

If a voter is registered in Macon County and works in Highlands, that person can early vote at the Highlands Recreation Department precinct. If the voter waits until Election Day, he or she will have to vote in their assigned precinct. The long and short of it is that early voting is a very easy and flexible way of casting a ballot in North Carolina. The important point is that everyone living and/or working on the Highlands Plateau cast a vote. It sends a message to the entire county that Highlanders are concerned and engaged with what happens in our Macon County.

Now I'm not writing this get-out-the-vote message to tell anyone who to vote for in the midterm election. I value the American secret ballot tradition. Once in a voting booth a voter can vote for the candidates of their choice and not be obligated to tell anyone who or why they voted for specific candidates.

I will tell you that I am voting for the 1/4 of a penny increase in the sales tax. Of the surrounding counties, Macon County is the only county that has not approved this increase. A vote for this increase would set the sale tax rate at 7 cents per dollar instead of the current 6.75 cents. This increase will help the county provide critical support to the education and ensure other county services.

Tonight, Thursday, is the Highlands Town Board meeting. It begins at 7 p.m. at the Highlands Community Center next to the ball field. The meeting can also be accessed on YouTube by way of the town website. The meeting agenda is rather long. There will be a budget amendment to purchase a new pumper fire truck. The department needs to order it now and hope that it is delivered in a year or so.

The board will also get an update from the Playhouse and a request for an HAM radio antenna attachment on the Big Bear Pen tower. The board will review and hopefully approve the lease agreement for the Highlands

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Letters to the Editor

Followers of 'cult figure' satisfying their own greed

It is astounding to me to realize how many otherwise seemingly intelligent people have been indoctrinated into this cult. We must acknowledge that many of the followers are doing so while fully aware that what they are doing is ridiculous, irresponsible and only done in the interest of their own personal benefit. However, we must also realize the roll (sic) that radio, television and the internet have played in the brainwashing of millions of others who may not be aware that this has happened to them. So many of these followers know almost nothing about the people that they are supporting. They don't realize that these people do not care anything about them and see them only as "useful idiots."

There are obvious motivations for many who follow or pretend to follow this dangerous cult figure. They do not care that their actions or their lack of action may have enormous negative effects on the lives of the vast majority of Americans. I shudder to think that they know how bad these people are and yet still support them. They are only concerned with satisfying their own greed, their lust for power or simply their need to feel superior in some way to other human beings. There are also those who just need a sense of belonging to something; it's "us against them." A whole lot of people are unwitting converts whose minds have been filled with irrational fears and fantastic lies by people whose only interest is in manipulating the public in order to increase profits and maintain power over them. So many are seemingly incapable of accepting the truth, following logic or feeling empathy.

Being a student of history, I have learned the consequences of the types of tactics and strategies we have seen employed by this cult figure, his enablers and his followers over the last few years. I will count my blessings and feel encouraged by the fact that he has consistently proven that he is nowhere near as smart as some from the past. But I remain disturbed by the fact that he has been surrounded by a few people who are as devious, cunning and ruthlessly ambitious as his diabolical predecessors. This cult figure reminds me of a nine year old boy-king who is easily manipulated by the court around him. They are using him in order to achieve their own goals. He is their "useful idiot."

We have just narrowly escaped what could have been the beginning of the end of our democracy. Anyone who still supports these people is actively working to destroy it and we are not out of the woods yet. It is a sad fact that this is still a very real possibility. I encourage everyone to learn from history; you may be shocked at the striking similarities between what we are seeing now and what has happened in the past. We have seen this playbook employed before; the political violence and intimidation, calling for opponents to

be jailed, calling the press the "enemy of the people," the steadfast denials of the truth and the methodical replacement of political figures who have dignity and integrity by those who have none. Right down to the slogan "Make Germany Great Again." Does that sound familiar?

M. Gruber – Franklin, N.C.

This election is the last chance to save our country

We are finally at the crossroads with the ability to change the direction of our country. We get the opportunity to vote in the midterm elections.

The big question we need to ask is: Are we better or worse off than we were two years ago?

The facts are telling.

Two years ago, even in the midst of the pandemic, there was no inflation, we were energy independent, we had a border that was under control, criminals, terrorists, and drugs were not pouring into our country amongst the throngs of poor people seeking refuge. In just two years, criminals are taking over our streets in the big cities, being let go without bond as liberal prosecutors refuse to prosecute. Millions of Americans are becoming addicted to drugs that are now readily available. Families are struggling as prices continue to rise in grocery stores and at the gas pump.

What has our president done? He has not only not solved any problems, he has created them.

Bill O'Reilly points out: "Even if you hate the Republicans, conservatives, Donald Trump. I don't care. What I do care about is one fact. Two years ago, the United States had the most vibrant economy on Earth. That is a fact. Energy Independent, two years ago. Now? Our economy is in shambles. And we have to beg OPEC to harvest oil. If you don't grasp that, then you don't want to know the truth."

If you have a life-threatening health issue and you can choose between a surgeon who is competent but you may not like him, or a surgeon with a great bedside manner but who is incompetent, who will you choose? That is the choice we have today.

Conservatives are our only hope to putting the brakes on this downward spiral we are on. This is our last chance. If the radicals win, we lose our country and our hope for the future. There are no more chances. They will destroy us in the next two years.

Please look at the facts. Please vote intelligently. Please pray for our country and do your part to change the present into hope for the future.

Loretta Hastings – Franklin, N.C.

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Threat to democracy is most important issue

The office of Secretary of State (not usually considered a high-profile post), this year may well represent the most critical vote cast in all 50 states in November. Secretaries of state perform the tedious role of election administration: Training poll workers, managing each states voter-registration database, authenticating the accuracy of voting machines and perhaps most important, certifying election results.

It cannot be over-stated that this position requires a person in whom we have the utmost confidence and trust. As expressed by Lawrence Norden, senior director of the Elections and Government Program at the Brennan Center for Justice, "if you can't have trusted, neutral people running our elections, then you don't really have free and fair elections, then we're not a functioning democracy anymore."

Across America, election deniers, ardent promoters of Donald Trump's baseless claim that 2020 election was stolen through rampant voter fraud, are on the ballot for Secretary of State, other key positions and state legislatures.

If any of these candidates win they will possess a plethora of powers to subvert future elections simply because they don't like the result. These rogue election officials could attempt to prematurely stop the counting of ballots, turn the outcome over to a partisan state legislature, or simply refuse to certify the result (exactly what former president Trump hoped former VP Pence would do.)

In his speech Sept. 1, in front of Philadelphia's Independence Hall, President Biden stated, "equality and democracy are under assault" (referencing those who) "refuse to accept the results of a free election" adding, "in state after state, they're working to give power to decide elections to partisans, empowering election deniers to undermine democracy itself.

I truly believe that threat to democracy is the single most important issue facing America today. Even though state and federal investigations found no evidence of widespread voter fraud and even though Trump's own Department of Homeland Security, Justice Department and FBI vouched for the election's integrity, people believed the lies so strongly they stormed the United States Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, in a desperate attempt to stop the election's certification, breaking a nearly 250-year tradition of peacefully transferring power.

When Benjamin Franklin left Independence Hall after the second drafting of the Constitution, he was confronted by a woman who asked him, "what manner of government have you bequeathed us, Mr. Franklin?" To which he replied, a Republic, madam, if you can keep it."

Rest assured, democracy and our future are on the ballot this November. A recent Quinnipiac Poll found that: "Americans (by 67 to 29%) think the nation's democracy is in danger of collapse." We have cause to be concerned that a large number of Americans support Donald Trump, men and women who have put loyalty to one man above honor and above duty to truth, country and the Constitution."

Realistically, what can any conscientious voter, with a sense of right and wrong, do in a political environment seemingly leveraged against them by bought and paid for politicians who very often act in a desultory manner giving rise to the commonly held perception they are elected to be served rather than to serve? First, voting a strict party line is probably counter-productive. It allows politicians to campaign on sound bites and worn out platitudes rather than being pinned down to what they actually believe and forced to declare their intentions. Voters have a right to know for whom they're voting and, conversely, voters have a responsibility to do the legwork, to ask questions, to research, to satisfy themselves that a candidate merits their support and their vote. Many voters don't take their responsibility seriously enough. That's how we ran into trouble in 2016.

President Biden called Trump's political philosophy,

"semi-fascism." I believe Biden to be correct. Trump has been, is, and will continue to be, a grave threat to democracy and our nation.

David Snell – Franklin, N.C.

We've fallen a long way from being a republic

Well, it's election season again and some people are already tired of seeing signs, hearing stump speeches, and reading campaign ads. But, for anyone who appreciates democracy in action, now is a good time to reflect on some basics. Most people realize America is supposed to be a constitutional republic that only practices democracy while having an ultimate rule of law although we've fallen a long way from being a republic. We are well on our way to self-destruction because the unhinged and unconstitutional mob insists on forcing our society into a democracy so that 51% control the 49% with no regard to the rule of law. Our nation's founders were very specific not to create a democracy because every democracy of previous civilizations has ultimately collapsed.

Much of the reason America has now become a fading empire is because we have lost the influence from Christianity. Biblical beliefs have never been forced onto society from the government as the current gender confusion craze or all other kinds of woke nonsense and socialist cult ideology have been crammed down our throats recently. We've come a long way from the days when government openly admitted that we needed God in America's fabric to maintain freedom.

In other forgotten civilizations, as a nation prospers, the people usually begin to ignore God. It is obvious that within our current society we either ignore God or are openly hostile to Him. Even though the idea of separation of church and state has been totally misconstrued by liberals, symbols of God are not allowed in public places when they used to be celebrated. Teachers are not permitted to speak of God or Biblical principles anymore and schools have no discipline. Innocent babies are murdered daily in the false name of women's rights. Churches are told not to meet together for fear of ever-present germs. Crime and despair in large cities are out of control. Unbiblical alternate lifestyles are openly celebrated. There is widespread disbelief in the Bible even though it has never been proven wrong while the Bible continues to be proven accurate by secular history, science, and archaeology.

Currently, America is doing the exact opposite of "progressing" since we are repeating man's history of rejecting God. It has also been said that we ignore God at our own peril. Families, institutions, and whole cultures crumble when they ignore God. The complex problems facing modern America are proof positive. It could be said that we are already under judgement for our rejection of God's truth. God's desire throughout man's history and for our nation today is that we repent and trust in His son, Jesus Christ. None of us are without sin and all are in need of God's mercy and grace that can only be found in Christ alone. Since all of the Bible is completely truthful, we should especially pay attention to the fact that Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Salvation is more than simply believing in God to attain eternal life because even the demons believe in God. We must humbly admit we are sinful and ask God to forgive us of our sins as we trust in Christ's righteousness for salvation. Romans 6:23 tells us plainly, "the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Jesus died in our place to satisfy God's wrath for sin. We will never be good enough to get to heaven on our own because even our good works are corrupted.

When we become God's children, we learn what a relief

TAYLOR

Continued from
page 10

Visitor Center and chamber offices.

EnviroSpark will be making a presentation on EV charging stations for the downtown area. Another item on the agenda is changes to the code of ordinances concerning outdoor burning, grumbling and noise. Town committees comprising staff and board members have been working on these issues and will report to the full board for action to be taken. Lamar Nix, our public works director, will present to the board a policy on private road maintenance and snow removal procedures.

Hope to see you at tonight's meeting. Public comment will be at the top of the agenda.

it is to trust in God and not government or cultural whims. We learn how to govern ourselves, our families, our communities, and our nation with the Bible as our guide. America's best days were when society had widespread morality from a belief in the Bible's teachings. When we can admit our need for God as many of our founding fathers acknowledged, society is more peaceable. When we follow Biblical principles, freedom thrives because we understand there is absolute truth, and we have the power and intelligence to reject the mob's lies.

How many local candidates in this election cycle are willing to discuss these bigger picture foundational truths of defending families, faith in God, and true freedom apart from corrupted government in order for our communities to thrive? These are the measures we should have as a gold standard for any candidate running for elected office. If voters are paying attention, there are several of them willing to stand for these bedrock principles that have been America's successful guide in the past, but their opponents have only been playing the political charade.

Jim Gaston – Franklin, N.C.

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Franklin High soccer and tennis teams continue successful seasons

Dan Finnerty – Sports Writer

The Franklin High School (FHS) Panthers Tennis team finished its 2022 conference season with a record of 14-0 overall, 12-0 in the Seven 3A Conference. On Oct. 11-12, Franklin hosted the Conference Tennis Tournament, which pitted singles and doubles players from East, West, and North Henderson, Tuscola, Pisgah, and FHS. At the conclusion, the Panthers were seeded first and third in doubles as well as third in singles for the upcoming regional tournament, which will be held in Hickory beginning Friday, Oct. 21.

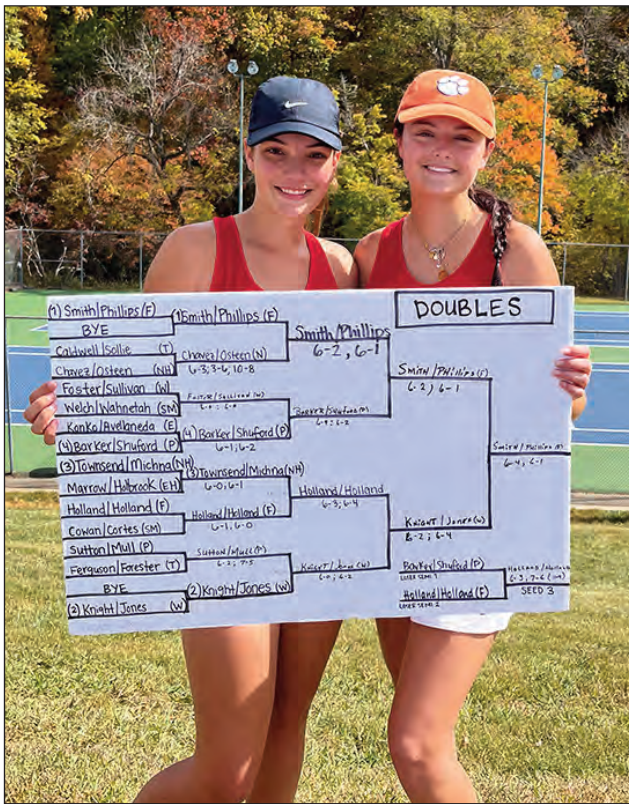
For the tournament seeding competition, Alyssa Smith and Kate Phillips defeated a team from West Henderson, 6-4 and 6-1 to win doubles and secure the #1 seed in regionals. Sisters Lydia and Laura Holland won a match against Pisgah, 6-3, 7-6 (11-9) to take the #3 seeding. On the singles side, Abigail Angel garnered the #3 seed, while Tuscola's Sierra Sellers and West Henderson's Ava Heffner took the second and first seeds, respectively.

Head Coach Heather Bell provided some insight from the tournament.

"Work ethic is something I have never once questioned with this team [or] their willingness to put in the work and time. They show up, work hard, compete well ... all while maintaining an inspirational notion of teammate above self, and then show up and do it all again the next day," she said.

Bell went on to express her positive impressions with her team's fortitude.

"Throughout the season the bottom half of our lineup was so dominant against other schools' bottom players, it was hard to know what they were truly capable of and there was a big question mark on how they would stack up against the top players in our conference," she continued. "I expected them to compete well, but I was impressed with the margin and magnitude of their wins. Having a #3 doubles team



Franklin High School's Kate Phillips and Alyssa Smith win conference tennis tournament doubles.

upset not one, but two, top-seeded #1 doubles teams, both containing their schools' top singles players, is rare."

FHS Soccer
FHS' boys soccer teams are having similarly successful

seasons, although there are still some regular season games to play. The varsity team currently sits at 7-2-1 in the conference (12-4-1 overall) and 2-1 in their last three matches. Varsity Head Coach Matt Kolodzik pointed out that, "more importantly, we currently sit alone on top of the Mountain 7 Conference ... We have played well enough to hold our future in our own hands."

FHS can lock-up first place with two wins against Smoky Mountain and West Henderson.

"Both are excellent teams and we'll have our work cut out for us," Coach Kolodzik said.

FHS hosts Smoky Mountain Oct. 19, with the next game scheduled for Oct. 24 at West Henderson.

"We host Smoky for our Senior Night and hope to avenge a tie at their home field." Regarding the West Henderson game, Kolodzik also offered, "We beat them 3-0 at home and hope to finish strong with a win at their place. As we complete the season and head into the state playoffs, we'll be battle tested. These young men have experienced comeback wins, extra time victories, and have learned from each loss or tie. They are ready to respond to adversity and hopefully make an amazing run into the postseason. I'm extremely proud of the team they have become and can't wait to take that ride into state with them."

The Panther Junior Varsity, coached by Adam Tallent, currently has a 6-4-3 (4-3-1) record and played to a 2-2 tie at North Henderson Oct. 17.

Panther football at home Friday

Lastly, the FHS football team suffered a 33-17 loss at Smoky Mountain Friday, Oct. 14. The Panthers currently stand at 5-3, (3-2 in conference) while the Mustangs are 5-3, 3-1. FHS' next game is Friday, Oct. 21, when the Panthers will host the 8-1, 4-0 West Henderson Falcons before finishing out the regular season home vs. T.C. Roberson on Oct. 28.

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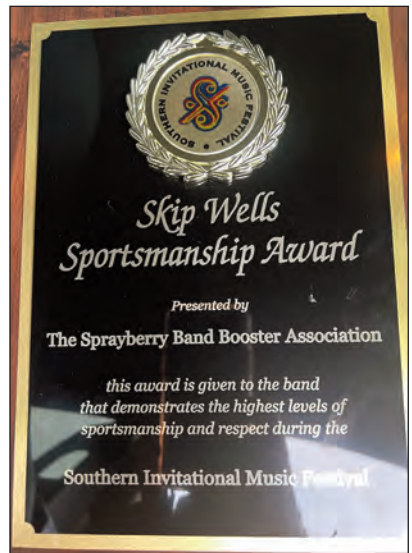
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FHS Band is given 'highest honor'

The Franklin High School Marching Panther Regiment competed Saturday in the Southern Invitational Championships receiving the highest honor bestowed upon any group in the competition – the Skip Wells Sportsmanship Award. The plaque says, “this award is given to the band that demonstrates the highest levels of sportsmanship and respect ...” Band director Buddy Huckabee was elated. “I am so proud,” he said. “For the second year in a row, presented to us by his mother (in memory of Skip Wells), we received the highest honor at the Southern Invitational Championships. [The] band was chosen again as the most respectable and respected, honorable and best sportsmanship/spirited group overall out of 27 bands at the Championships. To me as a director, everything else is all ‘just plastic’ but this one is the best one a director could ever receive.”

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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Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department, Franklin Police Department or Jackson County Sheriff's Department made the following arrests October 6 - 16. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Macon County Sheriff's Department

October 11
Divinty Aleza Guest, was charged with second degree murder. Matthew T. Breedlove made the arrest.
Andrew Parker Casto, was charged with offense committed in jurisdiction. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.
Isaac John Carrion, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation. Costin Jiglaou made the arrest.

October 12
Zachary Holder, was charged with misdemeanor stalking. Joel Lynch made the arrest.

October 13
Joshua Edly Gregory, was charged with breaking and entering a place of worship. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.
Kishi Marie Mashburn, was charged with breaking and entering a place of worship. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

Dana Marie Henry, was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked not impaired revocation. Jay Wright made the arrest.
Andrew Hesselbirg, was charged with resist a public officer. Joel Lynch made the arrest.
Joshua Edly Gregory, was charged with offense committed in jurisdiction. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.
Kisha Marie Mashburn, was charged with offense committed in jurisdiction. Denver J. Elliott made the arrest.

October 15
Robert Tyler Moose, was charged with carrying a concealed gun. Deputy E. Sands made the arrest.

October 16
Matthew Richman Keener, was charged with assault on a female. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Franklin Police Department

October 6
Salena Danielle Norris, was charged with driving while impaired. J.A. Riles made the arrests.

October 12
Dustin Louis Swafford, was charged with probation violation. M.A. Bingham made the arrest.
Jacob Ely Cunningham, was charged with driving while license revoked impaired revocation. R.S. Dula made the

arrest.

Jackson County Sheriff's Department

October 10
Gary Dean Buchanan, 56, of Fred Sutton Rd., Whittier, was charged with simple assault. No bond was set.

October 11
Travis Wayne Fisher, 36, of Norman Dr., Was charged with habitual felon/true bill of indictment. No bond was set.
Gordan Dale Buchanan, 58, of Fred Sutton Rd., Whittier, was charged with second degree trespass, communicating threats, simple assault and breaking and entering non-forcible. No bond was set.

October 12
Kelly Marie Walkingstick, 33, of Hailey Manor Ct., was charged with failure to appear for driving while license revoked. A secured bond of \$100 was set.
Sara Jane Elizabeth Pannel, 18, of Cornflower Lane, was charged with failure to appear for shoplifting concealment of goods and felony larceny possession of stolen goods. A secured bond of \$21,000 was set.

Lemajor Compton, 55, of Beta Rd., was charged with possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$35,000 was set.
Dillion Wayne McKay Watkins, 31, of Johns Creek Rd., was charged with failure to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia, felony possession of a schedule I controlled substance, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, fictitious/altered title/registration card/tag and obtain property by false pretense. A secured bond of \$26,000 was set.

October 13
Lillian Frizzell McCall, of Charleys Creek Rd., Tuckasegee, was charged with failure to appear for cruelty to animals. A secured bond of \$3,000 was set.
Blake Davis Tolley, 19, of Boot Hill Rd., Whittier, was charged with injury to personal property and break/enter to terrorize/injure. A secured bond of \$5,000 was set.
Cadence Patton Green, 19, of Little Savannah Rd., was charged with breaking and entering non-forcible. No bond was set.

October 14
Michael Ampardo De Arce, 45, of Cattle Dr., Whittier, was charged with domestic violence protective order violation and violation of a domestic violence protective order. No bond was set.

October 16
Ryan Francis Mangold, 28, of Riverbend Rd., Cullowhee, was charged with failure to appear for larceny. A secured bond of \$1,000 was set.
Jerry Lee Stiwinter, 48, of Stiwinter Mountain, Franklin, was charged with resisting a public officer, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of methamphetamine. A secured bond of \$12,000 was set.
Amanda Ellen Wood, 46, of Union Hill, Whittier, was charged with failure to appear for second degree trespass. A secured bond of \$1,500 was set.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Prentiss Church Food Pantry will be held on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2 to 5:30 p.m. The church is located at 59 Church Hill Lane. For more information, call (828)369-3885.

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

Prentiss Church Food Pantry will be held on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2 to 5:30 p.m. The church is located at 59 Church Hill Lane. For more information, call (828)369-3885.

M.S. Support Group of Macon County will meet on Thursday, Oct. 20, 3 to 5 p.m., at the Macon County Senior Center. For more information, go to facebook MS Support Group of Macon County.

Bartram's 1775 Travels is the topic of a program to be presented on Thursday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m., in the Macon County Public Library Meeting Room. Brent Martin, director of the Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy will talk about botanist/explorer William Bartram's visit to this area. Visit blueridgebartram.org to learn more.

American Red Cross Blood Drives will be held on Friday, Oct. 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Carolina Smokies Association of Realtors, Inc., 131 Heritage Hollow Drive; and Monday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Highlands United Methodist Church, 315 Main St., Highlands. Book a time to give by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or by calling (800)733-2767. As a thank-you, all who come to give Oct. 16 through 31, 2022, will receive a \$10 e-Gift Card by email to a merchant of choice.

Ray Reunion for Descendants of John and Nancy Summer Ray and Levi and Melinda Deweese Ray will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22, noon to 3 p.m. at Iotla Baptist Church, 1537 Iotla Church Rd. Come enjoy fellowship, fun and food with relatives. For more information, call Nancy Cable Krag (828)369-6040.

Cowee Community Dinner Soup, Salad, and Bread Nite will be held Monday, Oct. 24, at 6 p.m., at the Volunteer Fire House on Ruby Mine Road. Bring your friends and neighbors.

Hickory Knoll United Methodist Church Food Pantry will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. The church is located at 86 E. Hickory Knoll Rd. For more information, call the church a (828)369-9300 or Jannie at (813)305-9433.

Yoga at the Library will be held on Thursday, Oct. 27, 6 to 7 p.m. in the Macon County Public Library living room. Bring your own mat if possible. The library is located at 149 Siler Farm Rd., Franklin. For more information, call (828)524-3600.

Sylva Chapter of Trout Unlimited Meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Sylva. Chapter volunteers will be providing a meal. Raffles for fishing gear and a lot of fishing talk.

Identity Theft and How to Protect Yourself Lunch & Learn will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 1, noon to 1 p.m., at the Franklin Chamber of Commerce First Bank Seminar room, 98 Hyatt Rd. For more information or to register, call the chamber at (828)524-3136.

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

Girl Scout Daisy and Brownie Volunteer needed for Troop 2996 in Franklin. This is a great opportunity to help 5- to 8-year-olds learn and grow. For more information, call Diane Peltz at (828)371-2823 or email dianepeltz1953@gmail.com

Historic TM Rickman Store at 259 Cowee Creek Rd. is open for visitors on Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Dulcimer music at 10 a.m. and music jams 12 to 3 p.m. Discover unique items and listen to local musicians. Parking is limited with additional parking available at Cowee Arts and Heritage Center a short walk from the store.

Macon Chips, Franklin's Wood Carving Club meets on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Macon County Public Library and on Thursdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Franklin High School Wood Shop just off McCollum Drive. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call (828)342-8126.

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

Uptown Gallery Children and Adult Art Classes workshops in Media includes acrylic, watercolor, acrylic paint pouring, encaustic, precious metal clay and glass fusing. Free painting in the classroom Monday's 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Membership meeting second Sunday of the month 3 p.m. The gallery is located at 30 E. Main St. in Franklin. For more information, call (828)349-4607.

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

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

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

Friends of the Greenway FROG Quarters is open Wednesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 573 E. Main. Stop by for coffee, a soft drink and a snack, and free internet. Reservations taken for the shelters.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

First Alliance Church is holding Sunday service on Oct. 23, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. Rev. Terry Wilkes will be speaking on the Grace of God from Ephesians 2. Nathaniel Smith will be singing special music. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane (off Womack, next door to Trimont Christian Academy).

Spiritual Light Center on Sunday, Oct. 23, Don Peoples will be the guest speaker. Mondays at 6 p.m. is an all levels yoga class, no cost to attend. On Thursdays, a movie is shown at 3 p.m. and then out to eat afterward. The center is located at 80 Heritage Hollow Dr., behind the Gazebo Restaurant. For more information or to stream services go to SpiritualLightCenter.com.

Victory Baptist Church Fall Revival will be held beginning on, Sunday, Oct. 23, 11 a.m., and 6 p.m., and Monday through Wednesday night at 7 p.m., 278 Victory Church Road, Sylva. Brother Gary Crisp will be the guest speaker. Special singing will be provided each night. For more information, (828)586-2120 ext 102.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUDOKU ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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


CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR PG. 22

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Devin Holland named Franklin Police Chief

Town Manager Amie Owens announced that Devin Holland will be appointed as Franklin's next Chief of Police effective Dec. 1, 2022. Holland is currently serving as Captain of Patrol for the Town of Franklin.



Chief Devin Holland

Soon-to-be Chief Holland is a veteran officer with more than 25 years of experience in law enforcement all of which has been with the Town of Franklin. He has served as Patrol Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Patrol Captain. He holds a BS degree in Criminal Justice from Western Carolina University and an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Southwestern Community College.

In addition to his formal education Holland graduated from the following programs or obtained certifications in:

- FBI Leadership Training from the Law Enforcement Ex-

ecutive Development Association with concentrations in Supervisor, Command and Executive Leadership

- Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate, NC Criminal Justice Training and Standards
- Various Course offerings in Leadership and Law Enforcement Management from NC Criminal Justice Academy, NC League of Municipalities, and the Dolan Consulting Group

The Town received nine applications for the position and several qualified candidates were interviewed.

"Captain Holland has the education, experience and established relationships in Macon County and the region which will allow for a seamless change in leadership. His familiarity with department procedures and existing staff will ensure that the police department will continue to excel into the future," said Owens.

Current Police Chief Bill Harrell and Holland will work together to ensure that the staff, citizens and visitors continue to receive exemplary service during this transition period.

Chief Harrell announced his retirement in August 2022. A reception will be held on Monday, Nov. 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. to honor his service. The public is invited to attend.

MEC students learning about real finances

Jim Breedlove, city president of United Community Bank and chairman of the Macon County School board, visited Macon Early College this week to speak to Mrs. Rowland's Math III class. The Math III class is studying Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and how they relate to real life experiences. Breedlove spoke to the students about different types of bank accounts, loans, and credit cards and how each relates to interest. The students will be using this background information to engage in a project where they will be completing a mock purchase of 20 items using a credit card. They will be calculating interest accrued over time, studying debt across the population of the U.S., and making comparisons to their own purchases.



Friends of Libraries Week honors volunteer support

The Macon County Public Library is honoring its Friends of the Library group during the week of Oct. 16-22, celebrating the 17th annual celebration of National Friends of Libraries Week.

The Friends of the Macon County Public Library were established in 1971 and have raised more than \$1 million for the library to date. Currently over 200 community members contribute annually, and nearly 50 of these contributors actively volunteer their time to assist the group with fundraising efforts that include a membership campaign and a used bookstore located at 115 Highlands Road in Franklin.

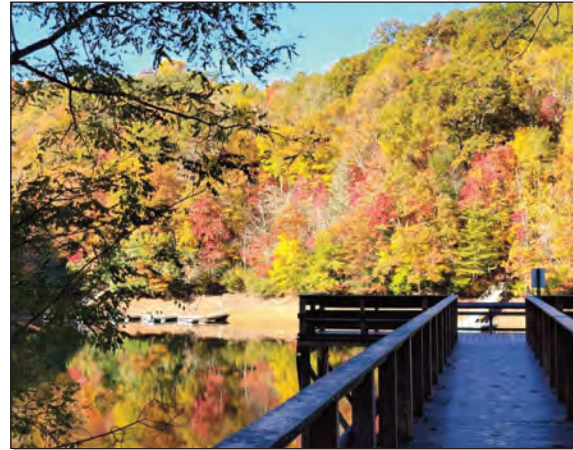
"Books are and will always remain crucial elements to any civilized society," said Friends president Jeff Clark. "How-

ever, the library of the 21st century is so much more. I look forward to supporting the library's future endeavors."

Other officers of the organization are Vice President Max West, Treasurer Beth Hensley, Secretary Bobbie Contino, Programs Chair Henrietta Haithcock, Membership Chair Rachael Bishop, Publicity/Folio Chairman Becky Peeling, Hospitality Chairman Elaine Bradley, Bookstore Committee Representative Grace Johnson; Historian/Website Chairman Sally Payne and Directors Alan Fredrick, Barbara McLellan, Sharon Sellers, Roberta Swank and Mike Decker.

Contact the library at (828)524-3600 or visit <https://fontanalib.org/franklin> to learn more about how to become a member of the Friends.

WNC mountains display spectacular fall colors



The mountains of Western North Carolina is the best place to be in the fall season with spectacular colors around every turn with many scenic drives within an hour or less from Franklin. Clockwise from above: Glen Falls near Cashiers; a dock on the Nantahala River; Highway 28 north of Franklin; and kayaks ready to launch on Nantahala Lake.

Photos by Robert Solesbee




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Deaths & Funerals

Alfred Olsen

Alfred Olsen passed away peacefully on Sept. 5, 2022, Bradenton, Fla.

He was born on Sept. 13, 1933, to Alfred Olsen Sr. and Hilda Taylor Olsen in Concord, Mass.

He was in the United States Army and served in the Korean War. After his honorable discharge from the Army, he moved to Bradenton where he began his banking career at 1st National Bank. In 1980, he retired from Westside National Bank as vice president to move to Franklin, N.C., and start a career in Real Estate. He obtained his North Carolina Real Estate license in 1980 then became a licensed broker and started Al Olsen Real Estate. He resided in Franklin full time until Fall 2012 when he began to spend the winter months residing in Bradenton.

He was loved and will be deeply missed. He was a thoughtful and generous person who was very passionate about and dedicated to the welfare of animals. He was on the board of the Macon County Humane Society for more than 20 years where he held many positions including president and thrift store director.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his older brother, Gordon Olsen and twin sister Mariann Olsen.

A private celebration of life will be held at a future date.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Macon County Humane Society, Inc., DBA Appalachian Animal Rescue Center.



Alfred Olsen

Tami Regina Taylor Ledford

Tami Regina Taylor Ledford just had the best early birthday celebration ever. Born on Oct. 18, 1958, she received her ticket to enter into Glory on Oct. 15, 2022, where she is now celebrating with her Lord and those she loved who had arrived earlier.

She loved the Lord and did her best to show His love to others while working as a CNA/medical caregiver, putting the needs of others above her own. Even though she had a world of common sense, she was also a risk taker who was up for adventure. One wonderful memory is when she attached a plastic tote to a skateboard and rode it downhill with her grandkids.

She enjoyed gardening and working outside. She possessed a remarkable ability to make things grow. Her thumb was so green it seemed as if plants would take root even if all she did was drop them on the ground. She also loved animals and absolutely adored her Jack Russell pup named Daisy. She grew up with music and was a fan of soul, Motown, and gospel along with her favorite artist, Charlie Pride.

Most of all, however, she loved her family, especially her grandchildren. In return, she was dearly loved and will long be remembered by her husband, Ben Ledford; her son, Brandon Ledford; her grandchildren, Makenzie Thomas and Taylor Thomas; her sisters, Donna Greenwood and Nikki Sturgill, and her two step-children.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Guy Clingman Taylor and Jean Jacobs Taylor; her son, Jake Thomas, and her sister, Robin Taylor.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Thursday, Oct. 27, at 11 a.m., at LifeSpring Community Church.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family.

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



Tami Regina Ledford

Tracy Ray Tallent

Tracy Ray Tallent, 65, was escorted into Glory on Monday, Oct. 10, 2022, rejoining those who had loved him so well and gone on before him.

He was born in Sylva, N.C., on Oct. 6, 1957, the son of Barbara Edwards Tallent and Daniel Tallent. He was welcomed at once into his extended family of grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He worked at Franklin Body Shop while he was in high school; then, upon graduation, joined the United States Air Force. After his discharge he returned to Franklin and his former job. He was a skilled auto body technician and a dependable employee.

He could have made a million dollars on any game show that asked questions about actors or films. He was a true fan and a walking encyclopedia. He especially loved sci-fi with "Star Wars" and "Star Trek" being his favorites. He enjoyed tinkering and built many models of props for those two series.

He married the love of his life 21 years ago. They shared a love of animals, and he had a great time being in charge of his pack. He especially loved Lucky the pup and Jasper the cat. He was a pet pushover who was scolded by the vet for his generous treat distribution technique.

He had many admirable qualities. He loved his family, he was humble, he minded his own business, he didn't demand attention, he was a good listener, and he didn't want to be a bother. In the last few days of his life he kept apologizing for his illness and anxiously wondering if those he loved would be all right without him.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy Tallent; his stepson, Robbie; his sister-in-law, Kristeen; his nieces and nephews, Cliff, Kristin, Karen, and Justin; his aunt, Helen Carpenter; and two special cousins, Terri Hunter and Eddie Bateman, along with several additional cousins. He was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Danna Tallent Cochran.

A Celebration of Life was held Friday, Oct. 14, at First Pentecost Church, Franklin with Luke Bateman and Eddie Bateman officiating. Military honors were provided by VFW 7339/American Legion 108 Honor Guard and the United States Air Force Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice or Appalachian Animal Rescue Center, 851 Lake Emory Road, Franklin, NC, 28734.

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



Tracy Ray Tallent

Shiion Eugene Callenback

Shiion Eugene Callenback, 38, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022.

Born in Madison, Tenn., he was the son of Clyde and Evelyn McCoy Callenback. He was very talented in pottery and other arts. He had previously worked in the food service industry and later at Drake Software. As a young man he attended First Assembly of God in Franklin. He was a beloved son, grandson, nephew, and father.

He is survived by his parents, Clyde and Evelyn McCoy Callenback of Franklin; daughter, Rose Callenback of Bryson City, N.C.; birth mother, Lisa Fitzpatrick of Franklin; birth father, Terry Costner of Shelby, N.C.; and his uncle, Gregory Callenback of Tuckasegee, N.C.

No services are planned.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Shiion Callenback

Mary Sue Southard

Mary Sue Southard, 85, of Snellville, Ga., passed away peacefully at home on the evening of Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Claude and Lucy Duvall; her brother, Cecil Duvall; and her sisters, Helen Shepard, Myrtle Houston, Jean Stewart and Joyce Bates.

One of seven children, she was born in Franklin, N.C., on May 6, 1937. She attended Franklin High School where she met and married her high school sweetheart, Jim, on Jan. 26, 1954. The following year, the couple moved to Decatur, Ga., where they settled and raised their three children, Danny, Cynthia and Tim.

She was a devoted mother, a loving wife and a wonderful homemaker. She worked as a front end manager for multiple supermarkets over the years, including Ingles, where she was loyally employed over the last few decades. She was known for her unwavering energy and exemplary work ethic. She remained cheerful and persevered despite her COPD diagnosis at age 81, when she officially retired.

She enjoyed all sorts of crafts, such as creating beautiful handmade wreaths and flower arrangements that she would gift to others. She enjoyed baking, canning fresh vegetables and entertaining friends and family. All who dined at her table savored her delicious "southern home cooking." She took pride in her house-keeping and truly made their house a special home.

Sue and Jim were happily married for 68 years. Throughout their marriage, they enjoyed a lifetime of hobbies together such as fishing, playing Canasta, and going on trips with their closest friends. She adored her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who all lovingly knew her as "Nana" and "Nana Sue." She had a genuine heart, a witty personality and always carried a smile on her face. She made everyone she met feel welcomed, loved and special.

She is survived by her younger sister, Cheryl Ramsey; her loving husband, James Daniel Southard; sons, Robert Daniel Southard and Timothy Kyle Southard; daughter, Cynthia Kaye Upchurch (Rick); granddaughter, Courtney Nicole Henson (Ben); grandson, Sean Daniel Southard; and great grandchildren, Jackson Avett Henson and Lucy Adeline Henson.

Sue and Jim's wish was to be cremated. One day, they will be joined together and their ashes shall be scattered over Lake Oconee, a place where they shared many fond memories of fishing with their dearest friends. The legacy of Sue's precious spirit will remain forever in our hearts as we look forward to the day we are reunited with her in the presence of our Heavenly Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May she rest in peace.

Announcement courtesy of Bryant-Grant Funeral Home.



Mary Sue Southard

Harold Ray Jenkins

Harold Ray Jenkins, 67, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Oct. 12, 2022.

He was the son of the late Harley William and Ruby Esther Gregory Jenkins. He enjoyed bowling, fishing, motorcycling, and eating. He worked in construction and loved building things.

He was preceded in death by the love of his life, Beverly Jenkins; and brothers, Tom Jenkins, Joe Jenkins, Troy Jenkins, and Jerry Jenkins.

He is survived by his brothers, Richard "Rick" Jenkins (Eva Nell), Carlos Jenkins; sister, Annie Mae Cincineras (Pete); and several nieces and nephews.

No services are planned at this time per his wishes.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Harold Ray Jenkins



Deaths & Funerals

Minnie Alvera Mathis

Minnie Alvera Mathis, 54, of Franklin, N.C., gained her eternal reward and joined Patty, Clay, and Boomer in everlasting peace and joy on Oct. 14, 2022.

She was born Nov. 1, 1967, in Franklin, to the late James Dudley Mathis and Helen Mae Bates. She was a loving mother and grandmother. She loved her family and was a big-hearted person, her smile lit up the room and she was loved by everyone she met.

She is survived by two daughters, Misty Bramlett (Kevin) and Beth Crane (Michael); two brothers, Ronnie Bates, and Christopher Mathis; four sisters, Anne Mathis, Alma Mathis, Peggy Roberts, and Jessica Mathis; six grandchildren, Alexis, Junior, Amber, Shawn, Alley, and Brian; Big Buddy Bailey and Little Buddy Ryder, and several nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her lifetime friend, Steven Phillips.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, John Carl Bates, and James William Mathis Lambert.

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

Bryant Grant Funeral home is serving the Mathis Family.

Linda Sue Pitts

Linda Sue Pitts, 65, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Oct. 11, 2022.

She was the daughter of Roger Cunningham and the late Brenda Chastain. She was always willing to help others and had a smile for everyone. She loved her children, grandchildren, and her great grandchildren. They were her reason for life. This was shown through one of her diary entries: "Dear Heavenly Father, I pray for good news, if it's your will. Please help me to be strong, Father, I thank you for my children, grandchildren, and great grandsons. They are my heart and soul. They have given me so much joy. I love them all so much. Father, thank you for sending Glenn to me years ago. He is the love of my life, my best friend. Father, please take care of them, keep them happy and safe. I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen."

She was preceded in death by her mother, Brenda Chastain; stepfather, Pritchard Chastain; and grandson, Wesley Gregory.

She is survived by her father, Roger Cunningham; husband, Glenn Pitts; sons, Shane Cunningham (Jamie), Isaac Pitts (Brooke Tippet); daughter, Heather Gregory (Nathan); brother, Marvin Cunningham (Debbie); sister, Trish Hummel; grandchildren, Robbie Sanders, Santana Cunningham, Michael Hess, Preston Gregory, Elijah Gregory, Aiden Pitts, Ally Pitts; great grandsons, Layke Sanders, and Julian Hall; a lifelong friend, Brenda Long Simpson; and numerous other family members and extended family whom she loved dearly.

A service was held on Wednesday, Oct. 19, in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Minnie Alvera Mathis



Linda Sue Pitts

Ethel Louise Passmore Carver

Ethel Louise Passmore Carver, 94, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022. She was born Sept. 15, 1928, in Macon County, North Carolina, to the late Jeff and Lorena Hasket Passmore. She was married to James Wesley Carver, who died in 2010. She was a homemaker, she loved quilting, cooking, canning and planting a garden. She was a loving and caring mother and grandmother, who enjoyed her family. She was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

She is survived by her children, Barbara Franks, Doyle Carver, Dale Carver, Terry Carver and David Carver; a stepdaughter, Eva Nell Jenkins; a brother, Jerdy Passmore; a sister-in-law, Bonnell Williams; 12 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 20 great great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews; and her caregiver, Denise Tippet.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two sons, Donald Ray Carver and Howard Carver; two daughters, Lily Parrish and Bessie Cooper; and two sisters, Etta Adams and Estie Harris.

A graveside service was held Friday, Oct. 14, at Woodlawn Cemetery. Pallbearers were Wayne Carver, Jeffery Carver, Scotty Cooper, Wesley Carver, Corey Baldwin, Ricky Caldwell, Jimmy Lewis, Corey Lewis, and Eric Cooper.

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

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



Ethel Louise Carver

Shirley Marie Scott

Shirley Marie Scott, 90, passed away Sept. 28 while visiting her daughter in Florida.

She was born Dec. 15, 1931, in Kankakee, Ill., to James and Marie Remington. She married Bradley L. Scott in Pontiac, Mich., and had six children. Upon retirement, Bradley and Shirley traveled the United States in a motor home. In 1991, they made Franklin their permanent home.

She was a member of Franklin First United Methodist Church, was a longtime participant in Senior Games, treasurer for Friends of the Library, member of DAR, volunteer at Greenway FROGS, participated in an Extension Club, attended ladies card parties, played Bingo and was an avid reader.

She is survived by her husband of 72 years, Bradley L.; son, Bradley J. (Susan); daughters, Diane Sakuta (Robert) and Susan Weinman (Mark); seven grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and sons, Jeffrey, Terry and Steven Scott.

Condolences may be mailed to Bradley L Scott, 1000 Airport Pulling Road, Apt. #1222, Naples FL 34104.



Shirley Marie Scott

Edward J. Bridge

On Aug. 31, 2022, Edward J. Bridge went to heaven to be with his daughter, Audrey, mother and father, and 12 brothers and sisters.

He left behind his wife of 67 years, Audrey; and his sons, Edward, Mark I, Mark II, and Mark III.

He loved his wife and children and friends. He is now pain free in heaven with our heavenly Father having the time of his life.

Larry Wayne Dryman

Larry Wayne Dryman, 79, loving husband, father of two, and friend of many, passed away peacefully at home in his wife's arms on the morning of Oct. 12, 2022, in Franklin, N.C. He was born on March 30, 1943, the son of the late Merle and Prelo Dryman, also of Franklin.

He is survived by his loving sweetheart and wife of 23 years, Ann Fagg Dryman; son, Zachary Wayne Dryman (Tofer Whitmire) of Toronto, Ontario, Canada; his daughter, Heidi Ann Metts (Darren Metts), of Prosperity, S.C.; his granddaughters, Mallorie Ruth and Emma Jean Metts of Prosperity; his brother, Richard of Greensboro, N.C.; along with his niece Elizabeth, nephew Chris, and many cousins.

He, like his mom and dad, was a popular and well-loved citizen of Franklin. He attended NC State and Massey College and graduated with a degree in Business Administration. He was the proud owner of Dryman's Men Shop in Clayton, Ga., taking after his father who owned a men's shop on Main Street in Franklin bearing the same name. He also owned and managed the "What's New?" ladies clothing store and "Uh-oh! Outlet" in Clayton.

In addition to running his own businesses, he worked for Dunn and Bradstreet in Atlanta, General Electric Corporation in Augusta, Ga., First Atlanta Mortgage Company, NCB Mortgage Company in Florence, S.C., as well as the mortgage department of Rabun County Bank.

He served as Staff Sergeant of the Georgia Air National Guard and had the honor of serving as president of the Clayton Rotary Club as well as the Clayton Merchant's Association. He was an avid Boy Scout and earned his Rank of Life badge when he was a teenager.

Those that knew him recount his lively personality and love of entertainment. He will be fondly remembered as a DJ, karaoke host, singer, and entertainer, serving up joy and amusement for happy gatherings at weddings, restaurants, country clubs, and private parties in the tri-state area. He was always the life of the party and his infectious personality resonated with all those he met.

A celebration of life will be held on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 11 a.m., in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home. The family will receive friends 10-11am, one hour prior to the service. Revs Janet and Vic Greene will officiate. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Hospice House Foundation of WNC, P.O. Box 815, Franklin, NC, 28744.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Larry Wayne Dryman

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Logano captures Vegas victory; claims spot in Championship 4

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

LAS VEGAS, NEV. - Team Penske's Joey Logano became the first driver to secure a position in the Championship 4 with a shot at the NASCAR Cup Series 2022 Championship thanks to a valiant surge to victory in the final laps of Sunday's South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Logano, on fresh Goodyear tires, rallied back through the field following a late race pit stop, passing Trackhouse Racing driver Ross Chastain for the lead with three laps remaining and driving off to his third win at the 1.5-mile Las Vegas high banks - a slight .817-second ahead of fellow Playoff driver Chastain, who led a race best 68 of the 267 laps on the afternoon.

"Let's go get a championship, baby," the 2018 series champion Logano screamed into his team radio after taking the checkered flag in the No. 22 Team Penske Ford.

That pit stop for Logano with 26 laps remaining, dropped him from a top-10 position on track, but the fresh tires were the difference in making up ground on the leaders who did not pit.

And Logano went forward quickly.

"What a great car, the Penske cars were all fast today," said the 32-year old Logano, who now has three wins in 2022 and 30 in his 15-year career in NASCAR's top series.

"Oh man, all you want to do is get to the Championship 4 before the season starts and race for the championship and we've got the team to do it. I don't see why we can't win it at this point. Things are looking really good for us.

"A lot of adversity we fought though in the last 50 laps of so. I thought we were going to win then kinda fell out, got some tires and racing Ross was fun. He did a good job air-blocking me and I was just trying to be patient but eventually I was like, 'I've got to go here.'"

It was a wild action-packed day at the Las Vegas oval with the eight Playoff drivers experiencing both sides of emotion. Five of them were among the 11 race leaders at various points on the afternoon. And four finished in the top five.

Joe Gibbs Racing driver and Las Vegas native Kyle Busch, who had some pit road issues, finished third, followed by a pair of Playoff drivers: Stewart-Haas Racing's Chase Briscoe and Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin, who rounded out the top five. It was an especially impressive performance for Hamlin, who started 31st.

Hendrick Motorsports Playoff teammates William Byron and Chase Elliott had frustrating and disappointing days, finishing 13th and 21st, respectively. Logano's Penske teammate Ryan Blaney - who won Stage 2 and led 39 laps - finished 28th after hitting the wall late in the race. Joe Gibbs Racing's Christopher Bell was 34th after being innocently collected in an early-race accident.

"When you perform that poorly you get poor results, that's how it works," the regular season champion Elliott said of his day.

Elliott went into this three-race round leading the standings and after Vegas has dropped to third in the championship, 17 points above the cutoff line. Logano earned the automatic advancement Sunday and Chastain is now in second place, 18



Joey Logano, driver of the #22 Shell Pennzoil Ford, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Cup Series South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Oct. 16, 2022 in Las Vegas, Nev. Photo by Sean Gardner/Getty Images



points up.

Hamlin's top five was good enough to move him into that important fourth place in the championship - six points up on Byron. The 4 "Bs" are now all in the bottom half of the Playoff points. Briscoe is nine points behind Hamlin, Blaney 11 back and Bell is 23 points off the pace.

One of the most talked about incidents in the race involved a pair of non-championship-eligible drivers. Shortly after the restart following Stage 1, Hendrick Motorsports' Kyle Larson and 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace - who won Stage 1 - were racing alongside one another toward the front of the field. On lap 94, Larson's No. 5 Chevy got loose and moved up the track, forcing Wallace's car into the outside wall.

Wallace's No. 45 Toyota bounced down off the wall and then he drove into Larson's car, spinning both - with Playoff driver Bell getting tagged by Larson's spinning Chevy in the aftermath. After Wallace and Larson's cars came to rest in the infield, Wallace took his helmet off and marched toward Larson, who was just getting out of his car.

The two exchanged words and Wallace pushed Larson multiple times before walking away.

"You get shoved into the fence deliberately like he [Larson] did trying to force me to lift, the steering was gone," Wallace said, when asked if he intentionally spun Larson. "He just happened to be there."

"Hate it for our team. Super fast car. Larson wanted to make a three-wide dive bomb but never cleared me and I don't lift. I know I'm kinda new running at the front, but I don't lift, was never in a spot to lift and he never lifted either. Now we're junk. Just piss poor move on his execution."

"He knows what he did was wrong. He never cleared me and just hate it for my team."

For his part, Larson said he realized he got into Wallace and wasn't entirely surprised by Wallace's aggression afterward. However, Larson said, he didn't hit Wallace intentionally.

"I knew he was going to retaliate," Larson said. "He had reason to be mad but his race wasn't over until he retaliated. It is what it is. Just aggression turned into frustration and he retaliated."



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"I know he's probably still upset but I'm sure with everything going on he'll know he made a mistake in the retaliation part and I'm sure he'll think twice about it next time," Larson added.

"I saw him walking over [toward me] so I figured he'd do something. He had every right to be upset and I'd rather him do that [push me] than tear up our cars in a dangerous manner."

While the incident ended Wallace and Larson's days, it also ruined the afternoon for Bell, who won an elimination race just last week to advance to the Round of 8. His Joe Gibbs Racing team was unable to repair his No. 20 Toyota and he pulled off track, finishing 34th in the 36-car field – worst among the eight Playoff drivers.

Playoff action resumes next weekend with Sunday's Dixie Vodka 400 at Home-



Josh Berry, driver of the #8 Harrison's USA Chevrolet, celebrates in victory lane after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series AlSCO Uniforms 302 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Oct. 15, 2022, in Las Vegas, Nev.



his second victory in the last three races on the high-banked 1.5-miler.

Berry took the lead from A.J. Allmendinger with 34 laps remaining – the pair racing hard side-by-side at the front of the field on a late race restart. Berry even got shoved into the outside wall before recovering and moving into the lead for his fifth career win.

The Las Vegas native Noah Gragson – who led a race best 87 laps and earned his season-leading 14th stage win – finished second, 1.125-seconds behind Berry. Justin Allgaier was third, solidifying a JR Motorsports 1-2-3 podium-sweeping effort.

The win is hugely significant, earning Berry the automatic position in the Championship 4 in the season finale at Phoenix Raceway on Nov. 5 – his first opportunity to race for the season title.

"I think I hit the wall like 12 times," Berry told his team on the radio during the cool-down lap.

When the 31-year old Tennessee native ultimately climbed out of his Chevy at the finish line, he took time to remove his helmet – standing alongside his Chevy and soaking in the importance of

the day and the championship implications – far removed from his job as a bank teller years ago.

"I was a little bit tight off (Turn) 4 the whole time, and [Allmendinger] left me a lane but nothing extra, but I wasn't letting off," said Berry, who hadn't led a lap in the last six races. "That was for a trip to Phoenix and I was willing to hit the wall or whatever. We've had a tough couple weeks or months, but we knew we could do this if we were at our best."

"Had a caution with 30 to go and was able to wrestle the lead away from those guys and build enough of a [points] gap to keep it," Berry said. "I tell you, I'm just speechless."

Berry's NASCAR Xfinity Series victory at Las Vegas Motor Speedway also capped a memorable afternoon for Chevrolet. It marked Chevy's 500th all-time win in the series and it clinched Chevrolet's sixth consecutive NASCAR Xfinity Series Manufacturer's Championship.

Allmendinger - the regular-season champion had to pit under green flag conditions shortly after racing Berry up front for the lead – a pair of loose tires ultimately derailing his day. Allmendinger's 22nd place finish in the No. 16 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet was the lowest among the eight current Playoff drivers.

Joe Gibbs Racing driver Ty Gibbs and former DAYTONA 500 winner Trevor Bayne completed the top-five Saturday. Richard Childress Racing's Austin Hill, JRM's Sam Mayer, Kaulig Racing's Daniel Hemric, JGR's Brandon Jones and Our Motorsports' Anthony Alfredo rounded out the top-10.

Allmendinger was the only Playoff driver with a finish outside the top-10.

With Berry's win and automatic berth into the Championship 4, Gragson now leads the standings by 19 points over Gibbs and 29-points ahead of Allgaier.

Hill (-15), Allmendinger (-16), Jones (-29), and Mayer (-36) head into the next round needing to make up points with two races remaining – at Homestead-Miami and Martinsville, Va. – to set the four-car championship lineup for Phoenix.

NASCAR Camping World Truck Series standout Hailie Deegan made her NASCAR Xfinity Series debut at Las Vegas – earning a very respectable 13th place finish in her first race.

"I'm pretty excited right now, the guys gave me an amazing car," Deegan said, noting that she would love the opportunity to race more in the Xfinity Series should a sponsor step up for funding.

The NASCAR Xfinity Series returns to Playoff action in next week's NASCAR triple-header weekend at Homestead-Miami Speedway with Saturday's Contender Boats 300 (4:30 p.m. ET, USA Network, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). Myatt Snider is the defending race winner.

stead-Miami Speedway (3 p.m. ET, NBC, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). William Byron won the 2021 Homestead race, which was held in February last year.

Josh Berry wins at Vegas; claims spot in Championship 4

Las Vegas, Nev. - Josh Berry's resume would indicate he's a top-shelf short track racer, but the JR Motorsports driver may need to expand that profile. Berry's No. 8 JR Motorsports Chevrolet led a commanding 65 laps en route to the win in the AlSCO Uniforms 302 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway Saturday –



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13. Fancy-schmancy
14. Rodgers of the Packers
15. "At _____," to a soldier
16. I, to a Greek
17. With clear mind
18. *Popular Halloween decor
20. Alternative to Saran
21. Dionysus' pipe-playing companion
22. Blue, but not as in color
23. Cause of wheezing
26. To that
30. Corn site
31. To "_____ out" a competitor
34. Longship propellers
35. Synchronizes, for short
37. #34 Across, sing.
38. Magazine's special feature
39. Per person
40. Like a certain fund
42. Thailand native
43. Embarrassed
45. Afternoon nap
47. + or - item
48. Sacrificial spot
50. What libraries do
52. *Eviction of a demon
55. Hair-loving parasite?
56. Cher, e.g.
57. Golfer's equipment
59. "Beat it!"
60. Celt
61. On its own

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62. Type of sailing vessel
 63. Old age, archaic
 64. Leak through
- DOWN**
1. *Michael Myers has only one in "Halloween Kills"
 2. Meadows
 3. *Halloween face cover
 4. Expression of exasperation
 5. Ill-gotten gains
 6. 19th century business magnate John Jacob _____
 7. Comparison word
 8. *Witch's pot
 9. Killer whale
 10. Emptiness

11. Last word in a fairy tale
13. Statue of mourning Virgin Mary, pl.
14. Aquarium scum
19. Light sources
22. Pronoun for a ship
23. Away from harbor (2 words)
24. Popular animal protein replacement, pl.
25. a.k.a. doctor fish
26. Through, in a text
27. Sunrise side, pl.
28. *Not a trick
29. Plural of ostium
32. Common second person pronoun contraction
33. *Witch's four-legged companion
36. *Leatherface's signature weapon
38. Hipbone-related
40. Family _____ and wing _____
41. Stellar
44. Data transmitting device
46. Kane and Goldberg, of TV
48. Type of rotation
49. Cherished
50. Nessie's home
51. European currency
52. Competitive advantage
53. Uncontrolled swerve
54. Remote control option
55. Dropped hallucinogen
58. Gene Vincent's "Dance to the _____"

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SHUTTLE CAR Service to Airports, Bus & Train. (305)216-7234 or (954)650-3851.

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

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

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

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

Community Fundraisers

OKTOBERFEST DINNER Silent Auction, 4:30-8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 21, the church hall, 299 Maple St., Franklin. Benefits St., Francis Food Pantry. Dinner: Brats, German Potato Salad, Sauerkraut, Dessert and Drinks. Tickets on sale weekdays at church office, weekends after mass, at the door. Adults \$15, Children \$5.

APPALACHIAN ANIMAL Rescue Thrift Store, Open Tuesday thru Saturday, 9am-4pm, 1521 Old Murphy Rd., (828)369-3046.

HABITAT RE-STORE 56 W Palmer St., Franklin. Furniture, Lighting, Plumbing, Building Materials, Doors & Windows, Appliances & More! (828)524-5273. Sylva Re-Store, 1315 W. Main St. (828)586-1800. Hours for both Stores Mon./Wed./Fri./Sat. 10-4pm.

REACH FOR BARGAINS in Heritage Hollow, open Tuesday-Friday, 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, Benefits Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in Macon County. Information call (828)369-2040.

Motor Vehicles

2019 RAM 1500 Tradesman, white, crew cab, 4x4. 5.7L Hemi, tow package, PL, PW, backup camera, 18700 miles. \$35,500. (828)421-1671.

Help Wanted

ESTIMATOR Specialty exterior metal skin fabrication company willing to provide relocation assistance to North Central Florida for a qualified individual with relevant experience. Willing to train lesser experienced individual with applicable software background. Great career opportunity offering competitive wages and benefits. (386)734-5572.

HELP NEEDED with routine house cleaning of In-Town 2 Bedroom Townhouse. Bi-weekly. (828)371-8426.

CASHIERS COLOR CENTER is looking to hire a full-time individual to assist in the paint department. Duties will include mixing paint, assisting customers with color selections and sundry items, stocking shelves and daily cleaning. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. This individual must be dependable, self-motivated, have great customer service skills and be willing to learn. We will offer on-the-job training, so experience is not necessary. For more information, call Derek Taylor @ (828)200-9226, or stop by Cashiers Color Center to fill out an application.

HOME CARE PARTNERS Want a flexible work schedule with benefits? Mon-Fri. No nights or weekends. Full and Part-time positions. Help someone remain independent in their home rather than be institutionalized. A lot of people need a little help and you could be that someone who cares. Up to \$12.50 per hour. Call Home Care Partners (828)586-1570 or (828)507-6065. Applications available at 525 Mineral Springs Drive, Sylva.

Garage & Yard Sales

FALL YARD SALE Saturday, 9-2, Sunday, 1-4, Fabric, Halloween and Fall Decor, 91 Pleasant Hill Rd., Rain or Shine.

GOT STUFF? Sell it in a Classified ad in The Macon County News for as little as \$8. Call (828)369-6767 for details.

Animals

ADOPT A PET AARC Animal Shelter, 851 Lake Emory Rd., Franklin. Call for an appointment. (828)524-4588.

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

Misc. For Sale

BUYING WILD GINSENG Every Day 4pm-8pm. Best Price Paid. Large Amounts Welcome. Call Ricky Teem (828)371-1802 or (828)524-7748.

B & M MILITARY SURPLUS MRE'S Military Boots, Clothing, Rain Gear, Cold Weather Gear, Sleeping Bags, Vests, Packs, Bags, Field Gear, G.I. 5 gallon Gas/Water Cans! We Buy, Trade all Types Clothes, Field Gear, W/C Poncho Liner, Wookie. Open Monday-Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-5, 329 Bennett Ridge Rd. Franklin, (828)349-3140. bandmsurplus@gmail.com.

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Real Estate

3-25 ACRES 15 minutes south of Highlands bordering protected Chattooga River headwaters. Amazing views, springs, good road. \$20k/acre and up. Owned by one family for 180 years. First time available as small tracts. (828)974-1137.

Rentals

NEW 3 BD/2BA MH located in Cowee. 1st, last and security required. \$1500 mo. Call (828)349-0353.

2BD/2BA FULLY FURNISHED available 11/1/22, minimum 6 months. Call (817)219-2477.

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CARS

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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