

# The Macon County **NEWS** & Shopping Guide

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*See pg. 5*



December 15, 2022 • 24 Pages

Volume 40 Number 31

FREE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Presented by the Overlook Theater Company, this holiday classic soars off the screen in this musical adaptation of the beloved television special. Filled with holiday hits like “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” and “A Holly Jolly Christmas.” “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer” features all of your favorite characters including Santa and Mrs. Claus, Hermey the Elf, Bumble the Abominable Snow Monster, Clarice, Yukon Cornelius and, of course, Rudolph. “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer The Musical” stages Friday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m., and 7 p.m., at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts. For ticket information, visit SmokyMountainArts.com or call (866)273-4615. See page 12 for a sneak peak of the Christmas production.

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## Macon man convicted for ‘dealing out death’

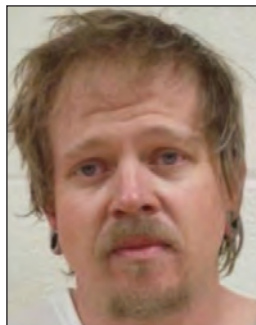
A Macon County man who ferried fentanyl into this state from Georgia is headed to state prison for trafficking the dangerous drug, District Attorney Ashley Hornsby Welch said.

Matthew Levan, 37, recently pleaded guilty in Macon County Superior Court to two counts of trafficking in opium or heroin.

Superior Court Judge Jesse Caldwell sentenced Levan to serve a minimum of 180 to a maximum of 240 months in the Division of Adult Corrections.

Additionally, the judge ordered Levan pay a mandatory \$200,000 fine. Each count carries a \$100,000 monetary punishment.

Intended as pain medicine, fentanyl is a synthetic opium that can prove lethal in small doses. The illicit use of fen-



Matthew Levan

tanyl is the primary driver of overdose deaths in the United States, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Sources told local law enforcement that prior to his arrest, Levan was “most likely” Macon County’s “biggest fentanyl dealer.”

On Sept. 21, 2021, Macon County Sheriff’s Office Deputy Matt Breedlove and K9 Deputy David Blanton stopped a vehicle on U.S. 441 south of Franklin. Levan was the driver.

As a result of the arrest, law enforcement seized about 37 grams of fentanyl.

“Since doses as tiny as two milligrams can prove lethal, this was a significant amount of fentanyl that was being shipped into this community,” Welch said. “It is not an overstatement to say Mr. Levan was potentially dealing out death.”

Assistant District Attorney Jim Moore prosecuted the case.

*Submitted by District Attorney Ashley Welch’s office.*



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# Teachers invited to send classroom letters to Santa

The Macon County Sheriff's Office and Macon Early College have been specially requested by Santa himself to help out this Christmas. Santa delivered a big red mailbox to the Macon County Public Library that will allow kids to write a letter directly to Santa.

"Christmas is such a magical time of year for so many, and Santa's Mailbox has become a tradition for the Macon County Sheriff's Office over the last several years. We wanted to continue to do a little something special to help spread some holiday magic to families in our community," said Sheriff Brent Holbrooks. "We are grateful for the library staff for serving as a central location for our mailbox and are excited for students at Macon Early College to help respond to each and ever letter we receive. Make sure that you include a return address on your letter, so Santa can send a personalized letter back to your child."

With Macon Early College and the Macon County Sheriff's Office acting as Santa's elves, every boy and girl who writes a letter to Santa and drops it in Santa's mailbox located inside the lobby of the Macon County Public Library will get a special personalized letter back from Santa himself.

Sheriff Brent Holbrooks is encouraging teachers to have their classes submit letters as a group and then the class will receive individual replies sent to their classroom teacher to have a fun activity to do together. Teachers can give their letters to their School Resource Officer, who will deliver the letters to Santa's mailbox.

The mailbox will be located inside the Macon County Public Library lobby until Dec. 19.

*Article submitted.*



Santa's Mailbox is set up to receive letters in the Macon County Public Library through Dec. 19. The library is located at 149 Siler Farm Road, Franklin.

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# FHS wrestling and swimming making a mark in Mountain 7 conference

Dan Finnerty – Sports Writer

Franklin High School (FHS) began its winter sports schedule recently with both wrestling and swimming programs starting regular seasons in mid-November. Men and women wrestling teams are coached by Coley Tyler, who also happens to be a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the U.S. Army. According to Tyler, the season has been, and probably will continue to be, challenging given the limited availability of wrestlers.

“We have a very small team and can only fill seven of 14 weight classes when we have everyone healthy and eligible,” said Tyler.

In total, nine boys and four girls make up the teams. On the positive side, Tyler also stated



Above, Franklin Panther Abby Carpenter took individual first place in a match at Pisgah in 126-lb. weight class by a fall over Angelique Zaleski of North Buncombe.

At left, Coach Coley Tyler (left) watches team warmups at Dec. 13 quad meet wrestling event with assistant, Logan Mack.



that while currently 1-7 in dual matches (one team vs. one other team), “[FHS] has competed in three individual tournaments and brought home three 1st places, one 2nd place, four 3rd places, one 4th/5th place each, and one 7th place.” These records are evidence that while a smaller overall team compared to some programs, FHS wrestling participants are so far placing respectfully in matches. While the regular season is made up of 18 matches, only three will be hosted by FHS, which presents its own challenges for Coach Tyler and the Panthers.

The past week’s meets included a Dec. 10 men’s (Nation Call Out Duals) at Pisgah and women’s (Falcon Frenzy) at West Henderson, plus a Dec. 13 quad meet hosted by

Franklin that included Tuscola, Pisgah, and Robbinsville. The men took third and fourth-place team finishes at Pisgah, while the Lady Panthers were led by Abby Carpenter, who took first place (individual) in the 126 lb. weight class; her total point score was 9-2, which she won by a fall over Angelique Zaleski (North Buncombe).

While not yet a sanctioned sport, according to FHS Athletic Trainer Lynette Gibson, “next year in the state of North Carolina, it (women’s wrestling) will be an official sport, although many schools are already including it as part of their sports programs. In 2023 it will be a completely separate sanctioned sport.”

Coach Tyler revealed the blueprint he is using to build up the program.

“Following three years coaching the middle school wrestling program, I took on the high school head coaching position this year.” That change affords him the opportunity to both coach current freshmen-senior wrestlers but also will allow him to again teach, train, and guide the incoming students he coached previously. While he admits Franklin is not yet at the level of some other Mountain 7 wrestling programs, such as Robbinsville and Pisgah, Coach Tyler sees progress every match and strongly believes each year will bring improvement for Panther wrestling. He emphasized that working together with Jimmy Barnett, the head middle school coach, creates a great environment for the students.

“I accepted this position with the design of having a group of people who have coached together at every level of wrestling in Macon County from high school to middle school and also with youth,” said Coach Tyler. “We’ll have kids now who are both used to the way we (FHS) wrestle but also are connected and familiar with the different levels of wrestling.”

With six matches so far, Tyler indicated he is hopeful the team can learn as they grow with some more wins and pins along the way.

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The wrestling Panthers are conducting their team community service project of collecting food and winter clothing this week. If interested in donating, boxes are set up in the high school main office through Thursday, Dec. 15.

**Swimmers dominate conference**

FHS swim teams are midway through their regular season as well. The team recently competed in the fourth of seven scheduled season meets on Dec. 10 with the Candy Cane Classic at Murphy. Franklin swimmers broke numerous freestyle records during the meet. Specifically, sophomore Gavin Rinker surpassed a time previously held by a Smoky Mountain swimmer (8:35:18) with a 6:20:11 performance. Additionally, the Lady Panthers erased both 200 (by .43 seconds) and 400 (by more than 36 seconds) Free Relay records, held by Gilmer (Ellijay, Ga.) High School, as did the Panthers men's team in the 400 Free Relay (also by just over 36 seconds).

With the relatively sparse availability of indoor pool space throughout the Mountain 7 conference, Franklin will actually end up hosting nearly half of the meets for the season

(three), with Buncombe hosting three, and Murphy just the Dec. 10 meet. An additional challenge faced by swim teams is the times and days pools are open for use. This resulted in the Panthers traveling to Asheville for a meet on the evening of Friday, Dec. 2, only to then host a meet the next day at the Franklin Fitness Center.

The FHS swimming program has been led by Dina and Dwain Picou for the past 20 years, providing plenty of continuity and experience for the Panthers. Each meet normally consists of at least 22 events, while two more can also be added for diving when facilities permit. Out of the four meets held thus far, FHS has finished first in overall combined team scores each time. The Panthers' combined team score was the best out of five teams Nov. 19; four teams Dec. 2; two teams Dec. 3; and six teams Dec. 6. The head coaches have high hopes for finishing on top this season and so far, so good.



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# Prestigious literary award presented to Macon County author

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

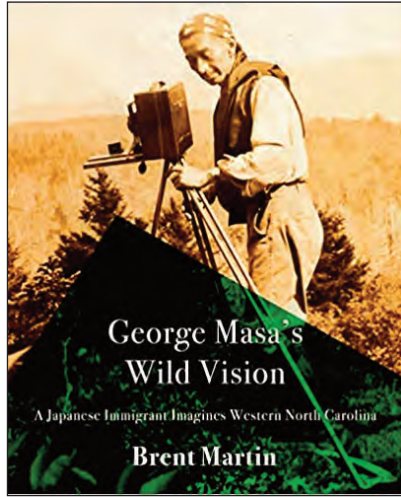
Twentieth-century novelist Thomas Wolfe, an Asheville native who wrote the classic, "Look Homeward, Angel" – and whose childhood home is an open-to-the-public historic site in Asheville – has had a literary award named in his honor since 1955. This year, Macon County resident Brent Martin's new book, "George Masa's Wild Vision: A Japanese Immigrant Imagines Western North Carolina" was selected as the winner of the 2022 Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award, which is given to authors whose printed works focus special attention on Western North Carolina.

The literary award's committee chair, Catherine Frank, said of the author and the book, "In 'George Masa's Wild Vision: A Japanese Immigrant Imagines Western North Carolina,' Brent Martin brings to-

gether Masa's arresting images and his own reflections on walking in Masa's footsteps to tell one of our region's important stories in an innovative way. Masa played a pivotal role in the creation of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park and the Appalachian Trail through photographs that allowed viewers to experience places they would never visit. Martin creates a portrait of a man and a region we now know a little better."

A prize of \$2,500 accompanies the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award and was presented to Martin on Dec. 13 at UNC-Asheville's Reuter Center. Martin, as well as four finalists, read to participants from their works.

"This award is a great honor, and I thank [Publisher] Hub City Press for the opportunity to write the book and to allow me creative freedom on the photographs and images included," commented Martin. "There were many talented finalists and to be awarded for this work is all the more humbling because of them. George Masa was a rare individual and inspiration, whose life was not only dedicated to being a master photographer, but a life dedicated to using his photography to pro-



George Masa has been called the "Ansel Adams of the Smokies," and his life and photography skills are the subject of a book by local author Brent Martin that just won the prestigious Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award.

Time and the River, The Web, and The Rock." He is buried in Riverside Cemetery in Asheville.

Other authors who have received the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award include such notables as Charles Frazier (a former Franklin resident and author of "Cold Mountain"), Robert Morgan, Lee Smith, Ron Rash, and Wiley Cash. The award panel this year consisted of Catherine Frank; James Bradley, secretary of Education for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; Wayne Caldwell, author and former Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award winner; Dee James, professor emeritus, UNC-Asheville; Leslee Johnson,

English department, UNC-Asheville; Jasmin Morrell, writer and co-editor of The Porch magazine; Tom Muir, historic site manager, Thomas Wolfe Memorial; Terry Roberts, director, National Paideia Center and former Thomas Wolfe Literary Award winner; and, Jim Stokely, president, Wilma Dykeman Legacy.

Martin was one of 50 writers nominated for the 2022 award.

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2021	Chevrolet	Spark	82
2021	Kia	Optima EX	20,010
2020	Chevrolet	Camaro	25,641
2019	Camaro		40,428
2019	Dodge	Grand Caravan SXT	55,584
2019	Equinox		52,902
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
2016	Ford	Focus	68,653
2015	Ford	Flex	99,016
2014	Mazda	3	86,680
2013	Hyundia	Genesis 6 SPD	69,381
2013	VW	Beetle Convertible	67,099
2009	Lexus	ES350	113,060

## SUVS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2023	Chevrolet	Tahoe	257
2022	Jeep	Wrangler Sahara Unlimited	10,539
2021	Chevrolet	Express 2500 Van	39,022
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
2021	Tahoe	High Country	28,303

2020	Acura	MDX AWD	46,606
2020	Buick	Encore	34,808
2020	Chevrolet	Trax	7,250
2020	Chevrolet	Trax Premier	28,030
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	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	Mitsubishi	Outlander	44,985
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	Sorrento	LX	112,933
2016	Toyota	Sequoia	96,869
2016	Trax	LT	20,021
2015	Suburban	LT	92,352

## TRUCKS

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILES
2022	Chevrolet	2500 LTZ	4,635
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	F-150	Crew 4x4	32,251
2021	Ford	F-150 SuperCrew Cab	32,251
2021	GMC	Canyon Elevation	50,934
2021	Ram	2500 Black Widow	13,542
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 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	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
2018	Ram	2500	101,661
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# Apprenticeships offer real life job experience for FHS students

**Diane Peltz – Contributing Writer**

Franklin High School (FHS) has partnered with ApprenticeshipNC, the Southwestern Child Development Commission, and Dogwood Health Trust to offer a Pre-Apprenticeship program for Franklin High School students interested in pursuing a career in Early Childhood Education.

At a ceremony held at the Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts last Wednesday, seven students were presented with awards to Pre-Apprenticeship. Emily Hill, Cesiah Gonzales, Cassandra Wilson, Emily Self, Ashley Gibbs, Leslie Flores and Andrea Sanchez all received a reward of \$500 through the Dogwood Health Trust Corporation. The students will receive another \$500 in May after completing their courses.

Students who become Pre-Apprentices have access to an array of resources including monetary incentives, coaching, technology, professional portfolio development, and tuition waivers. Graduates of the Pre-Apprenticeship Program at FHS will have earned the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential Equivalent, making them eligible to work as a teacher's assistant or in an Early Care and Education Program. After graduation, Pre-Apprentices transition into an Apprenticeship with benefits such as a progressive wage scale, opportunities for professional development, and a tuition waiver making their two-year degree in Early Childhood Education affordable and attainable.

Principal Coleen Strickland, Macon Virtual Academy Director of CTE, Testing and Accountability, explains how the program works.

"The early childhood pathway consists of three courses which prepares students to work with children in early childhood education settings," said Strickland. "Topics of



**Cassie Wilson and Emily Hill, juniors at Franklin High School, are enrolled in the Pre-Apprenticeship program.**

study include historical, theoretical, and philosophical foundations of the profession, the structure of early childhood programs, connecting appropriate learning activities and teaching strategies to developmental needs of children, inclusive environments, communication expectations, setting limits, and guiding behavior, as well as personal growth in the field of child development. An internship makes up 50 percent of instructional time. Students complete their internships at local elementary schools in early childhood classrooms."

Pathway is a three course sequence consisting of Child Development, Early Childhood 1 and Early Childhood 2. Registered participants can pursue their two-year degree at North Carolina Community Colleges at no cost.

Cassie Wilson and Emily Hill are two 11th

grade students at FHS, who are enrolled in the program.

"This is an amazing opportunity to learn about children from pre-k to 4th grade," said Cassie. She says Heather McClure is an amazing teacher. Cassie would like to teach 4th grade some day.

"We go to South Macon and Cartoogechaye Elementary Schools twice a week to work with the children in pre-k and kindergarten," relayed Emily.

Emily would like to teach kindergarten when she graduates from Western Carolina University, where she and Cassie both want to pursue their degrees. Emily also said that when they complete this course at FHS they will have earned three college credits in EDU119.

The students were surprised at the Smoky Mountain theater when two of the classes from Cartoogechaye Elementary with whom they work, showed up to pay tribute to them. This semester the students interned at South Macon Elementary and Cartoogechaye, and next semester they will be moving to intern at East Franklin and Iotla Elementary schools.

"To teach is all about the heart. It gives students hope and we want to see this grow," said McClure.

"FHS is the only school in the western region with this pre-apprenticeship to apprenticeship opportunity. Southwestern Early Childhood Development supports FHS using funds from the Dogwood Trust to provide a teacher, classroom coach, transportation, materials and supplies, iPads and monetary bonuses for students

completing the required coursework," Strickland explained further.

In order to register into the program, students must be 15 years of age before Sept. 1 of the school year.

To find out more about the Early Childhood Academy contact:

Jennifer Fouts email: fouts.jennifer@swcdcinc.org;

or Hannah Calhoun, email: Calhoun.hannah@swcdcinc.org.



**Franklin High School teacher Heather McClure makes impassioned plea to continue the apprenticeship program to "give students hope." Coleen Strickland, principal of Virtual School Academy and Director of CTE, testing and accountability looks on.**



**Students from Cartoogechaye Elementary showed up to pay tribute to their pre-apprenticeship interns who worked with them this semester.**



**Teacher Heather McClure with her pre-apprenticeship students (in no particular order) Emily Hill, Cesiah Gonzales, Cassandra Wilson, Emily Self, Ashley Gibbs, Leslie Flores and Andrea Sanchez.**



# Mental health support offered in N.C. schools

This winter and spring, 130 public schools across North Carolina will receive mental and behavioral health training and consultation through the North Carolina Psychiatry Access Line (NC-PAL). The services are designed to ensure participating K-12 school staff have the support they need to help their students who may be dealing with mental and behavioral health concerns. The program is free to local schools as part of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services StrongSchoolsNC COVID-19 Testing Program.

There is an urgent need to support behavioral health in our schools. During the pandemic, the rate of children discharged from an emergency department with a behavioral health condition increased by as much as 70%.

"The North Carolina Psychiatry Access Line expands access to mental health care for children in a dramatic way. Now, staff in 130 schools will have direct access to psychiatric experts who can help them better support our students," said NCDHHS Secretary Kody H. Kinsley. "Expanding access to psychiatric experts is one of the many ways we are investing in behavioral health as well as the well-being of children and families across North Carolina."

Since 2019, NC-PAL provides consultation to primary care providers on children's psychiatric conditions and trainings on children's mental health. Now, school administrators and counselors will not have to worry they don't have the tools and support to succeed in their work with youth experiencing emotional distress, having suicidal thoughts or struggling with aggressive behaviors. School behavioral health teams working with NC-PAL will have access to a child psychiatry expert who will provide consultation and

training based on the behavioral health concerns each team is encountering in their school.

Participating schools opted in to the NC-PAL program and other mental and behavioral health funding and support opportunities at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year when opting into the StrongSchoolsNC COVID-19 Testing Program. NC-PAL is a collaboration between Duke University's Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and NCDHHS.

"The pandemic has impacted our students in many ways, including more students struggling with mental and behavioral health issues," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt.

There has been exceptionally high demand by schools for these mental and behavioral health resources. The 130 public schools invited to participate in the NC-PAL program were chosen based on their indicated preferences, while maximizing access to the program with statewide geographical representation and for those communities with high needs.

"Together, NCDHHS and the NC Department of Public Instruction are building on the success of last year's COVID-19 testing program in schools to offer these new mental and behavioral health programs so that schools have more resources to support the physical and mental health of their students and staff," said Charlene Wong, M.D., NCDHHS Assistant Secretary for Children and Families.

To be eligible for mental and behavioral health funding opportunities provided through the StrongSchoolsNC COVID-19 Testing Program, schools must provide free COVID-19 testing to students.

# Facility to be repurposed into psychiatric hospital for children

As part of a shared commitment to behavioral health and the well-being of children and families, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and UNC Health will partner to convert the R.J. Blackley Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center in Butner, N.C., into a 54-bed inpatient psychiatric hospital for children and adolescents.

Each day in North Carolina, well over 250 people are waiting for behavioral health services in emergency departments. That includes more than 50 children and adolescents. Many end up in emergency rooms or other settings for days because North Carolina has historically lacked the inpatient capacity to meet the behavioral health needs of the community.

UNC Health and NCDHHS aim to open this new facility as early as July 1, 2023, providing relief to families seeking specialized, inpatient behavioral health treatment for their loved ones. NCDHHS and UNC Health have signed a letter of intent for this partnership and expect to finalize the agreement in January.

"Pediatric and adolescent behavioral health is the largest issue affecting the future health of our state," said Dr. Wesley Burks, UNC Health CEO and dean of the UNC School of Medicine. "This partnership with NCDHHS is one piece of a solution for this critical issue and will have a positive impact on individuals and families for years to come."

The partnership between two state agencies, NCDHHS and UNC Health, will expand much-needed services for children and adolescents, optimize use of other NCDHHS facilities for individuals seeking substance use disorder services and offset critical vacancies at the department.

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## What's new on the plateau

**Patrick Taylor**  
Highlands Mayor

It's back, snow that is, and we all need to be prepared. The official winter season is just around the corner with next Wednesday being the first official day.

Last year we dodged a bullet with the winter storm that brought 12 inches of snow. Before the storm there were predictions of 16 to over 20 inches of snow. As the mayor those projections made the hair on the back of my head stand up straight. I had visions of the Blizzard of 1993 where Highlands was shut completely down for about two weeks.

Luckily, the big 12-inch snow storm last year did not cause any major longterm power outages. But, roads were packed with heavy snow. Normally our road crews have equipment that can easily handle 3 to 6 inches of snow, but when we are trying to move 12 inches or more, that is a different situation. First, our snow plowing equipment tends to break more often. A broken plow means that unit has to return to the town shed for repairs. Second, we have more instances where road plowing vehicles slide off the road and become stuck. That, too, requires more time for additional staff and equipment to pull the stuck vehicle back onto the road. And finally, plowing large amounts of snow is a management problem, i.e., where do you put those large piles of snow?

Looking at existing storm patterns in the West and North makes me worry we could have another huge snow event. When those massive storms hit, it is not business as usual. A major blizzard in Western North Carolina could be likened to a hurricane hitting Eastern North Carolina. Power could be lost for a long period of time and roads could be impassable for similar periods. So my advice to those citizens with conditions that may be problematic in these kinds of emergency conditions, consider evacuating like in a hurricane to safer areas.

Nevertheless, we all need to be prepared for winter snow storms. Sallie and I make sure our pantry is full of food and that our propane tank is full. Before an impending snow storm I make sure our cars are topped off with gasoline. We do not have a generator so I have flash lights and lanterns with batteries on the ready, as well as an ample supply of firewood.

Some might say I am an alarmist, that with climate



Patrick Taylor

Continued on page 11

## Letters to the Editor

### The Christmas Story is meant for you

Countless stories have been written throughout history and told by mankind that covers just about everything the mind can imagine. Most stories are written solely by one person, and within their lifespan. The story may be short-lived with little remembrance or reflection. Stories carry us throughout life and how our world is viewed. It's within the writer's eyes and mind that tells a story about life or how things seemingly should be. A compelling story has a truth which all can relate to. It draws us into the story which we feel we are part of. It helps in bringing us into a better understanding of our past, so we can better understand ourselves in the present, which hopefully makes life clearer even towards an uncertain future.

The Greatest story ever written has a beginning yet its ending is still in wait and anticipation. It is not written by mankind but is written by those of mankind who lived, followed and worshiped the Divine author who inspired them. They have written in the most widely read and known book our world has ever known. If man has written this, I would love to meet this human author of such a divine mind and intellect of history and the inner workings of the mind and heart of man himself, and why man has become what he's become. He or she would be the most widely sought after person this world has ever known. Yet, all this is the Divine, but ignored by many.

The story of Christmas is not one invented by man; it is the Divine who brings Himself to you for the richness of knowing Him for the fullest of life and living. To bring joy, peace, and thanksgiving to you and the world. Christmas is so much more than a seasonal story; it's a grand entry into a hurting world with the innocence, purity and strength against all that is evil, selfish, and hateful, all that is the opposite of good, true, and pure. Such is viewed in the most innocent young child, but for Him, much of the world hated him throughout His birth, resurrection and His entire life. Yet for some this is still true to this present day.

For me it is clear to see our world hasn't changed much. But there are millions who follow and find their hope and trust in Christ, then there are those who believe man will someday or somehow find his way. Will it be the Greatest story ever told of Christ loving us, coming into the world for us? Or is it the continued story of believing that man believes in himself and that he is his own savior. Can mankind give such a hope and love, or offer such a trusting relationship that mankind has ever known? Or is there something beyond man that such things can be trusted and hoped upon?

For those who say they love Christ, or those who question Christ existence, it is my prayer we all will see this Christmas beyond the pretty wrapping and the busy-ness of the holiday, in seeing the real person of Christ and His

life's gift given to you. I pray that someday you'll find a change of heart for it's the heart and soul He came to set free. Otherwise mankind continues chasing what he never seems to find. Peace, love, and truthfulness that man has always longed for, yet it is Christ who comes to give this for you and me, the most Wonderful Gift of Christmas. This should be "your story," in finding a real personal relationship with the Divine. The True Gift of Christmas!

Deni Shepard - nds13@frontier.com

### Nuisance dog noise ordinance desperately needed

It is a shame that our county commissioners do not care or do anything to protect the animals and citizens that live in Macon County unless it benefits their own interests. As long as a dog has some sort of shelter, even if it is too small for the animal to stand up or move around in, and as long as it has a bowl, doesn't have to have food or water in it, it can be empty, there is nothing they can do about it.

There is a house on the hill just above us that keeps their white German shepherd on a 6-foot chain on a holder in the ground. Its doghouse is so small it cannot stand up or move around. It walks or runs around in a circle screaming. When it rains the sloped ground turns into a mud pit and is so slippery that the dog cannot walk without slipping. The food and water bowls are always flipped upside down. The dog screams, cries, and howls all the time. No animal should ever be treated like this and since this dog is chained up within 50 feet of our bedroom window, we are subjected to hearing this dogs anguish all the time.

There have been many people complaining to the commissioners from all different parts of the county about nuisance dog noise and still nothing is done. When are the county commissioners going to get a backbone and tackle this issue? Maybe Kevin Corbin should also be checking into this and working on a solution. If people don't have compassion and empathy for their own pets, how do we expect them to treat others around them? There have to be some stronger laws instituted against nuisance dog noise just as other communities have instituted. Law enforcement and our county commissioners are creating very dangerous situations by not addressing these problems and pitting neighbor against neighbor, letting these issues fester. Is it going to take someone getting hurt or killed in one of these disputes? Just watch "Fear thy neighbor" which depicts exactly what goes on in situations like this.

We can only hope that the new commissioners will have the guts to move forward with something to help and in two years when the other incumbent commissioners come up for reelection, vote them out if they are not going to do anything to help. The only thing to do now is hire an attorney.

Paul and Anita Martin - Franklin, N.C.

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# The Legislative Review

N.C. Rep. Karl Gillespie



Karl Gillespie

In this week's edition of The Legislative Review, we focus on the Finance Overview and North Carolina's Reserves and General Fund Availability.

### Finance overview, changes

The 2022 Appropriations Act changes several aspects of the State's tax laws. The most significant modification did not alter the anticipated amount of collected tax revenues, but instead modified their distribution. The Act directs a portion of proceeds generated from net sales and use taxes collected at the general rate of tax (2% in FY 2022-23, 4% in FY 2023-24, and 6% annually thereafter) to be transferred to the Highway Fund and/or the Highway Trust Fund for transportation needs. This change is projected to reduce General Fund revenue by \$193.1 million in FY 2022-23, with Highway Fund revenue increasing by the same amount that year.

Other less substantial tax law changes are also made in the 2022 Appropriations Act. The Act expands the personal income tax exclusion of retirement pay to include such benefits earned from service in all uniformed services, thereby providing the exemption to persons that worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS). The expansion of the exemption is effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, and it is projected to reduce General Fund revenue by \$1.6 million in Fiscal Year 2022-23.

In addition, the Act exempts certain purchases of equipment, including conveyor systems, made by interstate air and ground couriers from state sales and use tax. The exemption also applies to related parts and accessories and is effective for purchases made on or after July 1, 2022. This change is projected to reduce General Fund revenue by \$6.3 million in Fiscal Year 2022-23.

### Reserves and General Fund availability

North Carolina's budget policy-related statutes require annual revenue reservations into the Savings Reserve and State Capital and Infrastructure Fund (SCIF) under most circumstances. The 2022 Appropriations Act meets and exceeds the required minimum reservations for these two purposes. In addition, it reserves funds for 14 other purposes for a total of over \$9 billion in FY 2022-23 reservations.

### Real ID deadline extended to 2025

Recently, the federal government indicated that the deadline to obtain the REAL ID, which will be required for those who fly domestically, has been extended to 2025. DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said in a statement about the delay: "This extension will give states needed time to ensure their residents can obtain a REAL ID-compliant license or identification card."

### New laws take effect

SB 766 - Enhance penalties for organized retail theft and "smash-and-grab" robberies

HB 315 - Increase punishment for arson and fires that injure first responders

HB 674 - Strengthen state's DNA database by including domestic violence and assault crimes

HB 615 - Remove any enforcement gaps in domestic violence protective orders

These four new bipartisan laws took effect beginning December 1, 2022. I am proud to have voted for each of these important measures to further enhance public safety and strengthen domestic violence protections.

### Let us know what you think

Do you have a suggestion? Concerned about a particular issue? Contact my office and we will assist you in any way we can.

E-mail: [Andrew.Bailey@ncleg.gov](mailto:Andrew.Bailey@ncleg.gov)

Telephone: 919-733-5859

*Karl Gillespie is a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, representing District 120 since January 1, 2021. Gillespie is from Franklin.*

# TAYLOR

Continued from page 10

change we don't even get the snow and cold temperatures that Highlanders endured 30 years or so ago. But, with changing weather patterns those unusual storm events do happen. I won't even discuss the "ice" word. We are approaching 30 years since that epic blizzard of 1993. Some of the old time Highlanders tell me we are due for another anytime now. I hope not, but history has a way of repeating itself.

I look forward to a white Christmas in Highlands just as long as it only around 4 to 6 inches snow. We haven't had a good white Christmas for about a decade or more.

# LETTERS

Continued from page 10

### Enough love and support to go around

Happy Holidays. For all my Christian friends who are offended by Happy Holidays, may I point out that the winter solstice was celebrated long before Jesus walked the earth. The first record of celebrating Christmas as we know it was in 336 AD in Rome. The church co-opted the existing holiday and made it their own. Zero sum thinking says that support for one holiday takes away from support for another. In reality there is enough love and support for both. True Christians will love all people whether they are Christians or not. Think Jesus and the Samaritan woman.

David Stearns - Otto, N.C.

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

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## Overlook presents 'Rudolph the Musical'

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Photos by Betsy Gooder



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# Arrest Report

The Macon County Sheriff's Department or Franklin Police Department made the following arrests Dec. 2 - 10. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



## Macon County Sheriff's Department

### December 3

Christopher Bryan Lococo, was charged with warrant service for driving while impaired and driving while license revoked for impaired revocation. Gabe D. Bingham made the arrest.

### December 6

Mimi Raa Ciarrocchi, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Costin Jiglaui made the arrest.

Dalton Keith Bates, was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and probation violation. Costin Jiglaui made the arrest.

Tivan Dean Saunooke, was charged with failure to appear. Timothy B. Carter made the arrest.

Travis James Gregg, was charged with true bill of indictment and failure to appear. Matthew D. Long made the arrest.

Jeremiah Noah Smith, was charged with probation violation. Matthew D. Long made the arrest.

### December 7

Jonathan Wade Hurst, was charged with failure to appear. Matthew D. Long made the arrest.

### December 8

Mark Daniel Castro, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. Matthew D. Long made the arrest.

Clarence James McCall, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. Deputy Cody J. Howard made the arrest.

Christopher John Royle, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Matthew D. Long made the arrest.

Richard Austin Dyer-Cook, was charged with failure to appear. Matthew D. Long made the arrest.

### December 9

Charles Patrick Ellenburg, was charged with child support enforcement contempt. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

### December 10

Haley Morgan McCall, was charged with felony possession of a schedule II controlled substance. William D. Stamey made the arrest.

Sasha Solsebee, was charged with breaking and entering, injury to real property and assault and battery. Corporal Clay A. Saunders made the arrest.

Mark Anderson, was charged with communicating threats and aid and abet. Corporal Clay Saunders made the

arrest.

## Franklin Police Department

### December 2

Chase Adam Bell, was charged with possession of methamphetamine. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

### December 4

Armando Molina Robles, was charged with driving under the influence, failure to appear for driving while impaired, no operators license and open container alcohol violation. G.D. Hovis made the arrest.

### December 6

Norman Rozelle Walkingstick, was charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia and resist/obstruct delay. R. S. Dula made the arrest.

Bradley Kevin Jones, was charged with trafficking a schedule I controlled substance by transportation, trafficking a schedule I controlled substance by possession, possession of drug paraphernalia, resist/obstruct/delay and felony probation violation by possession LSD. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

Autumn Renae Sanders, was charged with trafficking a schedule I controlled substance by transportation, trafficking a schedule I controlled substance by possession, maintaining a vehicle for use/sale/keeping of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and driving while license revoked for impaired revocation. R.S. Dula made the arrest.

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## 'Booze It & Lose It' holiday campaign underway

Law enforcement officers are stepping up patrols as part of the statewide "Booze It & Lose It" holiday enforcement effort that is underway and concludes Jan. 2.

"If you're out celebrating this holiday season, make sure you have a sober ride home," said Mark Ezzell, director of the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program, or NCGHSP. "If you drive under the influence, you have a lot to lose. Not only could you kill yourself or someone else, but you could face thousands of dollars in court costs and fines, jail time, or a revoked license."

The "Booze It & Lose It" holiday effort is the largest impaired driving campaign run by the N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program. Throughout the campaign, law enforcement agencies statewide will increase patrols looking for impaired drivers.

NCGHSP will be supporting the campaign through a combination of paid media advertising and social media outreach.

The N.C. Governor's Highway Safety Program reminds all travelers to stay safe on the roads this holiday season by:

- Never driving impaired and always finding a safe ride home
- Buckling your seatbelt when riding in any seat in the ve-



Law enforcement officers are increasing patrols to crack down on impaired driving, as part of the "Booze It & Lose It" holiday enforcement effort. So far this year, 432 people have been killed in North Carolina in impaired driving crashes.

YTD (Jan. 1 - Dec. 12)	Alcohol/Drug Related Fatalities
2021	503
2020	500
2019	403
2018	463

- Following the speed limit

So far this year, 432 people have been killed in North Carolina in alcohol-or drug-related crashes. The graph (left) shows how that compares to the number of people killed in impaired crashes over the same time period dating back to 2018.

For more program information, follow us @NCGHSP on Facebook and @NC\_GHSP on Twitter and Instagram.







# County Extension offers a variety of services and information

Deena C. Bouknight – Contributing Writer

Local business owner Claire Suminski, who is on the advisory council of the Macon County Cooperative Extension Center, pointed out that people in the area often are not fully aware of all that the Center offers to area residents. The advisory council met in November, and Suminski and other individuals who attended the meeting gleaned a wealth of information.

Because county extension offices are tailored to the county in which they are located, each one offers a different mix of services. For example, the vegetable planting chart from the cooperative extension in Southern Georgia may be different from the one put out by the Macon County Center, due to the mountain climate dictating a colder USDA hardiness zone. But primarily, county extension office agents

share information – in person at public events and workshops, online via a website, and/or through printed fact sheets on everything from native plants to area pests and diseases to landscaping tips.

Landowners can learn about and stay updated on such topics as agriculture, livestock, forage, and pasture from County Extension Agent Joe Deal. Plus, a myriad of children’s programs teach skills and encourage learning. In fact, Extension Agent Tammara Talley, who has been overseeing 4-H Youth Development for 10 years in Macon County, was presented a North Carolina statewide award at the November Advisory Board meeting for her efforts in reaching and encouraging children. The Dr. R. Marshall and Mrs. Jan Stewart Award is given to individuals who meet the following criteria: Exemplary leadership; achieving above and beyond what the position requires; and, encouraging excellence and teamwork among colleagues, volunteers, and youth.

Pat & Jim Zilbauer wish you all a **Merry Christmas**

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First grade homeschool student Lucy Byrd participated in the annual Macon County Extension Center’s gingerbread house competition, as did Sarah Whatley, a second grade homeschool student.



Overseeing the December 13 annual gingerbread house competition at Macon County Cooperative Extension Center was Tammara Talley, the agent over 4H Youth Development for the last 10 years.

“It was a great blessing and great honor that my co-workers nominated me for that award,” said Talley, who noted, “Several clubs meet that teach students all kinds of skills such as sewing, shooting, cooking, livestock raising, and more. We have two age groups: 5-8-year-olds and 9-18-year-olds.” Some of the current clubs are: Macon Mountain Goats 4-H Club, Macon Archers, Macon Sharp Shooters, Budding Chefs and Top Chefs, and Sassy Stitches.

“We have a high level of support for kids involved in agricultural pursuits in Macon County,” said Suminski, who worked as a 4H leader for 20 years. “It’s so good for kids to learn various skills, especially when it comes to raising livestock and vegetables because they can be involved in knowing where some of their food comes from.”

On Dec. 12, the Budding Chefs and Top Chefs hosted an annual gingerbread house decorating contest in the Macon County Cooperative Extension Center kitchen. Participants decorated for an hour and then the gingerbread houses were judged by a volunteer panel.

Individuals interested in what is available through the Macon County Cooperative Extension Center can obtain information on the website [www.macon.ces.ncsu.edu](http://www.macon.ces.ncsu.edu) or by calling (828) 249-2046.



# Third annual holiday fireworks, concert planned Dec. 16 in Sylva

The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department are proud to present the third annual Holiday Fireworks and Concert in downtown Sylva on Friday, Dec. 16.

The chamber will host a holiday-themed concert by local rockers Terri Lynn Queen and Scott Baker from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on the front porch of the chamber at 773 West Main Street in Sylva. The fireworks will follow at 7:30 p.m.

"This is our Christmas gift to the Jackson County community to enjoy while shopping and dining out during the last holiday shopping weekend before Christmas," said Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Julie Donaldson.

"The fireworks display will be visible from all over Main and Mill Street in downtown Sylva and the immediate surrounding areas," said Jackson County Parks and Recreation Director Rusty Ellis. "They are shot from Sunrise Park, which is directly above The Coffee Shop/Creekside Oyster House area."

Walmart of Sylva will be providing a free hot chocolate bar and cookies during the holiday concert at the chamber from 6:30-7:45 p.m. Rumor is that Santa Claus will also be making a special appearance for children and families to get photos.

"This will perhaps be your last chance to



Photos by Kelly Donaldson  
Jackson County Chamber of Commerce

let Ol' Saint Nick know whether you've been naughty or nice," said chamber assistant director Kelly Donaldson. "He's making his final rounds before Christmas."

Sylva's own Triple Threat Dancers will perform a short dance routine at 7 p.m. near the town Christmas tree/fountain.

For more information, contact the chamber at (828)586-2155 or visit [www.mountainlovers.com](http://www.mountainlovers.com).



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## Campground is new A.T. Supporter

The Franklin Appalachian Trail Community Council held their December meeting at Winding Stairs Farm Campground and welcomed Winding Stairs as a new A.T. Supporter. Located along the Nantahala River on what used to be Rainbow Springs Campground, Winding Stairs Campground is now open to A.T. hikers and other travelers. Visit [appalachiantrail.org/explore/communities/](http://appalachiantrail.org/explore/communities/) to learn more about Franklin and other A.T. Communities and Supporters, and visit [facebook.com/FranklinATMile110](https://www.facebook.com/FranklinATMile110) to learn more about Franklin's group and how to get involved in supporting our local Appalachian Trail and outdoor community. Pictured are (L-R) FATCC Chair Tasha Sebring, Winding Stairs Campground Manager Andrea Yates, FATCC members Dan Finnerty, Deena Bouknight, Eric Haggart and (seated) Kristina Moe.

## New pastor at First Alliance

Rev. Bradley Bennett was installed as senior pastor of First Alliance Church in Franklin on Sunday, Dec. 4. Mick Noel, district superintendent of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, officiated.

In seeking a senior pastor, search committee members and elders said they were happy to find Rev. Bennett, who was the senior pastor of Three Springs Church in Blain, Pa., for the past four years.

"We are delighted to welcome Pastor Bennett, his wife Sarah, and family to the community," said Neil Enloe, vice chairman of the board of elders. "From initial interviews through their visit with the congregation, the leading of the Lord was clear."

Bennett was educated at Toccoa Falls College in Toccoa, Ga., and through Bethany Theological Seminary.

"I believe that the Spirit of God works through the Word of God in the hearts of the people of God to reach the lost for God," said Bennett.

The Christian & Missionary Alliance is a fellowship of nearly six million evangelical believers worldwide, with more than 2,000 U.S. churches, dedicated to fulfilling Christ's command to make disciples of all nations. The Alliance has a thoroughly evangelical doctrinal statement and encourages believers from diverse backgrounds and theological traditions to unite to complete Christ's Great Commission.

For more information about First Alliance Church, see [www.franklincma.com](http://www.franklincma.com) or call (828)369-7977. The church is located at 31 Promise Lane, off Womack Street, next door to Trimont Christian Academy.



Rev. Bradley Bennett



## Deaths & Funerals

### Edna Mae Frady Smith

Edna Mae Frady Smith, 78, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with Jesus on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022.

Born in Jackson County, she was the daughter of the late William Garland and Carrie Franks Frady. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Vicky Smith; a son, Al Smith; three brothers; Willard, Roosevelt Albert, and Daniel; and three sisters, Elena, Geneva, and Shirleen.

She enjoyed contemporary gospel music, sewing, reading, and quilting.

She is survived by her husband, Frederick W. Smith Jr.; one daughter, Sarah Bates of Franklin; two sons, Fred Smith (Cathy) of Syracuse, N.Y., and James Smith of Franklin; one sister, Ola Jane Dills of North Carolina; and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren.

Funeral service was held Sunday, Dec. 11, in the chapel of Macon Funeral Home. Rev. JD Watson and Rev. Clinton Ballew officiated.

Interment was in the East Fork Baptist Cemetery in Sylva.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

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

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Edna Mae Smith

## Grave marker for Isham Davis dedicated

On Nov. 19, a group from the Battle of Sugar-town Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution and a group from the Joseph Habersham Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution gathered at the old First Baptist Church cemetery to dedicate a grave marker for the Revolutionary War soldier and patriot, Isham Davis. The two groups came together to pay tribute to an almost forgotten soldier whose burial place lacked a marker.

Isham Davis, born in South Carolina, lived the last few years of his life in Macon County. He was a Methodist minister and was friends with Rev. Humphrey Posey, the first minister of the Baptist church. Davis died in 1835. The cemetery's existence goes back to 1830. The original marker for the grave no longer existed. A large rock with a special DAR insignia brass plaque has been placed near the burial place of Isham Davis.



Photo by Bob Scott

A grave marking by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and a Georgia chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution of Revolutionary War Patriot Isham Davis. This marking is located at the old First Baptist Cemetery in Franklin. Pictured (L-R) are Tere Moore, Elizabeth Cabe, Barbara White, Lynn Deegen, Dee Schendel, Mardy Ashe, Carol Martin-Vegue and Vicki Baker.

The dedication ceremony was solemn as the SAR Color guard, in their colonial uniforms, carried flags and a rifle and marched to the memorial plaque. The DAR ritual for the grave marker of a Revolutionary Patriot was read and at the end of the service the rifle was fired and Taps were played.

Submitted by Victoria Baker

### Max V. Stewart

Max V. Stewart, 85, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022. He was born in Macon County, Dec. 7, 1936 to the late Grace Stewart.

He had worked for C. S. Brown Oil Company. He loved his family and was a member of St. Cyprian Episcopal Church. He was a U.S. Navy veteran.

He is survived by his sister, Patricia Hall (Robert) of Franklin; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his mother, he was preceded in death by his sister, Elsie Brown; and two brothers, Frederick Stewart, James Lewis Stewart.

A private service was held Saturday at Bryant-Grant Funeral Home.

Burial was in the Western North Carolina Veterans Cemetery in Black Mountain, N.C.

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

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

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# Deaths & Funerals

## Nancy Alice Scott Beach

Nancy Alice Scott Beach, 61, of Franklin, N.C., went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, Dec. 10, 2022.

Born in Macon County and a lifelong resident, she was the daughter of the late George Daniel and Annie Bell Bingham Scott. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Benjamin Franklin Beach Jr.

She loved to teach Sunday School and was a member of Central Baptist Church. She loved visiting and talking with people. She was loved by many and will be dearly missed.

She is survived by her son, Benjamin "Stuart" Beach of Franklin; brothers, Terry (Robin) Scott of Franklin and Daniel "Tracy" (Phelicia) Scott of Duncan, Okla.; and special cousins/sisters, Elsie Williamson and Shirley Bradley.

Funeral service will be held Saturday, Dec. 17, at 11 a.m., at Watauga Baptist Church with Revs. Chris Rumpfelt, Jeremy Gibbs, and David Lee Williams officiating. Burial will be at Watauga Baptist Church Cemetery.

The family will receive friends Friday, Dec. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Macon Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Ricky Scott, Kenny Mashburn, Mitchell Mashburn, Jonathan Williamson, Joe Hilliard, and Billy Franks.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Watauga Baptist Church Cemetery Fund, C/O Norris Clouse, 2864 Watauga Rd, Franklin, NC 28734.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneral-home.com](http://www.maconfuneral-home.com).

## Elise Brown

Elise Brown, 83, of Illinois, passed away Nov. 19, 2022. She was born in Macon County, North Carolina, July 19, 1939. She was a hairdresser. She was of the Church of God faith.

She is survived by her sister, Patricia Hall; a brother, Mack Stewart; several nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her brothers, Fredrick Stewart and James Stewart.

A private service will be held for the family. Bryant Grant Funeral Home is serving the Brown family. Online condolences can be made at [www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com](http://www.bryantgrantfuneralhome.com).

## Doris Lorene Webb Younger

Doris Lorene Webb Younger, 72, of Franklin, N.C., passed away Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022. She was born Oct. 24, 1950, in Rabun County, Georgia, the daughter of Omie Mae Webb of Franklin and the late George Louie Webb.

She was a CNA and had worked as a private duty caregiver and also worked at Grandview and Macon Valley/Britthaven nursing homes. She loved camping, fishing, and spending time with family.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by a brother, Kenneth Webb and a sister, Mary Beck.

She is survived by her mother, Omie Mae Webb; sons, George Swafford and Gervis Swafford; two grandchildren, Makayla Denise Hyde and Gervis Sean Swafford; three great-grandchildren, Samuel Hyde, Tobias Hyde and Nevach Hyde.

No services are planned at this time.

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

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

## William R. (Bill) Lapp Jr.

William R. (Bill) Lapp Jr., 79, passed away Dec. 2, 2022, after a brief illness.

He was born March 5, 1943, to parents, William R. Lapp Sr. and Hughmina Mary King Lapp in Hollywood, Fla.

He graduated from Miami Norland High School in 1961 and worked several years before beginning a career with CSX Railroad as an engineer for 42 years. He was of the Christian faith. He enjoyed playing golf and participated in many tournaments. He played high school football and basketball and was a star player. He also enjoyed watching sports, music, his coffee and socializing with family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Frank Lapp.

He is survived by his wife of 17 months, Carolyn Horn Lapp; a sister, Judy Foster of Carrollton, Va.; a son, William R. Lapp III of Franklin, N.C.; a daughter, Colleen Lapp of Seneca, S.C.; grandchildren, Anna Lapp of Minot, N.D., Liz and Will Lapp of Franklin; Carolyn's daughter, Audrey Fulton of Franklin, and her children, Kristen Brauer (Jason), Justin (Emerald), Ben and Will Gray; and grandsons, Daniel and Eddie Houston of Franklin.

A memorial service will be held Dec. 18, at 3 p.m., at Louisa United Methodist Church with Pastor David Crunkleton officiating. Visitation will be held after the service.

He had a great love for dogs and cats so in lieu of flowers the family requests that memorial donations be made to Appalachian Animal Rescue, 851 Lake Emory Road Franklin, NC 28734

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneral-home.com](http://www.maconfuneral-home.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



William R. Lapp Jr.

## Mack Eugene Cabe

Mack Eugene Cabe 85, of Franklin, N.C., passed away on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022, at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in the Ronnie Green Heart Center.

He was born on Sept. 18, 1937, in Macon County to the late Mel-drum "Pud" Dewey and Evie Keener Cabe. He was a graduate of Franklin High School. He was a retired logging contractor and grading contractor. He enjoyed fishing, camping, and spending time with his family, especially his great grandchildren. He was a member of the Woodmen of the World and a member of the First Baptist Church in Franklin.

He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Bernice Holder Cabe; two daughters, Monica Cansler (John) of Franklin, and Karen Tallent of Franklin; three grandchildren, Sarah Norris (Matthew), Ethan Cansler (Sarah), and Dustin Tallent; four great grandchildren, Levi, Lucas, Lauryn, and Lexi Norris and one brother, Jackie C. Cabe of Merritt Island; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A celebration of life was held Tuesday, Dec. 13, at First Baptist Church with Dr. Robert Brown, Rev. Robert Dyman, and Rev. Rick Potts officiating.

Honorary pallbearers were Darrell Lee, Colbert Henson, Bill Sprinkle, Jeremy Sprinkle, Eddie Williams, and James "Punk" Wiggins.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Ronnie Green Heart Center, Northeast Georgia Medical Center, at [www.nghs.com/give](http://www.nghs.com/give) or by mailing to 2150 Limestone Parkway, Suite #115, Gainesville GA 30501; and/or Mended Hearts at [www.nghs.com/make-a-donation](http://www.nghs.com/make-a-donation), or the charity of one's choice.

Online condolences can be made at [www.maconfuneral-home.com](http://www.maconfuneral-home.com).

Macon Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Mack Eugene Cabe

## John Daryl Nichols Sr.

John Daryl Nichols Sr., 74, of Franklin, N.C., went to be with his Heavenly Father Dec. 9, 2022.

Born in Princeton, W. Va., on Jan. 4, 1948, he was the son on the late Lloyd L. Nichols and Eva Mae Gordon Nichols. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his oldest son, Luke Nichols; sister, Bonnie Thomas, and brother Leon Nichols.

Left to cherish his memory are sons, Johnie Nichols and Austin Nichols; daughter, Mishone Nichols; brother, Phil Wilson and wife Geraldine; sister, Sherria Christian and husband Phillip; and a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He was a superintendent for construction and loved working with his hands. He also loved fishing and yard selling. He was always full of humor and laughs and never meet a stranger.

No local services are planned.

Moffitt Family Funeral Care is honored to serve the family.

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



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# Looking ahead to 2023 NASCAR slate of races

Holly Cain – NASCAR Wire Service

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. - A return engagement to the famed Los Angeles Coliseum for the preseason Busch Light Clash, a highly anticipated move to the iconic North Wilkesboro (N.C.) Speedway for the All-Star race and an inaugural street race in downtown Chicago highlight the 2023 NASCAR Cup Series schedule.

Add to those prime venues, equally exciting moves on the NASCAR Xfinity Series and Craftsman Truck Series schedules for 2023 and the sport's 75th Anniversary Season has taken shape to be one of the most diverse, innovative, and bold calendars of competition that NASCAR has seen.

"As we prepare to celebrate our 75th anniversary season, we are committed to delivering a schedule that acknowledges the deep history and tradition of our sport while establishing a bold future that brings the best racing in the world to new markets and new fans," NASCAR Senior Vice President of Racing Development and Strategy Ben Kennedy said.

"The 2023 schedules are a product of continued collaboration across our industry and partners. We are incredibly proud of what our sport will have to offer fans next season and excited to celebrate this milestone season with the most diverse compilation of tracks in motorsports."

The 2023 Cup season begins on Feb. 5 with the Busch Light Clash at the Coliseum, which will air on FOX in primetime. Only two weeks later, the 65th running of NASCAR's Great American Race, the Daytona 500, will take place on Feb. 19.

The West Coast swing begins next with three consecutive weeks of racing at Auto Club Speedway (Feb. 26), Las Vegas (March 5) and Phoenix (March 12).

Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway's dirt race is back on April 9 with the NASCAR All-Star Race making its North Wilkesboro debut on May 21. The Chicago street race will be the cornerstone of the sport's summer holiday season with a July 2 date on the calendar.

Daytona International Speedway will again host the reg-



Daytona International Speedway is second on the 2023 schedule and will host the 65th running of the NASCAR's Great American Race, the Daytona 500 on Feb. 19, and the regular season finale on Aug. 26

ular season finale on Aug. 26 with the 10-race NASCAR Cup Series Playoff schedule set to take the green flag on Sept. 3 at Darlington (S.C.) Raceway. Kansas Speedway and the Bristol traditional track complete Round 1.

Texas Motor Speedway, Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway and Charlotte Motor Speedway's ROVAL make up Round 2, followed by Las Vegas, Homestead, Fla., and Martinsville (Va.) Speedway to decide which four drivers advance to the Championship Round at Phoenix Raceway on Nov. 5.

There are plenty of exciting stops on the NASCAR Xfinity Series schedule as well, including a return trip to the Portland (Ore.) International Raceway road course and a new stop, accompanying the NASCAR Cup Series on its three Western stops – at California's Auto Club Speedway, Las Vegas, and Phoenix.

The Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway makes its debut on the Xfinity Series schedule with a race on June 10. Later in the summer, the cars will compete on three road course races in a four-race span – at Wisconsin's Road America (July 29), the Indianapolis Road Course (Aug. 12) and Watkins Glen (Aug. 19).

"We are thrilled to have the Xfinity Series racing here in Sonoma for the first time ever," Sonoma Raceway General Manager Jill Gregory said. "This is part of our promise to our fans to keep raising the bar. And we expect several of the Cup Series racers to pull double duty and run the Xfinity Series as well."

The seven-race Xfinity Series Playoff schedule will begin Sept. 15 at Bristol Motor Speedway with other first round races at Texas Motor Speedway and the ROVAL. Las Vegas, Homestead, and Martinsville will set the championship four with the season finale Nov. 4 at Phoenix.

Not only does the Craftsman Truck Series sport a new name, but it also features a few new popular destinations on the schedule – racing at both North Wilkesboro during All-Star weekend (May 20) and the iconic Milwaukee Mile on Aug. 27. It marks the series' first race at North Wilkesboro since 1996.

The Truck Series season begins Feb. 17 at Daytona with its seven-race Playoff stretch kicking off Aug. 11 at Lucas Oil Indianapolis Raceway Park and concluding Nov. 3 at Phoenix Raceway.

## Cypress Hill will perform at NASCAR's Busch Light at the Coliseum

If the roar of the engines won't make NASCAR fans "Insane in the Brain" on Sunday, Feb. 5, a group of hip-hop legends from South Gate will put them over the edge.

NASCAR has announced that Cypress Hill will perform during the 2023 Busch Light Clash at the Coliseum. They will take the stage after the last-chance qualifiers and before the main event inside the iconic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. FOX will also air one of their songs live on the national broadcast, as NASCAR celebrates the beginning of its historic 75th anniversary season with an exhibition for



Legendary hip-hop artists Cypress Hill from South Gate will set stage for main event at NASCAR's Busch Light Clash at the Coliseum on Feb. 5



### 2023 NASCAR CUP SERIES SCHEDULE

Date	Race / Track
Sunday, February 5	Clash (L.A. Memorial Coliseum)
Thursday, February 16	Duel at Daytona
Sunday, February 19	DAYTONA 500
Sunday, February 26	Auto Club
Sunday, March 5	Las Vegas
Sunday, March 12	Phoenix
Sunday, March 19	Atlanta
Sunday, March 26	COTA
Sunday, April 2	Richmond
Sunday, April 9	Bristol Dirt
Sunday, April 16	Martinsville
Sunday, April 23	Talladega
Sunday, April 30	Dover
Sunday, May 7	Kansas
Sunday, May 14	Darlington
Sunday, May 21	North Wilkesboro (All-Star Race)
Sunday, May 28	Charlotte
Sunday, June 4	World Wide Technology Raceway
Sunday, June 11	Sonoma
Sunday, June 25	Nashville Superspeedway
Sunday, July 2	Chicago Street Race
Sunday, July 9	Atlanta
Sunday, July 16	New Hampshire
Sunday, July 23	Pocono
Sunday, July 30	Richmond
Sunday, August 6	Michigan
Sunday, August 13	Indianapolis Road Course
Sunday, August 20	Watkins Glen
Saturday, August 26	Daytona
Sunday, September 3	Darlington
Sunday, September 10	Kansas
Saturday, September 16	Bristol
Sunday, September 24	Texas
Sunday, October 1	Talladega
Sunday, October 8	Charlotte Roval
Sunday, October 15	Las Vegas
Sunday, October 22	Homestead-Miami
Sunday, October 29	Martinsville
Sunday, November 5	Phoenix (Championship)

### 2023 NASCAR XFINITY SERIES SCHEDULE

Date	Race / Track
Saturday, February 19	Daytona
Saturday, February 26	Auto Club
Saturday, March 5	Las Vegas
Saturday, March 12	Phoenix
Saturday, March 19	Atlanta
Saturday, March 26	COTA
Saturday, April 2	Richmond
Friday, April 8	Martinsville
Saturday, April 23	Talladega
Saturday, April 30	Dover
Saturday, May 7	Darlington
Saturday, May 21	Texas
Saturday, May 28	Charlotte
Saturday, June 4	Portland International Raceway
Saturday, June 25	Nashville Superspeedway
Saturday, July 2	Road America
Saturday, July 9	Atlanta
Saturday, July 16	New Hampshire
Saturday, July 23	Pocono
Saturday, July 30	Indianapolis Road Course
Saturday, August 6	Michigan
Saturday, August 20	Watkins Glen
Friday, August 26	Daytona
Saturday, September 3	Darlington
Saturday, September 10	Kansas
Friday, September 16	Bristol
Saturday, September 24	Texas
Saturday, October 1	Talladega
Saturday, October 8	Charlotte Roval
Saturday, October 15	Las Vegas
Saturday, October 22	Homestead-Miami
Saturday, October 29	Martinsville
Saturday, November 5	Phoenix

bringing some South Gate style to all of the NASCAR fans at the LA Coliseum.”

Additional Busch Light Clash performers will be announced in the coming weeks, as NASCAR prepares for the highly anticipated sequel to one of the most celebrated events in NASCAR history. The inaugural 2022 event featured performances by international superstars Ice Cube, Pitbull and DJ Skee.

Yet it's the racing that makes the Busch Light Clash at the Coliseum the most unique event on the NASCAR schedule. The 2023 season-opening exhibition will once again feature the stars of the NASCAR Cup Series competing on a temporary, quarter-mile asphalt track nestled inside the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Joey Logano won the inaugural event earlier this year en route to winning the 2022 NASCAR Cup Series championship.

Tickets for the 2023 Busch Light Clash at the Coliseum begin at \$65, and kids 12-and-under are \$10. Those are the same prices charged for this year's inaugural showcase. Fans are encouraged to get their tickets now while supplies last by visiting [www.nascar-clash.com](http://www.nascar-clash.com).

### 2023 NASCAR TRUCK SERIES

Date	Race / Track
Friday, February 17	Daytona
Friday, March 3	Las Vegas
Saturday, March 18	Atlanta
Saturday, March 25	COTA
Saturday, April 1	Texas
Saturday, April 8	Bristol Dirt
Friday, April 14	Martinsville
Saturday, May 6	Kansas
Friday, May 12	Darlington
Saturday, May 20	North Wilkesboro
Friday, May 26	Charlotte
Saturday, June 3	World Wide Technology Raceway
Friday, June 23	Nashville Superspeedway
Saturday, July 8	Mid-Ohio
Saturday, July 22	Pocono
Saturday, July 29	Richmond
Friday, August 11	Lucas Oil IRP
Sunday, August 27	Milwaukee
Friday, September 8	Kansas
Thursday, September 14	Bristol
Saturday, September 30	Talladega
Saturday, October 21	Homestead-Miami
Friday, November 3	Phoenix (Championship)

ages in the heart of Los Angeles.

“What a tremendous addition to the 2023 Busch Light Clash,” said Ben Kennedy, NASCAR’s senior vice president for racing development and strategy. “Cypress Hill are cultural icons, not only in Los Angeles but around the world. We can’t wait for them to perform for our fans during this historic event.”

Naming themselves after a local street in Los Angeles, Cypress Hill burst on the scene in 1991 with the release of their self-titled debut album. They followed that up with Black Sunday in the summer of 1993, which debuted at No. 1 on Billboard’s Top 200, garnered three GRAMMY® Award nominations and went triple platinum in the U.S. As a result, Cypress Hill became the first rap group to have two albums in

the top 10 of the Billboard 200 charts at the same time and are the first Latino-American hip-hop group to achieve platinum and multi-platinum success.

Since the release of Black Sunday, Cypress Hill has released seven more albums and made history once again in 2019 when the group was honored with their very own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Their music continues to entertain and inspire audiences worldwide, and the documentary “Insane in the Brain” released on Showtime this year introduced the group to a new generation.

“NASCAR drivers have the mentality of taking it to the limit on every lap, and we take the same approach with our music,” said Cypress Hill co-founder Sen Dog. “We’re excited to have NASCAR return to our back yard, and we look forward to

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- 9. \*Ammo material
- 13. Star\_\_\_\_\_
- 14. The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
- 15. Neutral shade
- 16. Orderly arrangement
- 17. Romanian monetary unit
- 18. Button on electrical outlet
- 19. \*Frosty's nose
- 21. \*Gingerbread Man, e.g.
- 23. Drench
- 24. What a willow did?
- 25. Famous song by The Jackson 5
- 28. Cone-shaped quarters
- 30. \*Snow mover
- 35. A bit of water
- 37. Pakistani language
- 39. Measured in knots
- 40. Tatted fabric
- 41. \*\*"A Visit from St. Nicholas" poet
- 43. Tropical edible root
- 44. Paintings in Orthodox church
- 46. Not swim or swum
- 47. Frozen puddle accident
- 48. Small skullcap
- 50. Dresden's river
- 52. Captain's turf
- 53. Drop of sorrow
- 55. "Slippery" tree
- 57. \*Frozen spike
- 60. \*Three-horse sleigh ride

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- 64. Caviar alternative
- 66. On D'Artagnan's hat
- 68. Group of wives
- 69. Boiling emotion
- 70. Furnish with a fund
- 71. Travelers' stops
- 72. Poetic "even"
- 73. Buy second-hand
- 9. Station finder button
- 10. Not final
- 11. Curved molding
- 12. Kind of nurse
- 15. Bouillons
- 20. Laudanum ingredient
- 22. Saturn's wife
- 24. As opposed to widow
- 25. Impromptu
- 26. Emergency pedal
- 27. \*Hot treat
- 29. Major-leaguers
- 31. Prefers
- 32. Butcher shop offering, pl.
- 33. Ghostlike
- 34. Parkinson's drug
- 36. Philadelphia's Ivy League member
- 38. Russian mountain chain
- 42. \*Fireplace glob
- 45. TV offering
- 49. Reef fish
- 51. Kind of bride
- 54. Eagle's home
- 56. Hundred Acre Wood creator
- 57. A Flock of Seagulls' 1982 hit (2 words)
- 58. European Council for Nuclear Research, acr.
- 59. Bad day for Caesar
- 60. Not quite an adult
- 61. Spiral-horned African antelope
- 62. Singer-songwriter Tori
- 63. Tai's partner
- 65. Miner's bounty
- 67. Female sheep

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



# The Classifieds

## Services

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

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

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

**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.

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

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

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

**CLASSIC PAINT** Interior & Exterior, Residential, Commercial. Committed to Excellence! Licensed & Insured Larry Jacobs call (828)421-4987.

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

## Misc. For Sale

**SEASONED FIREWOOD** \$85 Facecord. (828)524-4164 Leave Message.

**FARMERS MARKET** 10-12, Every Saturday. Please Come Out and Support Your Local Farmers Market. Vegetables, Honey, Soap, Pastries, Preserves, Eggs. 200 Block East Palmer.

**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 Cans! We Buy, Trade all Types Military 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

## Community Fundraisers

**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.

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

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

## Help Wanted

**POSITION AVAILABLE** Program Administrative Assistant Disability Partners is seeking an individual with two years experience in office administration including proficient experience with Microsoft Office, accuracy and ability to meet deadlines a must, be a team player with personality to work with all levels of management in a fast-paced work environment. Confidentiality, verbal and written communication a high priority. People with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Applications are available on our website: disabilitypartners.org or at 525 Mineral Springs Drive, Sylva NC 28779 between 9am and 4pm. Please call Philana Griffin at (828)631-1167 for more information.

**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.

## 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.

**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.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** Franklin is Seeking Part-time Director of Music and Worship. Call Page McCurry (828)360-4503.

**POSITION AVAILABLE** Community Inclusion Specialist Disability Partners is seeking an outgoing individual who can assist people with disabilities to reach their desired level of independence through many specialized services. Must have high school diploma or equivalent, be a self-starter with organizational skills, excellent written and communication skills, knowledge of Microsoft Office and data base operations. Work experience and education will be considered. Benefits include vacation, sick, holidays, dental, life, vision and health insurance along with 401K. Join our team and make a difference. Applications available at Disability Partners, 525 Mineral Springs Drive, Sylva or on our website: disabilitypartners.org. Call Chuck Oaks for more information (828)631-1167.

## Rentals

**COZY LAKEFRONT** Cottage, 1BD/1BA, Fully furnished. Easy Access Franklin. Ideal corporate rental. Seasonal. Call for price. Sarah Miller, Diva's (770)757-7500.

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