

SEE PAGE 3 FOR FULL DETAILS



EXTRA, EXTRA!!

Weekly Great Gas Give-Away!



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SAMPSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

The Sampson Weekly

FREE



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 34

Week of August 18-24, 2017

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INSIDE



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First Ever Clinton Police Department Kids Camp



Clinton Police Chief Donald Edwards joins in on the fishing fun at the CPD Kids Camp

The Clinton Police Department has been active in finding creative ways to interact and connect with members of our community, and this past week they looked to reach out and engage with some of our youngest community members with a first ever CPD Kids Camp.

Hosted by the Clinton Police Department and Olive Grove Church, Kids Camp has been a hit so far with the kids and officers alike. So much that the department will likely seek additional ways to engage with our community's youngest members.

CPD CAMP, see P. 4

Homicide in Keener Community

**Sheriff Department needs community assistance in locating suspect*



Jorge Alexander Ruiz

Clinton, NC- On Monday, August 14, 2017 deputies with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office responded to a gunshot victim at 6370 Keener Rd., Clinton, NC. Upon arrival, deputies discovered a male victim whom had succumbed to a gunshot wound.

Investigators responded to the scene and began collecting evidence. Through their investigative efforts, they were able to identify a suspect in the case. The suspect has been identified as: Jorge Alexander Ruiz, 26, H/M, 503, 172 lbs., muscular build, black hair, brown eyes, and has a scar on his forehead.

The victim has been identified as a Hispanic male from Clinton, whose name is being withheld at this time to protect the integrity of the investigation. Anyone having information pertaining to this investigation or on the suspects' whereabouts is encouraged to contact Investigators at the Sampson County Sheriff's Office at 910-592-4141.

WEATHER

Fri AN T-Storms 50%

Hi: 93° Lo: 75°

Sat T-Storms 80%

Hi: 88° Lo: 74°

Sun AM T-Storms 40%

Hi: 92° Lo: 74°

Mon Partly Cloudy 20%

Hi: 87° Lo: 73°

Tues PM T-Storms 50%

Hi: 91° Lo: 73°

Wed Scattered T-Storms 50%

Hi: 91° Lo: 72°

"UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY DAY"



Harrells Mayor Jimmy Moore joins in on the fun at Unity in the Community

Circle August 26, 2017 on your calendars and get ready for a day full of fun and fellowship. It's the date of the 10th annual "Unity in the Community Day" being held in Harrells Park from 9 am until 4 pm.

This annual event, started in 2007, recognizes and celebrates **UNITY, see P. 4**

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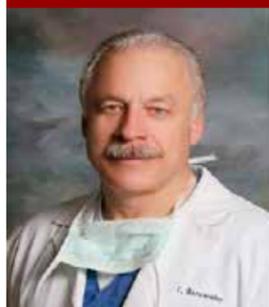
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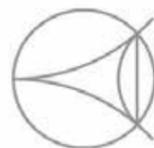
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LOCAL NEWS

From the Desk of Senator Brent Jackson



I hope everyone is having a wonderful week. The General Assembly adjourned from its first special session of the interim on Thursday, August 3rd. Upon adjourning, the General Assembly was notified that legislators will be called back for a second special session on this upcoming Friday, August 18th. Also, it is the time of year to prepare for school to start back and begin a new calendar year. I would like to wish all of our students good luck in their upcoming school year!

Solar Eclipse

Monday, August 21st, we will get to experience something that is very unique, a total solar eclipse. A total eclipse is when the moon appears to completely cover the sun in the sky. On August 21st, this total solar eclipse will stretch 70 miles and pass through Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Everyone make sure to try and catch the total solar eclipse and don't forget to get a pair of solar eclipse glasses so you can look at the sun before and after the eclipse!

Bentonville Battleground

Bentonville Battleground will soon become part of North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail. The Mountain-to-Sea Trail is a trail which stretches 1175 miles across North Carolina from the Great Smokies to the Outer Banks and provides travelers a way to view and experience our great state. A recent grant was awarded to the Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail from the Atlantic Coast Pipeline to help create a three and a half mile trail along the battleground.

The Bentonville trail addition will become part of the Mountain-to-Sea Trail's Coastal Crescent Trail, and will be the third section of the Mountain-to-Sea Trail constructed through Johnston County, joining the Clayton Riverwalk and Buffalo Creek Greenway.

Question of the Week

For my last newsletter's Question of the Week, I asked your opinion on the Governor's action on bills, specifically ones that become law without his signature in accordance with Article 2 Section 22 of the North Carolina State Constitution. The responses I received were in favor of leaving the law as it is currently. I would like to thank everyone for your correspondence and thoughts on this section of our constitution.

I plan on implementing some changes to my future newsletters. So, for this newsletter's Question of the Week, I would like to hear any thoughts you may have on any additions or recommendations you would like to see in my future newsletter. I look forward to hearing everyone's responses!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in any way possible.

Over the course of the interim, we will be including a Legislative Recap Section in the Newsletter. This section will review meaningful legislation that became law in the 2017 session.

Senate Bill 615, North Carolina Farm Act of 2017

In last week's newsletter, we reviewed the first half of the North Carolina Farm Act of 2017. I am very proud to have helped start the tradition of the annual Farm Act, and this year's marks our sixth one. The Farm Act is aimed at easing regulatory burdens for farmers, modernizing our laws to reflect industry advancement, and helping to grow agribusiness. This bill has nearly 20 provisions, and I went over the first half of the bill in the last newsletter. This week, I will go over the second half of the bill.

Section 11 of the bill is purely technical in nature. It makes a technical change to the Meat and Poultry Inspection Statutes by fixing a statutory reference to reflect Section 706 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act being changed to Section 721.

Section 12 of the bill modernizes our Forest Ranger Statutes to reflect how the job has changed roles over the years. It establishes definitions for Emergency Workers, Deputy Rangers, and Forest Rangers.

- Emergency Workers are not employees of the state and serve temporarily during emergencies.
- Deputy Rangers are highly trained emergency workers that are employees of the state, but are only hired during an emergency. They only have limited power.
- A Forest Ranger is a full-time employee of the state and has all the powers afforded under their governing statutes.

All of these workers play a vital role in keeping us safe and protecting property during emergencies like the wild fires in the west that we experienced last year.

Section 13 of the bill allows the Emergency Workers mentioned in section 12 to be eligible for Workers Compensation when fighting non-fire emergencies. Over the years, their job description has grown to encompass more than just responding to just fires.

Section 14 of the bill allows for the voluntary termination of no more than 2% or 1 acre (whichever is less) of a conservation easement when requested by a public utility, DOT, or a government entity that has eminent domain power.

Section 15 of the bill exempts farm trucks that do not travel out of the state from having to put a US DOT number of the side of their truck. Federal law allows for this exemption if the truck only travels within the borders of the state.

Section 16 exempts the closure of hog lagoons from requiring a professional engineer. The Soil and Water Conservation Commission trains the technical specialists that will be closing lagoons, and the Professional Engineers Association was okay with this change.

Section 17 exempts farm trucks from having to actually register and receive a US DOT number if they do not leave the state. We only exempted the actual signage in section 15.

Section 18 of the bill was removed in the conference committee report.

Section 19 authorizes wine sales at farmers markets. There is currently a lengthy list of venues where you can get a special use permit to do this, and this provision simply adds farmers markets to this list.

Section 20 allows a one year exemption to a farmer who holds a conditional sales tax exemption and would have qualified for the full exemption certificate if it were not for a weather-related disaster. The farmer must document with DOR that they would have met the exemption requirements had the disaster not occurred.

Section 21 strengthens our right to work law by making it illegal to use litigation as a means to force farmers to join a union. This section also removes regulatory burdens on farmers by making it illegal for a farmer to be forced to withhold part of an employee's paycheck for the purposes of paying union dues.

Section 22 is the severability clause and section 23 is the effective date.

The full bill can be viewed by clicking the following link: <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Bills/Senate/PDF/S615v7.pdf>

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions on this legislation.

District Headlines

Color Me Calm Club Coming to Wallace Library

The Thelma Dingsu Bryant Library is offering a new calming and stress free activity to the citizens of Duplin County, an adult coloring club. The Color Me Calm Club is for ages 16 and older, and provides individuals a way to relax and focus solely on drawing. The club will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm in the Library of Wallace, with its first meeting being September 6th. The library is following in the footsteps of many other libraries across the state with offering the club. There is no charge for the regular club gatherings and coloring materials will be provided, however participants are encouraged to bring their own supplies if they choose. If you are interested in receiving more information about the Color Me Calm Club, please call the Thelma Dingsu Bryant Library at 910-285-3796.

I-95 Improvements Coming to Johnston County

Construction will soon begin to replace two old bridges and repave a seven mile section of I-95 in Johnston County. North Carolina Department of Transportation has awarded a contract to smooth I-95 between south of Lizzie Mill Road and the Wilson County line, and replace the two bridges. The 61 and 59 year old bridges over I-95 at Lizzie Mill Road and Bizzell Grove Church Road will be replaced with longer, wider bridges to accommodate future growth and widening of the interstate. This section of I-95 sees nearly 36,000 vehicles a day, and the number is expected only to increase. In addition to paving the road, grading and drainage work will be done as well. Most of the repaving is planned to take place at night, but some daytime and nighttime lane closures are to be expected for the bridge constructions. Detours will be put in place at these times and NC DOT will notify the public ahead of these closures. Work could begin as soon as August 28th, and is expected to be completed by September 2020.

Fourth Annual Garland Community Day

Garland town officials are starting preparations for one of the biggest events of the fall season, the town's fourth annual Community Day. However, this year officials plan on doing things a little different. Community Day will not be held all in just one day, but will now spread across two. The plan is for the festival to begin on Friday, October 6th, and continue through Saturday, October 7th. There are many ideas and thoughts for the newly created structure of the event. One idea is to have the opening ceremony on Friday evening and have Saturday full of events and entertainment featuring a parade, vendors, a street dance, music, and much more. The Community Day event offers the town of Garland and surrounding communities the ability to join together in celebration and reflect on the town's history and heritage. If you would like additional information about the festival, please contact the Garland Town Hall at 910-529-4141.

District Spotlight

Chad Raymond Cross was recently presented with the Eagle Scout Good Citizenship Award by Eagle Scout Coordinator Lewis W. Rice III on behalf of the Johnston County Marine Corps. The Marine Corps choose individuals to receive the Eagle Scout Good Citizenship Award by having that scout exhibit leadership and other qualities held in high regards by the Marine Corps. For his Eagle Scout project, Cross cleared a heavily wooded area at the Howell Wood's Environmental Learning Center and added a primitive campsite for nature enthusiasts to enjoy. Cross is the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader for his Boy Scout Troop #210 at McGee's Crossroads. He is a rising senior at West Johnston High School and is a member of their marching band. Join me in congratulating Chad Raymond Cross on his great achievement of receiving the Eagle Scout Good Citizenship Award, and thanking him for all of his service to the community of Johnston County and our state.

In Closing

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative in the North Carolina Senate. I read every email that comes to my legislative account and I encourage you to reach out to me with your thoughts and concerns. If you would like to stay informed of my actions in the legislature, I encourage you to friend me on Facebook and/or follow me on Twitter.



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Blanchard's Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage



Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Blanchard Jr. recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. 'Buck' & Shelby were married July 21, 1957 at New Hope Baptist Church in Turkey. A dinner was held in honor of the occasion with family, friends and members of the wedding party in attendance. Mr. & Mrs. Blanchard have 5 children, 12 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren and countless, wonderful memories!!

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We will give away \$75 in gas each week for the next 3 weeks. Complete the entry form below and drop it off at any of the sponsor's businesses above, and you could be the winner of \$75 in Gas.



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**National
Clearance
event**



LOCAL NEWS



CPD CAMP, cont. from 1

"The Police Department participates in many community events throughout the year," said Chief Donald Edwards, "and this offered us another opportunity to engage specifically with youth in a more personal setting. The purpose of the camp is to provide an opportunity for the police to connect with the youth while interacting in fun, safe, and educational activities."

Chief Edwards explained that the idea from a meeting with Clinton Council member Darue Bryant. "It was one of the first meetings we had," added Edwards. "I loved the idea and asked my team to help put it together."

"We started by reaching out to the community," says Edwards, "and I was fortunate to be brought together with pastors in the community who have helped this succeed. We also had some local businesses who responded well."

"Rev. Russ Emmanuel of Olive Grove Church on McKoy Street was one of the first, who quickly offered up his facility to host the event. Members of his church have been marvelous helping us this week."

"Rev. Onyx Martin has worked with us from early on as well, helping identify kids who might attend. Councilman Bryant reached out to other pastors and others in the community."

Hoping to keep the first ever CPD Kids Camp small enough to manage and gauge future opportunities, Chief Edwards says they intentionally wanted a small group. "I wanted to evaluate how it will work and see what resources we'd need, so we initially aimed at serving 12 kids. We had 14 show interest and of course we didn't turn any away."

In addition to members of the Faith community, several businesses offered services to CPD's Kids Camp by providing meals, snacks, supplies, and/or helped provide the activities.

"During the Police Summer Camp," adds Edwards, "the group has enjoyed a movie at Eastpark Cinema, pizza at Pizza Inn, ice cream at Simply NC, a stroll through downtown, fishing, and driving golf carts at the gym."

"Some of the lessons include crime scene investigation, the dangers of drugs and impaired driving, situational awareness, bicycle and pedestrian safety, as well as having guest speakers John Fitzgerald Joyner and his wife Deanna."

"The camp will conclude by attending the block party Friday August 18, at 6 PM." The 'Block Party' will be hosted by Olive Grove Church and Higher-Level Ministries, along with other community leaders, and will include fellowship, food, and fun at the Sampson Center, 808 Barden Street in Clinton on August 18th from 6-9pm.

"The men and women of the police department worked tirelessly in planning, organizing, and hosting this event," explained Chief Edwards. "I'm extremely proud of this group of dedicated professionals. The Police Department had support from Recreation and Parks, the Fire Department, Planning and Zoning, McDonalds, Subway, and individuals like Jean Jacobs of New Bethel Church. Sheriff Thornton allowed one of his detectives to assist in one of the presentations and we are grateful for his support."

"I think the City of Clinton truly is the perfect place to live," concluded Edwards. "Our hope is that activities like this bring us even closer together in our community. We have had an incredible response from people in the community who appreciate the work the police officers are doing, and we look forward to hosting a similar camp next year."

UNITY, cont. from 1

the cultural and religious diversity in many of our neighboring communities. According to event coordinators, "Our common bond is that we Love and Serve the same God."

"Volunteers, churches and area businesses are the key reasons behind this FREE event. Each year we all come together for a grand ol' time in the name of the Lord", says Reverend Ulysses Newkirk, president of UIC of Harrells.

From Baptist to Holiness churches and from languages including English and Spanish everyone participates in events of praise.

The group's mission has not changed from that of the founder of UIC, the late Rev. Glenwood Hemmingway, who, in 2007 coined the phrase "Togetherness through diversity". Rev. Hemmingway (deceased) former Pastor of Wards Chapel MBC acknowledged the changing faces and social diversities of our rural communities and was convinced they should be viewed as positive and not negative.

The late Reverend Glenwood Hemmingway realized many of the rural communities were becoming more diverse. Residents and local farmers were not just black and white anymore; schools, churches and the workplace were changing.

Hemmingway's dream was that we all would benefit by learning new skills, cultural traditions and beliefs from each other... And he was right!

Last year participants came from Ivanhoe, Willard, Clinton, Harrell's, Roseboro, Salemburg, Steadman, Fayetteville, and Garland (just to name a few). According to Rev. Newkirk, "The list of churches and businesses is ever growing. Among the list of founding and long term supporters include: Wards Chapel MBC, Snow Hill MBC, Evergreen, MBC Milton Grove Church, The Town of Harrells, Four County Electric, Keathrens Chapel, St. James Holiness Church, Royals Chapel, Dunns Funeral Home, The Messengers of the Lord, D J Trucking, Pilgrims Rest MBC, and many others.

Each year there is FREE food, fun and fellowship for people of all ages; a great time for all ages. There will be inflatables for kids, Bingo [with Lots of prizes] for adults, and LIVE choirs and bands for everyone. The annual event usually draws in 300-500 participants.

This year's event is entitled "UIC Big 10 Celebration Day". Event organizers stated, "This is our "BIG Tenth" year and we want you to be part of it!"

We are anticipating live entertainment, good food, and more fun than ever before. Pender and Sampson County Health Departments will also provide Free screenings, information and gifts. Rev. Newkirk noted, "The entire event is AWESOME! ... So save the date August 26, 2017."

Subway Larceny Suspects Arrested in Fayetteville



Two people wanted in a July larceny of Subway in Clinton have now been arrested. Lauren Caballero and Debreezia Jones were both arrested in Cumberland County according to Clinton Police Chief Donald Edwards.

Lauren Caballero of 214 Brantwood Circle, Roseboro was arrested by Fayetteville police near Walmart at 4601 Ramsey Street in Fayetteville on August 11, 2017 at 2:20 am for outstanding warrants from Sampson County. She was later transferred to the Sampson County Jail where she remains on a \$25,000 secured bond. Caballero is charged with Breaking and/or Entering, Felony Larceny, Misdemeanor Larceny and Safe Cracking. She faces additional charges of Speeding and No Operators License. Lt. She was transferred to Sampson county detention center on Aug. 15th according to Lt. Alpha Clowney of CPD

Chief Edwards stated the other suspect Debreezia Jones was also arrested in Cumberland County but was not transferred to Sampson County. According to court calendars for Sampson County, she too faces charges of Breaking and/or Entering, Felony Larceny, Misdemeanor Larceny and Safe Cracking.

Lt. Clowney states that Jones turned herself into Cumberland County Sheriff's Office on Aug. 16. She received a \$5,000 secured bond and was able to bond out on the same day.

Debreezia Jones has a court date of August 25, 2017 and Lauren Caballero has a court date of August 28, 2017. A search of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety shows no prior record of conviction for either suspect.

Warrants were issued for the pair on July 25th wanted in a local Subway larceny which occurred on July 20, 2017. Debreezia Jones DOB 10/6/94, and Lauren Butler Caballero 05/15/94, were both formerly employed by Subway of Clinton prior to being terminated on July 19. Subway owner Frank Brinkley stated that the next night the two former employees returned near closing time and were seen on surveillance cameras removing money from the store. \$752 was reported missing.

Warrants were issued on 7/25/17 for both suspects on charges of breaking and entering, safe cracking, felony larceny, and misdemeanor larceny. According to Lt. Alpha Clowney with Clinton PD on August 11th, the last sighting of the suspects had been in Fayetteville.

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We Should Know . . .



Capt. Donald Edwards with JW Simmons, Host of We Should Know

Tuesdays from 2:30 PM until 3:30 PM, J.W. Simmons hosts a radio show on 1170 AM called “We Should Know”, and The Sampson Weekly will feature portions of the transcripts in our continuing efforts to bring you more coverage of what is happening in our community.

The topic for this week’s show is local Law Enforcement in the City of Clinton and the guest is newly sworn Chief of Police, Donald Edwards.

Chief Donald Edwards began his career in law enforcement in 1993 with the City of Clinton. He holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Mount Olive and has completed many law enforcement training programs. Edwards served Assistant Chief to Chief Jay Tilley and was named Interim Chief prior to being selected as the next Chief of Police after Tilley’s retirement.

JW Simmons asks Chief Edwards, with 24 years of service, why he would want to serve as Chief of Police. Chief Edwards replies, “I knew it would be a big challenge. It’s a lot like the calling that gets officers involved in law enforcement to begin with and the same calling I felt when making the application for Chief.”

“I thought about it and prayed about it,” adds Edwards, “but I knew I had a great department. The city has a great department and the city itself is an exceptional employer. And I’ve seen where the department has come for over 20 years and how it has evolved. I knew the path that we were on was an outstanding path for our

organization and what we are able to do for the community. And I honestly felt like I was best qualified person to lead this agency on that path and continue the direction we’re heading.”

Next, Simmons asks Chief Edwards to discuss his vision for the future of the Clinton Police Department going forward, noting that the police department could be viewed as a sales force for the community. “That’s a good point,” says Chief Edwards.

“That’s what I want our officers to be, an ambassador for the city. I want them representing the city as a whole, and being a resource for the community. Letting the community know that they can come to our officers and whatever their needs are, we going to try and get them in the right direction.”

“I’ve seen the evolution of law enforcement,” says Chief Edwards, “over the past 24-years and it has really come a long way. And I want to make sure we don’t lose the community policing that we’ve had through the 90s, because in the 90s we were connected to our community. We were out there patrolling, we were engaged with the community, and we want to bring that sense and mold it with 21st century policing. The technology, social media, the training and education; and bring that together with the community policing that I think we’ve been doing for a number of years.”

Next, Simmons says that Chief Edwards’ predecessors, Jay Tilley and Mike Brim were outside hires. In fact, not since Chief Alton Hunter has there been a hire for the position from within the force. Simmons asks Chief Edwards to discuss how that makes him feel.

Chief Edwards replies, “I’m honored. I’m also humbled that the council and community has trusted me with such a challenging role and such a remarkable responsibility. And I don’t take it lightly.”

“My growth inside the department is just a reflection on the city itself. They have put the systems together, and I’ve been a part of that, as we’ve been able to develop our own employees. I’m an example of that, and that’s what I want to continue; the growth of our other officers and those here now that they will have the same dedication and commitment and we give that back to them, so they will stay.”

Edwards says that the 21st century policing report was first introduced in 2015. “But if we look back further to 2006 or 2008, especially for us,” continued Edwards, “we got into CALEA accreditation. The CALEA process has been going on for a number of years. That is the organization that sets the national standards for best practices for law enforcement.”

“We joined that in 2006 – 2008 under Mike Brim,” says Edwards. “I believe that set a foundation for us, in that it encourages all of the aspects that are highlighted in 21 century policing.”

Edwards goes on to explain that CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) is an agency that sets standards for law enforcement so they can achieve best practices on a national standard. “It’s a voluntary program that we agreed to be a part of, and have continued to be a part of, and will continue to be a part of. I think it has set the tone of the department with guiding principles that we use. We are on our third accreditation and will be seeking reaccreditation in 2020.”

JW Simmons next asks Chief Edwards to discuss the organizational structure of the Clinton Police Department.

Town of Garland, North Carolina Fair Housing Public Service Announcement Fair Housing, It's the Law

The Town of Garland is committed to furthering fair housing efforts by promoting fair and equal housing opportunities for its residents. The Town encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law.

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market.

The Town of Garland currently implements a fair housing plan which was adopted on April 15, 2014, the thrust of which is public education. This consists of published public notices regarding fair housing, posting fair housing posters on Town properties, development and distribution of fair housing activities, and local banks and realtors have periodic training on fair housing laws.

1. Any person or persons wishing to file a complaint of housing discrimination in the Town may do so by informing the town clerk of the facts and circumstance of the alleged discriminatory acts or practice.
2. Upon receiving a housing discrimination complaint, the town clerk shall acknowledge the complaint within ten (10) days in writing and inform the North Carolina Human Relations Commission about the complaint.
3. The town clerk shall offer assistance to the commission in the investigation and reconciliation of all housing discrimination complaints which are based on events occurring in the Town.
4. The town clerk shall publicize in the local newspaper the person who is the local contact with housing discrimination complaints.

For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, contact Pamela Cashwell 910-529-4141 TDD# 800-735-2962 pcashwell@intrstar.net 190 South Church Ave., Garland, NC 28441.

This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Pamela Cashwell at 910-529-4141, or at 190 South Church Ave, Garland, NC for accommodations for this request.

Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Pamela Cashwell al 910-529-4141 o en 190 South Church Ave, Garland, NC 28441 de alojamiento para esta solicitud.



“Our department is divided up with the uniform patrol, which is the uniformed officers you see riding in marked cars every day, and the services division which is the detectives. We call them the neighborhood improvement team. They do all your criminal investigations and they also do some nuisance and code enforcement. And we have school resource which after a restructuring of the department, moved to the administrative side.”

“Each of those components of the department have different roles,” explains Edwards. “And with technologies that are evolving and the challenges that are facing law enforcement you need to be looking for grants. That’s the reason we have them divided.”

Edwards says that the department seeks grants to provide tools and services as well as training so the department can operate at the highest level possible.

“We are a full-service law enforcement agency,” adds Edwards. “And being involved in the community, and having the desire to serve the community and be more proactive in serving our community, we look to have a personal connection.”

Chief Edwards says he doesn’t want people in the community to know Chief Edwards but rather known Donald. “That’s what I want for the rest of the department, to know the people.”

Edwards says that prior to coming on the force at Clinton PD he acquaints new officers with the departments core values – Professionalism, Integrity, Respect and Teamwork. “I tell them up front that if they do not hold to these values, that they’re at the wrong organization. If you do not share the values of the organization you’re working for, you need to find another place to be.”

To view the entire broadcast of We Should Know please visit their YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/WeShouldKnowEDU.

The next “We Should Know” hosted by J.W. Simmons will air next Tuesday from 2:30 to 3:30 PM on our local radio station WCLN 1170 AM. If you would like to reach “We Should Know” you may call them at 910-592-8947 or email them with show ideas at weshouldknowedu@gmail.com or you can find them on Facebook.

LOCAL NEWS

The Do's and Don'ts of Outdoor Burning

August the 9th will be Smokey Bear's 73st birthday. He would like to remind everyone of the do's and don'ts of outdoor burning. Illegal burning can pollute the air and create smoke that is unhealthy to breathe. Potential health effects include: lung and eye irritation, headaches, dizziness, asthma attacks, coughing and even death. You must properly dispose of waste or trash by taking it to the landfill or county recycling center. You can be fined up to \$10,000 for illegal burning.

This is a list of items that are illegal to burn.

- Newspaper, cardboard and other paper products
- Plastic and other synthetic materials
- Paints, household and agricultural chemicals
- Tires and other rubber products
- Asphalt shingles and heavy oils
- Lumber and other building materials
- Wire
- Buildings, Mobile homes, old barns

Burning similarly applies to piles collected from clearing land. Forestry officials are urging residents to know the law when burning debris from land clearing.

- Burn piles must be at least 1,000 feet from occupied buildings
- Piles must be started after 8 A.M., and new material can't be added after 6 P.M.
- Piles must be 250 feet from roads when the wind is blowing toward them

Burning is allowed when the items being burnt are leaves, branches and yard trimmings where no public pickup is available and you follow the Division of Air Quality guidelines and local ordinances. Do not burn on Code Red or Orange days in areas with air quality forecasts.

For forecasts, call 188-784-6224 or visit www.ncair.org. You



may need a burning permit from the North Carolina Forest Service, www.ncforestservice.gov. You can pick up a permit at any authorized NCFS permit agent or by contacting the N.C Forest Service office in Sampson County, at 910-592-4515. For any questions involving

outdoor burning laws on illegal burning, contact the North Carolina Division of Air Quality at, 1-877-Open Burn (1-877-673-6287).

If a fire escapes or becomes uncontrollable contact 911.

SAMPSON ARTS COUNCIL ACCEPTING SUBGRANT APPLICATIONS



www.ncarts.org

The Sampson Arts Council is now accepting applications for the North Carolina Arts Council's Grassroots Arts Program subgrants through September 19, 2017. Since 1977 The North Carolina Arts Council's Grassroots Arts program has provided North Carolina citizens access to quality arts experiences. Using a per capita based formula, the program provides funding for the arts in all 100 counties of the state through partnerships with local art councils. The Sampson Arts Council serves as the NC Arts Council's partner in awarding subgrants to local organizations for arts programs in Sampson County.

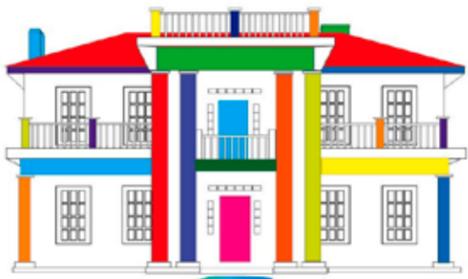
Applications are available for non-profit organizations whose purpose is to promote and develop diverse cultural arts programming in Sampson County. Funding priority is given to qualified arts organizations (theatres, galleries, choral societies, festivals), arts in education programs conducted by qualified artists, and other community organizations that provide arts programs in the county. Grassroots funds are not generally awarded to arts organizations that receive funding through the North Carolina Arts Council's State Arts Resources. Projects must occur between July 1, 2017 and May 30, 2018.

Application forms and grant guidelines are available on the Sampson Arts Council's website at www.sampsonarts.net (under "Grant Info") or may be picked up at the Victor R. Small House at 709 College Street in Clinton. Call to arrange a time to stop by. The Sampson Arts Council will also mail applications upon request. Applications must be received no later than September 19, 2017 by 5pm.

The Sampson Arts Council is also hosting a Grassroots Arts Program Grant Workshop to assist interested applicants in preparing competitive grants on Tuesday, August 22, from 5:30pm - 6:30pm at the Victor R. Small House, 709 College St., Clinton. Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend.

Grant applications are evaluated by a diverse panel of community members and voted on by the Sampson Arts Council Board of Directors. Awards will be announced in October, 2017. For questions or more information contact Kara Donatelli at 910-596-2533 or director@sampsonarts.org

Sampson Arts Council, Inc.



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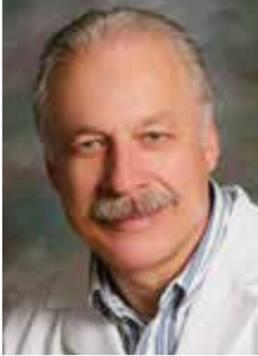
Clinton, NC 125 Southeast Blvd. 910-490-1321	Dunn, NC 818 E. Cumberland St. 910-891-4007
Wilmington, NC 4023 Market St. 910-769-7787	

Mon.-Thurs. 11am to 9:30pm • Fri. & Sat. 11am to 10pm • Sun. 11am to 5pm

Specks and Squiggles and Flashes, Oh My!



by R. Thomas Barowsky, MD



Specks, squiggles or bright flashes in your field of vision are also called flashes and floaters. Unless of course, you're watching your neighbor's Christmas light display. You know the one I mean. It starts every year just after Thanksgiving night and has caused a power grid brown-out nearly every evening when it gets turned on; the same one that he got a warning from the FAA for last year because it caused aircraft to divert from the active runway at the airport.

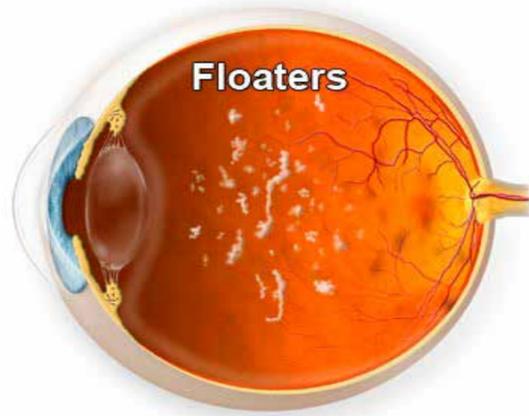
Usually the flashes and floaters come and go quickly, are quite common and more often than not harmless to your vision. Floaters can look like little bugs, stars, threads, or cobwebs. They move when you try to look at them and are most noticeable under high contrast situations such as a light shining off a white page or the sun shining off the snow. Flashes look like streaks of lightening or flashing lights in your side vision.

The vitreous is a gel that fills most of the eye. With aging or after an injury to the eye the vitreous will start to liquefy much like a Jell-O mold left out in the hot sun. When this occurs, the vitreous starts to shrink and pull away from the inside walls of the eye. This causes the

fibers in the gel to start to knot or clump up. That is how the floaters typically form. If the vitreous tugs on the retina while it is shrinking the retina is stimulated and you will see flashes of light. As the vitreous finishes detaching from the eye the flashes will become less frequent until they no longer occur. This may take several months to happen. The floaters will always be there but over time your eyes will get used to them and they will seem to disappear most of the time. Since floaters are harmless and only an annoyance and because any treatment could cause more problems than they correct there is no need to treat them.

Rarely the vitreous will tug hard enough on the retina to cause a tear or hole to form in the retina. If this happens fluid can get behind the retina causing a retinal detachment. This is a serious eye condition and requires immediate attention and treatment. Signs of a tear in the retina may include a sudden increase in the number and shape of the floaters or increase in the number or brightness of flashes. Additionally you may experience what appears to be a curtain covering part of the vision. A retinal tear is painless so you won't feel it when it happens but it must be treated early to protect your vision. In many cases applying laser to the area around the tear can fix the tear. In more serious cases various types of surgery may be required.

Diabetics with diabetic eye disease have a higher risk of developing serious retinal problems. Many times the sudden increase in the number of floaters is caused by bleeding from abnormal or weakened blood vessels in the eye. The retinal detachments that can form in diabetics are also more difficult to treat because of the scar tissue that forms in these eyes.



If you notice any of these signs or symptoms it is important to call your eye physician for an appointment as soon as possible. It is never wise to assume that the problem will go away if you just ignore it. In most cases the vitreous is just undergoing the natural changes of age and a little reassurance is all that is needed. In the rare case where the retina is torn early treatment can make all the difference.

Enjoy the Total Solar Eclipse on Monday afternoon but do so wisely and with the proper eye protection.

If you have questions about your eye health e-mail Dr. Barowsky at doctom@tdkj.com and we'll try to answer your questions here at Eye-Q.

A Closer Look at Dry Eye

Dry eye is a common and progressive condition affecting millions of Americans that can prevent them from doing the things they love, whether that's reading, watching movies or doing leisure activities like hiking or bike riding. Fortunately, dry eye symptoms can be treated with remedies such as over-the-counter eye drops.

Causes

Dry eye can be caused by a variety of factors. The first is the production of tears, which plays an important role in eye health by spreading across the cornea, keeping eyes lubricated and helping push away potentially harmful debris. Dry eye can occur when you don't produce enough tears, or the tears you do produce either evaporate rapidly or are of poor quality.

Numerous demographic and environmental factors can also contribute to dry eye, as well as the use of digital devices, air conditioning, heat blowers and fans. Certain health conditions like diabetes, thyroid-associated diseases and immune system disorders can also play a role, along with extended contact lens use, refractive eye surgery and certain medications.

Symptoms

The symptoms of dry eye can run the gamut from being a minor inconvenience to having a



major impact on your daily life and favorite activities. The five key symptoms of dry eye include: dryness, irritation, grittiness, burning and stinging. Other indications may include itchiness, tired eyes, blurred vision, excess tears and redness.

Treatment

One way to help restore moisture to the tear film and reduce the effects of dry eye is with a fast-acting, over-the-counter eye drop like Rohto Dry-Aid, formulated with Liquidshield™ technology, which works on all three layers of the tear film to mimic a stable, natural tear, while providing soothing relief for up to 12 hours.

"Dry eye sufferers can enjoy their daily lives with Rohto Dry-Aid, which delivers all-day relief from irritating and distracting dry eye symptoms in a refreshing, non-blurring eye drop," said Erick Estrada, Senior Director of Marketing at The Mentholatum Company, which makes Rohto Dry-Aid.

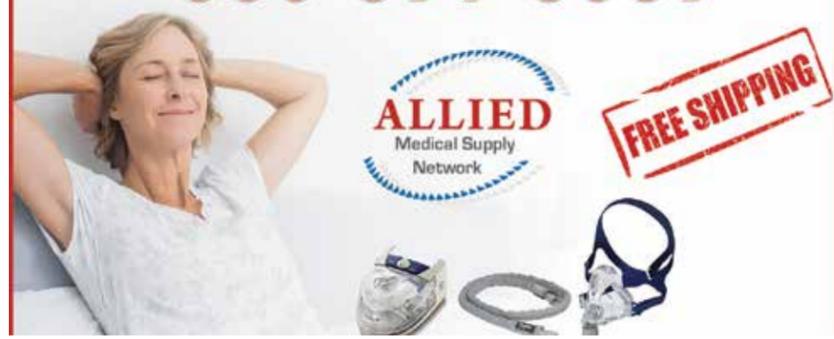
If your dry eye symptoms persist and you find yourself using lubricant eye drops several times a day, consult your eye doctor as this may be an indication you have chronic dry eye.

Learn more about dry eye and potential treatment options at rohtoeyedrops.com.

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360 County Complex Road, Suite 200 - Clinton NC - Call 910-592-1131 for an appointment
~ Appointments Preferred, Walk-ins are Accepted ~

FAITH

What Ever Happened To **APPRECIATION?****Appreciation**

It seems to me that so many values are becoming a rare thing today. Respect has practically disappeared. And appreciation it would seem is headed in the same direction. I just don't understand it.

When someone gives their effort, skills, time and energy to help others, not for personal gain, but because they care and want to help or make a difference, the least they should get is appreciation. That sometimes doesn't happen.

So what does a person do who feels unappreciated? Sometimes they just keep on doing the same things and pretend not to notice. Especially if this is a situation where someone is doing something they feel is for the Lord. Sometimes people make the decision

to move on. And that can be a hard choice to make.

But, it might be the best choice, because sometimes there are other opportunities waiting. And even though a person might feel they are doing good things, they should not have to feel unappreciated.

As for me personally, I pray about things. I try to do what I feel God is leading me to do in all situations. Sometimes God may be telling you He has work for you to do someplace else.

Life is full of ups and downs. But, I don't understand why things like respect and appreciation aren't a part of what's considered "normal" anymore. Neither are manners. They are just fading away into oblivion.

The Bible is God's Holy Word. It tells us plainly what is right and what is wrong. Period. Even some churches seem to be forgetting that these days.

There was a time when people wrote thank-you notes for everything. That is fast becoming a lost art. But, you don't have to send thank-you notes to show appreciation. Thank-you and a smile are nice. And they cost nothing to give. LOYALTY also shows appreciation. And it too costs nothing.

Showing respect to those who are kind and generous with their time and talents is great too. Don't take for granted the generosity that someone shows. That should be common sense, even today.

Things are complicated these days I hear. But if people just did what the Bible says to do, I can't help but believe that things would be a whole lot less complicated! And better too!

By: *Carolyn Horrell Mintz*

**Three Things Christian Students Should Know Before Going To College**

By *Will Matthews*

I'll never forget a Saturday afternoon meeting I had with one of my students. She had just started her freshman year at college and she was thrown into a large philosophy class. She didn't get it, and she came to me for help in understanding what was expected of her. After looking at her syllabus, her assignments and her weekly reading, I quickly came to the realization that this is what many first year Christian students encounter at college. At her university, she encountered two resounding ideologies that permeate modern academia: relativism and postmodernism.

Those two terms seem fancy, but they're really simple to explain. Relativism holds that there is no absolute truth. It's an age old philosophy that dates back to ancient Greece and the Sophists. Relativism means that while something may be true for you, that it's not true for me. It reduces the notion of truth to something comparable to subjective flavors of ice cream. There can be no objective "best" flavor of ice cream because it's a matter of taste: you like chocolate, but I like strawberry. Neither one of us can make the claim of which is best, because it's based on preference. While this is true of things like flavors of ice cream, if we apply this philosophy to other things and play out their logical conclusions, we get a warped code of ethics where rape and murder are ultimately things that are subjectively good. This is the overlap of postmodernism. Postmodernism says "whatever feels good, just do it." Again, this philosophy is nothing new. It hinges on moral relativism, because, again: there is no absolute right and no absolute wrong. Who are you to tell me what I can and can't do is immoral?

As I looked over her notes, I realized that she was in for a challenge. This is an opportune time in the lives of young people to introduce them to these concepts: they're young, impressionable, looking for ways to express themselves, looking for identity, and (no offense to college freshmen) think they know everything. I speak from experience!

For Christian students the challenge is weighty: learn, be educated, broaden your horizons, and stay true to the faith. The last part is usually where things go wrong for many young believers. Professors are smart. They know how to make strong claims and shake the foundations of conventional Christian beliefs; and because they have "Ph.D." at the end of their names, that gives them all the authority in

the world – to the mind of a college student.

As I've thought about these things over the years, I believe there are three things Christian students should know and do as they seek to spiritually survive their first year of college.

First, find Christian community.

Know that you're not alone. Know there are others with the same values and beliefs that already have and will face the same challenges as you. For this reason, it's good to be around these people so that you can learn, be discipled, and know how to deal with these spiritual stresses. Invest your free time in something like Campus Crusade for Christ or some similar parachurch ministry that might be offered on your campus. If you're unaware, find a local church with a thriving college ministry. Remember your campus is full of diversity – and that's a good thing. Not everyone is like you, and you have a prime opportunity to invite those people to a place where they can also feel belonging and hear the gospel.

Second, know that your professor is not the ultimate authority.

Every once in a while, I'll have a college student excited that they've enrolled in a Bible class. Most of the time, something inside of me wants to cringe. I know that some of these professors will treat the Old Testament like a collection of ancient myths and the New Testament like an untrustworthy book of lies. Certainly some professors treat the Bible fairly, but let's not ignore that most of the mainstream academia have an agenda – and that's to disprove the Bible at every turn.

Christian student, remember that your professor is not the ultimate authority. They may present to you one set of beliefs, but not all scholars and professors believe in the same things you do. Your professor is smart, and is to be respected, but he's not invincible. There are other scholars who fundamentally disagree with his presuppositions. My best advice would be to be respectful, know which battles to fight for (if you're going to publicly disagree), and realize there are other perspectives out there.

Third, it's much more important to be aligned with

villain and the purpose is bringing glory to God. The apostle Paul declared in Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation." The prophet Isaiah stated in Isaiah 40:8, "The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." When life falls apart, and we try to reassemble the broken pieces, we will always get it wrong if we fail to follow the Bible.

When we are faced with danger, depression and discord we can always find hope and joy in the pages of the Bible. My favorite country musician, Johnny Cash once said, "I read novels but I also read the Bible and study it. The more I learn, the more excited I get." We get excited when reading the Bible, but Satan becomes irritated. The enemy knows that once you start reading and applying God's blue print you will understand your victory over darkness.

The enemy wants you to listen to ministers that only proclaim a trouble-free life of health, wealth and success. The devil doesn't care if you attend church and sing praise and worship songs. The adversary wants you to believe that you can have your best life here and



truth than to win an argument.

More than likely, you'll find that your religious and doctrinal debates will not be just with professors, but with other students as well. Don't be discouraged if you can't answer their questions. Be honest, and understand that just because you can't answer a question doesn't mean that you're wrong. It's more important to know the truth than to win an argument. Colossians 2:8 says, "Be careful that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit based on human tradition, based on the elemental forces of the world, and not based on Christ (HCSB)." You can win an argument and still be completely wrong; and you can lose an argument and still be completely right. Have a prayerful attitude and be humble enough to know that some things of Christianity are a mystery. We do have a reasonable faith -- one based on logic, not just emotions -- but if we understood every single aspect of the world in which we live, we would then elevate ourselves to the position of God. Some things are not for us to know, and some questions don't have any suitable answers. That doesn't mean we're necessarily wrong. Even if you have doubts, remember doubts are not always bad. They often drive us to seek truth and understanding. Use that doubt to fill in the gaps of your faith in order to make it stronger. In the end, stay true to God, His Word, the faith that has been implanted into your soul by God Himself, and you'll come out on the other side better and victorious.



now. What the devil doesn't want is for you to take time to read your Bible. He knows that God's word is alive and will speak to its reader if we are willing to listen. Satan wants you to assemble your life without reading God's instructions, because he knows that at the Day of Judgment, anyone that tried to assemble their life without God will spend an eternity in Hell.

This week consider how many Bibles that you currently own? Do you have several different translations? Do you have a favorite Bible verse or book in the Bible? When is the last time you opened just one of your many Bibles and read it? Do you view God's word as an ancient text or a true blue print and instruction guide to your daily life? Ronald Reagan stated, "Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face." I encourage you to take the time and read God's word. You will discover reading God's word will make a world of difference.

Rev. Ken Smith
Atkinson Baptist Church

**Seriously, READ the instructions!**

"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

A few years ago I purchased a bookcase for son, Nathaniel's bedroom. I eagerly pulled out all the materials inside the box and started working on this seemingly easy project. After assembling this bookcase three different times and taking it apart, I decided it was best if I would read the instructions. Are you guilty of doing the same with projects in your life?

For Christians we have an instruction manual called the Bible. In the Bible, we discover redemption as its theme, Christ as the one Liberator, the devil as the

What's Happening

By Angela Martin

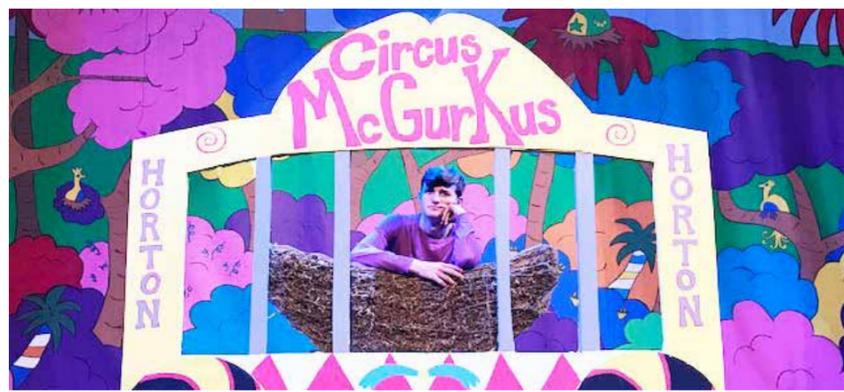


Seussical Opens at SCT this Weekend

Seussical opens at SCT Friday, August 18 as our first cast gets ready to entertain and bring joy to you. This production is unique in that it will be three entirely new and different casts performing for three weekends. The production is sponsored by Performance Dodge/Performance Ford of Clinton and is directed by Angela Martin. This is not the first time that there has been a triple cast at our theatre - in fact in 2014, Angela Martin directed The Little Mermaid, Jr. with three complete casts. This production is one that will delight audiences young and old. It has up-beat songs, great dances and an interactive Cat in the Hat - portrayed by Coleman Simpson who will entertain you for the two-hour run of the show.

One of our main characters in the show is the Sour Kangaroo and Baby Roo. Sour Kangaroo and her offspring are not too keen on an elephant that sees people on a dust speck and are very vocal about this during the production. Our Sour Kangaroo is being portrayed by three young ladies - Annabeth Clark, Lindsey Holt and Catherine Smith. Annabeth is the daughter of Doug and Libbie Clark and has appeared in several SCT productions including Little Women and High School Musical. She attends Sampson Community College. Lindsey Holt is the daughter of Jackie and Tim Holt and is a senior at Midway High School. She most recently was in Les Miserables School Edition and was also Ursula in Little Mermaid, Jr. Catherine Smith is the daughter of Ingrid and Curtis Smith and is a senior at Clinton High School. She has been in numerous SCT productions including, Honk, Jr. and A Christmas Carol. Our Baby Roos are being portrayed by Lacey Pearson, Cayden Bass and Karah Wiggins. Lacey Pearson is the 8 year-old daughter of Kevin and Emily Pearson. She is a 3rd grader at Butler Avenue School. Cayden Bass is the 8 year-old daughter of Deleon and Stephanie Bass. She is a 3rd grader at Midway Elementary. Karah Wiggins is the 8 year-old daughter of Kevin and Ashley Wiggins and is also in the 3rd grade. She attends Butler Avenue School.

The show dates are as follows, August 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27, and September 1, 2, 3. The Friday and Saturday performances begin at 7:30 pm and we also have, matinees on Saturday and Sunday beginning at 2:30 pm. Don't miss out on this fun, entertaining and family-friendly show.



Lucas Jackson (Horton) gets sold to a circus during Seussical.

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THE DARK TOWER

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG-13 for thematic material including sequences of gun violence and action

The last Gunslinger, Roland Deschain (Idris Elba), has been locked in an eternal battle with Walter O'Dim, also known as the Man in Black (Matthew McConaughey), determined to prevent him from toppling the Dark Tower, which holds the universe together. With the fate of the worlds at stake, good and evil will collide in the ultimate battle as only Roland can defend the Tower from the Man in Black.

Friday - Wednesday

5:30p 7:30p



NUT JOB 2 NUTTY BY NATURE

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG for action and some rude humor

Surly Squirrel (Will Arnett) and the gang are back. We are once again in Oakton where the evil mayor has decided to bulldoze Liberty Park and build a dangerous amusement park in its place. Surly and his ragtag group of animal friends band together to save their home, defeat the mayor, and take back the park.

Friday - Wednesday

1:30p 3:30p 5:30p 7:30p



KIDNAP

NOW SHOWING

Rated: R for violence and peril

A typical afternoon in the park turns into a nightmare for single mom Karla Dyson (Halle Berry) when her son suddenly disappears. Without a cell phone and knowing she has no time to wait for police help, Karla jumps in her own car and sets off in pursuit of the kidnapers. A chase ensues, where Karla must risk everything to not lose sight of her son. One mother's heroic attempt to take back her son leads her to ask herself how far she will go to save her child.

Friday - Wednesday

1:30p 3:30p 5:30p 7:30p



GIRLS TRIP

NOW SHOWING

Rated: Rated R for crude and sexual content throughout, pervasive language, brief graphic nudity, and drug material

When four lifelong friends travel to New Orleans for the annual Essence Festival, sisterhoods are rekindled, wild sides are rediscovered, and there's enough dancing, drinking, brawling and romancing to make the Big Easy blush.

Friday - Wednesday

1:30p 3:45p 6:00p 8:15p



EMOJI MOVIE

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG for rude humor

Enter the never-before-seen secret world inside your smartphone. Hidden within the messaging app is Textopolis, a bustling city where all your favorite emojis live, hoping to be selected by the phone's user. In this world, each emoji has only one facial expression - except for Gene (T.J. Miller), an exuberant emoji who was born without a filter and is bursting with multiple expressions.

Friday - Wednesday

1:30p 3:30p



ANNABELLE

NOW SHOWING

Rated: R for horror violence and terror

Several years after the tragic death of their little girl, a dollmaker and his wife welcome a nun and several girls from a shuttered orphanage into their home, soon becoming the target of the dollmaker's possessed creation, Annabelle.

Friday - Wednesday

2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p



Busy school days demand meals that can match the pace of life. A Mexican-themed meal is a sure way to keep things festive and lively around the family dinner table.

Not only does a meal centered on Mexican-style foods let you spice up your menu, it also allows for plenty of personalization so even the pickiest of palates can be satisfied. That means less time for preparation and more time spent together.

Put a fresh twist on your next school-night fiesta with these ideas:

- An ethnically-inspired meal is a great opportunity to encourage kids to try out new flavors and experiment with foods they wouldn't normally eat. Sample variations of classic salsas, incorporate seasonal ingredients like jicama and diced sweet peppers to freshen up your dishes or put a spicy spin on a classic Italian favorite by creating Mexican-inspired stuffed shells.
- Get creative with proteins. Chicken and beef are common options, but heart-healthy fish and shrimp are also great candidates for a Mexican-style meal. Pork is another good choice for many Mexican dishes, and beans provide an excellent source of added protein, along with some flavor variety.
- Mex-up your taco night. Try an alternative to the traditional corn shell with an option like Ortega Good Grains Taco Shells, crafted with artisanal blends of real corn, unique grains and ingredients baked into each shell. They're made with whole kernel corn, giving them an authentic taste and a distinctive flavor, aroma and texture.
- Keep things kid-friendly and fun by focusing on finger foods. A large taco can be difficult for little hands to handle, but a street taco portion, a chimichanga or even nachos are more hands-on.
- Look for fun toppings that add an extra crunch. For example, new Ortega Crispy Taco Toppers, lightly breaded slices of real jalapeno or onion, provide a bold kick and are the perfect finishing touch for tacos, salads and even Mexican-style burgers.
- Don't forget dessert. No meal is complete without a sweet treat, such as a churro, flan, empanada or sopapilla. Many of these favorites can be prepared ahead of time so you can simply cook and serve for a perfect ending to your family fiesta.

Find more mealtime inspiration like these recipes, perfect for the busy back-to-school season, at ortega.com, or find Ortega on Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest.

Slow Cooked "Pulled" Chicken Tacos

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 2 hours

Servings: 5

- 1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs**
- 1 bottle (8 ounces) Ortega Chipotle Taco Sauce**
- 1/2 cup chicken stock**
- 1/2 teaspoon salt**
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper**
- 1 package (10 shells) Ortega Good Grains White Corn with Chia Taco Shells, warmed**
- taco toppings**

In medium pan, combine chicken, taco sauce, chicken stock, salt and pepper, and cook on low, covered, approximately 2 hours, or until internal temperature of chicken reaches 165 F. Remove chicken from pan and shred using two forks.

Turn heat to medium-high and reduce cooking liquid into thick sauce, cooking 3-5 minutes and stirring occasionally.

Remove from heat and combine sauce with shredded chicken.

Serve in taco shells with desired taco toppings.

Spice Up School Days



Baja Chicken Pizza

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Servings: 5

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, about 1 pound**
- 1 bottle (8 ounces) Ortega Green Taco Sauce**
- 1 can Ortega Vegetarian Refried Beans**
- 3/4 cup Ortega Homestyle Salsa (any variety)**
- 1 Mama Mary's prepared pizza crust**
- 1 red bell pepper, diced**
- 1 can (4 ounces) Ortega Diced Green Chiles**
- 1 bag (8 ounces) Mexican-style shredded cheese**
- 1 bottle (8 ounces) Ortega Original Taco Sauce (any variety)**
- 1 bag Ortega Crispy Onion Taco Toppers**

In large bowl or re-sealable plastic bag, combine chicken breasts with green taco sauce. Stir or shake to coat. Marinate at least 30 minutes or up to 2 hours.

Heat oven to 350 F.

Bake chicken 15-20 minutes, or until internal temperature reaches 165 F.

Let chicken cool 10 minutes then cut into small cubes.

In medium bowl, combine refried beans and salsa.

Transfer prepared pizza crust to baking sheet.

Spread bean mixture over dough, leaving 1/4 inch at edges for crust.

Top with peppers, green chiles, chicken and cheese. Bake 10-15 minutes, or until crust is golden brown and cheese is melted.

Top with taco sauce and crispy onion toppers then serve.



Mexican Style "Totchos"

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 25 minutes

Servings: 5

- 1 package (32 ounces) tater tots**
- 1 1/2 pounds ground beef**
- 1 packet Ortega Taco Seasoning**
- 1 cup water**
- 16 ounces shredded cheddar cheese**
- 2 medium tomatoes, diced**
- 1 container (16 ounces) sour cream**
- 1 bag Ortega Crispy Jalapeno Taco Toppers**

Prepare tater tots according to package directions.

Heat medium skillet over medium heat. Cook ground beef 4-5 minutes until browned, using wooden spoon to break into small pieces. Add taco seasoning and water. Cook until water evaporates and sauce is thickened.

Top hot tater tots with cooked ground beef and cheese, and broil in oven 5 minutes.

Top with tomatoes, sour cream and crispy jalapeno toppers, and serve immediately.

SPORTS

PERFORMANCE AUTO "STAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK"

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It's About... **INTEGRITY**
It's About... **PERFORMANCE**



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Union High Standout Michael Robinson Chasing His Dream



* Spartans building on last year's momentum

The Union Spartans finished up the 2016 football season with an 8-5 record overall making an appearance in the second round of the NCHSAA 1-AA State Championships.

Despite the loss (to Wallace-Rose Hill), it wrapped up one of Union's best seasons since 2005 (2015: 6-6; 2014: 3-9; 2013: 3-9; 2012: 7-6; 2011: 3-9; 2010: 7-5; 2009: 4-8; 2007: 5-8; 2006: 5-7; and 2005: 9-4).

"We left the field and we kept our heads high," remembers lineman and middle linebacker Michael Robinson. "Our mind-set going into that Wallace-Rose Hill game was to get the win. We kept pushing and never gave up. We never fell apart."

A four-year varsity starter, the 18-year-old Robinson, said although the 2017 Spartans will be a younger team, they have been working hard over the summer, prepping to build on last year's success.

"Yeah, we are young this year, we lost a lot of seniors [after last season], but, this summer, we have been practicing and playing with a lot of confidence," Robinson admits. "I think that this team is capable of doing some big things this year."

He continues, "The seniors always want to finish strong. We have to just stay focused and make our goal the state championships."

Does that put more pressure on the senior leaders?

"No," says Robinson. "Because we are all equal on the team. Everyone has their own jobs; they carry their own workload. We know we all have to work together to accomplish our goal. That goal is to get back into the state playoffs."

In the Jamboree and a host of scrimmages, the 2017 Spartan have already been building on that momentum.

"We have been looking pretty good," Robinson admits.

"We played South Lenior, two weeks ago, and I thought we played well. It was a learning experience

for the younger players, but overall, I thought it has been pretty positive."

Tonight, they will open the season in Spivey's Corner battling the Midway Raiders - Game time is 7 p.m.

"It is exciting," Robinson, who has been named this week's Performance Auto/Sampson Weekly Star Athlete of the Week, admits. "Anytime I walk on that field I can feel the excitement."

Born and raised in Sampson County, Robinson has spent his entire educational career in the Union District.

His first foray into sports came around the age of 10, when he played recreation ball.

"I played for the Southern Giants," he admits with a laugh. "I did pretty good and I just stuck with it."

In fact, Robinson is still playing with some of the same athletes he played with years ago in rec ball.

"We still joke about that - playing together when we were kids - to this day in the locker room," Robinson said. "I think it is important to the dynamic of this team. We have a bond; a team chemistry that really plays a big part in our success. We know how each other plays and that is a bonus."

During his freshman year at Union High, Robinson played baseball for the Spartans. "I liked it, but it was a lot. I was playing football and basketball (as a center/power forward) too. It just wasn't for me. So, I stuck with football and basketball."

If he had to choose just one sport to play, it would be football.

"I just love the physical part of it," he admits. "I love playing middle linebacker because I can hit people and make big plays."

Although Robinson developed his own style of play over the years, he enjoyed watching Baltimore Raven, the great Ray Lewis.

"I just admired how he never gave up as a player," he explains. "His motivation and drive was amazing on every level of his career."

At heart though, Robinson has always been a fan of the Spartans.

"I grew up coming here to the games, watching the older guys play," he remembers. "I didn't come and play behind the bleachers, I sat and watched the team play. Those guys inspired me to want to play."

So, you could image his emotions when he first stepped on the high school field as an official Spartan.

"I put on that uniform, walked out on the field and was just overwhelmed with joy," Robinson admits. "It was something that I grew up dreaming about and here I was - starting on varsity - as a Spartan. A dream come true."

Now that his final year of high school football is beginning, Robinson wants to savor every game.

"I was just thinking that tonight will be my last 'first game,'" he said. "I know that it is going to be hard when it all comes to an end."

He continues, "Leaving Union High will be bittersweet. I have made so many friends, not just with teammates and classmates, but with my teachers and coaches too. I've had a good time here. It is a bittersweet feeling. I'm ready to move on, but at the same time I am sad to go."

The straight A-B student, who says History is his favorite subject, admits that he has come a long way since that first day of school as a freshman.

"I will be honest, I can remember being really scared to come to high school from middle school," Robinson said with honesty. "But I came in, knew some people, met a lot more and the teachers and staff made feel comfortable right away. I felt at home and it has never changed."

The next step after his senior year is college.

Robinson said he is undecided about where he wants to go, but knows he wants to play football.

"I've had a few offers, but have made no decision yet," he explains. "I want to study business management ... I have been thinking about opening my own business, like a barber shop or possibly a sports lounge. I would love to come back and open them here and then branch out."

However, his ultimate, dream would be to play in the National Football League (NFL). His dream team to play for? "I would love to play for the Carolina Panthers," Robinson said. "My home team!"

For right now though, Robinson is focused on having a successful final year of high school.

In his free time, he enjoys hanging out with friends and family and attending church (Keathern Missionary Baptist).

"If I am not at work, I like helping my family," Robinson said. "I live in a neighborhood that is full of my family members, so we are always talking, cooking out ... I just love having that fellowship with them."

Robinson credits his close-knit family for his success.

"My mother (Teresa Sellars), my dad (Michael Robinson), my sister (Tateyanna Scott) and my grandma (Mariah Sellars) have always been there for me. I just do not know where I would be without all of their love and support. I don't know where I would be without them."

He added, "I would also like to thank all of my coaches for really reaching out to me and helping me, as well as all of my church family, my teammates, friends, teachers and anyone who has ever cheered me on. I just really appreciate all of the support."

When asked if he had a piece of advice for any upcoming freshman this year, Robinson answers without hesitation. "I would tell them to never give up and don't ever be afraid to chase your dreams."

PERFORMANCE AUTOMOTIVE SALUTES THE STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE WEEK!

HAVE YOU FOUND
YOUR NEW
VEHICLE YET?



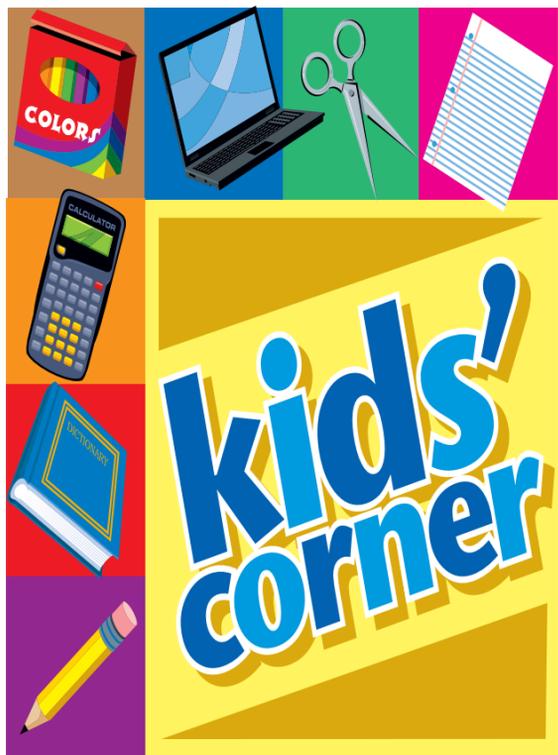
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What's the Difference?

There are five things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. Two blue blocks 2. Father has mustache 3. Block face is upside down 4. Girl missing pigtail 5. Photo on wall missing face

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1862:** THE SECOND BATTLE OF BULL RUN BEGINS IN THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.
- **1920:** THE 19TH AMENDMENT, GIVING WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES THE RIGHT TO VOTE, GOES INTO EFFECT.
- **1978:** JOHN PAUL I BECOMES POPE OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.



TRUE OR FALSE:

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO DRINK FRUIT JUICES THAT HAVE BEEN PASTEURIZED TO KILL BACTERIA.

ANSWER: TRUE

New word

precaution

measure taken in advance to prevent something dangerous

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Danger

SPANISH: Peligro

ITALIAN: Pericolo

FRENCH: Danger

GERMAN: Gefahr

Did you know?

SMOKE ALARMS ARE ESSENTIAL TO SAVING LIVES IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE. BATTERIES SHOULD BE REPLACED AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR FOR SAFETY'S SAKE.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LOCK AND KEY

EDUCATION

SCC Recognizes Years of Service

Thirty Years of Service



Sampson Community College recognized its 30-years-plus employees for their service to the college. The three employees that have served SCC the longest are (L-R) Edith Rogers, Dr. William Starling and Paul Wolf. Sampson Community College appreciates the hard work and dedication these employees have shown over the past three decades.

SCC's Quarter Century Club



Sampson Community College's Beth Daughtery was recognized for twenty five years of service to the college. Daughtery was introduced to guests by her brother, Chris Fann, who also serves as a member of SCC's Board of Trustees. Sampson Community College recognizes and appreciates Daughtery's commitment to the college, as well as Mr. Fann's.

SCC Celebrates 15-Year Employees



Sampson Community College recognized all 15-year employees at an appreciation luncheon to kick off the fall semester. Left to right are Carole Phipps, Lavoice Faison-Stevens, Jennifer Eavenson, Robin Bradshaw, Charles Brigham, Marvin Rondon and Frankie Sutter. SCC thanks and congratulates these employees for their service.

Ten-Year Employees Honored by SCC



Sampson Community College recognized its ten year employees at an appreciation luncheon to kick off the fall semester. Left to right are Perry Gillespie, Sharon Leggett, Toledo Kemmer, Britt Honeycutt, Sharon Jones, Wanda Kenny, Benita Hayes, Kim Davis, Nicole Jordan and Rebecca Scott. SCC thanks and congratulates these employees for their service.

Harrells Christian Academy Senior Betas Compete At Disney World



Orlando, FL, July 31, 2017 - Harrells Christian Academy sent 30 qualifying competitors to The National Senior Beta Club Convention, held this summer in Orlando, Fla. In the Senior Beta events, HCA took 5th place in the Character Skit Competition, performed by Abigail Clark of White Lake, Will Huff of Clinton, Cameron Simpson of Burgaw, Joseph Lee of Atkinson, Madison Tart of Clinton, Gracy Peterson of Garland, Brayden Sutton of Clinton, and Miranda Wells of Rose Hill. Additionally, Will Huff placed 5th in Trading Pins, and current NC state Beta Vice President Cameron Tyler of Elizabethtown placed 2nd in his Campaign Skit for National Vice President. The Crusaders won the "People's Choice" Award for Service Snapshot, and placed in the top ten nationally for Advertising Design and Fresh Look at Beta.

Graduating senior Will Huff was recognized for being the recipient of a \$1000 Beta scholarship, and Harrells science teacher Mrs. Ruth Ann Parker was honored for her service as NC State Sponsor-elect for two years and for her future service as State Sponsor (this year and next).

The National Sr. Beta Club Convention was conducted June 23 through June 25th at the Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Fla. Advisors for the Sr. Beta Club are Ruth Ann Parker and Alex Grey.

Harrells Christian Academy Junior Betas Win At Nationals

Orlando, FL, July 31, 2017 - As a new school year approaches, Harrells Christian Academy is celebrating a successful performance at The National Junior Beta Club Convention, held this summer in Orlando, Fla. This was the first year Harrells Christian Academy took its fourth and fifth grade qualifying students to the state Jr. Beta Club Convention, held in Greensboro in February. A team must place at the state convention in order to qualify to compete in the national convention.

At nationals, Evan Boussias of Elizabethtown placed 2nd in Social Studies; Ella Campbell of Elizabethtown placed 5th in Black and White Photography; Rebekah Bryan of Clinton placed 4th in Painting; and Rebekah Bryan, Hudson Griffin, Eli Hardison, and Daughtry Jackson, all of Clinton, placed 2nd in Convention Invention Winners. Hudson Griffin also placed 6th in Speech.

The National Jr. Beta Club Convention was conducted June 23 through June 25th at the Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Fla. Advisors for the Jr. Beta Club are Barbara Holowell, Polly Hatcher, and Lori Boone.

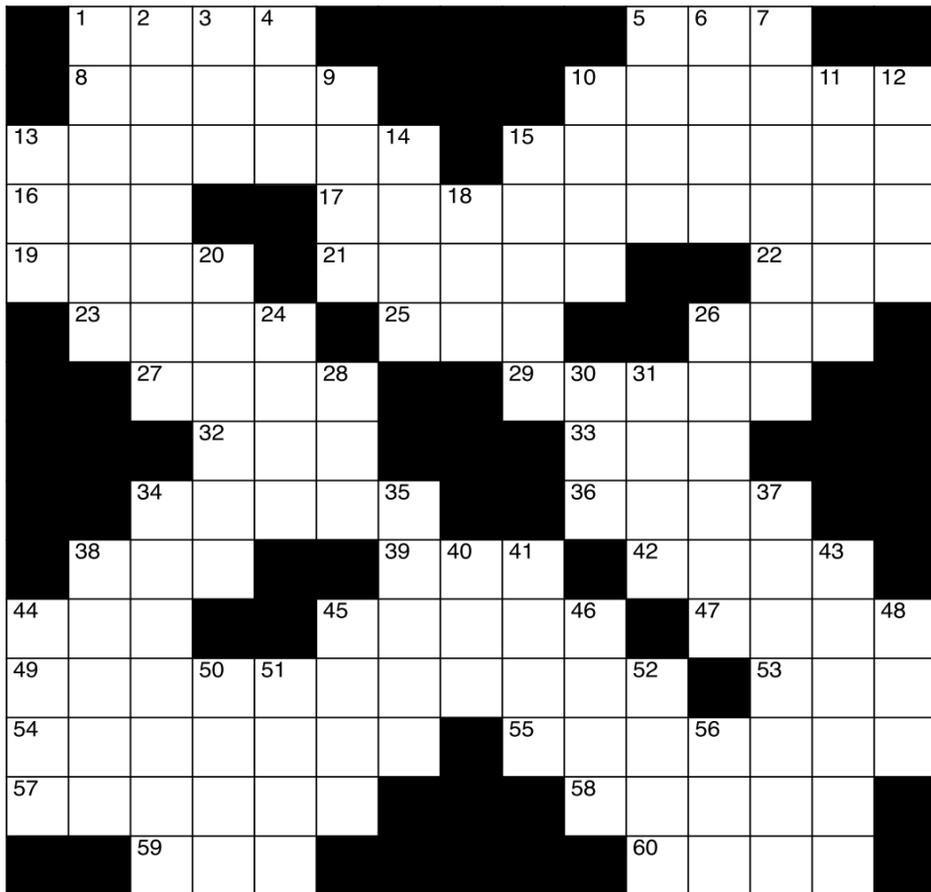
First Day Back at SCC!



Sampson Community College's Beth Daughtery was recognized for twenty five years of service to the college. Daughtery was introduced to guests by her brother, Chris Fann, who also serves as a member of SCC's Board of Trustees. Sampson Community College recognizes and appreciates Daughtery's commitment to the college, as well as Mr. Fann's.

PUZZLES & GAMES

Crossword Puzzle

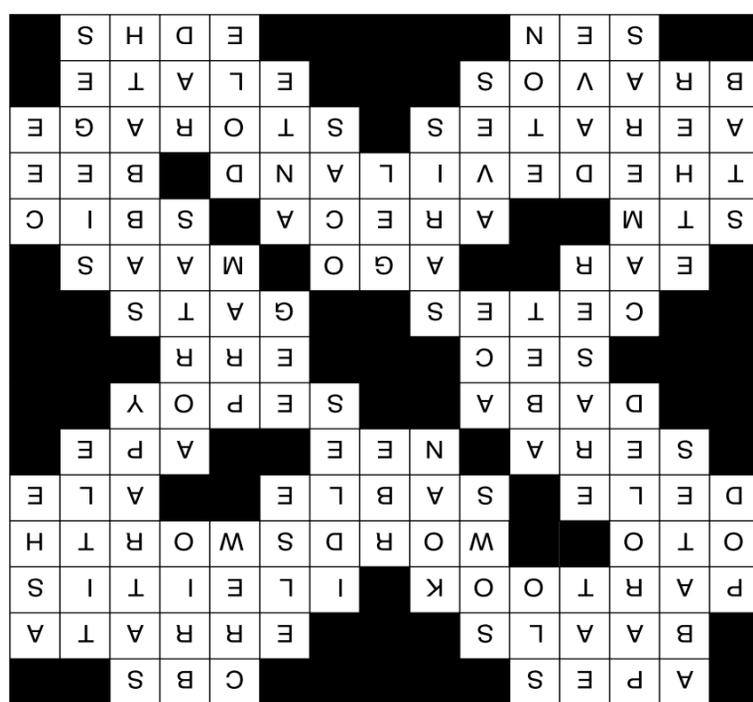


CLUES ACROSS

1. Mimics
5. Ed Murrow's home
8. Semitic gods
10. Print errors
13. Shared
15. Intestinal inflammation
16. Word element meaning ear
17. English romantic poet
19. Proofreading symbol
21. Marten pelt
22. Brew
23. Liquid body substances
25. Born of
26. Large primate
27. Aka ___ Honeymoon
29. Indian solder
32. NYSE regulator
33. Be incorrect
34. Badger groups
36. Gangster pistols
38. Hearing receptor
39. Gone by
42. "Heir of Fire" author Sarah
44. Short-term memory
45. Egg-shaped nut palms
47. Invests in little enterprises
49. "___ Daniel Webster"
53. Busy, honey or quilting
54. Supplies with air
55. Repository
57. Verbal approvals
58. Make joyful
59. 1/100 yen
60. Lam ___ : 12th hebrew letter (pl)

CLUES DOWN

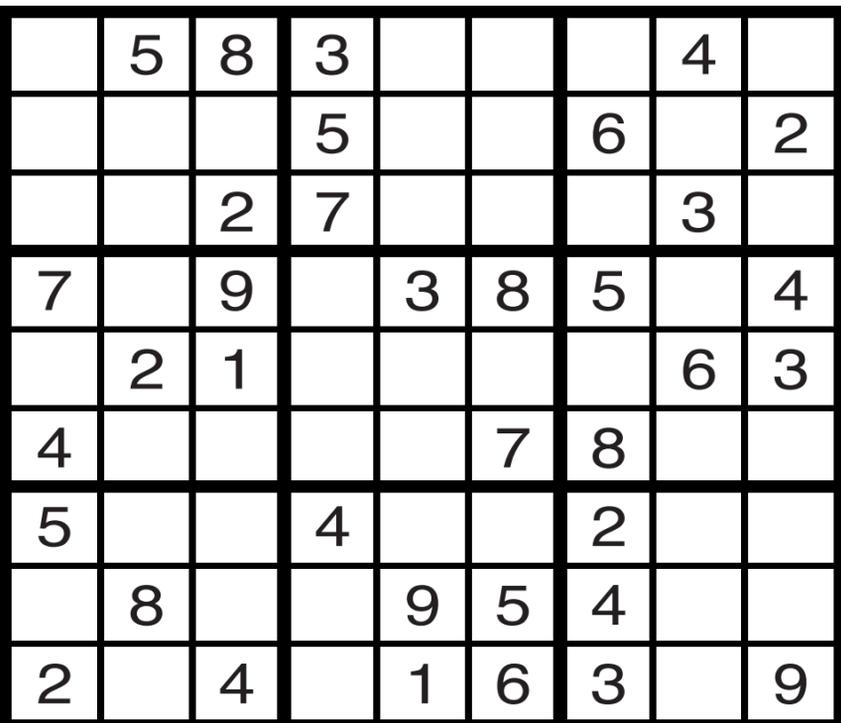
1. Diminishes
2. Set free
3. Consume
4. Salem-Leckrone Airport
5. Rowing team
6. Gusto (Italian)
7. Territory ruled by a Satrap
9. Disseminates
10. Other
11. Appellation
12. Arthur ___ Stadium (USTA)
13. Seed container
14. Paradoxical Zen question
15. Runs disconnected
18. Rainbow Effect (abbr.)
20. Chalk remover
24. Assist in some wrongdoing
26. Main arterial vessels
28. Unreturned serve
30. Brain wave instrument
31. Baby carriage
34. Image recorders
35. Indian frocks
37. Jewish day of rest
38. Earliest anesthetic
40. Hair product
41. So. Am. wood sorrels
43. Blockades
44. Pierce
45. The class of birds
46. Stake
48. After B
50. Comedian Letterman
51. British School
52. 1996 presidential candidate
56. Radioactivity unit



SUDOKU

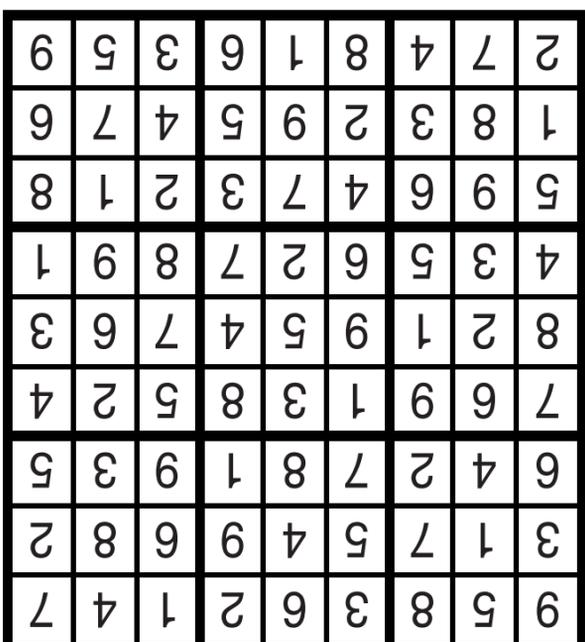
Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

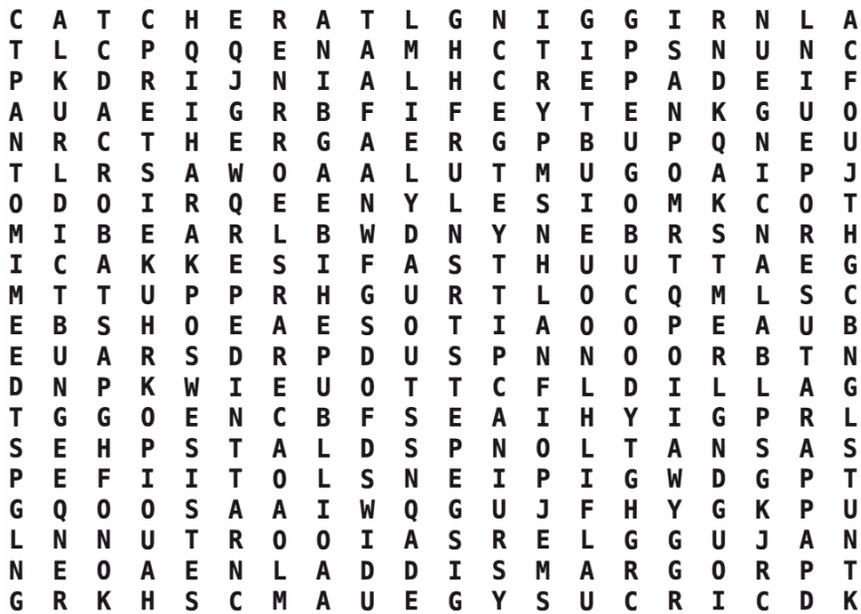


Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

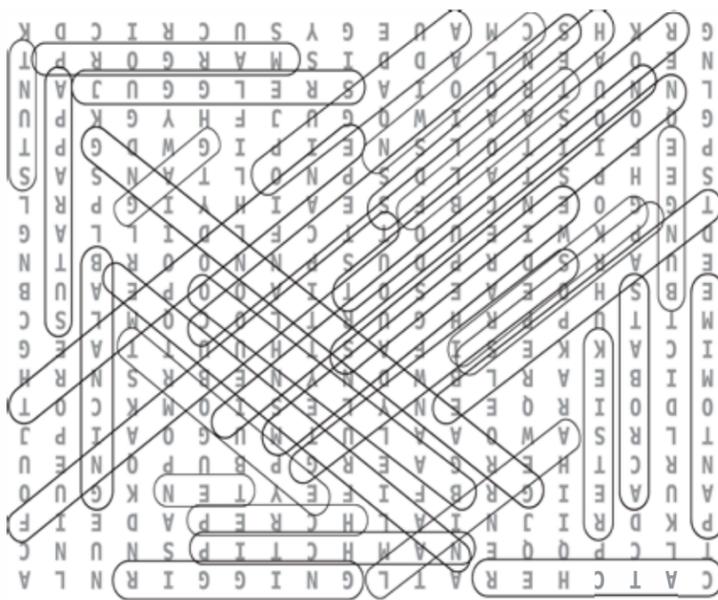


CIRCUS WORD SEARCH



Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| ACROBATS | CIRCUS | GRANDSTANDING | NET | STUNT |
| ADAGIO | CLOWN | GUY WIRES | PANTOMIME | SUSPENSION |
| AERIAL | CONCESSIONS | HERALDS | PERCH | TRAMPOLINE |
| APPARATUS | ELEPHANT | HOWDAH | PITCHMAN | TROUPE |
| BALANCING | EQUESTRIAN | INTRODUCTION | PROGRAM | |
| BALLYHOO | FLOAT | JUGGLERS | PROPS | |
| BUNGEE | FUNAMBULIST | KEISTER | RIGGING | |
| CATCHER | GAG | MENAGERIE | ROUSTABOUT | |



OBITUARIES

PLAIN VIEW

Mr. Bob Hawley, age 87, of the Plain View Community in Dunn, NC passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Sunday, August 6, 2017. He was born August 3, 1930 in Sampson County, North Carolina the son of the late Wilbert and Hettie Hawley of Dunn. He was preceded in death by his wife of 62 years and the love of his life, Beth Hawley; and his brothers, Ken, Sherrill, Clarence and Stanley Hawley. Bob graduated from Plain View School in 1948 and followed his education with a career in construction where he was a building contractor. He retired after a thirty five year career building homes in Sampson, Harnett, Cumberland, Wake and Moore Counties. He served for numerous years as a deacon at Union Grove Church, then became a member of Lee's Chapel O.F.W.B. Church. Bob loved to travel with his wife and friends with Don's Travel Club and trips with his family. He had traveled every state in the United States with the exception of two. He traveled to Mexico and found that he truly enjoyed his many trips to Canada. He built a vacation home in Fancy Gap, Virginia, loved the Mountains, Lakes and beach, and later even purchased homes in both White Lake, NC and Calabash, NC. Family and friends enjoyed these homes for years. Left to cherish his memory are his son, Ricky Hawley; daughter, Debby Chiarella and husband Frank; granddaughter, Christy Hawley Smith and husband Matthew; sister, Nora Strickland White all of Plain View; and his beloved canine companion and fur baby, Blue. The family received friends from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at Cromartie Miller Funeral Home. A funeral service was held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at Cromartie Miller Funeral Home. Entombment will follow at Lee's Chapel Williford Cemetery. The family also received friends at the home of Frank and Debby Chiarella at 431 Christmas Tree Road in Dunn, NC. Memorials may be made in Bob's honor to Victory Junction Youth Camp, 4500 Adams Way, Randleman, NC 27317 or to Free Will Baptist Church Children's Home, PO Box 249, Middle Sex, NC 27557. Please share memories and condolences with the family at www.cromartiemiller.com.



FAYETTEVILLE

Ms. Anita Jacobs, 57, of Fayetteville, NC, formerly of Clinton, NC, passed away recently in her home. The graveside service will be held at 11am, Friday, August 18, 2017 at Hillcrest Memorial Park. Apostle Marcus Becton officiating. Ms. Jacobs is survived by SISTER-Carlita Fields of Upper Marlboro, MD; BROTHER-Grover Jacobs; one grandchild. There will be no public viewing.



VASS

Peter Madsen, age 82, of Vass, passed away on Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at Westfield Nursing Home, surrounded by his family. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Cox Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Richard Rodda officiating. The family will receive friends immediately following the service at the funeral home. Peter was born in New York on October 7, 1934 to the late Reinhard and Anna Madsen. He began his career in 1957 and spent his 37 year career working as an educator in Monroe County, New York. He retired with his wife Marilyn to Vass in 1990. Peter and Marilyn were instrumental in the creation of the Vass Area Library. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Marilyn Madsen; children Peter Madsen and his wife Palma of New York, Richard Madsen and wife Geralyn of New Jersey, Ann Madsen Sceri and husband Vincent of New York, and James Madsen and his wife Alice, of South Carolina; sister, Carol Madsen of New York, nephews Peter and Anthony Mendola; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Peter Madsen may be made to the Friends of Vass Library, P. O. Box 655, Vass, NC 28394. Condolences may be sent to www.coxmemorialfuneralhome.com. Cox Memorial... "Serving GOD, by serving families in a time of need."



MAGNOLIA

Malek Johnson 18 of 758 Pegleg Road went home to be with the Lord on Friday, August 11, 2017 at Wake Med in Raleigh. A Home Going service will be held at 1:00 pm on Saturday, August 19, 2017 at Union High School, 1189 Kader Merritt Road, burial will be held privately. Visitation will be held on Friday, August 18, 2017 at Hope Valley Hawks Funeral Service & Cremation, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton from 1:00 pm - 6:00pm with family present from 6:00pm - 7:00pm.



ROSE HILL

Gustavo Salazar Olguin, 45 of 209 Pope Rd. died at Vidant Duplin Hospital in Kenansville Wednesday, August 9, 2017. Funeral service was held from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm on Saturday

evening, August 12, 2017 at the Royal-Hall Funeral Chapel with Father Mark Bettie officiating. Born in 1971 in Mexico, Gustava was the son of Maximino Salazar of Wilmington and his mother, Yolanda Olguin Acosta of Mexico. He is survived by his parents; two sisters: Gisela Salazar Olguin and Virginia Salazar Olguin, both of Mexico; and his Uncle, Alejandro Salazar of Rose Hill. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.royalhallengfuneralhome.com. Royal-Hall funeral home is honored to serve the Salazar Olguin family.



CLINTON

Mrs. Helen Marie Weeks Rose, 82, of 1212 Boney Mill Rd., passed away to be with her Heavenly Father Tuesday morning, August 15, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center with her family by her side. Funeral Services were held on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 3:00 PM at Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 863 Boney Mill Rd., Clinton, with Rev. Ray Carter and Rev. Jimmy Flowers officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Born on September 13, 1934, Helen was the daughter of the late Nellie Bell and Alonza Thomas Weeks and the widow to Carlyle W. Rose, Sr. She was a retired seamstress with Garland Shirt Factory and a member of Union Grove Missionary Baptist Church. Helen is survived by her three sons: Carlyle W. Rose, Jr. and wife, Fran of Clinton; Michael Lynn Rose and wife, Peggy of Clinton; Timothy Wayne Rose and wife, Janet of Erwin; five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three sisters: Bessie Weeks Jackson, Rachel Weeks Tucker and Evelyn Weeks Boykin; and two brothers: Albert Henry Weeks and Jesse Weeks. The family received friends Wednesday evening, August 16th from 7-9 PM at Royal-Hall Funeral Home Chapel, and other times at her home. Condolences may be sent by visiting www.royalhallengfuneralhome.com. Royal-Hall is honored to serve the Rose Family.



CLINTON

Mr. William "Hubert" Weeks, 86, of 301 Graham Street, Clinton, passed away peacefully on Friday morning, August 11, 2017 at his home, surrounded by his loving family. A Funeral Service was held on Sunday, August 13, 2017 at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary of First Baptist Church, 408 College St., Clinton with Dr. Ray Ammons officiating. Burial followed in the Clinton Cemetery. Born on October 12, 1930 in Sampson County, Hubert was the son of the late Mary Gilbert and Harvey Weeks. He was a Veteran of the United States Army, having served in the Korean War and the former owner-operator of Weeks Wholesale. He was a former member of Hiram Lodge #98 AM&FM, former member of Clinton Lions Club and longtime member of First Baptist Church. Mr. Hubert was a joker, loved sitting on the porch listening to music and loved nothing more than making his friends and family smile. He was a loving man, with a compassionate heart, and willing to offer help to anyone in need. Above all else, he adored his family. He was respected and loved by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him and will be greatly missed. He is survived by his precious wife of almost 67 years, Grace McCullen Weeks; two sons: William "Cullen" Weeks and his wife, Alicia of Garner and Henry Todd Weeks of Charlotte. He was also blessed with three granddaughters: Maegan Coleen Weeks, Taylor Grace Weeks and Carley Rose Weeks and a great-granddaughter, Fallon Hope Weeks. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Keefe Wendell Weeks; his sisters: Annie Lou Howard and Mildred Bryant and his brothers: James, David and Bernard Weeks. Visitation with family and friends was held one hour prior to the service on Sunday afternoon, in the church sanctuary, beginning at 2:00 pm; and other times at his home. The family would like to give special thanks to Dr. John Smith and his entire staff, as well as the staff at Liberty Hospice. Royal-Hall is honored to serve the Weeks Family.



CLINTON

Becky Sutton Barfield, 60, of Clinton formerly of Newton Grove passed away Tuesday, August 15, 2017 in Mary Gran Nursing Center in Clinton. Funeral Services will be Friday, August 18, 2017 at Pleasant Union Christian Church in Newton Grove beginning at 3:00 P.M. Visitation will be at the church beginning at 2:00 P.M. just prior to the service. Officiating will be the Rev. Deborah Stilley. Mrs. Barfield will be laid to rest in the Thornton Family Cemetery. Survivors include her Daughter Chasity Hargrove & husband Brian of Dunn, Grandchildren Bailey & Sutton Hargrove, Sister Tammy S. Blackman of Newton Grove, Aunt Barbara Morris & husband Ervin of Newton Grove & her Uncle Sherald Jackson & wife Sylvia of Fuquay. Condolences may be made at www.westanddunn.com. Services entrusted to West & Dunn Funeral Home of Newton Grove, North Carolina.

WARSAW

Mr. Richard Lee Faison, 66, of 500 Revelle Road, died Sunday, August 13, 2017 at Vidant Duplin Hospital, Kenansville, NC. The funeral will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, August 18 at Worley Funeral Home Chapel, Clinton. The burial will follow in Sandhill Cemetery. The visitation will be held Thursday, August 17 from 1-6 p.m. at Worley Funeral Home, Inc. Online condolences may

be sent to www.worleyfuneralhomeinc.com.

ROSEBORO

Ms. Barbara Jean Jessup Hobbs, 78 of Roseboro, passed away Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at The Magnolia Assisted Living in Clinton. The funeral will be held at 3:00 pm Thursday, August 17, at Roseboro United Methodist Church, 300 N. Broad Street, Roseboro, with Reverend Bobby Herring officiating. Born April 11, 1938 in Wayne County, she was the daughter of the late David Currie and Clara Culbreth Jessup. She worked in Accounts Payable for Crumpler Plastic Pipe. She is survived by her sons, Jimmy Hobbs, Jr. of Princeton, Jeffery Hobbs of Roseboro; daughter, Jennifer Poole and husband Donnie of Clinton; sister, Elizabeth Hall and husband Roy of Stedman; brother, James Jessup and wife Clarese of Roseboro; sister-in-laws, Helen Jessup of Hop Mills, Margaret Jessup of Roseboro; grandchildren, Samantha Strickland, Cameron Poole, Tyler Poole, Jacob Poole, Joshua Hobbs, Hunter Hobbs; great grandchildren, Riley Rich, Kurrie Strickland. The family will receive friends from 2:00 to 2:45 pm Thursday prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made for the funeral expense and sent to Butler Funeral Home, P.O. Box 638, Roseboro, NC 28382. Services are by Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro.

WILMINGTON

Maxwell Ivey Minnich, 65, of 709 North 4th Street, Wilmington, formerly of Clinton, passed away at New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Monday, August 14, 2017. A memorial service will be held at 11 A. M., Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home. Maxwell, born in 1952, was the son of the late John Minnich and Margaret Crumpler Minnich. He worked as a plant manager in the manufacturing industry. He served four years in the US Air Force. Survivors include his wife, Palma LaSpada Minnich of Wilmington; son, Aaron Minnich and wife Brooke; daughter, Britni Minnich of Clinton; step-sons; Mark Petz, and Thomas Petz of Dunkirk, NY; brothers, John Minnich and wife Judy and Ed Minnich and wife Sandy; and six grandchildren. In lieu of flowers the family request that one gives to their favorite charity. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.crumpler-honeycutt.com. Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328.

AUTRYVILLE

Mr. Arnold Gene New, 71 of Autryville, passed away Saturday, August 12, 2017 at Mary Gran Nursing Center. A graveside service was held at 2:00 pm Wednesday, August 16, at Guy Family Cemetery, Autryville, with Rev. Bryan Strickland officiating. Born August 28, 1945 in Sampson County, he was the son of Fleet Rose and Ealon Addie New. He was a farmer. He is survived by his sons, Arnold Wayne New of Fayetteville, Delbert Thomas New of Roseboro; sister, Jewel Guy of Autryville; four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Services are by Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro.

FAYETTEVILLE

Ms. Iona L. Stephens, 53, of 540 Trust Drive, Fayetteville, NC, passed away on Monday, August 14, 2017. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time. Summerville-Boykin Mortuary Inc.

CLINTON

Rose Strickland, 84, of 3327 N US Hwy 421, passed away Sunday, August 13, 2017 at her home. A funeral service was held at 2 P.M., Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at Serenity Baptist Church with Reverend Jimmy Flowers and Reverend Richard Weeks officiating. Interment followed at Grandview Memorial Park. Rose, born in 1932 in Sampson County, was the daughter of the late Bernice Shipp and Estelle Bell Shipp. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband, James (Jim) Strickland. She worked in foodservice with the school system and was a member of Serenity Baptist Church. Survivors include daughters; Peggy Rose and husband Mike of Clinton, Brenda Saunders and husband Ray of Clinton, Deborah Howell and husband David of Clinton, and Tammy Weeks and Reverend Richard Weeks of Clinton; brother, Willie Melvin Shipp of Clinton; eight grandchildren; and fifteen great-grandchildren. The family will receive friends from 7 P.M. - 9 P.M., Monday, August 14, 2017 at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328. Memorials may be made to the Serenity Baptist Church Choir Dept., 8994 Garland Hwy., Clinton, NC 28328. Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville Street, Clinton, NC 28328.

PORTSMOUTH, VA

Mrs. Bonnie Mae Bullard Westray, 78 of Portsmouth, Va, passed away Thursday, August 10, 2017. The funeral was held at 3:00 pm Sunday, August 13, at Beaver Dam Baptist Church with Dr. Mack Roberts and Rev. Bryan Strickland officiating. Burial followed in the Church Cemetery. Born April 28, 1939 in Cumberland County, she was the daughter of the late Paul Vernon and Leanna Jane Smith Bullard. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Stan Westray; daughter, Brenda MacIntosh; granddaughter, Heather Kyle; sister, Elouise Barrick; and brother, Kirby Paul Bullard, Sr. She is survived by: her husband, Harry Vandevander of the home; daughters, Vicky Madison of Shallotte, Darlene Pilapil and husband Phil of Portsmouth, Va; son-in-law, Darren MacIntosh of Portsmouth, Va; grandchildren, Chris Smith, Robert Kyle, Ricky Smith, Crystal MacIntosh, Angie Framnes, Jenny Framnes, Danny Smith; numerous great grandchildren; brothers and sisters, Lettie Lou Gray and husband Rhudy of Autryville, Vernon Bullard and wife Emma Jean of Roseboro, Vonnie Ray Bullard of Roseboro, Dorothy Royal of Autryville, Murray Bullard and wife Joy of Roseboro, William Bullard and wife Susie of Roseboro; and numerous nieces and nephews. The family received friends from 1:45 to 2:45 pm Sunday prior to the service. Memorials may be made to Beaver Dam Baptist Church, 4693 Beaver Dam Church Road, Roseboro, NC 28382. Services are by Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro.

Arrest Reports

08-10 Anthelina Janet Armwood, 49; 131 Oates-Armwood Lane, Faison; Injury to Personal Property; Stalking; Trespassing; Unsecured Bond \$2,500; Court Date 09-06

08-10 Sharon Amanda Carter, 35; 1733 Rabbit Street, Clinton; Failure to Appear- Misdemeanor Stalking; Failure to Appear- Simple Assault; Failure to Appear- Second Degree Trespass; 2 Counts: Failure to Appear-Simple Assault; Secured Bond \$8,000; Court Date 09-05

08-10 David Charles Adams, 31; 368 Brewington Rd., Clinton; Possession of Tobacco by Inmate; Secured Bond \$2,500; Court Date 08-24

08-11 Anthony O'Bryan Calhoun, 28; 206 West Hill Street, Benson; Failure to Appear- Failure to Pay Child Support; Court Date 08-22

08-11 Justin Bryant Noble, 26; 311 Madeline Lane, Autryville; Misdemeanor Probation Violation; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 08-23

08-11 Darious Laquan Williams, 25; 200 West Maple St., Clinton; Failure to Appear- DWLR Impaired Revoked; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 08-29

08-11 Patrick Lewis Johnson, 34; 4716 N Spring Branch Rd., Dunn; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear-Child Support

08-11 Maria Shennette Boykin, 34; 2006 West Main St., Simple Assault; Written Promise to Appear; Court Date 09-18

08-12 Everette Clark Hefner Jr., 42; 143 Lee Chapel Church Rd., Dunn; Larceny; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 09-11

08-12 Victor Martinez-Trejo, 24; 3888 William R King Road, Newton Grove; Trespassing; Fictitious Registration Tag; No Liability Insurance; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 09-19

08-12 Ricardo Ramos Jr., 18; 3305

North McCullen Rd., Faison; Trespassing; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 09-19

08-13 Cammie Elizabeth Wright, 26; 1063 Moltonville Rd, Clinton; Failure to Appear-Misdemeanor Larceny; Injury to Personal Property; Reckless Driving to Endanger; Hit and Run; No Operators License; Secured Bond \$4,000; Court Date 09-11

08-13 Tateyana Jasmine Hurlbert, 22; 5732 Loid Road, Lucama; Failure to Appear- Speeding; Failure to Appear- Reckless Driving to Endanger; Failure to Appear-Speeding; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 09-07

08-13 Moniqueca Smith, 20; 60 Drox Lane, Clinton; Simple Assault; No Bond; Court Date 09-05

08-13 Takeema Monay Parker, 20; 301 East Pinewood St., Roseboro; Warrant for Arrest- Communicating Threats; Warrant for Arrest- Assault with a Deadly Weapon; Warrant for Arrest- Simple Assault; Warrant for Arrest- Injury to Personal Property; Warrant for Arrest- Communicating Threats; Secured Bond \$3,000; Court Date 09-11

08-13 Waylon Harold Strickland, 47; 451 Gordon Road, Clinton; Second Degree Trespassing; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 09-07

08-13 Milton Lee Strong, 58; 3218 Ozzie Road, Clinton; Injury to Personal Property; Domestic Trespassing; No Bond; Court Date 08-29

08-14 Susan Ann Wilson, 30; 2445 Hobbs Rd., Roseboro; Order for Arrest- Child Support; Court Date 08-22

08-14 Scottie Eugene Alexander, 27; 126 RJ Lane, Clinton; Failure to Appear-DWLR; Failure to Appear- Possess Marijuana Up to 1/2 ounce; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 09-15

08-14 Hope Jatton Tucker, 23; 1975 Turkey Hwy., Clinton; Communicating Threats; Injury to Real Property; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 09-05

08-14 Reginald Evans Lamb Jr., 33; 625 Williams St., Clinton; Simple Physical Assault; No Bond; Court Date 08-29

08-14 Cathy Dane Granberry Short, 32; 834 Fairmont Avenue, Salisbury; 6 Counts: Obtain Property False Pretense; Possess Stolen Firearm; 18 Counts: Larceny of a Firearm; Secured Bond \$210,000; Court Date 09-06

08-14 Alyssia Monique Kirkland, 24; 103 Don Street, Clinton; Simple Physical Assault; Written Promise to Appear; Court Date 08-19

08-14 Ashley Dawn Carter, 31; 230 K Bryan Rd., Magnolia; Communicating Threats; Assault with a Deadly Weapon; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 09-12

08-16 Dustin Wade Leonardo, 23; 599 Huntley School Road, Roseboro; Possess Drug Paraphernalia; Simple possession Schedule II Controlled Substance; Secured Bond \$2,500; Court Date 09-19

08-16 Jeremy Omar Rosales, 22; 1781 Chancery Rd, Clinton; Possession Of Marijuana Paraphernalia; Simple Possession of Marijuana; Secured Bond \$2,500; Court Date 09-19

Incident/Investigation Reports

08-10 Happy Hours Day Care reported the Larceny of a Catalytic Converter located at 100 W Roseboro St., Roseboro.

08-10 Arnold Spell reported the Larceny of a Cell Phone located at 40 Elbert Spell Lane, Clinton.

08-10 William Parker reported a Burglary located at 2246 Greensbridge Rd., Garland. Items reported missing included an assortment of firearms.

08-11 David Knoll reported a Burglary located at 44 Waterwheel Lane, Godwin. Items reported missing included outdoor furniture.

08-11 Devone Moore reported the Larceny of a Concrete Chain Saw located at 3260 Fayetteville Hwy., Dunn.

08-11 Phyllis Johnson reported a Burglary located at 1044 Clear Run School Rd., Harrells. Item reported missing a ac unit.

08-11 Clint Williams reported a Burglary located at 2500 Maxwell Rd., Autryville. Items reported missing included jewelry and US Currency.

08-12 Frankie Koonce reported the Theft of a Vehicle located at 89 Glory Lane, Newton Grove.

08-13 George Barnes reported the Larceny of a Go Kart located at 1712 Turkey Hwy., Clinton.

08-13 Debbie Chattuck reported a Larceny located at 778 Nathan Dudley Rd. Clinton. Items reported missing included rings and medications.

08-14 Timothy Bass reported the Larceny of a License Plate located at 2933 Basstown Rd., Clinton.

08-14 Gene Walker reported a Larceny located at 3482 Green Path Rd., Dunn. Items reported missing included a backpack blower, edger, circular saw, grinders and a License Plate.

08-14 Edward Few reported the Theft of a Trailer located at 4170 Hayne Stretch Rd., Roseboro.

08-15 Sandra Cox reported the Theft of a Vehicle located at 1254 Kitty Fork Rd., Clinton.

08-15 Barbara Griffin reported the Larceny of a Cell Phone and Medications located at 198 Timber Lane, Dunn.

08-15 Spell's Body Shop reported the Larceny of a Vehicle located at 1281 North Salemburg Highway, Salemburg.

08-16 Nevada Potter reported the Theft of a Vehicle and Firearm located at 200 E Fayetteville St., Roseboro.

08-16 Karen Casper reported the Larceny of Golf Cart Batteries located at 1766 Mcphail Rd., Salemburg.

08-16 Sharon Bell reported the Theft of a Vehicle located at 1781 Chancey Rd., Clinton.

Sampson County VITAL STATS

Deaths

- Thomas John Arnott
- Linwood Ernest Carter
- Daphney Marie Ezzell
- Susan Janette Gaster
- Barbara A Marible
- Adeline Prochaska
- Richard Charles Roberts
- Robert Eugene Rupert
- Anthony Dewayne Smith
- Owen Roosevelt Faison (correction from last week)

Marriage Certificates

- Nesly Dalce to Tatyonia Alexis Carr
- Gordon Maxton Tew to Joan Diane Hayes
- Larry Carmichael Phillips to Madison Brooke Tew
- Marco Antonio Santiago Bautista to Nemeicia Mejia Martinez
- Bradley James Smith to Mandy Brooke Cannady
- Christian D Esparza Ruiz to Stephanie Ann Smith

Births

- Spencer Douglas Williams born on July 29, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Shawn Douglas Williams and Larencia Lee Andrasko
- Isaac Emanuel Abarca born on July 30, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Noemi Abarca
- Jaxon Luke Key born on July 31, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Mary Kathryn Key
- Nayely Lopez Hernandez born on July 30, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Domingo Lopez Santis and Maria Hernandez Bautista

Land Transfers

- John P Roberts to TI Holdings LLC- Fox Lake Subdivision Lot 11 Section B 0.99 Acres South Clinton
- Mary W Goodwin, Granvillene W Carter to Elisa Lopez Juarez- South Clinton Tract 1 1.39 Acres
- William Harvey Tyndall Jr to Mary Margaret Tyndall, William Harvey Tyndall Jr- Lot Sampson
- Hazel Lewis Lambert /By AIF, William Louis Lambert/AIF, William Louis Lambert, Diane Jones Lambert, Deborah Lambert Hill, Rodney Trent Hill to Thornton Homes Co - Lot 10 John B Williams Jr George T Williams Subdivision North Clinton
- Kevin S Faircloth, Sarah J Faircloth to Danny Faircloth- 2.5 Acres Honeycuts
- Vonnie R Marshburn to Rene Cruz and Marta Rodriguez- Lot 1 DB Collins Subdivision North Clinton
- Laurel Lake Land Company II, Sanford Scott Price Jr/Gen P to Michael Ray Boykin, Lynda M Boykin- 6.89 Acres Lot 1B Honeycuts
- Lisa Godwin Holbert, Gary W Holbert, Marsha Godwin Bass, Terry S Bass, Terry Watson Godwin, Angela S Godwin, Lisa G Holbert, Marsha G Bass, Terry W

- Godwin to Live Oak Properties of Sampson LLC- 8.33 Acres Lots 1, 2, and 3
- James C Ingram, Marcissue Ingram, Jay R Ingram, Willisteen Ingram, Willa D Roseboro, Evelyn D McCalop, Cassandra D Raynor, Karolina Sampson, Nutrena Michelle Sampson, Pamela Bryant Thompson, Lloyd T Thompson to Marcus Dewayne Smith, Charles Lee Sessoms - Lots 8 and 9 of the NE Brood Sr Lots Little Coharie
- Winifred D Flowers, Winifred D Dawson/WTTA, Richard Van Flowers to Chadwick Allen Barefoot- 3 Tracts Newton Grove and 7 Acres w/exceptions
- Angel Antonio Martinez, Elky Azucena Murillo to Erin Omar Zepeda Guerrero and Meriahan Suyapa Domingues Amaya- 1.2 Acres
- Steven J Bass, Hilda A Bass, DMB Partners LLC, Karen T Sutton/MGR to Marcus Todd Rowe, Carolyn Edwards Rowe- Lot 69 Timberlake Subdivision Section Twelve 0.78 Acres North Clinton
- Judith Grey Autry Bullard to James Roger Carroll, Hazel Jean G Tyndall Carroll- Tract 4B 2.25 Acres Mingo
- Carl E Eshleman to Patsy Louis Lynch- Lot 9 0.64 Acres Phase One Greensbridge Country Club Subdivision
- Jose E Moreno to Jorge Avila Beltran, Maximina Cruz- Mingo Township 2.42 Acres
- Esmeraldo Reveles, Gerardo Ramirez Games to Filiberto Perez and Ana Patricia Espinoza Cruz- Westbrook Township Lot 11 0.92 Acres Frontier Acres Subdivision
- Linda T Parrish to Larry Dean Anderson, Judy Crumpler Anderson- 3 Tracts Little Coharie
- Jim Warren Mobile Homes Inc, Thornton Logging Company, T&W Development/ DBA to Gino Davis Jeffers- Lot 3, 4, 5 and 6 Taylors Bridge

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Chamber Chat

By Kaitlin Norris,
Executive Director
Clinton-Sampson
Chamber of Commerce

With so many exciting things that are going to be taking place in Sampson County during the next few months, the Chamber encourages you to stay involved and to stay a part of our wonderful community. Not only does the Chamber have multiple things going on this fall, but so does the City of Clinton, the County of Sampson, and our very own Young Professionals of Sampson County!

The Sampson County Arts Council is holding a dedication ceremony for their new Carriage House Studio on Thursday, August 17th at 5:30pm at 709 College Street. This will be an evening full of fun and networking with some of Sampson Counties finest. After the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony there will be an art show and reception featuring the art of Mica Joy Eanes. Her Lost In Wonderland art will bring you back to your most precious childhood memories! Join us for a night of laughter and bring your business card to let the Chamber work for you!

Join us next week for a Ribbon Cutting honoring CommWell Health's new Mobil Dental Clinic on Tuesday, August 22nd at Lakewood High School. The Ceremony will start at 11:00am on that Tuesday. This is the perfect opportunity to network and celebrate growth and expansion in Sampson County!

If you're a member of the Chamber, don't forget to display your new Green 2017 membership decal. Studies shows that when a consumer knows a small business is a member of the chamber, they are 63% more likely to purchase goods or services from that company in the future and it increases your local reputation by 57% in the consumer's eyes. Be sure to display your membership proudly and shoppers, please check out the Chamber Membership Decals located throughout Sampson County and support them as we buy local first.

I encourage you to get involved with the Chamber of Commerce. As an individual or business member, take advantage of the opportunities to network, advertise, attend educational seminars, and more. We are over 400 members strong and continuing to grow. Give us a call at 910.592.6177 and let us be a part of your business or organization today.

Congratulations Chamber Member of the Week



Congratulations to the Chamber's Member of the Week, Select Bank and Trust! Select Bancorp Inc. the holding company for Select Bank & Trust, was founded in 2000 and is headquartered in Dunn, N.C. offering a broad range of retail, small business and commercial banking products and services. Their mission is to be the bank of choice in the communities they serve by providing exceptional customer service, superior products and experienced bankers using a common sense approach to banking. You can visit them at 111 Northeast Blvd in Clinton or give them a call at 910-592-4252.

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By Brenda Brown

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MONSTER ENERGY CUP SERIES

Race: Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race
Where: Bristol Motor Speedway
When: Saturday, 7:30 p.m. (ET)
TV: NBC
2016 Winner: Kevin Harvick (right)



XFINITY SERIES

Race: Food City 300
Where: Bristol Motor Speedway
When: Friday, 7:30 p.m. (ET)
TV: NBC Sports Network
2016 Winner: Austin Dillon

CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES

Race: UNOH 200
Where: Bristol Motor Speedway
When: Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. (ET)
TV: FS1
2016 Winner: William Byron

NASCAR INSIDER

by RICK MINTER / Andrews McMeel Syndication

A man in motion: It's hard to keep up with Kyle Larson

As the NASCAR world searches for new heroes to replace retiring veterans like Dale Earnhardt Jr., Tony Stewart, Jeff Gordon, Carl Edwards and maybe even others like Matt Kenseth and Casey Kahne, Kyle Larson is making a case that he'll be one of the new superstars.

Larson is a versatile driver who reminds many of earlier stars like A.J. Foyt and Bobby Allison, who enjoyed running in different forms of motorsports — and were successful at it.

Last weekend, Larson drove a Sprint car in one of that circuit's most prestigious events, the Knoxville Nationals at Knoxville Raceway in Iowa.

Larson won a preliminary event at Knoxville before he went to Michigan, then convinced his NASCAR team owner Chip Ganassi to let him return to Iowa and run the main event on Saturday night before the Monster Energy Cup race Sunday at Michigan International Speedway.

Larson finished second to Donny Schatz at Knoxville, arriving back in Michigan at 2 a.m., then went out and won the Pure Michigan 400 with a bold pass of Martin Truex Jr. at the start of an overtime run to the checkered flag.

Larson, riding on fresher tires than Truex and many of the drivers ahead of him, worked his way to fourth place just before the final restart. When the final green flag flew, Larson briefly pushed Truex, who started on the outside line, then ducked left and passed him for the lead.

He sped away as Truex, who had led 57 laps, including the 12 leading up to the final restart, finished second ahead of rookie teammate Erik Jones, Ryan Newman and Trevor Bayne.

Larson, who led only the final two laps of Sunday's race, scored his

third Cup win of the season, the fourth of his career and his third straight at Michigan.

Based on an informal sampling of posts by fans on social media, Larson's busy week had Sprint car fans paying more attention to NASCAR racing and vice versa.

Among those weighing in on Twitter was retired NASCAR driver Mark Martin, who posted: "I don't know what's cooler @KyleLarsonRacin winning today or him running 2nd last night Knoxville Nationals. Or @GanassiChip allowing him."

Like other double-dippers before him, Larson seems to be at his best when running in different series. He said that no matter where he's racing, he's making himself a better race driver.

"Any time I get to race any type of car, whether it be a go-kart or a Sprint car, any time I'm getting laps, I feel like it's helping me be a better race car driver, and especially when I can get in that stuff and win, it helps my confidence when I get into the Cup car," Larson said. "I get to race quite a bit throughout the year, and this year I've had a really good year in everything, really, but especially in the dirt stuff, and I think that for sure carries over to Sundays."

"I'm not racing anymore the rest of the year in the dirt stuff, but hopefully this momentum ... can carry out through the playoffs and then to [the season finale in] Homestead."

Drivers running in other series often causes consternation for their NASCAR team owners, who worry about their drivers being distracted from their primary jobs or even getting injured in a moonlighting escapade.

Larson's team owner, Chip Ganassi, has been fairly lenient with Larson, but he, too, is anxious when his driver is away from the Cup series. But he also doesn't want to make decisions that take his driver away from something that keeps his confidence high.

"It's easy to break your star athlete, it's easy to break them and slow them down," Ganassi said. "It's a lot harder to speed them up. I just don't want to do something that's going to slow him down."

"I think you run the risk of that when you have a talent like [Larson] that wants to go drive other kinds of cars and things. I've never been a team owner to keep my drivers from driving other kinds of cars, and obviously, you want to do the best you can for the guy all the time and do what you can do."

"Hopefully we can continue to do it. I don't want to make any promises."



Kyle Larson smiles during a practice session at Michigan Saturday before leaving to compete in the Knoxville Nationals in Iowa Saturday night.



Kyle Larson drives his No. 42 Chevrolet inside of Dale Earnhardt's No. 88 Chevrolet at Michigan International Speedway on Sunday.

Furniture Row Racing's consistent success continues to impress

The Furniture Row Racing duo of Martin Truex Jr. and Erik Jones finished second and third, respectively, in the Pure Michigan 400 on Sunday, the best combined result for the team.

The pair appeared to be headed for a 1-2 finish before a caution flag for a wreck involving Michael McDowell and Paul Menard set up an overtime finish.

Truex led the field to the green for overtime, but was quickly passed by race winner Kyle Larson.

"We got beat fair and square," Truex said. "That's the way it goes sometimes. Double-file restarts are tricky, and I had good restarts all day, I felt like. And we had that red flag for the first time, and really just sat there while I got the tires cold, and then only had one lap to come to the green and get some heat back in them. And I just struggled getting going, just spun the tires. ..."

"But proud of our team for the run we had, and both cars running strong up front all day and both having a shot at the win."

Jones, who tied his Cup-career-best finish from the first Pocono race earlier this year, said he thought for a while that he might have a chance to get his first Cup win.

"We got that red flag, and it gives you a lot of time to at least play through different scenarios on the restart and how you want it to work out," he said. "It's very rare [when] it actually works out the way you picture in your head, but yeah, you definitely ponder what that would be like. ... I knew we had a shot right on the restart. We were just as quick I felt like right off the bat, and it would have been nice to be able to seal the deal for sure."

Truex, now in his fourth season with the Denver-based Furniture Row team owned by Barney Visser, said the company is a major player in today's NASCAR.

"We're a small team, but we're by no means underfunded or an underdog because of the alliance we have and the partnership with Toyota and those type of things," he said. "It's neat for our guys to be in Denver, kind of do things different, especially for Barney, our owner."

"People 10 years, 11 years ago told him it couldn't be done out of Denver. I think that's a sense of pride that our guys in particular carry around with them."

"Aside from that, I think that the last couple years we've shown that we belong and we're not going anywhere."



Martin Truex Jr. and Erik Jones lead the pack in the Pure Michigan 400 Sunday on their way to finishes of second and third, respectively, for their two-car Furniture Row Racing team.

Bubba Wallace drives underdog team to victory

With his NASCAR career seemingly at a standstill, Darrell "Bubba" Wallace Jr. signed a one-race deal to drive for the underdog MDM Motorsports team in Saturday's Camping World Truck Series race at Michigan International Speedway.

And after a spirited battle down the stretch with Christopher Bell, Kyle Busch and Austin Cindric, Wallace had his first Truck Series win since 2014 and the sixth of his career. It was the first-ever Truck Series victory for his No. 99 team, which has just five full-time employees, and the second for crew chief Shane Huffman, who drove cars before becoming a crew chief.

Wallace, who lost his regular Xfinity Series ride with Roush Fenway racing after 12 races due to a lack of sponsorship, drove the No. 43 Ford in the Monster Energy Cup Series for four races in place of the injured Aric Almirola. But since Almirola's return, Wallace

had been out of a ride until Saturday.

"It's been so long since I've been in Victory Lane," Wallace said. "I try to hold a positive mindset over it, and everybody in my family knows it eats at me every day."

Wallace, the only black driver regularly competing in NASCAR's elite divisions, had to overcome a pit-road penalty on Lap 53 when his crew went over the wall too soon. He battled back and was in position to grab the lead when Cindric and Bell went door-to-door for the lead with 11 laps remaining.

From then on, Wallace controlled the race, blocking every charge his challengers mounted. Bell, who finished second ahead of Busch, Ryan Truex and Cindric, was among many in the NASCAR world congratulating Wallace on his victory.

"That's awesome for Bubba," Bell said. "To see him come back and win like that. ... That was a really fun race."



Darrell Wallace Jr. celebrates his first trucks win in three seasons with a burnout on Saturday.

Chevy Camaro ZL1 ready for 2018 Cup Series debut

Chevrolet announced last week that it will campaign a Camaro in the Cup series beginning next season.

The manufacturer has been running Camaros in the Xfinity Series, but it's the first time in years that a major manufacturer has chosen a high-performance model to run in the elite Cup series.

"The new Camaro ZL1 is a great-looking race car with a lot of heritage behind it, which will make it a big hit with fans," defending Cup champion Jimmie Johnson said. "And as someone who's enjoyed the ZL1 on the street, I'm really looking forward to getting this new race car on the track."



Chevrolet has used Camaros in the Xfinity Series, but the new model ZL1 will appear in the Cup Series beginning in the 2018 season.

Sam Hornish makes his way back to Victory Lane with Mid-Ohio Challenge win

After two disappointing starts this season in the No. 22 Ford at Team Penske, the semi-retired Sam Hornish Jr. turned in a strong performance in Saturday's Xfinity Series race at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. Hornish was fastest in the abbreviated pre-race practice, won the pole and led 61 of 75 laps, including the final 14, to win the Mid-Ohio Challenge.

It was the fifth career Xfinity win for the Defiance, Ohio, native and his first since last May at Iowa Speedway.

Hornish took the lead for good after a brush with challenger Brendan Gaughan on the race's final restart and secured the victory over a surprisingly strong Daniel Hemric, the rookie driver of the No. 21 Chevrolet for Richard Childress Racing.

Matt Tift finished third over James Davison and Andy Lally, all of whom scored their career-best Xfinity finishes. It also was the first-ever top-10 finish for the Bobby Dotter-owned No. 07 team that fielded the car driven by Lally, a road-racing veteran.

"I finally got the win [at Mid-Ohio]," Hornish said in his winner's interview. "We had a smart, almost flawless day, but I feel bad about [Gaughan]. I didn't want to beat him that way."

Hornish added later that the No. 22 Ford was the best car on the track all weekend.

"It was just up to me to keep it on the track and to not make any mistakes," he said. "Everything really played out the way we wanted to as the race played out."

NUMERICALLY SPEAKING

2 Career top-five finishes in Cup for rookie Erik Jones

6,079 Laps completed this season by Michael McDowell — the most of any Cup driver

1 Top-10 finishes this season by Michael McDowell (a fourth-place at Daytona in July)

16 Laps led this season by Jamie McMurray — the fewest of any Cup driver in the top 10 in championship points

NASCAR CUP DRIVER STANDINGS

1. Martin Truex Jr., 933
2. Kyle Larson, 804
3. Kyle Busch, 797
4. Kevin Harvick, 787
5. Brad Keselowski, 720
6. Denny Hamlin, 710
7. Chase Elliott, 685
8. Jamie McMurray, 675
9. Matt Kenseth, 654
10. Clint Bowyer, 623