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SAMPSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

The Sampson Weekly

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 48

www.thesampsonweekly.com

Week of November 24-30, 2017

INSIDE

We Should Know... Page 5

Business Page 19

Great Food Page 20

WEATHER

Fri
Sunny
10%

Hi: 59 ° Lo: 37 °

Sat
Partly Cloudy
0%

Hi: 64 ° Lo: 39 °

Sun
Sunny
0%

Hi: 56 ° Lo: 28 °

Mon
Sunny
0%

Hi: 47 ° Lo: 27 °

Tues
Sunny
0%

Hi: 56 ° Lo: 37 °

Wed
Partly Cloudy
10%

Hi: 63 ° Lo: 43 °

WEEKLY VERSE

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever...
1 Chronicles 16:34

WEEKLY INDEX

Local.....1-5
Thanksgiving Greetings.....6-7
Faith.....8
Health.....9
Entertainment.....10
Sports.....11-13
Education.....14
Puzzles.....15
Obits & Crime.....16-17
Classified.....18
Business.....19
Great Food.....20

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A Thanksgiving Tradition



There are many Thanksgiving traditions. Many involve food. It’s not called Turkey Day for nothing. Many involve fellowship. Who we eat with is more important than what we eat to many of us. When and where we gather for our meals is, in some cases, a huge part of the tradition. And, for a lot of us, watching football is big part of the Thanksgiving experience.

Football and Thanksgiving have gone together since the very begin-[THANKSGIVING, see P. 4](#)

Christmas in Newton Grove



While many will still be stuffed with leftovers from Thanksgiving, Monday, November 27th will official mark the beginning of the Christmas Season for the Town of Newton Grove. In a celebration dating back to 1998, Newton Grove kicks off the festive season by remembering and honoring friends and family.

The Circle of Lights, initiated by Sue Vernon and Gail Darden, is held in the town circle where signs are placed to honor, or in memory of, loved-ones. The names are read aloud during the special ceremony, and the town circle is lit [NEWTON GROVE, see P. 4](#)

Revisiting Angelique Young – A Reason to Give Thanks



Angelique with her brother Matt Jacobs during a recent visit to Ft. Lauderdale to celebrate her birthday

This past May, we shared with you the story of Angelique Young in The Faces of Cancer. A wife and mother of four, Angelique was surprised by a sudden diagnosis of cancer during a simple procedure which dramatically changed to invasive surgery. With Thanksgiving upon us, we wanted to revisit with Angelique and share more of her journey – A reason to give thanks...

“I couldn’t be better, honestly,” answers Angelique when asked about her prognosis. “It’s funny you should ask about my prognosis. I still haven’t had the ‘prognosis talk’ with my doctor. I believe that the Good Lord has numbered my days, not any doctor or statistic. If I allowed myself to dwell on it, I could really go to a dark place. I choose not to go there.”

Next, we asked if the ordeal of cancer and treatment had changed her perspective. Angelique replied, “Going through cancer has changed EVERYTHING!”

“They say, ‘Don’t sweat the small stuff.’ You don’t really know how much ‘small stuff’ there really is until the threat of ‘all stuff’ is taken away.”

“Experiences...memories...that’s what’s important,” explains Angelique. “I want to have experiences and make memories with my family. I want to serve and to make a difference in my sphere of influence. I want to know that I’m fulfilling my purpose, and that it’s going to take a while,” she adds with a smile.

Often, when someone overcomes a harrowing life event, they feel a need or passion to give back. That too has been the case for Angelique. “Oh, yes it has created a will in me to serve.”

“I have been blessed to land a school counseling position this year,” says Angelique, “and I get to help kids every day who are going through one thing or another. I often draw from my experience [ANGELIQUE, see P. 3](#)

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LOCAL NEWS

Hobbton Middle School Athletes Show Appreciation for Support

** Athletes thank local businesses for booster donations*

For the second year, athletes and coaches from Hobbton Middle School traveled around the county meeting and shaking hand with sponsors of the Hobbton Middle School Booster Club.

The group, which included 12 athletes, stopped into local businesses last Friday, October 27, just to say a special ‘thanks’ to the owners and employees at: Mary Mack’s, Inc.; Newton Grove Drug; Lockamy/TEK; Nissan Performance; CDJR Ford; Clinton Drug; Martin’s Blueberry Farm; Huff Orthopaedics; Advance Auto; Hog Slat; Deacon Jones; Ribeyes; Wade’s Inc.; Royal Hall; and Clinton Truck and Tractor. Officials from Majestic Solutions visited the school separately.

“It gives the athletes an opportunity to thank our supporters face-to-face,” says Amanda Bradshaw of the HMS Booster Club. “Just to thank them for all of their support like this is a good way to teach the student/athletes something about their community too ... it’s all a learning process.”

Hobbton Middle School Principal Jeff Bradshaw agrees, “Athletics is a vital component of healthy school culture and is grown/nurtured through various means: 1) healthy and appropriate relationships and life skills are built through team sports; 2) Athletics is a building block for promoting school pride, where individual differences are put aside for the good of the school and each other; 3) Athletics serves as a motivator for student-athletes, positively influencing them to improve their behavior, attendance and academic performance.”

Bradshaw continues, “The Hobbton Middle School Athletic Booster Club and the community/businesses who support our endeavors have a direct, positive impact on our school culture as a whole and our individual students ...”

According to HMS Athletic Director Damon Burnett, the club was the brainchild Bradshaw and other Hobbton Middle School mothers, who came up with the vision to bridge the gap between the school and the community, so the students know they have more than school support.

Since its inception two years ago, area supporters of the HMS Boosters have helped the sports teams at the school with equipment and uniforms, as well as other items needed to support their needs.

“Last year, we were able to buy football jerseys and through donations, we were able to build dugouts,” Bradshaw added. “This year, we want to purchase a new scoreboard for our gymnasium, as well as new baseball and softball jerseys.”

The gesture works both ways.

“I think the businesses loved it,” Bradshaw said. “They were all very receptive to the athletes making an effort to come out and thank them personally for their support.”

Gary Mac Herring, owner of Mary Mack’s, Inc., is one owner who appreciates the students, as well as the adults who work tirelessly for the club to keep everything in order.

“It is always great to meet the students and athletes that are impacted by the support of the community and local businesses,” he said. “Making the donation is often the easy part. The hard part is the commitment and time given by the volunteers, teachers, and coaches affiliated with the booster clubs. Without these leaders, our sponsorship would have little impact.”

According to Burnett, community support is crucial to the success of the athletic programs at the school.



“The community/business support is so important,” he explained. “These students catch the bus early in the morning, a full-day at school, a two-hour practice with their respected sports team, and homework at night - seeing the support from the stands is mentally and emotionally rewarding.”

Burnett continued, “We have a lot of uniforms that are long over-due to be replaced. Thanks to businesses sponsoring our athletic booster club, we were able to buy new football uniforms this year and two new scoreboards for our gymnasium. Now we can schedule a uniform rotation so that the student athletes have new uniforms.”

Burnett, along with Bradshaw and Maria Contreras (a HMS mother of two), escorted the students around to businesses to meet and show their appreciation for what they have done for the school.

That support is crucial to the club’s success, adds Principal Jeff Bradshaw, “The generous donations of time, equipment and money from the community enable our school to upgrade athletic equipment, facilities and uniforms, leading to more positive student experience and successes. The shared vision for Hobbton Middle School is to be the leading middle school in the county in both athletics and academics. The vision will be realized through the growing community and business support that the ‘Hobbton Family’ is displaying. We are greatly impressed and appreciative of everyone’s generosity and love for our school and thankful for each expression of support, both large and small.”

Other HMS Booster Club sponsors are: Stephen Hunter’s Construction; Cary Gastroenterology; Smithfield; Pat and Jill Usher; Newton Grove Drug Company; Back Field Farms; Lee Place Farms; Howard and Carr; Mariana Mendible and Andres Fleury; “We Should Know” - J.W. Simmons; Les and Melanie Spell; Diana Smith; and Kwik Stop, Keener.

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ANGELIQUE, cont. from 1

when talking with a student who is battling some of the same emotions I went through. I believe my experience gives me the empathy I need to help my students navigate through their own situations.”

Asked if life has returned to normal, Angelique states, “Normal... Now, that’s an interesting word. Sometimes I think about the way it used to be. I didn’t have a care in the world—it was all but perfect. I’ve learned that perfection is more than meets the eye, and that there really is no such thing.” “I have to remind myself that nearly a year before the cancer was found, I was dying and didn’t even know it. I’ve learned that normal is highly over-rated. All in all, I am happy with my life. It’s not the one I had before, but it’s mine and I’m glad to be here.”

She goes on to say, “My family has had to adjust to our new normal. The effects of chemotherapy are often staring at us in the face, but we will gladly deal with the side effects if it means spending one more day with each other. Some things have become part of our family humor – ‘chemo-brain’ is real - and we just roll with the punches.”

“Getting back to normal has had its challenges,” she adds, “but I try to keep things in perspective. Things that are within my power to steward, I try to steward those things well. Things that are not in my power, I really try not to exhaust energy worrying about them. I am more conscientious about taking care of me, now, even if it means saying, ‘No’, sometimes.”

Asked about her husband and children, Angelique replies, “Thinking about those words, husband and children, just make me beam! Gosh, how I love those people!!”

“I like to think they are happy to have me around. This whole ordeal has made us appreciate each other and not take each other for granted to a whole other level. We genuinely are each other’s best friends. We’re closer now than we’ve ever been.”

“Any part of the journey in my control...? Hmm.” Angelique states, “The only part of the journey within my control outside of the provider chosen was my response to...well, everything. The nurse told me, ‘Attitude is 90%.’ I never lost hope. I figured, certainly, if I could just do the 90, God will show up with the 10...and He has. He has given me the choice to trust Him with the life He has given me...and I do.”

Finally, asked about a reason to give thanks, Angelique Young replies, “When I think about what I’m thankful for this season, I get weepy, because had the cancer not been found, I probably would not be here to share this with you.”

“Life. I’m thankful for life. I’m thankful for you....and that you’ve asked me to share my story in hopes that it will encourage others. I’m thankful for this community who become the hands and feet of Jesus at the drop of a hat when someone is hurting.”

“I know that God has allowed me to stick around for a reason,” Angelique concludes. “I’m thankful for that reason—whatever it may be. I’m thankful that I have a shot at growing old with my husband, to see my children get married and to be there when grandchildren are being born and growing up. I’m thankful that I get to continue to be a part of this awesome adventure called life.”



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THANKSGIVING, cont. from 1



By Sandy Sanderdson

celebrated Thanksgiving at all. So, since the revival of Thanksgiving there has been Thanksgiving football since almost the beginning.

From this first Thanksgiving football game in 1869, football quickly became deeply rooted as a Thanksgiving tradition. Initially, it was college and high school teams that were playing on Thanksgiving Day. From 1876 until 1893, Princeton and Yale played a Thanksgiving Day football game that was huge. It was promoted as the college football championship game. In 1893 the game drew 40,000 fans according to the Princeton alumni publication, an amazing number considering football itself was still in its infancy. These games had a huge part in solidifying the role of football on Thanksgiving Day because, at the time, college football was the most popular brand of football in America and the Ivy League schools dominated college football. For years, many high schools played local championship games or rivalry games on Thanksgiving Day, but this was in the period prior to state playoffs. Now, in most states, high schools are involved

for the Christmas Season.

The ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m. with the reading of the names and the lighting of the trees follows shortly after. The Community Choir, directed by Dwight Williams will perform as part of the ceremony. And Santa will be in town early, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm, taking Christmas wishes.

The following Saturday, December 2nd, at 10 a.m., Newton Grove ushers in the season of parades with its midmorning traditional Christmas Parade. The parade will assemble north of the town circle and proceed south through the circle before exiting on Raleigh Street.

Bands from Midway high school and home town favorite Hobbton high are expected.

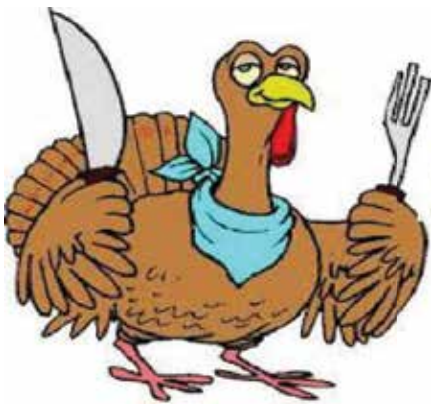
The Newton Grove Christmas parade has traditionally hosted many floats and organizations hoping to help bring merriment to the season. Packed with fire engines, sirens, lights and bells, those in parade seems to have as much fun as those watching.

With Newton Grove hosting the first Christmas parade in Sampson County, it promises to be joyous event packed with lots of fun and hopes for a merry Christmas.

And of course, the biggest attraction, for both kids and adults, Santa will close the parade as is customary; before being whisked away to organize events in other small towns and large across the state.



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in state playoffs during the Thanksgiving holiday and it is not an option to play on that day. However, in certain states where the length of the season is different, some rivalry games are still played on Thanksgiving Day. USA Today did a big feature on these Thanksgiving Day high school rivalry games. Some that still exist have been going on for over a hundred years now.

Pro leagues in the early 20th century were not nearly as popular as they are today. They were also not nearly as popular as high school and college football at the time, but Thanksgiving Day games were a part of those early pro leagues and, in fact, Thanksgiving Day games were a part of the NFL from the time it was founded in 1920. In fact, one of the most famous early NFL games was a Thanksgiving Day game. It matched the Detroit Lions against the defending world champion Chicago Bears on Thanksgiving Day in 1934. The Bears were 11-0 and the Lions were 10-1 entering the game. The Bears edged the Lions that day, 19-16. But what made that game so famous was it was the first game to be broadcast nationwide. This was before the days of television and, in those days, even radio broadcasts had a limited area of transmission. The Lions' owner, George Richards, knew the publicity potential of radio and partnered with NBC radio to partner a 94-station network to broadcast the Lions – Bears game nationwide, marking the first time that a football game was broadcast live nationwide according to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. That game played a big role in increasing the popularity of the game and entrenching it as a Thanksgiving tradition.

NFL Thanksgiving Day games stopped during World War II. And, when the war ended, only Detroit started back playing on Thanksgiving. Detroit has remained a host of an NFL Thanksgiving Day game from that point until today. In 1966 the Dallas Cowboys joined the Detroit Lions as an annual host of a Thanksgiving Day game. In 1966, the NFL was looking to add another game to the schedule on Thanksgiving to try to promote the NFL through television coverage on the holiday. The second game was supposed to rotate among host teams, however, Dallas only agreed to host in 1966 if they could get a similar deal to Detroit in which they would be an annual host. At the time, such games were not a guaranteed success so other NFL teams were not pushing for the same privilege. The teams did not receive nearly the television revenue that they receive today and they were, therefore, reliant upon ticket sales to generate revenue for the games.

Any concerns that the Cowboys had as to whether or not the Dallas area would support a Thanksgiving Day game were put to rest on that very first game in 1966 when, according to writer Ethan Trex, the Cowboys broke the attendance record for a Cowboys game at the time by selling out the Cotton Bowl with more than 80,000 spectators. The NFL Thanksgiving Day games have become such a success that in 2006 the NFL decided to add a third Thanksgiving Day game, so now the Lions and Cowboys continue to host a game each year and the third game is rotated among other NFL teams.

The Thanksgiving Day games are traditionally among the most watched regular season NFL games on TV. The 2016 Thanksgiving game between the Cowboys and the Redskins was the highest rated regular season game ever on Fox, drawing more than 35 million viewers. In recent years, the NFL games on Thanksgiving have become so popular that the halftime shows are broadcast nationwide much like the Super Bowl, making the games even more of an event, not just for traditional NFL fans but also for casual fans.

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We Should Know . . .



Dr. Eric Bracy 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 guest for this week’s show is Dr. Eric Bracy, Superintendent of Sampson County Schools.

Dr. Eric Bracy grew up in the northeastern town of Weldon, NC in Halifax County. His parents were both educators, with his mom teaching for 40 years and his father working in administration for the school system. After high school, Bracy attended NC Central University where he received his BA degree. He then received his Masters from Virginia State University and his ED. D from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Bracy began his career in education as a 4th grade teacher in North Hampton County. Bracy has also been an Assistant Principal and Principal at the elementary level prior to joining the central office at Durham County Schools. His last position before joining Sampson County Schools was Superintendent of North Hampton County Schools where he began his career. Dr. Bracy began leading Sampson County Schools in February of 2014.

JW Simmons begins the show reminding everyone that Dr. Eric Bracy was recently named the NCEA 2017 Superintendent of the Year for North Carolina Public Schools. Dr. Bracy states, “It was an unbelievable honor. There’s 115 superintendents in North Carolina, and to be selected as Superintendent of the Year by the NCEA meant a lot to me.”

“I always tell people that teachers are the backbone of our school system, that’s where the rubber meets the road. And we’re fortunate here in Sampson County to have some of the best teachers that I’ve ever seen. But it was a great honor. There’s a lot of great superintendents in this state, and for me to be selected really meant a lot.”

Dr. Bracy adds, “I accepted the honor by telling everybody that, for me to get recognized means one thing. Great things are happening in Sampson County. We’re proud of our school system. Proud of how its preformed. Last year we were the 18th highest performing school system in North Carolina. We’re so very proud of that, and we’re 18th because of the work of our teachers.”

Next, Simmons says he remembered hearing Dr. Bracy comment that Sampson County Schools’ student success ratio was at 64 or 65%, and that was great, but your heart was with the other 35%.

Dr. Bracy replies, “Yes, we celebrate being 65.9% proficient at grade level, but that other 30 odd percent, we don’t need to forget about them. That’s somebody’s child that is not where we want them to be. So, we’re going to continue to focus on those kids. I’ll not be satisfied, and our board of education will not be satisfied, until all of our kids are at or above grade level.”

Dr. Bracy goes on to say that the school system would not be performing at the level it is without the support of the board of education. “I’m fortunate to work for a wonderfully supportive board of education.”

Simmons next asks Dr. Bracy what it means to a superintendent to work with a board chaired by someone such as Tim Register, who comes from a background of education.

Dr. Bracy replies, “It’s been good. He’s been a great guy for me to bounce things off, and he’s familiar with our school system and how it operates. And he’s familiar with our community. So, he’s been a wonderful partner to me this year.”

Next, Simmons says that teachers, principals and superintendents would all likely make three times their salaries if they worked in the private sector. He asks Dr. Bracy what drives him to do what it is he does.

“Just wanting our kids to be successful,” says Bracy. “Looking towards the future. Our kids in our school system are our future leaders. They’re going to be where I am one day. I’ve had a great life. I’ve sort of lived the American Dream, and I want all of our kids to have this opportunity.”

“My mother told me, a long time ago, that a great education is a great equalizer. And if you have a quality education, you can knock down any barriers that are in front of you. I firmly believe that, and I try to get that same message to our kids.”

“To me,” says Bracy, “it’s never been about the money. It’s always been about making a difference. And certainly, I hope we’re making a difference here in Sampson County. I believe we are.”

JW Simmons next says he wants to ask a question he had asked of Clinton City Schools Dr. Stuart Blount. The question is, does zip code matter when it comes to getting a quality education.

Dr. Bracy replies, “I would say no, because our kids here in Sampson County are getting a quality education. I have no doubts about that.”

“They may not get some of the same electives that students in Wake County get, such as music with violin or string course. But no, zip code does not matter because it’s my responsibility as a superintendent to make sure that our kids get a quality education.”

“And if zip code did matter, then I’m not doing my job. It’s my job as superintendent to make sure there’s a level and equitable playing field across the board. And I always say that the world has gotten smaller due to the internet and being able to take courses virtually verses all face to face. Some of the courses we may not have the numbers to offer face to face, there is always NC Virtual Public School and other tools. Things like proximity learning allow us to bring in elementary Spanish and thing like that. So, no. Zip code does not matter. But if you’re in a rural area it forces superintendents and school boards to be more creative.”

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.



SAMPSON REGIONAL

Welcomes Robert Kastner, MD Cardiologist

Sampson Regional Medical Center is proud to announce the expansion of cardiology services to include a **full-time consulting specialist** for inpatient care!

Through its collaboration with UNC Rex Healthcare, **Dr. Robert Kastner joins Dr. Bill Newman** for inpatient cardiology services at SampsonRMC and outpatient cardiology care at North Carolina Heart & Vascular’s Clinton office.

Dr. Kastner is Board Certified in Cardiovascular Diseases and Internal Medicine and practices as a **general cardiologist** with specialization in consultive cardiology, cardiovascular imaging, and preventive cardiology. He will work closely with admitting physicians, hospitalists, ER physicians, and other specialists to focus on patients in the hospital with cardiac issues.

Dr. Kastner approaches his patients as he would want his family treated. Making patients feel **at ease and well informed** is his goal.



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Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1





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So much to be THANKFUL for this year, but most importantly, YOU!

Thanksgiving is a time to express your gratitude to one another. Showing how happy you are about the people around you or your life in general. Hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving.

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Holiday and Students are out:

November 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	H	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	OW	H	H	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	ER	AL	AL	AL	23
24	H	H	H	AL	AL	30
31						

Legend:

- H Holiday / Students are OUT
- OW Optional Workday / Students are OUT
- W Workday / Students are OUT
- AL Annual Leave / Students are OUT
- FD First Day
- ER Early Release
- LD Last Day
- MS Makeup Saturday





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Ephesians 5:19-20, Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Think back on your life for a moment and ponder the things that have happened to you; both the good and the bad. Think especially about your life over the last year or even the last month. Can you thank God for “everything” you recall?

Paul instructs us to give thanks “for everything.” No matter how serious our problems or how bad the circumstances, he counsels us to find a way to give thanks to God. It’s easy to forget this element of Christianity. German theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “We pray for the big things and forget to give thanks for the ordinary, small and yet really not small gifts.”

THOUGHTS of THANKSGIVING

The Pilgrims had a custom of putting five grains of corn on each empty plate before a dinner of “thanksgiving” was served. This practice reminded them of how for two years the first Pilgrim’s allowance was only

Five Grains of Corn per person each day.
Think about that!

The Pilgrims had little but they did possess gratitude. It was upon this base of genuine gratitude that America was founded and flourished!

Our English word “thanks” comes from our word “think”. So, let’s “think” of five things for which we are “thankful”:

1. FAITH- in God, the joy of worshipping Him.
2. FAMILY- we love and cherish
3. FRIENDS- we hold so dear
4. FREEDOM- we sometimes take for granted
5. FUTURE- that is secure in Christ

Let us take time to look at five grains of corn and tell God, our family, and our friends just how much we love and appreciate them particularly at this Thanksgiving time. Let's go out of our way to remember to "thank" them and our Lord. The results

Possibly, we go throughout our day not thinking about the gifts that God has given to us. When we take a breath, put on our clothes or drive our car, we have so much to be thankful for. Consider those that are connected to oxygen machines to breathe, would they be thankful to breathe on their own? You might complain about not having the newest outfit from a well-known designer, but consider those that have no coat in the barren winter. Maybe you aren't thankful for the vehicle you are driving, but isn't it better than having to ride a bicycle or walk everywhere? It shouldn't take very long to find something to thank God for.

Those who don't give God thanks tend to fall into two categories. Christ addressed one of them when He encountered a young ruler addicted to his wealth. This sort of person rarely prays or gives thanks because his ego keeps him feeling self-satisfied. He doesn't need outside help and all his achievements are his own; so why should he thank God for them? Such an individual struggles with more than giving thanks; Jesus said, "It's more difficult for him to get into heaven than for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle."

Then second type of thankless person is one who feels unfairly afflicted. He believes that God causes his problems,

not himself, human nature or mere coincidence. He blames God for most of what goes wrong in his life, and so he does not give thanks.

Let's strive to avoid becoming like either person. When success or joy comes our way, let's thank God. When loss or suffering enters our lives, let's give thanks for our blessings and for God's promise to work out all things for good. Let's try to maintain an attitude of thanksgiving, as Paul did, who eventually gave his life in service to his heavenly Master. Billy Graham stated, "A spirit of thankfulness is one of the most distinctive marks of a Christian whose heart is attuned to the Lord. Thank God in the midst of trials and every persecution."

This week, I encourage you to wake each day and give thanks to God for His grace, love and mercy. Let us not take what we eat, wear or drive for granted. At any moment we could lose everything we have because of sickness, bankruptcy or unemployment. Take time, not only on the fourth Thursday of November, to thank God for all blessings seen and unseen.



ever-present Heavenly Father

If I should never, as long as I live, receive another blessing, I could still say without reservation, "Thank you, God!"

In the words of the poet,
 “God, you have given me so much, I only ask for
 one thing more, give me a grateful heart.”

“We are so BLESSED, Lord
we love you so much!”



Something To Be Thankful For



What are you thankful for this Thanksgiving season? Do you have a job? Do you have a family? Do you have a car?

Certainly all these things are things we often take for granted and are things to be thankful for. Unfortunately, this is not the situation everyone finds themselves in. Many this year will sit through Thanksgiving enduring economic hardship, family strife and the loss of loved ones.

It is finished!”

If you are a follower of Christ, then your debt is paid. That is not only something to be thankful for, but something to be infinitely thankful for. We could not pay our sin-debt on our own; it took an act of grace. Of course not everyone's debt is paid. Some have rejected Christ, and therefore has chosen not to sit at the table and partake in what God the Father has offered through his son:

As I sat in my office and read some books this week, I read this line that made me think – no matter what our situation is, we all have this to be thankful for. In his book *Chasing Infinity*, Mark Liederbach says, “...while in His full justice, the Father would be completely justified to look upon us as sinful and rebellious creatures and pour out His wrath; incredibly, that is not what happens. Instead, Jesus is there in between us. He holds up his nail-scarred hands before the Father and says, ‘Abba, Daddy, I have paid the price for this one. This one is mine. I drank the cup of your wrath. My blood was poured out to pay the debt in full.

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7 Ways to Plan for Cold and Flu Season



Declining temperatures can bring fun, cool-weather activities, but they also mean cold and flu season is lurking. While everyone hopes to stay healthy, it can be difficult to completely avoid viruses and bugs.

Dr. Deborah Gilboa, a board-certified family physician and Braun spokesperson, offers some simple suggestions to help your family plan for cold and flu season.

Dispose of Expired Medicine

Spend some time checking the medications you already have at home. Review the expiration dates and if any need to be thrown out, research how to properly dispose of them according to local government guidelines.

Stock Up

Before cold and flu season, make sure to stockpile must-haves like ginger ale, ice pops and recommended cough suppressants. Thinking ahead means you won't have to rush out when you or a family member comes down with something.

Practice Healthy Habits

Encourage the entire family to maintain healthy habits such as regular hand washing, following a nutritious diet, drinking plenty of water, and coughing or sneezing into a tissue to help minimize the spread of cold and flu viruses.

Use a Reliable Thermometer

Reading the temperature of a person who feels ill can help provide confidence and peace of mind. Make sure you have a reliable thermometer like the Braun ThermoScan 5 Ear thermometer, which takes professionally accurate temperature readings via the ear canal and, based on a survey, is the number 1 brand recommended by pediatricians who recommend a brand of thermometers.

"It's important to carefully monitor potential illnesses to make sure children get and stay well, and taking an accurate temperature reading is a necessary part of this process, which is why I trust my Braun thermometer," Gilboa said. "As a doctor and a mom to four boys, it gives me the confidence to know that I'm accurately taking my child's temperature before I take any next steps, like administering medication."

Have Important Information on Hand

To save time when your child is ill, keep a reference of your child's allergies, prescribed medications, dosage amounts and current weight handy. Health care providers typically need this information to correctly prescribe and dose most medications. Other items to keep on-hand include school sick day policies, operating manuals for medical devices and a reference of temperature readings that classify a fever.

Manage Humidity Levels

Control your home's humidity levels with a humidifier to help prevent the survival of flu viruses on surfaces and in the air.

Keep Contact Information Accessible

Keep a list of important phone numbers and addresses inside your medicine cabinet door or on the fridge so they're easily accessible to family members, babysitters and caretakers. Include your family doctor or local clinic, schools, pharmacists and anyone else you may need to reach in an emergency.

If cold or flu reach your household this winter, it's always important to consult a doctor if you have any questions regarding the health of your family members. For more information, visit braunthermometers.com.

Pinguecula and Pterygium are not Actors in a Greek Tragedy



=Q

by R. Thomas Barowsky, MD



Many patients complain of growths on the sclera or white part of the eye that seem more pronounced when their eyes are bloodshot. The most common form of these growths is called a pingueculum (pin-GWEK-ulum). These are benign growths on the conjunctiva (thin outer tissue coating of the eye). It looks like a thickened area of tissue and is often cream colored though it may be whitish or slightly pigmented. Typically they do not have blood vessels on their surface but block the blood vessels underneath them from view. If they do have blood vessels then you may have a pterygium (ter-IJ-e-um). A pterygium is a wing shaped growth on the conjunctiva that starts in the corner of your eye and extends onto the cornea.

These growths typically are the result of exposure of the eyes to harsh irritants such as wind, dust, damaging chemicals and ultraviolet rays of the sun. The greater

your exposure to these irritants the greater the risk of developing these growths. For this reason they are far more common in tropical regions than in northern regions due to the increased exposure to the sun's UV rays.

For the most part these growths are symptom free. However, if you do have symptoms they are most likely to be redness, inflammation, irritation, a dry or gritty feeling, itching or burning and/or blurred vision.

Treatment of pinguecula and most pterygia is aimed at relieving the symptoms. A quality artificial tear and cool compresses help greatly. Eliminating the offending irritant by wearing sunglasses with UV filters, a visor or brimmed hat and avoiding the wind by wearing some form of protective eyewear are all helpful. In addition, good ventilation when working around irritating chemical fumes is important. If these things don't help or the symptoms are getting worse then it is important to see your eye doctor for additional treatments or medicines.

Pterygia are a greater threat to vision than the pinguecula. A pterygium may continue to grow onto the surface of the cornea and threaten your vision by blocking the light from entering your eye or distorting the surface of the cornea causing blurred or distorted vision.

Pterygia that distort or block the vision can be treated

with surgery done under a local anesthetic. The surgery involves removing the growth and placing a specially prepared tissue and medication on the eye to help with the healing. Without the use of this tissue and medication, there is better than a 65% chance that the pterygium will return. Using these techniques reduces the chance of the pterygium returning to 10-15%.

Because the pinguecula is small and non-growing it is generally not recommended to remove it, as redness and scarring may be worse than before the surgery. In addition, the pinguecula has a greater chance of developing into a pterygium, which can threaten good vision.

If you are concerned about how a growth on the eye looks or if it should become dark in color or irregular in shape it is best to see your eye care provider for an evaluation. The frequent use of a quality artificial tear to lubricate and moisturize the eye in addition to UV blocking sunglasses is always a good practice when outside and will reduce the chance of ruining a great weekend from sore painful eyes.

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



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ENTERTAINMENT

What's Happening

at SCT



By Angela Martin

Elf Jr. is rehearsing and the more than 50 young people who are ready to present this production are extremely excited about performing for you. This production is one that will get you in the holiday spirit. The production revolves around Buddy the Elf, portrayed by Coleman Simpson, who discovers he is not an elf but in fact a real human. He then sets out to find his actual father who lives in New York City. Buddy's father is Walter Hobbs. Walter is being portrayed by Zachary Lucas. Zack is the son of Kelly and Amy Lucas and is a freshman at Clinton High School. He is a member of the HHS Band and has been a part of SCT for some time now. He last appeared in SCT's production of Les Miserables in the spring. Zachary will take the stage with over 50 other young people when the show opens, December 1. The production of Elf Jr. will be December 1-3 and 8-10 with Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinee beginning at 2:30 pm. The show is being directed by Angela Martin and is sponsored by Performance Dodge/Ford of Clinton.

Our next audition for the first show of the 2018 season will be for Disney's Beauty and the Beast. This musical will take a large group to produce and our director, Linda Carr is looking for actors and actresses from ages 5-and up. Auditions are set as follows: Saturday, November 25 at 10 am, Sunday, November 26 at 1 pm and Wednesday, December 5 at 7 pm. You do not have to attend all three to audition - just choose one of our times.

Show performances will be January 26-28 and February 1-4 with Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinee at 2:30 pm.

If you are interested in becoming a patron of our theatre - we are now taking memberships. For a small fee of \$100 you can become an SCT patron and as a gift you will receive 2 complimentary tickets for each of our 6 productions during the year. Your name or business will also be placed in our program throughout the year. If you are interested please call Brenda Martin, 910-990-4510, Chairwoman of the Sampson Community Theatre for more details.



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Dusty (Mark Wahlberg) and Brad (Will Ferrell) have joined forces to provide their kids with the perfect Christmas. Their newfound partnership is put to the test when Dusty's old-school, macho Dad (Mel Gibson) and Brad's ultra-affectionate and emotional Dad (John Lithgow) arrive just in time to throw the holiday into complete chaos.

Friday 6:30p

Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p

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Rated: PG-13 for sequences of sci-fi violence and action

Fueled by his restored faith in humanity and inspired by Superman's selfless act, Bruce Wayne enlists the help of his newfound ally, Diana Prince, to face an even greater enemy. Together, Batman and Wonder Woman work quickly to find and recruit a team of metahumans to stand against this newly awakened threat. But despite the formation of this unprecedented league of heroes—Batman, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, Cyborg and The Flash—it may already be too late to save the planet from an assault of catastrophic proportions.

Friday 6:30p

Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:30p 7:00p

Mon - Thurs 6:30p Only



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NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG thematic elements

Despite his family's baffling generations-old ban on music, Miguel dreams of becoming an accomplished musician like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz. Desperate to prove his talent, Miguel finds himself in the stunning and colorful Land of the Dead following a mysterious chain of events. Along the way, he meets charming trickster Hector, and together, they set off on an extraordinary journey to unlock the real story behind Miguel's family history.

Friday 6:30p

Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:30p 7:00p

Mon - Thurs 6:30p Only



THE STAR

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG for some thematic elements

A small but brave donkey named Bo yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day he finds the courage to break free, and finally goes on the adventure of his dreams. On his journey, he teams up with Ruth, a lovable sheep who has lost her flock and Dave, a dove with lofty aspirations. Along with three wisecracking camels and some eccentric stable animals, Bo and his new friends follow the Star and become unlikely heroes in the greatest story ever told – the first Christmas.

Friday 6:30p

Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:00p 6:00p 8:00p

Mon - Thurs 6:30p Only



WONDER

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG for thematic elements including bullying, and some mild language

Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he enters the local fifth grade. As his family, his new classmates, and the larger community all struggle to discover their compassion and acceptance, Auggie's extraordinary journey will unite them all and prove you can't blend in when you were born to stand out.

Friday 6:30p

Sat & Sun 2:00p 4:30p 7:00p

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Clinton Dark Horse 2017 Varsity Football Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>SITE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>RECORD</u>
Aug 11th	Sampson Co Jamboree	HOME	7:00		
Aug 18th	Cape Fear Colts	HOME	7:00	L 07 - 13	0-1
Aug 25th	East Bladen Eagles	HOME	7:00	L 16 - 35	0-2
Sept 4th	Northside Monarchs	Away	7:00	L 21 - 25	0-3
Sept 15th	Southern Lee Cavaliers	Away	7:00	W 23 - 00	1-3
Sept 22nd	James Kenan Tigers	Away	7:00	W 49 - 12	2-3
Oct 6th	Midway Raiders	HOME	7:00	W 49 - 00	3-3
Oct 13th	Goldsboro Cougars**	HOME	7:00	W 21 - 06	4-3
Oct 20st	Spring Creek Gators	Away	7:00	W 56 - 00	5-3
Oct 27th	Wallace-Rose Hill Bulldogs	Away	7:00	L 22 - 28	5-4
Nov 3rd	East Duplin Panthers (Senior Night)	HOME	7:00	L 21 - 41	5-5
Nov 10th	First Flight	Away	7:00	W 21 - 15	6-5
Nov 17th	Northeastern	Away	7:00	L 00 - 35	6-6
<i>Home Games in Bold</i>		<i>** Homecoming</i>			



Harrells Crusaders 2017 Varsity Football Schedule

Union Spartans 2017 Varsity Football Schedule



Union Spartans 2017 Varsity Football Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>SITE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>RECORD</u>
Aug 11th	Sampson Co Jamboree	Away	7:00		
Aug 18th	Midway Raiders	Away	7:00	L 00 - 14	0-1
Aug 25th	South Robeson	Away	7:00	W 32 - 06	1-1
Sept 1st	Pender Patriots	HOME	7:00	Cancelled	0-0
Sept 8th	Heidi Trask	Away	7:00	L 06 - 15	1-2
Sept 15th	Jones Senior	Away	7:00	W 64 - 00	2-2
Sept 22nd	Swansboro	HOME	7:00	L 32 - 48	2-3
Oct 6th	Princeton Bulldogs	Away	7:00	L 16 - 34	2-4
Oct 13th	North Duplin	HOME	7:00	L 26 - 27	2-5
Oct 20st	Rosewood	Away	7:00	L 14 - 26	2-6
Oct 27th	Hobbton Wildcats	HOME	7:00	W 53 - 00	3-6
Nov 3rd	Lakewood Leopards	HOME	7:00	L 00 - 28	3-7
Nov 10th	1st Round Playoffs	TBD	TBD	W 00 - 00	0-0
<i>Home Games in Bold</i>		<i>** Homecoming</i>			



Midway Raiders 2017 Varsity Football Schedule



Hobbton Wildcats 2017 Varsity Football Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>SITE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>RECORD</u>
Aug 11th	Sampson Co Jamboree	Away	7:00		
Aug 18th	Goldsboro High	HOME	7:00	L 00 - 56	0-1
Aug 25th	Chatham Central	HOME	7:00	L 14 - 20	0-2
Aug 31st	North Johnston	Away	7:00	L 00 - 48	0-3
Sept 8th	Spring Creek	Away	7:00	L 14 - 36	0-4
Sept 15th	Midway Raiders	HOME	7:00	L 12 - 40	0-5
Sept 29th	Smithfield-Selma	Away	7:00	L 00 - 55	0-6
Oct 13th	Princeton**	HOME	7:00	L 06 - 49	0-7
Oct 20st	Lakewood Leopards	HOME	7:00	L 00 - 48	0-8
Oct 27th	Union Spartans North	Away	7:00	W 00 - 53	0-9
Nov 3rd	Duplin	Away	7:00	L 07 - 42	0-10
Nov 10th	First Round Playoffs	TBD	TBD	W 00 - 00	0-0
<i>Home Games in Bold</i>		<i>** Homecoming</i>			



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MCA's Erynn Sessoms Named Star Athlete of the Week



Mintz Christian Academy's volleyball team finished the 2017 season on a solid note. The Lady Lions finished with an 11-3 record and a second-place finish in the conference and third in the championship tournament.

"I thought we had a great season," said senior captain Erynn Sessoms, who was just one of two seniors on the team (Ashley Hales was the other).

Before falling in that championship game, the Lady Lions were on a 4-game sweep on the road, shutting out Antioch Christian Academy, Columbus Christian Academy, Grace Christian Academy and Scotland Christian Academy - 3-0.

Coach Dan Heinz nominated Sessoms to be this week's Performance Auto/Sampson Weekly Star Athlete of the Week.

"As a coach I look for several key characteristics in an athlete," Heinz explained. "Being coachable, having a strong work ethic and being a good teammate. Erynn embodies all three, plus she adds leadership and integrity."

Heinz said that Sessoms, whom he has coached for the past five years in volleyball and softball, was a key ingredient in his teams' success on the court.

"Erynn is always working to improve," he said. "She was one of the main keys to our very successful volleyball season at Mintz Christian Academy. She did a great job for us as an outside hitter and often dominated other teams with her powerful serve."

When told she had been selected to win the Star Athlete of the Week Award, Sessoms was stunned.

"Coach Heinz did not tell me a thing about it, so this comes as a complete surprise," she said. "I am really honored, and I think that it is awesome that he thought that much of me to even nominate me."

The Sampson County native, who started attending Mintz Christian Academy in her fourth-grade year, said she began playing sports at Mintz in her sixth-grade year.

"I never played recreation ball," she explained. "I was lucky enough to watch my older sister play in middle school and I just loved watching her play (on the volleyball team). Once I got involved, I loved the game; I loved playing it."

By her freshman year of high school, Sessoms was playing softball, volleyball and travel volleyball with LAVA, something that has helped her in her game.

"Playing travel ball has helped my game play," she said. "I've got to play with different coaches and playing against other stronger teams have gotten me stronger as a player."

In addition to her play, Sessoms said that playing volleyball has also earned her many friends.

"I've met a lot of good friends," she said. "Playing travel ball has also helped too. Some of my best friends, that go to different schools are friends of mine, that I wouldn't otherwise have had if it weren't for volleyball."

As good as she is on the volleyball court, she is just as tough on the softball field.

However, a shoulder injury took her out of action two seasons ago. Like the fighter she is, Sessoms kept working hard to get back into action.

"As a softball player Erynn is a consistent shortstop and usually bats in the three spot for us," Coach Dan Heinz said. "She is also an excellent student and a talented singer. MCA is fortunate to have a young lady like Erynn."

Those days at Mintz are numbered.

"I am excited to move on," Sessoms said. "It is going to be different to leave, be away from everybody here and not see everybody every day. It is like a family here; everyone is really close to each other. Not just the student body, but the administration, the staff ... it is truly like a family. I just love it here and I am going to miss everyone so much. That is why I am trying to enjoy my senior year."

Already half-way through her final year of high school, Sessoms admits that walking off the volleyball court earlier this month was a hard pill to swallow.

"I broke down after I walked off the court," she said. "Just knowing it was my final game ... it was really hard and emotional for me. Just knowing that these girls, most of them I had played with since I was little, won't get to play another high school game together ... It was really hard for me."

The straight 'A-B' student said she has plans on attending college.

"I am going to State in the fall," she said. "I want to study business/administration. I would like to work on

the Ag side of it, managing farm accounts and things like that."

When asked if she has plans to play volleyball at the college level, Sessoms said she will most likely focus on her studies.

"I may play club volleyball ... that's a maybe," she admits. "I feel like I am going to be more concerned and concentrated on my studies when I get to college. If there is a way I could do club volleyball, I might do that."

When asked what piece of advice she would give to a younger student coming into high school, Sessoms says to have confidence.

"That is the biggest thing - to have confidence in yourself and in what you can do," she says. "You have to learn what matters - family matters most. You don't have to worry yourself so much about trivial things, just stick to what matters most to you."

What has been an important source of support for Sessoms has been the loving family that has supported her throughout the years.

"I have two older sisters (Hannah and Jessica), whom I've always looked up to; and, of course, my parents (Monte and Lynn)," she explains. "They have always been there for me and have always supported me. I couldn't have done anything without them."

Another important source of support for Sessoms, is her relationship with a higher power.

"God is my cornerstone," she said proudly. "My parents have always taught me about God and that has been the biggest impact on my life. I've been through a lot of struggles and that has brought me closer to Him."

In addition to her family, God, her school, coaches, teammates and friends, Sessoms wanted to thank a few others for all of their support.

"My aunt 'TT' (Tiffany) has been a really big supporter of mine from the beginning and my uncle Chris," she said. "Also my brother-in-law, Spencer, who has been there for me as well."

And, of course, Coach Heinz.

"He has taught me a lot more than volleyball," Sessoms said. "He has taught me how to be a leader on and off the court. He is much more than a coach to me. He is a role model to me and has been a great influence, not just in my life but in so many others. The impact that he has had on so many is just amazing."

Lastly, Sessoms said that she is thankful for her school - Mintz Christian Academy.

"Without being at Mintz, I wouldn't be who I am. The people, the administrators, the coaches, the teachers ... I just wouldn't be the person I am. Throughout my senior year this year, I have looked back on that and realized how truly blessed I have been to be here."

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GO Lakewood Leopards!!

Leopards Headed To Third Round.. Again



*Leopard Team Pumped Up!

For the second consecutive year, the Lakewood Leopard football team will head into the third round of the NCHSAA 1-AA State Championships facing the 11-1 John A. Holmes Aces.

The Leopards earned the spot after beating No. 3 seeded East Carteret 41-40 in a thrilling overtime contest last week in Beaufort.

Lakewood, seeded No. 6 in the East, stunned the Mariners by jumping out to a 19-point lead over East Carteret with just five seconds into the fourth quarter thanks to an impressive performance by Jahdon Smith (40 carries for 285 yards, 4 TDs).

However, despite the impressive play of the Leopards in the first three quarters, the Mariners fought their way back behind quarterback Beau Studebaker (6 touchdowns and 346 yards) and receiver Maceo Donald (2 TDs and 205 receiving yards) by scoring three touchdowns.

It was Studebaker who ran for 13-yards into the end zone for a touchdown with 59 seconds to tie it up at 33 even. A blocked field-goal by the Leopard defense pushed the game into overtime.

In overtime, Studebaker hit Geodan Livingston to put the Mariners 39-33. Cam Harding then hit the 34-yard PAT to put the team up 40-33.

On Lakewood's overtime set of downs, Smith ran in from 10-yards out and then got in on the two-point conversion to send the Leopards into celebration.

Coach James Lewis said that his team knew they were going to be in a 'battle' but thought they had a chance to win.

Lewis also admitted that the game was going to be a 'shootout instead of a shutout' for his defense, who had amassed eight shutouts this season.

This week, the Leopards will face another explosive offense in the John A. Holmes Aces. Last week, the Aces crushed Manteo 43-13.

The Aces, seeded No. 2 in the East, come into the game on a six-game winning streak that features a high-scoring offense, led by running back Keimon Bailey and quarterback Mit-jonta Stanley, that have scored 110 points in only their last two games (verses Perquimans 70-0; vs. Manteo 42-13). In those last six wins, the Aces' offense have outscored their opponents 336-56.

Game time is 7:30 p.m. at John A. Holmes High School, located at 600 Woodard Street in Edenton.

Leaders for Lakewood from the East Carteret game were:

Rushing:

Jahdon Smith, 40 for 285 yards, 4 TDs; Jameek Johnson, 11 for 73 yards; and Cameron Sessoms 4 for 8.

Passing:

Haden Carter 4 of 9 for 87 yards.

Receiving:

Dylan Ivey, 1 for 18, 1 TD; Shemar Tucker, 1 for 15, 1 TD; Bryce Tanner, 1 for 50; Jahdon Smith, 1 for 14, 1 TD.

Tackles:

Dylan Ivey, 6; Jawaun Johnson, 5; Andre Rich, 4; Shemar Tucker, 3, 1 INT; Jaylen Torres, 5; Luke Brewer, 6; Tristan Holmes, 6; Jaylin Avery, 5.

Dark Horses Ousted By Eagles In Playoffs



The Clinton High School Varsity Dark Horse football season came to a close last Friday night in the second round of the North Carolina state 2A playoffs as the Horses were defeated 35-0 by the Northeastern Eagles of Elizabeth City N.C. The Horses took the three-hour, 180-mile road trip to Elizabeth City in Pasquotank County to face the #1 seed undefeated Eagles on a chilly November evening. It was all Eagles as the sputtering Dark Horse offense was led by junior Jalen Smith with 48 yards on 16 carries and senior safety and quarterback Kris Williams led the defense with 11 tackles. Senior Trey Warren also assisted with 7 tackles for the Horses.

The game began with the Horses kicking off to the Eagles and Northeastern starting on their own 22- yard line. After several first downs, Dark Horse senior corner back DeWan Lesane came up with an interception and Clinton had the ball on the 47-yard line. The Horses had their first three and out and senior Chandler Perry was forced to punt. After a good punt, the Eagles had the ball on their own 17 yard line. Northeastern moved the ball up to around midfield and the Eagle quarterback hit a wide open receiver for a score that was called back on a holding penalty. Clinton was able to hold on downs and take over on their own 27-yard line. After another three and out, Perry punted again to the Eagles. Northeastern had the ball on their own 30-yard line and began to march. The Eagles moved the ball all the way to the Dark Horse 20-yard line as the first quarter came to an end with the teams deadlocked at 0-0.

On the second play of the quarter, the Eagles were in the end zone and with the point after conversion it was a Northeastern 7-0 lead with 11:16 left in the half. Clinton had another three and out on the next possession and the Eagles had the ball back again on their own 37-yard line. Northeastern scored quickly and with another point after conversion it was 14-0 in favor of the Eagles with still 4:53 left in the half. Both teams moved the ball on their next possessions and the clock expired with the teams going to intermission with the score being 14-0 in favor of Northeastern.

The third quarter started with Clinton getting the ball first and had their best march of the game and took the ball down to the one-yard line. After several plays and a costly Dark Horse penalty, the Eagles took over again. It took Northeastern only a couple plays when their star running back took it 90 yards for a score and it was 21-0 in favor of the Eagles. The Horses had another three and out on their next possession and punted to Northeastern. The Eagles started a march as the third quarter ended and the Eagles holding on to the 21-0 lead.

The fourth quarter was also all Eagles as they passed for a long touchdown and put together a long time-consuming drive for their fifth score and a 35-0 advantage. Clinton turned the ball over on downs on their next possession and Northeastern had the ball. The Eagles pulled most of the starters and ran out the clock as they moved into the third round of the 2A playoffs to face a good Wallace Rose Hill team in Elizabeth City next Friday night. Clinton ended the 2017 season with a 6-6 overall mark and they were 4-2 in the tough Eastern Conference. Head coach Bob Lewis and his staff want to thank all of the Dark Horse supporters that followed them this season.

U8 Wins Championship



The U8 Team Barcelona Fall 2017 soccer team with Coach Miguel Ortiz and Assistant Coach Octavio Martinez won the Clinton Parks & Recreation Soccer Championship. According to the coach, "We are happy to say that we had a great team and all the children learned a lot in so little time. Parents were very happy too. Thank you to the parents as well for taking their children to every practice. Thank You Brinson Law for sponsoring the Team."

Pictured: Players- Kevin Luna, Arianna Ortiz, Brandon Martinez, Alexander Martinez, Allyson Velazquez, Donna Neri, Yandel Salvador, Camden Holloman, Xavi Guzman, Santiago Valbuena, Luke Byrd, Kevin I. Díaz, Logan Darden.



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EDUCATION

DPI Recognizes Sampson County Schools For Academic Growth

This year the Department of Public Instruction is recognizing schools for graduation and growth. This is the first year DPI is presenting awards for achieving and exceeding academic growth. Whether for academic growth or graduation rate, these certificates represent an impressive amount of hard work by students and educators for the 2016-2017 school year. The Sampson County School Board recognized the following schools on Monday night: For exceeding academic growth expectations for students during the 2016-17 school year: Hargrove Elementary School, Hobbton High School, Clement Elementary School, Midway Elementary School, Plain View, Midway Middle School, Midway HS, Roseboro Elementary School, Salemburg Elementary School, Roseboro-Salemburg Middle School, Lakewood High School, Union Elementary School, Union Middle School, Union High School, Sampson Early College High School.

For achieving an Outstanding Graduation Rate of 97.6%:
Sampson Early College HS



Local Students Recognized For Artwork

At the Sampson County School Board meeting on Monday, the board recognized two students for their artwork. Hargrove Elementary School - Cullen Gautier's artwork was selected by the Sampson County School Board to represent Sampson County Schools in the NC School Board Association K-2 Poster Contest, Titled "What's Super About Public Schools?"

Hobbton Elementary School - Suzanne Williford's artwork was selected by the Sampson County Schools Board to represent Sampson County Schools in the NC School Board Association 3-5 Poster Contest, titled "What's Super About Public Schools?" Suzanne placed 1st place in her category.



SCC's Tunnel of Thanksgiving



As Thanksgiving approaches, the Student Government Association at SCC extended an opportunity for students, faculty and staff to acknowledge what it is that they are thankful for. Paper turkeys were placed in each division for participants to write their names and what they are thankful for. The turkeys were then placed in the two tunnels that connect the North Building to the Kitchen Building and the Kitchen Building to the Warren Student Center to create a visual display of thanksgivings..

Veterans Day at Union Elementary School



On November 9, Master Sergeant Earl E. Spell, NCARNG, Retired visited Mrs. Amy Bass' class at Union Elementary to talk about Veteran's Day. During his visit, he shared with the class the different jobs he held while in the Army National Guard, the hard work and discipline required to serve in the military and the importance of getting an education. Master Sergeant Spell emphasized the importance of the flag and the respect it should be given. Thank you Master Sergeant Spell for your years of service in helping to protect our nation!!!

SCC Students Tour Smithfield

The Swine Production class at SCC had a rare opportunity Wednesday to tour the Smithfield Plant in Clinton (formerly Lundy's). The students were provided some general knowledge of the company and given a complete tour of the facility by company representatives. The students were able to understand and see how pork goes from the farm to the fork. Smithfield is the world's largest pork processor and hog producer, and the Clinton facility is a vital contributor to our county employing over 1800 workers. Front row left to right are; Juan Nunez, Virginia Reyes and Tijuan Campbell. Back row left to right are; Cody Kamp, Landon Pope, Payton O'Quinn and Frankie Serrano. For more information on the Animal Science program please email cbass@sampsoncc.edu.



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2017

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Schedule of Events

- 5:30pm Clinton Community Christmas Tree Lighting**
Park behind the City Market - 215 Lisbon Street
- 5:30-8:00pm Gingerbread Decorating Activity** (free to the public)-104 E. Main St.
- 6:00-8:00pm Kiwanis Secret Christmas Shop** (where kids shop for grown-ups)
First Floor of the Sampson County Courthouse. Gifts from \$2-\$10
- 5:30-8:30pm Train Rides** - on the Courthouse Square
- 5:30-8:30pm Home for the Holidays at the Sampson County History Museum** -
313 Lisbon Street (free to the public) with Music and Holiday Decorations
- 5:30-8:30pm Live Christmas Music** - Sampson County Courthouse
- 5:30-8:30 pm Carriage Rides** - (\$15 per person/reservations required)
For reservations call Betty Holland at (910) 299-4904
- 5:30-8:30 pm Hay Rides by Hubb's Farm & Kyle's Farm**
(\$3 per person) City Market - 215 Lisbon Street
- 5:30-8:00 pm - Southern Smoke food truck at the Clinton City Market** -
215 Lisbon Street
- 5:30-7:00 pm Candlelight Tours**
with Lessons and Carols at 7:00 pm St. Paul's Episcopal Church - 110 W. Main Street

The Clinton Main Street Program brings this event to you in partnership with the Clinton Kiwanis Club, the Sampson County History Museum, the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce, the Sampson County Arts Council, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

PUZZLES & GAMES

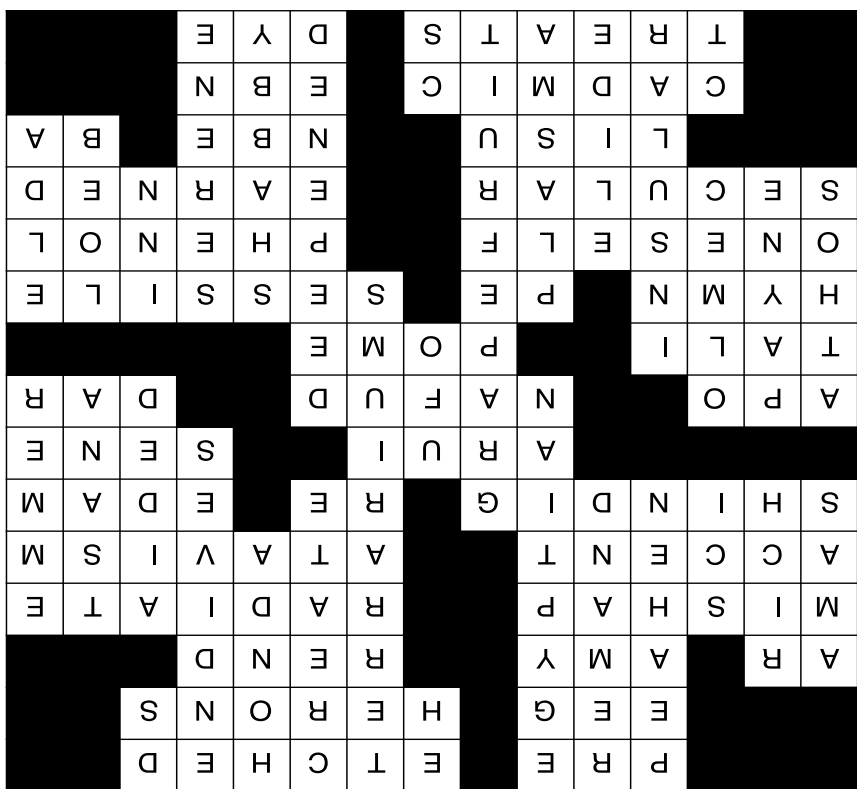
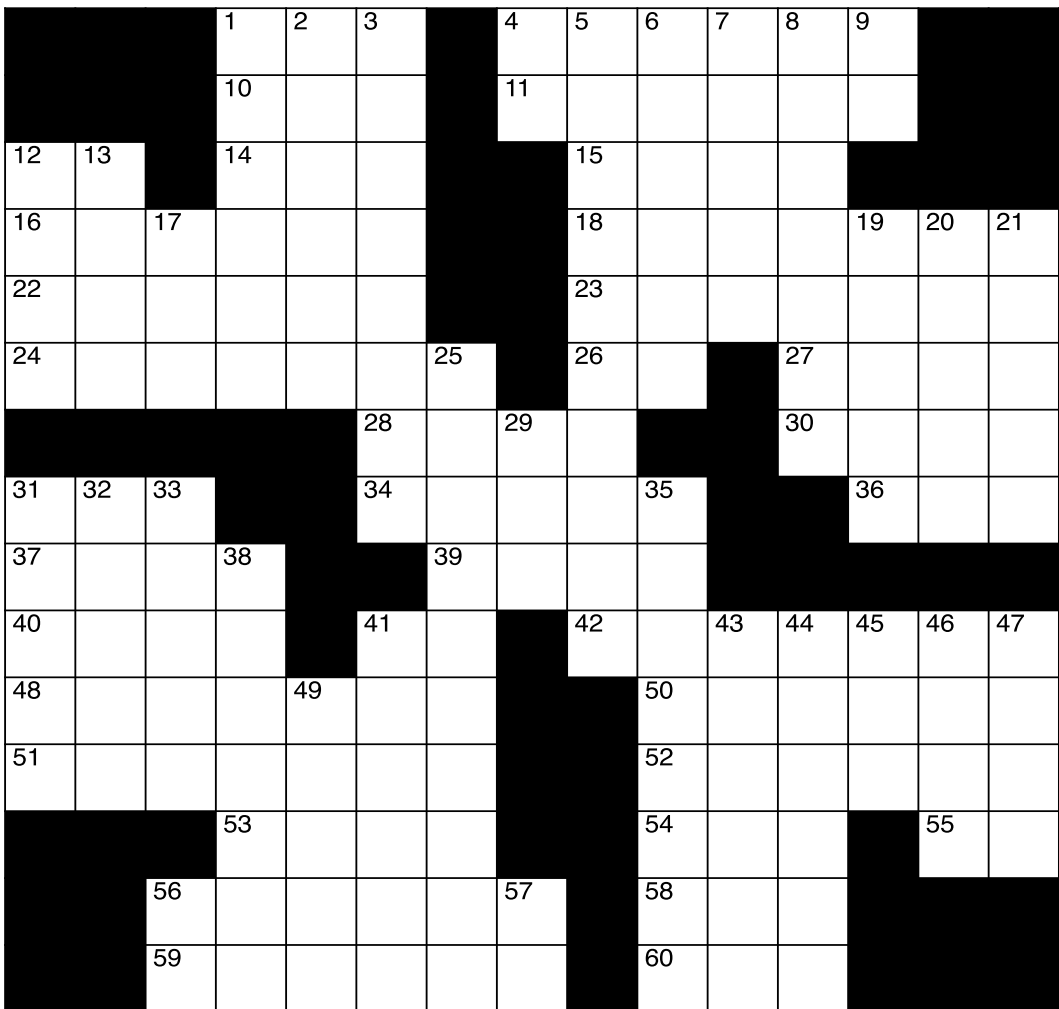
Crossword Puzzle

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Indicates before
- 4. Printed from a plate
- 10. Brain activity test
- 11. Wading birds
- 12. Atomic #18
- 14. Writer Tan
- 15. Tear
- 16. An unfortunate accident
- 18. Send out rays
- 22. Emphasize
- 23. Genetic throwback
- 24. A large and noisy party
- 26. With reference to
- 27. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- 28. Aoudad
- 30. 100 = 1 tala in W. Samoa
- 31. Military mailbox
- 34. No. Saudi Arabian desert
- 36. Constitution Hall is HQ
- 37. Scree (plural)
- 39. Apple, pear, quince
- 40. Religious song
- 41. 17th Hebrew letter
- 42. Attached at the base
- 48. Reflexive form of one
- 50. Carboic acid
- 51. Worldly rather than spiritual
- 52. Worked for income
- 53. A Loloish language
- 54. One point E (clockwise) of due N
- 55. Common college degree
- 56. Of cadmium
- 58. East by north
- 59. Delightful surprises
- 60. Color

CLUES DOWN

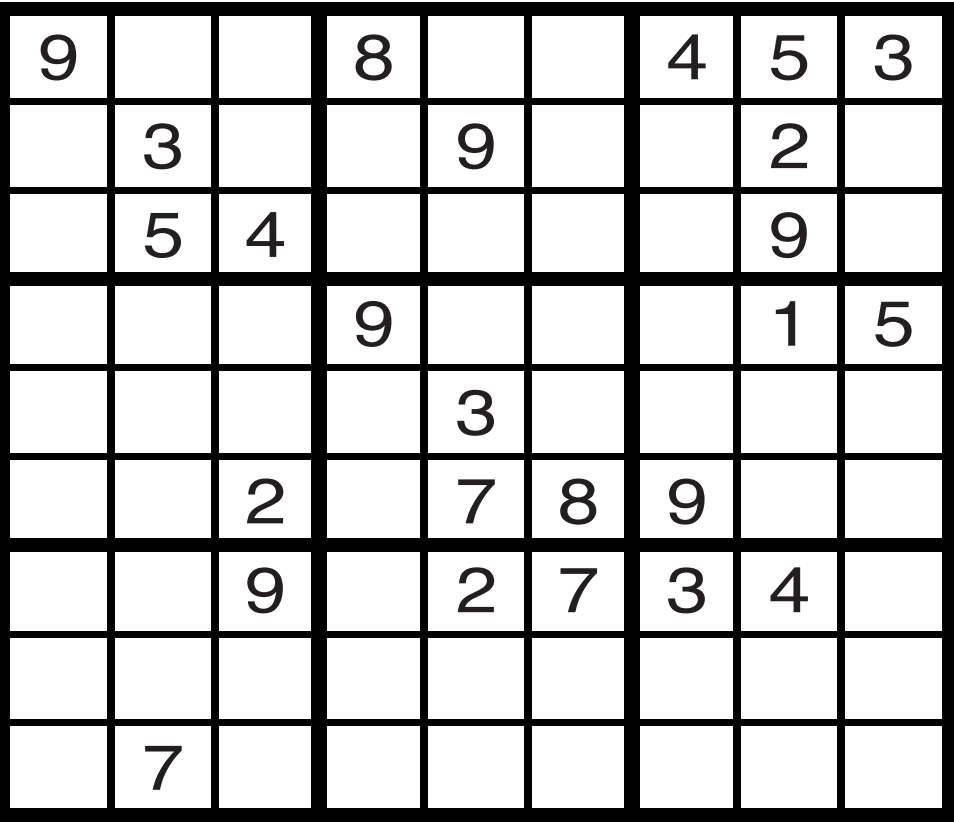
- 1. Female peafowl
- 2. Return to custody
- 3. Citizen of Cairo
- 4. What was that?
- 5. Gardens in fishbowls
- 6. Cause to be or to become
- 7. Civic or Accord
- 8. Chicories
- 9. Set of data
- 12. Fan-based music awards
- 13. Wealthy
- 17. ___-fi: "Star Trek" genre
- 19. Helped
- 20. Blue Nile source (alt. sp.)
- 21. Starch wheat
- 25. Breakfast citrus
- 29. Flying saucer
- 31. Monastic Republic Mount
- 32. "Miracle on 34th Street" actor John
- 33. Ancient C. American people
- 35. Dug lower
- 38. Restricted in outlook
- 41. Liquid body substance
- 43. Ragged
- 44. Unagitated
- 45. Hostelry
- 46. Leopold's crime partner
- 47. Spanish footwear museum city
- 49. Slur over in pronunciations
- 56. Constitution state
- 57. Atomic #55



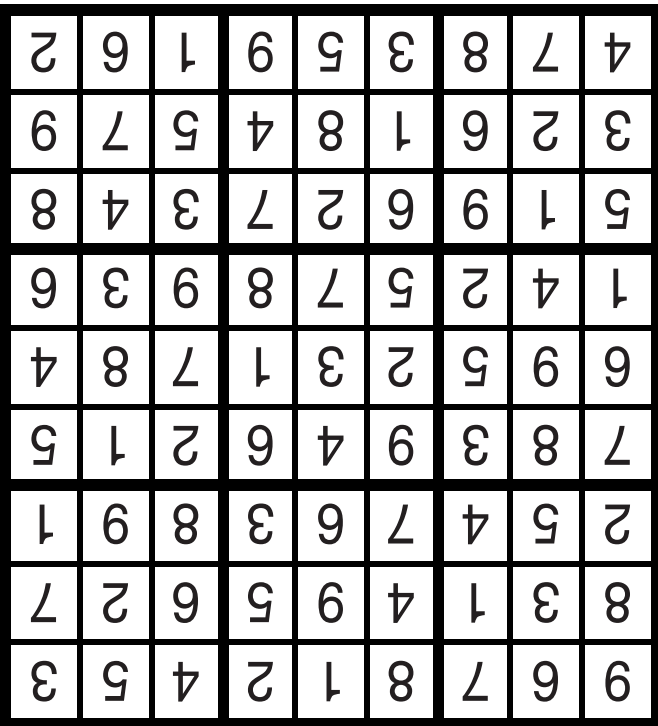
SUDOKU

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!



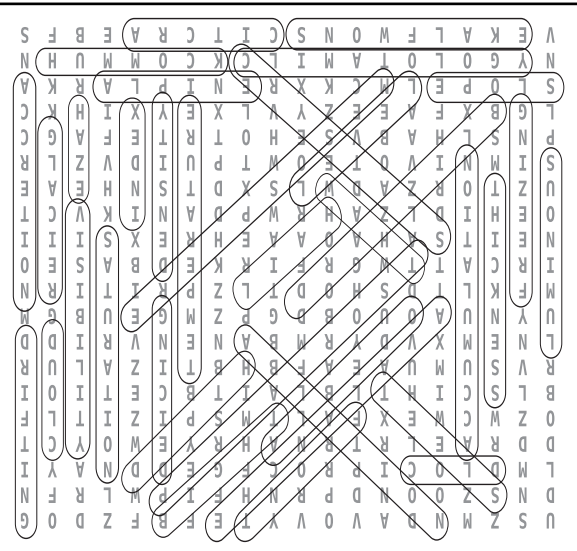
SNOWY WEATHER WORD SEARCH



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

WORDS

- ABLATION
- ACCRETION
- ACCUMULATION
- ALBEDO
- ALPINE
- ARCTIC
- AVAILANCE
- BIGHT
- BLIZZARD
- CLIMATOLOGY
- CLOUD
- COLD
- CRYSTALS
- DEICING
- DENSITY
- DEPTH
- DRIFTING
- FREEZING
- FRONT
- GLACIER
- HAIL
- HAZE
- HUMMOCK
- INDEX
- LEVEL
- LUMINOUS
- MESOSPHERE
- PERMAFROST
- SATURATION
- SLEET
- SLOPE
- SNOWFLAKE
- TEMPERATURE
- THAW
- THICKNESS
- VISIBILITY



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OBITUARIES

CLINTON

Sharon Barber, 60, of 1705 Pope Road, passed away Thursday, November 16, 2017 at her home. A funeral service was held at 3 P.M., Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church with Rev. E. C. Mattocks and Rev. Bill Cotton officiating. Interment followed in the Barber Family Cemetery.

The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Sharon, born October 9, 1957 in Sampson County, was the daughter of the late Don Willam "Shorty" Byrd and Ethel Jane Smith Byrd. She was a Registered Nurse and a member of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. Survivors include; her husband of thirty-one years, Rusty Barber; two step-sons, Ray Thompson and wife Michelle and Richard O'Donnel and wife Lynn; sisters, Angela B. Matthis, Missy Jackson and husband Tim; sister-in-law, Lillie Barber, Dorothy King and husband Doug, and Gracie Moore and husband Henry; four grandchildren, Katelyn, Harrison, Bryton and Dillon; special friend, Kay Pope; and several nieces and nephews. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.crumpler-honeycutt.com.

EASTOVER

Mrs. Reba Smith Bullard, 77 passed away Friday, November 17, 2017 at her home surrounded by her family. Funeral services were held at 2:00pm Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at Beaver Dam Baptist Church, officiating was Rev. David Beck and Rev. Melinda Ivey. Burial followed in the church cemetery. The family received friends from 6:00pm to 8:00pm Monday, November 20, 2017 at the funeral home. She is preceded in death by her father, Otis Smith; mother, Alice Baxley Smith Sessoms; step-father, Julian Sessoms; brother, Hubert Sessoms and sister, Clara Capps. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister and friend. Reba loved her family with all of her heart, and was a big supporter of the March of Dimes and preventing birth defects in children. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Charles "Cicero" Bullard; daughter, Charleen Bullard Wallace & husband, Len; son, Kevin Craig Bullard & fiancé, Annee Pfaff; grandsons, Brandon Bain & wife, Courtney, Michael Wallace and Bradley Wallace; great grandson, Owen Bain; and sisters, Julia Sessoms, Virginia Fann & husband, Kenneth, Trudy Miller and Brenda Spell. In lieu of flowers, memorials in her name may be made to Salem United Methodist Church, 2165 Middle Road, Eastover, NC 28312, Kipling United Methodist Church, 55 Kipling Church Road, Kipling, NC 27543 or to Beaver Dam Baptist Church, 4693 Beaver Dam Church Road, Roseboro, NC 28382. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman.

GARLAND

Chester Cain 61 of Triple H Lane passed away on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at Cape Fear Valley Hospital in Fayetteville. A Memorial service was held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at the home of Hugh and Cathy Horrell at 88 Triple H Lane, Garland with Pastor Robert Wingo officiating.

FAYETTEVILLE

Mrs. Edna Joyce Carter, 71 passed away Thursday, November 16, 2017 at her home. Graveside services were held at 1:00pm Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery in Fayetteville. She is preceded in death by her parents, John E. Cannady and Dorothy Averitte Cannady; brothers, John E. Cannady, Jr. and David Cannady; and sisters, Ruth Bridges and Martha E. Bryant. She is survived by her husband, William Duncan Carter; daughter, Mary Jackson & husband, Richard; son, William Anthony "Andy" Carter & wife, Martha; grandchildren, Kirsten Carter, Michael Silvey, III and Joshua Silvey; great grandchildren, Zachary, Levi, Adley and Athena; brother, Roger Cannady and sister, Juanita Smith. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman.

GARLAND

Mr. Frank M. Dabbs Jr. 88 of 3761 Lamb Rd., died Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Mary Gran Nursing Center in Clinton, NC. Mr. Dabbs was born in Anson Co., NC the son of the late Frank Dabbs Sr. & Suzzie Presley. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Ellon Louise Dabbs, two grandchildren, Wayne Dabbs & Kevin Wallace. Funeral service was held at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at Garland Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church, by the Reverend Jeff Hayes and Reverend Dewey Ball. Burial will follow in the Garland Cemetery. Mr. Dabbs is survived by his wife, Alice Dabbs, two daughters, Gladys Dabbs, Brenda Wallace both of Garland, one son, Bobby Dabbs of Roseboro, one sister, Annie Bell Tyndall of Garland, 5 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren. The family received friends on Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at the church from 1:00PM.-2:00P.M. before the service, and other times at the home.

CLINTON

Mrs. Jannie Bell Sampson Fennell, 74, of 995 West Main Street, Clinton, passed away Wednesday at Wayne Memorial

Hospital, Goldsboro, NC. The funeral service was held at 2 p.m., Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at Union Star Original Freewill Baptist Church with Rev. John T. Oliver officiating. Burial in Sandhill Cemetery, Clinton, NC. Mrs. Fennell is survived by her BROTHERS-Larry D. Sampson, Sr. and Anthony C Sampson both of Clinton, NC. Visitation at the Funeral Home Monday, November 20, 2017 Public: 2pm - 6pm, Family: 5pm - 6pm.

CLINTON

Mr. James L. "Jim" McGuirt, 64, of 307 Fox Lake Drive, went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Wednesday evening, November 15, 2017 with his loving family by his side. Funeral Services will be held on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 2:00 pm at Salemburg Baptist Church, 300 NE Main Street with Rev. Brenten McGuirt and Pastor John Adams officiating. Burial will follow in the Clinton Cemetery. Born on October 8, 1953, Jim was the son of the late Wilson Thomas and Ina Williams McGuirt. He was a graduate of Campbell College and a Sales Representative for Monroe Hardware Co. for forty-two years. He was owner of Royal Trustworthy Hardware of Salemburg for twenty-one years and part-owner of Sampson Farmers Hardware of Clinton. Jim served as President of Clinton and Lumberton Lions Club for three years. He was a member of Sampson Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees and served as Chairman on the Board of Sampson County Department of Social Services and Asst. Scout Master of Troops 277 and 27. He also served as an Elder and Deacon of Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church and was currently a Deacon of Salemburg Baptist Church, where he and his wife were members. Jim was a faithful follower of Jesus Christ, who loved his family, friends and church. Jim's life verse was Ephesians 2: 8-10, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Jim is survived by his wife of forty years, Pamela Robinson McGuirt; three sons: Brenten James McGuirt (Dana), Jared Thomas McGuirt (Brooke), and Jason Charles McGuirt (Brittany); two brothers: William Frederick McGuirt (Kay) and Thomas McGuirt (Vicki). Jim was also blessed with seven grandchildren: Rachel, Rebekah, Bethany, Aletheia, Inman, Maisie, Saylor and another granddaughter expected to arrive in 2018. The family will receive friends on Saturday, November 18 from 6-8 pm at Royal-Hall Funeral Home; and other times at their home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the James L. McGuirt Endowment Scholarship, which provides a college scholarship to a member of the Clinton High School Football Team, by mailing to: Pam McGuirt at 307 Fox Lake Dr., Clinton, NC 28328. Condolences may be sent by visiting www.royalhallfuneralhome.com. Royal-Hall is honored to serve the McGuirt Family.

CLINTON

Ms. Lisa Tujetta Peterson, 60, 810 Sampson Street, Clinton, NC transitioned Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at UNC Hospitals, Chapel Hill, NC. The funeral service was held at 12pm, Thursday, November 16, 2017 at New Life Outreach Ministries, Clinton, NC with Rev. Dr. Louie Boykin officiating. Burial in the Sandhill Cemetery, Clinton, NC. Ms. Peterson is survived by her MOTHER-Catherine Faison of the home; SONS-Darren Shelby Parker of Clinton, NC, Tony Restreto of Englewood, NJ; SISTERS-Abbregail Pope of Englewood, NJ and Carolyn Peterson of Waldorf, MD; BROTHERS-James Jackson of Clinton, NC, Charles Darren Faison of Atlanta, GA; GRANDCHILD-Skye Parker. Visitation at Worley Funeral Home on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, Public 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.; Family 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Your thoughtful tributes for the loss of our loved one will always be remembered. We are deeply grateful. Thank You! The Family

GARLAND

Mrs. Mildred Shipp Rich 90 of 1745 Lamb Rd. Garland, NC, died Friday November 17, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center in Clinton, NC. She was born April 03, 1927 to the late Banard and Addie Mae Shipp. Mrs. Rich was a homemaker and a member of the Garland PFWB Church. She was preceded in death by her husband of 71 ½ years, Walter Eddis Rich, sisters, Virginia S. Bailey, Geraldine Armistead, infant twin sisters, Mary Elizabeth Shipp and infant sister, Norma Rae Shipp. Funeral service was held at 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at Garland Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church, by the Reverend Jeff Hayes & Reverend Dewey Ball officiating. Burial followed in the Garland Cemetery. Mrs. Rich is survived by two daughters, Viola Marshall (Bobby), Elaine Carroll (Elworth), son, E.C. Rich (Connie) all of Garland, one brothers, W.B. Shipp of Clinton, 6 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren. A visitation was held on Sunday, November 19, 2017 from 3:00P.M.-5:00P.M. at Carter Funeral Home and other times at home.

NEWTON GROVE

Mr. Everett L. "Jim" Summerlin, 85, of Newton Grove, passed away on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at his home surrounded by family. Mr. E.L. "Jim" Summerlin was a farmer, a volunteer fireman of The Bentonville Fire Department, worked at C.W. Flowers store for about 18 years and was also a member of the N.C. Historical Archives Division of

Bentonville for 30 years. A graveside service was held on Friday, November 17, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at Mill Creek Christian Church Cemetery. Officiating the service was Rev. Jerry Burton. The family received friends at Mill Creek Church from 2 to 3 p.m. prior to the graveside service. Mr. Summerlin is survived by his wife of 65 years, Hilda Summerlin; sons, Ned Summerlin of Four Oaks, Randy Summerlin & wife Teresa of Sneads Ferry, Billy Summerlin & wife Dana of Pine Level; daughters, Jackie Summerlin of Four Oaks & Ann Summerlin of Newton Grove; grandchildren Deanna, Joshua, Nedda, Laura, Heather, & Olivia & great grandchildren, Phoenix, Kelly & Kayla. Condolences may be made at www.westanddunn.com. Services entrusted to West & Dunn Funeral Home of Newton Grove, North Carolina.

CLINTON

Mr. Donald Ray Underwood 65 of 2322 Old US 701 Hwy. Clinton, NC, died Saturday, November 11, 2017 at his residence. Mr. Underwood was born May 16, 1952 in Sampson Co. He was retired Sergeant from the U.S. Army. He was preceded in death by his father James Vann. Funeral service was held at 1:00P.M. Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Little Piney Grove Baptist Church, 1285 Bell Woods Rd., Clinton, NC., by the Reverend Gean Boykin. Burial followed in the church cemetery with full military honors. Mr. Underwood is survived by his wife, Linda Underwood, three step-sons, Shawe Williams, Gilbert Hall, Charles Knott, mother, Hazel Underwood, one sister, Golisten Owens. A public viewing was held on Friday, November 17, 2017 from 1:00pm-6:00p.m. at Carter Funeral Home in Garland.

ROCKY MOUNT VA

Mrs. Allena M. Williams, 82, of Rocky Mount, VA passed away on Wednesday in her home. The graveside service was held at 12 p.m., Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at Kornegay Cemetery, Newton Grove, NC with Apostle Marcus Becton officiating. Mrs. Williams is survived by her HUSBAND-James C. Williams, Sr. of the home; DAUGHTER-Denise Nelson of Washington, DC, Pamela Wright of Danville, VA; SONS-James C. Williams, Jr. of Durham, NC, Ronnie McGhee of Temple Hills, MD Dwayne Fralin of Rocky Mount, VA; SISTER-Margaret Board of Rocky Mount, VA; BROTHERS-McArthur McGhee, Clarence McGhee and Curtis McGhee both of Rocky Mount, VA; 7 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

STEDMAN

Mrs. Ruth Elaine Blount Baugh, 76 passed away Thursday, November 16, 2017 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville. Funeral service was held at 1:00pm Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at Butler Funeral Home Chapel, officiating will be Rev. Bryan Strickland. Burial followed at Proctor Cemetery in Parkton. The family will receive friends from 12:00pm to 12:45pm Wednesday at the funeral home before the service. She is preceded in death by her parents, William H. Blount and Rena Nunnery Blount; and a daughter, Cynthia Pierce. She is survived by her son, Roy Stalnaker of Stedman; brother, Bobby Blount of Lillington; grandson, Larry Stalnaker of Stedman; and granddaughters, Paige Stalnaker of Stedman and Amber Pierce of Arizona. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman.

ROSE HILL

John Casper "J.C." Heyer, 81, of Rose Hill left this earthly life for his eternal rest on Friday, November 17, 2017. He was born on June 3, 1936 in Duplin County, NC and was the only son of the late John Edward and Lena Kilpatrick Heyer. He was also predeceased by his sister, Betty H. Greenway. Mr. Heyer served his country honorable in the US Air Force and was a member of Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church. Surviving to cherish his memory is his devoted wife of 51 years, Ruby Rogers Heyer of the home; step children, Eugene Baker (Linda Kraulik) of Rose Hill, Keith Baker of Tallahassee, Florida and Bobby Baker (Teresa) of Thonotosassa, Florida; several step grandchildren and great grandchildren; sisters, Margaret Torrans of Rose Hill, Frances Bostic (Milton) of Fayetteville and Barbara Eason of Maury and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family that loved J.C. dearly. J.C. was a good husband and caring step father and brother who loved his family. He worked at J.P. Stevens until it closed and he retired. He was a simple man who grew up knowing how to work hard to provide for his family. Being an outdoorsman J.C. loved working outside in the blueberry fields. He was kind but a determined man who knew what he wanted and didn't want. J.C. will surely be missed but treasured memories will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. At J.C.'s request, there are no services planned at this time.

GARLAND

Mrs. Effie J. Storms 90 15957 US Hwy. 701 N. Garland, NC, died Sunday, November 19, 2017 at her residence. Arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Carter Funeral Home in Garland.

FAYETTEVILLE

Billy Ray West, November 16, 1951 ~ November 16, 2017, Age -66, 417 Sedgemoor Rd, Fayetteville, NC died Thursday, November 16, 2017. Funeral arrangements are incomplete. Butler & Son Funeral Home, Inc. Roseboro, NC

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

Arrest Reports

11-16 Scott David Beaudreau, 54; 2405 Butler Island Rd., Roseboro; Order for Arrest- Simple Worthless Check; Order for Arrest- Failure to Comply; Court Date 11-21

11-16 Eric Jermaine Middleton, 43; 195 W Faison Ave., Turkey; Order for Arrest- Larceny; Order for Arrest-Possess Stolen Goods/Property; Secured Bond \$1,600; Court Date 12-12

11-16 Jimmy Ernest Lee, 52; 3192 Harnett-Dunn Hwy., Newton Grove; DV Protective Order Violation; No Bond; Court Date 12-12

11-16 Jaequan Glennis Stevens, 20; 7045 Faison Hwy., Faison; Violation Domestic Violence Order; Secured Bond \$10,000; Court Date 12-05

11-16 Dalton Colt Smith, 25; 305 Puryear Lane, Dunn; Communicating Threats; Unauthorized Use of Conveyance; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court

Date 12-12

11-18 Leon Taylor Jr., 46; 101 Nutmeg Lane Lot C, Clinton; 2 Counts: Possession of Firearm by Felon; Possession Weapon Mass Destruction; 15 Counts: Cruelty to Animals; Unsecured Bond \$32,000; Court Date 12-12

11-18 Daniel Scott Fitzpatrick, 34; 106 W Turlington St., Salemburg; Failure to Appear- DWLR Not Impaired Rev; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 12-12

11-18 Megan Elizabeth Smith, 28; 40 Diana Lane, Salemburg; Failure to Appear- Failure to Comply; Court Date 12-14

11-18 Derrell Joshua Smith, 28; 104 Church St., Salemburg; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 01-19

11-18 Jamie Robert Gibbons, 29; 1355 Horseshoe Rd., Autryville; Failure to Appear- Possession of Firearm by Felony; Unsecured Bond \$25,000; Court

Date 12-12

11-18 Marcos Marroquin Hernandez, 41; 139 Ortiz Lane, Roseboro; DWI; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 1-17

11-18 Arturo Garcia-Sanchez, 44; 4678 Corinth Church Rd., Salemburg; Failure to Appear- DWLR; Secured Bond \$200; Court Date 11-30

11-19 Christy Owens Simmons, 36; 71 Love of Kids Lane, Roseboro; Failure to Appear- No Operators License; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 11-30

11-19 Johnny Brandon Pope, 35; 386 Lucas Rd., Roseboro; 5 Counts: Failure to Appear- DWLR Not Impaired Revoke; Failure to Appear- Possess Marijuana up to ½ ounce; Failure to Appear- Possess Marijuana Paraphernalia; Failure to Appear-Fail Stop Sign/ Flash Red light; 2 Counts: Failure to Appear- Misdemeanor Flee to Elude; 3 Counts: Failure to Appear- Reckless Driving to Endanger; 3 Counts: Failure to Appear- Operate Vehicle No Insurance;

Failure to Appear- Drive Motor Vehicle No Insurance; Secured Bond \$18,500; Court Date 12-12

11-19 Erika Green Archie, 47; 60 Dry Brook Circle, Apt 201, Aberdeen; Criminal Damage to Property; Written Promise to Appear; Court Date 12-11

11-19 Marcos Marroquin Hernandez, 41; 139 Ortiz Lane, Roseboro; Warrant for Arrest-Threatening Phone Call; Written Promise to Appear; Court Date 01-17

Incident/Investigation Report

11-16 Ashley Martin reported a Burglary located at 55 Papa Moo Lane, Dunn. Item reported missing a Play Station 4.

11-18 Kenneth Bailey Trucking reported the Larceny of a Torque Wreck

** The Crime Report is provided by the Sampson County Sheriff's Office and the Clinton City Police Department.*



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Sampson County VITAL STATS

Deaths

- Ray Barefoot
- Brenda Elizabeth Bowen
- Viola Chestnutt
- Mary Magdalene Edge
- Ernest Wilbert Parker
- Mary Strickland
- Ida Lenora Tew
- Rexie Usher

Marriage Certificates

- John Carl Corum to Maria Ann Hobbs
- James Mileke White to Sequoia Raenne Carter
- Kelvin Dion Robinson to Tomeka Lashawn Blue
- Johnathan Richard Hyde to Tara Louise Cox
- Leonard Earl Moore to Tiffany Dawn Sessoms
- Ricardo Rosales Galeana to Maria Belen Garcia Resendiz
- Albert Warren Johnson to Jociann Joyce Holmes
- Gerardo Zamora Chairez to Maria Brenda Flores Garcia
- Hunter Nicholas Cullen to Harley Blake Bass
- William Edmund Hernan to Alyssa Ashley Jackson
- Jose Jesus Martinez Vazquez to Maria Guadalupe Hernan de Castaneda

Births

- Anthony Yahir Maldonado Acosta born on October 17, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Esdras Eli Maldonado Gonzalez and Maria Ubaldina Acosta Lopez
- Alina Rose Martinez born on October 17, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to David Gerard Martinez Jr and Jammilett Aguirre
- Kelsi Nicole Rackley born on October 19, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Heather Elaine Rackley
- Jayce Ahmir Autry born on October 20, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Tavis Rachae Autry and Ariel Briana Robinson
- Madelyn Brook Williams born on October 21, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Randy Neal Williams and Hannah Brook Jackson
- A'Layiah Me'Yani Davis born on October 23, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Myesha Katasha Faison
- Ayden Xzavier Kenan born on October 23, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Adam Kenan and Latarshus Reene Kenan
- Saydee Reese Simmons born on October 23, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Austin Wade Simmons and Austin Wade Simmons
- K'Wond Edward Carr born on October 24, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Michelle Renee Henderson
- Aylee Gomez Morales born on October 24, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Margarito Marrero Morales and Saida Lizzeth Gomez Alvarez
- Scarlett Rose Beasley born on October 28, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Rodney Dean Beasley II and Jasmine Rosalia Connors
- Neymar Matthew Gonzales Garcia born on October 31, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Pricila Garcia
- Alan Hernandez Jose born on November 2, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Blanca Jose Ventura
- Chase Allen Lockamy born on November 2, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Darby Allen Lockamy and Candace Leigh Sessoms
- Arriyah Paige Cromartie born on November 3, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Yanikia Akia Cromartie
- Ava Hayden Stanley born on November 3, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Justin Case Stanley and Aubrea Herring Stanley

Land Transfers

- Cindy Allen, Curtis Allen to Lisa R Tanner- Lot 5 Sandy Acres Subdivision Plainview
- Jackie S McLamb to Jackie S McLamb, James Coleman McLamb- 8 Tracts w/exceptions
- Jackie S McLamb to Jackie S McLamb, Jackie Suzette Richardson- 4 Tracts w/exceptions Sampson
- Jerry Michael Bohman Sr to Michelle Fragoso, Luis Hernandez- 2.84 Acres w/exceptions Franklin
- DS Purvis, David Shawn Purvis, Sara R Purvis to David Marible Jr, Eulanda Marible- Lot 5 0.48 Acres North Clinton
- Felix Angel Tavera Ogando to Mayra Alvarado- Lot 1 Lake View Acres Subdivision North Clinton
- Lucy Leanne H Cook to Alba Cedillos, Melvin Munoz- North Clinton
- Donna Lee Newman Day, Thomas Baker Day, Kermit W Newman, Albert Summerville, Peggy Jean Newman Summerville to Pamela F Kendrick, Robert Kendrick- Lots 6 & 7 Block B of the Philips Bros. Subdivision South Clinton
- Eldridge Concrete Construction Inc to ELA LLC- 6.82 Acres Newton Grove
- Cathy M Honrine, Hugh A Honrine to Shelia Rochelle Register- Lot 10 1.26 Acres Belvoir
- R&E Hog Farm Inc to Daniel C Evans- 100.43 Acres Halls
- Dallas Bell, Dallas Bell Sr to Dallas Bell Jr, Donte Bell, Malcolm Bell, Martin Bell, Swendolyn Bell- 3 Tracts Piney Grove
- James Robert Williams to Cynthia Williams Hudspeth, Crystal Williams Lawrence, James Timothy Williams, Ricky Lynn Williams- 0.86 Acres Honeycuts
- Red Mountain Timberco I LLC to Friendship Poultry LLC- Tract B 374.56 Acres Taylors Bridge
- Susan Dianne Barefoot to Isidro Mendez and Maria Estrellita Sotelo- Mingo 5 Acres
- Barbara A Robinson, Clarence Robinson, Doris M Robinson, Olen W Robinson to Jose Francisco Olivera and Leticia Manibel Olivera- 5 Acres North Clinton
- Eleonore J Pietrusewicz/By AIF, John C Pietrusewicz/AIF to Charlie Dalio Living Trust and Charlie Dalio- 2.97 Acres Mingo
- Oneyda M Cartagena to Maria C Alcocer Torres- North Clinton Lot 38 0.50 Acres and Lot 45 0.50 Acres Bryant Lake Subdivision
- Joyce Gail Baker to Chandler A Fryar- Lisbon Lot 11 1.02 Acres & Lot 12 1.02 Acres
- Maxine Stokes, Norma L Stokes to Velma Stokes Burden, Maxine Stokes, Norma L Stokes- 6.22 Acres Lot 1 Taylors Bridge
- Bobby E Marshall, Viola R Marshall to Shannon H Marshall, Steven Todd Marshall- 2.02 Acres South River
- JP Morgan Chase Bank National Association to Lynn Anne Ayers- 2 Parcels Little Coharie
- Jeffrey W Tyndall to Christopher B Revels, Hayley E Revels- Lot 2 Dismal
- Bartley Warren/Gen P, Brandon Lee Warren/Gen P, Brian D Warren/Gen P, R Gerald Warren/Gen P, George E Warren/Gen O, WF Partnership/G PTNR to Annie Jean Britt Cotton - 14.10 Acres Lot 4A Tract 2 Newton Grove
- Selena Newkirk Corbett to Selena Newkirk Corbett, Jawawn Newkirk, Shelina J Newkirk- Lot Sampson
- John Paul Keller, Amy W Leggett, Sean Leggett, Graham Wilkerson to Kenneth Deno McLamb, Tony Rackley- 0.46 Acres Lot 44 of Colonial Heights Subdivision South Clinton
- Guiding Star Power of God Church of Victory/DBA, Power of God Church of Victory Inc to Idella Fullwood, Varnie Fullwood- 1.20 Acres Lot 7 & 8 of RA Naylor Lot Subdivision
- Juana Rocio Lopez to Fernando Daniel Antonio- Lot 28 Madeline Acres 1.49 Acres Dismal
- Bertie Adams Williams, Patricia Ann Williams to Mike J Sellers, Roberta L Sellers- Lot 90 0.94 Acres Williamsdale Subdivision Section One Part B Little Coharie
- Keith Brewington Tr, Terry Eads/TR, Linwood Ennis/TR, Donald Robinson/TR to Shiloh Pentecostal Holiness Church of Godwin Inc- 6.28 Acres Dismal
- Velva K Oliver to Betty O Warren- 11.50 Acres Halls
- Velva K Oliver to Cynthia O Gainey, Rebecca O Lockamy, Betty O Warren- 24.6 Acres Halls
- Velva K Oliver to Cynthia O Gainey, Rebecca O Lockamy, Velva K Oliver, Betty O Warren- 3 Acres Halls
- Shitley Randolph Jones to Dollie Bernice Peterson Jones- Lot 2 1.00 Acres Little Coharie

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However, when you receive both your own non-covered government pension and a Social Security spousal benefit, your Social Security benefit may be reduced. The Government Pension Offset (GPO) reduces your Social Security benefit by two-thirds of your government pension.

Why are benefits reduced? Current law requires any beneficiary's spouse, widow, or widower benefit to be reduced by the dollar amount of their own retirement benefit. For example, if a woman worked and earned her own \$900 monthly Social Security benefit, but was due a \$500 wife's benefit on her husband's record, we couldn't pay the wife's \$500 benefit because her own retirement benefit is the larger amount.

Before enactment of the GPO, if the same woman was a government employee who didn't pay into Social Security but earned a \$900 government pension, there was no reduction. We would have paid her the full amount of wife's benefit and she also received her full government pension. GPO ensures that we calculate the benefits of government employees who don't pay Social Security taxes the same way as workers in the private sector who pay Social Security taxes. Applying the GPO in this example means since two-thirds of the government pension (2/3 of \$900 = \$600) is more than the wife's benefit (\$500), there is no wife's benefit payable.

If you take your government pension annuity in a lump sum, Social Security will treat the annuity as if you chose to get monthly benefit payments from your government work. Payments from a defined benefit plan or defined contribution plan (e.g., 401(k), 403(b), or 457) based on earnings from non-covered government employment are considered pensions subject to GPO, if the plan is the employee's primary retirement plan. To read more about GPO, review our factsheet, Government Pension Offset www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10007.pdf or visit www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/gpo.html.

Understanding how the GPO will affect any spousal, widow, or widower benefits should be part of your retirement planning. Good planning is the best preparation for a secure financial future.



By Brenda Brown

What are YOU Thankful For?



Sampson Community College's Small Business Center-What We Do:

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910-592-7176 ext. 2032, Email: brice@sampsoncc.edu

FAMILY FEATURES

Friendsgiving is the perfect opportunity to celebrate your second family with festive, fun recipes that stray a bit away from traditional fare.

"Friendsgiving is often held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving," said Chef Kevan Vetter of the McCormick Kitchens. "It's more of a potluck party than a traditional Thanksgiving – everyone is usually assigned a dish. Instead of stuffing or a green bean casserole, bring a dish that's a little more fun, like corn pudding with a dash of smoky heat from chipotle chili pepper."

These recipes for a caramelized Brie and a chocolatey red wine from the McCormick kitchens are also sure to please. If your party falls after the big day, put those turkey leftovers to good use with a cheesy turkey crescent ring perfect for feeding a group of friends.

Find more recipes to share with friends this season at McCormick.com.

Leftover Turkey Taco Crescent Ring

Prep time: 25 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Servings: 10

- 1 package McCormick Original Taco Seasoning Mix, divided
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup finely chopped onion
- 2 cups shredded, cooked turkey
- 1 can (15 1/4 ounces) whole-kernel corn, drained
- 1 can (10 ounces) diced tomatoes and chilies, drained
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1 container (8 ounces) whipped cream cheese
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 2 packages (8 ounces each) refrigerated crescent dinner rolls

Heat oven to 375 F. Reserve 1 teaspoon taco seasoning mix in small bowl; set aside.

In medium saucepan over medium heat, melt butter. Add onion; cook and stir 3 minutes, or until tender. Add turkey, corn, tomatoes, garlic and remaining seasoning mix. Cook and stir 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in cream cheese and 1 cup shredded cheese.

Unroll crescent roll dough on greased or parchment paper-lined baking pan. Separate into triangles. Arrange triangles to resemble sun with center open. Press dough where bottoms of triangles overlap. Spoon turkey mixture in ring where dough overlaps. Fold triangle points over filling, tucking into bottom layer to secure. Continue until entire ring is enclosed.

Bake 15 minutes, or until golden brown.

In bowl, stir remaining shredded cheese into reserved seasoning mix. Remove ring from oven. Sprinkle with cheese mixture. Bake 5 minutes longer, or until cheese is melted.

Serve with desired toppings, such as shredded lettuce, sour cream or guacamole.



A Friendsgiving Feast

Sides, drinks and leftovers perfect for sharing with friends



Chipotle Corn Pudding

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 1 hour
Servings: 8

- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons McCormick Minced Onions
- 1 1/2 teaspoons McCormick Ground Mustard
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Sicilian Sea Salt
- 1/4 teaspoon McCormick Chipotle Chili Pepper
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) butter, melted

- 2 cans (14 3/4 ounces each) creamed corn
- 1 can (15 1/4 ounces) whole-kernel corn, drained
- nonstick cooking spray

Heat oven to 400 F. In small bowl, mix cornstarch, sugar, onions, mustard, sea salt and chili pepper until well blended; set aside.

In large bowl, lightly beat eggs. Stir in milk, butter and all corn. Gently stir in cornstarch mixture until well blended. Pour into 2 1/2-quart baking dish sprayed with nonstick cooking spray.

Bake 1 hour, or until set, stirring halfway through cooking. Let stand 10 minutes before serving.

Slow Cooker Red Wine Hot Chocolate

Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 1 hour
Servings: 14

- 1 bottle (750 milliliters) red wine
- 8 cups whole milk
- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk

- 1 package (12 ounces) dark chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Ground Nutmeg
- 4 McCormick Cinnamon Sticks

Place all ingredients in slow cooker. Cover. Cook 60-70 minutes on high, or until chocolate is melted and mixture is heated through, stirring every 15 minutes.

Reduce heat to low. Serve from slow cooker.



Pecan Pie Brie

Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 12 minutes
Servings: 12

- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon McCormick Ground Cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon McCormick Ground Nutmeg
- 3 tablespoons butter, divided
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Pure Vanilla Extract
- 1/2 teaspoon McCormick Rum Extract
- 1 wheel Brie cheese, warmed

In small bowl, mix brown sugar, cinnamon, salt and nutmeg until blended. Set aside.

In large skillet over medium heat, melt 2 tablespoons butter. Add pecans; toast 5-7 minutes, or until golden brown, stirring frequently. Reduce heat to low.

Stir remaining butter, corn syrup, water, vanilla extract, rum extract and brown sugar mixture into skillet. Cook and stir until butter is melted and mixture is heated through. Remove from heat. Mixture will thicken as it cools.

Spoon over warmed Brie.



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