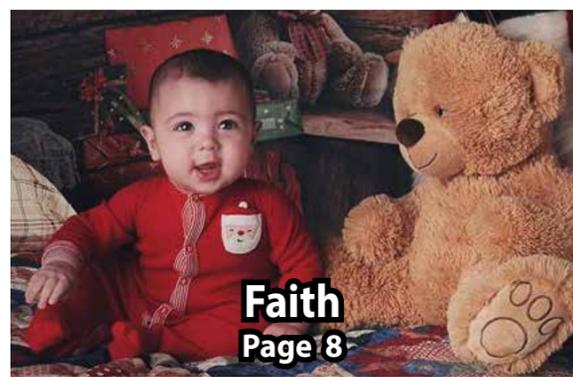




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SAMPSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

FREE

# The Sampson Weekly



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 50

Week of December 8-14, 2017

www.thesampsonweekly.com

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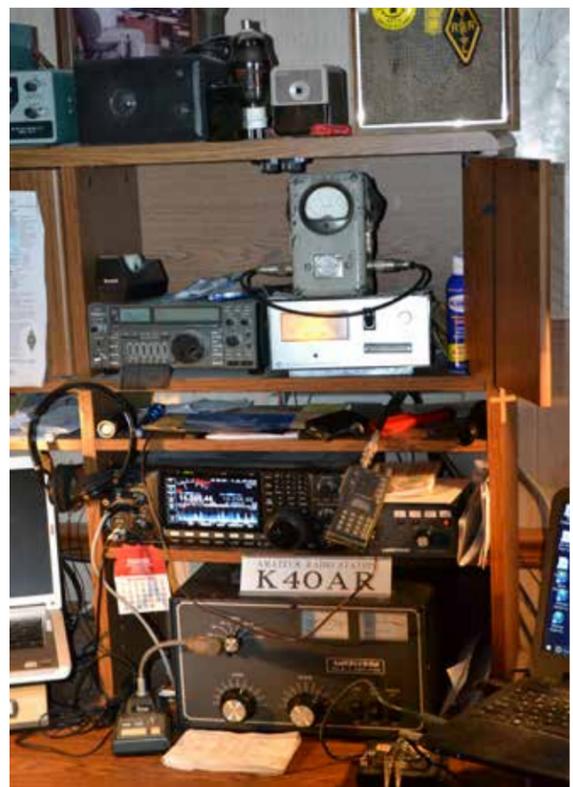
## Christmas in Clinton Parade to Be Held Saturday



The second Saturday in December traditionally ushers in the beginning of Christmas for the City of Clinton, and for 62 years now the Clinton Christmas Parade has led the march. Parade coordinator Kaitlin Norris Adkins, Executive Director with the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce stated, "It's just a great time for the whole community to come together. There will be smiles and laughter from everyone, little children to our senior citizens."

**CLINTON, see P. 4**

## Pat Dixon a Real HAM Operator That Is



Grandpa Pat has been known to ham it up on WCLN's Early Morning Show, but when we say Pat Dixon is a real ham operator, we're referring to his hobby as an amateur radio operator. The long-time General Manager and President of WCLN Fun Time Oldies – 1170 AM takes his work home with him, at least the love of radio.

Mr. Pat says he was about 15 when he put his first kit together. "As a novice I used a Heathkit 20-watt CW transmitter that I built."

Pat explains that with a CW or continues wave transmitter you could only communicate using international Morse Code. "Key clicks," used to tap out a message.

Today, Mr. Pat uses an ICOM IC-7600 100-watt transceiver and 500-watt amplifier with a 8 dB high-gain antenna. Pat explains, "High-gain means it's a directional antenna that is more focused. It's pointed toward Europe right now."

Pat Dixon seems like a teenager again explaining amateur radio. But the term amateur in amateur radio seems to understate the study and training involved. "It's not as hard today," says Pat, "as it was when I did it. But it's still sanctioned, and you have to pass tests to be licensed and receive a call sign." Pat's call sign is K40AR.

In fact, it was an interesting story of the call sign of a now "silent key" that showed up on a QSL card Pat recently received that prompted our whole conversation about amateur radio. I'll try to explain...

A "silent key" is an amateur radio operator that has passed away, and a QSL card is a written confirmation of either a two-way radiocommunication between two amateur radio stations or a one-way reception of a signal.

**REAL HAM, see P. 3**

**WEATHER**

**Fri** Rain

100%

Hi: 41° Lo: 34°

**Sat** Showers

80%

Hi: 40° Lo: 27°

**Sun** Sunny

0%

Hi: 45° Lo: 23°

**Mon** Sunny

0%

Hi: 51° Lo: 34°

**Tues** Partly Cloudy

10%

Hi: 49° Lo: 20°

**Wed** Partly Cloudy

0%

Hi: 41° Lo: 27°

## Santa To Visit Harrells Community December 19th



On Tuesday night December 19th at 6pm, the Town of Harrells will once again come together for the "Annual Singing Around the Christmas Tree" event. The yearly event usually attracts over 100 Harrells residents who came out to enjoy the festivities. Local residents come together, young and old, to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. The group always meets at the center of Harrells for the lighting of the Christmas tree and all join together for the singing of Christmas carols; songs like "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas", "Winter Wonderland" and "Let it

**HARRELLS, see P. 4**

**WEEKLY VERSE**

And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

Luke 2:13-14

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# LOCAL NEWS

## From the Desk of Senator Brent Jackson



I hope you are having a great week and had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Also, I hope everyone enjoyed great food and spent time with family and friends. I want to remind everyone to stay safe as you are working on your holiday shopping!

**North Carolina Best State for Business by Forbes**  
In an article recently released by Forbes, North Carolina was ranked as the Best State for Business in 2017 and was the only state to place among the top twenty in all six categories of Forbes's 2017 economic climate rankings. The six categories that states were ranked in were business costs, labor supply, regulatory environment, economic climate, growth prospects, and quality of life. Together, we have worked hard to finally reach the top of Forbes's list for Best State for Business, and have ranked in the top five for the previous twelve years. This top rank speaks to our state leaders' commitment to improving our tax structure, infrastructure, and demonstrates the results of fiscal responsibility.

**"Joint Ventures in Agriculture" Class**  
Seeing young people interest and excited in agriculture is something that I deeply enjoy. It is always great to discuss the past, present, and future of the industry with students, and offer guidance for those who want to pursue a career in the agriculture field. Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler and NC State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Dean Richard Linton participate in a joint class with NC State University called "Joint Ventures in Agriculture", also known as ALS 495/AGI 195.

It was an honor to have the opportunity to share my experience in the industry with these students and have a chance to talk with them on the work we do to at the state legislature.

**82nd Annual NC Farm Bureau Convention**  
It was a privilege to be an honorary speaker for this year's 82nd Annual North Carolina Farm Bureau Convention this past Monday morning, December 4th. I discussed the laws that were passed by the General Assembly this past session and spoke on the positive impact that we have made in our state. I always enjoy spending time with leaders in the agriculture sector across North Carolina, and hear their thoughts and viewpoints on the industry.



Above is a picture of me speaking at the convention. I look forward to what the future holds for the agriculture field in our great state as we work to grow the industry and support our farmers.

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

**Legislative Recap**  
Over the course of the interim, I have been including a Legislative Recap Section in the Newsletter. This section reviews meaningful legislation that became law in the 2017 session.

**Senate Bill 257: Appropriations Act of 2017**  
In last week's newsletter, we gave a high-level view of the Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources (ANER) section budget and this week we will focus on the Justice and Public Safety (JPS) section of the budget.

The JPS section of the budget is close to \$2 billion appropriated and funds the Department of Public Safety, which includes the State Highway Patrol (SHP), State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), and the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice. The JPS budget also funds the Department of Justice (DOJ), Indigent Defense Services (IDS), and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC).

This year's JPS budget takes steps to fight the growing opioid epidemic by forming a quick response team pilot program with the City of Wilmington. This budget also continues efforts to curtail human trafficking by raising public awareness and establishing a reporting hotline.

The SBI received an additional \$1 million to purchase new surveillance equipment to ensure that our law enforcement officers have access to the latest technology as they fight crime and keep us safe. The State Crime Lab also receives increased funding for additional equipment.

The budget directs AOC to study rural areas and determine if there is a more efficient way to serve the populations in these communities, while still providing adequate access to justice and the courts system. The budget also provides for 31 new Assistant District Attorney positions to be spread across the state to help address workload backlogs.

You can view the full bill and money report at the following link: Bill: <http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Bills/Senate/PDF/S257v8.pdf> and Money Report: [http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Budget/2017/conference\\_committee\\_report\\_2017\\_06\\_19.pdf](http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2017/Budget/2017/conference_committee_report_2017_06_19.pdf)

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you have any questions pertaining to this legislation.

**From the District  
Toys for Tots Campaign in Sampson County**

The Toys for Tots organization is currently collecting donations to assist and bring holiday joy to children throughout Sampson County. Their mission is to collect new and unwrapped toys throughout the year to distribute to these children during the holiday season. They have a goal to serve more children and increase their donations every year. Last year there were more than 1,000 children served. In addition to toys, the organization also accepts monetary donations, and collects books, which are distributed for the Toys for Tots Literacy Program to provide children with reading material. The drop-off sites for toys include the following: All Nations Deliverance Church in Roseboro, Performance Ford in Clinton, Performance Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in Clinton, and the Town Hall Annex/Visitors Center in Garland. All sites are open Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm. If you are interested in finding out more information on the donation process, please visit <https://goo.gl/93fqHi>.



**District Spotlight**

Cody Boone recently became the first ever student from James Kenan High School to receive the American Degree from the National FFA Organization. The American FFA Degree is given to around 4,000 FFA members in recognition of their years of academic and professional excellence, and is awarded to those who have shown dedication to the organization through their leadership and success in agriculture education. Cody Boone was required to earn, and productively invest, \$10,000 through a supervised agriculture experience program, which he served with Warsaw Heating and Air where he used his experience of agricultural mechanics and problem-solving skills to assist the company. In addition to his supervised agriculture experience program, Boone also completed 50 hours of community service with the Warsaw Fire Department and assisted fellow members with obtaining their Eagle Scout badges. The American FFA Degree is the highest recognition for FFA members, so please join me in congratulating Cody Boone on his outstanding accomplishment. I wish him the best of luck in his bright future!



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

**58th Annual Meeting  
of Membership**

**Thursday, January 18, 2018  
Sampson County Agri-Expo Center**

Call the NC SweetPotato Commission  
at (919)894-1067 for more information

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Sampson County  
Animal Shelter  
Call (910)592-8493**



**Can you be  
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**The Sampson County Animal Shelter has  
three urgent dogs that need to be out of  
the shelter!!! They are: Joplin, Rhino, and  
Howey!!! They need commitment by  
December 8th!!**



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*The Sampson County Animal Shelter has that perfect pet for your family!*

**REAL HAM, cont. from 1**

nal from an AM radio, FM radio, television or short-wave broadcasting station. It can also confirm the reception of a two-way radiocommunication by a third-party listener.

A typical QSL card is the same size and made from the same material as a typical postcard, and most are sent through the mail as such.

QSL card derived its name from the Q code "QSL". A Q code message can stand for a statement or a question (when the code is followed by a question mark). In this case, 'QSL?' means "Do you confirm receipt of my transmission?" while 'QSL' means "I confirm receipt of your transmission."

Now, the interesting story. A couple of weeks ago, Pat received a QSL card from the very distant past. From a silent key. The QSL was from Brian 'Joe' Poole call sign 5X1P from Kampala, Uganda. And with the QSL card, a message. "As you may have heard already, Joe became a silent key in May 2017 and I have been passed copies of his various logs and a number of outstanding QSL requests by his widow, Janet, 7Q7YL."

The communication between Pat (K40AR) and Joe (5X1P) happened on February 21, 1997. 20-years ago.

Pat doesn't remember the communication or even if it was voice or code communication. "We probably exchanged signal reports, weather, types of equipment. This kind of contact is normally done using Morse code."

But in the world of amateur radio, collecting QSL cards is a special thing, and the more exotic the better. "The card from 5xp1p (Joe)," says Pat, "in all my years as an amateur operator was longest time receiving a QSL back."

Pat's received thousands of QSL cards from over 200 countries through the years, including New Zealand, China and Japan. And now he can add Uganda, Africa to his collection.

Conversations he does remember...? then Senator, Barry Goldwater and King Hussein of Jordan.

Apparently, Pat's not the only ham in Sampson County. He says when he first started there may have been 4 or 5 amateur operators because the exams were much more difficult back then. Today, Pat says there are about 45 amateur operators in the county. Most are in amateur radio operator clubs like the one Pat's in, the Sampson County Amateur Club.

Pat says they meet each second Saturday of the month at Carlie C's for a breakfast at 9am. Anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio is welcome.

7Q7BP, 5X1P, 9Q5MRC, 9U5MRC, C91MR, C91MR/3, C93MR, C96MR, C97MR, G3MRC, G3MRC/C9, G3MRC/9Q5, 9X5/G3MRC

As you may have heard already, Joe became a silent key in May 2017 and I have been passed copies of his various logs and a number of outstanding QSL requests by his widow, Janet, 7Q7YL.

Please visit my web site at [www.g3swh.org.uk](http://www.g3swh.org.uk) for where you can search the logs of many of the stations that I manage.

73 and good DX

Phil Whitchurch, 21 Dickensons Grove, Congresbury, Bristol, BS49 5HQ, United Kingdom.  
e-mail: [phil@a3swh.org.uk](mailto:phil@a3swh.org.uk)

WAC AFRICA ZONE 37 - ITU ZONE 48  
LOCATOR KJ60 GI

Kampala  
UGANDA

AFRICA

G3MRC / GM3OAE  
VS1FW / VS2FW  
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5X1P / G3MRC/9X5

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**DANGEROUS DOG APPEAL HEARING**

The Sampson County Board of Health  
will hold a *Dangerous Dog Appeal Hearing* on

**Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm**

The hearing will be held at the  
Conference room at the Sampson County Administration Building,  
406 County Complex Road, Bldg. C; Clinton, NC

**For more information or questions, please contact Wanda Robinson at 910-592-1131.**



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# LOCAL NEWS

**CLINTON, cont. from 1**

According to Mrs. Adkins, "We currently have over 100 entries and Saturday promises to be a fun filled morning for our entire county. The Dunn clowns, 20 plus float homemade and professional, Dance groups, classic and antique vehicles, elected officials, Shriners, beauty queens, and of course Santa will be top off the parade this year. We hear there will be some new and unique displays on a few vehicles this year. We have all of the High School Marching Bands participating this year and they are always a good time!"

The parade will start at 10:00 AM on Saturday, December the 9th with vehicles and floats at the Sampson County Exposition Center. The parade will turn left onto Warsaw Road traveling to College Street where it will turn left to approach downtown Clinton. At the Clinton City Schools Administrative Building marching groups will join the parade for its official beginning. The parade will travel down College Street to Vance Street turning onto Fayetteville Street. It will then turn left on Chestnut Street and head back to the downtown area taking another left onto West Main Street. The parade will travel to Lisbon Street for its conclusion at the City Market.

The parade will begin at 10:00am and the streets will be closed starting at 9:00am. Make sure you get out early to get a good viewing spot.

**HARRELLS, cont. from 1**

Snow". Traditional Christmas songs like "Silver Bells", "Silent Night", "Rudolph", "O Christmas Tree" and many more will be sung with such Christmas spirit. The highlight of the caroling is definitely when the crowd breaks up into groups and sings "The Twelve Days of Christmas" with as much heart as the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir.

After the caroling, everyone will meet in the Fire Dept. Training Hall where the Christmas Committee always puts out a spread of desserts and appetizers. Cindy Ezzell, Harrells Town Clerk commented, "This event brings the community together for an old fashioned Christmas. I think it is just wonderful! Everyone comes together to enjoy the singing and the true meaning of Christmas."

The highlight of the evening for the young and old alike will be the arrival of Santa Claus. Every child will have an opportunity to sit on Santa's knee and tell him what they want for Christmas. Even the 'adult' children will have the opportunity to put a bug in Santa's ear for what they are wishing for.

"A big thank you to the many community partners that make this event happen including the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade Committee, the City of Clinton and the Clinton Police Department, each parade participant, WCLN and StarVision. What a great festive event!"

Mrs. Adkins also wanted to thank a few special people for their dedication and support of the Clinton Christmas Parade. "I would like to give a big thank you to our Christmas Parade Committee Members for their hard work."

There will be plenty of parking available and downtown merchants will remain open after the parade to serve the community. There is a wealth of shops and eateries downtown so everyone should be able to purchase those Christmas gifts they need and have a meal before heading back home. Come out early to find a good spot, bring your friends and family, and simply enjoy the fellowship, goodwill and fun at the Christmas in Clinton Parade!

In closing Norris said, "I encourage everyone to come early and eat and shop in local stores and stay afterwards to see Santa in his house Downtown! Remember to shop local this holiday season. It is a great day to come out with your family and kids and enjoy the Christmas Spirit!"

Event coordinators stated, "It is important for communities to come together during good times so we can lean on each other during bad ones. It's events like this that make me so proud to be part of a small community."

Committee members commented, "You won't know what you're missing unless you come and friendship and socialize with us! I think you will enjoy it!"

Harrells Town Clerk Cindy Ezzell also wanted everyone to know that on the same day, "We have a home decorating contest. The judges drive around the Town limits at least twice.... Once at night to see the decorations all lit up and the other during the day to see the decorations that aren't illuminated. Prizes are \$75 for 1st, \$50 for 2nd and \$25 for 3rd."

So bundle up on Tuesday December 19th at 6pm and meet all your friends and neighbors in Harrells for a night of fun, family entertainment bringing back the Ol' Timey Christmas of Yester-Year.

## Harrells Board of Aldermen Take Oath of Office



Oath of Office for Harrells Mayor Jimmy Moore



Oath of Office for Harrells Mayor Pro Tem Katie Greer



Oath of Office for Harrells Board of Aldermen Kim Johnson



Oath of Office for Harrells Board of Aldermen Teddy Moore

At Tuesday night's Harrells Board of Aldermen meeting, Mayor Jimmy Moore was re-appointed by the board to serve as Mayor of Harrells. Alderman Katie Greer was re-appointed as Mayor Pro-Tem. Congratulations! Administering the Oaths of Office was Town Clerk Cindy Ezzell.

Congratulations to newly re-elected Harrells Board of Aldermen Mrs. Kim Johnson and Mr. Teddy Moore. They were given their Oaths of Office at last night's Harrells Board Meeting.

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# We Should Know . . .



**Robert Stroud and Lesia Henderson with JW Simmons, Host of We Should Know**

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

The topic for this week’s show is Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and the Shaggin’ for Santa New Year’s Eve Party with guests DJ Robert Stroud of the Boogie Shoes Network and from the Sampson County Department of Aging, Lesia Henderson.

JW Simmons begins the show reading a quote. “Grandparents often receive bewildered babies or older children who arrive with the clothes on their backs and nothing else. No toys, no favorite blankets or stuffed animals to sleep with, nothing. They may be angry, confused, or fearful. Some of them were born addicted to drugs, and they suffer from the long-term effects of these drugs on their minds and bodies.”

Simmons asks for everyone to imagine that scenario playing out in their own lives, and that this occurs daily in our communities.

He then turns to Lesia Henderson to ask how grandparents cope with an event like this, and what grandparents need to know in such an event.

“We offer a support group,” begins Henderson, “at Sampson County Department of Aging through the Family Caregiver Support Program. We have two support groups, and that is vital to those grandparents, to sit there with other grandparents to share and talk.”

“And I can attest to that statement you just said,” adds Henderson, “because many of my grandparents are dealing with these grandkids, and these grandkids have great difficulties. It’s just a tremendous amount of hardship mentally, that these grandkids have to go through and they’re on medication. Many are in therapy.”

“And it’s a result of being born to a mother that’s an addict. Many of these grandchildren are volatile, and the grandparents are having to deal with that. And they’re volatile for just what you said, their parents have left them at their grandparent’s home and left. And there that child sits with nothing but the cloths on their back.”

Henderson adds, “It breaks my heart for these grandkids, and then you look at these grandparents. They do all they can to help these kids.” Henderson says she’s not yet 60-years old, but with 5 grandchildren herself, she couldn’t imagine having to raise them herself.

She adds that Sampson County is very fortunate to have the Family Caregiver Support Program and that because of Shaggin for Santa, the program receives lots of public exposure which, in turn has community members donating clothing and other items many grandparents need when the grandchildren are unexpectant dropped off.

Henderson explains, “I’ve had people come in and say to me, I just got my grandkids, is there anything you can help me with. I’ve been able to help them with cloths through our clothing closet. I had a 75-year old grandmother who had just gotten her 6-month old grandson, with nothing. No diapers, no cloths, nothing.”

“But someone had previously donated a stroller. Someone previously had donated cloths for that aged child, so I was able to help her.”

“I know Shaggin for Santa provides funding to help for Christmas. A lot of time, those families I’m able to get adopted out for Christmas. If I fall short, I can rely on the Shaggin for Santa funds.”

“These grandparents raising these grandchildren, day in and day out, it is a burden. It’s taxing on them. Because of the Shagging for Santa funds, I’m able to send those kids to a summer camp. That’s one week of respite for those grandparents. And it’s an opportunity for those grandkids to experience a summer camp, something their grandparents would not have been able to afford for them to do.”

Next, Simmons introduces Robert Stroud as the grandfather of Shagging for Santa; stating that he knows in the past Stroud had booked bands using his own money with only a prayer that all expenses would be met. He asks Stroud to discuss the tremendous amount of time and effort that goes into making Shaggin for Santa successful.

Stroud explains, “It’s fixing to hit us now, these next 20 or 30 days. It couldn’t be done without the girls at the Department of Aging, because they do a lot. With Joey (Warren) and myself, we try to keep things on the burner. We have a tough time, the Civic Center is rented days before our event, so we will have to get in there December 31st. And it’s not just Clinton, NC, but New Years Eve is on a Sunday, everywhere. We’ll have to meet up there after Church services Sunday to get the facility ready.”

“We’ll be pushed that day,” says Stroud, “but we’ll have plenty of volunteers. We’ve had a couple of volunteers who asked to help, and we appreciate that. We appreciate anyone else who wants to help as well.”

Stroud goes on to add, “SamCo Shag Club donated 40 plus toys from Saturday night’s Christmas party. And Edward Jones (David Jenkins) had a Christmas party for their customers and asked that they bring gifts for the Department of Aging. That’s two of the avenues that’s come through this year to help with the event.”

Shaggin’ for Santa’s New Year’s Eve Party at the Sampson County Exposition Center will feature DJs Robert “Boogie Shoes” Stroud, Joey Warren of yourbeachmusic.com and Ross Kimbro of RnB Entertainment. In addition, two live bands will play; local band Eastline and East Coast Rhythm & Blues.

Sponsored by Nissan of Clinton, Shaggin’ for Santa’s New Year’s Eve Party is brought to you by boogieshoesradionetwork.com, yourbeachmusic.com and rnb-entertainment.com. Tickets are \$50 per person at the door, but advanced ticket sales are available for \$40 per person. Tables are also available with a table of 10 costing \$350, and a table of 8 costing \$280.

Ticket price includes Champaign and party favors at midnight, as well as a catered buffet breakfast after midnight. To purchase tickets, call the Sampson County Expo Center box office at 910-592-7200. All proceeds go to the Sampson County Department of Aging.

To view the entire broadcast of We Should Know please visit their YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/WeShouldKnowEDU](http://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](mailto:weshouldknowedu@gmail.com) or you can find them on Facebook.

## Clinton Fills Important City Manager Seat



Since the departure of former City Manager, Shawn Purvis this past April, the City of Clinton has seen two Interim City Managers guide city business forward. But Tuesday night, during the Clinton City Council meeting, the last hurdle in the process of hiring a new City Manager was accomplished with the approval of an employment agreement with Thomas C. Hart Jr., Clinton’s next City Manager.

We spoke with Tom Hart this week to help introduce the new city manager to the community.

“It was an honor to be selected as Clinton City Manager,” says Hart, “and I am looking forward to getting to Clinton and working with the City Council and city employees. I want everyone to feel like they can come by City Hall and see me, that’s what I’ll be there for, to listen and help solve problems when they come up.” Hart’s first day on the job will be Friday, December 29th.

“I’ve been the Town Manager in Boiling Springs NC for over five years,” states Hart speaking on his experience. “Before that, I was the Assistant Town Manager in Dobson, NC for about two years. I had internships in the Town Manager’s office in Apex NC and the Town of Yadkinville NC as well as seasonal work in the Apex park maintenance department.”

Hart, who has a Masters in Public Administration from Appalachian State

University also received his Bachelor of Science in City Management at Appalachian. But Hart and his wife both call eastern North Carolina home.

“My Wife Megan and I started dating in high school,” explains Hart. “And we both graduated from Appalachian State University. Megan was an elementary school teacher several years and is now staying home with our daughter who is almost two.”

“We both grew up in Apex, NC. I was born in PA outside of Philadelphia and my family moved to Apex in the late 90’s for my dad’s job in sales. Megan’s father worked for IBM and they moved to that area in the 80’s.”

On moving to Clinton to become the new City Manager, Tom Hart states, “My wife and I have visited the community and see a lot of potential. Many communities feel interchangeable, but Clinton has a strong sense of place.”

“The city has done a great job identifying goals for the community in the City’s Strategic Work Plan. The way the annual budget is tied to the strategic plan is one of the things that attracted me to the job. I think it demonstrates a certain level of focus. If you look at the plan, the broad strokes revolve around making Clinton a good place to work and live. It’s hard to go wrong when you focus on quality jobs and quality of life.”

Speaking with Mayor Lew Starling about the hiring process, Starling stated, “There were 42 total applicants with 6 being interviewed. Mr. Hart was the last to be interviewed. As I have stated publicly, I applaud the efforts of our city council members for their perseverance and determination to select the best possible candidate for our city.”

In discussing Tom Hart, Mayor Starling said, “His energy and vision were evident throughout our meetings with him. He has an approachable, attentive demeanor which I believe will serve him well as our next city manager.”

Starling added, “He will spend a few days working with our interim city manager and department heads in order to get up to speed as quickly as possible. He’ll be formally introduced to the public, our citizens, during the January city council meeting scheduled for 9th.”

“Check him out,” says Starling regarding Tom Hart. “Give him, his wife Megan and their daughter Eliza, the type of welcome that the citizens of Clinton are known for. I think you will be impressed and satisfied with our selection of Clinton’s newest city manager.”



## LOCAL NEWS

## Stefanovich Receives Order of the Long Leaf Pine



"Never have we had a better councilman. Never has the city had a better friend... Never have I had a better friend." That's how Mayor Lew Starling introduced former city council member Steve Stefanovich when he presented the long-standing public servant with the Key to the City and the prestigious Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Earlier in the evening, during the December City Council meeting, Steve Stefanovich rose from the seat he occupied for 16 years, passing the District 1 seat to newcomer Daniel Ruggles. He then quietly slipped to the back of the auditorium and out of sight.

Ruggles was elected to the District 1 City Council seat after Stefanovich announced he would not run for reelection, but would instead seek to spend more time with family.

Stefanovich first occupied the District 1 seat on December 4th, 2001. In a prepared biography by the City of Clinton, Stefanovich is described as, "A City Councilman that takes a personal interest in the people of his district by following up on individual concerns, and he helps mentor and guide young people starting out in business by encouraging them to get involved in our community."

The bio goes on to state, "He has shown what a true leader and visionary exemplifies. Councilman Stefanovich serves with honesty, integrity, wisdom, knowledge, and

understanding, and has done so throughout his four terms. Although his decision not to run again brings joy to him and his family, within the City of Clinton, there is a sadness."

From 1987, when Stefanovich first purchased GO Toyota, and the 30 years that followed, he has compiled an exhausting list of boards, foundations, civic and volunteer service opportunities where his leadership and hard work have benefited nearly every citizen in Sampson County.

In 2015, Steve Stefanovich was honored by then Governor Pat McCrory with the Governor's Medallion Award as one of the top 20 volunteers across North Carolina.

An active member of the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce, Stefanovich a former president and Chamber member of the year, initiated the coats for the needy program and chaired the annual Christmas Parade in Clinton for more than 30 years.

For more than 30 years, Stefanovich has served Sampson Community College as President of the Foundation, the Annual Giving Campaign, a Capital Drive and sponsor of the Sampson Classic Golf tournament.

In addition, Stefanovich has worked hard to help promote and support the Arts in our community by sponsoring a theatre production each year, serving on various boards to support the Arts, and even working to help secure the \$140,000 funding for the Milling Around art project in downtown Clinton.

He has been recognized as the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizen and is a past president of Sampson County United Way.

Lisa Turlington, Executive Director for the Sampson Community College Foundation said of Stefanovich, "His infectious enthusiasm for helping others has had a major impact on lives in southeastern North Carolina."

Elizabeth Stewart, President of the Clinton Development Corporation states of Stefanovich, "I am not exaggerating when I say that Mr. Stefanovich is one of the most caring, generous and helpful individuals I know. His calm leadership and his equitable treatment of all speak volumes for him and his excellent character."

Dee Bryant, President of the Clinton-Sampson Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors states, "Mr. Stefanovich has brought creativity, opportunities for many, and indescribable leadership to the Chamber. (He) is driven to succeed in whatever he sets his mind to do."

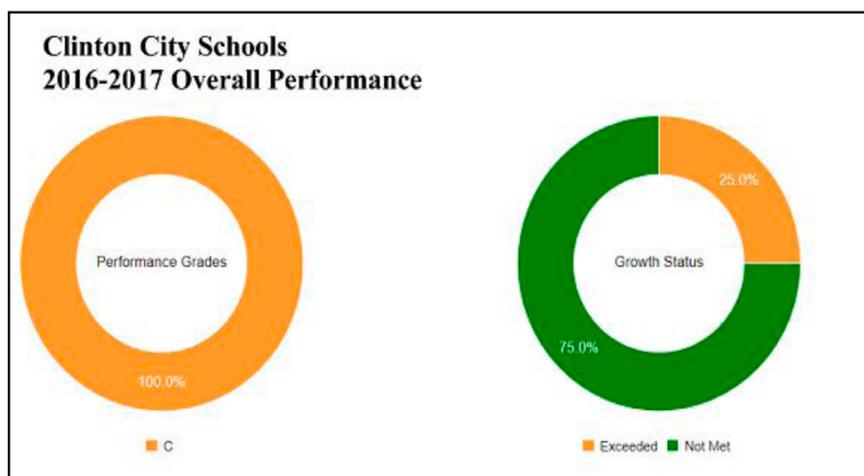
In addition to all his civic activities, as a councilman, Stefanovich was instrumental in the reconditioning of downtown parking lots, the charming crosswalks in downtown Clinton, the wayfinding signage, and a personal passion for Stefanovich, the GO Bark Park recently completed.

Representative Larry Bell said of Stefanovich and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, "I have known Steve for many years and cannot think of a more deserving person for this recognition. Steve is well respected in our community for his character and commitment to helping others."

One friend may have best described Steve Stefanovich when he called Stefanovich, "A giant among men, daring to make a difference among the people within the City of Clinton."

To such a man belongs the Key to the City and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

## School Systems Receive Report Cards



School systems across the state received letter grades this week, known to educators and parents as School Report Cards. Both Sampson County Schools and Clinton City Schools were included in the letter grade process, and both systems provided comments about the grading system and what it means for students, staff and parents.

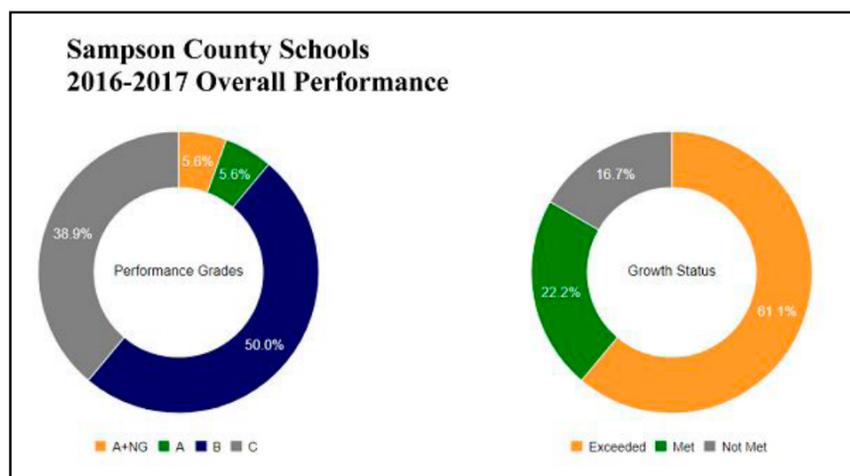
"Our overall performance grade was a C," states Dr. Kelly B. Batts, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction for Clinton City Schools. "Our performance was slightly below the state in High School Biology and English II, but just above the state in Math 1. At the elementary and middle school levels we performed below the state in Reading and in Science, but slightly above the state in Math. Our 4 and 5-year cohort graduation rates were above the state level."

"One of our schools," adds Dr. Batts, "Butler Avenue, exceeded growth expectations, while 3 schools did not meet state growth expectations. L. C. Kerr, which is a K-1 school, did show growth in student performance in both reading and in math, but because it is a primary school is not calculated as part of our state accountability system."

Speaking for Sampson County Schools, Superintendent Dr. Eric Bracy reports, "There is no overall performance grade per district, however we outperformed the state on most grade and subject assessments."

"83% of our schools met or exceeded their growth," added Dr. Bracy. "Our growth status compares very well with the state. Only 17 school systems in North Carolina outperformed our school system. We only had 3 schools that did not meet their growth."

Discussing what the letter grades mean, Dr. Batts states, "We know we have improvements to make, but our 2 lower elementary schools (L. C. Kerr and Butler Avenue) are performing very well. We know that this positive performance and growth at lower elementary will help us to produce great gains as those students move on to upper



grades."

"We recognize that we need to make improvements in student achievement and academic growth, adds Dr. Batts. "Our students, staff, and community are working diligently to improve performance."

"We also recognize that the report card is only a snap shot and does not convey the many wonderful things going on in Clinton City Schools, such as being recognized as an AP Honor Roll district for our success with advanced placement programs, our student access to technology, and our robust arts and sports programs."

Dr. Batts concluded, "We have a supportive community and volunteer program. Our students receive a well-rounded education that is not easily communicated through the NC state accountability system."

Regarding Sampson County Schools, Dr. Bracy states, "I am proud of how well all of our schools are performing; however, we were very excited that Clement was our first A+ school in the history of our school system."

Dr. Bracy concluded, "The report card is a great tool to use to review the data from all school systems across the state. I encourage all of our stakeholders to spend time comparing the data points of all of our schools with schools from across North Carolina."

In a statement on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction website, State Superintendent Mark Johnson states, "The NC School Report Cards website contains snapshots of information about our schools, including the school performance grade, student academic growth, how prepared our students are when they enter a school, and a number of other measures I hope you find valuable."

"As a former teacher, I can tell you this information, while important, cannot tell you the entire story of a school. These facts and figures cannot voice the extra hours put in by your teachers preparing for class and grading assignments, the school spirit felt by families, the involvement in sports, arts, or other extracurriculars that build character, and other crucial aspects of a school community."



# Commissioners Pass Resolution to Honor Medal of Honor Recipient



community. Herring was Mayor of Roseboro (from 1947-1950) member of the Sampson County Board of Education (from 1953-1957, chairman for the last two years), involved in his church and raised three fine children. Butler said, "He was a genuine hero."

Butler referred to 'that day' when Herring was wounded and the details in a harrowing account of Lt. Commander Geddie Herring's Medal of Honor Citation, which reads:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Commanding Officer of LCI (G) 449 operating as a unit of LCI (G) Group EIGHT, during the pre-invasion attack on Iwo Jima on 17 February 1945. Boldly closing the strongly fortified shores under the devastating fire of Japanese coastal defense guns, Lieutenant (then Lieutenant, Junior Grade,) Herring directed shattering barrages of 40-mm. and 20-mm. gunfire against hostile beaches until struck down by the enemy's savage counterfire which blasted the 449's heavy guns and whipped her decks into sheets of flame. Regaining consciousness despite profuse bleeding he was again critically wounded when a Japanese mortar crashed the conning station, instantly killing or fatally wounding most of the officers and leaving the ship wallowing without navigational control. Upon recovering the second time, Lieutenant Herring resolutely climbed down to the pilot house and, fighting against his rapidly waning strength, took over the helm, established communication with the engine room and carried on valiantly until relief could be obtained. When no longer able to stand, he propped himself against empty shell cases and rallied his men to the aid of the wounded; he maintained position in the firing line with his 20-mm guns in action in the face of sustained enemy fire and conned his crippled ship to safety. His unwavering fortitude, aggressive perseverance and indomitable spirit against terrific odds reflect

the highest credit upon Lieutenant Herring and uphold the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Present on Monday night were two of Mr. Herring's children, Stan and Max Herring, along with life-long friend Jefferson Strickland.



Max Herring spoke about the greatness of his dad and how his dad was honored to be from Sampson County. Max stated, "He would be very honored. He chose to be buried in Roseboro rather than Arlington. He is buried out there within a stone's throw of where this bypass will be." Geddie Herring passed away on January 31, 1996.

Director of Veterans Services for Sampson County, Ann Knowles, also spoke on behalf of Geddie Herring's impact on Sampson County and the nation. She noted, "He was a true friend of the Veterans. He would have been 100% service connected for his wounds, no doubt. He never applied for disability. This man was a true hero and I would be so honored as your Veterans Service Officer to have a portion of NC 24 to be named in his honor." She went on to say that she believed all of NC 24 going through Sampson County should be named after him.

Knowles concluded by detailing a conversation she had with Herring one day concerning the medal and honors he had received. He said that it was not about what he had done but about recognizing his fallen comrades and those that did not get to come home.

The county was advised that NCDOT was in support of the honorary designation. There would be no cost to the county due to the fact that the family had pledged payment of the \$2,000 administrative fee.

On Monday night, the Sampson County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a Resolution in Support of naming a portion of NC 24 that travels around Roseboro in honor of R. Geddie Herring. Mr. Geddie Herring is Sampson County's only Medal of Honor recipient.

Mr. Greg Butler presented the request for adoption of a resolution supporting a community group's efforts to have the NCDOT name a portion of the new NC 24 for Sampson County native and Medal of Honor recipient R. Geddie Herring. Mr. Herring was born and raised in Roseboro and became an active citizen and successful businessman in the poultry business. He served as Mayor of Roseboro from 1947 to 1950, served in World War II as a naval officer (Lt. Commander) in the Pacific Theater, and was presented the Congressional Medal of Honor by James Forrestal (SEC Navy) standing in for President Harry S. Truman. He was a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine and was inducted into the Sampson County Hall of Fame in 1999.

According to Butler, once returning home from war, Herring was an active member of the Sampson County

# Clinton Mayor and Council Take Oaths



Daniel Ruggles



DaRue Bryant



Mayor Lew Starling



Marcus Becton

During Tuesday's City Council Meeting, several council members were sworn into office. New council member Daniel Ruggles, along with Darue Bryant and Marcus Becton recited their Oaths of Office under direction of the Honorable William B. Sutton, Jr., District Court Judge.

In addition, Judge Sutton also conducted the Oath of Office for Mayor Lew Starling.

Shortly after, the new council for the City of Clinton voted Councilman Marcus Becton as Mayor Pro-Tem.

After the newly comprised and sworn city council came to order, Mayor Lew Starling stated, "The City Council will continue to operate with the same integrity we've always had and will keep doing everything we can to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Clinton."

# Clinton High School Placed on the College Board's 8th Annual AP® District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success



Clinton High School of the Clinton City Schools in Clinton, NC is one of 447 school districts in the U.S. and Canada and one of only three districts in North Carolina being honored by the College Board with placement on the 8th Annual AP® District Honor Roll. In addition, Clinton High School was the only school to receive the award two years in a row.

To be included on the 8th Annual Honor Roll, Clinton High School had to, since 2015, increase the number of students participating in AP while also increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher. Reaching these goals shows that this district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for AP.

Dr. Miller, Clinton High Principal, is proud of the work of the students, teachers, and counseling staff who have, for the second year in a row, earned the prestigious College Board District Honor Roll. The students have accepted the challenge for equity and access to rigorous AP classes at Clinton High School and they have demonstrated tremendous growth in qualifying scores. This growth comes as a result of their teachers and the very intentional counseling and planning to take rigorous pre-AP and AP courses. We are also thankful for our friends at the NC AP Partnership (NCAPP). Their professional development and support with AP Summer Institutes has fostered excellent AP teaching at Clinton High School.

National data from 2017 show that among American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African Amer-

ican, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students with a high degree of readiness for AP, only about half are participating. The first step to getting more of these students to participate is to give them access. Courses must be made available, gatekeeping must stop, and doors must be equitably opened. Clinton High School and the Clinton City Schools are committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.

"Congratulations to all the educators and administrators in this district who have worked to clear a path for more students of all backgrounds to participate and succeed in AP," said Trevor Packer, head of AP and Instruction. "These educators and administrators are fostering a culture in their schools and classrooms that allows students to face new challenges and build the confidence to succeed."

Helping more students learn at a higher level and earn higher AP scores is an objective of all members of the AP community, from AP teachers to district and school administrators to college professors. Many districts are experimenting with initiatives and strategies to see how they can expand access and improve student performance at the same time.

In 2017, more than 4,000 colleges and universities around the world received AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, or both, and/or consideration in the admission process. Inclusion on the 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on a review of three years of AP data, from 2015 to 2017, looking across 37 AP Exams, including world language and culture. The following criteria were used.

**Districts must:**

Increase participation/access to AP by at least 4% in large districts, at least 6 % in medium districts, and at least 11% in small districts; Increased or maintained the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students taking exams and increased or maintained the percentage of American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students scoring 3+ on at least one AP Exam; and Improve or maintain performance levels when comparing the 2017 percentage of students scoring a 3 or higher to the 2015 percentage, unless the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70% of its AP students earn a 3 or higher.

When these outcomes have been achieved among an AP student population in which 30% or more are underrepresented minority students (American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander) and/or 30% or more are low-income students (students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch), a symbol has been affixed to the district name to highlight this work.

# FAITH



*Genesis 1:31, "And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."*

Our world is not as it was intended to be. We are not who we were intended to be. It doesn't take long to read your local newspaper or watch the television and discover things have gone awry. However, the real danger is that we now assume all that is going on in this world is normal. The brokenness, the upside-down-ness of it all, is expected and common, but there is nothing normal about it.

The only thing worse than assuming that it's normal is shrugging our shoulders and going on with our daily lives without any sense of hope that this problem might have

## We live in a messed up world

a solution or that we may even be asked to play a part in fixing this mess. When we muster up our courage enough to accept the valid diagnosis, an amazing thing happens: When we acknowledge that the problem is sin, not particular sin, not someone else's mistakes or shortcomings, but our own personal and corporate evil in our thoughts, values and behavior, only then do we recognize that there's hope. Something can be done about the problem of sin. In fact, something has been done for the problem of sin.

When it comes to sin one of my friends declares, "We'll never receive the prescription as long as we continue to debate the diagnosis." God's solution to our problem is not that we should love Him better, but that we should receive the love He offers us. Such a great depth of love cannot help but restore us to our intended state. Once internalized, love begins its relentless work of transforming our lives from the inside out. That transforming power, that comes only from the Holy Spirit, will make us whole and holy.

The concept of holiness brings up all sorts of images. Some that grew up in homes that professed holiness saw that life as mostly negative, joyless and strict. Sadly, those words that sound so damaging are not the full picture of how God defines holiness. Holiness simply means being set apart for God's purpose. We are called to be holy so that God can work in, among and through us to accomplish His divine purpose.

When this world that God created and called, "good" rejects the idea of holiness, and embraces a perverse idea of love, God is deeply troubled. Our sin is an offense to God, not because He is touchy or overly sensitive, but because it adulterates our covenantal relationship with Him.

Do you really believe that this world is as intended as it should be? Our world is spoiled by the death of sin, and it often seems to be growing worse with each passing month. Charles Spurgeon stated, "As the salt flavors every drop in the Atlantic, so does sin affect every atom of our nature. It is so sadly there, so abundantly there, that if you cannot detect it, you are deceived." I wonder every day if Hollywood or in fact my own home town in North Carolina, can detect the very depths of sin that we have sunken to?

This week I encourage you to remember that God is not done working. He still rules and reigns from the most high. When we read about shootings taken place in a Texas church or a High School football coach being told not to pray for his team, we shouldn't be surprised. The only solution to the problems facing us is to turn back to God. Hopefully, it's not too late for this messed up world.

*Rev. Ken Smith  
Atkinson Baptist Church*



## THE STORY OF THE CHRISTMAS GUEST

Oh, how I love to recite this beautiful poem which genuinely reflects the true spirit of Christmas. What JOY would be spread if each of us would simply live our daily lives realizing that just as Jesus said in Matthew 25:40 "Inasmuch as you did it unto the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Allow me to challenge you to model this unselfishness during Christmas. And in the words of Henry Van Dyke, "Are you willing to live like this even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas. And if you can keep it for a day, why not always? But, you can never do it alone."

THE STORY OF THE CHRISTMAS GUEST  
Author: Helen Steiner Rice

It happened one day at the year's white end,  
Two neighbors called on an old-time friend  
And they found his shop so meager and mean,  
Made gay with a thousand boughs of green.  
And Conrad was sitting with face a-shine  
When he suddenly stopped as he stitched a twine,  
And said, "Old friends, at dawn today,  
When the cock was crowing the night away,  
The Lord appeared in a dream to me  
And said, 'I am coming your guest to be' ...  
So I've been busy with feet astir,  
Strewing my shop with branches of fir.  
The table is spread and the kettle is shined  
And over the rafters the holly is twined.  
And now I will wait for my Lord to appear  
And listen closely so I will hear  
His step as He nears my humble place  
And I open the door and look on His face."  
So his friends went home and left Conrad alone,  
For this was the happiest day he had known,  
For long since his family had passed away  
And Conrad had spent many a sad Christmas Day.  
But he knew with the Lord as his Christmas guest  
This Christmas would be the dearest and best,  
And he listened with only JOY in his heart,  
And with every sound he would rise with a start  
And look for the Lord to be standing there  
In answer to his earnest prayer.  
So he ran to the window after hearing a sound,  
But all that he saw on the snow-covered ground  
Was a shabby beggar whose shoes were torn,  
And all of his clothes were ragged and worn.  
So Conrad was touched and went to the door  
And he said, "Your feet must be frozen and sore,  
I have some shoes in my shop for you  
And a coat that will keep you warmer, too..."

So with a grateful heart, the man went away,  
But Conrad noticed the time of day.  
He wondered what made the dear Lord so late  
And how much longer he'd have to wait.

When he heard a knock he ran to the door,  
But it was only a stranger once more,  
A bent old lady with a shawl of black  
With a bundle of kindling piled on her back.  
She asked only for a place to rest,  
But that was reserved for Conrad's great Guest.  
Her voice seemed to plead "Don't send me away;  
Let me rest for awhile on Christmas Day."  
So Conrad brewed her a steaming cup  
And told her to sit at the table and sup.  
But after she left he was filled with dismay  
For he saw that the hours were slipping away.  
And the Lord hadn't come as He said He would,  
And Conrad felt sure he had misunderstood.

When out of the stillness he heard a cry,  
"Please help me, and tell me where am I?"  
So again he opened his friendly door  
And stood disappointed as twice before,  
It was only a child who had wandered away  
And was lost from her family on Christmas Day.  
Again Conrad's heart was heavy and sad,  
But he knew he should make the little girl glad.  
So he called her in and wiped her tears,  
And quieted all her childish fears.  
Then he led her back to her home once more,  
But as he entered his own darkened door  
He knew that the Lord was not coming today  
For the hours of Christmas had passed away.

So he went to his room and knelt down to pray,  
And he said: "Dear Lord, why did You delay?  
What kept You from coming to call on me?  
For I wanted so much your face to see."  
When soft in the silence, a voice he heard;  
"Lift up your head, for I kept My word.  
Three times My shadow crossed your floor.  
Three times I came to your lowly door.  
For I was the beggar with the bruised, cold feet,  
I was the woman you gave food to eat,  
And I was the child on the homeless street.  
Three times I knocked, three times I came in,  
Three times you responded with love from within.  
And Conrad, of all the gifts Love is the best,  
And I was honored to be your  
CHRISTMAS GUEST." Edwin Markham

By Martha Pierce



Take time this Christmas Day  
To go a little way apart,  
And with the hands of Love  
Prepare the house that is your heart.

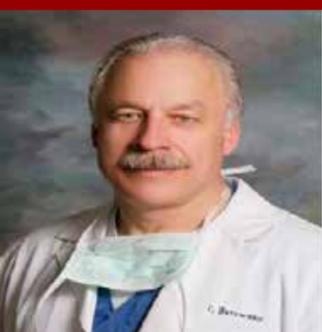
Brush out the dusty fears,  
Brush out the cobwebs of your care,  
'Til in the house that is your heart  
It's Christmas everywhere.

Light every window up with Love,  
And let that Love shine through,  
That they who walk outside may share  
The Blessed light with you.

Then will the rooms with JOY be bright,  
With peace the hearth be blessed,  
And Christ Himself will enter in to be  
YOUR CHRISTMAS GUEST!



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# Making the Most of Medicare Open Enrollment



Eating well and regular exercise are part of a healthy lifestyle, and so is making sure you have the right health care coverage. Medicare's annual Open Enrollment period is a good time to review your current coverage and decide if there may be a better fit based on changes to current plans, your budget or health needs.

During Medicare Open Enrollment, which runs Oct. 15-Dec. 7, 2017, you can enroll in or make changes to your Medicare health or prescription drug plan for coverage that begins Jan. 1, 2018. If you miss the deadline, you will likely have to wait a full year before you are able to make changes to your plan.

To make Medicare Open Enrollment part of your healthy lifestyle, follow these five steps:

1. Review your current plan notice. Read any notices from your Medicare plan about changes for next year, especially your "Annual Notice of Change" letter. Look at your plan's information to make sure your drugs are still covered and your doctors are still in network.
2. Think about what matters most to you. Medicare health and drug plans change each year and so can your health needs. Do you need a new primary care doctor? Does your network include the specialist you want for an upcoming surgery? Does your current plan cover your new medication? Does another plan offer the same coverage at a lower cost? Take stock of your health status and determine if you need to make a change.
3. Find out if you qualify for help paying for Medicare. Learn about programs in your state to help with the costs of Medicare premiums (through Medicare Savings Programs), your Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) and Medicare Part B (medical insurance) deductibles, coinsurance and copayments, and Medicare prescription drug coverage costs (through Extra Help). Visit Medicare.gov or call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) to learn more.
4. Shop for plans that meet your needs and fit your budget. Starting each October, you can use Medicare's Plan Finder tool

at Medicare.gov/find-a-plan to see what plans are offered in your area. A new plan may:

- Cost less
- Cover your drugs
- Let you go to the providers you want, like your doctor or pharmacy.

If you find your current coverage still meets your needs, then you're done. Remember, during Medicare Open Enrollment, you can decide to stay in Original Medicare or join a Medicare Advantage Plan. If you're already in a Medicare Advantage Plan, you can switch back to Original Medicare.

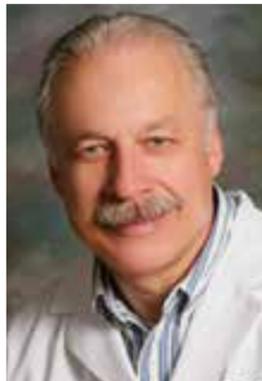
5. Check your plan's Star Rating before you enroll. The Medicare Plan Finder is up-to-date with the Star Ratings for Medicare health and prescription drug plans. Plans are given an overall quality rating on a 1-5 star scale, with 1 being the lowest performing and 5 stars representing excellent performance. You can use Star Ratings to compare the quality of health and drug plans being offered.

For more information, visit Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and say "Agent." TTY users can call 1-877-486-2048. Help is available 24 hours a day, including weekends. You can also get personalized health insurance counseling at no cost to you from your SHIP by visiting shiptacenter.org.

## Holiday Eye Safety Tips



by R. Thomas Barowsky, MD



As we head into the holiday season, I would offer you a little practical advice about what to do if you or your family suffers an injury to your eyes during the holiday when your doctor's office may be closed. The most common problems that will occur include corneal abrasions (a scratch on the eye) and foreign bodies in the eye or under the eyelid. I have also included information about chemicals in the eye to provide you with a more complete first aid reminder.

Most of the time, when you get something in your eye, your eye will tear and wash it out. In some cases, an object in your eye can scratch your cornea. A scratched cornea takes a couple of days to heal and may require treatment from your health care provider. If you get a chemical in your eye or something is imbedded in your eye, you need immediate medical treatment. Follow the instructions below for treating your eye.

If something small is embedded in your eye (such as a glass fragment), do not try to remove it. Cover the eye with a wet washcloth and have someone take you to an eye doctor or

emergency room.

If a larger object is embedded it is better to take a small paper cup that will rest on the bones around the eye and completely cover the eye and tape it in place prior to heading to the emergency room. This will keep pressure off the object and prevent it from being pushed further into the eye. Never try to remove the object yourself.

To remove a loose eyelash, dirt particle, or other object in your eye:

1. Wash your hands before touching your eyes.
2. Look in a mirror and try to find the object in your eye.
3. Try the following methods to remove the object:
  - Try to blink to allow your tears to wash it out. Do not rub your eye.
  - If the particle is behind your upper eyelid, pull the upper lid out and over the lower lid and roll your eye upward. This can help get the particle to come off the upper lid and flush out of the eye.
  - If the object is in the corner of your eye or under your lower eyelid, remove it with a wet cotton swab or the corner of a clean cloth while holding the lower lid open.
  - Fill an eyecup or small juice glass with lukewarm water. Put your eye over the cup of water and open your eye to rinse your eye and flush the object out.
  - You can pour lukewarm water into your eye to flush out your eye.

A corneal abrasion will feel very much like there is something in the eye. Placing a cool moist washcloth over the closed eye

will help to relieve the discomfort caused by the abrasion until your doctor can see you.

Chemical burns to the eyes are a medical emergency. Follow these steps if you get a chemical in your eyes.

1. Immediately flush the eye with water by holding your head under the faucet or by pouring water into your eye from a clean container. Keep your eye open while flushing with water.
2. Continue flushing out your eye for 10 to 15 minutes.
3. After you flush your eye out, call your health care provider or have someone take you to the emergency department or urgent care center.
4. If possible, take the container the chemical was in with you to the ER, urgent care center or your health care provider.

Call your eye doctor or health care provider if:

- You have severe or worsening eye pain.
- You still have eye pain or irritation 30 minutes after you have removed an object.
- You have glass or a chemical in your eye.
- You have questions or concerns.

The most important thing to do is enjoy your family, friends and the Christmas holidays safely and happily. May the blessings of the Christmas Season stay with you into the New Year.

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

Clinton Community Church Presents:

A  
**CHARLIE BROWN**  
**Christmas**

Sunday, December 10th  
 10:30 am & 6:30 pm

## ENTERTAINMENT

# What's Happening

## at SCT



By Angela Martin

Elf Jr. opened to cheers and laughs as the musical comedy brought in over five hundred people to see this production. 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. The production of Elf Jr. will play once again this weekend December 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.

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

### Last chance to take in "Elf, Jr." at SCT

Buddy (Coleman Simpson) and Santa (Chris Floyd) in a scene with elves during a recent showing of Disney's "Elf, Jr." at Sampson Community Theatre. Proudly sponsored by Performance Automotive in Clinton, this lively musical promises to entertain young and old alike. Book by Thomas Meehan & Bob Martin, music by Matthew Sklar, lyrics by Chad Beguelin, it's based on the New Line Film written by David Berenbaum, directed by Angela Martin and produced through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International. Evening performances are on December 1, 2, 8 and 9 at 7:30pm with matinees on December 3 and 10 at 2:30pm. Located on Fayetteville Street in Clinton the theatre is Sampson County's best kept secret. Visit YOUR community theatre and see for yourself. Tickets are \$10.00.



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### MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

NOW SHOWING

**Rated: PG-13 for violence and thematic elements**

What starts out as a lavish train ride through Europe quickly unfolds into one of the most stylish, suspenseful and thrilling mysteries ever told. From the novel by best-selling author Agatha Christie, "Murder on the Orient Express" tells the tale of thirteen strangers stranded on a train, where everyone's a suspect. One man must race against time to solve the puzzle before the murderer strikes again.

**Friday 6:00p 8:15p**

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

**Mon - Thurs 6:30p Only**



### JUSTICE LEAGUE

NOW SHOWING

**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 6:00p 8:15p**

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

**Mon - Thurs 6:30p Only**



### COCO

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

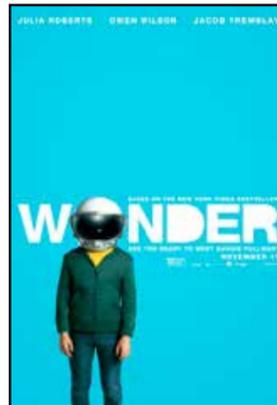
**Rated: PG for some thematic elements**

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 8:15p**

**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 6:00p 8:15p**

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

**Mon - Thurs 6:30p Only**

**Senior Day Every  
Wednesday at 11am  
\$2.00 Movies  
(seniors only)**

**The Sampson Weekly**



**Local Area High School Basketball Results**

**Clinton High School**

- Men**  
 12/06 Lakewood 76-20 (W)  
 12/04 Lakewood 83-42 (W)  
 12/01 Southern Wayne 69-61 (W)  
**Women**  
 12/06 Lakewood 64-22 (W)  
 12/04 Lakewood 63-38 (W)  
 12/01 Southern Wayne 49-58 (L)

**Harrells Christian**

- Men**  
 12/06 FCHS 69-44 (W)  
 12/04 Rocky Mount Academy 69-41 (W)  
 12/01 Cary Christian 54-39 (W)  
**Women**  
 12/06 FCHS 28-38 (L)  
 12/04 Rocky Mount Academy 45-24 (W)  
 12/01 Cary Christian 36-60 (L)

**Hobbton High School**

- Men**  
 12/05 Union 45-41 (W)  
 12/04 Midway 60-65 (L)  
 11/28 Smithfield-Selma 61-75 (L)  
**Women**  
 12/05 Union 16-48 (L)  
 12/04 Midway 06-62 (L)  
 11/28 Smithfield-Selma 17-58 (L)

**Lakewood High School**

- Men**  
 12/06 Clinton 20-76 (L)  
 12/04 Clinton 42-83 (L)  
 12/01 Midway 64-85 (L)  
**Women**  
 12/06 Clinton 22-64 (L)  
 12/04 Clinton 38-63 (L)  
 12/01 Midway 31-66 (L)

**Midway High School**

- Men**  
 12/06 Triton 61-82 (L)  
 12/04 Hobbton 65-60 (W)  
 12/01 Lakewood 85-64 (W)  
**Women**  
 12/06 Triton 52-40 (W)  
 12/04 Hobbton 62-06 (W)  
 12/01 Lakewood 66-31 (W)

**Union High School**

- Men**  
 12/06 West Bladen 42-75 (L)  
 12/05 Hobbton 41-45 (L)  
 12/01 Dixon 42-64 (L)  
**Women**  
 12/06 West Bladen 36-43 (L)  
 12/05 Hobbton 48-16 (W)  
 12/01 Dixon 41-46 (L)

**Midway's Leah Williams Reaches 1000th Point in Basketball**

On Tuesday night Midway High School senior Leah Williams marked a mile-stone in her athletic career at Midway making her 1000th point in basketball for the Lady Raiders. What is even more remarkable is that she also made her 1000th dig this volleyball season as well.

The 1000th point came on Tuesday against the Hobbton Wildcats when Leah was able to swish a 3 pointer. After Leah made the goal, the game was stopped by officials and Leah's coaches presented her with a plaque of recognition and the game ball.

Williams has been lauded for her success on the volleyball and basketball court over the last year. She just recently received the Tom Suiter Extra Effort Award in October. She was named All County and Conference Player of the Year for volleyball, Conference Player of the Year for volleyball, and County Player of the Year for volleyball. Leah plays volleyball, basketball and softball at Midway High and also plays travel volleyball and is a member of the AAU Basketball team.

The Midway High School Senior is the daughter of Clint and Carol Williams, and she has a younger brother Davis. In addition to lettering in three sports, the senior is tops in the classroom too. Leah says Science is her favorite subject.

While she's still got most of her senior year ahead, Leah Williams is already planning to continue playing the sport she loves most in college. But which college is yet to be determined.



In addition to the rigorous course work and hours of practice on the court and the field, Williams has a plethora of after school activities to keep her busy. "Outside of school I participate in AAU basketball, youth group activities, I work on my family's farm, and I sing in a quartet called the Precious Jewels."

The Midway Raider counts volleyball, softball and basketball among the sports she's lettered in, but basketball is her clear favorite, and what she hopes to continue beyond her high school years.

When asked what she attributes her many talents too, Leah Williams quickly credits God and her parents. "The ability to be able to do all the things I do, and be successful at them, is because my motivation comes from God and my parents."

"God has given me the ability and talent to do the things that I am able to do," says Williams, "so I do my best because I don't want to waste what God has given me."

"My parents also motivate me because they believe in me," adds Williams. "And they push me to be the best at whatever I do."

"I would like to thank my parents for all they have done for me," adds Williams. They took me to all my practices, games, extra practices, bought me the things I need to be successful; and have pushed me to be the best I can be."

"And," concluded Williams, "They have taught me very valuable things along the way."

**The Crusader Chronicle**

*By Aidan Kunst*

The Crusaders of Harrells Christian Academy had a great week in sports, as both girls and boys began their basketball seasons.



The varsity boys team has opened their season 4-0, with consecutive wins against Wake Christian Academy, Cary Christian, Rocky Mount Academy, and Fayetteville Christian. The team is led by sophomore guard Marcus Boykin of Clinton, who is averaging 22 points, eight rebounds, and three blocks per game.

Additionally, junior Malik Killett is averaging 16 points and nine boards. Senior Dontravis Barfield has added 13 points per night while sophomore Javarus Keith has six points and six assists. The Crusaders look to keep their undefeated season alive, as they trav-



el to Fayetteville Academy for a matchup with their rivals Friday night.

The varsity girls' basketball team has started 2-2, with wins over Wake Christian and Rocky Mount and losses to Cary Christian and Fayetteville Christian. Sophomore Zamia Jones and seniors Brenna King and Sydney Norris have led the team thus far. They look to get above .500 on Friday night away at Fayetteville Academy.

Additionally, the JV boys team has started 3-1, with wins against Cary Christian, Rocky Mount Academy, and a big win over Fayetteville Christian. The team will try to get to 4-1 on Friday at Fayetteville Academy.

*Celebrating 50 YEARS*

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## SPORTS

# PERFORMANCE AUTO "STAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK"

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



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## Harrells Christian's Cameron Simpson Helping Crusaders Rebuild

Harrells Christian Academy junior Cameron Simpson says that she was caught by surprise when she was told that she has been named this week's Performance Auto/Sampson Weekly Star Athlete of the Week.

"I really didn't know anything," the 16-year-old basketball standout said earlier this week. "I am really surprised; just shocked. But it makes me feel really good to think coach (Wayne Cannady) thought that much of me to even nominate me for this honor."

The Lady Christian Crusader varsity basketball team won on the road versus Rocky Mount Academy on Monday night 45-24 and will play again tonight at Fayetteville Christian. The team is currently at 2-1 (as of Wednesday morning) and is in a 'rebuilding' season.

This season the Crusaders have just three seniors (Caroline Jones, Sydney Norris and Brenna King), four juniors, one sophomore and four freshmen.

"We are a very young team right now," the 6-foot Simpson admits. "We lost a lot of good players last season, so right now, we are taking it game by game."

Last season, the Crusaders went 15-8 overall, falling in the NCISAA 2-A State semi-finals to Fayetteville Christian, 56-52. That team was led by the dominate force of 6 feet, 3 inch forward-center Sierra Votaw, who is now playing at Virginia Tech.

"We are rebuilding," Simpson says, "We have a lot work to do but it is all coming together. We are all getting used to that feeling of working together, but we are starting to get it."

Simpson came to Harrells in her freshman year from Riverland Middle School in Clayton.

"I was born in Cary and grew up in Clayton," she explains. "I moved here, and the adjustment was a little easier for me because my step-brother and my step-sister were already going here, so I knew some people right away. I think that helped make my transition here easier."

She continued, "When I came here, everyone was so welcoming; so warm. They just welcomed me with open arms."

Her first foray into sports came when she played soccer in recreation ball.

"I played basketball and soccer in rec ball," Simpson said. "I also played travel soccer from the fifth to the eighth grade."

When asked about how she adapted to Harrells coming from a larger school, Simpson said that the biggest change was the traveling.

"Well, I really did have to get used to the aspect of traveling more when I came here in my freshman

year," she said. "Coming from a larger district, everything was close-by. But it really wasn't a problem for me because I really enjoy it. For me, it helps our team bond more with each other. That is just as important as playing on the court."

The three-sport star (basketball, volleyball and soccer) was a born athlete. Simpson's parents were very supportive of the young athlete.

"I've always looked up to my parents," she said. "My mother, I have always looked up to her, is very sweet. My father played basketball and, I guess, from both of them is where I got my competitiveness. I am really competitive - I try my best to do my best and leave everything on the court. But I do not like to lose."

Simpson said that she felt confident in her play around the ninth grade.

"I really didn't think I was all that great," she humbly admits. "I was playing three sports, but around the ninth grade, that is when I started recognizing I could play."

Although she enjoys playing three sports, Simpson says if she had to choose, it would be soccer.

"I play center/midfielder," Simpson said. "I get the ball a lot. When I played travel soccer it really helped my game a lot and because of that, I could help other players, which is something I like to do."

When asked about basketball, Simpson said that she loves playing defense.

"I rebound a lot," she said. "With my size, I can grab a lot of rebounds. I love playing defense and being able to help my team."

A "mostly" straight 'A' student ("AP Chemistry is kicking my butt," Simpson says with a laugh), Simpson said that she plans on attending college.

"I definitely want to go to college. I want to major in biology and go into dentistry like my mom. I shadowed her, and I thought it was really cool what she did. I always wanted to do something in my life that will help people."

Is Simpson planning on playing sports in college? "I would love to play," she said. "But, honestly, I don't think that I am that good. College athletes are really great players, but I would really like to play (soccer and volleyball) if that opportunity and scholarship presents itself."

Although Simpson has about a year and a half left of high school, she is already aware that leaving Harrells will be difficult.

"Oh yeah, it is going to be really hard," she said. "I have made so many friendships and so many memories here. It is a comfort to be here ... like my second home. I know that I will go back and visit, but



Photo by Meredith Horne

it is definitely going to be hard to say goodbye."

The hardest part?

"Not going to be able to see my friends every day," Simpson said. "Not being around my friends every day is going to be tough. We will always be friends, but knowing that we will be going our separate ways is going to be hard."

She added, "There have never been coaches like the ones at Harrells. They not only want the best for you, but they want to push you to be your best. It has been just amazing."

When Simpson is asked what piece of advice she would give to a young athlete coming up into high school. She says, "Don't be afraid. Just go for it. If you want it, you have to go for it because you will always regret the chances you didn't take."

Simpson said that she wanted to thank God for being a guiding light in her life.

"Everything that I have gone through, every struggle, He has been there for me," she says. "God is definitely my strength and has been the key to any success that I have. I give all the glory to Him."

In addition to God, Simpson said she appreciates the support that she has received from family, friends, coaches and teammates.

## PERFORMANCE AUTOMOTIVE SALUTES THE STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE WEEK!

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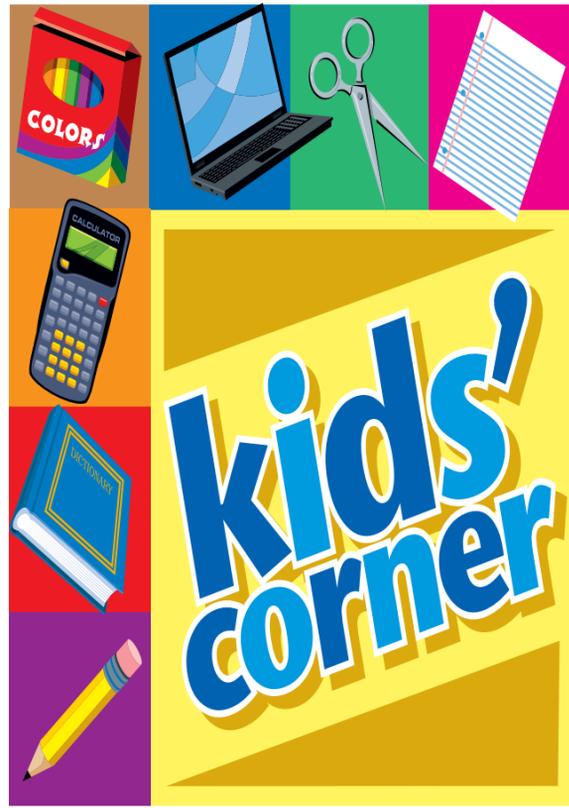
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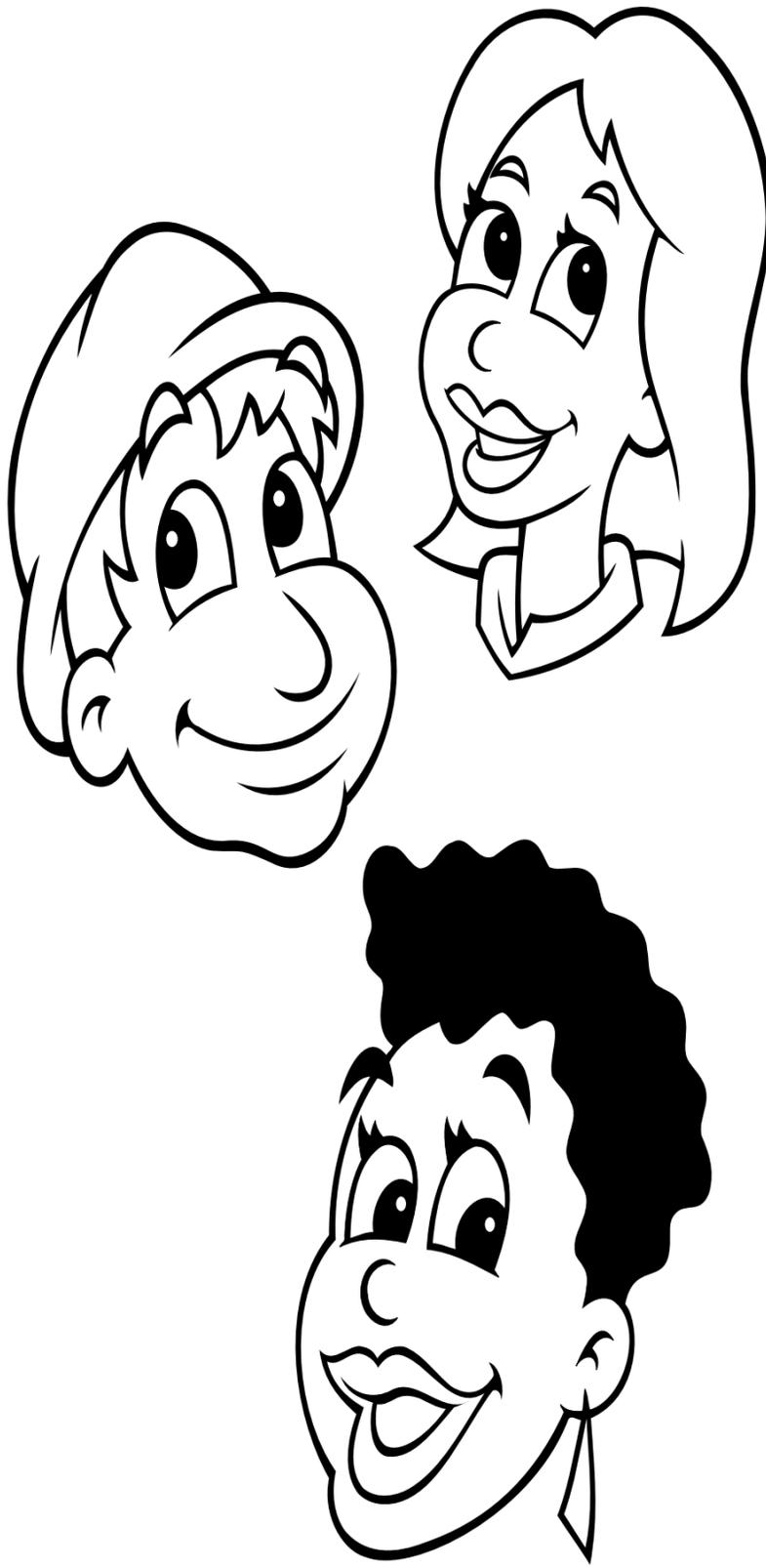
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### Creative Coloring

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### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1792: THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE IS ESTABLISHED BY A GROUP OF 24 BROKERS AND MERCHANTS.
- 1875: THE FIRST KENTUCKY DERBY IS HELD AT CHURCHILL DOWNS IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.
- 1973: THE TELEVISED WATERGATE HEARINGS OPEN ON TELEVISION.



THIS CONDITION IS SWELLING OF THE GUM TISSUE IN THE MOUTH THAT CAN RESULT FROM INADEQUATE BRUSHING AND FLOSSING OF TEETH.

ANSWER: GINGIVITIS



### PALATE

roof of the mouth

### How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Breath

**SPANISH:** Respiración

**ITALIAN:** Respiro

**FRENCH:** Souffle

**GERMAN:** Atem

### Did you know?



TEETH ARE MADE UP OF DIFFERENT LAYERS OF TISSUE. ENAMEL IS THE OUTER AND HARDEST LAYER.

### GET THE PICTURE!



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: TOOTHBRUSH AND TEETH

# EDUCATION

## Spreading the Joy of Christmas



Students from the Student Government Association of Sampson Community College travelled to the Mary Gran Nursing Center this week for its annual Christmas Caroling event there. Each year, the group goes into the home and walks the halls singing songs about Christmas and taking requests from the residents. Mary Gran has been providing local residents with short term rehabilitation, long term care, assisted living, hospice, respite services, and out-patient therapy for more than 30 years.. Student carolers pictured left to right are Ashley Lane, Bridget Caulder, Alyssa Diaz, Shadavia Pridgen and Jasmin Paz-Martinez.

## IT Career Paths route through SCC



Staying ahead of the curve, Sampson Community College's Information Systems Technology Advisory Board met to discuss several items that will benefit IT students and our community for years to come. The board, including host Nathan Mckee, Department Chair for SCC's Computer Information Technology and Security department, welcomed Cornelius Lindsey, SCC's ITS and Network Support administrator, Ginger Stone, CTE Director for Sampson County Schools and Chris Rayner, IT Director for Sampson County Government.

SCC already offers students Microsoft's Imagine Academy which gives SCC students unparalleled access to Microsoft training material. This benefits both the college and students by focusing learning on the skills that Microsoft stresses the most. Both in terms of real-world application as well as successfully passing their Industry-standard certification exams.

Additionally, SCC provides access to the PaloAlto Academy which provides students with a unique opportunity to get hands-on experience with equipment from one of the world's top cyber-security companies. PaloAlto has worked very hard to develop course material that will provide students with a competitive edge in the highly sought after areas of Cyber-Security.

These highly sought-after programs are offered right here at Sampson Community College right now and allow students in the Sampson County area to get top notch offerings and advancements in IT training without the commute to Raleigh, Charlotte or other areas.

But that's not enough for SCC. Board members stressed the realities of the job market. Graduates will often begin in an entry-level position and work their way up so the college has to take the lead to train students to a high standard using up-to-date technology and Sampson County overall needs to consider ways to implement technology early in the education "pipeline" (starting in middle and/or high school) to ensure that students have adequate exposure to technology so they will be up-to-speed when they enter college.

If you have ever wanted to work in the IT field or know about the Microsoft Imagine or PaloAlto academies but never had access to them, call 910-592-8081.

## Concept, Design, Application



Students at SCC were able to make their latest project jump right off the page this week. Sampson Community College's Advanced Microsoft Word class, taught by instructor Benita Hayes of the Administration and Medical Office Administration department, created labels for water bottles. The project allowed students to actually create and design the labels using the popular program but also see their design come to life by printing, cutting and pasting the labels onto bottles. The purpose of the exercise is to allow students to understand real world applications and possibilities of using programs sometimes overlooked as simply a program for writing documents.

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Wear?



The Sampson Community College Student Government Association is promoting National Recycling Week in order to encourage students to recycle to help the environment. Jasmine Paz-Martinez, SCC student and SGA member, offered to display her recycling dress she created to show students how recycling can also bring creativity or new ideas. The dress, which earned Paz-Martinez a second place award at the National Beta Club Competition, is made of recyclable materials such as plastic water bottles, soda cans, window screen, aluminum foil, and 2-liter soda bottles. At the Competition, Paz-Martinez says she wanted to show students how important it is to recycle and to demonstrate the ways recyclable materials can be used.



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**Eagle Six System**  
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Preinstalled 2TB HDD  
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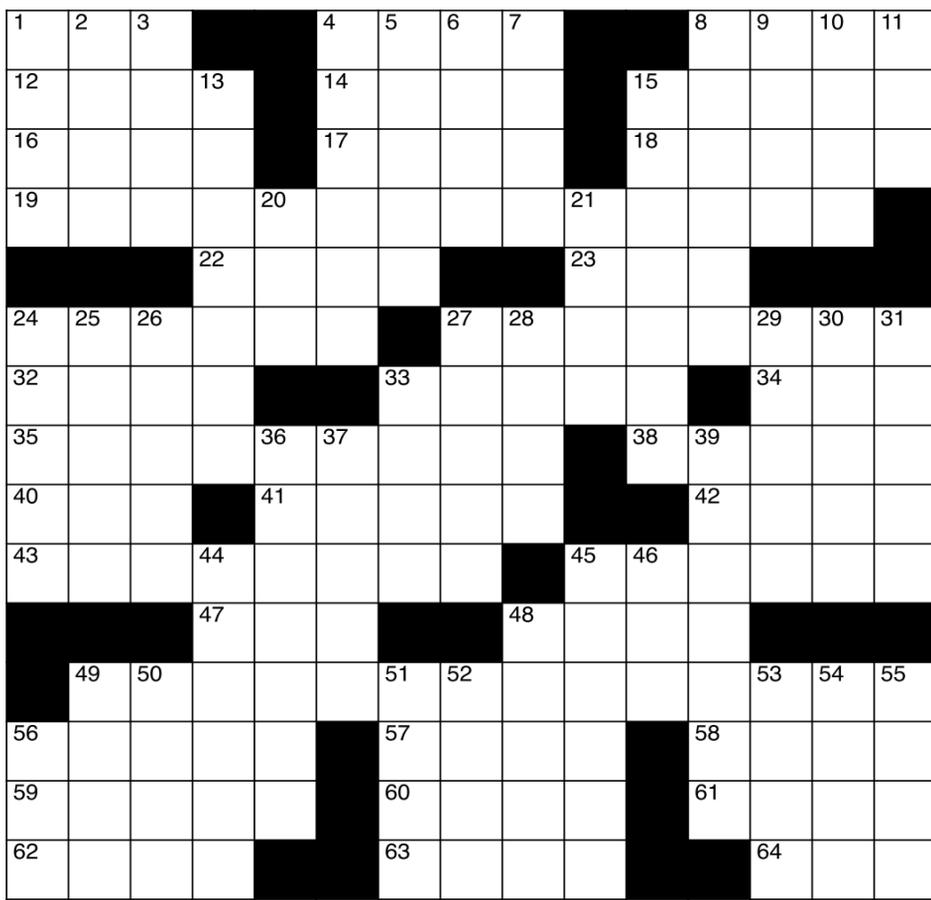


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PUZZLES & GAMES

# Crossword Puzzle

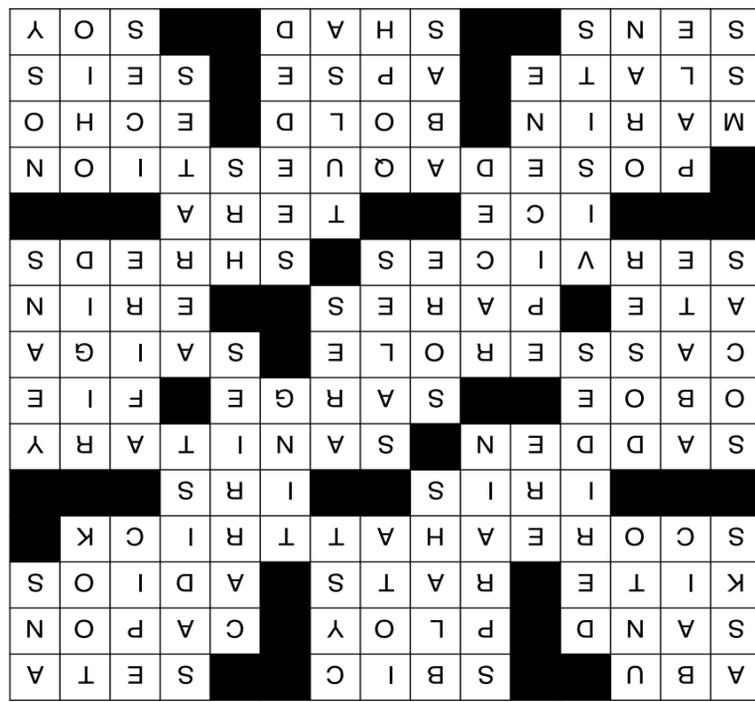


**CLUES ACROSS**

1. \_\_\_ Dhabi, Arabian capital
4. Invests in little enterprises
8. Stalk of a moss capsule
12. Beach material
14. Maneuver in a game
15. A castrated male chicken
16. Write bad checks
17. Sewer inhabitants
18. Farewell (Spanish)
19. Player makes 3 goals in one game
22. Greek rainbow goddess
23. Tax collector
24. Make unhappy
27. Hygienic
32. Double-reed instrument
33. Beetle Bailey's dog
34. Fee, \_\_\_, foe, fum
35. One dish meal
38. Goatlike antelope
40. Consumed food
41. Peels
42. Emerald Isle
43. Duties helpful to others
45. Fragments of cloth
47. Frozen water
48. Spanish river
49. Stated an inquiry
56. Laid-back California county
57. Fearless and daring
58. Sound after its source has stopped
59. Blackboard rock
60. A domed or vaulted recess
61. Six (Spanish)
62. French city
63. Herringlike clupeid fish
64. Oriental sauce

**CLUES DOWN**

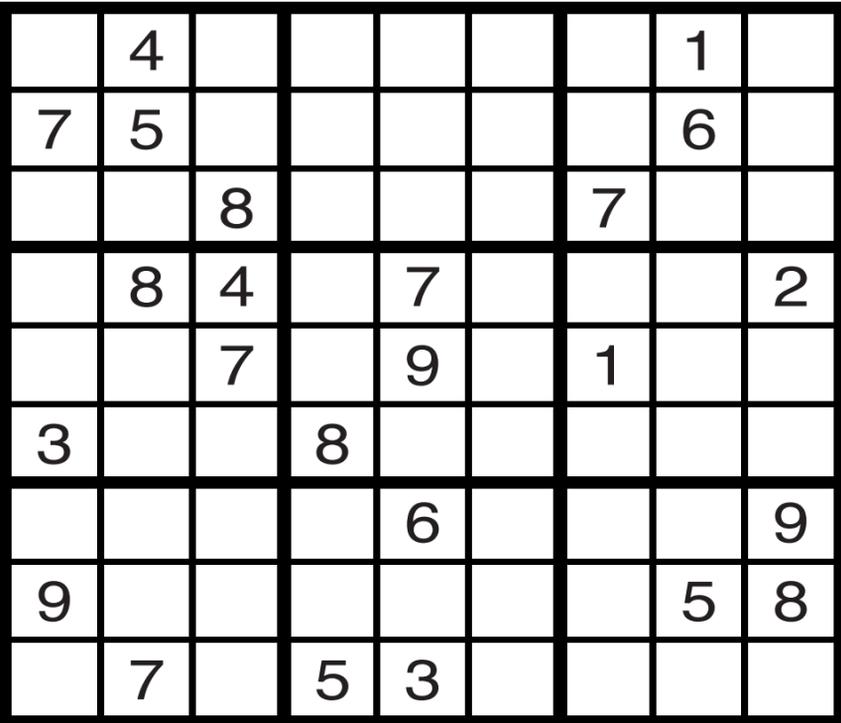
1. Requests
2. Spoken in the Dali region of Yunnan
3. Up to the time of
4. Common ankle injury
5. Tedium
6. 9th Greek letter
7. Abnormal closed body sac
8. One who obtains pleasure from other's pain
9. Long narrative heroic poem
10. Possessed by force
11. Autonomic nervous system
13. Treats with contempt
15. Bears
20. Before
21. Light ringing sound
24. Blends of soul and calypso
25. Fall off in intensity
26. Gives medicine
27. Gross receipts
28. Square measures
29. Ablaze
30. Incapable of flexibility
31. Bears, sheep or goats
33. An open skin infection
36. Effeminate
37. Competed in a speed test
39. Supplies with air
44. Short stays
45. Sown a lawn
46. 60 min. units (abbr.)
48. Second largest Oklahoma city
49. Fence picket
50. 2nd largest Algerian port city
51. Camel or goat fabrics
52. 19th Hebrew letter
53. Frosts
54. 17th state
55. Inquisitorial
56. Manuscripts (abbr.)



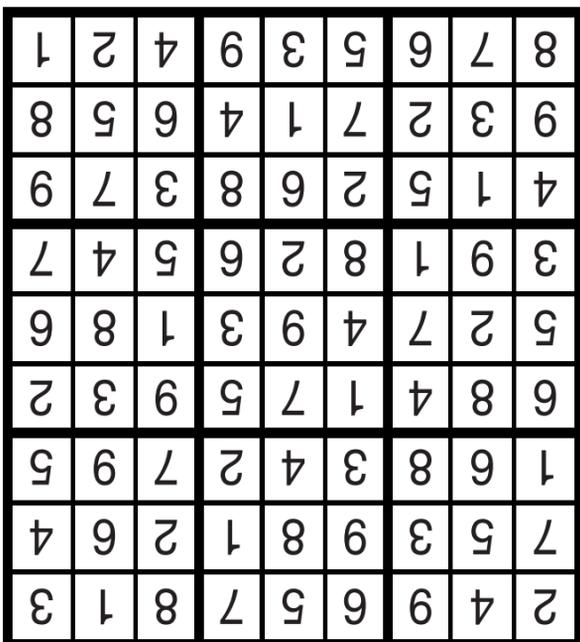
# SUDOKU

**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!



## Matthew 1:18-25



- |           |            |           |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| ANGEL     | APPEARED   | CALLED    |
| COME      | CONCEIVE   | CONFUSED  |
| DAVID     | DESCENDANT | DISTURBED |
| ELIZABETH | ENGAGED    | FAVOR     |
| GABRIEL   | GALILEE    | GIVE      |
| GREETINGS | HIGH       | HOLY      |
| JOSEPH    | KING       | LORD      |
| MARRIED   | MARY       | MONTH     |
| MOST      | NAME       | NAZARETH  |
| NEVER     | PREGNANCY  | SAID      |
| SENT      | SIXTH      | TRIED     |
| VILLAGE   | VIRGIN     | WOMAN     |

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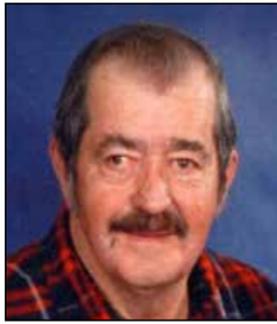
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# OBITUARIES

## AUTRYVILLE

**Ret. First SGT Stephen Ezzell, 64** of 130 Hound Alley Lane, passed away Saturday, November 25, 2017 at his home. Funeral services were held at 2:00pm Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at Pleasant Union Baptist Church, officiating will be Rev. Paul Honeycutt. Burial with full military honors followed at Ezzell Family Cemetery. The family received friends from 1:00pm to 1:45pm Tuesday at the church prior to the service. He is preceded in death by his parents, James W. Ezzell and Edna Stone Ezzell; and a brother, Jarvis Ezzell. He was retired from the United States Army with 20 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Rhonda Ezzell of the home; son, Stephen R. Ezzell & wife, Michelle of Georgia; daughter, Stephanie Raynor & husband, Gary of Coats; siblings, JW Ezzell & wife, Betty, Glenn Ezzell & wife, Alice, Judy Autry & husband, Jimmy, Donnie Ezzell & wife, Elizabeth and Buddy Ezzell & wife, Barbara all of Autryville; grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Ty and Lila Ezzell, Jade Guin and Brian Guin; and numerous nieces and nephews. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro.



## MONROE

**Dr. Herbert Burns Hoover, 63** of Monroe, passed away Saturday, November 25, 2017 at his home. The funeral service was held at 2:00pm Wednesday, November 29, at Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Roseboro, with Rev. Michael Shook officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Dr. Hoover was a native of Mecklenburg County, the son of the late Rufus Gray and Charlotte Burns Hoover. He was preceded in death by a niece, Shannon Loring. He was a retired Dentist. In 2009 he was awarded Top Dentist Award of North Carolina. He was a former member of the North Carolina Dentist Association. He was a member of Beaver Dam Baptist Church. He was also a member of the Beaver Dam Bear Club, a life time member of the North Carolina Bear Hunters Association and a supporter of the National Rifle Association. Dr. Hoover is survived by his son, Matt Hoover of Elizabethtown; his spouse, Lynn Robinson of the home; step daughter, Brooke Few and Chuck; Grandson, Tripp Wardlaw; sister, Betty Hoover Hastings of Charlotte; and a nephew, Chuck Hastings. The family received friends from 6:00 to 8:00pm Tuesday evening at Butler Funeral Home in Roseboro. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro.



## HARRELLS

**Mr. Robert Clarence Hudson, 80** of 1621 Belvin Maynard Rd. passed away Friday, December 1st, 2017 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington. Funeral services were held Monday December 4th at 2:00PM at Royal-Hall Funeral Home Chapel, 301 McKoy St. Clinton with Rev. Janice Fucili & Rev. Jimmy Flowers officiating. Burial followed in the Clinton Cemetery. Born in 1937, in Sampson County, Robert was the son of the late James Clarence & Florence Matthis Hudson. He was a retired farmer, poultry grower and carpenter and a member at Center Baptist Church. Robert was a very talented person who loved his family dearly and showed everyone he came in contact with what love really meant. Robert is survived by his wife, Joyce Craft Hudson; daughter, Debra H. Piner and husband, Joseph of Harrells; son, Lynn Hudson and wife, Penny of Harrells; two sisters: Bobbie Jenkins of New Bern & Betty Sykes of Ivanhoe; one brother, Thomas Hudson of Harrells. Robert was blessed with three grandchildren: Melissa Hubbard and husband, Michael, Matthew Hudson & Nicole Piner & two great-grandchildren, Cameron Hall and Jax Hubbard. The family received friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home on Monday starting at 1:00 PM, and other times at his home. In Lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Robert's Honor to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital by visiting <https://www.stjude.org>. Condolences may be sent by visiting [www.royalhallfuneralhome.com](http://www.royalhallfuneralhome.com). Royal-Hall is honored to serve the Hudson family.



## DUNN

**Lela Mae Hackney Marshburn** of Dunn fell asleep in the Lord early on the morning of Wednesday 29 November 2017 while surrounded by family. She was 92. Lela was born at home in Durham, North Carolina, on April 5, 1925, the third and youngest daughter of the late William Floyd Hackney and Flonnie Beatrice Windham Hackney. Lela married the late William "Bill" Cecil Marshburn on June 16, 1944—each a graduate of the Class of 1943 of Durham High School, where Lela sang in the choir. Lela worked many years for Home Savings Bank of Durham. Bill and Lela moved their family from Durham to Dunn in March 1951. Lela embraced the vocation of wife, homemaker, and mother for Bill and their three girls with duty and enthusiasm. This enabled Bill to work for the family outside of the home, where he ultimately became president and owner of Bemco Sleep Products; served as president of the National Bedding Association and the Dunn Chamber of Commerce; served on various non-profit boards, like the Presidential Board of Advisors of Campbell University and the Boards of Trustees of Emmanuel College and Heritage Bible College, including terms as chairman of the Boards of Trustees of Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital and the Falcon Children's Home Foundation; served as a trustee of the Christian Action League of North Carolina; organized FellowSHARE, Inc., of Dunn; and served as mayor of Dunn from 1965 to 1971, which period saw the building of Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital, Dunn Public Library, City Hall Complex, and the water plant. Bill and Lela became charter members of the Gospel Tabernacle Church of Dunn in 1951. While Bill served as deacon, finance committee chairman, and Sunday School superintendent and teacher, Lela taught Sunday School for over 40 years—more than 30 years as teacher of the Adult Ladies Sunday School Class—and stopped



only when her weakening voice sounded the time to pass the baton. Lela also sang in the choir and was in charge of the Benevolent Food Committee for many years. Lela became a member of the Women's Ministries upon its organization in 1953 and served two terms as its president. The Gospel Tabernacle Church honored Lela as its "Woman of the Year" in 1990. In the community, Lela participated in a volunteer organization that engaged in auxiliary work on behalf of the gift shop at Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital and served as its president for two years. Lela was also a member of The Ideal Homemakers Club and the Hoe & Grow Garden Club of Dunn for many years. Lela was predeceased by her husband, Bill, who passed into eternal life in 2014—just 15 days shy of the 70th anniversary of their wedding—as well as her two older sisters, Ruby Hackney Gurtner and Mary Lee Hackney Harrington. Lela frequently quoted from the Psalms, "Children are an inheritance from the Lord." Lela lived to receive such an inheritance of three daughters, Celia M. Forehand and husband Bobby of Tarboro, Susan M. Whittenton and husband Terry of Dunn, and Jane M. Potter and husband Charles of Roseboro; seven grandchildren, Samuel Forehand and wife Yasmin, Benjamin Forehand, Anna W. Altman and husband Jonathan, Sarah W. Neral and husband C.J., Daniel Potter and wife Tiffany, Caleb Potter and wife Katie, and Isaac Potter; and six great-grandchildren, William Marshburn Forehand, Ella Anne Forehand, Jackson Baha Forehand, Theodore Samuel Forehand, Canaan Wesley Potter, and Margaret Abigail Potter. Many nieces and nephews survive Lela, as well. The family received friends Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the Gospel Tabernacle Church of Dunn, followed by a funeral service at 11 o'clock. A burial service followed at the Greenwood Cemetery of Dunn. The Reverend Bobby Forehand, the Reverend Terry Whittenton, and the Reverend Daniel Potter officiated. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the William C. and Lela H. Marshburn Scholarship at Emmanuel College, P.O. Box 129, Franklin Springs, GA 30639; the William C. and Lela H. Marshburn Divinity School Scholarship at Campbell University Divinity School, P.O. Drawer 4050, Buies Creek, NC 27506; and the SECU Hospice House, P.O. Box 1376, Smithfield, NC 27577.

## CLINTON

**Henry James Sykes, 84**, of 875 Share Cake Road, passed away Friday, December 1, 2017 at Duke University Hospital. A funeral service was held at 1 P.M., Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at St. Matthews Pentecostal Holiness Church, with Rev. Paul King officiating. Interment followed in the Clinton City Cemetery. James, born in 1933 in Sampson County, was the son of the late Henry Scott Sykes and Roney Ruth Hall. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his first wife, Johnnie Bell McCullen Sykes. He was a retired talented Air Plane Mechanic with the US Air Force and a Veteran of the Vietnam War. Survivors include; his wife, Rebecca Sykes; children, Eddie Sykes and wife Cathy of Clinton and daughter, Debra Newman and husband Scott of Los Angeles, CA; brother, Johnny Sykes and wife Linda of Perry, GA; grandchildren, Heather Sykes and boyfriend, Terrence Parker, Justin Sykes and girlfriend, Tara Knowles, Jayson Newman, Josh Dudley and wife Meagan; great-grandchildren, Luke Parker, Addy Lockwood, Haylee Dudley and Bentlee Dudley. The family received friends from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M., Monday, December 4, 2017, at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328 and at other times at the home. Flowers are welcome or memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N Michigan Ave, FL.17, Chicago, IL 60601 or by visiting [alz.org](http://alz.org). Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.crumpler-honeycutt.com](http://www.crumpler-honeycutt.com). Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328.



## CLINTON

**Miss Cora "Nicy" Evans, 51** of 102 Badger Court, passed away Friday, December 1, 2017 at Carolina Medical Center, Charlotte, NC. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, December 9, at New Life Outreach Ministries. The burial will follow in Sandhill Cemetery. The visitation will be held from 1-6 p.m. at Worley Funeral Home with the family present from 5-6 p.m. Miss Evans is survived by her sisters, Mary Thompson of Clinton, NC, Alice Dayter of Berne, N.Y., Katrina Evans of Brooklyn, N.Y.; brothers, Robert Thompson of Albany, N.Y., Perry Thompson of Waterbury, C.T., Jerome Thompson of Queens, N.Y., Keith Evans of Newton Grove, N.C., Kenneth Evans of Clinton, N.C. Online condolences may be sent to [www.worleyfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.worleyfuneralhomeinc.com).

## ROSEBORO

**Howard C. Guin, 62**, of 207 Dew Berry Lane, passed away on Tuesday evening, December 5, 2017 at The Brian Center in Wallace. Arrangements will be announced as soon as possible.

## GREENSBORO

**Catherlene Strickland Hamlin, Age 63-** 1596 Candace Ridge Dr. Greensboro, NC died 12/1/2017 at Moses Con Hospital Greensboro, NC. Funeral arrangements are incomplete. Butler & Son Funeral Home, Roseboro, NC.

## CLINTON

**Vada Louise Honrine, 76**, of 120 Southwood Drive, passed away Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center. Arrangements are incomplete at this time but will be announced as they become available by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328.

## CLINTON

**Mrs. Itestia L. Maxwell, 78**, of Rahway, NJ, formerly of Clinton, NC, passed away on Thursday, November 30, 2017. Funeral services were held on Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 2pm, at Andrews Chapel Baptist Church with elder Gerald Underwood officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. She is survived by husband, Fredrick Maxwell, daughters, Mary Cunion and Tia Tinsley and son Shawn Tinsley, all of NJ, her mother, Beatrice Lee, sisters, Gail Mitchell and Gloria Lee, brothers, Harvey Lee and Anthony Lee, all of Clinton, NC, 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. There will be no public viewing.

## CLINTON

**Ellen M. Raynor, 94**, of 704 Stewart Avenue, passed away Friday, December 1, 2017 at Southwood Nursing Center. A memorial service was held at 11 A.M., Monday, December 4, 2017 at First United Methodist Church, with the Reverend T. R. Miller officiating. The family received friends immediately after the service at the church. Ellen, born in 1923 in Statesville, NC, was the daughter of the late Rev. Omer Clyde "O.C." Melton and Jettie Davis Melton. She was a homemaker and a member of First United Methodist Church of Clinton. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband Harold Stewart Raynor, Sr. and a brother, O. C. Melton, Jr. Survivors include; children, Ann Raynor Berrier and husband Bob of Newport News, VA, Harold Stewart

Raynor, Jr. and wife Kay of Clinton, and Linda Raynor Thompson and husband Paul of Fairmont, NC; Six grandchildren; Eight great-grandchildren; and sister, Clarice Edge of Fayetteville. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, 208 Sampson St., Clinton, NC 28328. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.crumpler-honeycutt.com](http://www.crumpler-honeycutt.com). Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328.

## ROSEBORO

**Ret. MSGT Mr. Thomas Everett Sessoms, 82** passed away Monday, November 4, 2017 at his home. Funeral services were held at 2:00pm Thursday, December 7, 2017 at Butler Funeral Home Chapel, officiating will be Rev. Eddie Smith and Rev. Bryan Strickland. Burial with military honors followed at Roseboro Cemetery. The family received friends from 12:00pm to 1:45pm Thursday at the funeral home prior to the service. He was born August 27, 1935 in Sampson County to the late John Martin Sessoms and Eula Mae Lee Sessoms. He was a Retired MSGT with the United States Air Force and was an aviation inspector with civil service. He is survived by his wife, Wanda Faye Sessoms of the home; sons, Gary Culbreth & wife, Audra and Steve Culbreth & wife, Becky all of Roseboro; daughters, Tracey Milligan & husband, Ray of Rockingham and Angie Willard of Roseboro; sister, Doris Schoubroek of Texas; brother, George Sessoms of Autryville; 12 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro.

## FAYETTEVILLE

**Johnnie Stephens Jr. Age-39**, 6912 Kizer Drive died Tuesday 11/28/17 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. Funeral services was Tuesday 12/4/17 at 1pm, Butler & Son Funeral Home, Roseboro, N.C. Interment in the Bearskin Church Cemetery, Clinton, N.C. Visitation 1 hour prior to the service.

## CLINTON

**James Eujerl Westbrook, 89**, of 120 Vada W Lane, passed away Monday, December 4, 2017 at his home. A memorial service will be held at 11 A.M., December 9, 2017 at Mary's Chapel Church, with Reverend C. H. Lee and Pastor David Willis officiating. James, born in Sampson County in 1928, was the son of the late Christopher Columbus Westbrook and Vada William Brown Westbrook. He was a machinist for Cooper Industries. He also retired from Waste Industries Newton Grove site. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by a son, Christopher Milton Westbrook, and seven brothers and sisters. Survivors include; wife of 67 years, Joan Westbrook; children, Catherine Anna Ball of Buffalo, NY, Debra Ann Dalton and husband Bill of Tuscon, Arizona, and Michelle Ann Westbrook and Doug Hudgins of Clinton; daughter-in-law, Debbie Westbrook of Clinton; brother, Bobby Westbrook of Charlottesville, VA; grandchildren, Carrie Ann Brice, Edward J. McVea, Kyle J. Westbrook, Anna Jade Isham, Michael T. Nahrebeski, Kathryn J. Ball, Bobby G. Lee, Zachary J. Dennis, Dennis Packard, D. J. Packard, Beckie Helms. David Zaton, and Christopher Hoffman; and ten great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Community Home Health and Hospice, 109 W Main St., Clinton, NC 28328. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.crumpler-honeycutt.com](http://www.crumpler-honeycutt.com). Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville Street, Clinton, NC 28328.

## ROSEBORO

**Beulah Ann Avery, 85**, of 507 W Pinewood St., passed away Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. A funeral service will be held at 2 P.M., Saturday, December 9, 2017 at Carr's Chapel Freewill Holiness Church, 3681 McDaniels Road in Roseboro, with Reverend Billy Bass officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Beulah, born in 1932 to the late Donnie Brown and Addie Parker Brown, was a homemaker and a member of Carr's Chapel Freewill Holiness Church. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by; husband, Clifton Horace Avery; son, Charles Horace Avery; grandson, Dwight Stewart; five brothers; and one sister. Survivors include; children, Jerry Avery and wife Judy of Clinton, Wilma Ann Tyndall and husband Ervin of Garland, Joyce Ann Johnson of Clinton, Carl Avery and wife Sharon of Roseboro, Carolyn Stewart and husband Glenn of Roseboro, Ricky Avery and wife Terry of Clinton, Kenny Avery and wife Margie of Seven Springs, Judy Noland of Wilmington, and Donnie Avery and wife Kristy of Godwin; twenty-two grandchildren; five step grandchildren; eighteen great-grandchildren; twelve step great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; sister, Janice Evans of Asheboro; and one special child, Jimmy, whom she is taking with her. The family will have a fellowship from 6 P.M. – 8 P.M., Friday, December 8, 2017 at Carr's Chapel Freewill Holiness Church for family and friends. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.crumpler-honeycutt.com](http://www.crumpler-honeycutt.com). Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328.



## CLINTON

**Vada Louise Honrine, 76**, of 120 Southwood Drive, passed away Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at Sampson Regional Medical Center. A funeral service will be held at 3 P.M., Friday, December 8, 2017, at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home with Reverend Ray Ammons officiating. Interment will follow in the Honrine Family Cemetery, Honrine Rd., Clinton. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home and at other times at the home of her niece, Sandra Starling, at 605 Underwood St., Clinton, NC 28328. Louise was born July 8, 1941 in Sampson County and was the daughter of the late John B. Honrine and Ethel Steed Honrine. She was a member of First Baptist Church. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by siblings, Louis Junior Honrine, James Lenwood Honrine, Richard Nelson Honrine, Catholeen Honrine and two infant sisters. Survivors include a sister, Gurley Honrine Quinn and several nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 408 College Street, Clinton, NC 28328. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.crumpler-honeycutt.com](http://www.crumpler-honeycutt.com). Arrangements are by Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, 118 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328.

## CLINTON

**Miss Isolene Williams, 77**, of 214 Ferrell Street, passed away Saturday, December 2, 2017 at home. The memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, December 9, at Worley Funeral Home Chapel with Apostle Solomon Hunt officiating. There will be no public viewing. Miss Williams is survived by her daughters Sandra Rodriguez of Winterville, NC, Audrey Williams and Robin Becton both of Clinton, NC; sisters, Steve Williams and Ralph Williams both of Clinton, NC; 3 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Online condolences may be sent to [www.worleyfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.worleyfuneralhomeinc.com).

**Arrest Reports**

11-30 Yanika Cromartie, 24; 1006 Parkersburg Rd., Garland; Child Abuse (Non-Assaultive); Unsecured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 01-09

11-30 Brittany Ann Hope, 21; 161 Mill Creek Church Rd., Roseboro; Domestic Simple Assault; No Bond; Court Date 12-18

12-01 Amy Marie Hepler, 27; 1850 Eugene Jernigan Rd., Dunn; Failure to Appear- Shoplifting Concealment Goods; Secured Bond \$3,000; Court Date 12-15

12-01 Everette Ray Naylor, 29; 550 Mamie Rd., Benson; Order for Arrest/Failure to Comply- Child Support; Court Date 12-12

12-01 Alford Lee Shackelford, 43; 304 Lisbon St., Apt A, Clinton; Order for Arrest/Failure to Comply- Child Support; Court Date 12-12

12-01 Courtney Aaron Teachey, 34; 3206 Abbott-Morris Lane, Morehead; Contempt of Court, Perjury, Court Violations; Court Date 01-02

12-01 Donald Ardell Jackson, 49; 49 Junk Yard Lane, Clinton; Possession of Methamphetamine; Maintaining a Vehicle for Controlled Substance; Secured Bond \$25,000; Court Date 12-15

12-01 David Robert Field, 48; 214 Woodcrest Ave., Smithfield; Possession of Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Flee/Elude Arrest with Motor Vehicle; DVPO Violation; Secured Bond \$25,000; Court Date 12-15

12-01 Jerry Wayne Jernigan, 43; 134 Opossum Lane, Harrells; Possess Methamphetamine; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Secured Bond \$50,000; Court Date 12-15

12-02 Shana Lynn Horne, 38; 1546 Breeze-way Dr., Ocean Isle Beach; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Obtain Property by False Pretense; Secured Bond \$50,000; Court Date 01-02

12-02 Maurice Dwayne Williams, 35; 31 Friendly Lane, Salemburg; DWI; Drive Left of

Center; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 01-22

12-02 Juan Gerado Montes Cruz, 37; 1284 Kitty Fork Rd., Clinton; DWI; Drive Left of Center; Secured Bond \$1,500; Court Date 01-18

12-02 Ronald Glen Yarboro, 49; 340 Moses Register Lane, Dunn; Failure to Appear- Fail to Comply; Court Date 12-07

12-02 Rose Eileen Brigham, 56; 1625 Cartertown Rd., Clinton; Failure to Appear- Speeding; Failure to Appear- DWLR; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 01-04

12-03 Ryan Alexander Tyndall, 24; 94 Godwin Estate Lane, Dunn; Assault with a Deadly Weapon Serious Injury; Secured Bond \$10,000; Court Date 12-15

12-02 Christopher Swan Melvin, 42; 250 Parkersburg Ave., Garland; Assault and Battery; Written Promise to Appear; Court Date 12-18

12-02 Tiria Lashawn Grady, 43; 67 Blake St., Lillington; Larceny of Motor Vehicle; Unsecured Bond \$5,000; Court Date 12-13

12-02 Melissa Ann Showman, 40; 2677 Memorial Church Rd., Kenly; Possess of Stolen Motor Vehicle; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Possess Drug Paraphernalia; Secured Bond \$25,200; Court Date 12-07

12-03 Clarence James Street, 20; 2907 Wesleyan Church Rd., Greenville; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- DWLR; Secured Bond \$300; Court Date 12-22

12-03 Andrew Burtiss Brewington, 23; 29 LD Johnson Lane, Roseboro; Resisting Public Officer; Secured Bond \$1,000; Court Date 01-09

12-03 Erin Montgomery Jacobs, 41; 8050 NC Hwy 210 S, Autryville; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Not Impaired Rev; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Fictitious/Altered Title/Registration Card/Tag; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Expired/No Inspection; Order for Arrest/Failure to Appear- Operate Vehicle No Insurance; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 01-10

12-03 Victorio Perez Perez, 31; 152 Cousin Fan-

nie Rd., Faison; Contribute to the Delinquency of a Minor; Secured Bond \$5,000; Court Date 01-03

12-04 Tamus Emmanuel McNeil, 20; 806 Lisbon St., Apt A, Clinton; Failure to Appear- Release Order; Secured Bond \$2,000; Court Date 12-05

12-04 Chasity Rose Britt, 19; 3622 US Hwy 74 West, Lumberton; Drunk and Disruptive; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 01-16

12-04 Donald Ray Darden, 55; 411 North Blvd., Clinton; Fail to Comply with Monies; Court Date 01-16

12-06 Leon Taylor Jr., 46; 101 Nutmeg Lane Lot C, Clinton; Warrant for Arrest- Kill Animal by Starvation; Secured Bond \$5,000; Court Date 12-15

12-06 James Thomas Carr, 20; 3964 Andrews Chapel Rd., Roseboro; Possession with Intent to Sell/Deliver Cocaine; Carry Concealed Gun; Possess Drug Paraphernalia; Secured Bond \$5,000; Court Date 12-15

12-06 Lasagna Carol Blue, 37; 214 Angela Lane, Clinton; Failure to Appear- Exceeding Posted Speed; Failure to Appear- No Operators License; Secured Bond \$500; Court Date 01-12

12-06 Alfonso Rodriguez Mendoza, 32; 5615 N US 421 Hwy., Clinton; DWI; Drive Left of Center; Fail to Heed Light of Siren; Consume Open Container; No Operators License; Secured Bond \$3,000; Court Date 01-18

12-02 Noe Garcia reported a Burglary located at 1200 A Taylors Bridge Hwy., Clinton. Items reported missing included two floor jacks, truck batteries and car ramps.

12-03 Casey Jackson reported a Larceny located at 6609 Faison Hwy., Faison. Items reported missing included US Currency, pocket book, Drivers License and a Social Security Card.

12-03 Tyler Dale reported a Burglary located at 50 Scotty Lane, Garland. Items reported missing included two TVs, Playstation 4 games and a ipad.

12-03 Douglas Fryar reported a Burglary located at 8835 Garland Hwy., Garland. Items reported missing included US Currency, laptop and a firearm.

12-04 Matilda Pate reported a Burglary located at 1775 Union School Rd., Clinton. Items reported missing included a bridal gown and a coffee pot.

12-04 Estelle Robinson reported a Larceny located at 292 Cain Rd., Garland. Items reported missing included US Currency.

12-04 Doris Tart reported a Burglary located at 5340 Delway Hwy., Harrells. Items reported missing included a industrial fridge and a toilet.

12-04 Elton Faulkner reported the Larceny of tools located at 251 Sunshine Lane, Clinton.

12-04 Dorcas Rogers reported a Burglary located at 684 Brewington Rd., Clinton. Item reported missing a Generator.

12-06 Joseph Tart reported a Burglary located at 1100 Laurel Lake Rd., Salemburg. Items reported missing included a wallet and a Social Security card.

12-06 Ann Barefoot reported the Larceny of Farm Equipment located at 13610 Spiveys Corner Hwy., Dunn.

**Incident/Investigation Reports**

11-30 Norma Bueso reported a Burglary located at 5649 Cornwalis Rd., Turkey. Items reported missing include US Currency and jewelry.

11-30 Eugene's Trucking Inc. reported the Theft of a Utility Trailer located at 10422 Faison Hwy., Faison.

11-30 Barbera Barefoot reported a Larceny located at 391 Ira B Tart Rd., Dunn. Items reported missing included a wallet, US Currency and Debit/Credit Cards.

12-01 Alan Parker reported a Burglary located at 2449 Mount Moriah Church Rd., Clinton. Items reported missing included a mini refrigerator and two firearms.

*\* 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**  
 -Gracie Mae Davis  
 -Paul Crumpler Holland  
 -Perry Steven King  
 -Wayne Stephen Ladd  
 -Ozel Lynch  
 -James Lee McGuirt  
 -Calvin Lee Parker

**Marriage Certificates**  
 -Pablo Lopez DeaQuino to Ermilda Velasquez Diaz  
 -Lance Reed Tadlock to Kayla Ann Smith

**Births**  
 -Bryan Mateo Lazo Cantarero born on November 16, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Bryan Camilo Lazo Alvarado and Katherine Yolane Cantarero Hernandez  
 -Alejandro Leonel Gonzalez born on November 24, 2017 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Alejandro Gonzalez and Brenda Edith Renteria

**Land Transfers**  
 -Caleb Trevor Johnson, Hailey C Johnson to Gary L Benton, Sylvia Gail Benton- 0.72 Acres McDaniels  
 -Wendy M Crumpler/MGR, Pigtails LLC to Margaret K Reeves, Mark E Reeves- 140.89 Acres w/exceptions McDaniels  
 -Dean Cole Parrish, Franklin Tate Parrish, Robin Hardison Parrish, Robin Renee Parrish to Franklin Kyle Parrish- 2.81 Acres Mingo Township  
 -Church of God of Prophecy of Garland NC, Jimmie Hall/TR, Betty Norris, Betty Ruth Norris/TR, LD Sessoms/TR, Hal Smith/TR to Garland Church of God of Prophecy Inc - Lots 1-2-3-4 Block Number G48 JC Carter Sr. Brown Hill Lot Subdivision  
 -Samuel Wayne Hobbs, K&W Estate LLC to Boyd A Mattocks, Marsha W Mattocks- Lot 9 Heritage Place 0.047 Acres North Clinton  
 -Joe M Giles AIF, H Lawrence Sanderson/AIF, Michelle D Warren, William Irvin Warren/By AIF to Joe M Giles/Co TR, H Lawrence Sanderson/Co TR, William Irvin Warren/Co TR, William Irvin Warren Irrevocable Declaration of Trust, James M Yates Jr/CO TR - 2 Tracts Plainview  
 -Mary Matthews Cannon to Mary Ann Matthews- Lot 6 Dismal Elwood E Honeycutt Property -Margaret Hobbs Averett/By AIF, Phillip MH Averett/By AIF, Francesca Louisa Geddie, Melvin Henderson/By AIF, Robin Henderson/By AIF, Eleanor S Hobbs/y AIF, James Manly Hobbs, James Manly Hobbs/By AIF, Joseline Marisol Hobbs/By AIF, Lloyd Elliott Hobbs/By AIF, Mildred S Hobbs/AKA, Mildred Sandy Jackson/By AIF, Wendy King/AKA, Donald

Pleasants/By AIF, Wendy King Pleasants/AIF, Sandra Reams/By AIF to Pagle Corporation- 102.0 Acres w/exceptions  
 -Marcus Dwayne Carter to Luis Esmurdoc- 1 Acre Taylors Bridge  
 -Amy Darden, Earl Devone Stone/FKA, Earl Dewayne Stone to Brayan Ambrocio Perez, Cassandra Ambrocio Perez- 2 Acres  
 -SECURE INC to Banah Homes Inc- 0.50 Acres Honeycutts  
 -JoAnn Wynn Kerr, Benjamin R Wynn, Billy E Wynn to Enrique Perez Garcia Jr- Parcel 2 1.28 Acres Turkey  
 -H&H Constructors of Fayetteville LLC to Joshua T Goodson, Nikki S Goodson- Lot 26 Mill Ridge Subdivision Phase 2 Dismal  
 - H&H Constructors of Fayetteville LLC to Charles Henley and Vania Henley- Lot 21 Mill Ridge Subdivision Phase 2 Dismal  
 -Lula Cox Boykin, Marvin Lee Boykin, Marvin Lee Boykin Sr to Melanie Boykin, Towarn Boykin- Lot Sampson  
 -Stephen Donald Jones to Sarah Strickland- Lot 8 0.76 Acres South Clinton  
 -Alford Mack Hyatt Sr to Arcadio Florido Ruiz, Maria Azucena Ruiz Sotelo- Lot 2 1.63 Acres Minto Township  
 -Mary Spearman Brown, Winston E Brown, John Henry Merritt Estate, Mary spearman Merritt/FKA to Thomas Earl Tillman- 7.27 Acres Taylors Bridge  
 -John L Williams AKA, John Leo Williams to Missy W Sessoms- 3 Tracts Little Coharie  
 -Linda Sheryl Mozingo to Beverly Degrandchamp, Jeanine Janis- 0.34 Acres  
 -Wells Fargo Bank NA to Boyce Grooms Jr- Tract 2 2.00 Acres  
 -Harold Wayne Johnson to Harold Wayne Johnson, Tristen Wayne Johnson, Denise Shreve- Lot 4 Business Lots GW Bullard Division Little Coharie  
 -Jennifer Jaramillo, Jesus Osorio Jaramillo, Jesus Jaramillo Osario to Lilian R Andres- 1 Acres Little Coharie Township  
 -Herbert T Getchell Sr, Joan M Getchell to Herbert T Getchell Jr, Laurie A Malenda- Lot Sampson  
 -Joshua K Pondo, Marcie L Pondo to Jason L Duke, Lori D Duke- Two Parcels Plainview  
 -Deborah Kay B Pope to Jane G Brewer, Ronnie W Brewer- Two Tracts Halls Township w/exceptions  
 -Hazel F Alford, Hazel Felicha Alford to Lillie Augusta Alford- South Clinton Lots 10 & 11 Ferrell Lot Subdivision  
 -Jeanette Valladares Ruiz to Peggy Krista Lewis- North Clinton Lot 2 Northgate Subdivision  
 -Christopher Wayne Butler, Katie Tew Butler to Charity Baptist Church of Sampson County- 1.09 & 0.15 Acres Herring  
 -D Stephen Jones Jr, Rebecca bates Jones to Edward Roger Gebhart, Ruth James Atkins Jones Gebhart- Four Tracts  
 -Lisa Marie Edwards Calcutt to David Mark Calcutt- Plainview 5.00 Acres  
 -Loretta B Price to Jackie Nichole Price, Linda Price Skipper- 3 Tracts w/exceptions Lisbon  
 -Edelys Montes De Oca/FKA, Edelys Montes De Oca Rodriguez to Edelys Montes De Oca Rodriguez- Lot 4B 2.63 Acres w/exceptions  
 -OCWEN Loan Servicing LLC to The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development- 1 Acre  
 -Erma P Earp to Gale C Sills, Joan P Sills- 0.30 Acres

# Classifieds

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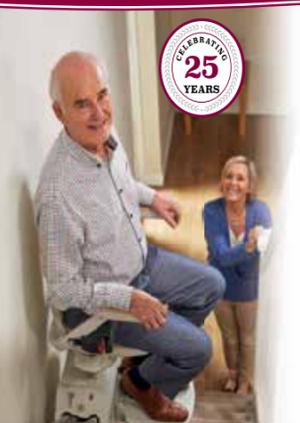
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# Chamber Chat



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

This remainder of this week will be filled with Christmas cheer. There are so many festivities throughout the County to partake in from Christmas in the City on Thursday to the Roseboro Christmas Parade on Friday and finally the Clinton Parade on Saturday. We encourage you and your loved ones to get out and enjoy this holiday season.

Downtown Clinton will be in the festive spirit for the annual "Christmas in the City" today, December 7th. Join us in downtown Clinton for the tree lighting celebration at 5:30pm followed by a wide variety of events including museum tours, carriage and hay rides, gingerbread decorating, live entertainment, and much more. We look forward to another great event with an evening full of festive activities.

Join us this Saturday December 9th at 10:00am for our Christmas in Clinton Parade. This parade is truly a staple to our County and is always exciting to watch. Come out early and enjoy breakfast in one of our local restaurants or stay afterwards to visit Santa or finish up your last gifts on your Christmas list!

Come out Monday, December 11th for our December Business After hours with Performance Automotive. Food, Fellowship, and light hors d'oeuvres will be going on with "The Grateful Shed" from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Get in the holiday spirit with our December After Hours host and let the Chamber work for you!

Keep our local small businesses in mind while finishing up your Christmas Shopping. Every penny spent locally is invested in our community! We want to keep Sampson County vibrant and successful, so keep in mind those local businesses and get out to support them!

For any information about how you can get involved or for any information regarding the Chamber please contact us at 910-592-6177 or you can reach us by email at [info@clintonsampsonchamber.org](mailto:info@clintonsampsonchamber.org).

## IS IT MEDICARE OR MEDICAID?



A lot of people have a difficult time understanding the difference between Medicare and Medicaid. Both programs begin with the letter "M." They're both health insurance programs run by the government. People often ask questions about what Medicare and Medicaid are, what services they cover, and who administers the programs.

Let's start with Medicare. Medicare is the national healthcare program for those aged 65 or older and the disabled. You pay for some Medicare expenses by paying the Medicare tax while you work. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is the agency in charge of both Medicare and Medicaid, but you sign up for Medicare A (Hospital) and Medicare B (Medical) through Social Security.

You can apply for Medicare online from the convenience of your home at the link on our website: [www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare/). If you're already receiving Social Security retirement benefits when you reach age 65 or are in the 25th month of receiving disability checks, we will enroll you automatically.

Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage) and Part D (Prescription Drug) plans are available for purchase in the insurance marketplace. Social Security administers a program called Extra Help to help people with low income and low resources pay for premiums, co-pays, and co-insurance costs for Part D plans. You can find out more about Extra Help and file for it at [www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare/prescriptionhelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/medicare/prescriptionhelp). Each year, The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services publishes Medicare and You available online at their website at [www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you/medicare-and-you.html](http://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you/medicare-and-you.html). This publication is a user's manual for Medicare.

Each state runs their own Medicaid program under guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Medicaid offers care for the most vulnerable among us. While it does not require paying taxes while working, it does have guidelines about how much income and resources you can have to qualify. Medicaid provides coverage for older people, people with disabilities, and some families with children. Each state has its own eligibility rules and decides which services to cover. The names of the Medicaid program may vary from state to state. You can read about each state's Medicaid program at [www.medicare.gov/medicaid/by-state/by-state.html](http://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/by-state/by-state.html). You can find each state's Medicaid contact information at [www.medicare.gov/about-us/contact-us/contact-state-page.html](http://www.medicare.gov/about-us/contact-us/contact-state-page.html).

Medicare and Medicaid are two of the major insurance programs that provide healthcare to the American public. Understanding each program, as well as how the two programs differ, can help you and those you care about find the right healthcare program.

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910-592-7176 ext. 2032, Email: [brice@sampsoncc.edu](mailto:brice@sampsoncc.edu)

FAMILY FEATURES

The holidays are filled with temptations and opportunities to over-indulge, and if you're managing your health and weight, the season can feel anything but merry. Depriving yourself of your favorite holiday treats isn't only unpleasant, it's also unnecessary. Many experts recommend that instead, you focus on building a healthier lifestyle through a well-balanced, long-term eating plan. For example, Atkins offers a balanced approach with foods containing fiber-rich and nutrient-dense carbohydrates, as well as good fats and proteins, while focusing on reduced levels of refined carbohydrates and added sugars. When preparing your holiday menu, look for recipes that contain adequate protein, healthy fats and high-fiber carbohydrates, and you'll be able to enjoy the flavors of the season without guilt. Learn more about the benefits of a balanced, low-carb approach to eating at Atkins.com.

**Garlic Rosemary Pork Loin**

Recipe courtesy of "Atkins: Eat Right, Not Less"  
Prep time: 15 minutes  
Total time: 1 hour  
Servings: 4

- 1 pound boneless pork loin
- olive oil cooking spray
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh rosemary, thinly sliced

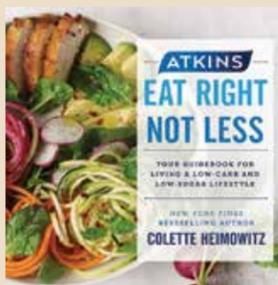
Heat oven to 350 F.  
In small skillet over medium heat, cook pork loin, fatty-side down, 4-5 minutes to brown top and render some fat.  
Coat 7-by-11-inch baking dish with cooking spray. Place pork loin in dish.  
In small bowl, combine mustard, garlic and rosemary; stir well. Spoon mixture over pork. Transfer to oven and bake 45 minutes-1 hour, until loin is cooked through but still slightly pink in center.  
When pork is cooked, let rest 5 minutes before slicing. Slice and serve immediately.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

# Happier, Healthier Holidays

## LESS IS NOT MORE



If you're looking for more inspiration, tips and recipes, try finding additional resources such as "Atkins: Eat Right, Not Less: Your Guidebook For Living a Low-Carb and Low-Sugar Lifestyle." Filled with 100 whole-food, low-carb recipes and simple solutions, the new book contains a variety of meal plans, low-carb takes on classic foods and tips for creating a low-carb kitchen. Readers can also learn about Atkins 100, a flexible and personalized low-carb lifestyle program.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images



**Salted Caramel Cheesecake Bites**

Recipe courtesy of "Atkins: Eat Right, Not Less"  
Prep time: 10 minutes  
Total time: 1 hour, 10 minutes  
Servings: 18

- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/3 cup plain protein powder
- 2 tablespoons stevia
- 6 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature

- 1/3 cup chopped almonds or macadamia nuts
- 1 tablespoon sugar-free caramel syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/8 teaspoon xanthan gum (optional)
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt or sea salt flakes

In large mixing bowl, combine heavy cream with protein powder and stevia. Whisk until smooth. Add cream cheese, almonds or macadamia nuts, caramel syrup and vanilla extract; blend until smooth. If cream cheese clumps slightly, mix with rubber spatula, breaking up bits of cream cheese against side of bowl.

**Sweet Potato-Pumpkin Puree**

Recipe courtesy of Atkins.com  
Prep time: 20 minutes  
Total time: 1 hour, 20 minutes

- 3 large egg whites
- 5 tablespoons sugar substitute, divided
- 1/2 cup half pecans
- 1 1/2 pounds sweet potatoes, peeled
- 1/4 cup unsalted butter stick
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 15 ounces pumpkin (without salt, drained, cooked and boiled)

Heat oven to 250 F. Lightly butter baking sheet.

In medium mixing bowl, beat egg whites with electric mixer at high speed until foamy. Gradually add 3 tablespoons sugar substitute and continue mixing until soft peaks form. Spoon onto prepared baking sheet and spread with spatula to 1/4-inch thickness. Bake 35 minutes. Turn oven off; let meringue stand in oven 45 minutes. Crush meringue and place in bowl. Add pecans and toss gently to combine. Set aside.

While meringue is resting, place sweet potatoes in medium saucepan. Cover with water to 2 inches above potatoes and bring to boil. Cook until tender, about 20 minutes, and drain. Return saucepan to medium-high heat. Add potatoes, butter, cream, remaining sugar substitute, salt, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice and pumpkin puree. Stir to combine. Mash with potato masher until smooth. Heat through, about 1 minute. Transfer potato mixture to serving dish and cover with meringue topping.

Sprinkle mixture with xanthan gum, if desired, and mix about 30 seconds. Mixture will thicken slightly.  
Cover tray that will fit into freezer with sheet of wax paper. Using soup spoon, scoop mixture onto tray, making 18 mounds. Alternatively, use two silicone candy molds or empty ice cube tray coated with olive oil spray and press cheesecake mixture into 18 molds. Sprinkle with sea salt. Freeze at least one hour before serving.  
**Note:** Can be stored in freezer up to 1 month.  
**Tip:** Switch up flavors by using sugar-free hazelnut syrup in place of caramel and hazelnuts or walnuts instead of almonds.



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