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SAMPSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

The Sampson Weekly

FREE



VOLUME 10, ISSUE 7

www.thesampsonweekly.com

Week of February 15-21, 2019

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WEATHER

Fri Partly Cloudy
10%

Hi: 71° Lo: 54°

Sat Rain
90%

Hi: 61° Lo: 36°

Sun Rain
60%

Hi: 54° Lo: 48°

Mon Rain
80%

Hi: 64° Lo: 45°

Tues Rain
90%

Hi: 51° Lo: 46°

Wed Rain
50%

Hi: 67° Lo: 54°

Local Boys Recognized for Act of Patriotism



On Tuesday night at the February Roseboro Board meeting, two young Lakewood Leopards were recognized for their patriotism, Derrick Ingram and Thomas Jones. The young men were made into internet sensations after the Roseboro Fire Department posted a picture of

PATRIOTISM, see P.4

Greg Warren Coming Home



"I've always been a patriotic person, and this is a way for me to serve my country, my state and my community." That's how Newton Grove's new Chief of Police explains his motivation for working in law enforcement. "I want to be a good mentor like the kind of mentor I had growing up on West Grove Street."

"I didn't know it at the time because I was so young," adds Warren, "but Mr. John Hayes was the one who inspired me to want to be a police officer. Growing up on West Grove there was always several kids in the neighborhood, and Mr. Hayes would clock us on our bikes to see who was the fastest." Warren says Hayes was "community policing" before it was ever a concept.

Warren also has another long-standing relationship with Newton Grove police. His grandfather, Elasta Smith was one of Newton Grove's first police officers. "I just want to help people in general," says Warren. "If I can touch just one person for the better, my career has been worth it."

It was the summer of his sixth-grade year at Hobbton Elementary that Greg left Newton Grove. His father, an educator, was leaving Union High to become the principal at Louisburg. Mike and Cecelia Warren packed up the family and headed north. Greg, along with his brother Michael and sister Sherri left the small town they new as home. "You've heard of a military brat, I was an educator brat," jokes Warren. "But I'm grateful because it has given me the chance to make a lot of new friends and see the outside world."

The Warren family have all served the community in their own ways. Greg's father Mike ended his career in education serving as Interim Superintendent of Sampson County Schools. Greg's brother, Michael Warren was recently named Principal at Hobbton High School. And Greg's wife Tracy is a Nurse Supervisor.

As for the job, Greg states this is THE JOB he's always wanted. "Some people work to move up the ladder, or

NEWTON GROVE, see P. 3

Sampson Gearing Up for First Opioid Summit

FREE PUBLIC EVENT

S.C.O.P.E. 4 HOPE OPIOID SUMMIT

SPONSORED BY:
COUNTY OF SAMPSON & SAMPSON COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION

FEB. 27, 2019
8:30AM-2:30PM | WEDNESDAY

EVENT WILL INCLUDE:

Sampson County is gearing up for the first Sampson County Opioid Summit which is scheduled for February 27th from 8:30am until 2:30pm at the Sampson County Exposition Center located at 414 Warsaw Road in Clinton. The event is titled S.C.O.P.E. meaning Sampson County Opioid Prevention & Education.

SUMMIT, see P. 4

WEEKLY VERSE

Love must be sincere.
Hate what is evil;
cling to what is good.
Romans 12:9

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- 10oz Smithfield sandwich meats **\$2.79**
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- 4lb bag Better Valu Sugar **\$1.79**
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- Smithfield Bacon 12 ounce **2/\$7**
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LOCAL NEWS

From the Desk of Senator Brent Jackson

I hope you are all having a great week. This week, North Carolina lost a strong advocate and statesman. Congressman Jones served the people of his state with passion in the General Assembly and the U.S. Congress. He served our state and country with class, honor, and dignity. Our state will miss his leadership. Please continue to keep Congressman Jones's family in your prayers.

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

Legislative Recap

Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee Report
This week, two Program Evaluation Division (PED) reports were voted on in committee. They pertain to Erosion and Sedimentation and our state's ABC boards.

The first report on Erosion and Sedimentation offers suggestions on how we can improve the process of evaluating the environmental stability of land that is being prepared for development. The changes recommended by PED will improve the quality of service that developers receive as well as streamline the process. Additionally, a new section was added that gives smaller, local communities more flexibility.

The second report looks into ways that we can better serve each individual county's ABC boards. This PED report suggests a number of ways to reduce overhead costs and keep prices in check while continuing to supervise the process. Moreover, the report outlines future steps to modernize our ABC system and ensure that local communities have the most streamlined and personal process when choosing how to manage the sale of alcohol.

From the District

DUPLIN COUNTY

NC A&T hosts the kickoff to Small Farms Week in Duplin County

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University's annual tribute to small-scale agriculture will be held March 24-30, 2019. The powerful legacy behind North Carolina's small farms – and their swift movement toward the future – is the inspiration for Small Farms Week 2019. Featuring workshops, farming demonstrations, tours and more.

With the theme "Deep Roots, Bright Futures," the 33rd Small Farms Week pays tribute to the crucial role that small farms play in North Carolina's \$84 billion agriculture industry – of the state's 52,000 farms, more than 80 percent are considered small – and the innovative ways that farmers are tapping into trends and adapting to change in the agriculture industry.

The week kicks off in Duplin County, home of 2018 Small Farmer of the year Ronald W. Simmons of Master Blend Family Farms, where highlights include a panel discussion with master farmers and a tour of local farms, including Duplin Winery in Rose Hill. Founded in 1975, Duplin Winery is the state's oldest operating winery, and it will offer an optional wine tasting.

Events continue March 26-28 on A&T's campus with workshops and demonstrations, including informational sessions about season extension, the lessons learned from Hurricane Florence and farming industrial hemp, which has the potential to become a major cash crop for North Carolina growers.



SAMPSON COUNTY

Sampson County Schools Celebrates AdvancED Accreditation

Leaders throughout Sampson County Schools were recently honored for meeting quality standards set by the AdvancEd Accreditation Commission.

Dr. Linda Jewell Carr, assistant superintendent of Instructional Services, presented the achievement regarding the nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that provides accreditation to schools. Based on the Index of Educational Quality, which measures overall performance, Sampson Schools earned 363 out of 400 points.

The district was also recognized for developing strategic and improvement plans, along with other evaluation measures. Committee members also acknowledged future plans such as looking at data, finding strengths within the school system and celebrating successes.

The schools honored by the Sampson County Board of Education included Hargrove Elementary School, Principal Edward Holmes; Hobpton Elementary School, Principal Dawn Wilkes; Hobpton Middle School, Principal Jeff Bradshaw; Hobpton High School, Principal Michael Warren; Roseboro Elementary School, Principal Tonya Colwell; Salemburg Elementary School, Principal Gerald M. Johnson; Roseboro-Salemburg Middle School, Principal Shajuana Sellers; Lakewood High School, Principal John Goode; and Clement Elementary School, Principal James Mullins.

Also included were Midway Elementary School, Principal Robbin Cooper; Plain View Elementary School, Principal Nicole Peterson; Midway Middle School, Principal Kevin Hunter; Midway High School, Principal Monty Strickland; Sampson Early College High School, Principal Susan Westerbeek; Union Elementary School, Principal Dondi Hobbs; Union Intermediate School, Principal O.C. Holland; Union Middle School, Principal Dr. Theresa Melenas; and Union High School, Principal Julie Hunter.

Superintendent Dr. Eric Bracy was also recognized for his leadership for the accreditation, valid through 2023. With January being School Board Recognition Month, Bracy honored the members for their contributions to local education.

I am so thankful to have educators like you teaching and guiding our youth throughout the district. Thank you for all you do and keep up the fantastic work.

District Spotlight

Clinton Earns Budget Award for Ninth Year

For the ninth consecutive year, the City of Clinton has received the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

The Government Finance Officers Association has announced that the City of Clinton and its Finance Department once again is the recipient of the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award, GFOA and city officials stated, represents a significant accomplishment by the City of Clinton's Finance Department.

Its Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting and recognition is given as part of that program to those government entities meeting the highest of standards.

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.

Basketball Camp Scholarships Available To Students



Basketball scholarships are currently being offered to rising 6th, 7th and 8th grade males and females. NCAA rules prohibit scholarships to students who will be in ninth grade next year (eighth graders currently) as they are considered prospects.

Males selected will attend the Roy Williams Basketball Camp at UNC-Chapel Hill and females selected will attend the Wes Moore Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp at N.C. State University.

South River EMC, as one of North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives, has partnered with the schools as an opportunity to offer scholarships to students in the community. The Cooperative is able to issue one scholarship to each camp in 2019.

Middle school students are chosen from the South River EMC service area to attend the basketball camps on an all-expense-paid scholarship. Parents are responsible for transportation the day of the camp.

Winners of the Touchstone Energy Wes Moore Wolfpack Women's Basketball Camp Scholarship will attend the overnight camp in Raleigh, June 9-12, while winners of the Touchstone Energy Roy Williams Basketball Camp Scholarship will attend the overnight camp in Chapel Hill, June 22-26. When we select students, should yours be one of them?

Wes Moore is head coach of the Wolfpack women's basketball team, working hard to inspire success in his team. Roy Williams has led the Tarheels to national titles and several Final Fours. Both coaches will use the help of their staff and current players to conduct their camps. Camps will work closely with each camper to develop skills that will benefit the young athletes both on and off the court.

Not only does the program allow North Carolina middle school students to spend time on a college campus, it also gives them the opportunity to receive individual and group instruction from two successful collegiate coaches to enhance their basketball skills.

If you have any questions, or would like more information please call 910-892-8071, ext. 2151 or send an e-mail to jwmcleod@sremc.com. Applications can be downloaded from South River EMC's Web site at www.sremc.com, and are due to the Cooperative by March 31.

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Norris Signs to Play Soccer at UNC-Wilmington



On Thursday at Clinton High School, family, friends and coaches gathered to support senior Parker Norris as he signed to play soccer for UNC-Wilmington. Parker was part of Dark Horse history as him and his teammates became the first Clinton High School soccer team to win a State Championship.

Parker has been named the Performance Automotive/Sampson Weekly Athlete of the Week several times for his achievements on and off the field.

“Parker has been a huge component to the success of our State Playoff Championship,” says Clinton Soccer Head Coach Brad Spell. “He is cool under pressure but has a strong fire that burns within him to direct his teammates to a winning attitude. He is a positive force that brings out the best in everyone. It has been a blessing to have the opportunity to coach a super athlete and super young man.”

Parker is a midfielder and captain on the Dark Horse soccer team and scored the two goals in Clinton’s 2-1 victory over the Newton-Conover Red Devils in NCHSAA 2-A Soccer State Championship that was held at Dail Soccer Field on the campus of N.C. State University.

In fact, the team set more than one record at the school.

They also earned: Most Wins (26-1); Most Shutouts (19); 8 All-Region Players; 2 All-State Players; Finished ranked No. 1 in the State; 15-0 undefeated at home; Only gave up 13 goals throughout the season.

The final one belongs to Norris. He scored a record 35 goals this season.

In addition to soccer, Norris also played basketball and golf for the Dark Horses. He is currently playing for a travel soccer team out of Raleigh. That team is currently ranked No. 2 in the nation. In addition to being part of the first soccer team to win a state title, Norris also set personal records during his time at the school.

This season alone, he became the leading record breaking scorer for the Dark Horses, with 35 goals 21 assists; he was named the East Central Conference Player of the Year; He is ranked No. 1 State Player of the Year in the 2-A East; Norris was nominated for the All-South Team; the All-State Team; The All-Region Team; and named All-Conference and All-County.

NEWTON GROVE, cont. from P. 1 have a position or special title,” says Greg, “but for me the JOB I wanted was to be the Newton Grove Chief of Police. I’ve wanted this job since I started in law enforcement.”

“For me, this is a true homecoming,” states Warren. “My family is making a huge sacrifice for me to take this position, but they have supported me 100% since the job came up. My wife is also from the area and she attended Hobpton High, but much of her family had moved to be closer to her. And now she is leaving them to come home... Yes, it’s a sacrifice but she is 100% supportive, and I am just so grateful.”

Warren says he expects his biggest challenge as the new police chief will be to gain the trust and respect of the community. “I want us to all work together to make Newton Grove a better place. I want us to be a team and I want to get the community behind me, so I have their support.”

“I’ve been gone a long time and I’ll need to get to know some people, get reacquainted with some people, and catch up with others. But the good thing about a small town is you know just about everyone if in fact you aren’t related to them.”

Warren has 22-years’ experience in law enforcement. He completed his Basic Law Enforcement Training at Randolph Community College in 1997 and went on to earn his Associates in Criminal Justice and is completing his Bachelor’s in Criminal Justice Concentration in Administration of Justice.

He began his career as a Deputy with the Randolph County Sheriff’s Office in 1997 and later worked with the Randleman Police Department. He has also served as a Lake Warden and currently serves as a sworn Park Ranger for the City of High Point, NC.

He has an Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate as well as his Professional Park Ranger Certification. Warren also has advanced training and continuing education in Gang Training, Interview and Interrogation, School Resource Officer, Search and Rescue, and Field Officer Training. The 43-year-old Warren brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new position.

When asked what he was most proud of Warren quickly answered his children. “My oldest is Aaron Parker (and wife Sheree’) who are both serving in the United States Coast Guard in Jacksonville, FL. Next is Jordan Parker, a Dental Assistant in Archdale, NC. And Morgan Warren who is a master Welder in Greensboro, NC.”

“They are truly awesome kids and I’ll miss being near them. I’ll miss the thousands of friends of course but leaving my family will be the hardest. They have all been so supportive. But,” adds Warren, “I’m coming back home, and I can’t wait.”

He was also 910prep 1st team honors and nominated for High School OT player of the year.

Parker wanted to thank one person in particular, Coach Brad Spell.

“He has always been a great motivator,” Norris said. “He pushes you to your limits and I really appreciate that. It is a good thing because it helps me learn more.”

Norris adds, “He instills habits in you - not just on the field, but off of the field as well. He is teaching life lessons. He is a great coach and a great guy.”

“I would also like to thank both my parents, especially my dad as he has been a great role model for me through the years and passed on many lessons and values,” Norris said. “I would also like to thank Jeff Smith, Nicki Thompson, Danny Walsh, Connor Dawson, and Adam Smith for coaching me through the years and teaching me so much on and off the field.”

And one last group of friends.

“I would like to thank all of my teammates for making this season an amazing and a once in a lifetime experience.”

Congratulations Parker Norris! Job well done!

Smithfield Supports Clinton Kiwanis



Clinton Kiwanis receives a very generous donation from Ronda Campbell Public Affairs & Sustainability Coordinator for Smithfield Foods. Accepting the donation on behalf of the Clinton Kiwanis Club is Senior Vice President Bill Scott of First Citizens Bank.



2019 Precinct Meetings

Plainview/Mingo Precincts Meeting
 Tuesday, February 19th at 7:00pm
 Mingo Community Building
 1358 Mingo Church Road
 Dunn, NC 28334

Joint Precinct Meeting
 Tuesday, February 19th at 7:00pm
 Sampson County GOP Headquarters
 107 Wall Street
 Clinton, NC 28328

The purpose of this joint gathering of our Precinct Meetings will be to Elect Precinct Chairmen. Please make every effort to attend this meeting in person. In addition, please invite and bring as many Republican Friends and neighbors to join us in continuing to build a Party that will fight for the future of our State and County.

Follow us on Facebook.com/Sampson GOP

If you have any questions, call Telia Kivett,
 Chairman SCGOP (910)990-9434

Paid for by the Sampson County Republican Party

LOCAL NEWS**PATRIOTISM cont. from P. 1**

them, on their scooter and hoverboard, saluting the American flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance as the flag was being raised at the fire department.

Roseboro Fire Department chaplain Bobby Herring said that he was raising the flag and saw the two boys standing close by with their hands on their hearts. Herring said that when he saw the scene, he came to a standstill. "It just grabbed me. It just grabbed me in a special way." He hurriedly took a photo of the two boys and the photo was put up on the fire department's Facebook page. The post was received thousands of views and received an outpouring of support. Comments started pouring in thanking and commending the boys for their patriotism and how they were obviously raised, "well".

Some of the thousands of Facebook comments included comments such as these:

- "Thanks to Thomas and Derrick for their patriotism May God bless you both You are awesome!!!"

- "Proud of these boys, parents and teachers. This is our future leaders. God Bless these young boys!!!!"

- So beautiful because it was not staged. Just an honest reaction of respect.

- "Just saw them on Fox !! God bless these young men.... & GOD BLESS THEIR PARENTS FOR TEACHING THEM LOVE OF COUNTRY!!!!"

- "How refreshing to see these kids honoring their country!"

- "This picture gives me hope for our kids' future. These kids are amazing and to their parent's way to raise some awesome kids keep up the great work. I see bright futures for you both."

- "God Bless these two young men. This Vet thanks you so much."

When the news finally reached Derrick's mother, Ladii Ingram, she said that she started crying.



Original picture of two boys reciting the Pledge of Allegiance as the flag at the Roseboro Fire Department was being raised.

"It made my day." Little did the 2 mothers know that a firestorm from the media would ensue with interviews from local and national media outlets.

Derrick Ingram, 6, and Thomas Jones, 8, were recognized on Tuesday night by Roseboro mayor Alice Butler and both were presented with their own flag and a box of chocolates. Mayor Butler stated that the boys had inspired so many.

The boys' principal Tonya Colwell also presented them with a Leopard Strong t-shirt. She noted that Roseboro Elementary School tried to instill values into their students and that saluting the flag and saying the Pledge of Allegiance was one of them.

When asked why they decided to say the pledge that day, Thomas stated, "For all the people that have to keep our country safe and free." What an extremely mature thing for such a young man to say.

Thomas Jones's mother, Rickeya Brown, said this will give both boys a reason to be proud for a long time. "When they get our age, they'll be telling somebody, 'Look, this is what we did, and we made a difference.'"

Now knowing that their act of respect and patriotism would move so many, the young boys have inspired so many across the nation.

When asked what it was like to be Facebook celebrities, both boys said, "It's been fun."

SUMMIT, cont. from P. 1

Event organizers are hoping it will accomplish what its title says, to save people from opioid use and educate them in the process. There will be presentations by state and local representatives, personal testimonies, panel discussions, and a Q & A with local law enforcement, health providers, substance abuse & mental health professionals.

Opening remarks will be provided by Clark Wooten, Chair of the Sampson County Board of Commissioners and Ernie Lee, District Attorney. Josh Stein with the NC Attorney General's Office will discuss the opioid crisis in North Carolina- How we got here, Progress, Challenges and Opportunities. Alan Dellapenna Jr with the NC Injury and Violence Prevention Branch will talk about Prescription and Drug Overdose.

After lunch, Donald McDonald, MSW, LCAS with Addiction Professionals of NC, will address the audience discussing "Addiction is a Chronic Brain Disorder, Not a Moral Failing."

Local education, prevention and treatment resources at the summit will include the following:

- Emergency Care & Treatment- Shawn M. Howerton, MD, Chief Executive Officer and CMO Sampson Regional Medical Center
- Medication Take Back Program- Lt. Stokes McKoy, Clinton Police Department
- Naloxone Distribution Program- Kelly Parrish RN, Sampson County Health Department
- Access to Care- Melissa Reese, BS, Eastpointe
- Mobile Crisis & Services- Lakeshia King, MSW, LCAS-A, Easterseals UCP
- Behavioral Health Program- Brandi Burchett, LPCS, Commwell Health
- Spiritual Support for Recovery- Eddie Barnes, Pastor, Celebrate Recovery

Opioids are a growing problem not only across the nation but right here in our backyard in Sampson County. According to stats for 2017, over 5 North Carolinians died each day from an unintentional opioid overdose. From 1999-2017, more than 13,000 North Carolinians lost their lives to unintentional opioid overdose. More locally, 6 Sampson County residents died in 2017 by unintentional opioid overdoses with 31 overdose ER visits. Not surprising considering that 4,211,000 opioid pills were dispensed to Sampson County residents in 2017. That is 66 pills for every man, woman and child in the county.

According to Sydney Smith, "Citizens can get involved by volunteering to assist and/or making a donation that will assist with the summit. Citizens may also get involved after the summit by volunteering with the Sampson County Substance Abuse Coalition to provide outreach."

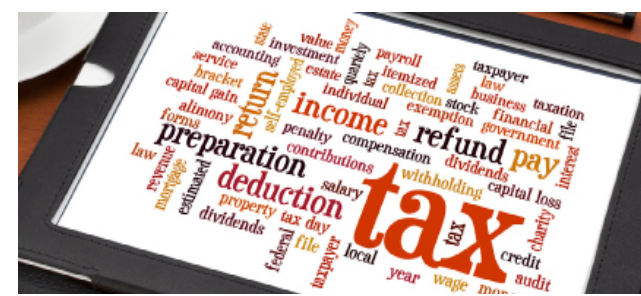
Smith stated that attendees can expect to learn information on:

1. The opioid epidemic in North Carolina & Sampson County to include drug and prescription overdoses;
2. Addiction and treatment;
3. Local resources that are available (i.e. Medication Take Back Program, Naloxone Distribution Program, etc.)

Smith also noted that county agencies along with the Sampson County Substance Abuse Coalition are making strides to combat the opioid issue. "Locally, to counteract the Opioid crisis we are: 1) Hosting Sampson County's first SCOPE 4 HOPE Opioid Summit on February 27th and 2) Providing awareness, education, and outreach in Sampson County (Sampson County Substance Abuse Coalition)

Pre-registration is not required but is strongly encouraged. Lunch will be provided with registration. Register online at: <https://bit.ly/2rkd4V3>. For more information contact Sydney Smith at (910)592-1131 or email ssmith@sampsonnc.com. The Opioid Summit is sponsored by Sampson County and the Sampson County Substance Coalition.

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We Should Know . . .



Becky Spell 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 the upcoming Rise-Up Conference and the guest this week is Becky Spell-Vann.

JW Simmons begins the show by asking Becky Spell-Vann to discuss the title of her annual conference and how she came up with Rise-Up. Becky replies, "Well, in 2007 I was in Charlotte, NC with my sister and her niece for a revival in a 4-story coliseum and it was packed. In fact, there were lines outside and they had to have a room for people to go in. And I stood inside that coliseum and watched the people worship, and there was a healing service, and I thought this is so powerful. And in my heart, it resonated to do this in Clinton."

"So, it took a year for us to pull it together and to think about it. And we started, and we've been doing it now going into our 8th year. We're very excited about it. And the words Rise-Up came to me because I was on the bottom floor, my niece was in a wheel chair, and when I looked around at all the people it was like, rise up and do this."

"Don't go home and like many times we do where we have an idea or God stirs our heart and we become complacent. So, I knew it was to be done. And we've never filled the building completely, but we've not stopped. We keep going because there is so many obligations I find, and I'm sure you see that in our community, and other larger cities even where there are so many things going on that people are over-extended."

"But we are excited to offer a Saturday afternoon. We start at 1:30pm this year on February 23rd and we've got something lined up for the whole family."

Next, Simmons says that our world and community is more divided and polarized today than at any other time in his life. That we are so divided by one subject that people refuse to even talk about it. But he says that he also thinks about the Rise-Up Conference, the peace of it, and the concept of conflict resolution comes to mind. Simmons says that being men of peace is a focus in today's Rotary Club. He asks Becky if she feels that concept is a part of her conference.

Becky replies, "Yes. When you mentioned Rotary, I was thinking of the moto for Baptist Men many years ago when Promise Keepers was such a big thing. And I think what has hap-

pened in our society is that we want to keep our promises and we don't want to be polarized but we get caught up in the system and in everyday living. And sometimes we don't really rise up and go forth with faith like we should."

"That's what I've seen happening at Tim's Gift over the last 10 years. My son Cameron worked with us for one year in 2009 to help us with our 501(c)3 and as he was there, he said mom, I see Tim's Gift being a part, not a separate entity like you said polarized. But in our community, we need to work together with other non-profits. He said, our hospices' we need to find others because really, we're all doing the same thing. We're helping people and sharing the love of Jesus."

"And we tried that year. He wrote letters. We visited. But many times, we're territorial. And I find that somebody's got to trust what you're doing. But since 2009 we've been writing letters. We talk with the hospice leaders here. With the Salemburg Food Bank. With the Churches. We now have seven church that are donating quarterly to help us. And the hospice groups, we work together. Sampson Partners, we work together with them."

"In fact, just this morning a nice recliner came in and we didn't have room for it. So, we called Sampson Partners and the gentleman was over there within 30 minutes. They needed the furniture. They need things. And when they get in medical supplies, they bring them to us. So, I'm seeing in our community, JW, some of that polarization is dissolving because I've seen enough who want to keep that home-town Christian ethics and atmosphere of love. And it's here."

Simmons next asks with a community filled with so many Christian organizations offering charity and support for a wide array of needs, what can be done to fill the gap so that all organizations are elevated by working together.

Becky replies, "Many people do not want to share to rise up and get the word out. We find this in our churches and civic organizations. They would be glad to be on a committee but not a chairman. Many people don't want the leadership role, but someone has to be a leader."

"Look at what David did in the Bible when he got his men excited. But when David was down, and he was not rising up, nothing was happening. So, we have to have leaders and volunteers. People in this town really want to help. We have a list of amazing volunteers that will be out there that Saturday, but I think we've got to make a move. We have to stand up and say if nobody else is going to do it why can we sit around and complain if we're not willing to stand up. Especially when God gives us all the gifts we need. And many of them are wasted."

Rise Up - Rejoice

The 7th Annual Rise Up – Rejoice conference will be Saturday, February 23, 2019 at the Sampson County Exposition Center. Free admission and all are welcome to enjoy food, music, praise and worship, speakers, best youth group and good Samaritan trophies.

Schedule of events includes: Youth registration at 1:30pm with youth missions from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. 4:00pm to 5:00pm will be food and fellowship. 5:00pm to 7:00pm is the main event beginning with the welcome, youth presentation, praise by Justin and Kristen of First Baptist and presentation of awards. Praise by Norie Ellis of The Vine to be followed by the main speaker worship by Rev. Russ Emanuel Pastor of Olive Grove Church. Additional featured guest includes Angelique Jacobs and Julie Banister.

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

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



Clinton PD Investigating Two Shootings From Last Week

The Clinton Police Department is investigating two incidents last week involving gun shots in the city. The first incident took place Monday, February 4th, 2019 on Park Avenue in Clinton. The second incident took place on Margaret Street in the evening hours on Friday, February 8th, 2019.

On Monday, at 9:46 pm, officers from the Clinton Police Department responded to multiple 911 calls of gunfire on Park Avenue. Asst. Chief Anthony Davis reports that an argument which started inside the home at 210 Park Avenue spilled outside and into the driveway of the 210 Park Avenue home. The argument escalated until both suspects began firing at one another.

Asst. Chief Davis states, "During the altercation, the residence at 300 Park Avenue was struck by a bullet. Witnesses stated both parties fled the scene shortly thereafter. There were no injuries reported and the incident is still under investigation."

Davis added, "A narcotics search warrant was served at 210 Park Avenue on Tuesday by NIT Detectives."

In a separate incident, a Clinton man was the victim of a shooting on Margaret Street in Clinton Friday night. The shooting happened around 8:40 pm near the home of 30-year-old Ortavous Lynch of 502 Margaret Street as the victim walked along the street where he lived.

Shot at least once in the chest, Lynch was transported to Sampson Regional Memorial Hospital with life-threatening injuries after Clinton Police Officers responded to a 911 call of shots fired. Lynch was later transferred to an unnamed trauma center for further treatment. At the time of the call, Sampson Regional Medical Center was placed under lockdown per protocol when a shooting victim arrives at the emergency room.

At the time of the incident, Police Chief Donald Edwards stated, "Detectives on duty responded to the call and early in the investigation identified two suspects in the case. We are still investigating to determine the reason for the shooting."

Edwards added, "Lynch's injuries are serious, and he is in critical condition."

In a follow-up interview, Chief Edwards reported Tuesday, February 12th, "Warrants for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury have been issued for

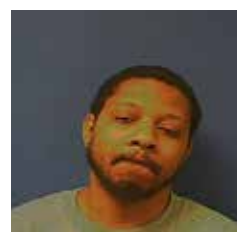
Antonius Brice, 25, of Clinton and Emmanuel Tirrell Wallace, 23, also of Clinton."

"The investigation revealed the two men drove up on the victim, Mr. Ortavious Lynch while he was walking on Margaret St. The men reportedly started a fight with Mr. Lynch that ended when he was shot. Evidence indicates that he was shot at least once with a rifle. The exact reason for the altercation is unclear, but the investigation indicates Mr. Lynch is familiar with both Brice and Wallace."

Edwards concluded, "Mr. Lynch is still listed in critical condition."

Edwards asks that anyone with additional information call 910-592-3105 or text anonymously to Tip411. Send tips to 847411 starting each message with tipepd. Or you can use the CPD app.

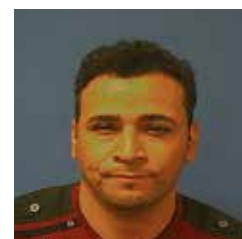
Two Clinton Men Charged with Sex Offenses with Children



Jarrise Jaquane McNeil

In two unrelated cases men from Clinton have been charged with sex crimes against children in our community. Jarrise Jaquane McNeil, 24-year-old from Clinton was taken into custody Monday morning and charged with 1 count Statutory Sex Offense with a Child by an Adult and 1 count Indecent Liberties with a Child. McNeil is currently detained in the Sampson County Detention Center under a no bond hold.

In a separate case, Aldo Noe Ramos Andino, 32-year-old from Clinton was taken into custody Monday afternoon and charged with 2 counts of Indecent Liberties with a Child. Andino is also being held in the Sampson County Detention Center. He has a \$30,000 secured bond.



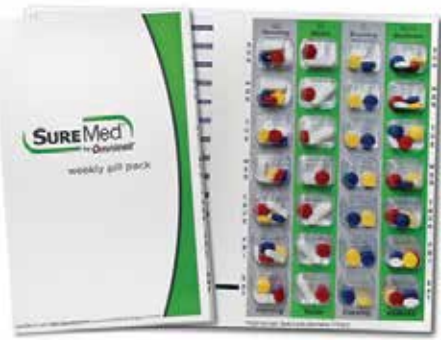
Aldo Noe Ramos Andino

In both incidences, Lt. Marcus Smith with the Sampson County Sheriff's Office states that law enforcement was made aware of complaints by a family member. "In the Andino case, a family member reported suspicion of inappropriate sexual conduct with a minor child under the age of 15. In the McNeil case, a family member reported suspicion of inappropriate sexual conduct with a minor child under the age of 6."

Smith continued, "Both cases were investigated by law enforcement and as a result evidence was found to support the claim and both subjects were charged as a result."

McNeil had a first appearance in court scheduled for Tuesday, February 12, 2019. Andino's first appearance before a judge was scheduled for Friday, February 15, 2019

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RISE-UP

Rejoice



Norie Ellis



**Justin &
Kristin Spell**

Saturday, February 23, 2019

at the Clinton Agri-Expo Center



Angelique Jacobs



Julie Banister



Russ Emanuel

Schedule
 1:30-Youth
 Registration
 2-4 Youth Missions
 4-5 Meal
 5-7 Main Event

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...by God's Grace

Rising UP to Rejoice on February 23rd is a local, free event that gives people of all ages an opportunity to enjoy Christian fellowship, food, fun, faith filled mission activities, praise and worship...all made possible by God's Grace and the goodness of businesses sponsoring and people volunteering! Experiencing God's plans panning out piece by piece has humbled this old country chic who is crazy in love with the One who made me and opened doors to serve Him in ways beyond my wildest dreams! Yes, Rise UP - Rejoice - the 7th Christian celebration - hosted by Tim's Gift has special significance and is shaping up to be one you won't want to miss!

Let me count the ways He has provided and put things in place for an event packed full of His Amazing Grace! "REJOICE" was the unanimous choice for this year's Rise UP focus which seems a perfect fit for 2019 when factions divide and sin saturates across God's creation. Satan paints a picture of hatred and horrific happenings hoping to suppress rejoicing and stop close relationships with our heavenly Father and families. There were many hurdles and headaches while planning for Rise UP - Rejoice; yet, the enemy did not have his way and stop the 7th Christian celebration which will be held in Clinton on February 23rd at the Agri Expo Center with kick off time at 1:30pm Saturday!

Youth will enjoy an afternoon from 2 - 3 pm filled with local and foreign mission activities : making 300 tie dye t-shirts that will be delivered to Children's Cancer Center in Atlanta, Ga - cutting old blue jeans and men's button down shirts to sew dresses and tops that will be shipped to three African countries led by Julie Bannister whose ministry is 'Stitches from the Heart', making Blessings Bags and messages of Jesus' love (50 to be shipped to Sierra Leon - 50 to Kenya (where Pastor Dwayne Dunning's brother is a missionary) and 40 to be shared locally - HQ Cheer with Angelique Young teaching sign language and sharing her healing from cancer- Prayer Walk in our City led by prayer warriors from CCC and Olive Grove Churches - Praise and Worship at Mary Gran and Southwood Nursing Centers led by Justin and Kristen Spell with Spellbinding Faith

The dinner hour is 4-5pm (meal by Love of Christ Ministries and US Foods),



Julie Banister and her 7 children (The Banister Bunch) will be at Rise Up Rejoice on Saturday Feb. 23rd to share about their ministries. Julie began STITCHES FROM THE HEART. Each of her children has their own ministries that will be shared during Rise Up. Julie makes beautiful dresses and shirts from old bluejeans and clothes people throw away. She has sent clothes to 38 countries in Africa and many states in America. These two girls are from Kenya, The missionary there sent Julie this picture last week showing the joy of two little girls who live in the Trash Piles of this African nation. Come to Rise UP Rejoice to meet Julie and her children. They will be a part of home and foreign missions projects where people attending can help make dresses and do tie dye shirts to be sent to Children's Cancer Center in Atlanta, GA.

Good Samaritan, Encourager, and Youth Group Mission trophies will be given out at 5pm with praise music by Norrie Ellis of The Vine / Justin and Kristen Spell from First Baptist Church. The message will be shared by Rev. Russ Emanuel of Olive Grove Church 6-7pm. A love offering will be taken.

In 2007, I stood in a huge coliseum in Charlotte with the Holy Spirit stirring to have a Christian celebration-revival-event in Clinton. Piece by piece for three years, it came together in my heart and my hometown with Rise UP -Recount Love being the first in 2012.

We are grateful for each supporter and sponsor, for youth leaders bringing their youth, for volunteers giving of their time and resources, for people coming to fill the chairs and feel the sweet spirit of our Lord and Savior tender hearts. It is BY God's Grace that Rise UP Rejoice is happening in Clinton for the 7th year. We cannot begin to count the ways His blessings will be sent! Please stop by or come stay for the entire event.

What's Happening

By Angela Martin

at **SCT**



Pocahontas is filled with laughter and glee...

Pocahontas the Musical is busily preparing for our production which will take place in March. Pocahontas is filled with lots of high energy young people who will leave you with a smile and make you glad you stopped by to see this production. The show revolves around the story of the Algonquin people and how the settlers of Jamestown need their help. Pocahontas brings her people and the Jamestown settlers together and they all realize they share commonalities. Pocahontas the Musical will be held Friday, March 22- Sunday, March 31 with Friday and Saturday evening performances at 7:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday afternoon matinees at 2:30 pm. Come out to see this musical directed by Angela Martin and sponsored by Performance Dodge/ Ford of Clinton.



The Natives (Sasha Bazaluk, Reese Woodard and Evander Pope) stand back as our Wordspinner (Chloe Herring) sings about the Legend of Pocahontas. Show times are March 22-March 31 - with Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday matinees scheduled for 2:30 pm. Sampson Community Theatre presents the musical "Pocahontas", with book by Vera Morris, music and lyrics by Scott DeTurk, directed by Angela Martin and proudly sponsored by Performance Automotive in Clinton. Wordspinner' and the rhythmic beat of the tom-toms open and close this charming musical adventure for all age groups. Pocahontas is the daughter of the mighty Algonquin Chief Powhatan. The princess delights in playing with Raven, Wolf, and Squirrel. Pocahontas has also made friends with the English settlers of Jamestown, a community struggling with starvation and sickness. This enchanting musical is graced with a wonderful cast of characters: Little Running Rabbit, Brave Eagle, Aunt Morning Star, Forest Spirits, Mother Earth, and, of course, the people of Jamestown. Filled with Native American lore and beautiful music, this play is true to the original legend. Audiences will be swept away with DeTurk's original music, featuring such songs as 'Live Forever,' 'No Common Ground' and the beautiful 'Your Heart Always Knows.' General admission is \$10.00. The theatre is located at 115 Fayetteville Street, Clinton, North Carolina. Call 910-592-8653 for more information.

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ALITA BATTLE ANGEL

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

Set several centuries in the future, the abandoned Alita (Rosa Salazar) is found in the scrapyard of Iron City by Ido (Christoph Waltz), a compassionate cyber-doctor who takes the unconscious cyborg Alita to his clinic. When Alita awakens she has no memory of who she is, nor does she have any recognition of the world she finds herself in. Everything is new to Alita, every experience a first.

Friday 6:30p
Sat & Sun 1:30p 4:30p 7:30p
Mon -Wed 6:30p



HAPPY DEATH DAY 2 U

NOW SHOWING

Rated PG-13 for violence, language, sexual material and thematic elements

Jessica Rothe leads the returning cast of this sequel to the 2017 movie. This time, our hero Tree Gelbman (Rothe) discovers that dying over and over was surprisingly easier than the dangers that lie ahead.

Friday 6:15p 8:30p
Sat & Sun 1:15p 3:30p 5:45p 8:00p
Mon -Wed 6:30p



LEGO MOVIE 2

NOW SHOWING

Rated: PG for mild action and rude humor

It's been five years since everything was awesome and the citizens are facing a huge new threat: LEGO DUPLO invaders from outer space, wrecking everything faster than they can rebuild. The battle to defeat them and restore harmony to the LEGO universe will take Emmet, Lucy, Batman and their friends to faraway, unexplored worlds, including a strange galaxy where everything is a musical.

Friday 6:30p
Sat & Sun 1:45p 4:15p 6:45p
Mon -Wed 6:30p



THE PRODIGY

NOW SHOWING

Rated R violence, disturbing and bloody images, a sexual reference and brief graphic nudity

Taylor Schilling stars as Sarah, a mother whose young son Miles' disturbing behavior signals that an evil, possibly supernatural force has overtaken him. Fearing for her family's safety, Sarah must grapple with her maternal instinct to love and protect Miles in favor of investigating what - or who - is causing his dark turn.

Friday 6:15p 8:30p
Sat & Sun 1:15p 3:30p 5:45p 8:00p
Mon -Wed 6:30p



WHAT MEN WANT

NOW SHOWING

Rated: R for language and sexual content throughout, and some drug material

Ali Davis (Taraji P. Henson) is a successful sports agent who's constantly boxed out by her male colleagues. When Ali is passed up for a well-deserved promotion, she questions what else she needs to do to succeed in a man's world... until she gains the ability to hear men's thoughts!

Friday 6:30p
Sat & Sun 1:30p 4:30p 7:30p
Mon -Wed 6:30p

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TIP OF THE WEEK

BENEFITS OF ANCIENT GRAINS

Ancient grains have grown in popularity and are one of the biggest trends in food in 2019. Ancient grains are plants which have been cultivated for centuries in the same way. They can be a source of protein, fiber and vitamins A, C and E. Ancient grains can be used in a variety of dishes and have a nutty taste and a chewy texture. Here are some ancient grains you can start incorporating into your diet.

- Amaranth
- Buckwheat
- Farro
- Freekeh
- Millet
- Quinoa
- Sorghum
- Spelt



BEVERAGES

PAKISTAN CHOOSES TOP DRINK

The government of Pakistan recently announced the results of a Twitter poll to decide the country's new national drink. On Jan. 25, Pakistan declared sugarcane juice as the country's "national drink." Voters were asked to choose between orange juice, carrot juice and sugarcane juice. Sugarcane juice received 81 percent of the votes, orange juice received 15 percent and carrot juice received 4 percent of the votes.

FUN FACT

OLIVE OIL VS. EVOO

According to the Food Network, extra virgin olive oil is made from pure olives that have been ground into a paste and then squeezed to get the oil out of them. Oil that isn't as fine or pure, is re-purposed as just olive oil.

— More Content Now



Be decadent

For Valentine's, Galentine's or any time you need chocolate



By Dena Rayess | SouthernKitchen.com

Chocolate is pure magic. In honor of Valentine's Day, why not harness a bit of that sweet decadence by serving one of our favorite chocolate-forward desserts?

Easy Chocolate Cobbler

Serves: 8 to 10

- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup self-rising flour
- 1 ¾ cup sugar
- ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 ½ cups boiling water
- Vanilla ice cream, for serving

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Place the butter in an 8-inch square baking dish and place in the oven to melt. Once the butter is melted, sprinkle the chocolate chips over butter.

In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, ¾ cup of the sugar and 2 tablespoons of the cocoa powder. Whisk in the milk and vanilla, then spread over melted butter and chocolate chips in the baking dish.

In a small bowl, whisk together the remaining sugar and cocoa powder, then sprinkle over the batter. Pour the boiling water on top of chocolate mixture and bake until crust is set, about 30 minutes. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream.



Chocolate Covered Bacon

Serves: 6 to 8

- 1 pound sliced applewood-smoked bacon
- 1 (10-ounce) bag semi-sweet chocolate chips

Heat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a plate with paper towels and two baking sheets with parchment paper.

Place bacon on one of the prepared baking sheets. Bake until the bacon is crisp, 15 to 20 minutes. Transfer to the prepared plate.

In a large bowl set over a pot of simmering water, melt the chocolate over medium heat. While the chocolate is melting, place a wire rack over the second prepared baking sheet.

When the chocolate has melted, remove the bowl from the double boiler. Dip both sides of each strip of bacon in the melted chocolate. Transfer to the prepared baking sheet and let sit at room temperature until fully set, 20 to 30 minutes. Serve.

KATE WILLIAMS/RAMONA KING PHOTOS

Chocolate Chess Pie

Serves: 8

For the pie:

- 1 recipe for a single unbaked pie crust
- 1 ¼ cups sugar
- ¼ cup cocoa powder
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 3 large eggs, beaten, plus 1 egg, beaten, for the crust (optional)
- 3 tablespoons evaporated milk
- 1 ½ teaspoons vanilla
- 1 ½ teaspoons distilled white vinegar

For the topping:

- 1 ½ cups heavy cream
- ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar
- ¼ cup cocoa powder, plus more for serving

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. To make the pie: Using a rolling pin, roll out the pie dough on a well-floured counter and transfer it into a 9-inch pie plate. Gently press the dough into the edges of the pan and trim off any excess. Crimp the edges as desired.

In a large bowl, whisk together the sugar, cocoa powder, flour and salt until combined. Whisk in the butter until just combined. Whisk in the 3

large eggs, evaporated milk, vanilla extract and vinegar until combined. Pour the filling into the prepared pie crust and brush the crust with the additional egg, if desired. Bake until the edges are well set and the innermost circle of pie is still just a bit jiggly, about 35 minutes. Let cool to room temperature.

Once cooled, prepare the whipped topping: In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment, beat the heavy cream on medium speed until frothy and slightly thickened. Add the sugar and cocoa powder, increase the mixer to high and beat until stiff peaks form. Spread dollops of the whipped cream on top of the pie. Dust with additional cocoa powder and serve immediately. The pie will keep in the refrigerator for up to 1 day.



FLEUR DE LOLLY

A pot of Republic Steel Chili brings back memories



Laura Tolbert

Republic Steel Corporation (originally named Alabama Steel and Wire Company) came to Gadsden in the early 1900s. My father worked there as a pipefitter for 30 years.

The steel plant was known to be one of the hottest places to work during the summer and one of the coldest environments in the wintertime. No one can agree on the details of how this recipe came

to be other than chili was the subject one day, and various methods and likes and dislikes were open for debate and discussion.

The pipe shop foreman told the men to bring in their favorite ingredients, and he'd see what he could do with them. The result? What our family, and I'm sure several others, will always refer to as Republic Steel Chili. No hard-to-find ingredients here, just a working man's pot of chili.

Republic Steel Style Chili (Circa 1980)

- 2 to 2 ½ lbs. lean ground beef
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 large white onions, chopped

- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 quart whole tomatoes
- 1 (28 oz.) can tomato sauce
- 2 teaspoons Tabasco hot sauce
- 1 or 2 package chili seasoning mix
- 1 cup water mixed with 1 ½ teaspoons flour for thickening

In a large Dutch oven, brown ground beef and drain. While meat is browning, melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onions and, stirring occasionally, let them cook 5 to 7 minutes until softened. Remove from heat and add to the ground beef.

And sugar, tomatoes, tomato sauce, Tabasco and chili seasoning mix(es). Bring mixture to a boil over medium-high

heat, breaking up whole tomatoes with a wooden spoon. Cover and reduce heat so that chili simmers for 1 to 2 hours. Stir occasionally to keep from sticking.

Mix water and flour to form a slurry and add to the chili to thicken. Let simmer another 30 minutes or so. Taste and add salt if needed. Serve hot with lots of saltine crackers.

Laura Tolbert, also known as Fleur de Lolly, has been sharing recipes, table decor ideas and advice for fellow foodies and novices on her blog, fleurdelolly.blogspot.com for more than eight years. You can contact her at [facebook.com/fleurdelolly.5](https://www.facebook.com/fleurdelolly.5), on Instagram, and fleurdelolly@yahoo.com.

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Carson Ellis Excited About Playing College Football at Barton



Earlier this month, Clinton High School's three-sport standout (football, basketball and baseball) Carson Ellis signed his letter of intent to play football for Barton College.

Although he received a lot of positive looks from other colleges, the tight-end/defensive end said he chose Barton College, who has recently resurrected their NCAA Division II football program that will kick off in 2020, for a few reasons.

"I really liked the coach (Chip Hester) there," the 6-foot 3-inch, 215 pound, Ellis admitted. "I like that they are currently building their program from the bottom-up. It's a first-year football program - I am guaranteed playing time and the proximity (to my family) is good too. I like the feeling of being there at the start of a program; making history at the school and I just really liked the feeling of being there."

Another benefit of going to Barton is their acclaimed business program, which Ellis will major in at the school.

"They have a 5-year business program that I will be able to get out with my Master's Degree," he said. "So, I am very excited about it."

Coach Hester said that he is expecting big things from Ellis when he comes to Barton in August.

"We are really excited about Carson," the coach said. "He is a great student with high character. He is the type of young person we want to build this program around. We feel like he strives for success on the field and off the field."

Hester continues, "He's an all-around ball player that can catch and block. I'm anxious to see how much he can develop over the next year."

By signing with Barton College, Ellis fulfilled a dream he had since he was a kid. Back then, the young Ellis would attend Dark Horse football games alongside his father,

Kevin, who had been an assistant football coach at the school since 1998. Kevin also played college football - as a defensive end (Wingate University).

Which all came full circle when Ellis signed to become a Bulldog with his father, along with his mother Erin and younger brother, Peyton, coaches, teammates and friends surrounding him.

"It was special," Carson says. "To have everyone there - my family, friends and coaches - but especially my dad because I really did grow up following him around to the practices and games ... It made it a really special moment for me."

Born in Fayetteville and raised in Clinton, Ellis said that his love of sports came at a young age - in addition to accompanying his father at Clinton games, he began playing at the Clinton Recreation Department when he was about 4 years old.

"I played multiple sports because I loved it," he said recently. "I eventually played travel soccer, travel baseball and AAU baseball. I think because of that, it helped me create a strong work ethic."

Ellis said that although he played other sports as he grew up, football has always been his favorite - by far. In recent years, he's attended camps at Wake Forest, N.C. State University, Campbell, Furman, UNC-C, and Wingate, to name just a few.

"I love to play football," he said. "I love sports, but I my focus is on football. I have always wanted to play college football and I am going to work hard to make that dream come true."

His final season on the high school gridiron was impressive - the Horses finished at 8-3 overall, falling to Kinston in the second round of the NCHSAA 2-A State Football Championships.

Defensively, Ellis finished with 36 solo tackles, 43 in total; 1 fumble recovery and a blocked punt on the season.

In his junior year, the Dark Horse football team went 6-6, once again falling in the second round of the NCHSAA 2-A State Football Championships to Northeastern. In addition to the loss, it was also the final game of long-time, legendary Clinton head coach Bob Lewis.

In baseball, Ellis plays third base and pitches. Last season, Ellis had an on-base percentage of .737; a .340 slugging percentage; and a .360 batting average.

In basketball, Ellis is a power forward. Last season the team went 27-2 overall and fell in the NCHSAA 2-A Basketball Championship at Minges Coliseum to Greene Central 61-57.

This season the team, which is currently at 11-12 overall, played their final regular season game Thursday night (final results were not available at press time). The Dark Horse basketball team will head into the playoffs in the coming week (times/dates are TBA).

As soon as the basketball season is over, Ellis will head directly into the 2018-19 baseball season, which will officially begin on February 21 when Clinton plays at Union.

Ellis is trying his best to make as many memories that he can before he walks across the stage to get his diploma in June.

"I really do think it is going to be bittersweet for me," Ellis admits. "Clinton is a very close-knit community where everyone knows each other and that is what makes it great."

Does it make it easier knowing what college he will be headed to?

"To be honest, I really don't think that it has hit me yet," he admits. "To have signed and able to be going to play at a Division II school ... I mean, it is really exciting for me."

A straight 'A' student with a 4.2 GPA, Ellis said that he is excited to have an opportunity to play football in college, with his ultimate dream to play professionally in the National Football League (NFL).

"That would be great if it happens," said Ellis. "But if it doesn't, I want to make sure I go to college and get my degree."

In addition to his family, Ellis said he wanted to thank a few others for their continual support over the years.

"Of course, my family, who have always been there for me," he said. "I also want to thank my coaches - coach (Bob) Lewis, coach Davis, coach Tyson, coach McFadden and coach (Scott) Lewis."

He continues, "I also want to thank all of my teammates, everyone at Clinton High School and, really, everyone in this community ... I just thank them for all of their support."

Congratulations Carson, we wish you nothing but success in the next step of your journey!

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EDUCATION

Happy Valentine's Day from SCC's SGA



SCC students lined up to build their very own stuffed animal for Valentine's Day. Students received a stuffed animal complete with birth certificates and custom SCC Viking t-shirts. The event was a huge success!

AdvancEd Accreditation Schools Recognized



At the Monday night Sampson County School Board meeting, Dr. Carr recognized each Sampson County school for meeting the criteria for educational quality established by the AdvancED Accreditation Commission and present their certificate to display in their school.

- Hargrove Elementary School, Hobpton Elementary School, Hobpton Middle School, Hobpton High School.
- Roseboro Elementary School, Salemburg Elementary School, Roseboro-Salemburg Middle School, Lakewood High School.
- Clement Elementary School, Midway Elementary School, Plain View Elementary School, Midway Middle School, Midway High School.
- Sampson Early College High School
- Union Elementary School, Union Intermediate School, Union Middle School, Union High School.

TO ADVERTISE

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SAMPSON COUNTY SCHOOLS 2019 Kindergarten Registration Clinics

Plain View Elementary	March 1, 2019
Hobpton Elementary	March 29, 2019
Hargrove Elementary	April 5, 2019
Union Elementary	April 8-9, 2019
Roseboro Elementary	April 11, 2019
Midway Elementary	April 12, 2019
Clement Elementary	April 17, 2019
Salemburg Elementary	April 18, 2019



****Please contact the school in your district to schedule an appointment for your child to attend the clinic.**

Copies of the child's birth certificate and immunization record are required for the clinic.

If your child has not had their Health Assessment done prior to the clinic date, please schedule an appointment with your child's physician or your local Health Department as soon as possible. **These physicals are required by State Law to be completed within 30 days of the beginning of school and no earlier than one year prior to school enrollment.**

At the present time, North Carolina State Law requires a Comprehensive Vision Screening by a health care provider prior to beginning Kindergarten. If your child fails the vision screening, the health care provider will refer your child to an ophthalmologist or optometrist for a complete vision exam.

****All children who reach age five on or before August 31 are eligible for entry into Kindergarten.**

SCC Employees Get CPR Training



CPR Instructor Wayne Dienhart instructs SCC employee, Carol Watson.

In an effort to make Sampson Community College an even safer place to work and go to school, all faculty and staff are required to be CPR-certified going forward. CPR stands for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

"We are teaching everyone here basic life support and CPR," says Michelle Simmons, CPR trainer. We are going through the steps and procedures as it relates to saving lives from adults and children to infants as well. We want the employees here to know exactly what to do in a life-threatening emergency."

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation is a procedure performed when the heart stops beating. Immediate CPR can double or triple chances of survival after cardiac arrest. According to 2014 data, nearly 45-percent of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest victims survived when bystander CPR was administered. Most out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in public settings.

"It is particularly important to have as many people on campus as possible know CPR," Simmons says. "So many people visit or work at the college that the chances of anything happening there obviously increases. This training will not only help the staff and students there but the community in general benefits from it as well." The US Occupational Safety and Health Administration reports that there are about 10,000 cardiac arrests in the workplace each year in the United States.

For more information Sampson Community College, visit www.sampsoncc.edu.

Hands-On Training Flies High at SCC



Bass (R) takes a group selfie of his class with SCC's Animal Science Drone.

If you thought you saw a UFO hovering above Sampson Community College, you are not alone. SCC's Applied Animal Science classes were receiving hands-on training on drones this week. Not quite an unidentified flying object but definitely used to monitor livestock.

"We brought our drone out here and are allowing students to get experience learning to fly," says Chet Bass, Department Chair of the college's Applied Animal Science Technology program. "There are all kinds of different opportunities for agriculture as technology advances and drones will play a crucial role in agriculture going forward."

An agricultural drone is an unmanned aerial vehicle applied to farming to help increase crop production and monitor crop growth. Sensors and digital imaging capabilities can give farmers a richer picture of their fields. This information may prove useful in improving crop yields and farm efficiency. Drones allow farmers to see their fields from the sky. This bird's-eye view can reveal many issues such as irrigation problems, soil variation, and pest and fungal infestations.

"This technology gives us an advantage," says Bass. "We can use drones for topography and laying out maps. We can scout crops, analyze fields and count animals. Thermal cameras can be added. Technology always changes, and agriculture is no different. Farmers constantly have to stay up to date and this is an example of that through education."

The addressable value of drone-powered solutions in all applicable industries is more than \$127 billion. With the world's population projected to reach nine billion people in thirty years, experts expect agricultural consumption to increase by nearly seventy percent over that time. For more information about SCC's Animal Science program, contact Chet Bass at cbass@sampsoncc.edu or at 910-900-4027.




Dream Believe Achieve

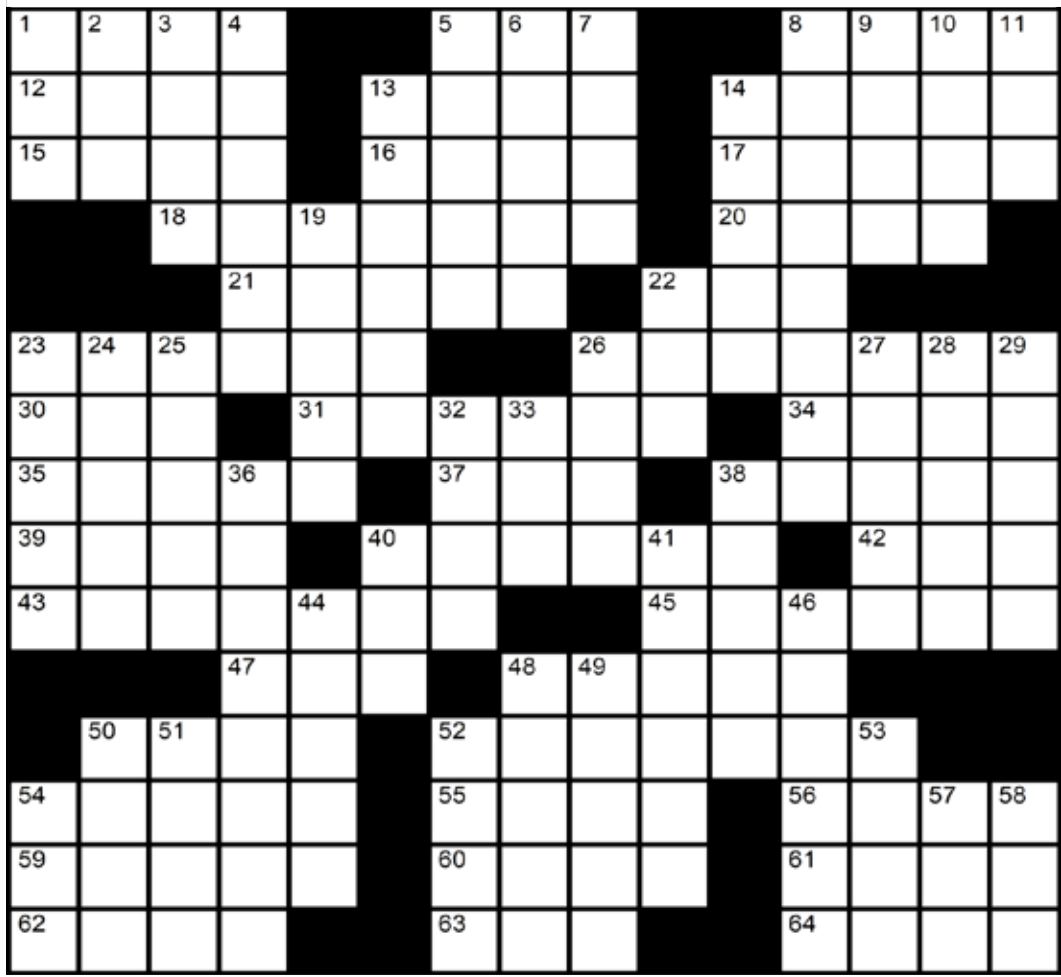
Tarheel Challenge offers young men and women the opportunity to believe in themselves and therefore achieve in life.

To dream is to wish.
To believe is to know.
To achieve is to realize that dream!

Tarheel Challenge

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www.ngycp.org**

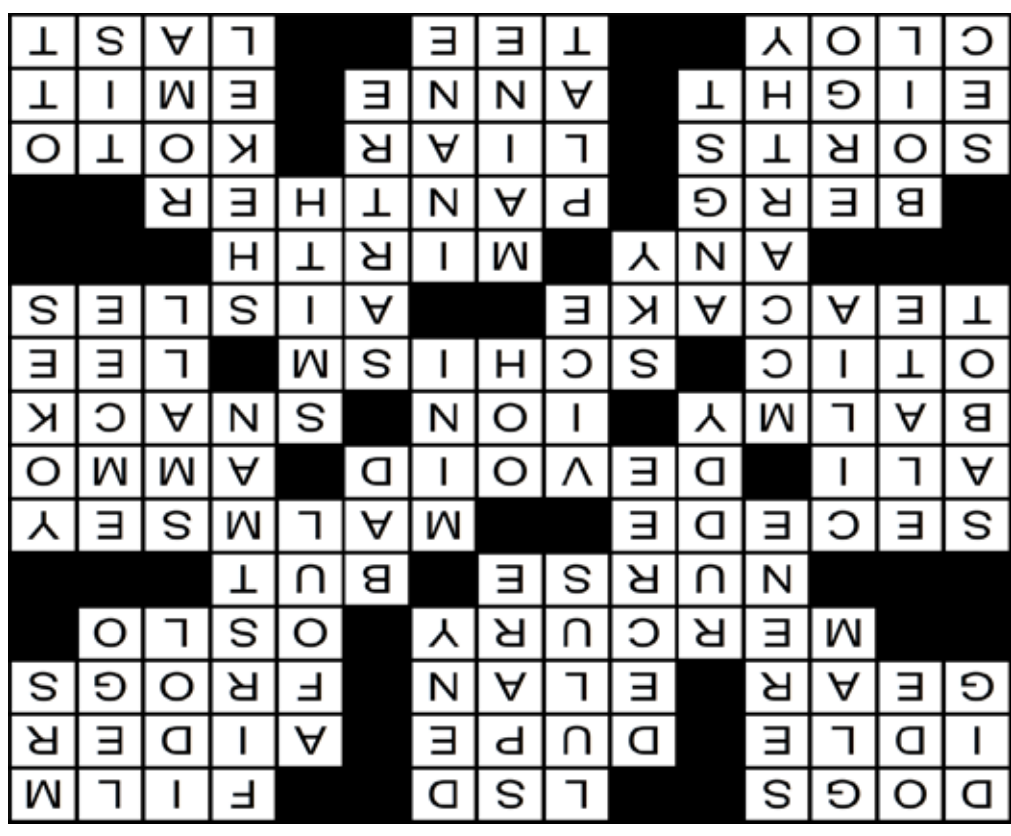
Crossword Puzzle



THE OSCARS

- ACROSS**
- *Animated Isle dwellers
 - Dropped drug
 - *Kind of editing
 - Doing nothing
 - Hoodwink
 - Support person
 - Toothy wheel
 - Distinctive flair
 - Tadpoles, eventually
 - **"Bohemian Rhapsody" protagonist
 - Norse capital
 - *Kathy Bates' Annie Wilkes, e.g.
 - Contrary conjunction
 - Withdraw, like Ukraine from Soviet Union
 - Sweet Madeira wine
 - **"Green Book" nominee
 - Completely lacking
 - Clip contents
 - Like pleasant winter day
 - Charge carrier
 - Food between meals
 - Relating to ear
 - Religious split
 - **"BlacKkKlansman" nominee
 - Sweet treat
 - *Paths to glory
 - One or some
 - Wharton's "The House of ____"
 - Shipping hazard
 - *T'Challa, a.k.a. Black ____
 - Arranges into categories
 - One with pants on fire?
 - Japanese stringed instrument
 - *Nominations for "A Star Is Born" (2018)
 - *Olivia Colman's royal character
 - Discharge
 - Fill to excess
 - Casual attire
 - **The ____ Emperor," winner of 9 Oscars

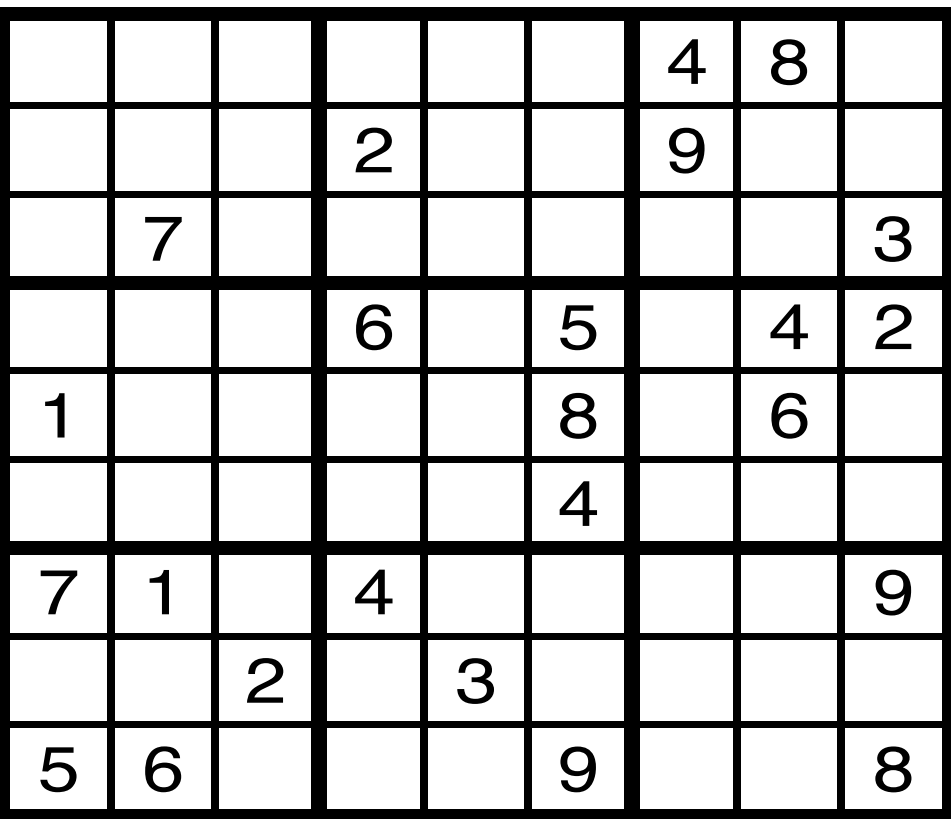
- DOWN**
- "Can you ____ it, man?"
 - Schiller's address to joy
 - *The Oscars show is filled with it, informal
 - Tranquil
 - Seductive beauties
 - Tire in the trunk
 - Say it isn't so
 - *Ryan Gosling's role
 - *Former American ____ and best supporting actress winner
 - Emmet Brickowski's brick
 - *Robinson in "The Graduate"
 - King's order
 - Run ____ of the law
 - Red, as in healthy complexion
 - **"The ____ and the Beautiful," winner of 5 Oscars
 - Heidi's shoe
 - Fill with optimism
 - Locomotive hair
 - Twiggy's skirt
 - Size
 - *Kevin Hart stepped down from this role
 - Ox connectors
 - *Bale's role
 - "____ la la!"
 - *Literary forgerer portrayer
 - *2-time Oscar-winning Dame
 - *Jessica Lange won Best Actress for "Blue ____"
 - Famous existentialist
 - Teen worry
 - Israeli money
 - *Jackson ____ of "A Star is Born"
 - Stupid or silly
 - Result of hair follicle infection
 - "Cogito, ____ sum"
 - Neighborhood map
 - *Best Picture and Best Foreign Language Film nominee
 - Dry, Demi-____, Doux
 - "____ the season ..."
 - Giant Hall-of-Famer



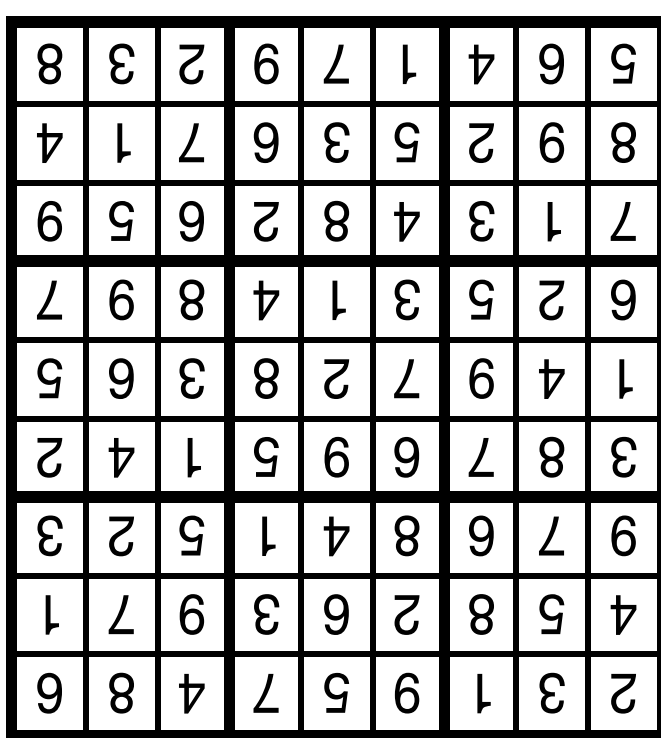
SUDOKU

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!



Word Search — Musically Inclined



- Alto
- Baritone
- Bass
- Chorus
- Clef
- Coda
- Contraalto
- Instrument
- Measure
- Music
- Refrain
- Sheet
- Soprano
- Tempo
- Tenor

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FAITH

Don't Let the Past Define You

Genesis 32:27-28, "And he said unto him, what is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed."

Philippians 3:13-14, "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

So often we will hear about the many mistakes that Jacob committed. He was a liar, a cheater, a thief and yet God used him to establish the nation of Israel, through which came our Savior, Jesus Christ. If God can use a man like Jacob, just imagine what He is able to do with you. Johnny Cash, who had been transformed by the power of Christ proclaimed, "You build on failure. You use it as a stepping stone. Close the door on the past. You don't try to forget the mistakes, but you don't dwell on it. You don't let it have any of your energy, or any of your time, or any of your space." What we learn from the life of Jacob is that he refused to allow his past to define him.

After a lifetime of deception and trickery, Jacob made his way back to the land of Canaan, despite deep fear about what his brother, Esau, might do to him. Years earlier, Jacob had tricked Esau out of his birthright and his blessing. Just before meeting Esau, Jacob had a life-changing encounter with God. The Bible tells us that the angel of the Lord wrestled with Jacob. As dawn approached, this mysterious man wanted to call it quits, but Jacob refused. The angel then touched Jacob's hip and threw it out of joint, leaving Jacob with a lifetime limp. "I will not turn you free until you bless me," Jacob said. Jacob finally got the blessing he desired, although it would come painfully.

At the very moment Jacob received this Heavenly blessing, he became a new person. God changed his name from Jacob that can be translated as deceiver to Israel that means he perseveres with God. God told Jacob he would become the father of a great nation; and in fact, the twelve sons of Jacob sired the twelve tribes of Israel. God gave Jacob what he also offers to each of us, a new life. Through faith in Jesus

Christ, we can have our sins forgiven and can embark on a new life, filled with His joy and peace.

Jacob never did become perfect, and none of us will either until we step into Heaven. Yet, we will find true liberation when we begin a relationship with Jesus. As we give our lives increasingly to Christ, our lives will expand in amazing ways. Alexander Graham Bell once stated, "When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us." Could we not be accepting the fullness of what God has for our families, our ministries and our entire lives, simply because we focus more on the doors of our past that have been closed instead of the open doors of the future?

This week I encourage you accept the redeeming grace that comes only from Christ. Others will remember your sinful past, but Christ not only can forgive you of the past, He also chooses to remember your sins no longer. Everyone has a past; however you no longer have to be defined to live in that past.



Rev. Ken Smith



Written by Martha Pierce

This beloved story, with no attribution given to an author, is such an inspiration particularly since music is so special in my life. Recently I read it in "God's Little Devotional Book" by Honor Books, and the spiritual application given in closing certainly makes it worth sharing.

"Wishing to encourage her young son's progress at the piano, a mother bought tickets to an Ignace Paderewski performance. When the night arrived, the two found their seats near the front of the concert hall. The boy stared in wide-eyed amazement at the majestic grand piano on the stage. The mother began talking to a friend sitting nearby and she failed to notice her son slip away. As the house lights dimmed and the spotlight focused on the piano, the woman gasped as she saw her son on the piano bench, innocently picking out "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star."

Before the woman could retrieve her son, the famous concert pianist appeared on stage and quickly moved to the keyboard. "Don't quit - keep playing," he whispered to the boy. Leaning over, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Then with his right arm, he reached around the other side, encircling the child, to add a running obligato. Together, the old master and the young novice absolutely mesmerized the crowd."

No matter how insignificant, or "amateur-ish" you may feel today, our Master has these words for you, "Don't quit - keep going!" He will add whatever is needed to turn your efforts and your life into a masterpiece; one that will make a difference for all eternity. To use an old adage, "Keep On - Keeping On". All we need do is simply trust and rely on Jesus Christ, the Master of all time and eternity. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31

By Martha M. Pierce

Psalms



By Linda Herring

The Bible speaks to us but the Psalms speak for us. Are you waiting on the Lord for something or maybe an answer to a prayer? If you are like me, I don't like to wait at times. The Lord has His reasons for asking us to wait. Psalm 27:14 says, "Wait on the Lord, be of good courage and He shall strengthen your heart, wait I say on the Lord." While we are waiting, watch your attitude, stay focused, stay in the Word and continue to pray. God will give us peace as we stay obedient to Him. God is working. Learn to love and trust Him in the wait. Do not let the stresses of the day steal your Psalm. Contact me with prayer requests and comments at herring.theword@gmail.com.

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CRIME

Arrest Reports

02-07 Charles Andrea Thomas, 26; 305 East Pleasant St., Clinton; Child Support; Bond \$500; Court Date 04-04

02-07 Roman Dashon King, 21; 104 Darkwood Lane, Clinton; Order for Arrest-Child Support

02-07 Brittany Danelle McLeod, 29; 55 Williams Lane, Roseboro; Fictitious Information; Bond \$500; Court Date 02-28

02-07 Anne Lee Miles Wester, 18; 413 Latimer Rd., Raleigh; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Court Date 03-12

02-07 Quetin Mondarius Morrisey, 30; 603 Webster Dr., Dunn; Larceny by Employee; Bond \$5,000; Court Date 02-11

03-12 Janice Ann Wheeler, 21; 24 Lynn Rd., Raleigh; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Possession of Marijuana; Court Date 03-12

02-07 Christopher Trevon Graham, 25; 788 Isaac Rd., Clinton; Possession of Firearm by Felon; Trespass of Real Property; Resist, Delay, and Obstruct Public Officer; Damage to Property (Criminal); Bond \$8,000; Court Date 02-15

02-07 Brennan Matthew Douglas, 19; 1408 Bridgeport Dr., Raleigh; Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; Possession of Marijuana; Court Date 03-12

02-08 Haley Amber Wainright, 20; 3868 Hayne Stretch Rd., Roseboro; Carrying Concealed Weapon; Bond \$2,500; Court Date 03-14

02-08 Brooke Lynn Summers, 23; 10254 Timothy Rd., Dunn; Failure to Appear-Possess Drug Paraphernalia; Failure to

Appear- Misdemeanor Larceny; Bond \$2,000; Court Date 03-08

02-08 Brandon Clayton Wells, 26; 185 Six Acre Lane, Dunn; Failure to Comply; Failure to Appear- DWLR Not Impaired Rev; Failure to Appear- Drive Left of Center; Failure to Appear- Drive/Allow Motor Vehicle No Registration; Failure to Appear- Operate Vehicle No Insurance; Bond \$1,540; Court Date 03-01

02-09 Stacy Crystal Troutman, 24; 143 Virginias Dr., Wilkesboro; Cyberstalking; Court Date 03-11

02-09 Forrest Gerald Hill, 48; 406 Douglas Ave., Roseboro; DWLR; Fail to Report Accident; DUI; Bond \$2,500; Court Date 03-19

02-09 Cindy Michelle Rouse, 42; 1700 Microwave Tower Rd., Roseboro; Cyberstalking; Court Date 03-11

02-10 Angela Rene Melvin, 37; 1045 Claudes Drag Rd., Roseboro; Failure to Appear-DWLR Not Impaired Revoke; Failure to Appear- Speeding; Bond \$1,000; Court Date 02-28

02-10 Christher Andrew Jones, 29; 167 Prong Rd., Dunn; Failure to Appear- Allow Unlicensed to Drive; Bond \$500; Court Date 03-07

02-10 Derrelle Lamar Robinson, 38; 412 Culloden Place, Hope Mills; Expired Registration Card/Plate; Fail to Inspect Vehicle; Court Date 04-10

02-10 Ervin Mack Williams, 52; 166 School Rd., Salemburg; Interfere Emergency Communication; Assault on a Female; Court Date 03-13

02-11 Derrell Lamar Robinson, 38; 412 Culloden Place, Hope Mills; Expired Registration Card/Plate; Fail to Inspect Vehicle;

Court Date 04-10

02-11 Edward Milton Bryant, 62; 2945 Delway Hwy., Rose Hill; DWI; Bond \$1,500; Court Date 03-14

02-11 Robert Ray Artis, 30; 425 Tarheel Dr., Clinton; Order fro Arrest/Failure to Appear-Child Support

02-11 Cindy Michelle Rouse, 42; 1700 Microwave Tower Rd., Communicating Threats; Court Date 03-11

02-11 Katherine Anne Kantor, 29; 484 Yellow Skin Rd., Autryville; Cyberstalking; Court Date 03-13

02-11 Cindy Michelle Rouse, 42; 1700 Microwave Tower Rd., Rosseboro; Harassing Phone Call; Court Date 03-11

02-11 Connie Dee Hopkins, 39; 3157 East Darden Rd., Faison; No Operators License; Court Date 03-07

02-11 Derrelle Lamar Robinson, 38; 412 Culloden Place, Hope Mills; Expired Registration Card/Plate; Fail to Inspect Vehicle; Court Date 04-10

02-11 Christopher Todd Scarberry, 24; 300 Scotts Creek Run, Angier; Communicating Threats; Court Date 03-11

02-12 Katherine Anne Kantor, 29; 484 Yellow Skin Rd., Autryville; Cyberstalking; Court Date 03-11

02-13 Michael Jerome Smith, 37; 204 W Butler Ave., Clinton; Order for Arrest/Failure to Comply- Child Support; Bond \$600; Court Date 03-12

02-13 Victoria Grace Devone, 21; 221 Kirby Dr., Rose Hill; Failure to Appear- Reckless Driv-

ing-Wanton Disregard; Failure to Appear-Speeding; Bond \$100; Court Date 05-08

02-13 Johnny Aaron Watts, 24; 70 Boyhill Lane, Garland; Porbation Violation Out of County; Bond \$1,000; Court Date 03-06

02-13 Stormie Michelle Willard, 21; 40 Eaglewood Lane, Clinton; Order for Arrest/Failure to Comply; Bond \$360; Court Date 02-25

Incident/Investigation Reports

02-07 Keisha Miller reported the Theft of a Vehicle located at 151 Knight Lane Autryville.

02-07 Gene Faircloth reported the Theft of a Golf Cart located at 885 Roberts Grove Rd., Dunn.

02-07 Henry Oates reported the Larceny of a Firearm located at 380 Chesters Rd., Roseboro.

02-08 Dustin Benson reported the Larceny of a Firearm located at 1841 Wilmington Hwy., Willard.

02-08 Billy Melton reported the Theft from a Building located at 510 E Pine-wood St., Roseboro. Items reported missing included a Cooking Tub, Mobile Oil Sign, coke sign and #2 tubs.

02-10 George Warren reported the Larceny of a Chainsaw located at 255 Emmet Thornton Rd., Newton Grove.

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

Sampson County VITAL STATS

Deaths

-Jesse Lee Branch
 -William Frank Brainard
 -George Washington Carter
 -James Andrew Cherry
 -Wendell Davis Draughon
 -Travis Henly Gilchrist
 -Lemuel Harris Sr
 -John Larry King
 -Billy Sherwood Lee
 -James Earl Lovitt Jr
 -Bettye Morrisey
 -Mary Ann Matthews
 -Prentice Maxton Naylor
 -Ferris Jean Newkirk
 -Renata Jean Pranger
 -Steven Mitchell Robinson
 -Velma Kate Spell
 -Kevin Wayne Strother
 -Callie Louray Starling
 -Kathleen Thompson
 -Helen Pearlina Turner
 -Antonia Vaught
 -Thomas Autry Williams
 -Lois Williamson
 -Jimmy Montague Weaver III

Marriage Certificates

-Kevin Artez Sheppard to Natasha Angeline Howard
 -John Edward Clark to Rachel Christine Flaherty
 -Sergio Velazquez Camacho to Karla Alejandra Torres Montoya
 -Timothy Elton Lambert to Shelby Lynn Howard
 -Marie Watts Anderson to Tamara Lynn Faircloth
 -J Jesus Del Rio Lopez to Lorena Ramirez Medina
 -Jevarus Lee Tisdale to Kianna Marie Williams

Births

-Francisco Manzanarez-Gonzalez born on January 18, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Francisco Manzanarez-Nunez and Eybi Gonzalez-Delgado
 -Raya Tonii Jackson born on January 12, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Casie Tiara Jackson
 -Josue' Eliseo Gomez born on January 20, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to William Antonio Gomez Ortega and Alma Marlene Gomez Serrano
 -Candy Sales Lopez born on January 21, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Maynor Sales Molina and Candelaria Lopez Vasquez
 -Kei' Ori Adonis Dequan Cameron born on January 21, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Cortez Demontre-De'Quan Cameron Sr and Kimberly Katina Cooper
 -Arianna Arisbeth Zelaya-Rojas born on January 25, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Jimi Elizandro Zelaya Ruiz and Eldan Andely Rojas Sarmiento
 -Colton John Raynor born on January 26, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to John Keith Raynor and Monica Blackburn Raynor
 -Joshua Alday Smith born on January 26, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Carlos Alday Smith and Crystal Denise Vazquez
 -Adelin Gonzalez born on January 30, 2019 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Esther Gonzales Jose

Land Transfers

-Wilson E Blackmon/MBR/MGR, Blackmon Property Group LLC to CMH Homes, Oakwood Homes/DBA- Lot 18 Hoss's Ridge Subdivision 0.57 Acres
 -Glenda W Barnhill to Thomas E Chancy- Tract 1 39.98 Acres Westbrook
 -Charles Cullen Osborne to Chad Allen Osborne- 1.16 Acres Franklin
 -4-Way Food Mart Inc to Phuong Thi Phu- 0.83 Acres Lot 1 & 3
 -Jackie Dwight Tyndall, Sabra Tyndall to Christopher Glenn Hales, Melissa Dale Hales- 1.70 Acres Little Coharie
 -Donald P Weber, Donette Worley Weber, Shannon L Weber to Esther Worley, Glenn G Worley- Lot 2 RL Grantham Farm Lots Honeycutt
 -Peerless Investments LLC, Thurman Telfair Simpson III to Jennifer R Oliver, Michael Joseph Oliver- 0.50 Acres Honeycutts
 -George Kelly Norris to George Kelly Norris- 1.0 Acre Plainview
 -John Johnson Bethune, Kathryn F Bethune, Elizabeth Ann Catlette, Frank Reginald Catlette, Jan

Bethune Tart, Whitfield Reynolds Tart to Daughtry Farms LLC- 379.13 Acres Jule King Tract
 -Diane Kornegay Best, James Douglas Best, Kathy Talton Best, Kenneth Allen Best, DMB Partners LLC, Karen T Sutton/MGR to Lamm Family Properties LLC- Lot 21 Timberlake Subdivision Section Eight 0.93 Acres North Clinton
 -Peerless Investments LLC, Telfair Simpson III to Alma Gail Holland Jerson- Lot Honeycutt
 -Patricia Greene Cherry, Phillip Michael Cherry to Richard Jeffries Geist- 1.5 Acres Sixth Tract Honeycutt
 -Crystal Strickland Gillis/AIF, William L Lee/By AIF, William Leon Lee, William Leon Lee/AKA to William L Lee, William Leon Lee/AKA, Madonna Renee Nelson Sosa- Lot 5 Mill Stone Estates Dismal
 -Faye H Faircloth, Henry E Faircloth to Melodie Suzanne Williams- Lot 2 2.52 Acres Dismal
 -Deborah S Owen, Millard T Owen III to Marcelino Sanchez- Lot 25 0.81 Acres Bluegrass Ridge Little Coharie
 -Kimberly Haywood Sutton, William Kenneth Sutton to Martha Evelia Rivera- 2 Parcels w/ exceptions Clinton
 -Jenny Gayle Reynolds Beard, Robert Arin Beard Jr to Thomas S Melvin, April M Tanner- 2 Tracts North Clinton
 -Rosalina Josefina Ruiz Diaz, Noe Joel Fugon to DOT- Lot 4 0.48 Acres South Clinton
 -Luella L Tew to Carl Wesley Gaddy Jr- Tract One 37.43 Acres Honeycutts
 -Harriette T Hobbs/By AIF, Thomas C Hobbs Jr/AIF to Harriette T Hobbs Revocable Trust, Harriette T Hobbs, Thomas Carroll Hobbs Jr/S TR- 14 Tracts w/exceptions
 -Sunrise Properties & Rentals LLC, Jimmy Tyndall/MBR/MGR to Sergio Santos Ortega, Indie Belle Simpson- Little Coharie 2.10 Acres Lot 1 James Ransom Faircloth Estate
 -Danny E Norris, Joan L Norris to Melissa D Bass, Terry J Bass- Plainview Lot 9
 -Minnie Britt Edwards to The Edwards Family Revocable Trust- Sampson & Wayne
 -Thurston Little Estate, Glenda Grimsley Reed/EXR to Robert Thurston Little- Lot 12 Lake View Acres North Clinton
 -Norma Bonilla Garcia, Simon Quintanilla to Sandra Zuniga Mendieta- 0.72 Acres South Clinton
 -Billy D Horne, Fay J Horne to Matthew W Grimes- Honeycutts 2 Tracts w/exceptions
 -Drew Scruggins, Jamie Scruggins to Jessica Michelle King, Steven Ray King- Mingo Lot 13 Hawley Ridge Subdivision
 -Dawn M Fox, Dawn M Griffin to Jason M Griffin- Westbrooks Tract 2 0.92 Acres
 -Jason M Griffin to Carlos Alejandro Samayoa, Marth Santiago Samayoa- Westbrooks Tract 2 0.92 Acres
 -Delia Caldera/AKA, Adalberto Miramontes, Delia Miramontes to Andrea Caldera Miramontes- Lot 15 Map of the Ivey Place
 -Evelyn Murphy Hargrove to Lovistine Phillips- 0.77 Acres Tract 5 B&B Subdivision Section One South Clinton
 -Gary Alton Warwick, Kay Baggett Warwick to WC Martin Farms LLC- 52.5 Acres Tract 2 Mingo
 -Aleader B Carroll, Gwendolyn C Hardy, Robert C Hardy to Albert Terry Lee, Rose Mary Lanier Lee- 34.84 Acres Honeycutts
 -Betty Lou Griffin to Ramon Fernando Endara, Jenny Angelina Loaiza- Lots 3, 4, 5 and 6 Block B Oakland Terrace Subdivision North Clinton 0.34 Acres
 -Charles Lemont Faison to Lavoice Faison Stevens, Michael Anthony Stevens- Tract 12 Wentworth Faison Farm Division Turkey
 -Edward L Cully, Sandra M Cully to Benjamin E Cully, Edward L Cully, James C Cully, Sandra M Cully, Thomas M Cully- Lot 8 Civil Ola Massey Division w/exceptions Piney Grove
 -Eva Constance Foz/PR, Karen Fox Estate to Eva Constance Fox- Lot 30 Lake View Acres North Clinton
 -Eva Constance Fox to Vickie Thompson- Lot 30 Lake View Acres North Clinton
 -T&D Home Buyers LLC, Samuel T Tinker/MGR/MBR to Jesse Mark Porter, Tina Figaro Porter- 2.13 Acres Halls
 -Jimmy Faircloth, GETSCO Inc, Fred Holland, James H Thornton to GETSCO Inc, Fred Holland- 2 Tracts South Clinton
 -Ahide S Cruz, Ricardo Junior Cruz to Noemi Cruz- Lot 2 1.66 Acres Piney Grove
 -A Wallace Moore Jr Trust, Robert R Miller/S TR, A Wallace Moore Jr, Elizabeth Stewart Moore/S TR to Moores Creek LLC- 3 Tracts w/exceptions Franklin
 -Bonnie M Ammons to Maria E Calzada, Jose Palacios Nunez- 4.76 Acres Dismal
 -Carol Diane Williamson, HB Williamson/AKA, Horace B Williamson, Melinda D Williamson to Nicholas G Gooden- 2 Tracts Franklin
 -Danise Hamilton Emory, John Emory, Betty Jane Cotton Evans, Kent H Hamilton, Susan Hamilton, June Annette Cotton Sloan, William Terrell Sloan to Mary Ann Holl/TR, Mary Ann Hill Revocable Trust- Tract 1 1.65 Acres Tract 2 3.50 Acres Westbrooks
 -Timothy C Duhig to Daniel Clay, Peggy Clay- Lot 9 1.30 Acres
 -Billy Graham Evangelistic Association to Jose Narato- Lot 1 Charlie C Matthis Heirs Land Division Taylors
 Bridge
 -South River Hunting Club Inc to James Thomas Norris, Edward Allen Raynor, Jeffrey Lynn Raynor,
 Charles Herman Smith, Sanford Walter Smith, Willie Dean Thornton- 2 Tracts South River
 -James Thomas Norri , Marlene Moore Norris, Edward Allen Raynor, Jeffrey Lynn Raynor, Julie Byrd Raynor, Sharon Tart Raynor, Charles Herman Smith, Mary Beth Smith, Sanford Walter Smith, Sonya Clifton Thornton, Willie Dean Thornton to Thomas S Melvin- 2 Tracts South River

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SPEED FREAKS

A few questions we had to ask ourselves

Did we learn anything over the weekend?

GODSPEAK: Hendrick Motorsports is coming out of the corner punching with a Daytona 500 pole and Clash victory on opening day.

KEN'S CALL: We learned that Jimmie Johnson was really, really hungry for a return to Victory Lane. And we learned that it might be physically impossible to race at Daytona without eventually wrecking.

William Byron's chances of winning the 500 from the pole?

GODSPEAK: Winning the Daytona 500 pole means his team worked hard all winter. The race is more driver. He will finish top-20 Sunday.

KEN'S CALL: If he wins, it won't be because he's on the pole, it'll be because he's in great equipment with a great crew chief. I'd put him about 10th in my list of favorites.

FEUD OF THE WEEK

PAUL MENARD VS. JIMMIE JOHNSON

Menard led 51 laps in the Advance Auto Parts Clash, but was spun around by Johnson, who made a dramatic pass for the win.

GODWIN KELLY'S TAKE: It wasn't a points race, but it made an impression on Menard. "I got turned to the inside and hooked to the right, and all hell broke loose," he said.

GODWIN'S PICKS FOR DAYTONA 500

WINNER: Chase Elliott

REST OF TOP 5: Kyle Busch, Joey Logano, Jimmie Johnson, Brad Keselowski

FIRST ONE OUT: Ty Dillon

DARK HORSE: Aric Almirola

DON'T BE SURPRISED IF:

There are at least two "Big Ones" to close out the restrictor-plate era at Daytona.

MOTOR MOUTHS PODCAST

The Clashing is done and the 500 is upon us. To the Pod!

Tune in online at www.news-journalonline.com/daytonamotormouths



DAYTONA

THREE THINGS TO WATCH

1. Forget everything

Hendrick Motorsports swept through the first weekend of competition, winning the Daytona 500 pole (William Byron) and Advance Auto Parts Clash (Jimmie Johnson). Now, do a hard reset, because race teams will play catch-up by the time the green flag falls on the 500. The Ford teams, sporting their new Mustangs, are already talking about working together in the big race. Kyle Busch has a sneaky-strong Toyota for the show.

2. Intramural games

If you were not paying close attention in the first weekend of racing, Jimmie Johnson and his longtime crew chief Chad Knaus went separate ways after the 2018 season. Both work for car owner Rick Hendrick, but with different teams. Knaus came out of the chute by winning the pole with Byron. Johnson evened the score on the Hendrick scoreboard by nabbing the



Most tracks host one weekend of racing and then the NASCAR circus moves to another track the following week. Not at Daytona. The Speedweeks program spans two weekends of stock-car racing. [NEWS-JOURNAL/NIGEL COOK]

Clash victory after putting a strong move on Paul Menard. Will their new partnerships continue to produce?

3. Busy week

Daytona International Speedway caught its breath and closed down Monday and Tuesday after four days of activity. Now

comes the Speedweeks blitz with practice, qualifying and racing for the NASCAR Cup, Xfinity and Truck Series. Next on the list is the Gander RV Duel At Daytona — the 150-mile qualifying races that decide the Daytona 500 lineup.

— Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

SPEEDWEEKS

THREE THINGS WE LEARNED

1. Hendrick power

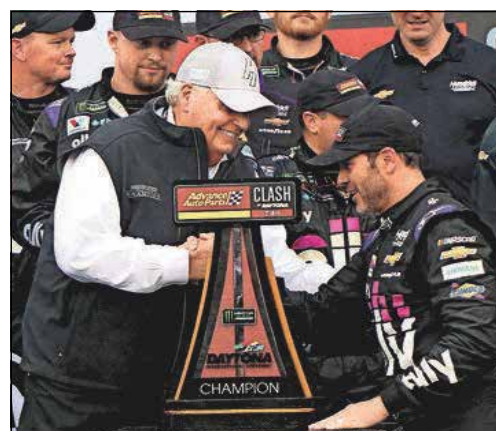
Rick Hendrick's race teams flexed their muscles in the first weekend of racing at Daytona International Speedway. His cars swept the top four positions in qualifying, led by William Byron, who nabbed the Daytona 500 pole. Jimmie Johnson captured the Clash later in the day.

2. Mustang debut

The Ford Mustang made its debut. It replaces the Fusion model in Cup Series racing this season. Joey Logano posted the fastest speed for Ford in qualifying. He was clocked at 192.382 mph, good for fifth overall. Logano and teammate Ryan Blaney were third and fourth in the Clash.

3. Petty's back

Thad Moffitt doesn't carry the Petty name, but he is a grandson to Richard Petty, "King of stock-car racing." The 18-year-old driver made his Daytona debut



Car owner Rick Hendrick and driver Jimmie Johnson celebrate in Daytona Victory Lane after winning the Clash at Daytona International Speedway. [NEWS-JOURNAL/DAVID TUCKER]

in the ARCA 200. He qualified second but was crashed out and finished 27th.

— Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

QUESTIONS & ATTITUDE

Compelling questions ... and maybe a few actual answers

One final 'Big One' at Daytona?

Final? Probably not. Yes, this will be the end of restrictor-plate racing at Daytona (and Talladega), as NASCAR turns to "tapered spacers" to hamstring horsepower at all ovals a mile or longer. The spacers will tighten the competition and bring a bit of pack-racin' to the masses, but going forward at the two fastest speedways, the "Big One" will likely live on. The "Really, Really Big One," however, might become more rare.

What happens to the plates?

I'd suggest Christmas tree ornaments. Maybe wind chimes. Somewhere in a warehouse, NASCAR is bound to be storing a ton of old plates with varying sizes of holes — the airflow was manipulated many times since 1988. If not destined for the souvenir market, I go back to an original suggestion: Melt all of them together and have an artist sculpt them into the image of a tow truck.

— Ken Willis, ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

WHAT'S ON TAP

CUP SERIES: Gander RV Duel At Daytona

SITE: Daytona International Speedway (2.5-mile tri-oval)

SCHEDULE: Thursday, races (Fox Sports 1, coverage begins at 5:30 p.m., racing at 7 p.m.)

CUP SERIES: Daytona 500

SITE: Daytona International Speedway

SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.). Saturday, practice (Fox Sports 1, noon). Sunday, race (coverage begins at 1 p.m., racing at 2:30 p.m.)

XFINITY: NASCAR Racing Experience 300

SITE: Daytona International Speedway

SCHEDULE: Friday, practice (noon and 2 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 9:30 a.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 2:30 p.m.)

GANDER OUTDOORS TRUCKS: NextEra Energy 250

SITE: Daytona International Speedway

TV SCHEDULE: Thursday, practice (Fox Sports 2, 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.). Friday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 4:30 p.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 7:30 p.m.)



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