

Vote November 3rd!

"It's an honor to serve you in the NC Senate. I would appreciate your vote."

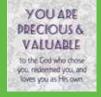


The Sampson Country Country Newspaper VOLUME 11, ISSUE 42

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Local News Page 2





WEATHER



Resolution in Support of Officer Donald Ray Tucker Bridge Voted Down by City Council



At the Tuesday, October 6th, Clinton City Council meeting, Councilman Daniel Ruggles brought before the city council a Resolution supporting the Honorary Designation of the "Officer Donald Ray Tucker Bridge" for the bridge on US 421 over NC 24 in Clinton.

TUCKER, see P. 3

One Additional Death Reported From COVID This Week



Week of October 9-15, 2020

COVID-19 Small Business Economic Incentive Grant Program Announced



CLINTON, NC - The City of Clinton is pleased to provide small business economic incentive grants to small local businesses in our community. This program utilizes Coronavirus Relief Funds from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and is targeted at small local businesses within the City of Clinton, that experienced full or partial closures under government mandates such as, restaurants, personal care businesses, and non-essential retail operations. Grants will assist local businesses with expenses related to retaining or hiring employees, as well as costs incurred complying with government mandated closures or implementing public health measures related to COVID-19.

Small local businesses will be able to receive funding for expenses from between March 1, 2020, and December 30, 2020, including hiring or rehiring employees, retention of employees, expenditures to enhance public health and safety for employees, patrons, or the general public. Funding for expenses incurred as a result of state mandated closures or following public health guidelines relevant to COVID-19 may also be considered. Grant payments are expected to range from \$500 to \$2,000 per business, depending on availability of and demand for funds. Priority



"Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the Lord's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king, to maintain justice and righteousness." 1 Kings 10:9

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CORONAVIRUS TESTING UPDATES

The Sampson County Health Department reported 14 new cases on Friday, bringing the total to 2,433 positive cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The number of deaths remains at 28, with an additional death this week reported on Wednesday.

COVID testing numbers for Sampson County as of October 9, 2020: Total Number of Tests Performed: 6,894

COVID, see P. 1

will be given to applications in the order in which they are received.

On Tuesday, the City Council voted to approve \$150,000 worth of CARES Act funding for this grant program.

The City will hold an application workshop meeting at the Clinton City Market on Lisbon Street on October 12, 2020, from 9:00 am until 10:00 am to answer any questions about the application process. Attendance is not required to receive a grant. Applications must be submitted in person to the City of Clinton Planning Department at 227 Lisbon Street between October 19th and October 30th at 5:00 pm.

Applications are available online at www.CityofClinton-NC.com. Local businesses are strongly encouraged to review the application and consider applying.

For those wishing to directly link to the application on the City's website here is the dedicated link: https://www. cityofclintonnc.com/DocumentCenter/View/455/Clinton-COVID19-Incentive-Application



Paid for by the committee to elect Anita H Lane for Register of Deeds



LOCAL NEWS

2020 Faculty and Staff EXCEL Award Recipients Honored



Warner pictured with her EXCEL Award moments after learning of her nomination. (Photo Credit, Cheyenne McNeill)

Each year, as the college anticipates its annual Campus Drive – typically one of its first fundraising events of the year – nominations begin to roll in for the Faculty and Staff EXCEL Awards. The EXCEL Awards recognize two Sampson Community College employees who go above and beyond in their daily workplace and community.

Nominators and nominees must be full-time employees for at least three years. After all nominations are received, an anonymous EXCEL Selection Committee reviews candidates. With the complications and uncertainties caused by COVID-19, Sampson Community College saw several employees step up and adapt to meet the needs of students; this was made evident by the EXCEL nominations, where nominations more than doubled.

"It warms my heart to read the beautiful nominations, and it gives me and the EXCEL Selection Committee a chance to see, firsthand, the work being done. This year we had more than twice the number of recommendations ever and all of them were great," Lisa Turlington, Dean of Advancement, shared.

This year, the college recognized two recipients, Nursing Instructor, Dr. Sabrina Pope, and Coordinator of Planning & Research, Angela Warner.

To her coworkers, Angie Warner is known for her kind and caring demeanor, and to those closest, her humor and funny antics. More than that, Warner is hailed for her dedication to Sampson Community College, where she began as an employee in its evening division in 1989. As Coordinator of Planning and Researching, Warner wears several hats.

"Angie will move mountains to ensure needs are met to make others work and circumstances better than her own, even when it means her own work is put on the back burner. She consistently finds ways to help her co-workers when she sees a need," says Wanda Capps, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Warner's nominator.

Capps says that Warner's positivity and sincere selflessness in her day-to-day work made her an excellent candidate for the EXCEL Award.

"Angie makes the bad days good and the good days even better! Angie has always and continues to exemplify the mission of the College and positively impacts students, faculty, and staff," Capps concluded.

Warner says receiving the campus honor was a shock. Up until the moment her name was called, she says she never had any knowledge that she was a recipient.

ty College and in her community while completing her Doctorate in Nursing Practice this summer.

Pope says hearing of her recognition was an extreme honor, especially being that 2020 has been called the Year of the Nurse. With the challenges of COVID-19, nurses and their skills surely have been put to the test.

"I am beyond excited. I am so humbled to receive the Faculty Excel Award. Being a Nursing Instructor is my dream job, and I am thankful to be in my role at the school where my journey began. It is rewarding to share the journey with my students. I am thankful for my mentors who molded me into the individual I am today. 'Begin Here, Go Anywhere' is a true motto," she shared.

The college also recognized two other finalists, English Instructor, Britt Honeycutt, and Myra Gray, Housekeeping. Honeycutt and Gray will have a chance to be nominated again for the 2021 EXCEL Awards.

Typically, EXCEL Awards are presented in front of peers and colleagues at the college's annual Campus Drive fundraiser event. This year, awards were presented to recipients with their divisions, and finalists were celebrated with a video marking the honor. Sampson Community College is the only community college whose employees donate to student college scholarships at a 100% rate and have done so for more than 30 years.



Pope pictured with her EXCEL Award after receiving the award. (Photo Credit, Cheyenne McNeill)



Finalist, Myra Gray, received news of her nomination moments before heading home for the day, still, surrounded by her department coworkers. (Photo Credit, Cheyenne McNeill)



"I was so surprised. I had no idea that I would receive the award. I am truly appreciative and honored to have been chosen for the Excel Award," Warner commented.

Dr. Sabrina Pope has become an asset to her department. From her role as the first nursing faculty tutor to her creation of a program to mentor new nursing faculty. To her coworkers, Pope's efforts to foster increased capability and improved job performance in her colleagues is noticeable and appreciated.

"Ms. Pope is the epitome of a leader, a team player, and one who goes above and beyond her assigned duties. She always puts the students first in her role as an educator. She advises and mentors students with ease and confidence. She conveys professionalism in the classroom and fosters excellence in her students. She takes advantage of every opportunity to help her students and colleagues, and rarely backs down from a challenge," Dr. Veronica Stevens, Healthcare Division Chair, remarked.

Pope's leadership extends beyond the classroom and the college. She's Vice President of a local chapter of a nursing sorority, and on the advisory committee for the Sampson County Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention initiative. Pope managed to make time for her efforts at Sampson Communi-



Britt Honeycutt's nominator said the English Instructor strives to make SCC home for everyone. (Photo Credit, Cheyenne McNeill)



MERCER BUSINESS SERVICES



LOCAL NEWS

TUCKER, cont. from P. 1

The bridge is expected to be completed around the 30th anniversary of the death of Clinton City Police Officer Donald



Reginald Tucker makes an emotional pleas to City Council to pass Resolution on Tuesday night

Ray Tucker on November 14th, 1991.

Officer Donald Ray Tucker is the only officer in Sampson County who was shot and killed in the line of duty.

He was making his last purchase as an undercover drug agent with an Interagency Drug Enforcement operation in Carteret County. (See the full story of Officer Tucker's Death below- story ran in 2014).

According to Councilman Ruggles, the family of Officer Donald Ray Tucker has requested this honorary designation, and the family would be paying the \$2000 fee charged by DOT for expenses related to the signage, no cost to the City of Clinton.

Three local citizens were present Tuesday night's meeting in support of the Honorary Designation- Officer Tucker's brother Reginald Tucker, Salemburg Christian Food

COVID, cont. from P. 1

Positive Test Results: 2,433 (1,860 recovered) Negative Test Results: 4,456 Pending Results: 5 Deaths: 28

As of Friday, October 9th there were 227,431 total cases, 3747 deaths, and 1064 currently hospitalized.

Positive COVID Cases Week Ending October 9th: Monday October 5th- 12 new cases Tuesday October 6th-18 new cases Wednesday October 7th- 28 new cases Thursday October 8th-13 new cases

Bank, and The Bread of Life Outreach (which the Tucker family is heavily involved with) representative Terry Lee and Chris Sessoms, chair of Helping Hands, a non-profit that supports local law enforcement.

Reginald Tucker was emotional discussing the Honorary Designation, "What a way to honor on 421 where everybody passes. That is what I am hoping for, to get a bridge named after Donald."

Terry Lee said that even though he personally did not know Donald, "he was my friend. And I can tell you that by quoting what Jesus said, 'Greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for a friend. He was not only my friend; he was your friend, he was everybody's friend. I encourage you to pass this resolution. To do whatever we need to do tonight to name this bridge after him. I encourage you to honor Donald and the Tucker family because they are our friend."

Chris Sessoms, "I think this resolution, if you allow this, has touched the heart of our town. I mean, we are saying Thank You to someone who laid down their life for us. I think it is important that we ourselves allow our heart to extend back to their heart."

Because the resolution was not on the agenda, Councilman Ruggles made a motion to add it to the agenda.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Darue Bryant. With a unanimous vote, the resolution was placed on the agenda for discussion.

Councilman Ruggles then explained that he understood that there were a few resolutions to the motion. His number one focus was that it not have any negative impact on Faircloth Freeway because of what the Faircloth family has done for Sampson County and the City. He stated that the road designation would have zero impact on a bridge designation. The



City Councilman Daniel Ruggles makes motion in favor of Resolution for the Honorary Officer Donald Ray Tucker Bridge

TUCKER, see P. 4





- Service Coordinator
- Mini-blinds

- Handicap Units Available Wall-to-Wall Carpeting

Friday October 9th- 14 new cases

The NC Department of Health and Human Services is asking people to remember these three things as we stay strong and continue to flatten the curve and slow the spread of COVID-19.

If you leave home, practice your Ws: Wear, Wait, Wash

- -Wear a cloth mask over your nose and mouth.
- -Wait 6 feet apart. Avoid close contact.
- -Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer.

These actions can protect our families and neighbors as the state works to ease restrictions while the virus is still circulating.

"Check My Symptoms" is an informational tool for you to check your symptoms online (https://ncdhhs-covid19-dtra.powerappsportals.us/en-US/) to determine if you would be recommended to be tested for COVID-19. Additionally, you can use "Find My Testing Place" at https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/.../testing/find-my-testing-place to find a list of local testing events.



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

This is Waldo and he is 3 years old. Can you be his "furever" family?



You can also make a monetary, supplies or pet food donation to the shelter. Contact the Sampson County Animal Shelter at (910)592-8493.



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 - Maintenance Free Lifestyle

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- Mini-blinds
- Modem Kitchen
- Library
- Elevator

6

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TUCKER, cont. from P. 3

honorary signs for the bridge would be facing north and south on the Hwy 421, saying Officer Donald Ray Tucker Bridge.

Ruggles stated, "I think when you look at his life and the situation, I think it would be a good thing to do, I think it would be the right thing to do. When we went for the All American City last year, our motto was 'The Right Thing To Do,' and I think this is the right thing to do." Ruggles said that he did not think this would set a precedent for the city since it was a DOT program. He also said that it would have to have a unanimous approval for the board in order for the DOT to move forward.

Ruggles also stated that the Honorary Designation had tremendous support from the community, including our state representatives, Congressman David Rouzer, Commissioner Thadeus Godwin, former Congressman Bob Ethridge, Senator Brent Jackson, Representatives Bell, and Smith, Jimmy Thornton, John D Bass (shared a patrol car with Officer Donald Tucker) and local citizens through Facebook and email. "We reached over 22000 people with no negative feedback."

"I personally do not have any reservation in doing it; it is the right thing to do," ended Ruggles.

Mayor Lew Starling responded, "I spoke to Senator Jackson today, and he said that he has known the family all his life and what fine people they were. I did not know Mr. Tucker, that was before my time. But I heard nothing but good things. I do think there is an appropriate monument there (meaning at the Clinton City Police Department). This is not a proper handling of the way this has been handled before this council, and I do not believe this is a proper procedure to set. This council has never done naming, ever, and there is not a procedure set up and just to bring it up the way it has been brought up. I do not think it is proper, and I do not think it sets a good precedent. I urge the council to vote against this, not that he was not a wonderful person. I do not believe the procedure or the precedent is proper."

"I don't think you are setting a precedent because all we are doing is approving what the family is doing through DOT on a DOT road," noted Councilman Ruggles.

Councilman Neal Strickland stated that he was the only one on the board that knew

Donald Ray Tucker.

He said that he worked for his family and that he and his brothers worked alongside Donald. Strickland said that Tucker's funeral was the largest one he had ever seen at Sampson Middle School. "I was touched; my comments have nothing to do with Donald Tucker or his family." He went on to say that the monument at the Clinton Police Department was a wonderful way to honor a fallen hero. I don't know of a stronger or better way that when an officer or a citizen goes into the police department. "What does he represent? Does he represent passer-byers on a bridge, or does he represent officers who are working hard every day to enforce the law? I think that was what Donald was. He was someone all about honor and protecting the citizens." Strickland went on to say that he felt like the board was setting a precedent, "we are doing a resolution that is setting a precedent." He asked what is the city going to do if someone at the public works or recreation department passes away, "What are we going to name for them. I have struggled with this."

Councilman Darue Bryant chimed in that it does appear to be a norm across the state of North Carolina for bridges to be named after law enforcement. "I think that separates this from someone from the public works or recreation department. I really don't see any harm with the resolution."

At this time, Reggie Tucker came back to address the council, stating that only people that see the memorial are people that go to the police department. He then addressed the audience, asking how many of them had been into the police department lately (getting the point across that the monument is not seen by very many). "A bridge connects the community. Right now, we need all the connection we can get. I am not being aggravated; we need connection, let's connect it. It's a bridge."

Councilmen Darue Bryant, Daniel Ruggles, and Marcus Becton all voted in favor with Councilmen Neal Strickland and Holden Dubose voting against the measure. In a normal vote, the resolution would have passed; however, DOT requires a unanimous vote, meaning the resolution failed.

You can view the entire City Council meeting at this link: https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=iJNd6LZFkiM. An online petition in support of the Honorary Bridge Designation has been started at https://www.change.org/.../clinton-city-counsel-name-hwy. The petition currently has over 555 signatures.

"MAN IN BLUE" Donald Ray Tucker Remembered This article ran in The Sampson Weekly in October 2014

A solemn reminder of a life cut short greets those who approach the Clinton Police Department. Etched deep in cold stone are the words, "IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO SERVED * OFFI-CER DONALD RAY TUCKER * KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY FIGHTING DRUGS, NOVEMBER 14, 1991."

Behind, a stone column looks down depicting an officer holding a child's hand. And etched in the stone that guards the memorial for fallen officers is, "AN HONOR TO SERVE – A DUTY TO PROTECT"

The words in memory pay tribute to the only officer in Sampson County to have given all in the line of duty, Donald Ray Tucker. But the words that guard his memorial may actually define Officer Tucker better than any other... AN HONOR TO SERVE – A DUTY TO PROTECT.

Nearly 23 years after his death, to those who knew him, Donald Ray's memory is still very much alive. And of all those who described the bright young man who lived his dream for only a year, nothing seems to better capture his character than the words HONOR, SERVE, DUTY, PROTECT.

Officer Tucker had been on the force, a dream that Tucker had worked hard to achieve, for just a year. A call for a volunteer to work undercover in Carteret County was answered by Tucker. It would mean being away from his much-loved family, and removing his much-appreciated police blue uniform, but Tucker would still answer the call. in his bedroom. How long is 23 years? "A day," says Billy Tucker. "23 years may seem a long time to others, but 23 years is only a day when you lose your child." Billy Tucker is Donald's father, and he says there isn't a day that goes by when he doesn't think about his son. Like many that have lost a close loved one, Donald is now the voice in Billy Tucker's head. The senior Tucker doesn't talk to himself anymore, he talks to Donald Ray.



Reggie Tucker, Donald's brother, recalls with a small

smile that the last Sunday Donald was home, his brother had agreed to let him drive the white Mustang. Billy comments, "Yes, we sat right here on this porch and talked. Donald let Smokey (Reggie) drive the car, and later when Smokey asked again Donald said 'You can take it all day.

After many weeks of undercover work, Tucker was visiting home just before his last assignment in Carteret County. Lt. Timmy King recalls, "A few us met Donald in a parking lot where Lowes is today. Just hanging out and catching up. Donald had said that he was ready to get back home, but he had one more big buy to make first." King adds, "Donald was very meticulous, and he had said he was ready to shave off the beard he grew for the undercover work and ready to get back in uniform... That was the last time I saw Donald."

Lt. King keeps a large framed picture of Donald Ray Tucker in his office. "It's been moved to every office I've been moved to," states King. "And when I retire it will go home with me." There is also a portrait of Tucker in the main hall of the Clinton City Police Department which seems to greet officers as they come and go... There is an obvious brotherhood on the force, and that brotherhood defies all boundaries, even time and death.

That brotherhood is cemented in the fact that, as an officer, you know each day you go to work could be your last... Lt. King says that law enforcement officers have to keep that notion controlled, but each work day officers put on a badge, a gun, and responsibility. "Every call we go to involves a weapon," says King. "I remind officers all the time that even if there's not a weapon at the scene, when they get there, they have brought one. And with that comes responsibility."

It was a ruthless act of cold-blooded murder that took the life of Donald Ray Tucker. A cowardly, selfish act that seems to go against the very nature of every fiber that weaved the cloth of Donald Ray. Simply, it was good versus evil that day, and evil tipped the scale on November 14, 1991... But to those who knew Donald Ray, evil didn't win. In death, Donald Ray Tucker, through the memories of loved ones and friends, continues to be a shining example of honor and character.

Giving evil a name that day was Eldon Guy Bell. And while each of Donald Ray Tucker's remaining family members say they have forgiven the man that killed Donald, Bell is still the one that stole his future. And what a future it was likely to be...

Eldon Guy Bell is likely to remain in jail for the rest of his natural life, and deservedly so. Bell pulled a gun, and at a point plank range fired a single shot that killed Tucker. Reports from the time describe a remote seen. Tucker was driving a new white Mustang his stepmother helped him buy. It was an intentional trap to rob and kill Tucker, known by them as Sand Man.

Joey Lewis, Eldon Guy Bell's brother-in-law, who was 6 feet 6, 350 lbs, suddenly strikes Sand Man (Tucker) knocking him to the ground beside his white Mustang. Bell, standing over Tucker pulls a gun. A witness said Officer Tucker attempted to pull his weapon and stated, "Stop or I'll Shoot". Bell replied, "You won't shoot nobody." Within a second Bell's bullet pierced Tucker's heart. Tucker was posing as a high-level drug dealer, and this was meant to be his last undercover deal. Sadly, it was the last few minutes of his honorable life.

The white Mustang is now parked in his father's yard... And some of Tucker's cloths still hang

I'm gonna sit here and talk with dad all day.""

They were a close family and remain so. And Donald appears to be very much a part of their daily lives. Donald's Mother Carolyn Tucker was tragically taken away very early too. But Donald never lacked for motherly love. Glenda Tucker, Billy's second wife, raised Donald like he was her own.

In fact, it's Ms. Glenda that seems to carry the heavy part of the load when it comes to Donald's memory. She's very pleasant woman full of faith and charity for others. And by charity it's meant as the Biblical kind... Love.

Ms. Glenda states, "I have to forgive them. We have to first forgive before we can be forgiven." And aunt Margie adds, "It's hard that's for sure, but we rather focus on the positive. Donald Ray was a pillar in the community, and we rather have that memory."

It's very clear when talking with the Tucker's that it has been their faith that has sustained them. Spending time with them leaves a verse lingering in one's spirit. I leave their porch thinking of John 16:33, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

It's been 23 years this November, but there is no doubt that the Tucker's have found victory and peace over time. Reggie admits that he still misses his older brother. During our conversation, each time Reggie talks about Donald he smiles. Reggie even served a brief period in law enforcement as a tribute of sorts to his older brother.

But for Donald, law enforcement was his life. The family all agree that it would have been a lifelong career for Donald. Billy Tucker even adds, "When they were kids and wanted to play cops and robbers, Donald was always the cop. It was just in him, like he was born to it."

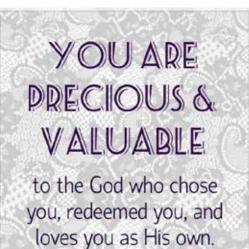
Donald left many people behind when he was taken too soon. Those you've met as you read, and a sister Bronica Lane, a best friend Stephen Baggett, and a son Antonio Tucker who was just a few months old when his father died.

Donald also left two grandparents, Cora and Pauline Tucker; and uncles and aunts on both sides of the family. Many cousins, and two nephews, Zackery Weeks and Mason Tucker.

He also left friends, brothers on the force. Most have retired or moved on by now, but none have forgotten Donald Ray Tucker. Only two remain at Clinton PD, Kenneth Oakes and Lt. King. As King talks about Tucker you see such a mixed expression of emotion. There is a sadness in Lt. King's eyes that speaks of loss and a smile on King's face that speaks of pride in Tucker. There is also setness in Lt. King's jaw... A private emotion likely best left to Lt. King alone.

It's enough to know that Sampson County's only officer killed in the line of duty was loved. He was admired. He is greatly missed. And he is remembered. Donald Ray Tucker, the man in police blue, was a true Sampson County hero.

FAITH



Titus 2:9-10, "Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior."

The apostle Paul is not endorsing slavery in the passage of Titus chapter 2, however he is using an extreme example to advocate what so many have printed on tee shirts, bracelets and posters that say WWJD – "What

Would Jesus Do? In all circumstances, we should let our moral commitment to Jesus prevail and not let the transient circumstances of life determine how we act.

Regardless if we are in the state prison in Raleigh for life, born at Sampson Regional Medical Center with a low IQ, destitute or homeless in Pender County, we should not let these things affect our relationship with the Son of God. This doesn't mean feeling satisfied with our circumstances, but rather accommodating to whatever circumstances prevail in our lives. Whether we're young or old, male or female, black or white, we must maintain our true allegiance first and foremost to Christ. It is a blessing to read Romans 5:8, "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." When we are at our worse God still offered His best gift. That type of giving is unheard of in a world full of greed, gimmicks and gloom. Perfection is not required for God to love you; God loved you in the very beginning because of His perfect Son.

As believers in Jesus Christ our standing or acceptability before God does not depend on whether we can read and write, have high social standing, are living on the streets or are sleeping under a bridge in Wilmington. As Christians, we can always act based on our commitment to God's Son, and not on temporary circumstances.

What good is it if we live by our allegiance to God only when things are good and when we have the comfort in everything we desire? What does it mean if we put our faith on hold when things go bad or circumstances change for the worse? Is wishy-washy devotion really faith at all? True lasting faith remains constant and goes to the core of our being, so that we live for Christ through all circumstances, no matter what life may deal us.

I encourage you this week to move forward in faith, not so you can point to your accomplishments, but to point to the all-sufficient grace of Jesus. Don't allow the enemy to cause you to forget that you were made in God's image, according to His likeness. Genesis 1:26 proclaims, "Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." You are not a cosmic accident, but a unique individual created by the same God who created this universe.

Decide to live like Jesus lived even if it means suffering comes into your life. When you pray for wisdom and strength to serve God the great news is He will answer your prayers. Remove the self-doubt of your worth and accept how valuable you are to God. Regardless of how others view you, I can promise that God has a superior view of your worth. Live out the rest of your life as a child of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.



Ken Smith

God's Clock Is Never Wrong



know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority." Acts 1: 7

And He said to them,

"It is not for you to

There is a story told of a man who rushed into a suburban railroad station one morning and, almost breathlessly, asked the station agent: "When does the 8:01 train leave?"

"At 8:01, sir." was the answer.

"Well," the man replied, "it's 7:59 by my watch, 7:57 by the town clock, and 8:04 by the station clock. Which am I to go by?"

"You can go by any clock you wish," said the agent, "but you can't go by

love others. Most of all, be ready for Christ's return... It might be today. And remember, try as best you can to live by God's Clock, for it is never wrong.

Think about the last twenty-four hours. Did you love your neighbor well? Seek peace? Make disciples? Would you consider the hours well spent if they were your last before meeting Christ face to face?

Learn to live each day as if it were your last.



Martha M. Pierce

Someday it will be.



the 8:01 train, for it has already left."

I read about a sundial on which is inscribed the message, "It is later than you think." Everyone who reads it is reminded of the shortness and uncertainty of life. We Christians have a sundial-- the Word of God. From Genesis to Revelation it bears its warning: "It is later than you think." God, our sovereign Lord, stands outside of the realm of time and He controls it.

If the Boy Scout motto is "Be Prepared," the Christian's motto is "Be Ready." We can never take a break from our Christianity nor relax our spiritual vigilance. Be ready to share, to give, to preach, to work and to



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Searching for a drug and alcohol rehab that is faith-based using God's Word the Bible and Christian values? Open Door Ministry, located in Delway, North Carolina, is a Christ centered program that teaches freedom from a life dominating sin. Open Door Ministry is a 30-day residential program that teaches victory over the flesh through Jesus Christ and the truths in the Bible. We also offer two 30 day extensions for a total of 90 days. This is done one day at a time through classroom teaching, victory cd's, personal soul care, chapel services and work projects.

Office: 910-532-2175 Email: opendooraddictioncenter@gmail.com Website: opendooraddictioncenter.org

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FAMILY FEATURES

ooler weather calls for comfort foods, and it's hard to top soups, risottos and strata for heartwarming dishes to share with the family on chilly days.

To achieve delicious taste without ditching your healthy eating plan, consider nutritionally balanced one-pot recipes like those from "Whole in One" by Ellie Krieger, several of which call for dairy to help fuel your loved ones' meals. Milk is commonly viewed as a versatile staple to have on-hand for cooking and a nutritious beverage for families with essential nutrients such as calcium that promote bone health in children and teens.

"I'm alv trying to create recir that make it easier for people to cook and eat well," Krieger said. "As a food lover and dietitian, I'm always looking for that amazing balance between health and taste. Dairy really can help get you there because it provides you not only great nutrition, but also great taste, texture and satisfaction.'

Turn to dairy-fueled comfort foods with recipes from Krieger like vegetarianfriendly Broccoli Cheddar Skillet Strata, nutrient-dense Cauliflower Risotto with Shrimp and Peas or easy-to-make Mushroom Stroganoff Soup. These dishes offer balanced, health-conscious ways to enjoy flavorful meals while delivering essential nutrients found in dairy.

"Milk, cheese and yogurt all contain protein, and I think most people don't realize that a cup of milk has 8 grams of high-quality protein, which is more than an egg," Krieger said. "When I tell people that, it's really news to them. Protein really is key in many ways because people are often looking to get more protein into their diets." Find more family meal solutions at milkmeansmore.org.

Cauliflower "Risotto" with Shrimp and Peas

Recipe courtesy of "Whole in One" by Ellie Krieger on behalf of Milk Means More Servings: 4

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 cup chopped shallot
- 3 cups cauliflower rice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt, plus additional, to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- tablespoons, plus 1 teaspoon,
 - all-purpose flour
- 1 3/4 cups 1% low-fat milk
- 3/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, divided

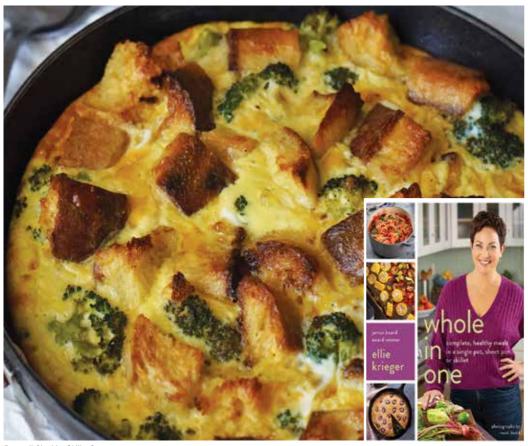
1 1/2 cups fresh or frozen peas 2 tablespoons fresh basil leaves, cut into ribbons

In large, nonstick skillet over medium heat, heat oil. Add shallot and cook until softened, 2 minutes. Stir in cauliflower rice, 1/4 teaspoon salt and pepper; cook 2 minutes.

Sprinkle flour over cauliflower and stir to incorporate then add milk and cook, stirring occasionally, until it comes to gentle boil. Stir in 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese until incorporated then add shrimp and peas.

Return to simmer. Continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until shrimp are pink and no longer translucent and sauce has thickened, about 5 minutes. Season with additional salt, to taste, then garnish with basil and remaining Parmesan cheese.

1 pound medium shrimp (26-30 count per pound), cleaned and tails removed



Broccoli Cheddar Skillet Strata

Broccoli Cheddar Skillet Strata

Recipe courtesy of "Whole in One" by Ellie Krieger on behalf of Milk Means More Servings: 4

- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- cups whole-wheat baguette or other crusty bread, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- small onion, diced
- cups chopped broccoli (about 1/2 head), 3 chopped into 1/2-inch pieces
- 6 large eggs
- 3/4 cup low-fat or whole milk
- 1 1/2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
 1/2 cup packed, shredded extra-sharp cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 450 F. In 10-inch ovenproof skillet over medium heat, heat 1 tablespoon oil. Add bread to skillet and cook, tossing frequently, until golden brown, about 6 minutes. Transfer bread to plate and carefully wipe crumbs out of pan.

Add remaining oil to skillet then add onion and cook until softened slightly, 2 minutes. Add broccoli and cook, stirring frequently, until it begins to soften, 3 minutes.

In medium bowl, whisk eggs, milk, mustard, salt and pepper. Add cheese and bread; toss to combine then pour bread mixture over vegetables in skillet.

Cover with foil and bake 10 minutes then uncover and continue baking until strata is set in center, 5-8 minutes. Remove from oven and let sit 5 minutes

To serve, scoop out portions with large spoon or cut into wedges.

Mushroom Stroganoff Soup

Recipe courtesy of "Whole in One" by Ellie Krieger on behalf of Milk Means More Servings: 4

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 medium shallots (about 2/3 cup), chonned
- package (10 ounces) white button mushrooms, trimmed and sliced
- package (10 ounces) cremini mushrooms, trimmed and sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 cups low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
- tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 3/4 teaspoon salt, plus additional, to taste
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup whole-wheat egg noodles
- 1 cup 1% low-fat milk
- 2/3 cup sour cream, divided

2 tablespoons all-purpose flour 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

In soup pot over medium heat, heat oil. Add shallots and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, 2 minutes. Add button mushrooms and cremini mushrooms, increase heat to medium-high and cook, stirring occasionally, until mushrooms release liquid and begin to brown, about 8 minutes. Stir in garlic and cook 30 seconds. Add broth, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, 3/4 teaspoon salt and pepper; bring to boil. Add egg noodles and boil gently, uncovered, until noodles are nearly tender, 5 minutes.

In pitcher or medium bowl, whisk milk, 1/3 cup sour cream and flour until flour dissolves. Ladle 1/2 cup broth from pot into milk mixture and whisk well then pour milk mixture into pot. While stirring, bring to gentle boil then lower heat and simmer until thickened, 2 minutes. Season with additional salt, to taste.

Serve garnished with dollop of remaining sour cream and parsley.



Mushroom Stroganoff Soup

www.thesampsonweekly.com 7

EDUCATION

SCC Foundation Set to Host Annual Golf Tournament



Bill Johnson (right), namesake of the Sampson Classic, pictured here with another long-time participant. The 2020 Sampson Classic will be the eighteenth *vear of the event. (File photo)*

Its officially fall, and the Sampson Community College Foundation is preparing for its annual Sampson Classic Golf Tournament in memory of longtime supporter of the college, Bill Johnson. This year, the Foundation will host the 18th annual Sampson Classic Golf Tournament at Lakewood Country Club on Friday, November 6.

As the giving arm of the college, gifts given to the SCC Foundation fund student scholarships and support employee and student programs. Over the years, the Foundation has created lasting relationships with community members who give generously to support the college. Each year, several of the donors return to give again.

These relationships are often created through the number of events that the Foundation hosts. One of the largest and most exciting fundraisers of each year is the Sampson Classic Golf Tournament. Despite the unpredictability of this year, the Foundation hopes to continue that tradition this year.

"Every year, the Foundation looks forward to bringing together friends of the college to celebrate the legacy and memory of Bill Johnson. Even though this has been a trying year for everyone, we appreciate all the support this community has shown for this scholarship golf tournament, so we hope to have a strong turnout for the 18th Annual Sampson Classic," Executive Director of the Foundation, Lisa Turlington, commented.

This year, registration and breakfast begin at 8:00 am, and the tournament kicksoff with a shotgun start at 9:00 am. All interested players must enter by Friday, October 30. Prizes and winners will be recognized, with the Hole in One sponsored by Deacon Jones of Clinton, a yearly sponsorship for the Foundation's golf tournament.

Bill Fulton, longtime chair of the golf tournament committee and now Vice President of the Foundation, says taking a look at the SCC campus is refreshing. He encourages participation in the Sampson Classic as a chance for renewal.

"If like me, you find yourself needing the occasional lift of spirit and a reminder of brighter times ahead, I'd encourage you to take a drive through the SCC campus on a weekday where you'll see a mostly full parking lot, and the sights and sounds of a vibrant and diverse community that is offering training and development for today and beyond...Or better yet, park the car and experience the community college from the vantage point of the popular walking trail," Fulton stated. "Come join us for the annual Sampson Classic Golf Tournament, and help support Sampson County's 'crown jewel', while enjoying a great day of fun and fellowship."

The SCC Foundation founded more was than three decades ago and was designed to generate awareness and broad community support for the college and to seek external funds through private donors to support the college's mission. Fulton and Turlington invite the community to do just that through an invitation to the 2020 Sampson Classic Golf Tournament.

Register for the Sampson Classic at sampsoncc.edu/golf, or email foundation@ sampsoncc.edu for more information!



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ACC THIS WEEK

GAME OF THE WEEK MIAMI AT CLEMSON

When: 7:30 p.m., Saturday Where: Memorial Stadium, Clemson, S.C. TV: ABC



Clemson defensive tackle Nyles Pinckney (44) and the Tigers' pass rushers can make the game tough on Miami. KEN RUINARD/THE GREENVILLE NEWS

Miami faces ACC's toughest task

Keys for Miami

Feed playmakers, strike early: Let's face it. Getting behind early against Clemson is the kiss of death. The Hurricanes know that all too well since they've been outscored 96-3 in the last two outings against the Tigers.

So, to avoid a similar fate this time around, it's imperative that Miami feed its playmakers such as Cam'Ron Harris and Brevin Jordan, and put some early points on the scoreboard. Quarterback D'Eriq King has been impressive in sparking the Canes' offense and has yet to commit a turnover, which is a trend that needs to continue.

Overcoming the idle jinx: Off weeks were a disaster for Miami a year ago. Three times following an idle week the Hurricanes suffered losses – 28-25 against North Carolina, 42-35 against Virginia Tech and a humbling 30-24 setback against Florida International.

Now, after a hot start in which Miami seemed to find its identity on offense with King running the show, does a week off hurt or help?

Keys for Clemson

Get to King with pass rush: The Tigers' offense gets a lot of hype and it's well deserved. But Clemson's pass rush has played a key role in dispatching Wake Forest, The Citadel and Virginia to start the 2020 season.

Eleven different Tigers have contributed to 13 sacks in the first three games, led by freshman end Myles Murphy. Murphy made his college debut with a seven-tackle, two-sack performance in the opener against Wake Forest.

Turn Travis loose: Clemson's senior running back Travis Etienne

When: Noon

TV: ACC Network

ville, Va.

is the most exciting running back in college football. Etienne has averaged 13 carries in the Tigers' first three games this season. Expect that number to increase significantly against Miami.

Prediction

Clemson 48, Miami 26: The 'U' might be back in many ways, but not enough to outplay the Tigers for four quarters.

Clemson's one-two offensive punch of Etienne and quarterback Trevor Lawrence are an NFL general manager's dream and college foe's nightmare. They practically ensure the Tigers will put at least 30 points on the board every game.

Miami's offense has been impressive in the early going. But the Canes will be facing a whole different level of athlete on defense against Clemson.

Florida State at Notre Dame

When: 7:30 p.m. Where: Notre Dame Stadium, South Bend, Ind. TV: NBC Notes: The Fighting Irish swing

POWER RANKINGS



1. Clemson (3-0, 2-0 ACC): Defensive battle on tap? Clemson and Miami rank first and second, respectively, in tackles for loss and sacks since 2016.



2. Notre Dame (2-0, 1-0): Not so long ago, this week's matchup against Florida State would have qualified as a blockbuster; this season, not so much.



3. Miami (3-0, 2-0): The Hurricanes are hoping for a reversal of fortune against Clemson, which has outscored them 96-3 in their two most recent meetings.



4. North Carolina (2-0, 2-0): The Tar Heels needed a 99-yard INT return on a gametying two-point conversion attempt with 45 seconds left to survive Boston College.



5. Virginia Tech (2-0, 2-0): The Hokies are 4-0 against North Carolina under coach Justin Fuente, including a six-overtime thriller last season.



6. N.C. State (2-1, 2-1): QB Devin Leary came through with a breakout performance last week as the Wolfpack stunned No. 24 Pitt behind Leary's four TD passes.



7. Pitt (3-1, 2-1): The Panthers, who were 14-point favorites vs. NC State, were undone by 13 penalties for 125 yards and a pass rush that produced only two sacks.



8. Virginia (1-0, 1-0): The Cavaliers hold steady at No. 8 based primarily on a solid performance that saw them pull within 27-17 in the third guarter at Clemson.



9. Boston College (2-1, 1-1): The Eagles were looking for their first win vs. a ranked team since 2014, but instead lost in heartbreaking fashion against North Carolina.

10. Louisville (1-2, 0-2): Louisville is capable of offensive fireworks, but recent performances have been duds.



11. Syracuse (1-2, 1-2): Maybe playing the role of underdog is a good thing for Syracuse.



12. Wake Forest (1-2, 0-2): The Deacons trounced Campbell 66-14 last week, but were outshined by the Camels, who stole the show with a trick play that went viral.



13. Georgia Tech (1-2, 1-1): Georgia Tech has lost two in a row since a season-opening victory and quarterback Jeff Sims leads the ACC with eight interceptions.



14. Florida State (1-2, 0-2): Jordan Travis, a third-team quarterback entering the season, rallied Florida State to a comefrom-behind victory against FCS foe.



15. Duke (0-4, 0-4): Duke quarterback Chase Brice was sacked seven times last week against Virginia Tech. Enough said.

BEST OF THE REST

Virginia Tech at North Carolina | N.C. State at Virginia

When: Noon Where: Kenan Stadium, Chapel Hill, N.C. TV: ABC Notes: The Hokies won an epic

six-OT battle a year ago against the Tar Heels and are 2-0. UNC's defense, which is limiting opponents to 54 rushing yards a game, will be challenged by Tech's Kahlil Herbert, who has racked up 312 yards on the ground in two games. beating at the hands of Virginia Tech, the Wolfpack bounced back to stun Pittsburgh with a lastminute scoring drive last Saturday behind the play of quarterback Devin Leary. This game will reveal which one is the real N.C. State.

Where: Scott Stadium, Charlottes-

Notes: After absorbing a 20-point

back into action for the first time since Sept. 19 due to COVID-19 protocols against a Florida State program in a free fall. The Seminoles actually trailed FCS Jacksonville State 14-0 last week before rallying to win.

PLAYER TO WATCH

Devin Leary

Quarterback, N.C. State

He's coming off a gamewinning drive capped by a 13-yard touchdown pass with 23 seconds on the clock against Pitt, so Learv is bound to be confident. He's the first Pack QB since Russell Wilson in 2009 to pass for more than 330 yards with four TD tosses and no picks in a game.

USA TODAY SPORTS

ACC LEADERS



Passing yards Player Yds. K. Pickett. Pitt......1.123 C. Brice, Duke......993 T. Lawrence, Clem.848 P. Jurkovec, BC823

M. Cunningham, Lou..757



Passing TDs Player TDs T. Lawrence, Clem,7 M. Cunningham, Lou.7 D. King, Mia.6 K. Pickett, Pitt.6 Three with5



Rushing yards Player Yds. C. Harris, Mia......311 K. Walker, WF255 Two with......243



Receiving yards Player Yds. DJ Turner, Pitt.... H. Long, BC270 J. Addison, Pitt.....246 Z. Flowers, Pitt.....243 T. Atwell, Lou.229



Scoring Player Pts. J. Borregales, Mia.42 A. Kessman, Pitt.31 J. Williams, UNC30 C. Harris, Mia......30 BT Potter, Clem.30

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Saturday (all times Eastern)

Time	Matchup	тν
12:30 p.m.	Duke at Syracuse	RSN
4 p.m.	Pitt at Boston College	ACC Network

PERFORMANCE AUTOMOTIVE SALUTES THE STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE WEEK!

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ELECTION 2020



Election Officials Expect Absentee Ballot Request to Substantially Increase

The 2020 Election is heating up and local election officials are estimating that Absentee Ballot Requests are going to be quite larger than normal considering COVID-19.

Requesting an Absentee Ballot is actually quite easy. According to Election Officials, "A person can request an absentee ballot by downloading and completing a 2020 Absentee Ballot Request Form and sending it to us through the Postal Service. One can also obtain the said form by going on our website and accessing the portal relating to the absentee ballot request form, fill it out and email it to us. The request form can be completed by the voter or a near relative."

In 2020, all registered North Carolina voters, including voters serving in the military or living overseas, can request an absentee ballot online through the Absentee Ballot Request Portal.

The North Carolina State Board of Elections is also getting ready to launch BallotTrax (coming soon), a free service where voters can track the status of their absentee ballot. Voters can also contact their county Board of Elections as well.

The Absentee Ballot Request Portal:

-Allows registered North Carolina voters to securely request an absentee by-mail ballot completely online. The request may be made by the voter or their near relative or legal guardian. The voter's county board of elections will mail the ballot to the voter. -Helps avoid duplicate requests by informing voters of existing absentee requests and allows users to submit subsequent requests to update information on a previously submitted request.

-Allows military or overseas voters to request and return their bal-

ELECTION, see P. 10

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION SAMPSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

A general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 in Sampson to vote in the following contests: US President, US Senate, US House of Representatives, NC Governor, NC Lieutenant Governor, NC Attorney General, NC Auditor, NC Commissioner of Agriculture, NC Commissioner of Insurance, NC Commissioner of Labor, NC Secretary of State, NC Superintendent of Public Instruction, NC Treasurer, NC Supreme Court Chief Justice Seat 01, NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 02, NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 04, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 05, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 06, , NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 07, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 13, NC State Senate District 10, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 03, NC State Senate District 10, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 04, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 04, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 03, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 05, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 04, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 06, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 05, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 05, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 05, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 02, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 02, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 02, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 02, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 02,

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the day of the election, Tuesday, November 3rd. One-stop early voting will be held at the Old Badcock Furniture Building (317 Northeast BLVD, Clinton, NC), NC Justice Academy (200 W. College St, Salemburg, NC), Harrells Fire Dept Training Center (915 Ward Rd, Harrells, NC), Newton Grove Fire Station (313 W. Weeksdale St, Newton Grove, NC), Plainview Fire Station (5041 Plainview HWY, Dunn, NC). One-stop early voting will be open from Thursday, October 15th until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st. Monday-Friday 8AM-7:30PM, Saturday 8AM-3PM, and Sunday 1PM-4PM. Canvass will be held in the Sampson Board of Elections office at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 13th.

Absentee voting by mail is available. Requests for an absentee ballot must be made on an absentee request form (available on the State Board of Elections website, at the county board of elections office and where one-stop early voting is offered), and must be received in the Sampson Board of Elections office by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 27th . Absentee voting requires the voter to complete an application on the return envelope that must be witnessed by one qualified person or a notary public. Completed absentee ballots must be returned to the Sampson Board of Elections by 5:00 p.m. on Election Day (ballots received

by mail after this time will be considered timely if they are received within three business days and postmarked on or before Election Day). Voters may receive assistance voting a mail-in absentee ballot from a qualified person of their choice. If the voter lives in a facility such as a nursing home, and the voter's near relative or legal guardian is not available, the voter or the facility may arrange to have the county board of elections schedule a visit by a Multipartisan Assistance Team to provide assistance and serve as witnesses.

All persons who are registered to vote with the Sampson Board of Elections may vote in this election. Persons who are not already registered to vote in the county must register by Friday, October 9th to be eligible to vote in this election. Voters who are not registered in the county by that deadline may register and vote during one stop early voting only, and will be required to provide documentation of their identity and residence. Voters who wish to change party affiliation or who have changed name or address must do so by the registration deadline. Voters who fail to timely make a change in name or address in the county must update the information when presenting to vote, and may be required to vote a provisional ballot.

Voters voting in person are entitled to assistance by an election official, or, if assistance is needed due to disability or illiteracy, by a qualified person of their choice. Voting sites are accessible to all voters. Curbside voting is available for voters who are not able to enter voting sites.

In accordance with July 17, 2020 Emergency Order issued by the North Carolina State Board of Elections, some locations have been changed to ensure sufficient space for social distancing and other measures, identify larger facilities for use as polling places.

Persons with questions about registration, polling places, early voting, absentee ballots, a Multipartisan Assistance Team visit to a facility, or other election matters may call the Sampson Board of Elections Office at 910-592-5796.

Horace Bass, Chairman Sampson Board of Elections

VOTE CONSERVATIVE Sampson County Conservative Candidates

	<i>JS Senat</i> hom Til		US Congress David Rouzer	<i>Governor</i> Dan Forest				
COUNCIL OF ST.	ATE							
<i>Lieutenant Governor</i> Mark Robinson		easurer Folwell		NC Commissioner of Labor Josh Dobson				
NC Secretary of State EC Sykes	Attorn Jim O	ney General) 'Neil		NC Commissioner of Insurance Mike Causey				
NC AG Commissioner Steve Troxler	NC Aı Antho	ony Street	Catherine Tr	NC Super. of Public Instruction Catherine Truitt				
State Senate Dist. 10State HouseBrent JacksonBrentState House Dist. 22William BrissonCounty Commissioner DistrictJerol KivettRegister of DeedsAnita Honeycutt Land	Heath t 2	WE MUS NC Supreme Cou Paul Newby Phil Berger Jr. Tamara Barring	Christopher J. Welch Michael C. Surles	NC Court of Appeals Jeff Carpenter Fred Gore Chris Dillon r. Jefferson Griffin April Wood				

Paid for by the Sampson County Republican Party

ELECTION 2020

ELECTION, Cont. from Pg. 9

lots through the portal.

The last day to request an Absentee Ballot is Tuesday October 27, 2020. Election Officials noted that "If the voter lives in a facility such as a nursing home, and the voter's near relative or legal guardian is not available, the voter or the facility may arrange to have the county board of elections schedule a visit by a Multipartisan Assistance Team to provide assistance and serve as witnesses."

Five Steps to Vote by Mail in North Carolina in the 2020 General Election

No special circumstance or reason is needed to vote by mail in North Carolina. All registered voters in North Carolina may request an absentee ballot for the November 2020 general election. To vote by mail in North Carolina in 2020, follow the 5 steps below.

1. Request your ballot. There are two ways to request your ballot:

-Complete and sign a North Carolina Absentee Ballot Request Form. Instructions are included with the form. Note: Only the voter, the voter's near relative or legal guardian, or a member of a multipartisan assistance team may request a ballot for that voter. -OR-

-Online through the Absentee Ballot Request Portal.

2. Submit your request. If you are not using the online portal, submit your North Carolina Absentee Ballot Request Form by email, fax, mail or in person to your county board of elections. The deadline to submit a request for the November 3, 2020 general election is 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 27.

The State Board of Elections strongly encourages voters to request a ballot as soon as possible to avoid problems due to postal delays and to allow for time to correct any issues with your request.

3. Complete your ballot. Your county board of elections will mail your ballot to you, beginning September 4. Complete your absentee ballot in the presence of one witness and insert the ballot into the return envelope.

A witness should not observe so closely that they are able to see what votes the voter marked. What is required is that the witness sees the that the voter is voting the ballot.

4. Complete and sign the absentee ballot return envelope. Sign the outside of the ballot return envelope. Have your witness complete and sign the witness certification. If you receive assistance marking or mailing the ballot, the assistant must fill out the voter assistant certification.

5. Return your ballot to your county board of elections. Only the voter or the voter's near relative or legal guardian may possess the absentee ballot to return it to the board of elections.

In 2020, there are a few ways to return your absentee ballot:

-By mail to your county board of elections, postmarked on or before Election Day and received by 5 p.m. November 6.

-By commercial courier service (DHL, FedEx or UPS)

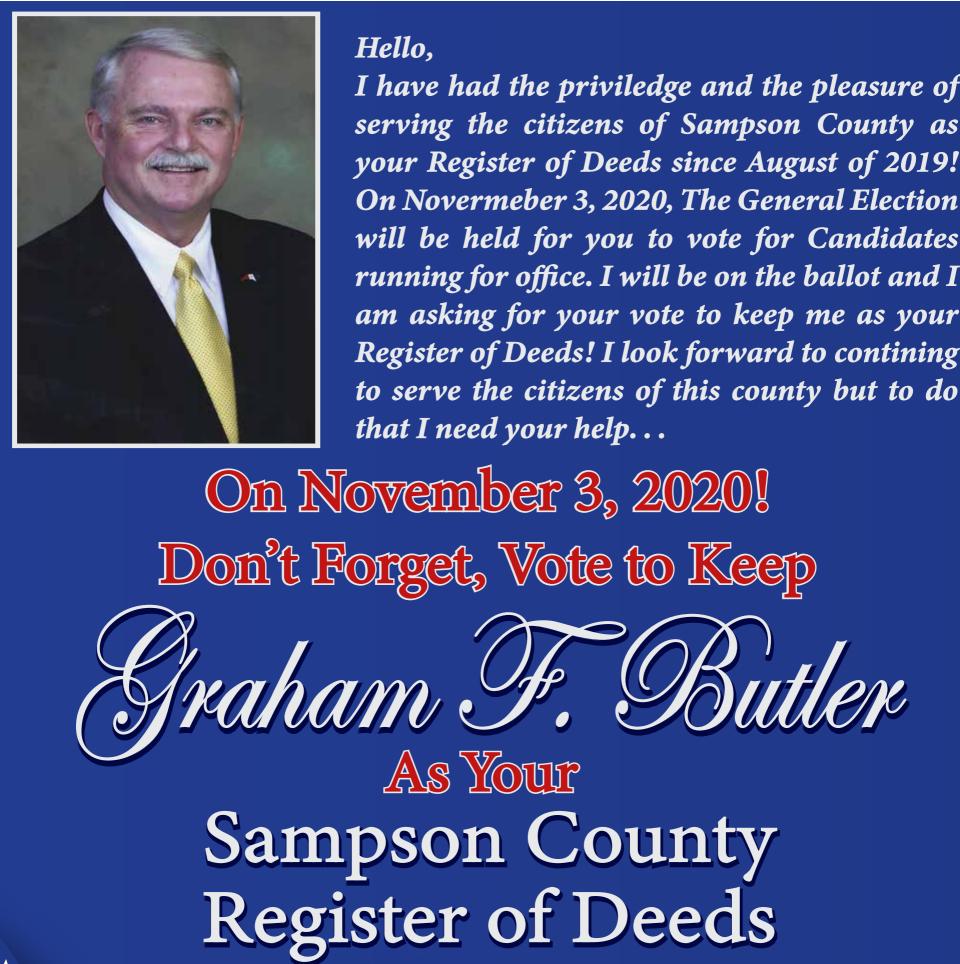
-Dropped off in person at your county board of elections office by 5 p.m. Election Day (November 3)

-Dropped off in person at any early voting site in your county during voting hours

The General Election will be held on Tuesday November 3, 2020. Sampson County residents are eligible to vote in the following categories: US President, US Senate US House of Representatives, NC Governor, NC Lieutenant Governor, NC Attor ney General, NC Auditor, NC Commissioner of Agriculture, NC Commissioner of Insurance, NC Commissioner of Labor, NC Secretary of State, NC Superintenden of Public Instruction, NC Treasurer, NC Supreme Court Chief Justice Seat 01, NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Seat 02, NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Sea 04, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 05, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 06, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 07, NC Court of Appeals Judge Seat 13, NC State Senate District 10, NC House of Representatives District 04 Seat 03, NC State Senate District 10, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 03, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court o Judge District 04 Seat 04, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC Distric Court of Judge District 04 Seat 05, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 06, NC House of Representatives Distric 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 07, NC House of Representatives District 022, NC District Court of Judge District 04 Seat 08, Sampson County Board of Commissioners District 02, Sampson County Register of Deeds, Sampson County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor.

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the day of the election, Tuesday November 3rd. One-stop early voting will be held at the Old Badcock Furniture Building (317 Northeast BLVD, Clinton, NC), NC Justice Academy (200 W. College St, Salemburg, NC), Harrells Fire Dept Training Center (915 Ward Rd, Harrells

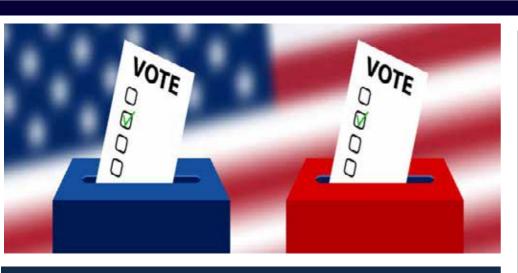
ELECTION, see P. 11



I have had the priviledge and the pleasure of serving the citizens of Sampson County as your Register of Deeds since August of 2019! **On Novermeber 3, 2020, The General Election** will be held for you to vote for Candidates running for office. I will be on the ballot and I am asking for your vote to keep me as your **Register of Deeds! I look forward to contining**

*Paid for by Graham F. "Freddie" Butler Sampson County Register of Deeds.

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"The CONSERVATIVE Choice"



"It's an honor to serve you in the NC Senate. I would appreciate your vote."

FIGHTING FOR DISTRICT 10

Vote to Re-Elect



ELECTION, Cont. from Pg. 10

NC), Newton Grove Fire Station (313 W. Weeksdale St, Newton Grove, NC), Plainview Fire Station (5041 Plainview HWY, Dunn, NC). One-stop early voting will be open from Thursday, October 15th until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st. Monday-Friday 8AM-7:30PM, Saturday 8AM-3PM, and Sunday 1PM-4PM. Canvass will be held in the Sampson Board of Elections office at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, November 13th.

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Persons with questions about registration, polling places, early voting, absentee ballots, a Multipartisan Assistance Team visit to a facility, or other election matters may call the Sampson Board of Elections Office at 910-592-5796.



RESOLUTION AND NOTICE

IT IS RESOLVED AND NOTICE IS GIVEN by the Sampson County Board of Elections, in accordance with N.C.G.S. 163-128, that a new voting place has been established, effective immediately, for the following precincts:

Garland Precinct

Old Polling Site Location Garland Town Hall 190 S. Church Street Garland, NC 28441

Kitty Fork Precinct

Old Polling Site Location Sampson County Farm Bureau 1203 US 421 HWY Clinton, NC 28328

New Polling Site Location Garland Fire Station 375 W. 2nd Street Garland, NC 28441

New Polling Site Location North Carolina Army National Guard 101 Armory Rd Clinton, NC 28328

www.brentjacksonforsenate.com

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Brent Jackson

Mingo Precinct

Old Polling Site Location Mingo Community Building 1358 Mingo Church Rd Dunn, NC 28334

This 3rd day of September 2020

New Polling Site Location Old Midway Elementary School 1500 Midway Elementary School Rd Dunn, NC 28334

Vote For Experience * 13 Years with Register of Deeds * 20 Years with Sampson County Vote November 3rd Anita Loneveutt La for Candidate for Register of Deeds

Dedicated and Qualified with a Heart to Serve

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Anita H. Lane for Register of Deeds

PUZZLES

Week of October 9-15, 2020

Crossword Puzzle

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Slang for debutante
- 4. Gymnastic floor pad
- 7. ___-Magnon man
- 10. Hear ye
- 12. NYC musical theater
- 14. Swiss river
- 15. Tabula ____: table of alphabets
- 17. Israeli dance
- 18. Interpret
- 19. Trickeries
- 20. Bears
- 22. OM (var.)
- 23. Roman household god
- 25. Swarming grasshopper
- 28. =to 100 centimos
- 31. Showily imitative of art
- 32. Chinese tree flower
- 33. Two corresponding items
- 34. Gift covering
- 39. Killer ___: comic supervillain
- 40. End
- 41. No. wind in SE France
- 42. More monolithic
- 45. Filament + anther
- 48. Arrived extinct
- 49. Former capital of Brazil
- 51. Send out waves
- 54. Civil Rights group
- 56. Emerald Isle
- 58. Spanish cubist painter Juan
- 59. Japanese dish
- 60. No (Scottish)
- 61. Ethnic group in China
- 62. Loud lament
- 63. Disk jockeys
- 64. A waterproof raincoat
- 65. Point midway between S and SE

CLUES DOWN

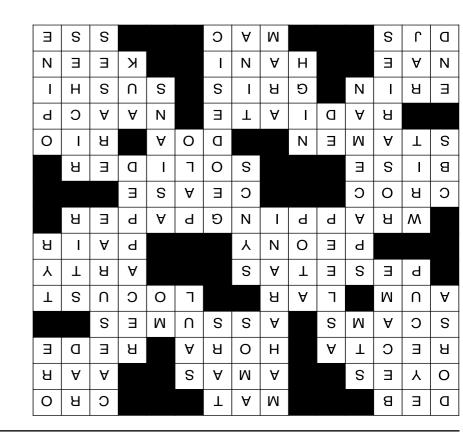
- 1. Many backs
- 2. Fits over eye
- 3. Grew into
- 4. A great rani
- 5. _____ and Andy, radio & TV show
- 6. Seamen
- 7. Pauses
- 8. Radioactivity unit
- 9. Mined metal mineral
- 11. Immediate memory
- 13. First king of Israel
- 16. Not awake
- 18. Summarized
- 21. Larry & Curly's sidekick
- 24. At the peak
- 26. Mix with a spoon
- 27. God of sky (Scandinavian)
- 29. Astronaut
- 30. Puts together in time
- 34. Legal document issued by a court
- 35. Religious beads
- 36. B. Fuller's dome
- 37. ____ Alto, California city
- 38. Largest continent's inhabitants
- 39. Ed Murrow's employer
- 43. Removes writing
- 44. Abundant wealth
- 46. Actor ____ Norton
- 47. Near in space or time
- 50. To state as an opinion
- 52. Ancient Biblical region
- 53. ____ Turner, rock singer
- 55. Am. ornithologists' journal
- 56. Bring to a conclusion
- 57. Br. dominion over India

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.

1	2	3				4	5	6				7	8	9
10			11			12			13			14		
15				16		17					18			
19						20				21				
22				23	24				25				26	27
	28		29				30				31			
			32								33			
	34	35						36	37	38				
39							40							
41							42					43	44	
45				46	47			48				49		50
		51				52	53			54	55			
56	57				58					59				
60					61						62			
63						64						65		



Word Search

F	Q	Α	М	Ε	Y	R	J	S	W	Ζ	V	R	J	V
L	A	W	H	0	Y	М	Ε	I	W	A	V	Ε	М	L
Ρ	Y	М	Ρ	Ε	L	L	F	Т	С	Ε	Ε	S	K	F

		8						
		6			7		4	5
	3	5		2				7
	9				1	6		
					6	3		
7			4					
	8	2						
				5				
			2	9				3

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!

3	8	G	7	6	2	L	F	9
9	2	Z	8	വ	F	6	4	3
ŀ	6	4	3	9	L	5	8	S
8	S	6	5	3	4	ŀ	9	L
5	┢	3	9	L	6	4	S	8
4	L	9	┢	8	G	3	6	5
L	9	ŀ	6	2	8	G	3	4
S	4	8	L	┢	3	9	2	6
6	3	2	S	4	9	8	Z	ł

	Ν	S	Α		D	0	G	J	С	L	D	Q	С	Y	L
	F	J	L	В	L	Е	D	Ι	Ι	Т	Ε	В	U	T	E
	В	Ζ	L	W	Ν	Y	Ν	V	С	Η	В	Η	Е	Ε	G
	С	М	0	I	0	Α	Y	R	U	J	N	I	S		Α
	U	Α	N	Κ	Т	В	Ρ	М	Х	G	Z	S	D	C	C
	С	Α	R	I	Ν	G	Α	Е	Т	Κ	T	Q	М	0	Т
	С	Α	0	W	L	Ν	В	М	Т	W	K	Ρ	S	S	V
	В	Ν	V	Q	Е	Y	В	J	Κ	Т	V	Y	0	Z	G
	S	L	0	Κ	W	G	Х	Ρ	Т	Η	V	Y	Q	В	E
	Y	U	N	Ν	Х	D	Е	R	Ρ	В	P	С	Ν	Y	E
	Ν	0	I	Т	Ρ	0	D	Α	Α	D	G	Ζ	L	K	W
	В	Q	S	N	V	R	W	М	Т	J	М	W	K	L	М
adoption bark bowls			cage canine caring				dog family humane			injury pet rescue			va	shelter society accinations	

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CRIME –

CRIME REPORTS

10-02 Wendy Cantillano, 25 Clinton. DWI. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 11-13-20 10-02 James Edward Schumaker, 27, Clinton. DV Protective Order Violation. Trial Date 10-27-20

10-02 Johnathan Vann, 38, Warsaw. FTA-DWLR Not Impaired Rev. Bond \$500. Trial Date 11-12-20

10-02 Jaun Esparza, 19, Garland. Speeding, No Operators License, All Other Offenses, Resisting Public Officer. Bond \$5000. Trial Date 10-13-20

10-02 Eldebarge Monroe, 33, Clinton. Order for Arrest- Failure to Appear per Release Order. Bond \$40000. Trial Date 11-09-20

10-02 Don Christopher Smith, 29, Salemburg. Assault on a Female, Injury to Personal Property. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 10-02-20

10-02 Jermaine Andrea Sloan, 38, Fayetteville. Possess Marijuana up to 1/2 oz. Bond \$600. Trial Date 11-24-20

10-03 Jaron Darrell Hayes, 35, Clinton. Driving While Impaired. Trial Date 11-16-20

10-03 Hugo Sanchez Ramirez, 27, Garland. Conspire Sell/Deliver Marijuana. Bond \$25000. Trial Date 11-09-20

10-03 Gabriel Alan Hobbs, 20, Faison. Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Underage Person Aid/Abet Possession, Sexual Battery. Bond \$5000. Trial Date 11-17-20

10-03 Donnie Sampson, 63, Clinton. OFA/ Larceny. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-26-20 10-03 Donella Chance Smith, 18, Clinton. WFA/Assault and Battery. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-17-20

10-03 Maria Lorena Isabel Tobias, 36, Clinton. WFA- Communicating Threats. Trial Date 11-24-20

10-03 Destiney Bradford, 22, Clinton. CS/Threatening Phone Call, CS/Second Degree Trespass, CS/Assault and Battery. Trial Date 11-17-20

10-03 Lonnie Lee Williams, 40, Clinton. DWI. Trial Date 11-09-20

10-04 Mildred Michelle Suggs, 39, Clinton. WFA/Second Degree Trespass. Bond \$500. Trial Date 11-16-20

10-04 Demetria Ann Chestnutt, 43, Clinton. DWLR Not Impaired Rev. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 10-29-20

10-04 Justin Kyle Elliot, 32, Dunn. Break or Enter a Motor Vehicle. Bond \$7500. Trial Date 11-05-20

10-04 Zachary Nathan Honeycutt, 40, Roseboro. Sampson County Animal Ordinance Violation. Trial Date 10-13-20

10-05 Teshawn Savage, 20, Kenansville. Carrying Concealed Gun. Bond \$3500. Trial Date 10-27-20

10-05 Jairo Luis Peguero Del-Rosario, 36, Clinton. Aggressive Driving. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-19-20

10-05 Jerry Terrell Williams, 31, Clinton. DWLR. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 10-29-20 10-05 Tijuan Terrill Campbell, 23, Harrells. Alter/Remove Gun Serial Number, Carry Concealed Gun. Bond \$10000. Trial Date 10-30-20 10-05 Shameka Sarah Beckett, 27, Warsaw. DWLR. Bond \$1500. Trial

Date 10-19-20

10-05 Amber Shara Cobbs, 29, Fayetteville. Speeding. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-30-20

10-05 Jorge Hernandez, 42, Salemburg. Injury to real Property. Trial Date 10-29-20

10-06 Angela Resio, 61, Roseboro. Shoplifting. Trial Date 11-12-20 10-07 Shalonda Charmagne Pridgen, 28, Atkinson. Carrying a Concealed Weapon.

INCIDENT REPORTS

09-29 David Gray of Clinton reported a Burglary/Breaking & Entering. 09-29 Jakob Tew of Clinton reported

a Larceny of a Firearm.

09-30 Augustine Farms of Clinton reported Larceny of a Kubota from a building.

09-30 Betty Knittel of Clinton reported Larceny.

10-01 Raunel Hernandez of Clinton reported a Breaking & Entering, Breaking & Entering a Motor Vehicle. 10-02 Derrick Sampson of Clinton reported a Motor Vehicle Theft.

10-02 Handee Hugo of Clinton reported Shoplifting- 24 pack beer \$20.99. 10-02 Tristan Edward of Clinton reported Larceny-handgun \$500.

10-03 Big Blue Store in Clinton reported Shoplifting- tools \$6.00.

10-03 Signature Home Designs Inc of Dunn reported a Larceny.

10-03 Sheri Spainhour of Newton Grove reported a Breaking & Entering, Damage to Property.

10-04 Jordan Sills of Clinton reported a Breaking & Entering of a Motor Vehicle.

10-04 Gabriel Gardner of Clinton reported a Break or Enter a Motor Vehicle, Larceny.

10-05 Sampson County Crisis Center reported Shoplifting- computer hardware/software \$200.

10-06 Gudrun Thornton of Clinton reported Larceny of political sign \$10.

10-06 Walmart of Clinton reported Shoplifting- merchandise \$44.09.

10-06 Simone Lassiter of Clinton reported Domestic Damage to Propertydoor \$350.

10-07 Mary Simmons of Clinton reported Breaking & Entering Residence- stolen television \$250, electric fireplace \$350.

10-08 Janet Sampson of Clinton reported Motor Vehicle Theft- automobile \$10000.

OBITUARIES -



HOPE MILLS

Ms. Mattie "Inez" Britt, 84 of Hope Mills formerly of Newton Grove, passed away at Cape Fear Valley Hospital on Saturday, October Ms. Britt's graveside 3, 2020. service will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at 2:00pm in the Bradshaw Cemetery in Newton Grove. The Pastor Jim Skinner will be officiating the service. Ms. Britt is survived by her son, Greg Collier

and wife Connie of Parkton, NC, grandchildren, Diana, Rachel, Alex, Greg II and Morgan and 5 great grandchildren. Ms. Britt is preceded in death by her parents, Willie and Minnie Johnson, husband, Willie Britt, Son, Durwood "Wayne" Collier and sister, Jean Collier. Services have been entrusted to West and Dunn Funeral Home of Newton Grove, NC. Condolences can be made to www.westanddunn.com.

CLINTON

Alpheus Earl Buckner (January 25, 1954 – October 4, 2020). Alpheus "Al" Buckner passed away eacefully in his home on Sunday October 4, 2020. A graveside service was held on Wednesday, October 6, 2020 at 11:00AM in Clinton City Cemetery, with the Revered Tim Ameen, officiating. Due to COVID-19, the family requests social distancing and that everyone wears masks at the service. Al was born to James Earl and Mary Ann Buckner on January 25, 1954 and was a lifelong resident of Clinton. A 1972 graduate of Clinton High School, Al later worked delivering soft drinks for Roberson Beverage Company, was a long-haul truck driver for the Lundy Packing Company, and owned and operated AJ Motorsports in Dunn, North Carolina for more than seventeen years. Al was an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed being outdoors, especially surf fishing on Portsmouth Island. Al was preceded in death by his father, James Earl, his mother, Mary Ann, his brother, Chris, and his grandmother Lula. Al is survived by his loving wife of more than forty-six years, Wanda, his twin sons Matthew (Kristin) Buckner, of Smithfield, Benjamin (Jessica) Buckner of Raleigh, his grandsons, Carson and Beauford, his cherished cousin, Bill Butler, his brothers, Mike and Lee Lane, and his loyal dog, Maggie. The family would like to thank Dr. Jason Boyd and all the staff at Southeastern Medical Oncology and Liberty Hospice, and his caregiver Janet Giddens for the wonderful care and attention they provided Al over the last months of his life. Condolences may be sent to Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home at www.Crumpler-Honeycutt.com. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Autism Society of North Carolina at the following address: https://www.autismsociety-nc. org/donate-online/



Williams and Annette Sutherland. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman, NC 28391.

COATS

Mr. Garrett Dean Capps, 17, of Coats died Wednesday, September 30, 2020 in Coats. Garrett was born January 15, 2003 in Wake County to Robert Capps and Carrie Potter Mabry. Garrett loved football, playing for Coats/Erwin Middle and was an avid Carolina Panthers fan. Garrett also loved fishing and country music, but he loved his family most of all, especially his brothers and sister and

his dog, Franklin. A memorial service for Garrett was held 2 p.m., Monday, October 5, 2020 at Skinner & Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Scott Belvin officiating. The family received friends at 1 p.m., one hour prior to the service. Garrett is survived by his father, Robert Capps of Coats, his mother, Carrie Mabry and husband Jamie of Clinton; brothers, Devin Brinkley, Eli Capps and Luke Mabry; and his sister, Hannah Capps. Instead of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the Autism Society of North Carolina, autismsociety-nc.org. Arrangements by Skinner & Smith



TURKEY

Mr. John Dee "JD" Faison, 81, of 391 Summerhill Road, passed away Wednesday at Highsmith-Rainey Hospital, Fayetteville, NC. The graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, October 8, 2020 at Andrews Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Gerald Underwood officiating and Military Honors. Mr. Faison is survived by his DAUGTHER-Teresa Faison



of Ronkonkoma, NY; SONS-Sean Faison of Forest Hills, NY, Ronald Faison of Glen Cove, NY and Donald Faison of Bronx, NY; SISTER-Pauline Bell of NJ; 9 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Viewing at the Funeral Home (Mask are required) Wednesday, October 7, 2020 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Service will be live-streamed via Worley Funeral Home Facebook page. NOTE: To access the graveside service via Facebook, log on to your Facebook account and type in Worley Funeral Home. The livestream will be available at the service time and afterwards for viewing.

YOUNGSVILLE



STEDMAN

Mr. Thomas "Tommy" Eldridge Bunce, 70 passed away Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh. Funeral service will be held at 2:00 pm Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Butler Funeral Home Chapel in Stedman. Burial will follow at the family home. The family will receive friends from 12:00 pm to 1:50 pm Saturday at the funeral home prior to the service. He



was born in Cumberland County to the late Clarence Eldridge Bunce and Hazel Doris Matthews Bunce. He is also preceded in death by a daughter, Tracey Lynn Bunce. Tommy owned and operated M & T Logging Inc since 1990. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother and friend. He enjoyed many things including: traveling and camping with his family, the mountains, his dogs, motorcycles; but most of all he loved his family and friends. Tommy never met a stranger, and he had a heart of gold; always willing to help anybody. He is survived by his loving wife of 34 years, Melissa Willoughby Bunce; children, Ricky Eldridge Bunce, Bobby Clayton Bunce & wife, Nicole, and Tiffany Ann Bunce; step-children, Jamey Michael Autry, Dennis Wayne Branch, Jr. & wife, Sylvia, Amanda McDowell, and Melanie Branch McLellan & husband, Dan; 12 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and sisters, Winifred

Funeral Home in Dunn.

CLINTON

Terry Lee Evans 64 passed away on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at his home. On July 6, 1956, Terry Lee Evans was born to the late Eddie Evans and Della Evans. He joined Sampson Chapel Church and received baptism at an early age. Terry was very crafty and very talented with his hands. He was a certified welder with a degree from Sampson Community College. Outside of holding various



jobs, he was very well known in the community for helping others in many ways, such as mowing yards and helping at church. He never met a stranger and was loved by many. He considered himself a master chef and motorcycle enthusiast. In addition to his parents Terry is also preceded in death by a sister: Alice Newkirk. A graveside service was held at 12:00 pm on Saturday, October 3, 2020 at Little Field Cemetery in Newton Grove, NC, with Pastor Joe Evans officiating. He leaves to cherish his memories: his daughter: Mitesa, granddaughter: Makeiylin (Puff), stepdaughters: Tamica and Rose, stepson: Peter, brothers: Joseph (Carrie), Eddie (Helen), sisters: Margaret (Knox), Evelyn, one special aunt: Mary Bryant, lifetime friends: Joe Butler and Sheila Brewington, a host of other relatives and friends. A public walk thru was held on Friday, October 2, 2020 at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Service & Cremation, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton from 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm with family present from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

FAYETTEVILLE

Mr. Byron Ammie Faircloth, 65 passed away Friday, October 2, 2020 at his home surrounded by his family. Funeral service was held at 2:00 pm Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at Macedonia Baptist Church, 5064 Macedonia Church Road, Fayetteville, officiating was Rev. Alan West. Burial followed in the church cemetery. The family received friends from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Monday, October 5, 2020 at the funeral home in Stedman.



Byron worked for Cashwell Appliance for over 40 years. Byron was a loving husband, father, son, grandfather, brother and friend to all who met him. He is preceded in death by his father, Wayne M. Faircloth. He is survived by his loving wife, whom he has been with for 32 years, Paula Faircloth of the home; mother, Ruby Horne Cashwell & husband, Robert of Autryville; daughter, Tracy Chavis of Fayetteville; step-daughter, Jessica Brewer & husband, David of Dunn; step-son, Tim Beach of Ohio; 4 grandsons, Justin Chavis and Dustin Chavis both of Fayetteville, Devon and Seth Beach both of Roseboro; 3 granddaughters, Makayla Beach, Seryna and Emily Brewer all of Dunn; 6 step-sisters, Cassandra, Kathleen, Carolyn, Roberta, Diane, Donna; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman, NC 28391.

Daphne Kaye Finnell was born to the late Wilson Crumpler & Naomi Tatum Crumpler on March 29, 1969. Daphne was called home to be with the Lord on September 29, 2020. She graduated from Union High School in the 1987 class. She continued her education at Fayetteville State University. Daphne accepted the call of the Lord and joined Wards Chapel

Baptist Church. She took what she learned of the Lord in order to teach and nourish her family in the way of the Lord. In 2014 Daphne became the president of Division 9 Painting Group, LLC where she worked along beside her loving husband. Daphne last accomplishment that was very successful was Creative Designs by Naomi T established in 2018. Daphne is preceded in death by her late Father: Wilson Crumpler, Mother: Naomi T. Crumpler, Sister: Coro Lee B. Caraway and Brother: James E. Caraway Those Left to Cherish Her Memories: Husband: Steven Finnell-Youngsville, NC, Daughter: Devin Crumpler-Youngsville, NC, Step-son: Steven Finnell-Raleigh, NC, Step-daughters: Makayla & Nicole Finnell-Raleigh, NC, Brothers: Harry Burton-Rose Hill, NC, Leo Burton-Winston-Salem, NC, Malcolm (Thelma) Crumpler-Raleigh, NC, Johnnie (Antoinette) Murphy-Tomahawk, NC, Sister: Lisa Banks-Raleigh, NC, Mother-in-Love: Mary (Elbert) Outerbridge-Newport News, VA, Father-in-Law: James (Mildred) Finnell-Hampton, VA, Brother-in-Law: James (Nancy) Finnell, Jr.-Morrisville, NC, Sister-in-Laws: Nina Jacobs & Terri Finnell-Clayton, NC and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Mrs. Fennell graveside service was held at 12:00 PM Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at Tatum-Burton Cemetery on Herring Road in Rose Hill, NC. Services provided by Carter Funeral Home, Garland. www.carterfh.com.

CLINTON

Mr. Thomas "Elwood" Fryar, 77, of Garland Hwy., passed away Monday October 5, 2020 at Mary Gran Nursing Center. A Graveside service was held on Wednesday, October 7th at 3:00 pm at Serenity Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Jimmy Flowers officiating. Born on June 30, 1943 in Sampson County, Elwood was the son of the late Relma Elwood and Janie Irene



Barefoot Fryar. He was a proud Veteran with the 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army, stationed at Ft. Bragg. After serving his country, he was a Machinist Foreman at Cook Machine Company until retirement. He was a member of Serenity Baptist Church and loved his church family and friends. His favorite pastime was fishing, especially brim and crappie fishing. He never passed up an opportunity to go, and went fishing up until his health would not allow him to. Elwood was a goodhearted, hard-working man, who loved the Lord and his family more than anything. He will be greatly missed. He is survived by his brother, Roy Fryar and his wife, Brenda of Clinton; Special Cousin: Teresa Smith of Clinton; nieces: Sharon O'Neal, Sandra

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McKay, Susan Raynor, Erica Nelson and Jennifer Weierheiser; nephews: James Sikinoff, Rodney Soltow and Ed Soltow; along with several cousins, great-nieces and great-nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his three sisters: Brenda Fryar, Carolyn Soltow and Hilda Parker. Visitation was held immediately following the graveside service at the cemetery, and other times at his brother's home, located at 150 Hondros Rd, Clinton. The family would like to thank the entire staff of Clinton Medical Clinic for their kindness and compassionate care of Elwood over the years, and also, most recently, to the nurses and staff of Mary Gran Nursing Center. Royal-Hall is honored to serve the Fryar family.



AUTRYVILLE

Rev. Arthur Pritchard Horne, 69 went to be with his Lord and Savior on Thursday, October 1, 2020. A celebration of life service was held at 4:00pm Sunday, October 4, 2020 at Butler Funeral Home Chapel in Stedman, with the Rev. Jerry Edwards and Rev. Bobby Page. Burial followed at George Horne Cemetery in Autryville. The family

received friends from 3:00pm to 3:50 pm Sunday at the funeral home prior to the service. The family also received friends at other times at the home. Arthur has preached God's word since the 1970's, serving as an Evangelist and as a Pastor. He was also the Pastor of Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Godwin for 18 years. He truly loved his family with all of his heart, with a special love for his "Punkin", Charlotte; and was a true servant of his Lord Jesus Christ. He is preceded in death by his parents, Arthur Crafton Horne and Addie Louise Hall Horne. He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Charlotte House Horne; children, Darrin Pritchard Horne & wife, Amy, Harold Cordell Horne and Dace Crafton Horne & wife, Dawn; grandchildren, Joshua Caleb Horne, Emily Marie Horne, McKenzie Leigh Horne, Cassidy Michelle Horne, and Corbin Dace Horne; and a sister, Patricia Ann H. Williford & husband, Jerry. "Now he can say, I'm the best I've ever been". Arrangements entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman, NC 28391

STEDMAN

Mr. Johnny Curtis Horne, Sr., 74 passed away Wednesday, October 7. 2020 at his home surrounded by his family. Funeral service will be held at 3:00 pm Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Macedonia Baptist Church, officiating will be Rev. G.C. Hughes. Burial will follow in the church cemetery with military honors. The family will receive



friends from 2:00 pm to 2:50 pm Saturday at the church prior to the service. He is preceded in death by his parents, Avery Horne and Bernice Raynor. He was the service manager for Horne's Furniture Store for over 30 years; and he was also a United States Army Veteran. He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Faye Horne; daughter, Myra Boahn & husband, Mike; son, Johnny Horne, Jr. & wife, Kathy; grandchildren, Michael Boahn, Jr., Ashley Boahn, David Boahn & wife, Haley, Kaleb Horne and Zach Davis; great-grandchildren, Hailey Floyd, Josh Autry, Katie Boahn, Riley Boahn, Kayleigh Brown, Susan Boahn Taylor and Hailey Boahn; and a sister, Joann Creswell. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman, NC 28391

STEDMAN

Mr. Tommy Dale Hudson, 58, of Stedman passed away Tuesday afternoon at Cape Fear Valley Hospital. He was born in Harnett County on October 14, 1961 to the late Tommy Leon and Deane Hudson. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Hudson. Dale served in the U.S. Army for three years. He worked for Kelly Springfield for over 32 years as a



tire builder. A graveside service was held Friday at 11 a.m. at the Hudson Family Cemetery by Rev. Larry Autry. He is survived by his three sons, Christopher Hudson of Stedman, Michael Hudson and wife Michelle Stanley of Charlotte, Ethan Hudson of Parkton, ey Autry Autryville and husband Morris of Clinton, Michelle Haire and husband Richard of Raeford, a nephew, Marshall Ezzell and wife Melissa, two nieces, Deana Autry and Brooke Haire. The family received friends following the graveside service. Arrangements are by Skinner & Smith Funeral Home of Dunn.

Memorials may be made to: Roanoke Chapel PFWB Church, 1167 Roanoke Rd., Newton Grove, N.C. 28366. Due to the current health concerns the family understands if you are not able to join them for the service. Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated. We ask that social distancing be practiced, and masks be worn at all times to comply with the State of N.C. Guidelines. Online condolences may be made at: www.westanddunn.com. Services have been entrusted to West & Dunn Funeral Home, Newton Grove, North Carolina.



PLAIN VIEW

Mr. William Patrick Johnson, 52, of Plainview passed away Monday, October 5, 2020 at UNC Medical Center in Chapel Hill. He was born June 20, 1968 to the late Jerry Aaron and Helen Weaver Johnson. Patrick was a man of many words and many talents. If he set his mind to it, he was capable to do just about anything. He was always there to lend a hand

and was never too far away. In his life he enjoyed cutting up with family and friends, taking family trips, and being with his three beautiful grand babies. What he loved most of all was his wife Renee. Being married for 32 years, they enjoyed every moment together. God needed a man like him to help lend a helping hand. A graveside service was held 11 am Thursday at Spring Branch Baptist Church, with Pastor Tom Wagoner officiating. Patrick is survived by his wife Renee Johnson, two sons; Dustin Johnson, Jessie Johnson and wife Kaylan, grandchildren, Brooke, Camdyn, and Charlotte, brother, Gary Johnson, sisters; Lynn Wallace and husband Junior, Kim Johnson and Scott Pope, Lorrie Williams and husband Jason, mother-in-law; Frances Tart, brother-in-law Jamie Tart, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. A visitation will be held 4 to 6 pm Wednesday at Skinner & Smith Funeral Home in Dunn. The family would like to thank everyone who was there for support during this difficult time. Arrangements are by Skinner & Smith Funeral Home in Dunn.

LELAND

Audrey Catherine (Fields) Lamb of Leland, N.C., died unexpectedly on Saturday, October 3, 2020, surrounded by her loving family at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington. She was born on May 18, 1934 in Niagara Falls, New York to Carl and Mildred Fields. The oldest of five children, she grew up in Millville where her parents owned and operated the Fields?



studied cosmetology. She operated her own beauty shop inside the Lamb family home on Jackson Street in Middleport. Audrey worked as an administrative assistant at Townsend Insurance in Middleport, NY, at the credit union and later at FMC. A devout Catholic, she was a member of St. Stephen's Parish in Middleport, NY and Basilica Shrine of St. Mary's in Wilmington, N.C. She loved to sing and performed in a number of plays through community theatre including South Pacific, Music Man, Auntie Mame, Bells are Ringing, Oklahoma!, Carousel!, My Fair Lady, The Sound of Music and The Haunting of Hill House. She was also a member of Sweet Adelines and a Cub Scout Den mother. After moving to N.C., she joined The Harmony Belles, volunteered at New Hanover Regional Medical Center and enjoyed playing Mahjong with her friends and neighbors. Audrey was preceded in death by her brother Carl Fields. She is survived by her husband of 63 years Donald Sr., sons Donald Jr. (Lisa), David (Ginger), Dean (Sharon) and Douglas (Deana); grandchildren Lindsay (Christopher) Faircloth, Leslie Lamb (Justin Weeks), Kimberly (Tanner) Kelly, Amanda Lamb, Ryan (Kellsie) Lamb, Dillion (Anna Kathryn) Lamb and Michaela (Garrett) Brooks along with six great-grandchildren Knox, Alexander, Lucy, Audrey Kathryn, Rowan, Remy and a baby girl expected in November. She is also survived by her siblings Carol (Alfred) Beato, Betty (Robert) Jackson and Paul (Elaine) Fields along with many cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was sister-in-law to Dorothy (Ken) Bishop and preceded in death by William (Lena) Lamb, Robert (Kilt) Lamb, Junior (Joyce) Lamb, Clarence (Lib) Lamb, Franklin (Edna) Lamb and Elizabeth Foss. A private family service was held at Andrew's Mortuary in Wilmington on October 6, 2020. Family and friends are invited to attend a burial service at Ingold Cemetery in Ingold, N.C. at 2 p.m. on October 17, 2020. In lieu of flowers, donations in

Week of October 9-15, 2020

at Mary Gran Nursing Center. Born in 1951 in San Antonio, Texas to Andrew & Lupe Gonzales Carrizales. Frances worked in retail sales. Frances loved her family, she was preceded in death by a son; Shawn Russell. Frances will be cremated; no services are planned at this time. Frances leaves to cherish her memories: Daughter: Nicole Russell of Fayetteville, NC, son:



Adam Russell of Middleboro, KY Brother: Dan Shepard (Tina) of Fayetteville, NC and Darryll Wilson (Sharon) of Roseboro, NC Sister: Robin Freville (Dave) of Michigan and 7 Grandchildren.

PLAIN VIEW

Mrs. Carolyn Core Spell, 68, of the Plain View Community passed away Monday evening October 5, 2020 at her home. Carolyn was born August 15, 1952 in Harnett County daughter of the late Ernie B. and Annie Buie Core. She was also preceded in death by four brothers, Alton, Jack, Earl and Charles Core and her sister, Louise Core. She was a 1970 graduate of Erwin High



School. A funeral service was held at 3 p.m. Thursday, October 8, 2020 at Bethesda Friends Meeting in Dunn with Rev. Jonathan Cook and Rev. Allen Gupton. Burial followed at Lee's Chapel/ Williford Cemetery. If you are uncomfortable with attending the service in the church, we invite you to listen to it via radio 92.7 in the parking lot of Bethesda Friends Meeting. Carolyn was a dedicated worker and spent 20 years at Block Industries shirt factory and 20 years at Carolina Precast Concrete. As a boy mom, Carolyn spent many nights and weekends cheering for her sons and their teams at their many baseball games. She was a Raider Band Mom to her 2 kids and many more throughout the years. As Nana, she supported her 5 grandchildren in their many sports games, dance recitals, award ceremonies and other activities they were involved in. Carolyn enjoyed many years of living the "lake life" with her husband and boys camping at Kerr Lake, White Lake, and Lake Royale. She and Crafton also loved taking cruises and went on 21 cruises in a 15 year time span but spent the last couple of years on dry land traveling to different campsites with their RV. Carolyn is survived by her husband of forty-seven years, Crafton Spell; sons, Kevin and partner Lee of Wilmington; Kyle and wife Donna of Autryville; five grandchildren, Drake, Kylie, Wyatt, Christian, and Carter and one great grandchild, Ella and sister, Annie Ruth Core Matthews of Erwin. The family will receive friends 2-3 p.m. Thursday one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials may be made to the Plain View Fire Department, 5041 Plain View Hwy. Dunn, N.C. 28334. Arrangements are by Skinner & Smith Funeral Home.

RALEIGH

Mr. William Ashley Thornton, age 50 of Raleigh, formerly of Newton Grove, passed away Tuesday, October 6, 2020 in Wayne Memorial Hospital, Goldsboro. The family will hold a Private Family Memorial Service. Left to cherish his memories are his parents; Ellis and Pat Thornton of Newton Grove, sister; Heather T.



Horne and husband Daniel of Madison, nephew: Drew Horne and niece, Emily Horne. He also leaves to cherish his memory many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. Donations can be made to the Hobbton High School Band Program, Attention Michael B. Warren or Geoffrey Tart. Online condolences may be made at; www.westanddunn.com. Services have been entrusted to West and Dunn Funeral Homes, Newton Grove, North Carolina.

SAINT PAULS

Mr. Sidney Lee Blackburn, 48, of 152 Tolar Rd., St. Pauls, died Friday, October 02, 2020 at Southeastern Regional Medical Center, Lumberton. Mr. Blackburn was born November 13, 1971 in Bladen County. He is preceded in death by his father; George Blackburn and one brother; George Blackburn Jr. A graveside service will be held at 3:00 PM Wednesday, October 07, 2020 at Norris-Blackburn Cemetery, NC Hwy 41 in Harrells with a viewing held one hour prior to the service. Mr. Blackburn is survived by his mother; Gladys Blackburn Stevens, one sister; Lou Ann Blackburn and one brother; Gary Wayne Blackburn all of St. Pauls.

ROSEBORO

Mrs. Willie Doris Jackson, 93 of Roseboro passed away on Sunday, October 4, 2020 at her home. The funeral service was held on Wednesday, October 7 at 2:00 PM at the Salemburg Baptist Church Family Life Center with Rev. W. A. Creech, Rev. Paul Honeycutt and Rev. Tommy Honeycutt officiating. Burial followed in the Sunrise The family Memorial Gardens.



received friends from 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM on Wednesday prior to the service. Mrs. Jackson was a native of Sampson County, the daughter of Carmal and Bertha Fann Hollingsworth. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Leval Jackson and son, Dwight Jackson. She was a homemaker. She is survived by a son, Tommy Jackson and wife, Lib of Salemburg; three grandchildren, Kevin Jackson, Shelia Nelson and husband, Steve and Chris Shipp and wife, Kerri; eight great grandchildren and four great great grandchildren; two sisters, Glenda Fann of Salemburg and Judy Jackson and husband, Roy of Kings Park, NY; one brother, James Hollingsworth and wife, Jennie of Crossville, TN; and a special caregiver, Connie Williams. The family would like to thank Community Hospice for their loving care shown to Mrs. Jackson. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 401 W. Roseboro Street, Roseboro, NC.

CLINTON

Ms. Allison B. Jernigan, age 92 of Clinton, passed away Thursday, October 1, 2020 at Kitty Askins Hospice Center, Goldsboro. Her funeral service was held Sunday, Oct. 4, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Roanoke Chapel PFWB Church. Officiating was Revs. Robbie Gilbert, Virgil Murphy and Kevin Blackmon. A graveside service was



held Monday at 11:00 a.m. at Grandview Memorial Park, Clinton. Left to cherish her memoires are her daughter; Sandra J. Pope of Clinton, grandchildren; Sherry Sinclair-Holderness (Scott) of Raleigh, Tammy Smith (Charles) of Clinton, great grandchildren; Terry Smith (Cherish), Amanda Underwood (Sam), Katherine Holderness and Elizabeth Holderness, great great grandchildren; Maddison and Nelson Vann, Dawson, Drake, Davis and Haley Smith and Zoie Underwood, brother; Marvin Britt of Benson and sister; Robin O'Brien of Louisiana. Ms. Jernigan was preceded in death by; husband; Marvin Jernigan, granddaughter; Wendy Sinclair, grandson; Terry Pope, brothers; Warren Britt, Henry Britt, William O. Britt, Willie Maxton Britt and Luby Earl Britt. a son-in-law: Preston Pope. Flowers are welcome however

her memory are requested to the charity of your choice

CLINTON

Betty Long, 59, of 515 Balsey Street, passed away on October 3, 2020, at Kitty Askins Hospice Center. Betty was born on September 2, 1961, in New Jersey to the late Norman and Ann Wilson Long. Betty worked as a bookkeeper at Sampson Building Supply in Clinton, NC for 28 years, she is preceded in death by brothers: Norman Long, Charles Long, and

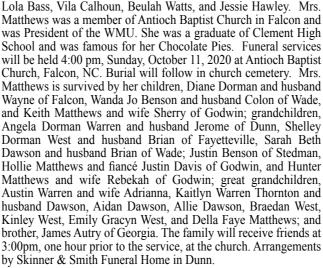


Ben Long. A funeral service was held at 2:00 pm on Friday, October 9, 2020, at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Chapel in Clinton, NC. with Rev. Richard Weeks officiating. Betty Long leaves to cherish her memories, life partner: Terry Owens of Clinton, NC, daughter: Amanda Bates Fann and husband Bruce of Salemburg, NC, sister: Sue Simms of Clinton, NC, brother: Bob Long of Colorado, and one granddaughter, Anna Lorae Fann of Salemburg, NC. A visitation will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2020 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Service & Cremation, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton.

FALCON

Mrs. Magdalene Autry Matthews,

95, of Falcon, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Thursday, October 8, 2020. She was born in Sampson County on April 30, 1925 to the late John Julian and Emily Starling Autry. She was preceded in death by her husband, Joel "Jody" Matthews; and siblings, Arthur Autry, Cyrus Autry,



CLINTON

Frances Russell 68 passed away on Thursday, October 1, 2020

ROSEBORO

Mrs. Wynona Carol Keel, 78 of Roseboro passed away on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. A memorial service will be held at 11:30 AM on Saturday, October 24, 2020 at Butler Funeral Home in Stedman with Rev. Tommy Honeycutt officiating. The family request that everyone attending please wear a mask and practice social distancing. Mrs Keel was a native of New York, the daughter of the late James and Emma Ruhl Medlock. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jessie Keel and brother, Leland Medlock. She was a certified nursing assistant. She is survived by two sons, David Keel and wife, Cathi of Roseboro and Alan Keel and wife, Yukari of Cary; daughter, Christine Ketchum and husband, Charles of Roseboro; sister, Jackie White of Roseboro; four grandchildren, Kyndra Keel, Alisa Keel, Peyton Ketchum and Garett Ketchum; two nephews, Jimmy White and Jay White. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home, 6535 Clinton Road, Stedman, NC.



Peter's Creek Baptist Church October 11-14, 2020

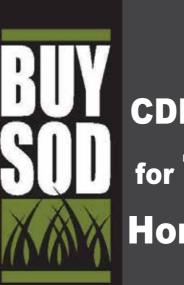
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NASCAR THIS WEEK

The Daytona Beach News-Journal's Godwin Kelly & Ken Willis have covered NASCAR for more than 70 years combined. godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com and ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

SPEED FREAKS

How bad do you feel for Matty D?

GODSPEAK: I feel bad for that guy and Wood Brothers Racing, which has been stuck on 99 wins for a decade. Let me know if you want to borrow my lucky charm, Matt.

KEN'S CALL: About a 5 on the 1-10 scale. Let's face it, a "plate race" win wouldn't be like winning at Darlington or Martinsville. But I reckon he doesn't care at this point.

Is Hamlin setting himself up for another Cup disappointment?

GODSPEAK: This has to be the year. He needs to bottle that Talladega luck and bring it to Phoenix next month. **KEN'S CALL:** Well, at least he might be able to replace Mark Martin as bestever without a Cup title. I think Harvick is already scouting out a Phoenixarea TopGolf for the post-championship party.

GODWIN'S PICKS FOR CHARLOTTE ROVAL

WINNER: Chase Elliott REST OF TOP 5: Ryan Blaney, Alex Bowman, Martin Truex Jr., William Byron FIRST ONE OUT: Ty Dillon DARK HORSE: Jimmie Johnson DON'T BE SURPRISED IF: Elliott adds to his building road-course win count.

BY THE NUMBERS

OWins by Toyota at Charlotte Roval

2 Cup Series races staged on Charlotte Roval

7 Road course events, including Busch Clash, scheduled in 2021

 $12_{\text{Cup wins by different drivers}}$

14Average starting position of Roval winners

DAYTONA MOTOR MOUTHS

The boys from NASCAR This Week are among the few who escaped the past weekend without a bruise, blemish or a single hurt feeling.

THROUGH THE GEARS



Denny Hamlin was given flowers after his Talladega win. Few realized (or cared) that Hamlin went to the points lead with the win. CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY IMAGES

Hamlin takes the lead

Godwin Kelly

Daytona Beach News-Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

In olden times, when there was no NASCAR Cup Series playoff (kids, that would be from 1949 through 2003), Denny Hamlin's achievement at Talladega Superspeedway would be frontpage sports fodder, likely the lead story.

By winning the race at Talladega, Hamlin hopped over Kevin Harvick in the overall Cup Series points standings.

Harvick has been atop the standings for much of the season, but because of his giant cache of playoff points (67), the 2014 NASCAR champion decided to play it safe at Talladega and finished 20th.

Up until 2003, the Cup champion was determined by a season-long counting of the points, so this would have been a stop-the-presses development.

Instead, Hamlin's move in the standings is nothing more than a footnote in what has been a hand-wringing season of far-fetched situations and wild developments.

Now it's on to the Charlotte Motor Speedway Roval, the road course that thinks it's a bumper-car ride ...

First gear

Chase Elliott is a natural on road courses.

Of his eight career NASCAR Cup Series victories, four have come on tracks that require a driver to turn their steering wheels to the right as well as left.

His second win of the 2020 season

no-points, big-money Busch Clash at Daytona.

Second gear

Only a pair of playoff drivers scored top-10 finishes at Talladega. Denny Hamlin won and Chase Elliott was fifth.

So that tightened things up around the playoff cut line. Since Kurt Busch, who won a wild one at Las Vegas, and Hamlin advance to Round 3 on race victories, there will be a scramble at the Roval to gain points.

Kyle Busch, the 2019 Cup champion, and Austin Dillon share the honor of being on the bubble. Both are 21 points behind Joey Logano in the playoff chart going into the Roval.

Third gear

Talladega produced a "typical" race last weekend. There were 59 lead changes among 18 drivers, plus 13 cautions that covered 54 laps. It took NAS-CAR officials three overtimes and 10 extra laps to get this race in the books.

Fourth gear

Look for a 2021 rule change at Daytona and Talladega. The yellow-line rule was put into effect a few years ago to keep drivers from using the apron as part of the race track.

If a driver dips under the yellow line and advances their position, they can be penalized.

Hamlin's No. 11 Toyota went into the out-of-bounds area on the last lap to win at Talladega. NASCAR said that was OK because he went down there to avoid a wreck, but it gave him a perfect angle to catch and pass race leader Matt DiBenedetto. Then, DiBenedetto was penalized for doing the exact same thing. He went from a second-place finish to 21st. NBC race analyst Dale Earnhardt Jr., who carries a ton of weight with decision-makers, said the yellow-line rule is outdated and needs to go, igniting that discussion this week.

QUESTIONS & ATTITUDES

Who you callin' yella?

I guess it's only natural that the YellaWood 500 involve lots of talk about the yellow line. In the aftermath, there was plenty of folks – including Junior Earnhardt – about just getting rid of the line entirely and letting the drivers settle things without the "referees" upstairs getting involved. It's an attractive consideration.

Too attractive?

Probably. When the topic was raised post-race with some drivers, they pointed out the obvious: Ditch the rule, chaos would ensue and you would have even more wrecks than we have now. Meanwhile, imagine if Matt DiBenedetto had crossed the line first only to be disqualified. Talk about chaos.

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

NASCAR CUP STANDINGS

1. Denny Hamlin	3,141
2. Kevin Harvick	3,121
3. Chase Elliott	3,097
4. Brad Keselowski	3,094
5. Martin Truex Jr.	3,085
6. Alex Bowman	3,075
7. Joey Logano	
8. Kyle Busch	3,053
9. Austin Dillon	3,053
10. Kurt Busch	3,048
11. Clint Bowyer	3,036
12. Aric Almirola	
13. Ryan Blaney	
14. William Byron	2,113
15. Matt DiBenedetto	2,108
16. Cole Custer	2,095
17. Jimmie Johnson	754
18. Erik Jones	751
19. Tyler Reddick	687
20. Chris Buescher	591



Kevin Harvick is second in the points standings. GARY VASQUEZ-USA TODAY SPORTS

WHAT'S ON TAP?

(All times Eastern)



was on the Daytona Road Course, where he led 34 of the 65 laps, including the final 13.

Elliott is the defending Charlotte Roval winner, even though early in last year's race he crashed head-on into a Turn 1 barrier on a restart.

The 24-year-old driver probably let out a cry of joy when NASCAR released the 2021 schedule, which features seven road-course events, including the CUP SERIES: Bank of America 400 SITE: Charlotte Motor Speedway Roval (2.28-mile road course) TV SCHEDULE: Sunday, race (NBC, 2:30 p.m.)

XFINITY: Driver For The Cure 250 SITE: Charlotte Motor Speedway Roval TV SCHEDULE: Saturday, race (NBC, 3:30 p.m.)

KEN WILLIS' TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS



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