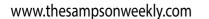


# The Sampson Country Commonity Newspaper VOLUME 11, ISSUE 40



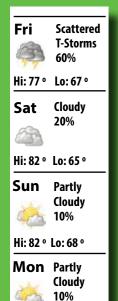


# INSIDE

Local News Page 2



## WEATHER

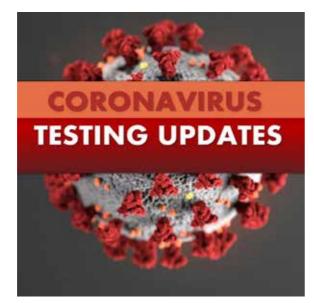


## 102nd Sampson County Gospel Sing to Continue the Tradition Despite COVID-19 Streaming Online



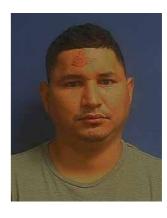
COVID-19 has cancelled many of our beloved annual events and gatherings in 2020. However, the 102nd Annual Sampson County Gospel Sing will go on as planned, with a little different venue. SING, see P. 4

# 118 New COVID-19 Positive Cases This Week in Sampson County



The Sampson County Health Department is reporting 17

# Arrest of Homicide Suspect from Lopez Lane in Faison



On September 21, 2020, shortly after 5:00 PM, the Sampson County E911 Center received a phone call indicating that a body had been found in a wooded area off of Lopez Lane in the Faison area of Sampson County. Responding deputies were advised that family members of the possible victim

were chasing the suspect in a white passenger vehicle, however they had lost sight of the vehicle on Cabin Museum Road outside of Turkey, NC.

Upon arrival on Lopez Lane deputies were advised that body of a male, possibly an occupant of 124 Lopez Lane was found partially buried in the wood line behind the residence. Investigators roped of the area and requested the assistance of the NC State Bureau of Investigation, which is a requirement for buried bodies.

Investigators immediately started interviewing witnesses and developed probable cause to obtain warrants on Gustavo Adolfo Alvarez.

The passenger vehicle, believed to be operated by Alvarez was discovered later in the evening, partially submerged and heavily damaged off of Old Warsaw Road outside Turkey, NC. The NC State Highway Patrol and the Turkey Fire Department assisted with the recovery of the abandoned vehicle.

Investigators worked with the NC State Bureau of In-



WEEKLY VERSE What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? Luke 9:25

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COVID-19 Positive Cases by Date: Monday September 21- 36 new cases Tuesday September 22nd- 16 new cases Wednesday September 23rd- 19 new cases Thursday September 24th- 30 new cases new cases on Friday, bringing the total to 2,258 positive cases of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

COVID testing numbers for Sampson County as of September 25, 2020: Total Number of Tests Performed: 6,494 Positive Test Results: 2,258 (1,785 recovered) Negative Test Results: 4,225 Pending Results: 11 Deaths: 27 vestigation and the Wilson County Sheriff's Office to locate Alvarez. On Thursday, September 24, 2020, Alvarez was located and taken into custody in Kenly, NC by the Wilson County Sheriff's Office Tactical Team.

Currently, Alvarez, age 25, of 124 Lopez Lane, Faison, NC is currently in the Sampson County Detention Center without the privilege of bond, with an initial appearance scheduled for October 2, 2020. The identity and cause of death of the victim are being withheld until a forensic autopsy is completed and the victim's identity is confirmed by the Sampson County Medical Examiner. No other information is available at this time.

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COVID, see P. 2



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



## **LOCAL NEWS**

## From the Desk of Senator Brent Jackson



As many of you are aware, The General Assembly was back in session on September 2nd and September 3rd to complete the final round of available CARES Act funding and other legislative priorities. At that time, the General Assembly adjourned sine die and officially signaled the end of the 2019-2020 legislative session. At this time, both the Senate and the House remain in the interim and plan to be back in January 2021 for the start of the next long session.

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

## Legislative Recap- H.B. 1105

House Bill 1105 is the General Assembly's latest response to the coronavirus pandemic. It spends about \$1.1 billion and was signed into law earlier this month. The money was originally allocated by the Federal CARES Act but was saved in the event that Congress allowed more flexibility for the use of those funds. Lacking any action from Congress, the North Carolina General Assembly dedicated several weeks to crafting this legislation which spends the remaining money to increase the size of existing programs as well as establish some new ones to fight the pandemic.

The bill includes \$335 per family with a child under the age of 17 to help offset the costs of remote learning and childcare. It expands funding for testing and personal protective gear. It supports small businesses through additional available resources. There is funding for food banks, hospitals, senior living facilities, colleges, elections, disaster recovery, and more all included in this bill.

Overall, this bill seeks to be a comprehensive response to our state's current fight against the virus. However, should any more Federal funding be allocated, it may be necessary to repeat the process and shore up these programs yet again.

## From the District- Sampson County Sampson Emergency Services Building



Sampson County officials this week announced that more than \$6.5 million in grant funding had been secured for the construction of the proposed 911 and Emergency Services facilities, putting the county over the \$10 million mark in grant funding for the estimated \$18.5 million project.

County Manager Ed Causey made the announcement at the Sampson County Board of Commissioners meeting earlier this week. He said the county obtained \$1 million in grant funds from Golden Leaf. Additionally, in late August, the NC 911 Board voted unanimously to approve the county's grant application for \$5,571,543 for the 911 portion of the project.

Those funds will be added to the \$3.5 million grant previously received by the North Car-

\$17.8 million — that has now been upped to \$18.5 million — with a key caveat that if the grant funds aren't there to support the project, then a followup meeting at the drawing board will have to be held to regroup and revise.

ADW Architects of Charlotte, whose hire was approved by the Sampson Board of Commissioners at the beginning of this year, offered four options for the new facility during a February 2020 county planning session. The new emergency headquarters is deemed a necessity to replace the aging and outgrown facility on Underwood Street that was constructed in 1956.

The option, Option B, included Emergency Management, EMS, E-911, and the Fire Marshal's Office, with 36,313 square feet in total space. Of that, Emergency Management accounts for 6,515 square feet, EMS has 13,652 square feet, E-911 totals 7,605 square feet and the shared space accounts for the remaining 6,781.

The board ultimately settled on Option B. While no formal vote was taken, the five board members concurred to move forward back in February. Seven months later, county leaders are another large step forward.

Construction is likely to take 15-18 months, officials have said.

Clack said county administration would solicit for 15- and 20-year terms, with the board determining between the two.

The proposed facility would be situated in the bend on Commerce Street off of U.S. 701 Business in Clinton, between Sampson-Bladen Oil Company and the Sampson County Law Enforcement Center. The county owns 22 acres on both sides of Commerce Street that have not yet been developed.

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

### COVID, cont. from P. 1

Friday September 25th-17 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.



olina Office of State Budget and Management (NCOSBM). Those state grant funds were formally accepted in November 2019 to build the revamped emergency headquarters in the county.

That financing would require approval from the Local Government Commission. At the recent commissioners meeting, Causey discussed grant awards and project timeline, and Finance Officer David Clack reviewed the steps necessary to pursue LGC approval.

The board ultimately unanimously adopted resolutions authorizing all necessary documents be executed as it pertained to the grants, and approving financing not to exceed \$8.5 million for the construction of the emergency services facilities.

Back in February 2020, the Board of Commissioners agreed to pursue an option for a new Sampson County Emergency Management Services facility that will cost an estimated

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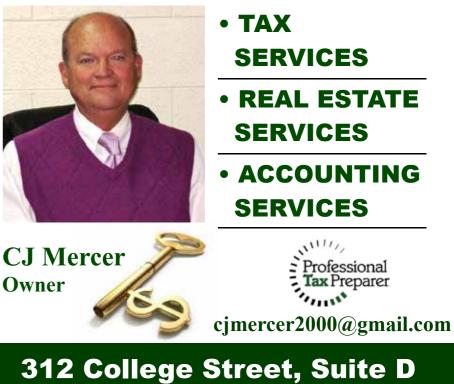


This is Gracie, a 1 year old cat. Can you be her "furever" family?



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

## **MERCER BUSINESS SERVICES**



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# - LOCAL NEWS -

# **DAR Recognizes Brave First Responders**

The Richard Clinton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented cookies and certificates to First Responders on their Day of Service. Pictured is Emergency Management Service, Clinton Police Department, Newton Grove Police Department, Roseboro Fire Department, Sampson County Sheriff's Office and the NC Highway Patrol (not pictured). The group stated, "We appreciate out First Responders and want to shoe our appreciation for their brave work to keep our community safe."



Joan Carr of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Richard Clinton Chapter, presents a certificate of recognition to the Sampson County Sheriff's Department and Sheriff Jimmy Thornton.

## **Register of Deeds Offfice Offers New Notification Service**

Sampson County Register of Deeds, Graham F. Butler is pleased to announce a new service provided free of charge by his office to citizens and real property owners in Sampson County. This new service is called "Property Notification" and is a website that will send an e-mail to registered users when a name that they have registered appears on a document presented for recording in his office.

The site allows citizens to register their names and be notified by e-mail whenever any document is filed in the o¬ffice with that name. In addition, it allows people to keep an eye out for family members and receive notification if any documents are filed with their names. The e-mail that is sent when there is a name match will contain the name matched, date of filing, and the book and page reference. A link will also be provided to the image of the document on the Sampson County Register of Deeds land record search site.

"We are pleased to offer this service free of charge to those impacted by documents filed in our offi-ce. The Register of Deeds office is required to file all documents that meet statutory requirements for recording. While we have had very little fraudulent activity in Sampson County, I understand that fraudulent activity in land record lings is on the rise in North Carolina and across the nation. We hope that this new service will act as a deterrent to fraudulent activity in Sampson County. If there is a fraudulent or otherwise inappropriate filing in our offi¬ce, we hope that this timely notice to registered users will allow that fraud to be addressed quickly to mitigate any damages."



Betty B. Packard, a member of the Richard Clinton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the Sampson County Emergency Management team a certificate and cookies for their service to the community.



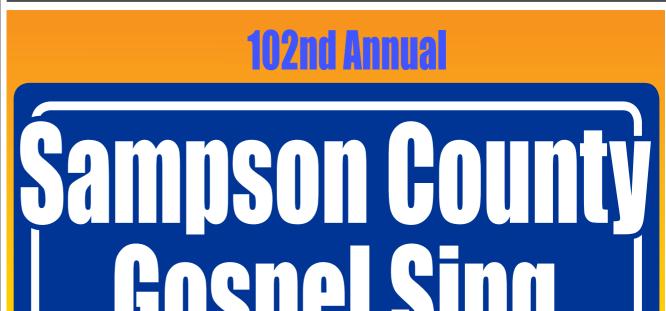
Gail McClanahan presents certificate of recognition and cookies to the Clinton Police Department. Pictured (L-R): Gil McClanhtan, Lt. S. McKoy, Assistant Chief A. Davis, Lt. R. King



The Richard Clinton Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented cookies and a certificate of appreciation to the Newton Grove Police Department for their service. Pictured is officer Brent Hall.



Cheryle Griffin of the Daughters of the American Revolution presents cookies and a certificate of recognition to the Roseboro Fire Department. Pictured (L-R) Bobby Herring, Cheryle Griffin



There are links to the new Property Notification site on the Register of Deeds land record search site https://www.sampsonrod.org/.

To find out more about the Sampson County Register of Deeds, go to "sampsonrod.org" or call 910-592-8026.

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# **FACEBOOKLIVE**

# Sat, September 26th, 2020

# Live starts at 5:00 PM



(Memorial Service / Sampson County Gospel Music Hall Of Fame Awards)



## **SCHEDULE OF SINGERS TO APPEAR**

The Dixie Travelers The ViewMasters Carolina Tradition Classic Gospel Group Kingsway Quartet New Bethel Quartet Marksmen Quartet His Voice Prayer & Closing

For More Info. Contact: Robin Owen 910-742-8023



### SING, cont. from P. 1

The event is scheduled for this Saturday September 26th at 5pm.

The Annual Sampson County Gospel Sing (formerly known as the W. F. "Fleet" Sessoms Memorial Sing) always takes place the 4th Saturday in September of each year. It has been held at the Clinton Family Worship Center, 103 Raiford Street in Clinton, NC for the past several years, but is ONLINE ONLY this year due to the pandemic and for the safety of singers, directors, and audience. There is no charge to participate and is FREE and open to the public.

According to event coordinator Robin Owen, "We will only be Live Streaming it to our Facebook page this year and no in person audience. We want to keep everyone safe but still get to listen to the sing that everyone looks forward to every year."

The Gospel sing will be easy to access. Simply go on the Sampson County Gospel Sing's Facebook page on Saturday September 26 at 5pm. The address is http://www.facebook.com/sampsoncountygospelsing. From there, a post will be made for you to view the event in the comfort and safety of your own home.

Event coordinators felt like it was crucial to continue the tradition of the Gospel Sing this year now more than ever. Owens stated, "With all the Pandemic going on today in this world and all the chaos in the world, it's good to have some normalcy and continue the tradition that has gone on for over a century."

This year's line-up of singers consists of: The Dixie Travelers, The ViewMasters, the Carolina Tradition Classic Gospel Group, Kingsway Quartet, New Bethel Quarter, Marksmen Quartet, and His Voice.

Continuing the tradition, there will also be a Memorial Service and the Sampson County Gospel Music Hall of Fame Awards.

### History of the Gospel Sing

The first sing was held in 1915 in the Baptist Church in Clinton, NC. The originator of this sing was the late W.F. Sessoms. Mr. Sessoms issued invitations to several choirs which accepted and thus the first sing took place. The next year an invitation from the Methodist Church in Clinton was accepted. By this time, the interest was so great; the church could not accommodate the crowds. By the third year on April 17th, the sing was moved to the Sampson County Court House. It was then known as the Sampson County Court House Sing, until the death of Mr. Sessoms on April 20th, 1950.

The courthouse was the meeting place of the sing, except for one year, which was1940. It was moved to the community building due to renovations of the courthouse that year. On his death bed, Mr. Sessoms had requested the sing be continued through the years. Thus, it was agreed to do so and a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and ten directors were appointed.

On the 8th day of February 1960, the "The W.F. Sessoms Memorial Sing" was incorporated in honor of Mr. Sessoms. Many people new it as "The Fleet Sessoms Sing"

By the late 1960's the sing had outgrown the courthouse and was moved to a much larger building, the Fellowship Tabernacle in Roseboro, NC. It continued to meet at this location until 1967 and 1968, when it was held at the Roseboro-Salemburg gymnasium. In 1969, it was moved back to the Sampson County Courthouse.

The 53rd annual sing was held at the Clinton High School Auditorium. It continued to meet at this location until 1974. Due to hot weather and lack of air conditioning in the auditorium, the sing moved to the new North Carolina Justice Academy Campus (The Old Pineland College/Then Southwood College Campus). The sing was very successful with outdoor singing and large crowds attending; however, due to hot weather and severe thunderstorms that seem to occur each year, the sing was later moved to the auditorium on the campus where it remained until 2002. After the 85th annual sing, the board of directors met and voted to move the sing back to it's hometown of Clinton, NC this being more centrally located. It was to be held at the Clinton Sampson Agri-Civic Center on 414 Warsaw Road. The facility would be larger, the groups would have a place to set up a display of their recordings inside the foyer and there would be access to a kitchen facility for the availability of light food and refreshments. The civic center would also have a better parking facility, with handicap accessibility. It was also voted on and agreed to change from a two day event to a one day event with the sing being held on the 4th Saturday in September each year.

From the first sing in 1915 known as the Sampson County Courthouse Sing to The W.F.Sessoms Memorial Sing Inc.or as many called it the Fleet Sessoms sing, to The Sampson County Gospel Sing Inc. it has been a long journey encompassing a lot of people and fond memories.

We invite you to come out on Saturday September 25th this year and be a part of Gospel Music History. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the singing and great Christian fellowship and remember our goal is to share the gospel with you through southern gospel music. We pray that this sing will continue to be a blessing to everyone, for many years to come. Let's keep Mr. Sessom's dream alive !!

For more information on the 102nd Annual Sampson County Gospel Sing, contact Robin Owen at (910)742-8023.



### CRIME REPORTS

09-14 Glenwood earl Owens, 26, Knight-Felony Probation Violation. Bond dale. \$2500. Trial Date 10-05-20

09-15 Eric Jonathan Wallace, 51, Clinton. Fail to Comply with Monies. Bond \$365. Trial Date 10-01-20

09-15 Karlos Vantrice Caldwell, 33, Fayetteville. DWLR Impaired Rev, Hit/Run Leave Scene Property Damage, Drive Left of Center, Reckless Driving to Endanger. Bond \$500. Trial Date 11-18-20

09-15 Henry Davis Tatum, 68, Rose Hill. Second Degree Trespassing. Trial Date 11-10-20

09-15 Janet Denise Tatum Jones, 64, Rose Hill. Second Degree Trespassing. Trial Date 11-10-20

09-17 Joe Efrain Medina, 32, Clinton. OFA-FTC Child Support. Bond \$500. Trial Date 09-22 - 20

09-17 Louciano Alexander Ramos, 21, Clinton. Simple Possession Sch VI CS, Possess Drug Paraphernalia, Reckless Driving, Speeding. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-29-20

09-17 Cynthia Lynn Cafaro, 34, Clinton. Possess Meth. Bond \$10000. Trial Date 10-05-20 09-17 George Alexus Castillo, 24, Warsaw. Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property.

09-17 Michael Lyn Maldonado, 43, Clinton. Trespass. Trial Date 10-20-20

09-17 Russell Arthur Davis, 27, Clinton. Possession of Firearm by Convicted Felon, Possess Meth, Simple Possess Sch VI, Possess Drug Bond Paraphernalia, Expired Registration. \$10500. Trial Date 09-18-20

Misdemeanor Child Abuse. Bond \$3500. Trial Date 11-19-20

09-20 Rufus Kevin Carter, 52, Clinton. Second Degree Trespass. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-20 Emily Marie Peterson, 25, Garland. Possess Marijuana up to 1/20z, Second Degree Trespass, Simple Possession Sch III CS. Bond \$5000. Trial Date 11-20-20

09-20 Daniel Lynn Darden, 35, Clinton. Driving While Impaired, Communicating Threats. Bond \$6000. Trial Date 11-10-20

09-18 Clifton Dontral Killett, 42, Clinton. Communicating Threats. Trial Date 11-17-20

09-18 Sebastian Sainvil, 29, Clinton. Domestic Assault on a Female, Damage to Property. Trial Date 10-27-20

09-18 Dallas Ray Player Jr, 30, Warsaw. Possess

## CRIME

Marijuana, Possess Drug Paraphernalia Trial Date 12-14-20

09-21 Timothy Devon Morris, 51, Char-Breaking and Entering Business lotte. Stolen Property Offenses, Possession of Burglary Tools, Trespass of Real Property, Damage to Property. Bond \$10000. Trial Date 10-02-20

09-22 Chaz Author Owens, 27, Salemburg. ODA Fail to Comply. Bond \$365. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-22 Harry Nelson Parker, 48, Clinton. Sell Schedule II Percocet, Deliver Schedule II Percocet, PWISD Schedule II Percocet.

Bond \$100000. Trial Date 10-02-20 09-22 Jamarian Hyleem Smith, 21, Clinton

Damage to Property. Trial Date 10-20-20 09-22 Chaz Author Owens, 27, Salemburg

09-15 Phillip Jay Horrell, 41, Wallace. Simple Worthless Checks. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-20-20

09-15 Maria Darden Hicks, 37, Roseboro. Possession of Meth. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 10-02-20

09-15 Jeffrey Beatty, 31, Harrells. Order for Arrest- Failure to Appear, Possess Meth, Possess Paraphernalia. Bond \$6000. Trial Date 09-21-20

09-15 Wilbur Eugene Carroll, 44, Clinton. Possess Stolen Goods/Property, Obtain Property False Pretense. Bond \$7500. Trial Date 09-22-20

09-15 Franchesca Dominque Fennell, 22, Warsaw. Simple Assault, False Report to a Police Station, Resisting Public Officer. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 12-16-20

09-15 Brianna Noelle Gaster, 25, Clinton. OFA- Fail to Comply w/monies. Bond \$265. Trial Date 09-17-20

09-15 Dustin Allen Staton, 27, Clinton. OFA- FTA Second Degree Trespass, OFA-Fail to Comply Misdemeanor Larceny, Resisting Public Officer, PFA-FTA Fail to Wear Seatbelt driver/DWLR, OFA- FTA Expired Reg/No Operators Insurance, OFA-FTA DR/ Allow Reg Plate Not Display. Bond \$3000. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-16 Kenneth Lee Davis Jr, 27, Roseboro. Misdemeanor Probation Violation. Bond \$500. Trial Date 09-30-20

09-16 Christopher Geraldo Johnson, 38. Garland. OFA-FTC Child Support. Bond \$400.

09-16 James Dexter Barrett, 57, Harrells. Order for Arrest. Bond \$20000. Trial Date 10-07-20

09-16 Adlenia Loraine Merinord, 34, Rae-Speeding 84/55, DWLR. Trial Date ford. 10-19-20

09-16 Jeffery Thomas Long, 37, Clinton. Possession of Firearm by Convicted Felon. 09-16 Carlos Roberto Pagoada, 49, Roseboro. NOL. Trial Date 10-19-20

09-16 Juan Alfredo Hernandez-Mote, 31, Wallace. Speeding 73/55, Possess Meth, Possess Drug Paraphernalia not for Marijuana, No Operators License, Window Tint Violation. Bond \$3000. Trial Date 10-16-20 09-17 Rex Antonio Butler, 46, Roseboro. Fondling. Trial Date 09-18-20

09-17 Joe Efrain Medina, 32, Clinton. Burglary/Breaking & Entering, Larceny after Break/Enter, Poss Stolen Goods/Property. Bond \$75000. Trial Date 09-18-20

09-17 Franckie Ismael Inestroza Morales, 26, Clinton. Speeding 76mph/55mph. Trial Date 12-14-20

09-18 Russell Monsivais, 27, Roseboro. Harassing Phone Calls, Second Degree Trespassing. Bond \$1500. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-18 Hasani Monroe, 25, Fayetteville. Felony Possession of Cocaine. Bond 42500. Trial Date 09-18-02

09-18 Derrick Antonio Chestnutt, 33, Harrells. Order for Arrest. Bond \$4024.95. Trial Date 09 - 22 - 20

09-18 Sean Tyrone Walton, 32, Fayetteville. Possess MDMA, Possess Marijuana, Possess Paraphernalia, CCW. Bond \$10000. Trial Date 11-13-20

09-18 Latisha Shata Allen, 34, Roseboro. Communicating Threats. Bond \$1500. Trial Date 11-09-20

09-18 Jeremy Alexander Holmes, 28, Rose Hill. Child Support. Bond \$350.

09-18 Micah Shawn Ledford, 27, Clinton. Consp B&E Bldg-Felony Larceny, Breaking and/ or Entering, Larceny after Break/Enter, Öbtain Property by False Pretense, Uttering Forged Instruments. Bond \$15000. Trial Date 11-17-20 09-18 Ralph Wallace, 59, Mount Olive. Fail to Comply. Bond \$1452. Trial Date 11-12-20 09-18 Gary Lamar Arnold, 36, Mount Olive.

Possession Marijuana >1/2 oz, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Possess Open Container of Alcoholic Beverage in Passenger Area. Trial Date 11-16-20

09-18 Michael Ray Jones, 32, Clinton. OFA-Felony Probation Violation. Bond \$20000. Trial Date 10-28-20

09-19 Roger Vance Vinson, 62, Roseboro. Expired/Ni Inspection, DWLR Impaired Rev, Fict/ Alt Title/Reg Card/Tag, Operate Veh No Insurance. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-29-20

09-19 Tony LaNaire Croom, 37, Wilmington. Warrant Service for Other Agency. Trial Date 09-29-20

09-19 John Austin Carter, 27, Clinton. PWISD Heroin, Possession of Schedule IV CS, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond \$7500. Trial Date 10-02

09-19 Kitina Celesse Terry, 55, Clinton. Failure to Comply. Bond \$330. Trial Date 10-28-20

09-19 Dale Melvin, 66, Roseboro. FTA-FIct/ Alt Title/Reg Card, No Liability Insurance, DWLR Not Impaired Rev, Speeding, FTA- No Liability Insurance, FTA-DWLR Not Impaired Rev, FTA-Speeding. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-19 Arnold Yari Fernandez, 27, Dunn. Child Support, Assault on a Female, False Imprisonment. Bond \$1500. Trial Date 09-25-20

09-19 Crystal Noemy Balderas Baena, 20, Clinton. Resisting Public Officer, Insurance Violation. Bond \$7500. Trial Date 11-16-20

09-20 Autumn Josephine Turner, 27, Garland.

Marijuana. Trial Date 11-09-20

09-18 Dancy Ulysses Chestnutt III, 28, Newton Grove. Possess Marijuana. Trial Date 11-09-20 09-19 Bud Christopher Lewis, 55, Clinton. Misdemeanor Larceny.

09-19 Michael Datrone Zimmerman, 34, Raleigh. OFA/FTA NOL and Expired Registration. Bond \$31000. Trial Date 10-15-20

09-19 Melissa Kay Bradsher, 44, Clinton. Larceny from a Merchant. Bond \$7500. Trial Date 10-02-20

09-19 Sarah Desha Mishoe, 40, Clinton. Larceny from a Merchant. Bond \$7500. Trial Date 10-02-20

09-19 Julian Wilson Bradsher, 45, Clinton. (OFA) Assault on a Female. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 10-15-20

09-20 Jabreia Yaneke Whitted, 25, Clinton. Shoplifting. Trial Date 01-08-20

09-20 Dylen Dupree Outlaw, 21, Clinton. Possess Adderall, Intimidation, Theft from Motor Vehicle, Resisting Public Officer. Bond \$15000. Trial Date 10-27-20

09-21 Sara faith Davis, 19, Garland. OFA- Simple Possess Sch IV CS. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 10-13-20

09-21 Leslie Ruth Ann Batts, 39, Clinton. Misdemeanor Larceny. Bond \$500. Trial Date 12-14-20

09-21 Francisco Gonzalez Rivera, 22, Clinton. Hit / Run Fail stop Property Damage, No Operators License, Simple Possession of Marijuana, Reckless Driving to Endanger, Child Restraint. Bond \$6000. Trial Date 11-16-20

09-21 Roger Utterback, 26, Huntsville. Poss Firearm by Felon, Larceny of a Firearm, Possess Stolen Firearm. Trial Date 09-21-20

09-21 Xavier Edison Moore, 35, Clinton. Assault on a Femail. Trial Date 12-07-20

09-21 Robert Jame Reynolds, 51, Whiteville. DWLR Not Impaired, Fict/ Alt Title/Reg Card/ Tag. Trial Date 11-17-20

09-21 Michael Anthony Simpson, 48, Roseboro. Assault by Stangulation. Trial Date 10-16-20

Stevie Yarnell Williams, 45, Turkey. 09-21 DWLR Not Impaired. Trial Date 11-17-20

09-21 Roman Martise Singleton, 19, Newton Grove. No Operators License, Expired Registration Card/Tag. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 10-13-20 09-21 Howard Lee Carroll, 40, Garland. Aggravated Assault. Bond \$500. Trial Date 09-16-20 09-21 Dewey Lee Smith, 39, Fayetteville. Simple Assault, Burglary/Breaking & Entering. Bond \$500. Trial Date 11-23-20

09-21 Erik Manuel Nieves, 26, Clinton. (OFA) DWLR Impaired Driving, (OFA) Expired Registration Card/Tag. Bond \$500. Trial Date 11-07-20

09-21 Joshua Isaiah Hobbs, 20, Clinton. Possess

OFA fail to Comply. Bond \$365. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-22 John Christopher Merritt, 27, Clinton. OFA Obtain Property False Pretense

Bond \$10000. Trial Date 10-02-20

09-22 Byron Scott Brewer, 25, Clinton.

Possess Meth, Possess Drug Paraphernalia.

Bond \$2000. Trial Date 10-02-20

09-22 Keeshond Rasheen Maleek Melvin,

26, Kenansville. Misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana, Driving While License Re-

voked. Trial Date 11-09-20

09-22 Javen Malike Hobbs, 19, Clinton.

OFA Speeding, OFA No Operators License.

Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-22 Ronald Glen Yarboro, 52, Dunn. As-

sault on a Female. Trial Date 10-20-20 09-22 Priscilla Mae Cowan, 60, Clinton.

FTA. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-12-20

09-22 Danny Martin Gregory, 47, Dunn. Obtain Property False Pretense, Larceny,

Poss Stolen Goods/Property. Bond \$6000.

Trial Date 10-13-20

09-22 Mark Eugene Stennis, 33, Roseboro. Breaking and Entering, Larceny after Break/Enter. Bond \$25000. Trial Date 10-16-20

09-22 Deyonte Montell Galloway, 22, Raleigh. OFA/fail to Comply. Bond \$365. Trial Date 10-19-20

09-22 Cassandra Denise Mitchell, 32, Clinton. Communicating Threats. Bond \$500. Trial Date 11-19-20

09-22 Christopher Junnior McLean, 36,

Dunn. All Other Offenses.

09-23 Kierra Ariel Pegues, 21, Clinton. Simple Assault. Trial Date 10-27-20

09-23 Wendy Hollowell Miller, 38, Rose-

boro. Cruelty to Animals. Trial Date 10-20-20

09-23 Jason V Hodge, 43, Garland. Order for Arrest- Fail to Appear Release Order, Oder for Arrest- fail to Appear Summons/ Citation, Located Wanted Person. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 11-17-20

09-23 Thomas Jene Pegues, 42, Clinton.

Simple Assault. Trial Date 10-27-20 09-23 Kenyotta Michella Warren, 28, Clin-

ton. Order for Arrest- FTA. Bond \$500.

Trial Date 11-20-20

09-23 Ethan Groves, 54, Clinton. Commu-

nicating Threats. Trial Date 10-20-20

09-23 Anna Belle Rogers, 24, Newton Grove. OFA-FTA. Bond \$500. Trial Date 10-19-20

09-23 Erick Turron Oates, 49, Newton Sell Schedule II, Deliver Sched-Grove. ule II, PWISD Schedule II. Bond \$100000. Trial Date 10-16-20

## **EDUCATION** -

## **BAS Students Recognized**



Butler Avenue School is celebrating students who turned in a summer reading log for 2020. Top row: Aiden Peterson, Anna Parker Andrews. Annalee Alderman, Jamie Claire Anderson, Graham Matthews, Hayden Jackson, Gunner Jackson, Second row: Brooklyn Tew, David Arcos, Channing Smith, Elizabeth Hales, Chloe Brewington, Brookelyn Griffin, Bayleigh Tew, Third row: Rachel Taylor, Ashley Velazquez, Avett Bell, Ensley Johnson, Holly Honeycutt, Logan Wheeler, Kenner Lane, Bottom row: Cienna Catlett, Evan Catlett, Reese Naylor, Summer Cader, Will Freeman, Payton Tyndall, Malachi Hart, Not Pictured: Khloe Deetz, Eva Singley, Teanna Williams

## **UMO Student Brands Outdoor Gear**



Frank Howard admits that he is just a "Good Ole Boy." The Galivants Ferry, South Carolina native loves to catfish and duck hunt. In fact, it is his passion for the outdoors that led Howard to pursue a degree in environmental and natural resources at the University of Mount Olive (UMO) in the hope of one day becoming a federal game warden. However, a recent venture may have this sophomore heading in a more entrepreneurial direction.

Growing up, Howard spent countless hours on the Waccamaw River catching "mudcats." Using a method called limb line fishing, he connected his handmade bush hooks, bait, and a pool noodle to a limb using braided nylon line. Scattered up and down the river, he alternated between setting and checking

the lines. According to Howard, who has his own commercial fishing license, he caught as much as 150 pounds of catfish during a single weekend.

His handmade bush hooks became so popular that he began to sell them on Instagram and Facebook. At one time, he was tying an average of 300 hooks per week. "People liked my hooks and they were really selling, but it was hard work, and the pay was not that great," Howard said.

Someone told Howard that he should brand his hooks, so he started calling them "Good Ole Boys." He had 60 hats made up using the brand and the image of a catfish underneath. "They sold like hotcakes," he said. He bought 60 more, and thus his new business venture took root.

The first retailer to carry Howard's hats was Wolpert's Department Store in Loris, SC. "I was wearing my fishing clothes and one of my hats when I met with the manager," Howard said.



## **Butler Avenue School Student of the Month**



Grace Arneach, I'Dria Barren, David Bartyenyev, Avett Bell, Samuel Birtch, Khloie Bryant, Zy'Kwon Eason, Malachi Graham, Jeremy Guerrero, Elizabeth Hales, Karson Hall, Sa'Kari Herring, Emily Isaula Robles, Jose Meza, Roger Meza, Kiara Meza Romero, Noah Palmer, Dominic Quintero Gomez, Adonai Robinson, Reid Royal, Hadasa Sanchez, Jaylah Sanchez, Eva Singley, Luecinda Turk, Zury Vasquez Lopez, Kilee Wallace, and Aralyn Wynn.

"He told me he would take eight dozen hats. I didn't have that many with me, but I brought them back a few days later."

Howard now has his own website and a catalogue coming out this fall with a new line of merchandise including hats, hoodies, shirts, and a one-of-a-kind hunting jacket. His hats have catfish, duck dogs, tobacco leaves, and many more popular symbols above the catchy slogan. He has even expanded his brand to include "Good Ole Girls" products as well. "I have merchandise in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, and Louisiana," he said.

At school in Mount Olive, Howard focuses on his studies during the day. At night, he makes calls to his embroider, checks his social media pages, and solicits other retail vendors. When he's back in Galivants Ferry, South Carolina, a 102 mile drive from UMO, Howard fills orders from his grandparents' garage. "I pack and ship every hat myself," he said.



These days, there is little time for hunting and fishing for Howard, but with the taste of business success, he hopes his LLC will one day grow to the point that he can focus on the very hobbies that got him started.

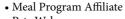


## Clinton Crossing - 910.590.2500 111 Royal Lane, Clinton NC 6 🗇

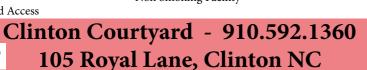
- One-Bedroom Apartment Homes
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    - On-site Service Coordinator



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## 6 www.thesampsonweekly.com

## Week of September 25-October 1, 2020

## FAITH

# **Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus**

turnyour eyes upon Jesus look bull in his wonderbul bace And the things ob earth will grow strangely dim in the light obhis glory and grace

The Fruit of the Holy Spirit is: Love- Joy - Peace Patience - Kindness - Goodness Faithfulness - Gentleness and Self Control. Galatians 5:22-23

The Holy Spirit works in us to produce fruit as we fix our eyes on Jesus, fully rely on Him, and genuinely live for Him. I love to use this beloved old hymn, it puts my teaching of the Fruit of the Spirit in perspective:

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" Oh soul are you weary and troubled No light in the darkness you see? There's light for a look at the Savior And life more abundant and free!

Chorus: Turn your eyes upon Jesus Look full on His wonderful face, And the things of earth Will grow strangely dim, In the light of His glory and grace.

Through death into life everlasting He passed, and we follow Him there; Over us sin no more hath dominion For more than conquerors we are!

His Word will not fail you He promised Believe Him, and all will be well; Then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell!



In the words of Dr. Charles Stanley: "Every now and then we do well to take stock of our situation, so I'd like to ask you to look around. What's happening in your life and in the life of your family?"

"You may not be experiencing a difficult time. From your perspective, everything may seem sunny and clear. Storms do come, however. At times, they roll over our lives with bounding blows. How do we maintain a sense of peace and spiritual balance when trials strike?"

"The answer is found in a close, abiding relationship with Jesus Christ. The words of Helen Lemmel's classic hymn written in 1922, "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" contain a vital and exciting truth: an unshakable peace is available to all who turn the eyes of their hearts to Jesus."

"Chances are that when adversity strikes, one of the first things you do is to wonder why. Then you may question what kind of impact it will have on your life. While reactions such as these are normal, we also need another response, and that is to turn to the One who holds all comfort and security firmly within His grasp. No one, outside of God, is equipped to handle our problems. He never meant for us to be strong on our own. Our loving Heavenly Father wants us to find courage and hope and strength in Him and His Word." Dr. Charles Stanley

When you accept life as a gift from the hand of God through Jesus death on the cross, you will desire to do what this hymn says – turn your eyes toward Jesus.

You will look full into His glorious face and there you will find salvation through His mercy and grace. The Fruit of the Holy Spirit will flood your life with Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control AND everlasting security. Keep your eyes focused on the promise of Christ's return. Live with expectancy. Above all, always be faithful to share this Gospel with others as you "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus".



Martha M. Pierce

# We Are Proud To Support Our First Responders. Thank You For Your Bravery and Your Service!

Our Fire Departments- Autryville Fire Department,



Clement Fire Department, Clinton Fire Department, Faison

Fire Department, Garland Fire Department, Godwin-Falcon Fire Department, Halls Fire Department, Harrells Fire Department, Harrells 1-A Fire Department, Herring Fire Department, Newton Grove Fire Department, Piney Grove Fire Department, Plain View Fire Department, Roseboro Fire Department, Salemburg Fire Department, spivery's Corner Fire Department, Taylors Bridge Fire Department, Turkey Fire Department, Vanns Crossroads Fire Department

Our Law Enforcement- NC Highway Patrol, Sampson County Sheriff's Office, Clinton Police Department, Newton Grove Police Department

Our Health Care Providers, Sampson Regional Medical Center, and Emergency Medical Services



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# **Sharing SONSHINE Across the County**



*Ms. Katelyn helps MacKenna and Courtney make Sonshine cards* 



Sonshine Kids volunteer at last week's Helping Hands outreach to help feed and honor our Law Enforcement



By God's Grace, we have entered a new season with blessings and burdens abound. As Autumn settles across Sampson - the place we love calling home - signs of change create anticipation along with anxiety among His children who pull on sweatshirts, push back AC's and plans for family gatherings and harvest festivals. Pondering what will happen across America in this season of political and Pandemic unrest consumes, with people seeking answers to please God ...snuffing out gloom and doom. How are you and your family pressing forth in this season, like none we've ever seen? Plentiful blessings with pitiful scandals can be found throughout our land. Scratching our heads, the season of falling away from God is hard to understand. While we stand strong in faith, horrible happenings make our hearts break!

In this season, when 'what is right seems wrong and what is wrong seems right', we must stay prayed up, put on the armor of God, and share the love of Jesus ...with all our might!

May the pictures on this page lift your spirits in this season of change when we can all come closer to Christ if we put our trust in Him! Sharing how Tim's Gift Sonshine Kids are sowing seeds of love and joy is our humble way of thanking our good, good Father for providing and protecting us every day. We were thrilled to take part in Helping Hands local mission project to show support for those who risk their lives to keep us safe.

By God's grace, we the people of Sampson County, Clinton City, and beyond can proudly stand for what is right in God's sight, unite in love, fight the good fight, and show we are Christian Strong!

The new season is here...let's give God's way and Word a cheer with faith shining and no reason to fuss. By God's Grace.. May we all FALL for JESUS...HE NEVER LEAVES US!

In His love, Becky



# tim'sulf I,inc

## COME CELEBRATE OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY!! THE HOPE PROJECT GOLF TOURNAMENT PLEASE JOIN US AT COHARIE COUNTRY CLUB!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020

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We respectfully ask you to help us by sponsoring and playing in this year's golf tournament. All proceeds go to The Hope Project to help people in need. In 2019, more than 1300 people walked through Tim's Gift doors for help, hope and prayer. More than 50 families battling cancer and other medical situations received financial assistance.

could be one!!!



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assistance. Tim's Gift has been a mighty

in any way possible." Dwanda Jackson



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Sonshine Kids remember loved ones gone to Heaven!



Sonshine visits to local rest homes-sharing Happy Meals is one of our favorite things!



Daily Active Learning after all school work is done!

# **ACC THIS WEEK**

## GAME OF THE WEEK FLORIDA STATE AT MIAMI

When: 7:30 p.m., Saturday When: Hard Rock Stadium, Miami Gardens, Fla. TV: ABC



Miami's D'Eriq King threw for 325 yards and three scores in a 47-34 win over Louisville. JAMIE RHODES/ACC POOL

## **Balanced Miami rolling into rivalry**

### **Keys for Florida State**

Support the quarterback: FSU junior quarterback James Blackman needs to play better. But unless he suddenly develops into a Heisman Trophy talent, or the Seminoles make a change at quarterback, the guy needs those around him to step up their game for FSU to have a chance to end a three-game losing streak against the Hurricanes.

Too many dropped passes and running backs missing holes doomed Florida State against Georgia Tech. It didn't help when four of the five offensive linemen went out with injuries as well.

Keep the turnovers/blocks coming: Florida State's defense and special teams did their part in the loss against Georgia Tech by creating two turnovers and blocking three kicks. Keep making those

### **BEST OF THE REST**

## Louisville at Pittsburgh

When: Noon, Saturday Where: Heinz Field in Pittsburgh, Pa. TV: ACC Network Notes: A Pitt defense that ranks among the national top 10 in nearly every statistical category will be challenged by a Louisville offense featuring an explosive receiving corps, a dual-threat guarterback in Micale Cunningham and one of the nation's most productive rushers in Javian Hawkins.

kind of plays against Miami and something good is bound to happen for FSU.

### **Keys for Miami**

Maintain offensive balance: The Hurricanes beat UAB in their opener by hammering the Blazers for 337 yards and three touchdowns on the ground. They knocked off Louisville last week behind the passing arm of quarterback D'Eriq King, who threw for 325 yards and three touchdowns, and a nine-carry, 134-yard, onetouchdown rushing effort by Cam'Ron Harris.

If the Hurricane offense can come close to displaying the kind of balance produced in the first two games they'll be hard to stop.

Don't look past FSU: Yes, it sounds a bit crazy that Miami might overlook one of its

**Duke at Virginia** 

When: 4 p.m., Saturday

Where: Scott Stadium.

Charlottesville, Va.

TV: ACC Network

archrivals. But an impressive 2-0 start this season, a three-game winning streak against the Seminoles and a major Atlantic Coast Conference matchup looming Oct. 3 at No. 1-ranked Clemson are potential distractions for a program still trying to reestablish its national reputation.

### Prediction

Miami 38, Florida State 21: The Seminoles will be without firstyear head coach Mike Norvell, who tested positive for COVID-19 earlier in the week. But it won't be Norvell's absence that leads to FSU's defeat.

Rather, it will be the Seminoles' continued struggles on an offense that simply won't be able to match an explosive Miami unit over four quarters in the 65th playing of this heated rivalry.

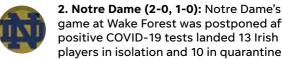
## N.C. State at Virginia Tech

When: 8 p.m. Saturday Where: Lane Stadium, Blacksburg, Va. TV: ACC Network Notes: A COVID-19 cluster at N.C. State caused this game to be rescheduled from Sept. 12. The Ho-

### **POWER RANKINGS**



1. Clemson (2-0, 1-0 ACC): Of the 120 players on the Clemson roster, 111 have never experienced a home defeat in their Clemson careers. It won't happen this week.



game at Wake Forest was postponed after positive COVID-19 tests landed 13 Irish players in isolation and 10 in guarantine.

3. North Carolina (1-0, 1-0): Last week's game against Charlotte was canceled. Coach Mack Brown's team will have three weeks off before resuming play.



4. Miami (2-0, 1-0): Is this the Miami of old? The Hurricanes certainly looked the part at Louisville where D'Eriq King tossed Miami to a 47-34 victory.

5. Pitt (2-0, 1-0): Did you know that Pitt has 25 wins in ACC play since 2015, the third-highest win total during that span, trailing only Clemson (39) and Miami (26)?



6. Louisville (1-1, 0-1): Louisville quarterback Micale Cunningham and running back Javian Hawkins continue to be two of the biggest gamebreakers in the league.



7. Virginia Tech (0-0, 0-0): The Hokies have yet to play a game, and coach Justin Fuente has questioned whether his team will have enough players available again.

8. N.C. State (1-0, 1-0): Hockman for Heisman? Probably not, but Wolfpack fans had to like what they saw from surprise starting quarterback Bailey Hockman.



9. Boston College (1-0, 1-0): The Eagles dominated Duke last week and may have found their quarterback of the future in sophomore Phil Jurkovec.



10. Virginia (0-0, 0-0): After an extended wait, Cavaliers fans get their first look at life after Bryce Perkins this week against the Blue Devils.

11. Georgia Tech (1-1, 1-0): After opening the season with a win, the Yellow Jackets came crashing back to earth with a 28point home loss vs. Central Florida.



12. Florida State (0-1, 0-1): The Seminoles are struggling and coach Mike Norvell isn't feeling great himself; he was diagnosed with COVID-19 over the weekend.



13. Wake Forest (0-2, 0-2): Wake Forest had a three-game winning streak against N.C. State snapped, falling 45-42, and now there's no time to languish.



14. Duke (0-2, 0-2): After a strong performance in a losing effort at Notre Dame in their opener, the Blue Devils imploded against Boston College last week.



15. Syracuse (0-2, 0-2): Syracuse's grip on the bottom spot in the ACC could be in jeopardy with Georgia Tech and Duke rolling into town the next couple of weeks.

## **PLAYER TO WATCH**

Rashad Weaver

**Defensive end, Pitt** 

the series. Duke will need to take better care of the football to break into the win column after committing five turnovers in last week's loss against Boston College.

Notes: These rivals are meeting

Virginia holding a 38-33 edge in

for the 58th straight year with

kies also had their second game postponed two weeks against rival Virginia due to a COVID outbreak. Hopefully, the third time is the charm for Tech.

**Rashad Weaver chases** Syracuse QB Tommy **DeVito.** USA TODAY SPORTS The senior was named Walter Camp National Defensive Player of the Week after making seven tackles, three tackles for loss and two sacks vs. Syracuse. It was his first game since last year when a training camp knee injury ended his 2019 season. He sat out the 2020 opener due to COVID-19.

## **ACC LEADERS**



**Passing yards** Player Yds.

M. Cunningham, Lou .650	
J. Sims, GT521	
T. Lawrence, Clem519	
K. Pickett, Pitt492	
C. Brice, Duke476	



**Passing TDs Rushing yards** Player TDs Player Yds. M. Cunningham, Lou.....6 C. Harris, Mia. T. Lawrence, Clem......4 K. Williams, ND.....174 D. King, Mia... K. Pickett, Pitt .. T. Etienne, Clem. ......170 Two players tied ...... .....2 K. Walker, WF.....150



**Receiving yards** Player Yds. T. Atwell, Lou... ..192 D. Fitzpatrick, Lou. ......184 B. Jordan, Mia. .....171 J. Roberson, WF.....167 Z. Flowers, BC .....162

.268

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Scoring Player Pts. J. Borregales, Mia. ......24 B.T. Potter, Clem......19 J. Williams, UNC ......18 I. Book, ND... .....18 Three others tied......18

RO	UN	DI	NG	IT.	<b>OU1</b>	

#### Saturday (all times Eastern)

Time	Matchup	TV
Noon	Georgia Tech at Syracuse	ESPN3
6 p.m.	Texas State at Boston College	ESPN3

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## **MEET YOUR CANDIDATES**



# **Sampson County Register of Deeds**



**Graham "Freddie"** 



**Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education** the Great State of North Carolina. and your experience?

A-I am a lifelong resident of Sampson County. I am the son of the late Sheriff Graham Ruffus Butler and the late Dorothy Aylene Tart Butler. I have been happily married to Melody Lynn Butler for 40 years. I have one sister, Marcia Jackson who is married to John Jackson. I have one brother, Scott Butler who is married to Donna Butler. I graduated from Clinton High School in 1976. I then attended Sampson Community College studying Criminal Justice, preparing myself for a career in Law Enforcement. In 1986, 1987 and 1988 I served on the Board of Directors for the North Carolina Wildlife Federation. I have been a Mason at Hiram Lodge no. 98 since 1998. I have been a Sudan Shriner since 2004 and joined the Sudan Roadsters in 2012. Over the past 30 years, I have been directly involved in agriculture business as a partner in our area's pork production. Lynn and I attend First Baptist Church at 408 College Street where I have served as chairman of the deacons.

I have been dedicated and committed to a life of service to the citizens of North Carolina and wish to continue that commitment here in the county in which I was born and raised! I began my career in law enforcement in 1983 as a uniformed DMV process officer, then on to working with the Motor Carrier Division, a position I was known by most as "the weight man" because the job involved the weighing of trucks on the state's highways.

In 1992, I was promoted to the rank of Inspector in the "plain clothes division." This position involved investigating and making arrests for auto theft, driver license and identity theft, motor vehicle dealer violations as well as odometer and title fraud.

In April 1994, I was recognized by the State Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission with the Basic and Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate.

Throughout my career I received hundreds of hours of specialized training relating to criminal investigations. The last 10 years of my career I continued with all training requirements but also received countless hours of training relating specifically in the areas of supervision and management of personnel as well as the operations for all 100 counties of North Carolina. My 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of North Carolina is important to this position. I feel that successfully managing and supervising all operations and personnel of all 100 counties for the oldest Law Enforcement Agency at the State level, uniquely qualifies me for this position as Register of Deeds.

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A- I made a career in Law Enforcement and the last 10 years of that career was at the level of a Supervisory Position. I managed all the personnel in the 100 counties of the great State of North Carolina for the Department of Motor Vehicles. As the Deputy Director for the DMV, I worked with other agencies, departments and legislatures on a regular basis to solve problems that citizens are faced with daily. I managed personnel and the day to day operations to ensure that every concern was addressed in a legal and proper manner. As Register of Deeds, the position is of a much smaller scale territorial wise but just as important. There are interactions with Registrar's in every county across the state on a regular basis. The position of Registrar manages the operation of the office as well as its staff. I am blessed to have a very proficient and effective staff that works very hard each day to provide the best of service to each person who calls upon us for assistance with his or her particular need.

technologies that makes the services offered by our office more accessible and user friendly to the public. Upon taking on this responsibility, I wanted the staff to know that this was not just all about me but was all of us working together to provide the best possible service for the public. I wanted all the staff to know that their concerns are important to me and that decisions made would be through our discussions as a group. Communication is the key ingredient to being successful in any endeavor we take part in! One of the first discussions my staff and I had was that of the new phone system being installed I personally don't like the automated phone systems and after feedback from the staff, we all agreed and prefer the personal touch. When you call our office, you are going to speak to a person ready to assist you with your need. The only time you are going to receive a recorded response is if you phone us after 5 p.m. That recording will advise you of the times of operations and ask that you call us during those times. Speaking with everyone directly is the first of the many things we do each day to assist the public. In just recent days, we have made renovations to our office which will allow us to once again offer the purchase of marriage license. Anyone wishing to do so will need to visit my website at "sampsonrod. org" and follow the steps toward making your submission. Once you have completed and submitted your application, you can call my office at (910)592-8026, to set up your appointment. Also, in just the past few days, I have rolled out on my website a new service called, "Property Notification Security". All anyone will need to do is click on this link and follow the guide listing your name and email. If a document is presented for recording at my office, you will receive an email to alert you of this transaction. If you did not authorize the transaction, and the instrument is fraudulent, this site will afford you the opportunity to fix the problem as soon as possible. Just call my office and we will work with you to get your claims to the correct law enforcement agency for assistance in correcting the fraud. I am very pleased to inform you that this service is absolutely "FREE".

### Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- I have lived in Sampson County all my life and I have committed my life to one of service to the citizens of North Carolina. I wish to continue in the position I currently hold as Register of Deeds serving the citizens of Sampson County! The work is both rewarding and very satisfying knowing that I am continuing in preserving the history of our county but helping the citizens with their needs in the process! Since the COVID-19 outbreak, the office has been closed to the public, but my staff and I have worked every day to continue to provide service to our citizens, just in an altered fashion. The first day, I had a locking drop box installed in our foyer so that surveyors could drop their plats for recording, Attorneys could drop their deeds and other documents for recording, and the citizens across this county could drop their request for services needed whether it be Vital Records or Land recordings. I shared my drop box with the Tax office so that the citizenry would have a place to drop their tax notices since the Tax office is also closed to the public. I made services available online through my website, via FedEx, UPS, USPS and the phone system "Serving the Citizens of Sampson County is my No. 1 Goal!" So, on November 3rd, 2020, I would greatly appreciate your votes to allow me to continue serving the citizens of Sampson County as your Register of Deeds!

In 1995, I was called to the Raleigh headquarters to work what later turned out to be the largest odometer rollback case in the history of the DMV. Because this investigation crossed over into several states, I was sworn as a U.S. Marshal and made numerous arrests, seizing thousands of dollars in assets that were divided with agencies in other states.

In 2003, I was promoted to the rank of 1st Lieutenant for District II in Cumberland County, where I later served as the District II Captain. This district was made up of 12 counties

In August 2005, I earned the Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate from Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission.

In 2006, I was called to the Raleigh headquarters to serve as the Assistant Supervisor in the Internal Affairs Unit. Later in that same year I was promoted to the Assistant Director of IA. That job eventually led to another promotion, this one as Assistant Director over the Eastern portion of North Carolina, consisting of 51 counties. I was responsible for the supervision of personnel of four districts encompassing those 51 counties. A year later, I was asked to work the Western part of the state, which encompassed the remaining 49 counties.

In the summer of 2008, I was promoted to the Deputy Director of Administration. This position placed me in charge of finances and budgetary issues. In this position I worked closely with legislators to secure the funding needed for the day to day operations of DMV.

In 2009 I was promoted to the position of Deputy Director over all personnel and field operations. I oversaw all operations throughout the state as well as ensuring that we had adequate personnel in place to achieve the goal of a successful completion for each assignment. I remained in that position until I retired in January 2012.

In 2012, the Governor awarded me with the exalted and most prestigious award, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, for service with integrity, commitment and dedication to

### Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- I was asked back in the beginning of 2019 if I would be interested in completing the remaining time of then Register of Deeds, Eleanor Bradshaw, upon her retiring. I thought about it, prayed about it and later submitted my name for consideration of the position. I went through the interview process and was notified I had been selected for the position and began the first of August. The position of Register of Deeds is all about the history of our county. The documents of the citizenry of Sampson County are housed in our vault and at various locations for security reasons. These records date back to 1784, which is the inception date of the Sampson County Register of Deeds. In our Vital Records section, we issue documents such as birth, death and marriage certificates;

all of which are recorded. In our Real Estate section, we record Deeds, Deeds of Trust, Mortgages, Foreclosures, Restrictions, Right of Ways, Easements, Survey Maps, Leases, Covenants, Agreements and Fixture Filings just to name a few! This vault houses the history of our county and serves as the archive for every citizen of this county! Which ultimately assist each one of us at some point in our day to day lives!

It is a privilege and a pleasure to serve the citizens of Sampson County! On December 18th, 2019 I filed to continue my service as Sampson Counties Register of Deeds!

### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- To continue the advancement in the ever-changing

## **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

#### 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 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

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

# MEET YOUR CANDIDATES -



# Sampson County Register of Deeds

Anita Honeycutt Lane

## Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- My name is Anita Honeycutt Lane. I was born and raised in Sampson County and never had the desire to live anywhere else. I love this area. I am the proud daughter of the late Clyde & Linda Honeycutt. I was blessed with two loving, caring, Christian parents who taught me the value of working hard and treating others as you would want to be treated. I am a Christian and hold tight to my faith for daily living. My husband Randy and I have been married for 37 years and were blessed with two sons, Jonathan and Justin, two daughters-n-law, Sarah Scott Lane and Rachel Chavez Lane. We have two grandchildren Kenner (6) and Wiley (4). My greatest passion is my family. Randy and I are both graduates of Clinton High School .We have been active members of Grove Park Baptist Church in Clinton for over 27 years where we both continue to serve in various roles. We love our church and cherish our church family.

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A- I have worked with the citizens of Sampson County for over 20 years in various roles. I worked with our farmers at the Farm Service Agency for over 6 years where I developed a love and respect for these local hardworking citizens. I was able to develop a friendship with many of them that has lasted over the years. I then went to the Sampson County Register of Deeds Office for 13 years and 12 of those years served as the Assistant Register. During my time at the Register of Deeds office, in an effort to expand my knowledge and efficiency to our customers, I pursued and received in 2005 my certification from UNC Chapel Hill School of Government. In 2007 I returned to UNC Chapel Hill and received certification in Register of Deeds for Experienced Personnel. I am currently the Senior Planner in the Sampson County Planning & Zoning Department. I once again returned to UNC Chapel Hill School of Government in 2018 and received certification in Foundations in Planning & Development Regulation and again in 2019 for Zoning Practice. I have also received certification in FEMA IS 100, 200, 300 & 400, and ICS 300 & 400 in order to prepare for storm and



emergency related issues.

My experience at the Farm Service Agency, the Register of Deeds Office and currently Planning & Zoning has allowed me to expand my knowledge of Sampson County even further in many ways.

I believe the Register of Deeds Office is a vital part of our community. It's where our legal documents such as our birth & death certificates, marriage license as well as our deeds and deeds of trust, military DD214's & powers of attorney, just to name a few, are recorded, housed and protected. I feel that it is very important to have an experienced person in this position. The experience and knowledge that I have obtained while working with Sampson County and our citizens is only part of the reason that I feel that I am qualified for the Register of Deeds position. What I feel is the most important is my love and respect for this county and our citizens. I am dedicated, qualified with a Heart to Serve the people.

### Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- Someone ask me why I decided to run for the Register of Deeds office; My daddy has always told me that he did not care what I chose as my career as long as it was legal, but to make sure that whatever it was that it was something that I enjoyed. He said that if I enjoyed what I did that I would be good at it and it wouldn't seem so much like work. My dad knew how much I enjoyed working at the Register of Deeds because of the way I talked about it. He asked me many times if I would ever consider running for the position. My response was always, maybe one day daddy, when and if the time is right. As time passed, things began to fall into place, and after much prayer, I decided that it was time. The very day that I was headed to my dad's house to tell him of my decision, (I couldn't wait to see the look on his face) he passed away unexpectedly before I got there. It was February 22, 2019. I still think he heard me as I whispered in his ear of my decision.

### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- I was also asked what were my goals if I won the Register of Deeds Election. Technology is always changing. There are constantly things that need to be upgraded and advanced, and I would do that. I was an active part of getting all of the recorded survey maps scanned and prepared for electronic viewing. I was also an active part of the e-recording process that is currently happening at the Register of Deeds. These are very important documents, and I think it is very important to have a Register that is experienced and knowledgeable in the way these records are recorded and protected.

My goal is to continue the advancements in this office and to serve the citizens the way that I would want to be served.

## Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- With 13 years in the Register of Deeds office, 12 of which I served as Assistant, which meant in her absence, I served as the Registrar. I have always felt that it was very important to exercise my right to vote, but never considered myself a politician. I am simply a girl born and raised in Sampson County that found her passion in serving others at the Register of Deeds Office. I have the experience in this office to serve the people of this county. I love and respect the service that this office provides. I would be honored to serve you, the citizens of Sampson County as your next Register of Deeds. I would truly appreciate your prayers, your support and your vote.



Vote For Experience - 13 Years with Register of Deeds -20 Years with Sampson County Nov. 3, 2020 Anita Honeycutt Lane for Sampson County Register of Deeds

\* \* \*

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



# Week of September 25-October 1, 2020 www.thesampsonweekly.com |11

**District Court Judge** 



## Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- I have 20 years' experience as District Court Judge of Sampson, Duplin, Jones, and Onslow counties. I was initially elected in 2000, the first female elected to a judgeship in our district, and I am honored to have been re-elected every four years since by the citizens of this district. While performing my judicial duties, I have maintained consistent involvement in our schools by visiting the classrooms, participating in Career Days, DARE Graduations, and school and college graduations. As a public servant, I believe it to be very important to always give back to the community. Prior to being elected as Judge, I served this district as an Assistant District Attorney for six years; the NC Court of Appeals as a legal intern; and Coastal Carolina Community College as an Evidence course Instructor. I was born and raised in this district in Duplin county, Kenansville, NC to a large family of thirteen children. I am the eleventh child of the late Sarah and Thomas Jones. After graduating from the public schools of Duplin county, I earned a BA degree in Economics from UNC-Chapel Hill, a Juris Doctorate degree from NC Central University School of Law, and

Judge Carol Jones



a Master of Arts in Christian Education from Shaw University Divinity School. I am married to Pastor Victor Wilson and I work alongside of him in ministry with The People's Church of Clinton, NC. I am the step-mom to three adult children and we have two elementary schoolaged grand-daughters.

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A-I have 26 years of experience in our court system. My 20 years' experience as a Judge demonstrates my integrity for the Bench; my ability to render fair, impartial decisions; and my efficient use of court time while giving all the opportunity to present their case. My prior six years of working in the DA's office gave me daily courtroom experience litigating cases and interacting with the public. I have also developed a professional working relationship with members of the Clerk's Office and of the Bailiffs divisions throughout the district in order to maintain safe and professional courtrooms. My experience growing up in Duplin county working with the Services to the Aged, as a School bus driver, and in tobacco and blueberry farms developed an early work ethic that has only grown over the years. I am committed to service on the Bench and in the community.

Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

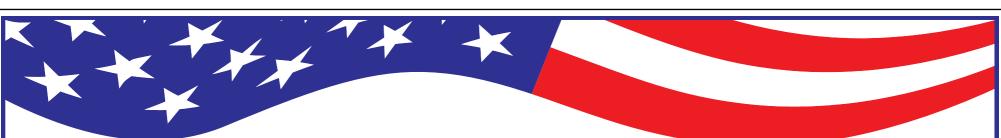
A- The decision to run for the office of District Court Judge is founded on several factors. My passion for the law that has existed since my youth. My desire to work in local government and to be actively involved in my home community. And also my belief that we have a responsibility to be positive role models for the youth. These factors combined lead to my decision to run for the Office of District Court Judge and my decision to again seek re-election. Of the nine district court judges in our district, I am second in seniority and experience. It is an honor to serve as a Judge. I love my job and appreciate the trust and support the citizens continue to place in my candidacy. I decided to run to be a positive public official in our community and to be a part of the fair administration of law.

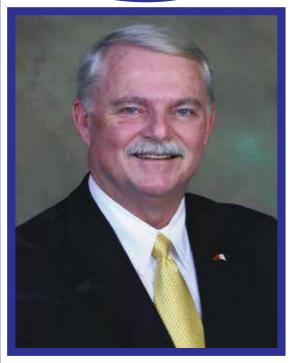
### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- It is imperative to the administration of justice to have an impartial and independent judiciary; not persuaded by politics nor criticism. If re-elected, I will continue to serve everyone who appears in my court with fairness, respect and without bias. I will follow the law and serve with integrity as a representative of the district. I will also continue to be active in our civic and educational events and programs.

## Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- I ask the voters to vote for me because I am the most qualified for the position based on my experience, training, and commitment to the Bench. I have honorably served this district for 20 years in this position and for six years as an Assistant District Attorney. I fully understand the responsibility of my duties as a member of the Judicial branch of government. I do not allow politics nor biases to interfere with my legal decisions and I seek to uphold our Code of Judicial Conduct. Everyone who appears in my court is treated with dignity and respect regardless of your education, religion, politics, or gender. Therefore, I respectfully request your votes and I thank you for your support.





# On November 3rd, VOTE for over 30 Years of Experience and Service for the Citizens of Sampson County!

# VOTE TO KEEP... Graham F. BUTLER REGISTER OF DEEDS

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

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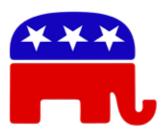
Week of September 25-October 1, 2020

## MEET YOUR CANDIDATES



# **District Court Judge**

# **Robert Gilmore**



## Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- I am an attorney in Clinton, operating my own private law firm handling criminal matters ranging from traffic citations to murder cases, as well as civil matters. Before entering private practice, I was a violent crimes prosecutor in Harnett and Anson Counties enforcing law and order with substantial jury trial experience in cases such as murders, armed robbery, rape, serious assaults, and other victim-based crimes. This deep and broad first-hand familiarity has provided me with a strong foundation in the law, while making tough decisions with real consequences to victims, defendants, and the community at large. I am a graduated and received my undergraduate and law degree from Campbell University, where I was Valedictorian of my law school class of 143 lawyers. I was born and raised in Keener, North Carolina by my parents Buddy and Kay, and attended Hobbton schools. My wife Ashley and I have two sons, Cole (7) and Lyndon (2). We attend First United Methodist Church in Clinton, and my home church of Carr Memorial in Keener for special events.

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?



A- My experience spans all facets of the courtroom with my time as a prosecutor and courtroom attorney providing a strong foundation for the position of District Court Judge. A District Court Judge makes decisions on a wide range of cases, including but not limited to: whether to convict or acquit in criminal cases, determining the best interest of children in child custody, and abuse/neglect/ dependency cases involving the Department of Social Services. I know both the rights and pain of victims, and the rights of defendants. I have abundant complex trial experience as an attorney that is unparalleled in the race for this judicial seat and I will use that experience to ensure that the courtroom and our justice system works efficiently and treats all parties fairly while maintaining firm law and order. My experience in this county as a

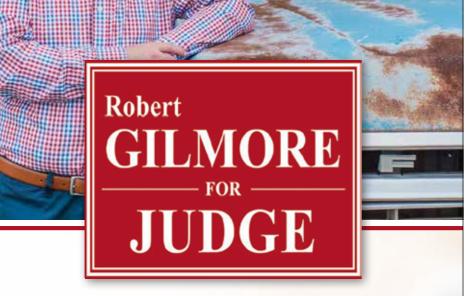
> lifelong resident has taught me the hardworking nature of many of our citizens, including our farmers and law enforcement, and I intend to operate the courtroom with the time and needs of these citizens in mind. I pledge to provide the taxpayers my services on the bench for a FULL working day each day and I will earn your vote and my place in the courtroom on a daily basis.

munity. District Court Judges are the workhorses of the judicial system. They see thousands of cases a year, with a limited number rising to be heard in appellate courts. This requires an exceptionally strong work ethic and a passion for excellence. As a top-flight attorney, I am familiar with long hours and working on weekends. I know what it is like to leave your family at home on a Sunday to go to work and help put food on the table, like our farmers and law enforcement do every week. This grounded understanding provides me with compassion, empathy, and firm expectations for those who will appear before me. The saying, "to whom much is given much is expected," resounds strongly with me. I believe those entrusted with being a District Court Judge have a responsibility to serve the public with fairness, consistency, and respect. I aim to provide these virtues to this esteemed position if provided the honor to do so.

### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- I have four goals if elected: (1) to apply the law in a conservative manner, meaning as it is written without political activism involved; (2) to apply the law fairly, compassionately, respectfully, firmly, and consistently; (3) to ensure that court runs efficiently and fully with an eye towards ensuring that law and order is obeyed; and (4) to earn this position of honor, funded by our hard working taxpayers, by promoting public safety, and doing my part to disincentivize crime in our communities





## SAMPSON COUNTY'S OWN ROBERT GILMORE FOR JUDGE

Integrity matters in the courtroom, and that's why we need Robert Gilmore to be OUR Judge!



Early voting is underway. ELECTION DAY November 3, 2020!

## Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- I decided to run for District Court Judge because there was a need for a stronger work ethic, a more robust knowledge of the law, and a firm, consistent hand to make sure law and order is observed in the courtroom. Stakeholders who I respect deeply throughout the court system, from judges to attorneys to law enforcement encouraged me to run and bring my skills, work ethic and demeanor to the bench. After much prayer and discussion with my wife, I decided this was the best path for me to address a deficiency in our judiciary and serve my com-

## Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- We need to get back to the basics in the court system I am a conservative and will apply the law as it is written, ensuring that every person appearing before me gets the law applied equally to them. This means that defendants will be presumed innocent until proven guilty, but if they did the crime, they have to do the time. Punishment has to fit the offense. As my mentor, Doug Parsons, once told me, "One of the worst things someone can do is to break into someone's home or property." I will stand strong to apply the law to ensure public safety from these types of offenses. The work ethic I developed working in our family shop repairing farm equipment and that I have applied as a top-flight violent crimes prosecutor and lawyer will be brought to the bench to give you the most for your tax dollars. Finally, I will ensure that every person in the courtroom is treated with respect and courtesy that the Bible demands, which has seemingly been forgotten in parts of our society, and I will ensure that law and order is upheld in every case.





# NC Senate District 10



## Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- I come from rural Sampson county, near Autryville. Rural North Carolina faces some unique challenges that require unique solutions. That said, our whole community acts like a family as we solve problems like access to broadband internet, infrastructure, and embracing agriculture, small businesses and other industries. I think that creative thinking is an important quality that I, as well as other members from rural areas, bring to the General Assembly.

My education has been a hands-on, practical one, I am a first-generation farmer. Thankfully, new programs have been developed to keep our young adults in agriculture and create new opportunities for all young adults to have

Senator Brent Jackson



a career in Agriculture and Agribusinesses. We have partnered with private businesses, Community Colleges and the University system to create some really innovative programs that will create a new generation of farmers and small business owners to feed the world.

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A- With a strong background in Agriculture and knowing the struggles of rural NC, I believe we are in a great position to level the playing field for all North Carolinians. The annual Farm Act of North Carolina has continued to enable farmers to pursue new technologies and new types of farming. Agritourism has become a major new outlet for success in this industry. New protections to allow farmers to succeed have offered security to farmers and their families. My experience is vital in preserving our state's number one industry and I will continue to do that when re-elected.

Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- Being a voice for Sampson, Johnston, Duplin and (one term included Lenoir) counties has been an honor for this last decade. Our office in the Legislative Building in Raleigh truly belongs to every citizen living in District 10 and is available as a way to have the people's voices heard. I ran for office to keep that channel open to the people of our state, and to represent the interests of rural North Carolina. I was also extremely concerned at the lack of attention and funding that was being given to Agricultural issues and to our industry. That, and the overburdensome regulations that were being placed on Ag and small businesses.

### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- For the last ten years, the primary goal of the General Assembly has been to revitalize North Carolina by lifting the burden of government over-regulation and by leaving more money in the pockets of our citizens. In just a few short years, this body has paid off billions in debt, lifted burdens on North Carolina businesses, and passed common sense legislation to keep us on the right track. When I am re-elected, I will support policies that continue to bring stability for the people of our state, now and in the future.

## Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- I am honored to have been elected for five terms to the NC Senate. My voting record will show that I have been dedicated to doing what I believe to be best for the citizens of District 10 and North Carolina. When re-elected I will continue working to be a voice for District 10 and our Great State of North Carolina. Thanks to all who have supported me in the past and I'd humbly ask for your vote on or before November 3rd!

EARLY UNTI



www.brentjacksonforsenate.com

# **Vote November 3rd**

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

Paid for by Brent Jackson for Senate

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Week of September 25-October 1, 2020

# MEET YOUR CANDIDATES



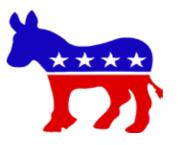
# NC Senate District 10



Vernon Ray Moore was born in the farmhouse his father built outside Warsaw, NC, January 29, 1951. His father was farmer, his grandfathers were farmers who owned their small farms. Hard work, smart work was a necessary part of life. He attended elementary school at PE Williams Elementary School, Magnolia, NC and high school at EE Smith High School, Kenansville, NC where he graduated first in his class at both schools. Vernon attended NC A&T State University and graduated from Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC with a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration with additional foundational education work in Finance and Economics. His first job from college was as a Financial Consultant at Merrill Lynch, (Private Client Group) Fayetteville, NC. My youngest child attends school at Rose Hill Magnolia Elementary, her mother supervises her and her two cousins since they began remote learning in March 2020.

In 2008 Vernon volunteered with calls and events for Organizing For America, President Obama's presidential campaign. During the next 12 months he worked with the organizing staff to advocate for the Affordable Care Act. Vernon was a 2012 Spring Fellow with Organizing For America, the 2012 Obama campaign. After the Inauguration in January 2013 Vernon became a founding member of Organizing For Action, organized to advocate for individuals to sign up for the ACA (Affordable Care Act) individual insurance, Gun Violence Prevention, Climate Change (Clean Power Plan), and Equality issues. My overall political knowledge is developed around the kitchen table issues we all consider, how to protect our families and advocate for the opportunities to build a better life here at home in North Carolina. We consider how to ensure our families have a safe home, clean air, clean water and a safe environment. We want a sound public Education system that educates our children and prepares them to reach their highest potential in a future that they help to create.

Vernon Ray Moore



our people, in all our communities. I will advocate for the Equal Rights Amendment because it is still necessary. I will advocate for affordable broadband access for all our communities, statewide. I will advocate for a safety net for our work force is made to provide safety for our workforce.

For meaningful change to move our state forward we must first make meaningful change in our thinking. The thinking that attracts business creators and business opportunities must be prefaced by forward thinking and work in education and retraining that prepares our workforce to become an attractive workforce. With a change in our thinking and the hard work necessary, our state can be the center for innovation and creativity that attracts and retains the future creators in business and services.



## 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 03, 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 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 04, 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 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 Rep

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, 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.

When I think of how to explain the way our community's strengths and challenges are addressed I find it difficult to explain why all our voices are not heard, our needs are not fully addressed. We can choose to invest in our Public Education system by Recruiting, Training and Retaining Educators and staff thus providing our children in public schools the best possible opportunity for a future they will help to build. We can decide to invest in their future to ensure they have the tools needed by our Communities, State and nation to creatively build a better nation.

If I am elected, I will advocate for North Carolina to offer our people affordable, comprehensive healthcare no matter where they live, or what their work is or who their parents are. I will advocate for investment in our Public Education system, to recruit, train and retain our professional educators and give them a staff to support their efforts to provide our children with the tools they need to succeed in the 21st century. I will advocate for equality for all



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





# **North Carolina House District 21**



Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- State Representative Raymond E. Smith, Jr., Ed.D. is a native of Wayne County and a product of the Public-School system. A graduate of Goldsboro High School, where he was a three-sport athlete and member of the student government. From there, he matriculated to N.C. A & T State University as a student-athlete. In the interim, he began his first foray into public service by enlisting in the United States Army and served as a Military Policeman. He is a combat veteran in the Persian Gulf War. After a successful tour of duty in the United States Army, he returned to N.C. A&T State University and completed his bachelor's degree in Supply Chain Management. While in the U.S. Army Reserves, he continued his career in law enforcement as a Correctional Officer, and a Probation / Parole Intensive Surveillance Officer for the State of North Carolina.

However, service was still a mainstay in his mind and plans; later, he began a career in education as a middle school social studies teacher and a high school football coach. He counts this time as among the most rewarding experiences of his life, because of the impact that a teacher has on students.

This commitment to service and education is a part of Raymond's upbringing and his legacy. His father, Raymond E. Smith Sr., was a United States Marine. After an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps., he began a career with the Civil Service which lasted 35 years until his retirement. He served the community on numerous boards and served as the National President of the largest High School Alumni Association in the United States. His mother, Thelma F. Smith, was a lifelong educator. She was a classroom teacher for 30 years and decided to continue her education and became a guidance counselor for a total 38 years in education. Upon her retirement she successfully campaigned to become a member of the Wayne County Board of Education and served the community as a School Board member for 18 years of public service. They both lived their entire lives giving back to the community, and they both passed while still serving.

**Rep. Raymond E.** - HB 224 – Assault W/Firearm on LEO/Increase Punishment - HB 273 – Add (NCPBA) to the NC Training and Standards Commission **Smith Jr.** 



Carolina General Assembly involves a successful career in Law Enforcement, which consists of having been a Military Policeman and Combat Veteran in the United States Army; a Correctional Officer, having worked at the Close, Medium, and Minimum Custody levels; and a Probation/Parole Intensive Surveillance Officer for the North Carolina Department of Corrections. These experiences have served me well in my role as a member of the Homeland Security Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee in the General Assembly.

My experience as an educator at the K-12 and Higher Education levels, along with my educational background, have been tremendous assets, especially as I worked to develop and sponsor HB 1129, "Ensure a Sound Basic Education." This bill was written in response to the landmark Leandro ruling which unanimously concluded that the State of North Carolina had failed in its basic fiduciary responsibility to adequately educate all its children.

My experience in the transportation industry as a Statewide Planner for the NC Department of Transportation, the Executive Director of the Goldsboro/Wayne Transportation Authority, and the Director of Operations for the Durham Transit Authority, prepared me to serve on the Transportation Committee in the General Assembly.

Additionally, as a Statewide Planner for NCDOT, we were tasked with the responsibility of determining the equitable distribution of funds to all 100 counties allocated from the General Assembly. Also, having worked in the Human Service Paratransit industry both as a provider and a planner, provided me with keen insight into Human Service needs throughout the State of North Carolina. This experience was critical as I served on the Appropriations and Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations Committees in the NC General Assembly.

### Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- My decision to run for political office began with my commitment to community service. I do not consider myself to be a politician by any stretch of the imagination. I am a community servant that utilizes politics as a platform to help others. This mindset was established throughout my lifetime of watching and working alongside my parents as they participated in numerous community service efforts. My dedication to helping others is what drives me.

- HB 224 - Assault w/Firearm on LEO/Increase Punishment

- HB 283 - Connors Law (Increase penalty for Assault on CO's & PPO's)

- HB 296 - Respect for Families - LEOs/Firefighters/EMS

- HB 348 - Protect Employees from Retaliation (LEO Whis-

tleblower Protection)

- HB 622 - Provide Workers Comp for PTSD in First Responders

- HB 862 - Purchase Option/Advanced Law Enforcement Certification

- HB 916 - Citizen Review Boards

In pursuing a Sound Basic Education for All, I have sponsored HB 1129, and co-sponsored HB 1130, both of which are intended to address the disparity in education and educational resources that continues to exist in many of our rural and impoverished communities.

My support for our Farmers is unyielding, I supported the Farm Bill, and continue to meet with Farmers, Pork, Poultry, and Field Crop producers. I am pursuing win-win solutions to the ever-present challenges between Farmers, Producers, Consumers, and the Environment. I have spoken with producers of Pork and Poultry that say that there is an abundance of jobs available in their industries, and the pay is extremely competitive.

Healthcare remains among the top of my list of priorities, especially during this Pandemic. Poor people, and people in minority communities are being disproportionately affected by COVID-19, yet these are some of the same "working" people that do not have Healthcare because they fall into a gap. This gap consists of "working" people that make too much money to qualify for Medicaid and not enough money to pay for private insurance. There are an estimated 500,000 North Carolinians that fall into this gap. These individuals work every day but cannot go to a doctor because they cannot afford the insurance. These individuals, many of whom have preexisting health conditions, must wait until they are extremely sick so that they can go to the Emergency Room for care. Oft times, this is too late. I do not see this as a Political issue, it is a Healthcare issue... a People issue!

### Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- As an incumbent, having completed my first term as a legislator, I have been fortunate enough to have made a significant contribution to the overall benefit of the State of North Carolina, and specifically District 21. Through the passing of bills that provided grants for water, sewer, broadband, and other infrastructure needs, to the equitable distribution of Disaster Relief and COVID-19 relief funds, and my persistent and unyielding support of our Farmers, our region, and our state, my commitment is unquestionable.

I have developed a reputation in the General Assembly as a straight-shooter and have earned tremendous amount of respect from my colleagues on both sides of the isle. This is critical when it comes to being able to pass legislation and have a voice at the table representing our community's interests.

Upon earning a master's degree in Public Administration from N.C. Central University, he embarked upon a career in the transportation industry, as statewide planner for the NC Department of Transportation. While in this capacity, he was afforded the privilege of working with all 100 counties within the State of North Carolina, while building and developing critical relationships across the state. His career in public transportation administration culminated with establishing a fixed-route bus system in Goldsboro and becoming the first Executive Director of the Goldsboro / Wayne Transportation Authority, which continues to be a thriving and successful public transit system serving all of Wayne County. Ultimately, his commitment to public service led him back into the field of education. He has been an instructor at Guilford Technical Community College, and Johnston Community College, as well as a Campus Coordinator at Shaw University. A life-long learner, Dr. Raymond E. Smith Jr., completed his Doctoral degree in Education Leadership at Fayetteville State University in the Fall of 2020.

He is a member of St. James AME Zion Church (Trustee), Phi Alpha Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Past President), the Grantham Grange, CW Lawrence #837 Masonic Lodge (PHA), Dillard/Goldsboro Alumni & Friends, Inc. (Past National President, and current Goldsboro Chapter President), as well as numerous other state and local affiliations.

Dr. Smith is also a family man, he and his wife Cortrina T. Smith, also an educator have five children: a son, Christopher, who is serving proudly in the United States Army and is stationed in South Korea; two daughters, Tracy and Ashley, both in college at N.C. A&T State University; and two sons at home, Myles and Maxwell, a sixth grader and a preschooler.

### Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A- The amount of information that is disseminated during a legislators first term can be rather overwhelming. However, I was fortunate to have served on the following subcommittees, which directly aligned with my expertise and experience: Special Committee on Disaster Relief, Appropriations, Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations, Transportation, and Homeland Security Military & Veterans Affairs.

My experience prior to becoming a member of the North

Initially, when I ran for the At-Large seat on the Wayne County Board of Education, I saw a tremendous need for representation on that board from individuals with a background in Education. At that time, there was only one other person on the School Board with Education experience. In my opinion, and in the opinion of the majority of voters in Wayne County, this was critical in insuring that the decisions being made the School Board were done so by individuals with in-depth knowledge of the complexities in Education. After winning the At-Large seat on the School Board, I began to work with my colleagues in addressing critical policies such as curriculum, open door transfers, redistricting, classroom sizes in low performing schools, and numerous others.

These were critical experiences which helped me tremendously when I decided to run for the N.C. General Assembly. Upon hearing of the retirement of former Representative Dr. Larry Bell, who was and still remains one of my mentors and advisors, I recalled a conversation that he and I had in the early years of his tenure, wherein he talked about a plan of succession and preparing others to run for office. I took those words to heart and with much prayer, decided to place my name into consideration for his open seat. Even though I had two years left on my term as a School Board member, it was revealed to me that I had a another calling. Now, heading into my second term as a legislator, I am looking forward to what the future holds.

### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- My primary goal if re-elected is to work with both sides of the isle to find common ground.

Additionally, I want to pursue those issues that we can all work together on and develop legislation that will ensure a Sound Basic Education for All, assist our Farmers, provide Jobs and Economic Development opportunities in Rural Southeastern North Carolina, bridge the divide between Law Enforcement and the Community, establish a fair minimum wage, and provide adequate Healthcare to everyone who needs it.

As a former career Law Enforcement Officer, I am as steadfast as ever in my commitment to and support of the Law Enforcement community. However, I am equally as steadfast regarding my support for Criminal and Social Justice Reforms. I have supported the following Law Enforcement Bills:

Seniority is as important if not more important than any other characteristic when it comes to getting things done in the General Assembly. If I am re-elected, I will return to the General Assembly as a member with seniority. Therefore, I will be in position for leadership roles such as Committee Chair or Co-Chair depending upon who holds the majority in the 2020 election. Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs yield a tremendous amount of influence on what bills are brought to the floor for consideration, and the disbursement and allocation of funds that flow through the various committees. Freshmen legislators are typically not considered for leadership roles within either caucus; therefore, it is not a time for the voters in District 21 to consider an unproven Representative that will take any number of years for them to become effective.

Sampson and Wayne Counties, as well as Southeastern NC cannot wait another few years for help to arrive. That time is now, Rural Southeastern NC has been ignored for the last decade, and it is critically important that we re-elect the candidate that has our "best interests," not our political interests, as their primary driving force. If the current leadership were truly interested in the development and well-being of Rural Southeastern NC, they have had an entire decade to do something about it.

Therefore, I have joined a "bipartisan" group of legislators from the House and the Senate called "The Eastern Region Delegation." This nonpartisan group of Democrats and Republicans are committed to steering much needed resources to Eastern North Carolina. It is a fact that due to population density, that Central North Carolina delegations outnumber Rural delegations. This is evident by the vast amount of Economic Development that is taking place primarily in Urbanized areas. This group is dedicated to working together in a nonpartisan manner to ensure that some of these vast resources will benefit Eastern North Carolina as we go forward.

I need your continued support and your VOTE!!! So that I can continue my efforts to provide much needed support, and to steer much needed resources to our community. We are all in this together!!!

## MEET YOUR CANDIDATES -



# North Carolina House District 21

My name is Brent Heath and I was born in Mount Olive, North Carolina at a doctor's office on Center St. I was raised in rural eastern NC. I spent my summer's barning tobacco and picking cucumbers. I learned the value of hard work early in life on my Grandmother's farm. After high school, I served a two year mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints along the Mediterranean Coast of Spain. Returning from Spain, I begin to work at Pender Memorial Hospital as a Respiratory Therapy Technician. While working at the hospital I met the love of my life at the beach. Debra and I were married in 1992. After 28 years of marriage we have five children. Two of our children are married and one lives in Roanoke Va. and the other in Greenville NC. Two are furthering their education in Provo UT. And one is a small business owner in Raleigh NC. Less than a month ago we were blessed with our first grandchild.

After working at the hospital I started my own business. My brother David and I built storage buildings for a local contractor. I did that for a few years and then was recruited by a Contractor to come to work in the Agricultural Construction Industry. I worked as site superintendent for and while working there the moratorium on the hog industry came into play. When I left that company I went to work for a commercial Construction General Contractor. A few years later I was approached by a prominent Insurance agent to come to work in the Insurance industry. I became the top producer in the agency and was soon made production manager. At this time, I attended Mount Olive College in the Business Management Program. Soon after, I had a friend who came to me and wanted my help as he purchased a furniture business. He asked me to come into the company, and look at the books, production process and sales team and to meet the employees of the company. He recruited me to come and work as plant manager when the business was purchased.

Debra and I have been involved in party politics for many years. I first held office as the treasurer of the Wayne County Republican party. Later I was the Chairman of the Wayne County Republican Party. After serving as county chairman for two term, I became the Chairman of NC Congressional District 7. While in this role I helped many candidates



become elected. This is when Mike Causey was elected as Commissioner of NC Department of Insurance. Commissioner Causey recruited me to come to work at the NC Department of Insurance. My experience in Construction, Insurance and as a volunteer fireman are what attracted Commissioner Causey. I currently serve as Regional Manager of District 6 and Chaplin of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Department of Insurance.

While working on farms in his early years, I learned the value of hard work. It is this hard work ethic that has lead people to recruit me to come to work for their organizations. My experience in the agricultural industry, medical field, construction industry, business ownership and management, fire service and in the insurance industry that have prepared me to be a valuable resource to any committees I will be assigned to serve on in the house.

We are facing challenging times as a nation, state and community in Eastern NC. Now more than ever, we need strong leaders. We need real leaders who will put people first-not politics. While urban centers are growing, our small rural communities are being left behind. Sampson and Wayne Counties need a strong voice in Raleigh. Someone who will stand up for them and their values-not someone who wants to go along to get along. My opponent has failed to be the leader we need. He has shown he is only interested in playing politics. He has put the Governor and his liberal priorities ahead of the real needs of Sampson and Wayne Counties. He voted against desperately needed resources, jobs, health care and economic development for our region simply because the Governor told him to do it. 70 million dollars were in the budget for Wayne and Sampson Counties, but the current Representative refused to vote to bring that money to the district.

Having been born and raised in Eastern NC, I will always put you first. I love this community. I have served this community and I promise to always fight for our values. We are blessed to have a strong delegation with Senator Jim Perry, Senator Brent Jackson, Representative John Bell and Representative William Brisson, but they need help and that is why I'm running. We cannot afford another two years of my opponent, who is more interested on scoring political points than delivering results. I promise to be the leader Sampson and Wayne counties need. I humbly ask for your support and vote. Thank you and God Bless, Wayne and Sampson Counties, the state of North Carolina and the United States of America.

 It's Time For A Change in District 21!!

 Vote Brent Heath for



# NC House District 21 on Movember 3rd

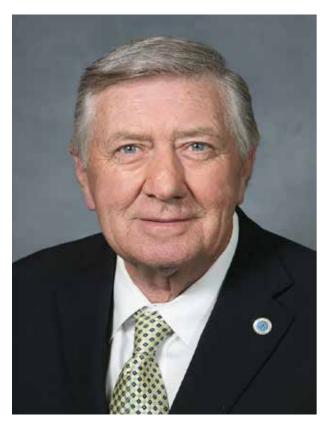
Endorsed by the NC Troopers Association
 A conservative who will fight for our values
 Second Amendment advocate and defender
 Standing up for our rights
 Keeping us Safe

# Brent X Brent X Beot I

# NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE



# **North Carolina House District 22**



Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- I was born and raised in Bladen County, where I still live on my family's farm in Dublin. I am a graduate of Tar Heel High School and attended Wayne Community College where I took courses in Electrical Engineering. I worked for 17 years as a 1st Class Lineman with the power company and later with the City of Kinston. While working, I also served as a Volunteer Fireman for 12 years and farmed on the side. I am a lifelong farmer carrying on our family's tradition of production agriculture. My high school sweetheart and wife of 57 years, Brenda, helps manage our farming business and we are actively involved in the North Carolina Farm Bureau and Dublin First Baptist Church, where we are members. We have a son, Alan, daughter-in-law, Angela, and are proud grandparents to eighteen-year-old Autumn (who graduated



Valedictorian of her class at West Bladen High School).

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A- I am a former Chair of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners (served for 8 years), a former Chair of Bladen County Hospital Board of Trustees & Bladen Medical Center, and Secretary & Treasurer of Bladen County Farm Bureau. I currently serve on 12 committees in the North Carolina House of Representatives, with leadership positions on 4 of those committees (Chairman on House Appropriations, Chairman of Agriculture, Vice-Chair of Appropriations for Health & Human Services, and Co-Chair on the Agriculture and Forestry Awareness Study Commission). I am currently serving my 7th term in the North Carolina House.

As a farmer, I understand the challenges faced by small business owners, and I will continue to fight for the working families of Bladen and Sampson counties. I have spent decades as a public servant, always placing people over politics, and I will continue to use my experience to serve the people of House District 22. While some may categorize me as a "Career Politician", I rebuke that with "My Career is Farming" and "My Politics are a Public Service".

## Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- I decided to run because I felt the needs and concerns of the people were not being represented. I've always put the overall needs of the public above any personal or small group desires and do it in a fiscally sound way. I love living in a rural area and the quality of life that it carries and feel that the metropolitan areas are trying to make the rules for us!

### Q- What are your goals, if elected?

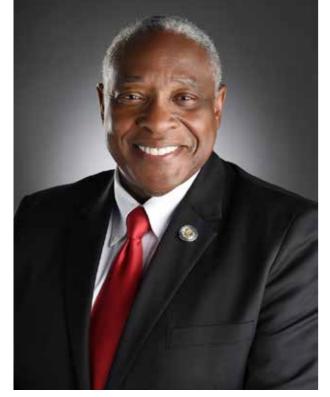
A- My goals are to continue to be that voice for the people of District 22, to continue the fight to protect our quality of life, to get our kids back in school safely, to get everyone back to work safely, to find ways and options for more affordable healthcare, and to find a solution for getting all of our churches reopened so everyone can attend!

## Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- As a lifelong resident of Eastern North Carolina, I know the challenges that we face as a rural area. Growing up on the farm, my parents taught me the value of hard work and living as a Christian. I take those values with me to the floor of the NC House. I have spent my life serving the people from the smallest local level to the State House of Representatives. My Campaign promises the same things that I have ran on since I first started in politics. To be open, accessible, honest, and to stand up for you!

When asked "What are your greatest achievements in politics", many of my colleagues will start listing Bills in which they have added their name to. My greatest achievements are the many of you that I have been able to help during my time in office. When you go to the polls to cast your ballot, decide which of these candidates can and will do the best job for you!

# North Carolina House District 22



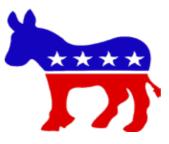
Q- Tell the voters about your family, your education and your experience?

A- I was raised on my grandfather's tobacco farm in Clinton, North Carolina. After graduating from Wake Forest University on a full football scholarship, I earned my law degree at Campbell University School of Law.

In my early career, I worked as an assistant district attorney in Cumberland, Hoke Counties, and Pitt County, and taught Criminal Justice at East Carolina University. Afterwards, I moved back to my hometown -- Clinton, North Carolina, and established my Law Firm. One of my primary clients was the Clinton City Schools Board of Education where I served as the school board attorney for over twenty years.

Later, I was twice elected as Sampson County Commis-

# Albert D. Kirby Jr.



sioner for District Five -- I served nearly eight years before being appointed a Senior Resident Superior Court Judge. Now, I'm running to represent Sampson and Bladen County in the North Carolina House of Representatives in House District 22 to fight for our families.

## Q- How does your experience help you in the elected position you are pursuing?

A- As a School Board Attorney for over 20 years, and former Sampson County Commissioner, I've seen first-hand the hardships that face our community. But more importantly, I've learned how to sit down, compromise, and get things done. As a small business owner, I know how important it is to grow our local economy. And as a Judge and a minister, I've always stood up for what is right -- regardless of politics.

### Q- Why did you decide to run for political office?

A- I decided to run to represent Sampson and Bladen Counties in the North Carolina House of Representative because we are desperately in need of an economy that works for all of us. We need a leader who is innovative and dedicated to bringing resources into rural areas so that all of our families can benefit. As a small business owner, I know families were hurt hard in the COVID-19 crisis. Since the start of the pandemic, North Carolina has received more than 1.5 million unemployment claims. But folks here have been hurting for years because career politicians in Raleigh are more interested in funding their pet projects than investing in rural communities. Recovering from the pandemic gives us a chance to right those wrongs and finally prioritize working families in Sampson and Bladen County.

## Q- What are your goals, if elected?

A- We need to focus on building an economy that works for everyone. I know that our economy is strengthened when we invest in public education and bring jobs back to North Carolina. I believe that every student in North Carolina deserves access to a high-quality education. By investing in our public schools, we can ensure that our students receive what they deserve -- the best education possible. We also need to keep our families safe during these challenging times. Every family is being affected by the COVID-19 crisis. If I am elected, I will work to ensure that every North Carolinian has access to quality, affordable healthcare. By working to expand access to health insurance for more people, we will be able to drive down costs for everyone.

## Q- Please tell the voters why they should vote for you?

A- We need to invest in rural communities east of 95. I'm running because Sampson and Bladen County need a champion in Raleigh. I am working for a better North Carolina because for too long I've seen our community get pushed aside and left behind by typical partisan politicians. I'm running for office because I will stand up for what's right. For me, this isn't about politics or partisanship -- this election is about ensuring that our community receives the investments we need and that our families stay safe and healthy.



## - OBITUARIES



### NEWTN GROVE

**Tony A. McCullen, 72,** of Newton Grove passed away on Saturday, September 19, 2020. Mr. McCullen had a graveside service on Monday, September 21 at 2:00 p.m. in Hillcrest Cemetery in Newton Grove. The Rev. Debora Stilley officiated the service. The family received family and friends at the home of Toni and Kenneth Noles at 1481 Alex Benton

Rd. in Newton Grove. Mr. McCullen's survivors include his daughter, Toni M. Noles and husband Kenny "Jason" of Newton Grove; his grandchildren, Alyssa Nichols, Easton Richmond, Waylon Noles, Tyler Noles and Makayla Noles; and his fiancé, Virginia Culbreth. Mr. McCullen was preceded in death by his parents, Marvin and Norva McCullen; and his brother, Tommy "Doodle" McCullen. Online condolences may be made at www. westanddunn.com. Services have been entrusted to West & Dunn Funeral Home of Newton Grove, North Carolina.

### LUMBERTON

Gaye Simmons Cushing, 65, of 306 West 33rd St., passed away Friday, September 18, 2020 at Southeastern Medical Center. A



graveside service will be held at 4 PM, Saturday, September 26th at New Bethel Baptist Church with Rev. Chris Webb officiating. A walkthrough visitation will be held from 5 PM to 7 PM, Friday, September 25th at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home. Gaye, born December 19, 1954 in Sampson County, was the daughter of the late Clifton Simmons and Martha Cato (Cattie) Jones.

She was a school teacher and a member of New Bethel Baptist Church. In addition to her parents she was preceded by her sisters, Wanda Bandy and Mavis Carter. Survivors include: son, David Cushing of Wilmington, NC; daughter, Amanda Leigh Cushing; and brother, Marty Simmons. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.crumpler-honeycutt.com.

### AUTRYVILLE

**Mrs. Ramona Lynette Hall** Departed this life on September 23, 2020, at her home near Autryville, NC, after an extended illness. Ramona was born on March 5, 1936 in Bainbridge, GA to E.L and Bessie Blocker. She graduated in 1955 from Gadsden County High School in Quincy, FL. During her senior year, she met a

young airman, Walton E. Hall Jr., Stationed at Eglin Air Force Base at Ft. Walton Beach. They married in the following September. She moved to make her home in his native North Carolina, where they spent 65 happy years, and raised two daughters. Ramona will always be remembered as a devoted wife, mother, and pillar of the community. Her time raising her two daughters was full of



activities. She was there for every band practice, football game, recital, and class party, without fail. She could always be counted on in times of celebration or crisis. Firm in her Christian faith, she was a member of Long Branch Baptist Church. There, she was a member of the Milia J. Faircloth Circle, the Women's Missionary Union, the church Choir, involved in Vacation Bible School and the Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry. Never did a neighbor go in need in time of loss, or a school or church function miss out on her caring and good cooking. She will be sorely missed, as will her love, her wise counsel, and her wonderful wit that gave us many "zingers". Mrs. Hall leaves behind her husband, Walton Edward Hall, Jr. of the home; her two daughters, Catrena M. Hall of Cary, NC and Angela Hall Tousey (Hugh) of Autryville; one brother, Eddie Blocker; and her two beloved "grand puppies". A Graveside service will be held at 11:00 am Saturday, September 26, 2020 at Sunrise Memorial Gardens Salemburg with Rev. Ricky Spell officiating. The family will receive friends at the cemetery following the service. The family would like to thank the excellent care she received in the unprecedented time of pandemic at Village Green Rehabilitation, and for letting her receive hospice in her beloved home. We would also like to thank the following caregivers: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hall, who were indispensable, helping with everything daily; CNA Carlee Canady and RN Tommie Hudson from Community Home Care and Hospice. Butler Funeral Home, Inc.

be made to Coharie UMC, 4890 N Hwy 421, Clinton, NC 28328. Royal-Hall Funeral Home is honored to serve the Jacobs family.



### CLINTON

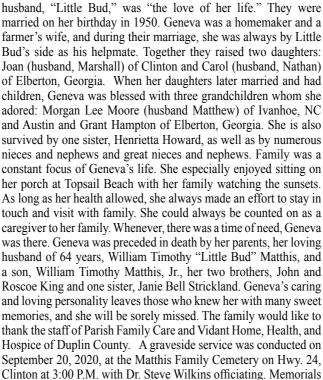
William Horace King, 74, of 8400 Keener Road, passed away Friday, September 18, 2020 at his home. A memorial service was held at 7 PM, Tuesday, September 22nd at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home, with Rev. Chubby Rieber officiating. The family received friends immediately after the memorial service at the funeral home and at



other times at the home of his brother, Ronnie, at 5630 Hobbton Hwy. in Clinton. Horace, born in 1946 in Sampson County, was the son of the late Carl Emerson King and Lucy Muriel Gilbert King. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his sister, Sandra Young. He was a truck driver and retired from Murphy Brown. Survivors include: son, Chris Thornton (Amy) of Clinton; grandsons, Preston and Caleb; sister, Pheobia Hinson of Newport News, VA; brothers, C. E. King (Paulette), Frankie King (Theresa), and Ronnie King (Mary) all of Clinton; special nephew and niece, Travis King (Chelsea) and Amber King and fiancé Tyler; numerous nieces and nephews; three very special great nieces and nephews; and an abundance of friends. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.crumpler-honeycutt.com

### CLINTON

Mrs. Geneva King Matthis, 88, of 525 Matthis Road, passed away peacefully on September 19, 2020, at Parish Family Care in Warsaw, NC. Geneva was born to Charles Shaw and Metta Viola Tadlock King on June 9, 1932. She graduated from Clinton High School in 1950, and she was a member of Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church. Geneva's late



Ernest believed in working hard from dawn to dusk and expected others to do the same. Although he exhibited a strong work ethic. he always made time for socialization. Breakfasts with friends at the community store were a highlight for him. Ernest enjoyed a spirited conversation, a mischievous joke, a little gossip, a sausage biscuit, and some very hot coffee to start his day. Each vear Ernest looked forward to planting, irrigating, and sharing his crop of sweet corn with others. Throughout his life he enjoyed feeding the cows, checking the crops, and having cook-outs with his grandchildren who affectionately called him Pa Pa. He was a member, a former Sunday School teacher, and a youth leader of White Oak Baptist Church. Survivors include: wife of 62 years, Grace Rackley Odum; sons, Craig Odum and wife Donna, Mike Odum and wife Donna, Scott Odum and wife Sally, Ashley Odum and wife Sandy; grandchildren: Meredith, Matthew, Mackenzie, Michael, Morgan, Ashton, Taylor, Rachel, Emily, Mary Scott, Michaelah; great-grandchildren: Briana, Brayden, Vella, Jax, Cade, Colby, Kara, Carson; many nieces and nephews, and a host of life-long friends. Ernest fought a courageous battle as his health declined. The professional care of Dr. Larry Watts and staff, as well as Community Homecare and Hospice was greatly appreciated.

### GARLAND

Minnie Snyder Brinkman Shaw. She attended Harrisonburg State Teachers' College (now JMU in Virginia) with piano and voice scholarships. She then taught elementary school in Bethel, PA for six years until 1939 when she married David Carey Shaw, of Sampson County, NC. They settled in Raleigh and attended West



Raleigh Presbyterian Church where Beryl taught Sunday School and sang in the choir. Beryl loved to read from an early age; she composed poetry, enjoyed horseback riding and good music, especially classical. An accomplished pianist, she taught piano lessons on her baby grand piano to many children in the Laurel Hills neighborhood. She loved her grandchildren and helped homeschool five of them who lived next door. She loved beauty especially colorful flowers, and delighted in arranging them. In middle age, after she came to know the Lord, Beryl began studying the Bible, and eventually taught a women's Bible study group She participated in several home prayer groups for years. In her seventies, she composed words and music to twenty wonderfully creative songs, hymns and spiritual songs based on Scripture She was always faithful and generous with her limited resources to support Christian missions and ministries. She had a listening ear, and many were blessed as they visited with her in front of the fireplace in her farmhouse kitchen. Beryl lost her beloved husband, David, in 1980 after faithfully taking care of him for several years during his declining health. Her only sibling, Ethel Brinkman Ainsley, died in 1998. She is survived by daughters Madeline Shaw, Guenn Shaw, Susan Shaw Holler (David) and Robin Shaw Camu (Colin); nine grandchildren: Jocelyn Holler Smith, Caleb Holler, Rhea Holler, Rory Holler; Basil Camu, Stuart Camu, Kyle Camu, Cedric Camu, Lila Camu; and ten great-grandchildren: Abishai Smith, Tabitha Smith, Christopher Conley-Smith, Lydia Smith, Dominic Smith, Lucia Smith, Tavish Camu, Hugo Camu, Jasper Camu and Joaquin Holler. Services have been provided by Mitchell Funeral Home of Raleigh with graveside assistance by Carter Funeral Home of Garland.

### CLINTON

Mrs. Barbara Ann Kitchen Simonson, 77, passed away on Friday, September 18, 2020 at her home in Clinton, surrounded by her loving family. Funeral Service to celebrate her life was held on Tuesday, September 22 at 2:00 pm at the Royal-Hall Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Charles Ray Jernigan officiating. Interment was held at



the Lutheran Cemetery in Loyal, Wisconsin. Born on February 15,

1943 in Commerce, Georgia, Barbara was the daughter of the late



### CLINTON

Mrs. Earletha Collins Jacobs, 96, passed away early Monday morning, September 21, 2020 at her home with her loving family by her side. A Graveside Service was held Wednesday, September 23rd at 2:00 pm at the Coharie United Methodist Church Cemetery with Rev. Steve Little and Rev. Jim Brinkley officiating. Visitation for family and



friends was held prior to the service, from 1:00-1:45 pm at Royal-Hall Funeral Home. The family requests that everyone practice social distancing and wear a mask during the visitation and service. Born on February 28, 1924 in Robeson County, Earletha was the daughter of the late Robert and Annie Bell Jones Collins and the widow of the late Oscar Delton Jacobs. She was a member of Coharie United Methodist Church and her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was always first in her life. She loved working in the yard, especially in her flower garden and was known for her huge variety of beautiful flowers. She was also a fantastic cook and the best mama and grandma anyone could ever ask for. Her family was truly blessed by her love and caring nature. She loved the Lord, her husband Oscar Delton, her children and grandchildren more than anything. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her because to know her, was to love her. She is survived by her four daughters: Betty Hewett of Clinton, Lucille Locklear and husband, Charlie of Pembroke, Gracie Sinclair of Clinton and Carolyn Brinkley and husband, James of Roseboro; two sons: Paul Jacobs and wife, Sherry of Clinton and Willard Jacobs and wife, Violet of Clinton; three sisters: Mary Ruth Lowery of Maxton, Pandora Soto of Pembroke and Mary Jones of Pembroke; two brothers: Laudell Locklear of Pembroke, Pete Locklear of the home and daughter-in-law, Sharon Jacobs of Clinton; She also leaves behind to cherish her memory, twelve grandchildren: Colles Hewett, Jr., Delton Hewett, Charlie Locklear, Jr., Daryl Locklear, Cindy Locklear, Michael Jacobs, Dean Fowler, Billy Pascal, MaryAnn Freeman, Nelson Jacobs, Jr., Patrick Jacobs and Jonathon Jacobs; twenty-five great-grandchildren and ten great-great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, Earletha was preceded in death by a son, Nelson Jacobs; a daughter, Mary Ann Jacobs; one sister: Annie Neal Honeycutt; and six brothers: Charlie Prentice Locklear, Marvin Jones, Willie Jones, James A. Jones, Sanford Jones and Spurgeon Collins. In lieu of flowers, memorials may

may be made to Graves Memorial Presbyterian Church, 201 Fayetteville St., Clinton, NC 28328. Royal-Hall Funeral Home of Clinton is honored to serve the Matthis family.

### WADE



Mary Lois Baggett McLamb, 91, of Wade died Sunday morning September 20, 2020 at Cornerstone Nursing & Rehab in Dunn. Mrs. McLamb was born January 17, 1929 in Sampson County daughter of Aldon and Verta Lee Baggett. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Jamie Lee McLamb; daughter, Melinda Medlin and brothers, Johnny

and Dwight Baggett. Mrs. Baggett was a 1946 graduate of Clement High School and graduate of the former Hank Hannah Beauty School in Dunn. She was a self-employed hairdresser and a member of Center Baptist Church in Wade. A graveside service was held at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at Baptist Chapel Church Cemetery with Rev. Joe Hickson and Rev. Joey Cantrell officiating. She is survived by her son-in-law, Donald Medlin; grandson, Christopher Medlin both of Albuquerque, New Mexico; brothers, Howard O. Baggett of Godwin, Larry Robert Baggett and wife Linda of Godwin; sister, Betty B. Picard of Greensboro; and several nieces and nephews. The family received friends 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m., Wednesday at Center Baptist Church in Wade. Memorials may be made to Center Baptist Church, 4210 Center Church Rd., Wade. N.C. 28395. Arrangements are by Skinner & Smith Funeral Home.

### CLINTON

Ernest Marion Odum, 84, of Roseboro Highway, Clinton, passed away Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at his home. A graveside service was held at 1:00 pm Saturday, September 19th at White Oak Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Jeffrey Barber officiating. Visitation was from 11:30-12:45 pm in the fellowship

hall prior to the service and at other times at the home. Ernest was born in Sampson County to Marion Butler Odum and Ethel Johnson Odum on March 15, 1936. In addition to his parents, Ernest was preceded in death by his sister, Ruby O. Brown. He graduated from Concord School and served in the National Guard. A licensed pilot, Ernest enjoyed flying friends and family over the local countryside. As a talented welder, he shared his skills teaching at Sampson Community College and while managing Cook Machine Company. Ernest loved driving big rig trucks and passed on his enthusiasm to his sons and grandsons. He later established Odum Farming Company where he fulfilled his passion of working with his family, raising livestock, and growing crops.



Lonnie Kitchen and Annie Mary Lacey Kitchen and widow of Bruce Allen Simonson. She was a Veteran of the United States Navy and a retired employee with Sanmina. She was a dedicated member of Tyndall Grove Pentecostal Holiness Church and loved her church family and friends. She was a loving and kind woman with a heart of gold and in every sense the epitome of a lady. She always looked for the good in every situation, finding the "bright side" and always positive. She had a passion for animals, especially dogs and seemed to always have at least one "furry friend" in her home More than anything, Barbara loved her grandchildren and greatgrandchildren - they were her world. She was a bright and shining presence wherever she was and will be remembered by all who knew and loved her. Barbara leaves behind to cherish her memory, a daughter, Amy S. Peters and husband, Mark of California; two sons: David Simonson and wife, Tracey of Fayetteville and Jeff Simonson and wife, Marie of Clinton; six grandchildren: Jessica Thornton, Emily Simonson, Evelyn Simonson, Joan Taylor, Bruce Simonson and Gabriel Simonson; five great-grandchildren: Haylee and Jackson Turner, Claire and Skyler Thornton and Theodore Taylor; and one brother, Jerry Kitchen of Commerce, Georgia. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Mary Jean Jones and two brothers: Frank and Aubrey Kitchen. Visitation with family and friends was held one hour prior to the service on Tuesday, beginning at 1:00 pm at the funeral home. The family asks that flowers be omitted, and memorials be made to the American Cancer Society online at www.cancer.org or by mail to: PO Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123. Royal-Hall is honored to serve

### CLINTON

the Simonson family.

**Mr. Fred Douglas Best, 90,** of 2314 Big Piney Grove Rd. Clinton, NC, passed away on Saturday, September 19, 2020 at the Durham VA Medical Center in Durham, NC. Mr. Best was born March 25, 1930 in Pitt Co., NC the son of the late Wesley Woodard and Corrine Best. Mr. Best was a U.S. Army Veteran, having served in the Korean War. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Wesley Woodard, Walter Woodard, one sister, Gladys Herring, and a grandchild, Kayleigh Middlebrooks. Mr. Best is survived by Daughters, Edith Best Cox of Clinton, Victoria R. Middlebrooks of the home, Deidre A. Middlebrooks of the home, Carolyn McClain, Shirley Stinnie (Carl), Gloria Best all of Brooklyn, NY, a special loving & caring niece, Leila Best, host of Grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and nieces & nephews. The family will be receiving friends at the home of Edith Best Cox, 415 Butler Dr., Clinton, NC 28282.

Call (910)590-6086 or email info@thesampsonweekly.com to submit obituaries





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PLT Construction Co., Inc will be bidding the following upcoming project, bidding October 1, 2020 at 3:00 P.M. All quotes are due in no later than 12:00 noon September 30, 2020.

## Sampson Community College Transportation Annex

We are interested in quotations for the following types of work from NCDOT Certified DBE firms: Clearing & Grubbing, Seeding and Mulching, Trucking

and Hauling, Erosion Control/Silt fence, Asphalt paving. Plans and specifications for this project may be viewed at the following location: PLT Construction Office: 5676 Thompson Chapel Church Rd, Wilson, NC 27896.

Please call for assistance in obtaining equipment, supplies, materials, insurance, and/or bonding. All quotations should be faxed to (252) 243-5284 or emailed to randy.garris@pltconstruction.com by the specified times outlined above in order to be considered.

"The North Carolina Department of Transportation, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 US.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award. In accordance with other related nondiscrimination authorities, bidders and contractors will also not be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, disability, low-income level, creed/ religion, or limited English proficiency in consideration for an award."

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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**

#### Of the four eliminations, who most surprises you?

GODSPEAK: Believe or not, Cole Custer. I thought as a rookie, what he didn't know wouldn't bite him. KEN'S CALL: Back in February I would've said Ryan Blaney, but now I'd say William Byron because he'd been running quite well.

### Who are the next four to go?

GODSPEAK: Well, we can say goodbye and thanks for the memories, Clint Bowyer. He will be joined by Kyle Busch, Alex Bowman and Aric Almirola.

KEN'S CALL: Kurt Busch, Clint Bowyer, Alex Bowman, and in an upset, Chase Elliott. Kyle Busch will find a way to advance.

### **GODWIN'S PICKS FOR** LAS VEGAS

WINNER: Joey Logano **REST OF TOP 5:** Martin Truex Jr., Brad Keselowski, Austin Dillon, Ryan Blaney FIRST ONE OUT: Kyle Busch DARK HORSE: Jimmie Johnson DON'T BE SURPRISED IF: Logano scores his third win in two seasons at the desert track.

### **BY THE NUMBERS**

O Spectators at Las Vegas Motor Speedway this week

4 Drivers now eliminated from NASCAR Cup playoffs

Season-best high in wins for Kevin Harvick

25 Lead changes in Las Vegas spring race

29

Kyle Busch's Cup Series losing streak

### **DAYTONA MOTOR MOUTHS**

The playoff roster has been whittled down by 25%, yet we're still standing. Go figure.



## **THROUGH THE GEARS**



Kevin Harvick celebrates his ninth NASCAR Cup Series victory of the season at Bristol. SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES

## 12 drivers go forward

#### **Godwin Kelly**

Daytona Beach News-Journal USA TODAY NETWORK

Bristol Motor Speedway provided the cleaver that hacked off 25% of the NASCAR Cup Series playoff field.

The postseason said adios to four drivers as the field narrowed to an even dozen.

The two drivers who had to win to advance did not while two other drivers, who were outside the cut line going in, were swallowed by the bubble.

Now it's on to Las Vegas Motor Speedway, but save that roll of the dice for Talladega and Charlotte's notorious Roval course.

The spotter is yelling "Green! Green! Green!" on the radio . .

FIRST GEAR: The top 12 drivers going into Bristol in the NASCAR standings were the same names who had their papers processed for Round 2.

Kevin Harvick literally led the postseason parade with his second win in Round 1. He opened the playoffs with a Southern 500 win at Darlington.

He is followed in the standings by Denny Hamlin, Brad Keselowski, Joey Logano and Martin Truex Jr.

Clint Bowyer will start the next round at the back of the bus. He is already 82 points behind Harvick, his teammate at Stewart-Haas Racing, as Round 2 fires off the line.

The new bubble fighters are Kurt Busch, Aric Almirola and 2019 Cup Series champion Kyle Busch, who has gone winless this season. When asked about his chances of advancing, Kyle was quick with an answer. "We'll be eliminated in the next

round," he said.

SECOND GEAR: The four guys left on the playoff chopping block were rookie Cole Custer, William Byron, Ryan Blaney and Matt DiBenedetto, who was hoping to advance for the sake of Wood Brothers Racing.

"I can't possibly explain to people the emotional roller coaster of doing this for a living," DiBenedetto said. "I am very appreciative to do it and love it and I hope I'm driving for this team next year and hope to keep on doing it. We have a lot to build off of. We're just barely getting started but, man, it is tough. I'm glad we made the playoffs. I'm proud of my team."

THIRD GEAR: The two drivers on a mission right now are Jimmie Johnson, who failed to make the playoffs, and Kyle Busch, who may make a quick postseason exit.

Johnson, who is a seven-time Cup champion, hopes to score his 84th career victory before leaving the sport for some IndyCar/sports-car action.

Busch's last win was the 2019 season finale, which took him to the title. Busch said he is more concerned about nabbing a win to keep his streak alive than the crown in 2020. He has won at least one race in each of the last 15 seasons

FOURTH GEAR: Brad Keselowski, who won at Richmond to earn a pass into Round 2, said the path forward in the Cup playoffs is simple enough, on paper. "Obviously we just can't have me-

chanical failures, those are killers," he said. "And I can't make mistakes and run into the wall.

### **QUESTIONS & ATTITUDES**

#### Is Kyle right or does he have a shot?

Kyle Busch, a bit like Tony Stewart in earlier times, doesn't own a Smiley Face he can strap on when things are tough. Especially after a hard-fought run that comes up short, and it did for Kyle at Bristol. Kyle, when asked Saturday about the following week's race: "We'll be eliminated in the next round, so don't care." His elimination is hardly a given, though his 2020 results suggests this might be a throw-away year, and who wouldn't be for that?

### Where's Conventional Wisdom hiding?

Somewhere on the far side of the paddock. Ol' CW had Bubba Wallace going to the No. 42 car in 2021, but apparently Bubba has something else brewing, because Chip Ganassi's No. 42 will belong to Ross Chastain, the world's fastest watermelon farmer. It's refreshing to know that a stock-car racer can still bootstrap his way from Punta Gorda Speedway to the highest level of stock-car racing.

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

## **NASCAR CUP STANDINGS**

1. Kevin Harvick	
2. Denny Hamlin	
3. Brad Keselowski 3,035	
4. Joey Logano	
5. Chase Elliott	
6. Martin Truex Jr 3,016	
7. Alex Bowman	
8. Austin Dillon	
9. Aric Almirola	
<b>10.</b> Kyle Busch	
<b>11.</b> Clint Bowyer	
<b>12.</b> Kurt Busch	
13. Cole Custer 2,067	
<b>14.</b> William Byron	
<b>15.</b> Ryan Blaney 2,058	
16. Matt DiBenedetto	
<b>17.</b> Jimmie Johnson	
18. Erik Jones 681	
19. Tyler Reddick	
<b>20.</b> Chris Buescher 530	

### WHAT'S ON TAP?

(All times Eastern)

CUP SERIES: South Point 400 SITE: Las Vegas Motor Speedway (1.5-mile oval) TV SCHEDULE: Sunday, race (NBC Sports Network, 7 p.m.)

XFINITY: Alsco 300

SITE: Las Vegas Motor Speedway TV SCHEDULE: Saturday, race (NBC Sports Network, 7:30 p.m.)

**GANDER RV & OUTDOORS TRUCK** SERIES: Westgate 200 SITE: Las Vegas Motor Speedway TV SCHEDULE: Friday, race (Fox Sports 1, 9 p.m.)

## **KEN WILLS' TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS**



**KEVIN** HARVICK Might win championship by TKO



DENNY HAMLIN Needs to break mini-slump soon



CHASE ELLIOTT TRUEX JR. Won Vegas 26th at Vegas in February September



ARIC

ALMIROLA

Mr. Top 10

still in a

groove



KYLE BUSCH Finally, some real signs of life



JOEY

LOGANO

February

Vegas win

seems so long

ago





ALEX

the

AUSTIN BOWMAN DILLON Eyeballing Can "Bowman Talladega Showman" next week play Vegas?

### **2020 CUP SERIES** SCHEDULE AND WINNERS

BRAD

KESELOWSKI

Gets a Bristol

mulligan

Feb. 9: Clash at Daytona (Erik Jones) Feb. 16: Daytona 500 (Denny Hamlin) Feb. 23: Las Vegas (Joey Logano) March 1: Fontana (Alex Bowman) March 8: Phoenix (Joey Logano) May 17: Darlington (Kevin Harvick) May 20: Darlington (Denny Hamlin) May 24: Charlotte (Brad Keselowski)

May 27: Charlotte (Chase Elliott) May 31: Bristol (Brad Keselowski) June 7: Atlanta (Kevin Harvick) June 10: Martinsville (Martin Truex Jr.) June 14: Homestead-Miami (Denny Hamlin)

MARTIN

last

June 22: Talladega (Ryan Blaney) June 27: Pocono (Kevin Harvick) June 28: Pocono (Denny Hamlin) July 5: Indianapolis (Kevin Harvick) July 12: Kentucky (Cole Custer)

July 15: Charlotte All Star Race (Chase Elliott) July 19: Texas (Austin Dillon) July 23: Kansas (Denny Hamlin) Aug. 2: New Hampshire (Brad Keselowski) Aug. 8: Michigan (Kevin Harvick) Aug. 9: Michigan (Kevin Harvick) Aug. 16: Daytona Road Course (Chase Elliott) Aug. 22: Dover (Denny Hamlin)

Aug. 23: Dover (Kevin Harvick)

Aug. 29: Daytona (William Byron) Sept. 6: Darlington (Kevin Harvick) Sept. 12: Richmond (Brad Keselowski) Sept. 19: Bristol (Kevin Harvick) Sept. 27: Las Vegas Oct. 4: Talladega Oct. 11: Charlotte Oct. 18: Kansas Oct. 25: Texas Nov. 1: Martinsville Nov. 8: Phoenix

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