



CLAY COUNTY Progress

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Information
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this issue.

- B1



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Thursday, May 9, 2024

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Vol. 46 No. 10 • 2 sections • 18 pages

Honor Flight honors veterans with miles of 'thank you's'

By Marcia Barnes
Staff Writer

from VFW Post 7807.

"There was a plane full of people. We're looking for veterans, they don't have to belong to a post, they can belong to any post, we will help them get on the Honor Flight if they want to go," Moss said.

"We will do what we can and that can happen. It doesn't mean we can get everybody at one time, but over the years we can get a lot more people to experience what we did."

Recognition for their military service and selflessness was what Moss and

Dwight Moss, a Marine who served in the Vietnam War as a foot-soldier boarded a flight from Asheville to Washington, D.C. in the early hours of Saturday, April 27. The momentous departure that morning lifted from the runway with every seat occupied by a Vietnam veteran. They had been invited to the nation's capitol to be honored. Moss was joined on the Honor Flight by Mel Halfon, Larry Owens, Ernie Mayo and Butch Underwood



Photo by Maureen Moss

Dwight Moss greeted a young patriot during an Honor Flight celebration in Asheville on Saturday April 27.

the four men from a local post in Hiwassee began to experience when the Honor Flight landed at Baltimore/Washington International Airport. Moss said that they all departed and got on a bus. Some of the passengers were helpers to assist veter-

See FLIGHT A5

Some residents could pay less for fiber optic

By Becky Long
Publisher

could get speeds of up to 8 Gigabytes. "That's world class," she said.

Clay County residents in need of fiber optic service may want to check into getting signed up with Blue Ridge Mountain EMC soon. Grants awarded to run it to specific areas will save residents on construction costs.

During a May 2 update of Blue Ridge Mountain EMC's broadband, representative Kelly Crawford told county commissioners that a grant for fiber in the Shooting Creek/Fires Creek/Qualla Road areas was received for \$5.5 million; the Tusquitee and Warne area received the same amount.

"As a note/reminder, these funds are restricted and can only be used for the areas designated for funding," Crawford said. "That's why it's so important for our members in these areas who want fiber to sign up now."

The electric co-op matches the grants 30 cents to every dollar. Grants typically run on a cycle and this phase is expected to end in late 2025.

There is no cost for construction when fiber already exists, the expense comes in when there's no fiber there.

Blue Ridge Mountain EMC has put in about 2,294 miles of fiber serving 16,400 customers in their service area. They have 59,000 electric meters in that five-county area as well.

Crawford said residents

Residents can call the Blue Ridge Mountain EMC office at (706) 379-3121 or email: broadband@brmemc.com to confirm if they are in one of the grant-funded areas.

In other news Air Methods medical flight service was approved for the ninth year. The contract is \$29,600, up slightly from the previous \$26,587. The service covers transports for all Clay County residents and they have facilities in 48 states that can also be accessed by residents who may be out of town when something happens.

Marcus Lindsey, representing Air Methods, said they had completed 49 transports this year. "Last year at this time we had completed 54 transports," he said.

"You have saved the citizens of Clay County hundreds of thousands of dollars," said Commissioner Randy Nichols.

The commission also approved an interlocal agreement in which they will not be responsible should the new school, at a cost of \$52 million paid for in lottery funds, go over budget. The formality is necessary because the funds are funneled through the county finance office. Any extra dollars needed for the project would have to be approved by the county commission.

And the winners are...

Heather and Maggie Plemmons were voted the winner of the Clay County Progress Mother/Daughter Look A Like contest which ended on Monday.

Heather and Maggie received 52 of the 273 votes cast by Progress readers among 12 contestants.

Maggie said of her mother, "The most important thing my Mama has shown me is what a Christ-led life looks like. For that, I am forever blessed to call her my mother. She has become the very best friend a daughter could ever ask for. Happy Mother's Day, Mama! I love you."

The duo won an elegant and fun Mother's Day basket that includes gift certificates from Young Harris Wing House, Southern Buckle Boutique, Dove Profile, a photo session with KM Photography and Lush and Lavish homemade soap and other bath and body products.



Mother's Day Look a Like winners, Heather and Maggie Plemmons

Author, educator, intergenerational supporter

By Deby Jo Ferguson
Staff writer

"I traveled with my husband, Robert who served his country through the military for 28 years," Glenna said.

Glenna and her husband, Robert have two children, Brett and Erinn (dec). Glenna got a graduate degree in early childhood education in Atlanta, Ga. before they started doing overseas tours.

"Not only did I support my husband's career, but I stayed true to my own as a teacher. I have been an educator for most of my life starting out as a head-start aid. From there I did undergraduate studies in Indiana at Saint Mary of the Woods Women's College, which is one of the oldest Catholic Academies in the country," Glenna said.

Glenna said she had the calling to teach in her heart for many years, so she begins.

"I also wanted to do service for my

community along with my teaching as I relocated with military assignments. While we were in Germany I started my first intergenerational program. I taught first grade where we adopted German seniors who we visited weekly in their home and a retirement center bringing music, arts and etc. to their lives during our visits," Glenna said.

After coming back to the states, she put together with the help of the school an intergeneration program with her third graders, their parents and a retirement home in Burke, Va. while her husband was assigned to duty at the pentagon.

"I was in this program for five years and saw many programs spring up from it. It was the base of so many things that happen in my life over the next years."

See ORR A3



Glenna Orr found her calling as an educator, author and uses her books in intergenerational volunteering.

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Photo by Carissa Daniels

From right, Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for North Carolina District 43A Tessa Sellers, her husband, Joe Jack Sellers and sons, Rhett and Jackson celebrate Tessa accepting her position.

Judgeship creates historic moment for Clay County

By Barbara Deas
Guest Writer

A large crowd of family, friends and associates gathered on Wednesday, May 1 at the Clay County Courthouse to witness Judge Tessa Shelton Sellers take the oath of office and accept the position of Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for North Carolina District 43A, which encompasses the counties of Clay, Cherokee, Graham, Macon and Swain.

Sellers' installment as a member of the North Carolina Superior Court marks the first time a Clay County native and/or resident, male or female, has held this esteemed position. In addition only a limited number of women have attained the position of Superior Court Judge in North Carolina with the first being Judge Susie Sharp in 1949.

Sellers is the daughter of Charlie and Denise Shelton. She grew up in Clay County and is a graduate of Hayesville High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts from Mars Hill College and her Juris Doctor from Campbell University's Norman A. Wiggins School of Law.

Judge Brad Letts, Superior Court Judge for NC District 30B, presided over Wednesday's ceremony. He opened with remarks about Sellers, stating, "Judge Sellers possesses the strength of character, the focus of mind and the confidence of her convictions to always act in the manner she determines to be correct. Her fortitude embodies within her the ability to decide the difficult decisions she will be called up to make. In so doing, her resolve and innate courage will allow her to withstand the critiques of others, be they ground in good faith or not, which in this position necessarily follow."

Letts continued, "As the ceremony unfolds, I ask that in your own way you also participate in the administration of the oath of office. When you hear the words 'I will administer justice without favoritism to anyone or to the state' let the weight of such an undertaking sit with you. Understand that in taking this oath, Judge Sellers on your behalf, and on the behalf of all our citizens, accepts this awesome responsibility."

The oath of office was administered by the Honorable Willis Whichard, a former North Carolina State Representative and Senator, N.C. Supreme Court Justice and Dean of Campbell University School of Law. Justice Whichard recounted meeting Sellers for the first time when she interviewed for admission into Campbell University Law School and expressed his pride in her as his student and as he has been called upon in each step of her career to administer her oaths of office.

Surrounded by her husband, Joe Jack Sellers and

her sons, Jackson and Rhett, Sellers placed her right hand on the Bible as she responded "I do" to the oath to accept and uphold the responsibilities of her new position. Prior to being selected by Gov. Roy Cooper to fill this Superior Court Judgeship, Sellers served as an Assistant District Attorney in North Carolina's 30th Prosecutorial District and as a general practitioner in private practice. For the past decade, Sellers served as a District Court Judge in North Carolina's 43rd Judicial District.

Immediately following the ceremony, a reception was held in the Courthouse Multi-Purpose room. Sellers' appointment to this position fills the vacancy for the time remaining prior to the November election. In November, she will appear on the General Election ballot running unopposed for this position, establishing her first full eight year elected term of office as Senior Resident Superior Court Judge for North Carolina District 43A.



Thank you to the sponsors of the Progress Mother's Day Look A Like contest: KMG Photography, Dove Profiles, Southern Buckle Boutique and Lush and Lavish. (See ads).



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Highway 64/69 closure extended to May 24

By Becky Long
Publisher

The temporary closing of NC 69 and US 64 to Fort Hembree Road has been extended through May 24, according to a memo sent Monday from N.C. Department of Transportation Resident Engineer Adam Dockery.

The 11 day extension is due to

wet weather and other unforeseen issues

Dockery said unexpected existing conditions have posed constructibility issues and the closure is necessary to excavate, grade, install drainage and pave the new alignment.

Last week the Progress asked Dockery why construction could not be done at night when there is

less traffic and those road conditions were part of the reason why they can't.

"Because of the grade change between the existing and new, it's not safe for the traveling public to have access to this section of road during the day," Dockery explained.

He said the existing road will be lowered approximately 4 feet, therefore and the road must stay

closed until the work is complete.

There is a detour route in place that begins at the intersection of US 64 and Business 64 and ends at the intersection of Business 64 and NC 69 (at the roundabout).

While the temporary road closing is expected to last a few more weeks, completion of the entire road project along 69 has been moved from July to September

2024.

Again Dockery offered apologies on behalf of the DOT for inconveniences the road closure may have created. He also emphasized the importance of safety.

"All are encouraged to drive with caution and obey the posted speed limits," he said.

Dockery can be contacted by phone at (828) 321-5061.

Wildlife Awareness Month: dedicated to fire prevention and preparedness

By Cathy Dowd and Michelle Burnett
Fire and Aviation Management

National Wildfire Awareness Month dedicates the month of May to prevention and preparedness.

In many communities across the country people fear the potential return of wildfires each year.

They watch green spaces dry out and share stories about how they saw flames on a distant ridge top in previous years and wondered how close they would get to their home. In other parts of the country people watch wildfires from the safety of

their living room on television, miles away from the places where wildfires happen often.

Although sympathetic, they are free from the annual concerns of being evacuated from their homes, the health impacts of wildfire smoke and the general worry of, "Will our home be next?" The people who live in these communities barely give wildfire preparedness a thought. Until recently.

The wildfire landscape is changing. As public information officers on the Southern Area Complex Incident Management Gold Team, we've spent many assignments

sharing information about nearby wildfires in communities like the first one outlined above.

More recently, we find our team is getting sent to areas that have never suffered the impacts of wildfires. For them, these events are frightening experiences for which they are often unprepared.

Earlier this year our team was assigned to a group of wildfires known as a complex in western Virginia.

As the team was getting briefed we heard multiple times, "People here just aren't used to this kind of thing." Interestingly, we'd worked

on a wildfire in Virginia last fall, less than a hundred miles away, where the reaction was the same. "We've just never seen anything like this."

Learn about wildfire risk to your community at: www.wildfirerisk.org

Start at home by visiting: www.wildfirerisk.org.1 Using this web-based tool, you can enter the name of your community, tribal area, county or state and find out your wildfire risk.

You can also explore your community's wildfire likelihood in the interactive data viewer and learn

how to reduce your community's wildfire exposure by taking actions such as modifying your home ignition zone, hardening your home, effectively applying land use planning tools and learning about wildfire preparedness.

There are several other tools available to help us understand what we can do to prepare for and prevent wildfires, no matter where we live.

FEMA's www.ready.gov/wildfires has multiple resources on how to prepare for wildfires, stay safe during such an emergency and what to do after a wildfire strikes.

ORR

Continued from A1

Although Glenna received several honors for volunteering, she said the program was a strong building block in the community which continued to grow.

"We were sent to Panama for the third time and I again had the desire to do the intergenerational programs I had done previously. A part of my husband's job was to mix with the Panamanian culture. I was teaching kindergarten and through contacts I was able to work with well Leper patients that were in Panama. My kindergarten and the fifth-grade students where I taught went there and shared so much with them, it was incredible," she said.

Glenna returned to Virginia/Washington, D.C. on another military assignment and after being on a diplomatic leave of absence went back to her third-grade class.

"The community knowing of my work wanted me to incorporate into the school a wide community program plus teach so we did it. I also got another graduate degree in reading from Virginia Tech. I was then asked to train teachers at the middle schools on how to teach students who were reading at a lower level. I did that and continued to serve with the students volunteering at the retirement homes," Glenna said.

This is the time when Glenna's contact with Colin Powell moved her forward.

"Colon Powell was in the game stages of America Promises and asked if I would help him set up a model program in the middle school I was trying to lift up and they needed a different kind of nurturing, so I said yes,"

American Promises created by Colin Powell, secretary of state was created when he decided all underprivileged children needed to be able to have a better opportunity to succeed and this was what he chose to do. He chose this over all the other things he could have done. He believed that in every child's life they should also learn to do for others in a selfless way.

"This totally African American school welcomed me and I left every day after my job at the school and drove into Washington, D.C. middle school in Fairfax County in the Mount Vernon area. Our group chose to go to the Armed forces Home which was a soldier's home at the time but was where President Lincoln and his family would summer from the White House. There was a beautiful cottage and those were sacred grounds because during the civil war there was where Lincoln wrote the draft to the Emancipation Proclamation. It was acquired through an agreement involving General Scott and became a home just for enlisted soldiers," she said.

Glenna continued this for two years and then passed the leadership to others. She continued her job training teachers at the middle school

in Virginia but continued to volunteer at the retirement community in D.C.

"Colin Powell supported what I was doing and wanted to help. My book "Open Wounds, Open Hearts," was presented and six weeks later our daughter, Erinn died shortly after childbirth of her son. Life changed on a dime and I took time to be with my family and grandson, Charlie.

"Later I kept getting calls to come back and help. In 2012 when the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Connecticut happened I went there seven times and shared my books. After that was when I wrote "Memories With the Heart," she said.

Later at another book signing in Arlington, through channels from veterans who were doing volunteer work themselves Glenna made several contacts including Bonnie Lawrence, founder of TAPs. Lawrence's husband went down in a crash in the early 90s over Alaska and Lawrence was working for President Reagan in the West Wing at the time. Lawrence asked, "Who supports the family of our fallen children, spouses and etc." She started a small organization and it's now nationwide with seven seminars around the country and grief camps for children who have lost family members.

"Nearly 12 years ago, I made a call to Lawrence telling her I could help. It wasn't an easy gateway, but I did a workshop in Arlington, Va. with about 600 people

including 300 children back then. Grandparents raising grandchildren. Grief is gut wrenching. We did workshops for three years which is where I met Ted Sylvester, vice president of marketing for Toys for Tots.

"Sylvester said my books would be helpful and for me to pick a place to give to children. I contacted the VFW Home in East Lansing, Mich., signed a bundle of books and sent them to children there. Sylvester loved the way it turned out and suggested a larger group. I suggested TAPS which supports children of our fallen soldiers," she said.

"I first contributed to a Memorial Day Nation TAPS Seminar four years ago giving each child "Remembering With the Heart." It started there with my book in their backpack being given out. Then I wrote "Music In Our Heart" and published these through my organization.

In 2025 TAPS will combine the National Military Survivor Seminar and National Military Suicide Loss Seminar.

"There should be more than 500 children with a total

of 1,500 in attendance. They will be receiving my upcoming book "Giving With the Heart: An Intergenerational Story," along with other gifts. What an honor.

"My goal is to write more, heal more hearts and heal my own heart through all these missions. My books are my mission, they take me to places that support the needs of others. More than 20 years ago I put my non-profit program in place for my books. My upcoming book speaks to

the same storyline of which I am a believer, intergenerational programs bringing together two distinct groups of people at different stages of life; those who are just beginning their journeys and those who have a lifetime of experiences to share.

"As my journey continues, I hope my books and the intergenerational programs that are a part of my life will continue to inspire individuals across the generations," Glenna concluded.

IDEA Public Notice

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-Part B, Public Law 108.446) Project is presently being amended. The Project describes the special education programs that Clay County Schools proposes for Federal funding for the 2024-2025 School Year. Interested persons are encouraged to review amendments to the Project and make comments concerning the implementation of special education under this Federal Program. All comments will be considered prior to submission of the amended Project to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh, North Carolina. The IDEA-Part B Project is open to the public for review and comments during the week of May 22-29, 2024 in the office of Angel Owens located at 154 Yellow Jacket Drive, Hayesville, NC 28904.

Clay County Arrest Report

The following warrants were issued through the Clay County Sheriff's Office for April 29-May 5. All individuals are considered innocent unless proven otherwise in court.

- Susana Daconceicao, 44, of Murphy, N.C., possession of methamphetamine and possession of drug paraphernalia. Released on May 3.
- Kristie Eickleberry, 24, of Murphy, possession of methamphetamine.
- Danny Ray Johnson, 42, of Murphy, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a schedule II controlled substance and misdemeanor probation violation out of county.
- Mark Thomas May IV, 35, of Murphy, possession of methamphetamine and possession of a schedule II controlled substance. Released on May 2.
- Courtney Patricia Sheldon, 33, of Young Harris, Ga., driving while impaired and reckless driving to endanger. Released on April 29.
- Ashley Mackenzie White, 32, of Murphy, expired registration card/tag and driving while license revoked due to a previous non impaired revocation. Released on April 29.
- Michael Wade Roberson II, 35, of Brasstown, N.C., breaking and/or entering, larceny after breaking/en-

tering, possession of stolen goods and possession of burglary tools. Released on April 30.

- Lillian Grace Scovack, 19, of Brasstown, assault and simple assault. Released on May 3.
- Jeffery Moss, 19, of Andrews, N.C., two counts of failing to appear on a misdemeanor. Released on May 3.
- Joseph Scott Plott, 18, of Brasstown, possession of methamphetamine.

Blairsville Internal Medicine Welcomes Leanne Flowers, NP

Blairsville Internal Medicine is a well-established experienced, internal medicine, practice accepting new patients who care as much about their health as we do.



Pictured from left to right: Suzanna Pollock, NP; Jill Nielsen, DNP; Cameron Harper, NP; Elizabeth Wiles, DO; Leanne Flowers, NP; & Mary Beth Wiles, MD

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- To publish newspapers whose focus will be excellence in terms of news and advertising content, reproduction and service.
- To maximize profits consistent with product quality, but in no case less than required to assure long-term growth and our editorial independence.
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- To take a bias in support of the communities we serve providing aggressive, visionary leadership.

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The day they tried corn

It was a serious day in the garden. Various vegetables gathered to witness the much-anticipated criminal fraud case against corn. Corn had filed a counter-suit claiming defamation of character and vegetative discrimination. These historic proceedings would hopefully answer the question plaguing the human and plant kingdoms since the dawn of time: Is corn a grain or vegetable?

Corn entered the courthouse amid chants of, "Grain, grain, grain," from the other vegetables in attendance. Broccoli and cauliflower threw quinoa at him.

The bailiff, a head of iceberg, rolled in and asked everyone to be seated. "Let us start this mess," he said.

In opening arguments, corn, who represented himself, argued that although technically a grain by standard definition, he deserved the title of vegetable based on his longstanding position next to mashed potatoes on the dinner plate. "Everyone knows you only include one starch with a meal," he said. "That makes me the vegetable by default."

The rest of the vegetables, not possessing a grain of intelligence of their own, called an expert witness to the stand. Dr. Bunsen Honeydew, of Muppet fame, testified under oath that corn has been associated with politically incorrect terms. "Words like high fructose, saturated fat and processed food products are not language worthy of vegetables," he said.

At that moment, celery went limp and fainted. He was carried out by a large family of zucchini who arrived late and couldn't find a space to sit.

Corn objected to Honeydew's testimony, saying the doctor's obvious fruity family history, not to mention surname, disqualified him as a vegetative expert. Corn then went on to highlight the nutritional and health benefits of himself. He was over-ruled.

During the commotion, kale lost his cool and let out a series of expletives. After a heated exchange, jalapeno hauled him out of the courtroom. Kale later made bail.

Beet testified he believed corn was beat, even though the ruby red root had previously made a covert contribution to corn's legal expenses with a note that read, "Give me some sugar." The two, at a much later date, became the sweetest of friends.

Cabbage corroborated beet's statement and added information that sounded a little roughage around the edges.

Next, onion took the stand and provided layers and layers of testimony that made everyone cry. Artichoke was particularly choked up.

Throughout the process, corn was all ears.

Thank you, Jared Ogden

Your Views

Join us in honoring active military members

Armed Forces Day is Saturday, May 18. It was established to honor those currently serving. However, the families of those actively serving are frequently overlooked. The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution wishes to honor those families with a Blue Star Banner.

The Blue Star Banner has a blue star for each active service member in a family. The blue stars are floating on a crisp white background surrounded by a red border. Families with loved ones serving in the armed services may proudly display the banner. Frequently, service members'

families are not recognized for their hardships. The pride of knowing that only 30 percent of our nation's youth qualify to serve in the Armed Forces does not completely mollify the sadness of leaving home, the fears and worries for their safety and the heartache and loneliness of separation.

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution wants to present Blue Star Banners to recognize your son or daughter's active commitment.

The Blue Ridge Mountains Chapter, SAR, requests that all families of armed services mem-

bers in Union, Towns, Fannin, and Gilmer counties in Georgia and Clay and Cherokee counties in North Carolina contact our chapter to be presented a Blue Star Banner.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with any of the following: chapter President Stephen Weaver at (828) 360-2476, email: sp-weaver@mindspring.com; Vice President Sid Turner at (706) 745-3410, email: skunkflats@windstream.net; or me at (770) 855-0007, email: jaredogden007@gmail.com.

Trump's juggling of financial and legal problems

Not quite ready to bet the house on it, but I might consider a re-mortgage for a modest sum to place a small wager on the political and financial demise of Donald Trump.

He has two whopping debts incurred from losing two civil cases; one for defrauding New York state, one for defaming E. Jean

Carrol twice. The legal bills keep piling up, draining money from the Republican Party apparatus and of course, three impending trials with even more serious charges. He's like the acrobatic clown spinning plates on five or six sticks, running back and forth trying to keep them spinning before they all come crashing

down. If Trump is convicted in the Manhattan trial he will probably lose enough independent voters and lose the election. Or not. He may never go to jail but that won't be surprising in a country that elected him in the first place.

Bill Bagwell

You Decide: Do international investments help or harm?

Recently the Japanese Prime Minister visited North Carolina to celebrate a major new investment in our state by a Japanese biotechnology company that will spend over a billion dollars and create several hundred permanent jobs.

Such international investments aren't new for North Carolina, which recently ranked ninth among the 50 states in direct foreign investment, tied with Texas and ahead of our surrounding states except for South Carolina.

Of course, when we think of any investment we first think of jobs and salaries. This is a big reason why states and localities seek out foreign investors. But are there any downsides to foreign investments that make them fundamentally different from investments by domestic companies?

Before I address possible downsides to foreign investments let me address the upsides. Jobs and salaries are certainly one upside, especially if the salaries are higher than that of existing jobs. But the new jobs and salaries don't stop with the foreign investment. If the foreign investment is significant, supplier firms will likely also develop and each of these companies brings their own jobs and payroll. Since total local salaries are increased, local spending on typical consumer products will increase, as will jobs at the retailers.

When these two secondary impacts from supplier firms and consumer firms are included, the total job and salary gains could ultimately be from 25 percent to 50 percent higher than from the initial



Mike Walden

foreign investment. The new foreign investment will also pay taxes to the state and local governments. It is true that large business investments whether from foreign or domestic sources sometimes receive incentives that lower their tax payments. But North Carolina's incentives program is structured so that both the state and local governments still come out ahead on taxes even after the incentives are subtracted.

Large foreign investments can lead to skill improvements for local workers. With technology being part of an increasing number of jobs, workers will often need special training to take new positions. North Carolina is lucky to have superb local community colleges that if needed will design specialized training programs to fit the new jobs. Of course the same kind of skill and training improvements can result from domestic investments.

For decades the United States has run a deficit in international trade. This means we purchase more products and services from foreign countries than we sell products and services to them. Some economists worry that such deficits can lead to a lower valued dollar.

The trade deficit will decline if a foreign-owned company selling

to United States consumers moves its manufacturing from its home country to the United States. Why? Because a significant part of the product's sales value will go to United States workers and United States suppliers. If the product was made in another country most of the salaries would go to workers in that country, as would a large part of the suppliers' costs.

There can also be more intangible benefits from foreign investment. Some say the investments improve understanding between the U.S. and foreign countries. Others say the investments can reduce the likelihood of conflicts between the two countries. The idea is that foreign countries having investments in another country have a financial interest in seeing that country survive.

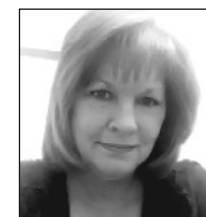
Let's move to the potential negative side of foreign investments. Probably at the top of the list is the issue of control. Foreign companies are usually owned by a majority of foreign individuals. One disadvantage from the perspective of the host country is that it's likely most of the profits flow outside the host country. Japanese companies investing in North Carolina have Japanese owners who will receive the profits from the investment. Of course this is what would be expected, but the point is it means that less money from the investments stays in the United States.

Another cited disadvantage may be cultural differences. Countries usually have distinct cultures that can include expected behaviors

See INVESTMENTS A5

See CORN A5

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Waverly Hood: Like maybe \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year.



Jensen Nichols: Just a \$1,000.



Averie Morgan: Probably a million dollars.



Mason Sacco: A lot of money. Somewhere around \$13,000.



Onnalee Harding: About 20 million dollars.

If your mother got paid for all she does for you, how much would she make a year?

VETERANS

Continued from A1

ans during the day long tour.

“What food we ate, we ate on the bus. We kept moving all day. The story was in the Asheville News. It should have made national news,” Moss said.

“Butch Underwood was touched deeply. Underwood got wounded and was in the Da Nang hospital,” Moss said. “They set out mortars and attacked the hospital and he got wounded again. I don’t know his whole story. I’m going to be performing a wedding ceremony for him and his fiance on Saturday, June 8. It’s a pretty good story because it’s the first girl he ever kissed. He got separated from her when he went to Vietnam.”

Moss said that the bus transported them to all the memorials

and monuments, they saw more than anyone could ever see in a car. There was a policeman guiding the bus, people running interference and they could keep moving.

The Lincoln Memorial and the Korean Memorial were visited, the Hiroshima Memorial and they observed the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The Vietnam Wall Memorial holds the names of two soldiers from Towns County, Ga. Clyde Owensby and Ernest Garrett, who were only 21 years old when they became a casualty of the war and VFW Post 7807 is named in memory of their sacrifice.

“These guys were just kids. It’s a great sadness for me because the war wasn’t prosecuted well. It wasn’t the guys, it was the politicians and I think of how many lives could have been saved if it had been prosecuted correctly and that bothers me a lot,” Moss said. “I didn’t

think about it when I was over there.

“We were just trying to stay alive, but when we were over there we knew we could go to Hanoi. We wanted to go, send us to Hanoi, we’ll fight our way there, we’ll finish up, then we can go home, instead of one man, a dozen men dying. That’s the way it was.

“We were almost pigeons out there. We were patrolling along rice fields and on dykes and things like that. If they’re hidden well in the jungle they can kill us one at a time.

“Tony and I stopped the bloodshed. I fell back toward the fire once when we were ambushed and I’d had one man wounded and another one killed already that day. They cut us off on the way back to the base camp. I asked Tony, ‘Do you have any cover? All I’ve got is straw.’

“He said, ‘Yeah.’ I went back to Tony and then we saw them advancing on our guys. They were coming because we were in a single file, kill-

ing them one by one. We put a stop to it. I remember Tony’s rifle jamming and I said ‘Tony relax,’ and I was scared to death.”

Again, Moss said that he told Tony to relax, that he could get it cleared. Moss wanted Tony firing while Moss needed to reload.

“Everybody had their heads down. That happens, men are scared, they see men getting killed, but the only way you can stay alive is face the enemy.

“The veterans pretty much stayed together in Washington. Once and a while somebody would get out of pocket, but each of us had been assigned to someone to look after us. Each one of us had a helper and they did a good job.

“The lady that helped me along the way, her daughters met us at the airport and they had things for me. She gave me a big poster. It said, ‘We love you.’ All kinds of designs and patriotic symbols.”

Speaking through tears, Moss said, “See, I made it. I mourn for my people, I do. That’s the reason I’m very adamant when we don’t have the right leaders in place. Every decision militarily should consider the soldiers and the families.

“The families suffer tremendous terror. Owensby and Garrett, when those officers came to their home that was the greatest terror the family ever experienced.

“My mom had two officers visit because they thought I wasn’t going to make it. I don’t know why they jumped the gun, but they did. My brother told me about it. It was chaos. Of course, I wasn’t there. My mother was terrified because I was dead. That’s what they thought.”

The Honor Flight back to Asheville brought more than Moss expected.

“While we were still in the plane coming in they said, ‘mail call, mail call.’ They gave us a box like a big cigar box. It was

Announcements

Email: news@claycounty-progress.com or call (828) 389-8431 before 5 p.m. Mondays.

Government meetings

• Board of Election’s meetings will be held at 9 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month at 75 Riverside Circle Ste. 3.

• The Town of Hayesville Council members will hold their monthly meeting at Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 13.

• Clay County Board of Education, 6 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month. Call 389-8513.

• Clay County Sheriff’s Office has free gun locks. Pick-up from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

• The Clay County ABC Board meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, June 11.

Food assistance

• The Clay County Food Pantry is open from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. every Friday to distribute food. The pantry is located at 2278 Hinton Center Road. Contact Bill Rice (828) 389-1657. The website is: www.claycountyfoodpantry.org.

• Matt’s Ministry, 123 W.J. Cabe Road; emergency contact: Sharon Hayden: (828) 361-6441. Pick up is from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturdays only.

• Community Food Pantry is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 16 at the Brass-town Community Center.

Community

MAY 2024 CALENDAR

• Hooper Reunion descendants of Absalom and Clemmons Hooper to meet at 11 p.m. Saturday, July 20 at the Hiawassee Senior Citizen Center for a covered dish lunch. For any questions text (706) 581-2016.

• The Nantahala Regional Library Board will meet at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, May 16 at the Andrews Public Library.

• The Appalachian Saint Andrew’s Pipes and Drums bagpipe band meets at 9 a.m. every Saturday at St. Clare’s Episcopal Church in Blairsville, Ga. for instruction and rehearsal. For details call (678) 620-2757 or (770) 833-5411.

• Citizens For A Better America will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting with Commissioner Ben Adams. Come and eat starting at 5 p.m., meeting will start promptly at 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 16 at Legends Steak House in the private meeting room, 42 Tennessee St., Downtown Murphy, NC. mail: Contact@CitizensForABetterAmerica.com or call: (828) 494-7403.

• Lone Mountain Band at the Brasstown Community Center. Doors open at 6 p.m.; music starts at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 11. Admission is \$10, food

and drinks are available for purchase.

• Young Harris Jamboree is held at 6:30 p.m. the first Friday of the month at Stephens Lodge in Young Harris located at 135 Murphy St. There is no admission for the concert. There will be a light meal served by Stephens Lodge as a fundraiser for their scholarship fund. There is a small fee for the meal.

• Gourd classes at 9:30 a.m. every third Wednesday of each month through November. For details call Linda Michaels at (828) 494-7654.

• All Clay County Democrats are invited to attend our monthly meeting at the Corner Coffee Shop in Hayesville at 6 p.m. followed by an opportunity to socialize at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

• Trash to Treasure shop is now open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 78 Sanderson Street. Featuring household items and furnishings at great prices.

• Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center will be at the Clay County Health Department parking lot from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every fourth

Thursday of the month. The mobile unit is providing free ultrasounds for confirmation of pregnancy. You must be at least six weeks gestation to have the ultrasound performed. If you are interested in making an appointment call (828) 349-3200.

• Al-Anon Family Groups meet at 12 p.m. every Tuesday at Sharp Memorial Methodist Church, 1114 Main St. Room 105, Young Harris, Ga. For details call (404) 687-0467 or visit: www.ga-al-anon.org.

• Recovery Dharma, using Buddhist practices and principles to heal the suffering of addiction. For details about meetings call Emmet (706) 351-2624 or email: hayesville.meditation@gmail.com.

• If you or a loved one are struggling with methamphetamine, reach out for help. Narconon helps people to find treatment and end the web that traps those in addiction. To learn what to look for visit: www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/understanding-meth-addiction.html. Call for free screenings or referrals (800) 431-1754.

• Model A Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Mariolino’s Italian Restaurant, 495 US 64 Bus. in Hayesville. Meet at 5:30 p.m. to dine. For details contact Jim Cannon (832) 692-2288 or Dick Couture (706) 400-1036.

• The general membership meeting for the Blairsville Cruisers Car Club is held at 6 p.m. every fourth Thursday in the Clubhouse on The Murphy Highway North in Blairsville. For details call (706) 400-1036.

• Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors/Survivors of Suicide Loss Peer Support Group will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at the Corner Coffee Shop, 66 Church Street.

• Rotary Club of Clay County meetings are held from 12-1 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Hinton Center, 2330 Hinton Center Road, Hayesville.

• Shooting Creek Basket Weavers Guild will begin meeting at 9:45 a.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Shooting Creek Community Center/Volunteer Fire Department. For details email: pneubert@me.com or visit: www.shootingcreekbaskets.com.

• Woodturners are invited to attend the next meeting of the Brasstown Woodturners Guild at 9:30 a.m. the first Saturday of the month at the Brasstown Community Center, 255 Settawig Road, Brasstown. For details email: robertmarshall949@gmail.com.

• Line Dancing classes will be held from 12-1 p.m. Fridays at the Senior Center.

• Looking to get a bluegrass jam session together once a

week. Call Leo, (706) 970-1237 for details.

• The Mountain Beekeepers Club welcomes beginners and seasoned beekeepers at 6 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month at North Georgia Technical College Campus, 338 Epps Mtn. Lane, Blairsville. Call Glen Henderson at: (706) 745-1795 for details.

• VFW Allison Bristol Post 6812 and VFW Auxiliary meet at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. Post 6812 offers free coffee and conversation at 9 a.m. every Tuesday at the VFW building located adjacent to the Black and Gold Sports Booster Building at the Clay County Youth Ball Fields. Out of area members and all those interested are welcome to attend. For membership/information call (828) 389-6092.

• American Legion Post 532 and Auxiliary monthly meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month in the multi-purpose room upstairs at the Community Services Building (located below Hayesville Post Office) with a complimentary meal at 6 p.m. and meeting at 7 p.m. You may also contact Commander Robert Seibert (828) 644-8497 or Rondall Brown (252) 259-7158 about the Legion and Auxiliary President Teresa McClure (828) 389-6120 about the Auxiliary. Visit: www.post532.org for details.

CORN

Continued from A4

Not all vegetables were so outspoken. Beans sat on the fence stating they didn’t give a toot about the matter while pumpkin made funny faces throughout the day. Carrot remained silent during the

proceedings, afterward reporting to the press he “didn’t care at all.”

Brussels sprouts were unable to join the discussion, as they spoke no English and their translator was lost in translation.

Finally, in the midst of broccoli’s heady and flowery testimony, a teary-eyed

tomato stood up and made an announcement. “I’m not who you think I am,” he said. “I’ve been living life as a vegetable, but since the day I sprouted I’ve always known I am a fruit.”

A hush went over the crowd. The peas were not pleased and rolled off in a huff. They’d planned for

months to announce their status as seeds and now tomato had stolen the limelight.

Meanwhile, eggplant embraced tomato muttering through his sobs, “I’ve never felt like myself either. Perhaps I’m a fruit as well.”

Iceberg demanded order, but chaos ensued, as one by one, vegetables became

fruits. Taking advantage of the hullabaloo, corn slipped quietly out the back door.

He was met there by butter and salt, who’d been waiting, as planned, with a get-away vehicle. The three drove off into the sunset, never to be seen again or at least not for a week or two.

The moral of the story?

It may sound corny, but it doesn’t matter what other people call you as long as you’ve got good friends. That and corn goes best with a little butter and salt. You might want to try it.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author.

INVESTMENTS

Continued from A4

and attitudes about work. If these differences aren’t known and considered, problems can develop between the foreign owner and the domestic management and workers. However, with increased understanding of different cultures, this issue is likely not as common as in the past.

A related potential disadvantage and I emphasize potential disadvantage is that with foreign owners making decisions about the company, the question is whether some of those decisions could be

detrimental to U.S. interests. This is particularly the case for countries who have distinct geopolitical differences with the United States, such as China. Would a country like China be motivated to use their United States based companies to gain information or to use the companies to hurt the U.S. in times of conflict between the countries?

Finally, there is some worry that foreign ownership of a new investment in the United States may simply displace a domestic owner. While this may be true, there’s never a certainty. North Carolina tried for decades to attract an

auto manufacturer, including domestic manufacturers. But it never happened. It was therefore understandable that when foreign-owned VinFast expressed interest, the state jumped at it. There’s the lingering question of whether a domestic-owned auto manufacturer ultimately could have come to North Carolina.

Like almost everything, there are pluses and minuses to foreign investments. However, given the eagerness of states to lure foreign-based investors, the perceived benefits appear to exceed the perceived costs. You Decide.

Mike Walden is a William

Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor and extension economist in the Department

of Agricultural and Resource Economics at North Carolina State University.

He teaches and writes on personal finance, economic outlook and public policy.

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Opinions must be signed and include phone number for verification purposes. Letters should be no more than 500 words. Letters from the same author will not run two weeks consecutive to allow time for response. Remember to keep your views specific to the issues, personal attacks will not be printed. To submit your opinion for publication, email: publisher@claycountyprogress.com or bring to our office, 43 Main Street, Hayesville, by 5 p.m. Monday for the current week’s issue.



Team of Korean prayer warriors from the 2024 Korean World Prayer Mission enjoy an evening of celebration and prayer with the other 20 teams that will soon arrive in America to pray with us for revival and awakening.

Praying for revival in America with Korean World School of Prayer

Elana Stockman
Submitted

The Lord appeared to Rev. Fred Lunsford five years ago while praying in his truck at his prayer garden. He wanted to go home to heaven to be with his wife Gladys, but Jesus had a new assignment for Lunsford to pray for revival and awakening in America and get as many people to join as he could. At 99 years old he has faithfully prayed for America ever since.

When Dr. P. Douglass Small of Project Pray asked Rev. Fred's Christian Light-house Ministries to unite churches in our area to pray, prepare and host a team of Korean Intercessors, we felt this was a tremendous opportunity from the Lord that boosted our faith and expectancy that God is hearing and answering our prayers.

A team of 13 Korean Intercessors will join us in our prayers at First Baptist Church in Murphy May 15-19. They are one of 21 teams visiting American

cities partnering with us as we cry out to God for revival and awakening in the United States. These Koreans, from the Korean World School of Prayer are praying and fasting, often all night, with passion and tears for America. They know that if America falls, Korea will be no more. At this critical time in America we dare not sit back expecting the Koreans to do our praying for us.

The Korean team will be housed at First Baptist Church of Murphy, 517 Hiwassee St. and most of the prayer events over the five days will take place there. For details contact Pastor Jimmy Tanner at (706) 781-5851. However, the team has also been invited to join prayer warriors in Hayesville, Andrews and Hiwassee, Ga. For the complete schedule of prayer events visit: www.wncprayingonthemountain.org, FB: Christian Light-house Ministries or Contact Ron & Elana Stockman at (727)487-3124 and via email: goinghisway3@gmail.com.

Jeremy Brandon Davenport

Jeremy Brandon Davenport, 40, cherished husband, father, son and brother passed away in his home in Blaine, Tenn. on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Brandon was originally from Hayesville. He was a beloved and talented lifelong musician and said he was "country as dirt and cool as the summer rain" as he was.

Brandon, born in the mountains of North Carolina, was a member of First Freewill Baptist Church of Hayesville and a Freemason. His love for music started at the young age of nine years old playing guitar and singing in the church. Throughout his young life into his 20's, he traveled around sharing his talent in gospel and bluegrass music with his brother, Austin, but Brandon's passion and heart were always in country music. He specifically wanted to pay homage to the country music artist who came long before him and to keep country music country. His passion led him back to the mountains of Gatlinburg, Tenn. where he spent his best days doing what he loved the most surrounded by his biggest fans, his wife and children and found his home on both sides of the mountain.

Brandon was preceded in death by his grandmother, Faye Davenport; and dear friend, Travis "Ishmael" Waldroup.

Brandon is survived by his loving wife, Paige Davenport, of Blaine; his children, Blayne and Kaitlyn Davenport; his parents, Donald and Leona Davenport; father-in-law, David Evans and mother-in-law, Cindy Evans; brother, Austin Davenport; grandparents, Enoch and Alva Jean Led-

John David Lewallen Jr.

John David Lewallen Jr., 77, departed this life to be with Jesus forever on April 29, 2024.

A memorial service is pend-



Jeremy Brandon Davenport, Robert Davenport, and in-law, Dot Puckett; niece, Charlotte Evans; brother-in-law, Josh Evans; special aunt, Denise Ledford; friend, Larissa O'Dell; as well as a host of loved family and friends he made along the way.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 5 at First Freewill Baptist Church with the Revs. Chris Rumpfelt and Kyle Cody officiating and special word from Rev. Seth Presley. Brandon laid in state at First Freewill Baptist Church one hour prior to the service.

Brandon was laid to rest at Shooting Creek Memorial Gardens with Masonic graveside rites conducted by Clay Lodge No. 301. In a final tribute to Brandon, family and friends, Preston Cabe, Randy "Tiny" Nichols, Daniel "Boomer" Ledford, Derrick Lovingood, Allen Davenport and Josh McConnell served as pallbearers, honoring a man who touched so many through the gospel, bluegrass and country music.

The family received friends from 3-7 p.m. Saturday, May 4 at the First Freewill Baptist Church.

Ivie Funeral Home, Hayesville: www.iviefuneralhome.com was in charge of all arrangements.

ing for Aug. 18 in Conyers, Ga. Ivie Funeral Home, Hayesville: www.iviefuneralhome.com is in charge of arrangements.

Judy F. Marlar



Judy F. Marlar

Judy F. Marlar, 78, passed away at her residence in Walnut, Miss. on May 5, 2024. She was born on Nov. 18, 1945 in Blountville, Tenn. to the late Cosel Ebron and Blanche Ramey Flanary. She was a graduate of Blountville High School and went on to East Tennessee Baptist Nursing School where she obtained her nursing degree. She worked as a R.N. in emergency rooms, doctors offices and special nursing. Her most recent job was a correctional nurse for the MDOC. She loved attending her grandson's events and was happy she was able to move to the area to be closer to her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband of almost 58 years, Bobby Marlar; son, Josh Marlar and wife, Candace;

grandsons, Jackson and Hilton Marlar; a sister, Linda Gibson, and a host of other family and friends.

A visitation will begin at the graveside at 10 a.m. Tuesday May 14 at Woodhaven Memorial Gardens in Powell, Tenn.

Arrangements are under the care of Memorial Funeral Home: www.MemorialCorinth.com.

Terry Lee McDaniel

Terry Lee McDaniel, 64, of Hayesville, passed away Monday May 6, 2024 at his residence.

A private celebration of life

will take place at a later date. Ivie Funeral Home, Hayesville: www.iviefuneralhome.com is in charge of all arrangements.

In loving memory

To a Star
Lovely, lovely little star
How in the world did you get that far?

Up above the world so high,
Higher than the airplanes fly.
When the big, warm sun goes down

You come out to warm our town.
Those who see you every night
Thank you for your little light.

We love to see you twinkle
We love to see you shine.
In my dreams, little star
I like to think you're mine.

We do not know just what you are —
But, how we love you little

star!
— By Pearl McNutt 1969
Submitted by Mary McCall in memory of her mother, Pearl McNutt

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It's not about us, it's about giving our lives to God

When left without leadership, people flounder. A ship without a captain will struggle to make it to port. An army without a general, struggles to know who to fight, where to fight and when the fight is over. A family without a spiritual father becomes engulfed by the world. The nation of Israel was not different. Then the sons of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died, Judges 4:1, NASB. When this happens, God uses who he wills. Think of the different people God has used. God used Esther to save the Israelites from destruction. He used a donkey to save the life of Balaam. This list goes on: Ruth, Mary, Hannah, Pharaoh, Matthew and Simon the zealot, just to name a few. In Judges 4, God used a woman name Deborah as a prophet and judge for Israel.

Deborah summons Barak to give him a message from God, Behold, the Lord, the

Robert Seibert



God of Israel, has commanded, "Go and march to Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men from the sons of Naphtali and from the sons of Zebulun," Judges 4:6. Sometimes people are reluctant to follow the call of God. Barak was not different. Then Barak said to her, "If you will go with me, then I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go," Judges 4:8. From time to time, many of us need encouragement to do things out of our comfort zone. Moses looked for reasons to not lead Israel out of Egypt, but God gave him Aaron, Exodus 4:14. Following Christ can be discouraging. Too many reject him and God and continue to do evil in the sight of the Lord. The apostles

were blessed with a man who was called Barnabas. When Saul, who would be known as Paul, came to Jerusalem, the disciples there were afraid, But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that he had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus, Acts 9:27. Deborah told Barak she would go with him, but the honor would not be his.

It is OK if we don't receive glory here. And Deborah said to Barak, "Arise! For this is the day in which the Lord has given Sisera into your hands; behold, the Lord has gone out before you." So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him, Judges 4:14. It is very easy to see who deserves the glory in this passage, the Lord has given, this reminds me of Moses at the Red Sea,

Exodus 14:13. Joshua at Jericho told the people, "the Lord has given you the city," Joshua 6:16. It is always God who deserves the honor and glory. Paul told the Philippian brethren he counted all things rubbish in order to gain Christ, Philippians 3:8. The Christians in Corinth were arguing over who was greater because of who had baptized them, thinking it mattered. Paul wrote them and said, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth," 1 Corinthians 3:6. So, lets get our thinking straight; when it comes to Christianity, it is not about us, but God. If you're struggling, get over yourself; it is not about you; ask for help. If you haven't submitted to God's leadership, get over yourself; it is not about you; give your life to God.

Robert Seibert, minister, Hayesville Church of Christ: www.hayesvillechurchofchrist.org.

MAY 2024 CHURCH CALENDAR

- VBS at New Life Baptist Church for children ages 4 to 15. "The Great Jungle Journey" registration will be held from 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 2. VBS will from 6-8:15 p.m. Monday 3 through Friday June 7.
- Singing at Oak View Baptist Church on Downings Creek Road at 6 p.m. Sunday May 19. Pastor Steve Cothren invites all singers who would like to participate to come for a singing worship service.
- Oak Forest United Methodist Church has a Women's Bible Study at 10 a.m. every Thursday and Men of Honor Bible Study at 8 a.m. every Saturday. All are welcome. The church is located at 990 Oak Forest Rd. Hayesville. For details call: (828) 389-9077.
- N.C. Awake America Prayer Meeting will be held at 11:59 a.m. every fourth Thursday of the month at Moss Memorial Library. Join elected officials, pastors, community, leaders and individuals as they meet to pray for our nation, leaders and revival of America. Look for signs. For details call, Darlene Blair: (828) 361-6781 or email: thegodchasingnsnowman@yahoo.com.
- Blessing Box at Bethel Baptist Church, 4250 Crooked Creek road Young Harris, Ga. Take what you need and leave what you can.
- The Clay County Ministerial Association invites everyone to attend the prayer vigil at 6 p.m. every third Thursday of the month at the gazebo on the square. For details, contact Pastors Greg Carroll at New Life Church or Robert Seibert at (828) 644-8497.
- The Warne Church of Christ, located on Old Hwy. 64 across from the Post Office continues the series titled "The God That We Should Know." These lessons will be

- presented at 10:45 a.m. each Sunday. To view past sermons visit Facebook: The Lord's Church in Warne, N.C.
- If you would like to make a donation to the Moss Memorial Baptist Church Cemetery fund, mail to PO Box 1198, Hayesville, N.C. 28904. Make checks to Moss Cemetery Fund.
- To help maintain the Old Shooting Creek Baptist Church Cemetery send donations in care of Phyllis Leslie, 60 Cheetah Lane, Hayesville, N.C. 28904. For details call Shirley Roach at: (770) 316-8241.
- Broken Shells Ministry is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday at 115 Tennessee Street in Murphy. Divorce Care meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday. For details call (828) 837-8777.
- Awake America meetings are held at 11:59 a.m. at different locations including the fourth Thursday at Moss Memorial Library, Hayesville.
- The Hayesville Buddhist Meditation Group meets at 6 p.m. every Wednesday at Iona Integrative Health; 1091 US-64 W, Suite 1 Hayesville. For details email: hayesville.meditation@gmail.com.
- An Antiochian Orthodox Mission services are being held at 3 p.m. on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 7 Ewing Street, Blue Ridge, Ga. For details email: OrthodoxBlueRidge@yahoo.com or call (706) 455-8903.
- Mountain Synagogue in Franklin, N.C. conducts services the third Saturday of each month as well as Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. For details visit: mountainsynagoguewnc.com; email: mountainsynagogue@gmail.com or call: (828) 634-1312.

We are following the heartless actions of King Herod

As we continue in Matthew, we learn that the quest for power leads to cruel and inhumane trappings.

King Herod was heartless. Matthew 2:3 says that the king was disturbed as well as the chief priest and teachers of the law. Matthew makes a point of disclosing that the teachers of the law and chief priest understood that Jesus is the fulfillment of what was prophesied about him. They tell King Herod that the prophet said that the eternal king would be born in Bethlehem of Judea. We see in Micah 5:2 that this king is from ancient times.

Ancient times fits with the Apostle John's gospel. John begins his gospel with, In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. Then in

Dwight Moss



17:5, John writes the words of Jesus as he asked the father to glorify him with the glory he had before the world began. Throughout Matthew's gospel he establishes for us that Jesus is the fulfillment of prophecy.

Evil King Herod called the Magi for a conference about their king that was born. In pretense of a desire to go to worship Jesus, Herod asked the Magi to let him know when they found him so that he could go worship him.

Herod was so angry when the Magi outwitted him that he had all the baby boys age

two years and younger in the vicinity of Bethlehem killed. This too was prophesied in Matthew 2:16-18.

After the Magi left, Joseph was warned in a dream that Herod was going to try to kill the child. Joseph was told by the angel to escape to Egypt. Again, Matthew takes the opportunity to emphasize the prophecy that said, "out of Egypt God called his son." In this early stage of Jesus' life, we can see that God is involved.

As we study Matthew, we should begin to see that Mary's husband Joseph is a godly man who receives the Word of God through God's angel. When the angel of the Lord told Joseph to take Jesus and his mother out of Egypt to Israel, Joseph did not hesitate. We will see Joseph's

footsteps directed by God.

In Hosea 11:1, we see that God refers to Israel as his son, when he calls Israel out of Egypt. During the journey Joseph is once again warned by an angel in a dream not to go to Judea. Although Herod is dead, his son Archelaus was the ruler in Judea. So Joseph went with his family to a town called Nazareth. Matthew says that the prophets said that Jesus would be called a Nazarene. As Jesus was putting together his band of 12, Phillip who had become a follower of Jesus found Nathaniel and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law and about whom the prophets also wrote - Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph," John 1:45. Next. Nathaniel degrades Nazareth.

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The Lone Mountain Band featuring Bobby Burns and Diana Phillips coming to Brasstown Community Center.

Lone Mountain Band in concert

Performance opens summer series at Brasstown Community Center

By Sarah Staugler
Guest Writer

The Brasstown Community Center welcomes a tried and true group, The Lone Mountain Band at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 11 to start our Summer Concert Series.

The group has established itself as one of the top Bluegrass bands in the Tennessee valley since it was formed in the late 90's by former high school classmates Bobby Burns and Diana Phillips.

Burns was born into a musical family. He plays many instruments, but with the band he mostly plays the mandolin, sometimes the fiddle or the guitar. He has played in professional bands since his teenage years and is a full-time luthier and repairman. Burns sings lead and harmony vocals and does most of the MC work for the band.

Diana Phillips was trained as a classical pianist. While in college in Virginia she was exposed to Bluegrass music and fell in love with it. After she moved back to Chattanooga, she teamed up with Burns. Phillips is also an excellent singer and songwriter.

The Brasstown Community Civic Center is proud to be a part of the Blue Ridge Music Trails. Visit: <http://blueridgemusicnc.com> to find more music dates.

blueridgemusicnc.com to find more music dates.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. Admission is \$10, children under 12 are free. Hot dog plates, including a drink, homemade cobbler, ice cream and root beer floats will be available for purchase. We thank Wells & West Construction, of Murphy N.C. for their sponsorship.

Fundraiser concerts are held May through August on the second and fourth Saturdays.

The center is a non-profit and all proceeds from the concerts and facility rentals are for maintenance and upkeep of the building. Call (828) 361-3040 or visit: www.brasstowncommunitycenter.org.

Statistics reveal Moss Memorial Library a popular place to visit

Article Submitted

Moss Memorial Library and the Nantahala Regional Library were preparing their yearly reporting to the state and found 2023 was a strong year. Including a renovation to the front of the library and the construction of a soon-to-open teen room, the library found that there were a total of 28,511 visitors in 2023.

Other figures show program attendance of 787 adults and 2,486 children. 20,917 items were borrowed, with 6,983 items for children and 2,404 eBooks, audio books and magazines electronically borrowed and 4,259 patron questions were answered.

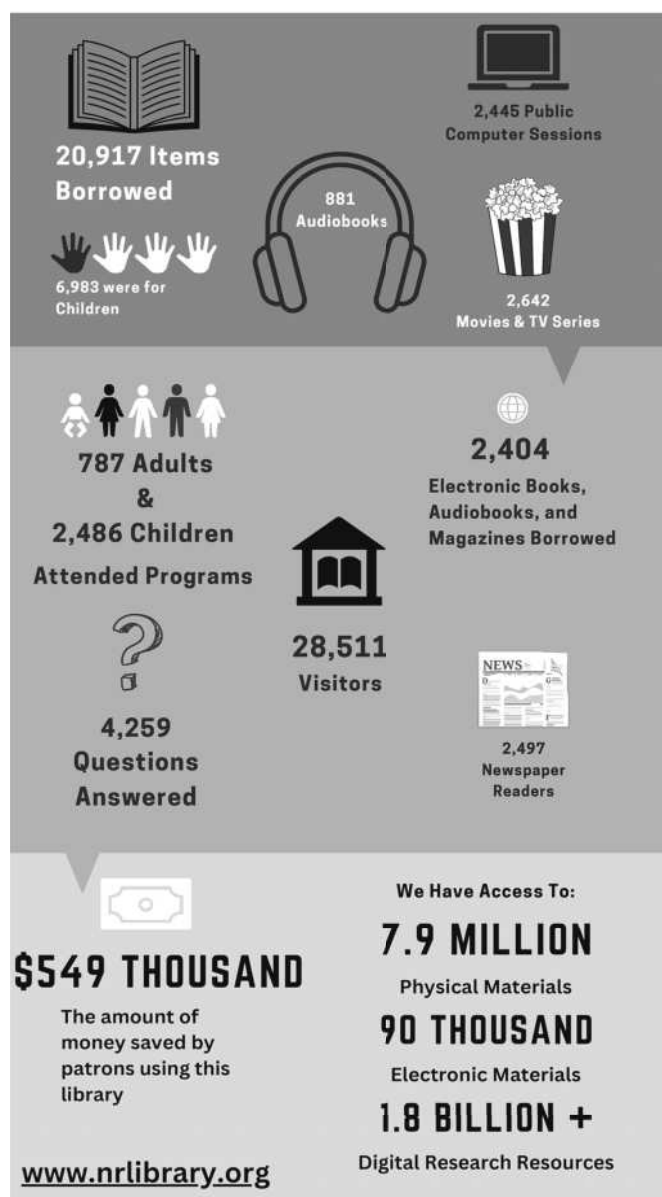
Griffin Anderson, branch manager of Moss Memorial Library, said, "2023 was a great year for the library and for our community of Clay County. We're proud to say

that using our library services has saved our patrons \$549,000."

The library also has a computer room, which is often used for the Microsoft Office productivity software by organizations in the community and by people who are working on their education or searching for jobs. Printing, copying, scanning and faxing services are always available. Information on community resources is also freely available at the library.

Anderson said that the library is looking forward to working on new projects. The library is building a special collection and community archives of local and regional history and has already started digitizing old newspapers from the 1920s and 1930s as a part of that project.

Members of the library staff are busy working on new programming opportunities. A seed library will launch in



time for fall planting and the library has plans for new varieties of media to be available to be loaned to the public.

eties of media to be available to be loaned to the public.

Ledford published in new anthology

Article Submitted

Brenda Kay Ledford's story, "Love Like Blackberries," appeared in the anthology, "When Love Wags A Tail." This is a delightful collection of feel-good tales about remarkable canine encounters that prove that dogs really are our best friends.

Ledford's story is about her dog Pepper, adopted at the Valley River Humane Society.

Her story paints a vivid portrait of the unconditional love that we so generously receive from our canine companions.

Whether you're a lifelong dog enthusiast or someone who has yet to discover the magic of a wagging tail, the

stories in this book offer uplifting glimpses into the lives of ordinary-turned-extraordinary dogs by the 40 authors who contributed to this anthology.

A portion of every book sold is donated to Second Chance North, a foster-to-adoption group that helps to rescue more dogs.

For details visit: www.Wagawaypublishing.com.



Brenda Kay Ledford with her book "When Love Wags a Tail."

Celtic trio performing outdoors at Folk School

By: T-Claw Crawford
Guest Writer

Join us at John C. Campbell Folk School Festival Barn at 7p.m. on Friday, May 10, for a concert with the na Skylark Celtic Trio.

Na Skylark simply means "the skylarks" in Irish and this trio is definitely birds of a feather: three accomplished musicians who specialize



From left, The na Skylark Celtic Trio, Cathy Wilde, Jannell Canerday and Lorinda Jones, will perform at the John C. Campbell Folk School Festival Barn, Friday, May 10.

in the old tunes, songs and historic instruments of Ireland and other Celtic lands, weaving them together into a richly inspiring and emotional musical experience. Invariably, na Skylark audi-

ences leave a performance smiling, laughing and feeling a little bit more about the beating heart of the Celtic soul.

Visit: www.folkschool.org/calendar.

An old dog, new tricks and good vibes

Leap of Faith

It was a big risk to take. Even deep in denial, he rationalized staying there for fear if he faced the real world facts of the matter, he would lose heart and quit. Quitting was not hard because he was never emotionally involved. Nor did the judgement of others particularly matter, if it was negative. Say something nice to the poor dear, on the other extreme and he'd likely propose. Tweaking his cheek, one female companion had said with bemused affection, "Well, you're just a big ol' mess, aren't you?" Yes. He was a mess in his relationships and in keeping a real job. So he chose a career in the music business. There was no quitting this time. It had to work, and so it did. Determination, luck and on several occasions, divine intervention. Accepting his limitations and moving on.

It's fine to have a dream and drive. But the drive to be the best at something, anything at all has to be pointed at the right directory and you have to pay more than lip service. Job or hobby, love it or leave it. Because doing what you don't enjoy is bad for you. Keep it up and



Mike Whitney

it can kill you or leave you barking mad. Starting in his 60s, brain gravity began setting in and the sand castles started pouring down from the sky like so much rain. That's when he opened his eyes, rubbing in disbelief. This was a risk worth taking. Its time had come and had, in fact, been patiently waiting. When you stop pretending you're not afraid of what's chained up in the basement, the door can open, and the big yellow Lab will knock you down and lick you till you cry from laughing. The joy had returned, his hands and mind

and voice were having fun again, and new castles began construction on the old lots up there in the air. He was that guy, that cliché: 'an old dog learning new tricks. And like an old dog, still a puppy at heart.

Last Words

To err is dysfunctional. To forgive, co-dependent.

So come to Epic Thursday the 18th and check out my progress. Also, I recently celebrated my 81st birthday. For which I am immensely grateful to Shelagh and the chopper pilot and crew, the Gainesville medical teams who were amazing and everybody who came to the house to get me back on my feet, I'm looking at you, Meghan and Brian.

E-mail Mike Whitney at: mikelwhitney@gmail.com.

Auditions set at Peacock for 'Oklahoma'

Resident Artistic Director Laurel Adams announces auditions for the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, "Oklahoma" at the Peacock in Hayesville.

"This is such a classic that everyone knows a lot of the lyrics and everyone has a favorite character," says Adams.

Auditions will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, May 18 and 25 and 6-8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, May 20 and 21.

Scripts are available now in the office 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. Actors will be reading from the script, doing some basic dance moves and singing from the score.

Lead characters are Curly, Laurey, Will Parker, Ado Annie, Aunt Eller and Ali Hakim. There are a number of smaller roles and there's something for everyone no matter what your skills are or experience level.

Complete breakdown is posted outside the building or call the office (828) 389-2787 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

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Don't let scammers rip you off

By Mike Causey
Insurance Commissioner

Not everyone plays fair. There are folks out there with sticky fingers, just itching to snatch your hard-earned cash and they have some crafty ways to try to fool you.

Senior citizens, unfortunately, often find themselves in the cross-hairs of these scammers, especially when it comes to their Medicare benefits.

Picture your mailbox being overrun with offers that seem too good to be true, your inbox flooded with dubious emails or your phone ringing off the hook with smooth-talking con artists. Some may even show up at your front door.

They may sweet talk you and ask you for your personal information like your Medicare or Social Security number or even your bank details.

It's important to know that Medicare and the Social Security Administration do not call unsolicited. If you receive a call like this and they ask for your Medicare number, bank account or other personal information, you should hang up immediately. Also no one is supposed to come into your home uninvited.

Here are a few simple tips to use to help you avoid being scammed:

- Stay sharp with unsolicited calls. If the phone rings unexpectedly with a suspicious offer or request for personal information, don't hesitate to hang up immediately. Legitimate organizations won't catch you off guard like that.

- Your safety comes first. If you feel uneasy during the call dial 911 to alert the authorities.

- Guard your personal information. Keep your Medicare, Social Security and banking details close to your chest.

- Get on the "Do Not Call List." You can sign up online at: www.DoNotCall.gov or by calling (888) 382-1222.

- Get help from the experts. Call the N.C. Seniors Medicare Patrol (SMP) or the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program at (855) 408-1212.

- Call Medicare at (800) 633-4227.

If you think someone may be trying to scam you or have any questions about a call or your insurance you can call (855)408-1212 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to speak to a consumer expert and help you with your issue.

Stay sharp, keep your guard up and if something smells fishy, trust your gut. Don't let those scammers make you a victim.

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Hayesville Middle School swings into season - B 1-2

Parrot feather topic of TVA open house

Aquatic weed on Towns Co. side of lake causing concern

By Marcia Barnes Staff Writer

David G. Brewer who is Natural Resource Management Manager for TVA's West Operations gave an overview about aquatic plants and parrot feather. "We've got aquatic plants in the TVA system in the main stem on the river primarily from Watts Bar, Chickamauga, Guntersville, Nickajack. There's a issue in Wilson, a little bit in Wheeler and Pickwick and in Kentucky. "Not as much though is another species called rock star, an eel grass, now our biggest issue. Some reservoirs have hydrilla, verticillata, that's an issue." How does Brewer rate the growth of parrot feather in some areas and in some areas not as bad. "All aquatic plants are good in some sense in providing aquatic habitat, primarily for fisheries and invertebrates. It's good to have a good healthy mix of aquatic plants. We'd prefer to have the native species versus some of the exotic non-natives, like parrot feather." How the TVA looks at solutions to invasive new aquatic species like rock star is still, the parent plants are from southern Europe and Africa. Rock star is a new fast-growing variant. Brewer said that they're not starting from scratch to control new variants of invasive species. In discussing rock star, he said that it's in Florida and they talk with other agencies and scientists



An artist in the making

Alyssa Mae Stiles is busy painting her rock to make it special with the help of her mother, Olivia Gonzalez at Moss Memorial Library. She is the daughter of Olivia Gonzalez and Zach Stiles. In addition to a vast selection of reading material, the Hayesville library offers several



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Hayesville advances to second round with 11-5 comeback

By Gary Corsair
Sports Writer

Jackson Sellers showed why he's one of the best pitchers in western North Carolina Tuesday in the first round of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Class 1-A playoffs.

Hayesville's mound ace pitched five masterful innings after the Yellow Jackets fell behind 4-0 before gradually closing the gap and then deciding the game with a 6-spot to bounce visiting Bethany Community, 11-5.

The victory by Hayesville — 16-3, seeded No. 7 in the West — over No. 26 seed Bethany Christian, 7-11, propelled the Yellow Jackets into the second round of the post-season playoffs.

The Yellow Jackets will host Mountain Heritage — 10-10 after upsetting Piedmont Community Charter, 7-0, Tuesday — at 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 10.

"I'm pleased with how the kids responded after the first innings," Coach Joe Jack Sellers said. "We

chipped away and took over late."

Sellers dominated after being touched for four singles and four runs in the opening inning. Sellers handcuffed the Wolves from then on, repeatedly getting ahead of batters, striking out four, allowed just three hits and one unearned run, and setting Bethany Community down one, two three in the second and sixth innings.

"Jackson settled down after the first," Coach Sellers said.

While Sellers threw darts, Bethany Community's four pitchers came apart. Hayesville took advantage of 9 walks and a hit batsman to close the gap to 4-2 in the second inning, tie the score at 4-4 in the fourth and 5-all in the fifth.

Walks also factored into a big sixth inning in which Hayesville nailed, stapled and welded the coffin shut with 6 runs off two relief pitchers.

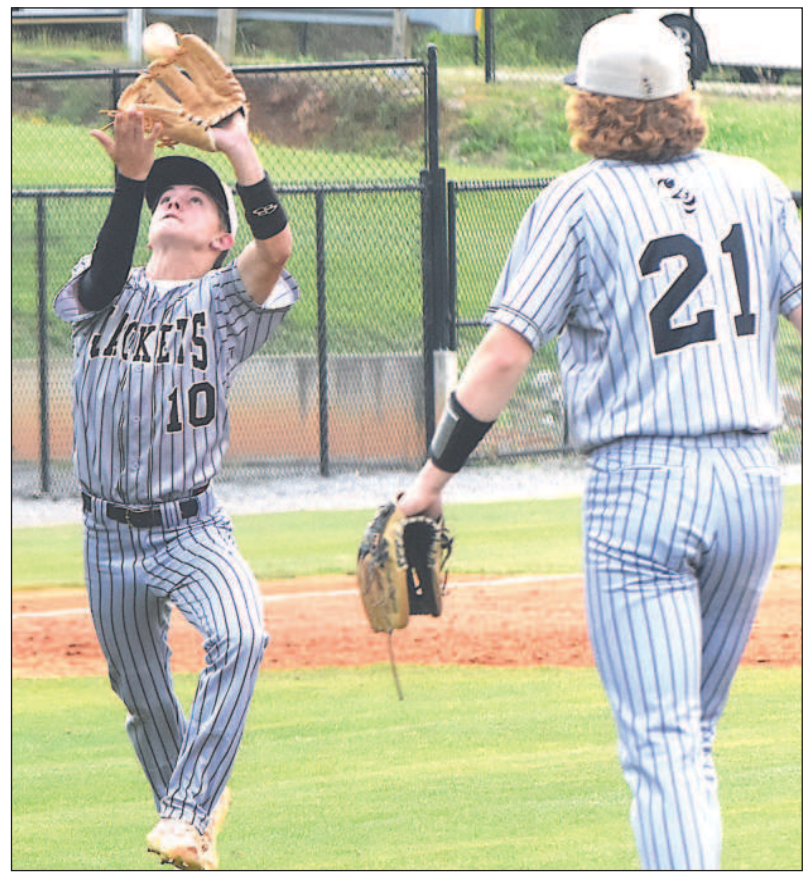
Here's how the Yellow Jackets broke the Wolves: with one out, Peyton McGaha walked; Tate Roberts took first when he was plunked by a pitch; Kyle Shaheen

singled to load the sacks; McGaha scored when Sellers walked, Hayesville 6, BC 5; Roberts came home when Chance Hughes legged out a grounder the third baseman stopped at the bag, 7-5; Shaheen scored on a passed ball, 8-5; Caruso drilled a single to bring in Sellers, 9-5; Dawson Devane slammed a single to plate Hughes, 10-5; Caruso pushed the lead to 11-5 by scoring when the catcher threw away the ball attempting to throw out Cooper Matheson on a steal.

The Yellow Jackets outthit the Wolves, 9-8. Hayesville made the most of its safeties. Capitalizing on walks was only part of the equation. Devane, McGaha and Caruso brought in runs with sacrifices and took extra bases on a pair of Bethany Community throwing errors.

Defense was also a factor. The greatest defensive gem came on the final play of the game when Shaheen ran down a fly ball in right field and fired a rope to Devane, who doubled up a runner attempting to score from third.

See YELLOW JACKETS B2



Gary Corsair • Clay County Progress
Hayesville third baseman Chance Hughes, No. 10, squeezes a pop-up as pitcher Jackson Sellers, No. 21, comes off the mound.

Three Jackets card personal bests, Pullum advances

By Gary Corsair
Sports Writer

Three out of four Hayesville Yellow Jackets played the best round of their golf career when it mattered most.

Junior Connor Pullum and sophomores Peyton Owens and Kile Cunningham all shot career bests in the two-day, 36-hole Smoky Mountain Conference tournament at Old Edwards Club in Highlands.

Pullum's, 87-98, — 185 earned him all-conference honors, a sixth-place finish



Photo submitted

Hayesville medalist Connor Pullum poses with the hardware after being named All-Smoky Mountain Conference.

in a field of 34 golfers, and a berth in Monday's Regional

at Mountain Harbour Golf Club in Hayesville. This is the second consecutive year Pullum made the Regional field.

Pullum shot another good round in the Regional, but failed to qualify for the State Tournament.

Owens shot a 107 on day one of the SMC Tourney and followed it with a career-best 97 for a total of 204. He missed qualifying for the regional by one stroke.

Cunningham also carded his career best on the second day, a round of 106 that



Photo submitted

Hayesville's all underclassman varsity boys golf team coach and members are, from left, Coach Will Penland, Wyatt James, Kile Cunningham, Peyton Owens and Connor Pullum.

gave him a total of 227.

Sophomore Wyatt James shot a 125 and a 121.

The impressive efforts capped a successful season.

"Overall I am pleased with our golf season," Coach Will Penland said. "At the begin-

ning of the season one of our goals was to make it to the regional championship as a team. We came up short on that goal, but more importantly, we had guys that really improved all year long and have laid a very solid

foundation for our team looking forward. We had no seniors on this team and only one junior, Connor Pullum, who was an all-conference player and an individual qualifier for the regional championship."

Hayesville High School track teams headed for championship

By Amy Trout
Guest Writer

On Wednesday, May 1 Hayesville traveled to Cherokee for the Smoky Mountain Conference Championship.

Below are the standouts from the meet:

Girls

- Third - overall
- Second - 4x800 - Savannah Burch, Skylar Lockaby, Raelynn Wood and Sydney Greenstone
- Third - 100m hurdles - Briley Clampitt
- Fifth - 100m - Kylah Eller
- Fifth - 4x200 - Kylah Eller, Savannah Burch, Raelynn Wood and Aaliyah Jackson
- Eighth - 1600m - Olivia Free
- Third - 4x100 - Kylah Eller, Aaliyah Jackson, Briley Clampitt and Skylar Lockaby
- Second - 400m - Ava Shook

- Fifth - 300m hurdles - Briley Clampitt
- Seventh - 300m hurdles - Skylar Lockaby
- Fifth - 800m - Savannah Burch
- Seventh - 800m - Raelynn Wood
- Second - 200m - Ava Shook
- Eighth - 200m - Kylah Eller
- Fifth - 3200 - Sydney Greenstone
- Seventh - 3200 - Raelynn Wood
- Eighth - 3200 - Jadyn Kimber
- Second - 4x400 - Savannah Burch, Briley Clampitt, Skylar Lockaby and Ava Shook
- Third - high jump - Ella Matheson
- Fifth - high jump - Ava Shook
- Third - triple jump - Ella Matheson
- Fifth - shot put - Blaire Hedden
- Seventh - shot put - Lily Trout
- Second - discus - Lily Trout
- Boys**
- Second - overall



Hayesville High School track team seniors are, from left, Maverick Imlay, Taylor McClure, Jacob Jones, Lily Trout, Seth Leek, Isaac Chandler and Landon Hughes.

- Third - 4x800 - Landon Hughes, Jackson Dye, Cannon Brewer and Noah Carter
- Third - 110m hurdles - Jacob Jones
- Fifth - 110m hurdles - Johan Webb

- Seventh - 100m - Trey Graves and Seth Leek
- Second - 4x200 - Isaac Chandler, Kenyon Rodgers-Gibby, Elio Murillo and Seth Leek
- Sixth - 1600m - Noah Carter
- Second - 4x100 - Issac Chandler, Tre Graves, Kenyon Rodgers-Gibby

- First - 400 - Seth Leek
- Seventh - 400 - Nick Wilson
- Eighth - 400 - Logan Cummins
- Second - 300m hurdles - Jacob Jones

See TRACK B2



Hayesville shortstop Raylyn Taylor, shown making a play during the regular season, had the only hit for the Lady Jackets in the first round against South Stanly.

Frustrating softball season ends in first round

By Gary Corsair
Sports Writer

Hayesville was unceremoniously drubbed out of the first round of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association softball playoffs Monday, 15-0, at South Stanly.

The Lady Yellow Jackets, the No. 30 seed in the West, managed just one hit and committed 14 errors in a game shortened to three innings due to the

NCHSAA mercy rule.

Only 5 runs were earned by No. 3 seed South Stanly.

"We struggled to play solid defense with errors that resulted in multiple runs that we did not answer offensively," Hayesville Coach Marissa Peck stated.

Stanly decided the outcome early with 9 runs in the first inning.

Shortstop Raylyn Taylor had Hayesville's lone hit. She went 1-for-1.

The loss brought down the curtain on a frustrating season. Hayesville's young and inexperienced squad won 1 and lost 16.

Obviously, Peck and her girls are hoping for better results next year.

"We are young and ready to grow to continue to get better for next season with four freshmen getting playoff game experience and positional awareness improving," Peck said. "I look forward to the potential that next season brings."



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YELLOW JACKETS

Continued from B1

That wasn't the only jewel. In the third inning, Shaheen, who started the game at first base, made a sweet scoop on a throw in the dirt for the second out. In the fifth, Roberts fielded a hot smash at shortstop, stared a base-runner back to third base and then gunned down the batter at first. McGaha made two superb running catches in center field. Hughes made a nice grab on a pop-up near the mound. In the seventh, Caruso, pitching in relief, hustled over to first base to take a throw from Sellers on what should have a bang, bang play, but the umpire ruled the runner safe.

Hughes led the offense with three hits and 2 runs. Sellers scored 3 runs. Caruso and McGaha scored 2 runs apiece.



Gary Corsair • Clay County Progress

Hayesville ace Jackson Sellers follows through as he fires a strike.



Gary Corsair • Clay County Progress

Yellow Jackets catcher Dawson Devane calls for the ball to be thrown to the plate during Bethany Community's 4-run first run.



Gary Corsair • Clay County Progress

Hayesville's Cade Caruso has the ball and the bag but the Bethany Community runner was declared safe on this seventh-inning play.

New location and time for Model A's

The Brasstown Valley A's local chapter of the Ford Model A Club of America will hold the monthly members meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 9.

The meeting will be held at a new location, the Community Room of the United Community Bank in Hayesville. Lunch will follow at a restaurant to be determined during the meeting.

The meeting topic this month is "Reference Books for Model A Repair & Maintenance" presented by Jim Cannon.

Model A owners and those interested in this iconic automobile are invited to attend. Come meet fellow Model A folks and see what the club is all about. Drive your Model A to the meeting if possible and weather cooperates.



Ava Shook



4x800 relay team, from left, Noah Carter, Jackson Dye, Cannon Brewer and Landon Hughes.



4x800 relay team, from left, Sydney Greenstone, Savannah Burch, Skylar Lockaby and Raelynn Wood.



Lily Trout



4x100 relay team, from left, Tre Graves, Isaac Chandler, Seth Leek and Kenyon Rodgers-Gibby.



4x400 relay team, from left, Savannah Burch, Briley Clampitt, Skylar Lockaby and Ava Shook.



4x200 relay team, from left, Isaac Chandler, Kenyon Rodgers-Gibby, Elio Murillo and Seth Leek.



4x400 relay team, from left, Isaac Chandler, Logan Cummins, Cannon Brewer and Seth Leek.

HHS TRACK

Continued from B1

- Fifth - 300m hurdles - Elio Murilla
- Seventh - 300m hurdles - Johan Webb
- Fifth - 800m - Cannon Brewer
- Second - 200m - Kenyon Roger-Gibby
- Sixth - 200m - Elio Murilla
- Fifth - 3200 - Noah Carter
- Sixth - 3200 - Landon Hughes
- Seventh - 3200 - Jackson Dye
- Second - 4x400 - Isaac Chandler, Logan Cummins, Cannon Brewer and Seth Leek
- Fourth - high jump - Isaac Chandler
- Seventh - Long Jump - Johan Webb
- Eighth - Trey Graves
- Second - shot put - Taylor McClure
- Fourth - shot put - Will Brown
- Fourth - discuss - Taylor McClure
- Seventh - discuss - Landon Trout
- Eighth - discuss - Maverick Imlay

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services

ASPHALT PAVING

Graham County Government will be soliciting Statement of Qualifications from licensed professional engineering firms for services related to the design and construction of asphalt pavement repairs and asphalt paving at the EMS Base located at 70 West Fort Hill Road in Robbinsville, NC:

Additional services include but are not limited to construction bid assistance, construction administration, and project close-out.

Copies of the detailed request for qualifications (RFQ), including a description of the services to be provided by respondents, the minimum content of responses, the criteria to be used to evaluate the responses and the weighting of the qualifications criteria for selection, Pursuant to Section G.S. 143-64.31. of the North Carolina General Statutes, can be obtained by contacting Graham County Project Manager Jason Marino at 828-479-7960 or by email at: jason.marino@grahamcounty.org.

Sealed Statement of Qualifications must be received in the Graham County Administrative Building located at 196 Knight Street in Robbinsville, NC by Thursday, May 16, 2024, by 5 p.m.

See Graham County Procurement Statement Below:

To the greatest extent possible, training / employment opportunities and contracts for work are to be awarded to businesses located in or owned in substantial part by persons residing in Graham County. Please note that this does not guarantee actual employment or contracts. For further information, or to request to be added to the County's list of Section 3 businesses / residents, please contact Graham County Project Manager Jason Marino Mailing: 12 N Main Street, Physical: 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC 28771; phone 828-479-7960; email: jason.marino@grahamcounty.org

The County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages proposals from small, minority, and female-owned businesses (M/WBE); historically underutilized businesses (HUB); disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE); and locally owned/operated businesses that provide employment and training opportunities to low-income individuals. The County does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, age, familial status, in the admission, access to, treatment, or employment in projects and activities.

This information is available in Spanish or any other language upon request. Please contact Jason Marino, at 828-479-7960 or at 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC 28771. Esta información está disponible en español o en cualquier otro idioma bajo petición. Por favor, póngase en contacto con Jason Marino at 828-479-7960 o a 196 Knight Street, Robbinsville, NC para obtener ayuda."



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Partnership works to expand outdoor industry

By Joanna Padgett-Atkisson
Guest Writer

On Tuesday, April 16 the Beal Center was the gathering place for a multi-county economic impact round-table organized by the Made by Mountains Partnership.

This partnership is working to expand the outdoor industry and economy across North Carolina's Appalachian region and catalyze rural development by building vibrant outdoor communities, growing outdoor businesses and amplifying outdoor culture. At this meeting were representatives from Clay and Cherokee counties, N.C. Commerce, Southwestern Commission, Smokey Mountain Host, NCSU and others who met to continue this regional collaboration.

In 2023, the partnership commissioned Appalachian State University's Center for Economic Research and Policy Analysis to conduct the Western North Carolina Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey, which gathered data from several thousand respondents who traveled to western North Carolina from North Carolina and four neighboring states. In February the partnership published its first round of landmark data, unveiling that outdoor recreation visitor spending generated \$4.9 billion in economic output in western North Carolina in 2022.



Attendees to the multi-county economic impact round-table organized by the Made by Mountains Partnership include, from left, Mayor Joe Slaton, Becca Scott, Erica Davis, Joanna Padgett-Atkisson, Jim Rich, Allison Smith, Mici Canales, Bradley Spiegel, Casey Kerr, Laura Lachance, Ann Bass and Blake Covington. Not pictured: Rob Tiger, Sandy Zimmerman, Rod Fortney, Callie Moore, Sara Posey Davis.

Distilled at the county level, this equates to \$68.7 million in economic output in Clay County.

These findings deliver a powerful message about the regional outdoor recreation economy and reveal the potential impact that targeted investment can have on economic opportunity, job creation, quality of life, social equity and environmental stewardship. The survey results support community leaders and decision makers in their efforts to advance proactive policies, plan strategically and invest in outdoor recreation infrastructure.

The Clay County Outdoor Initiative has a goal of focusing on projects identified in the Hayesville Moves Bike and Pedestrian Plan, along with forming regional coalitions with neighboring counties.

Western North Carolina Outdoor Recreation

Participation Survey

The WNC Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey, conducted in 2023, gathered data from 5,462 respondents in North Carolina and four neighboring states. 1,786 respondents engaged in outdoor recreation across 25 WNC counties or the Qualla Boundary. This data supports regional and county-specific estimates for economic impact and benefit-cost analyses within the Building Outdoor Communities program. The survey serves as a comprehensive analysis of outdoor recreation in the region, providing insights into its economic significance and guiding future research and decision-making efforts.

Participation and trips

- Five percent of all households from North Carolina and the four contiguous states visited WNC for the primary purpose of outdoor recreation visited Clay

County.

- The average number of recreation trips taken annually is 2.3 per household.

- An estimate of the total number of trips taken for the primary purpose of outdoor recreation is 168,055 annually.

Most recent trip

- The average number of people in the travel party was 2.8. Sixty percent of the most recent trips were overnight trips. The average number of nights stayed was 1.4.

- The most popular overnight stay mode is in a hotel/motel, 28 percent. Other popular overnight modes are in a camper, nine percent; in a condo, six percent; a public campground, four percent and with friends/family, four percent.

- The average amount of spending is \$427 on the most recent trip. The largest spending categories are lodging, \$83; restaurant meals, \$74; gasoline, \$68

and entertainment, \$58.

- 91 percent of respondents were either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with trip quality. The most recent trip was a typical trip for 77 percent of visitors.

- Popular destinations were the Appalachian Trail, 70 percent; the Jackrabbit Mountain Biking and Hiking Trail System, 43 percent and the Chatuge Reservoir, 40 percent.

- Popular activities were fishing, 38 percent; day hiking, 32 percent and road cycling, 23 percent.

Economic benefits and impacts

- The economic benefit, over and above spending, is \$162 per trip. The economic benefit per person per day is \$41. The annual aggregate benefit of outdoor recreation in Clay County is \$27.2 million.

- The annual economic impact of spending on outdoor recreation trips in Clay County is \$68.7 million in economic activity, 853 full-time equivalent jobs and \$18.1 million in labor income.



Total economic output from the outdoor recreation visitor spending is \$4.9 billion for western North Carolina.

Clay Chamber director to speak at meeting

By Mark Wolchko
Guest Writer

The Mountain Movers and Shakers explore the other side of the state line at 8 a.m. on Friday, May 10 as we welcome Clay County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jim Rich to the meet-

ing at the Sundance Grill in Hiawassee. Relocating to our mountains in 2021, Rich retired from Florida as a principal and immediately began making a positive impact in our community.

Learn more about the Clay County Chamber, its wonderful welcome center in downtown Hayesville and how they

support our entire region.

On another note, Animal Rescue Financial Support continues collecting canned pet food for the Towns County Food Pantry for impoverished pet owners. Join us in helping those in need by bringing canned dog or cat food to Movers and Shakers every Friday morning,



Keynote speaker Barb Lorello, assistant manager of The Home Depot in Blairsville, Ga. highlighted characteristics of effective leaders.



Class VII graduate Ashley Hartzell reflected on her Leadership Chatuge experience.



Michael Hockaday receives his graduation certificate from Hinton CEO Jacqueline Gottlieb.

Leadership Chatuge celebrates graduates

By Karen Kluever
Guest Writer

Attendees at the April 22 graduation for Leadership Chatuge Community Builders celebrated a milestone event as Hinton Rural Life Center CEO and President Dr. Jacqueline Gottlieb announced that 100 students completed the course. Hinton Center launched the 12-week leadership development class in 2018 as a community resource initiative for those who live or work in Clay, Cherokee and Towns counties. The course features topics, activities and speakers that equip participants to be more knowledgeable about their region and how to be more effective community leaders.

"This was our seventh class," said Gottlieb, "and I continue to be impressed by the variety of those who participate. They range from high school students to retirees. They are educators, bankers, social workers, entrepreneurs, nonprofit workers, economic developers, clergy, volunteers and more. By the end of the course not only have they become friends, but they've become more confident in their leadership abilities, more



Leadership Chatuge Class VII, from left: Michael Hockaday, Ashley Hartzell, Catherine L. Yost, Tawny A. Mayo, Dawn Martin, Jeremy Jenkins, Rosemary Jo Royston and Drew Backer.

knowledgeable of our region's assets and challenges and more dedicated to working together in making our community even better."

Barb Lorello, assistant manager of The Home Depot in Blairsville, Ga. was the keynote speaker at the graduation celebration. Lorello highlighted several characteristics of effective leaders. "Leaders learn how to inspire people," said Lorello. "How are we going to get this done? It's hard work. To inspire people it is important to know their stories and what's going on with them, she said. It's important that you really like people. You need to encourage people, and it needs to be genuine. Ninety percent of my job is listening to people," said Lorello. "I'm a firm believer in servant lead-

ership. I want to walk side by side with our employees."

Two members of the graduating class spoke about their Leadership Chatuge experiences. For Jeremy Jenkins, the class encouraged him on his personal and professional journey. Ashley Hartzell reflected on her discovery that "leadership is not about being in charge, but taking care of those we are in charge of." Hartzell also announced that members of the graduating class had made a \$100 contribution to a new Leadership Chatuge Scholarship, established in memory of a previous graduate of the course, J. Michael Donovan who passed away earlier this year. Donovan was a prolific writer, presenter, educator and coach on various aspects

of leadership. He inspired others to participate in Leadership Chatuge and provided great support to Gottlieb as a resource for the class.

The next Leadership Chatuge Community Builders course starts January 27, 2025, with applications available Oct. 1. Course topics include personal leadership styles, regional economic development and opportunities, local history and Appalachian culture, community supports, understanding social determinants of health and others. The course also features networking opportunities, hands-on activities, resources and engaging presentations by speakers who are experts in their field. Visit <https://hintoncenter.org/resources-training/#leadership>.

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Clay County launches community health assessment survey

Article
Submitted

Over the next few weeks, the residents of Clay County will play a crucial role in helping the Clay County Health Department identify important health needs in our community and the surrounding area. We've partnered with the national research firm PRC based in Omaha, Neb., to conduct the Community Health Assessment survey with western North Carolina residents between March and June of this year. The confidential survey will ask about residents' health, behaviors and experiences. Randomly selected households will receive a call from "WNC Health" and the survey is estimated to take around 20 minutes to complete.

Clay County is one of 18 counties participating in the CHA across WNC. The survey covers various health-related factors, including demographics, socioeconomic, health status, disparities, behaviors, clinical care, physical environment and quality of life. This data is the basis for our efforts to prioritize and address health challenges over the next three years.

Clay County plays a vital role in the regional CHA strategy which is led by the WNC Healthy Impact initiative, a collaborative endeavor involving hospitals, health departments and dedicated partners committed to enhancing community health across the region. The CHA is generously supported by the hospitals of western North Carolina and bolstered by contributions

from The Dogwood Health Trust and aims to collect comprehensive data essential for understanding and addressing regional health challenges. The WNC Community Health Assessment survey made possible through this collective funding equips stakeholders, including our valued funders, healthy impact partners and policymakers with invaluable insights to guide targeted public health interventions for the betterment of residents across WNC.

Clay County Health Department encourages all residents to take part. Regina Harper, MPH, BSN-RN, Public Health Educator said, "We strongly encourage everyone to respond if contacted. This initiative gives our community the chance to provide information that helps us

address the most important health needs in our area." The insights from the survey will help us identify areas that need attention and guide efforts to improve services and support systems for the health of all Clay County residents.

Residents can also contribute through an online survey option. Harper added, "Residents of Clay County can share their input by accessing the survey by visiting: www.prcsurvey.com/begin/WNC2024."

For Clay County, the last community health assessment in 2021 helped highlight the impact that chronic health conditions and COVID-19 had on the community. Several initiatives such as the community wellness program and infusion center were developed to help mitigate those concerns.

For details on the Community Health Assessment visit Clay County Health Department website or Call Harper at (828) 389-8052.

This project is made possible through the generous contributions of WNC Hospitals and The Dogwood Health Trust. Hospital partners include:

- Advent Health Hendersonville
- Cherokee Indian Hospital
- Erlanger Western Carolina Hospital
- Harris Regional Hospital
- Haywood Regional Medical Center
- Mission Health
- Rutherford Regional Health System
- St. Luke's Hospital
- Saint Community Hospital
- UNC Health Pardee

Vendors sought for farmers market

By Tyler Osborn
Guest Writer

Are you a local producer of agricultural products, value-added goods or delicious baked treats? If so, you're in luck. The Clay County Farmers Market is gearing up for its grand opening on May 16 and still has space available for vendors like you.

Located at the Clay County Recreation Park in front of the Black and Gold building, the tailgate-style market will be from 3:30-6 p.m. every Thursday through October 31. Whether you're a seasoned vendor or just starting, this is an excellent opportunity to showcase your products to the community and connect with fellow enthusiasts. The best part there is no vendor fee to participate. Vendors from Clay County and the surrounding area are invited to apply.

For application and guidelines, visit: go.ncsu.edu/clayfarmersmarket, visit our office at 25 Riverside Circle, Suite 2, Hayesville or (828) 389-6305.

The Clay County Farmers Market is aimed at supporting local agriculture while providing the community with locally grown products.

Geiger and Palmich take first in bridge

By Jackie Bell
Guest Writer

On Monday, April 29 three and one half tables of the Appalachian Duplicate Bridge Club played a Howell movement at the Clay County Senior Center.

Joyce Geiger and Susan Palmich claimed first place honors with a score of 32.5 and earned .70 black points. They were followed by Myrna Ponkauskas and Karen Miller in second place with a score of 26. and earned .49 black points. Ray Ferree and Jim Bell rounded out the day's winners in third place with a score of 25 and earned .35 black points.

On Thursday, May 2 three and one half tables again played a Howell movement. John Puett and Gail Chambers finished in a tie for first/second place with Geiger and Ponkauskas. Both teams had a score of 26.5 and earned .60 black points. Joe Wald and Bell came in third with a score of 26. and earned .35 black points.

Frank Fulford and Judy Aube came in fourth place with a score of 25.5 and earned .32 black points. Linda and Dennis Ray were fifth with a score of 24 and earned .22 black points.

The group plays at 12:30 p.m. every Monday and Thursday at the Clay County Senior Center. Lunch is available each day as long as you sign up in advance. For details about the games or a partner, contact Ferree at (850)384-3642 or email: raygfer1430@gmail.com.



Main Campus cafeteria heroes are, from left, Amber Harris, Susan Coffey, Gayla Shepherd, Kathryn Rogers, Roberta Ledford, Melissa Godfrey, superintendent, Kayla Long and Ciera Zangara.



Clay County Schools nutrition professionals, from left, Jenny Bethel, director, Mary Nichols, Melissa Godfrey, superintendent, holding the official proclamation declaring May 3 "School Lunch Hero Day," Kathy Cantrell, Melissa Bunn and Teresa Cheeks.

School lunch 'heroes' honored for serving healthy meals

Article
Submitted

Between preparing delicious food, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating student food allergies and offering service with a smile, Clay County Schools' nutrition professionals have a lot on their plate. To celebrate their hard work and commitment,

Clay County Schools' celebrated "School Lunch Hero Day" on Friday, May 3.

This day, celebrated annually since 2013, was designated by the School Nutrition Association and Jarrett Krossocka, author of the "Lunch Lady" graphic novel series. "School Lunch Hero Day" provides an opportunity for parents, students, school staff and

communities to thank those who provide healthy meals to nearly 30 million of America's students each school day.

"School nutrition employees must balance many roles and follow numerous federal, state and local regulations to ensure safe and healthy meals are available in schools. 'School Lunch Hero Day' provides the opportunity for the

community to thank these hard-working heroes for their dedication to fueling our students for success," said Jenny Bethel, school nutrition director.

Nutritious meals at school are an essential part of the day. Clay County Schools express its deep appreciation to these valuable employees and commends their good work on behalf of children.

Chatuge Gun Club awards its first scholarships in 2024

By Ed Jones
Guest Writer

The Chatuge Gun Club is proud to announce the eight winners of the 2024 scholarship competition.

Applicants for the scholarship were required to be high school seniors graduating with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. They were required to author an essay on the Second Amendment, its purpose and importance and how they support the Second Amendment. They were also required to submit a synopsis of their future educational plans as well as their future goals.

The scholarship is open to any student meeting the above requirements who has been accepted to a college or university, a trade school or who has enlisted in the United States Military. Priority is given to Chatuge Gun Club members, CGC children and grandchildren and high school students in counties contiguous to Towns County.

Certificates and scholarship checks were handed out during the 2024 Annual Meeting. Laura Mauldin was unable to attend the meeting due to a conflict with the basketball playoffs but sent a nice letter thanking the club and explain-

ing her absence.

Gracelynn Anderson had a unique problem. Her application was mailed from the Hayesville Post Office but didn't arrive in Hiwassee until three and a half weeks later. Her application was of sufficient caliber that she was added to the list of recipients receiving \$1,000 scholarships, since the delay of her application was through no fault of her own.

Congratulations to all these students as they are the future of our country, the shooting sports and the Second Amendment of the Constitution.

The scholarship winners for 2024 awards and school:

- First - Anna "Laura" Mauldin, \$1,000, Towns County High School
- Second - Danielle Kirby, \$1,000, Hayesville High School
- Third - Kade McConnell, \$1,000, TCHS
- Fourth - Gracelynn Anderson, \$1,000, HHS
- Fifth - Jacob McClure, \$500, HHS
- Sixth - Gavin Sherman, \$500, Home School
- Seventh - Shawn Waldman, \$500, TCHS
- Eighth - Lane O'Dell, \$500, HHS

Foreign investors must report agricultural land holdings

U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Executive Director Philip Moore in Clay, Cherokee and Graham counties reminds foreign investors with an interest in agricultural land in the United States that they are required to report their land holdings and transactions to USDA.

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act requires foreign investors who buy, sell or hold an interest in United States agricultural land to report their holdings and transactions to the USDA. Foreign investors must file AFIDA Report

Form FSA-153 with the FSA county office in the county where the land is located. Large or complex filings may be handled by AFIDA headquarters staff in Washington, D.C.

According to CFR Title 7 Part 781, any foreign person who holds an interest in United States agricultural land is required to report their holdings no later than 90 days after the date of the transaction.

"Failure to file a report or filing a late or inaccurate report can result in a penalty with fines up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the agricultural land," said Moore.

Foreign investors should report holdings of agricultural land totaling 10 acres or more used for farming, ranching or timber production and leaseholds on agricultural land of 10 or more years. Tracts totaling 10 acres or less in the aggregate and which produce annual gross receipts in excess of \$1,000 from the sale of farm, ranch, forestry or timber products must also be reported. AFIDA reports are also required when there are changes in land use, such as from agricultural to nonagricultural use. Foreign investors must also file a report when

there is a change in the status of ownership.

The information from AFIDA reports is used to prepare an annual report to Congress. These annual reports to Congress as well as more information are available on the FSA AFIDA webpage.

Assistance in completing the FSA-153 report may be obtained from the local FSA office. For details regarding AFIDA or FSA programs contact the Clay- Cherokee-Graham County FSA office at (828) 837-2721, Extension 2 or visit: www.fsa.usda.gov.



A bake sale is set from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, May 10 at Union County Library Community Room.

Union County Library planning bake sale fundraiser on May 10

Article
Submitted

you have baked.

Friends of Union County Library are delighted to offer cookies, cakes, pies, breads, brownies and other delicious treats to the public in the Community Room at Union County Public Library. This bake sale is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, May 10 so you can purchase baked goods to add to your Mother's Day celebration.

We are also asking for donations of home-made bakery goods to sell and will be in the Community Room from 2-5 p.m. Thursday, May 9 to receive what

The library's Summer Reading Program is supplemented every year with funds Friends of Union County Library raises so please give generously. This is only one of the ways our fundraisers and membership dues benefit Union County Public Library. If the library tells us they have a need or a wish, Friends of the Union County Library tries to fulfill it.

Visit Mountain Regional Library System website to find out more about everything going on this summer at our library: www.mountainlibrary.com and visit: www.foucl.org to find out more about us.

The ever friendly, lovable Labrador retriever, ideal pet

The Labrador retriever is the traditional water dog of Newfoundland and long employed as a duck retriever and fisherman's mate. The breed began its steady climb to popularity in the early 1800s when Labs were spotted by English nobles who brought them home.

Year after year the sweet-faced, lovable Labrador retriever is one of America's most popular dog breeds. Labs are friendly, outgoing and high-spirited companions who have more than enough affection to go around for a family looking for a medium to large dog. Seldom do labs bite people. They have too much love and gentleness for all mankind. They often become the neighborhood's champ, visiting everyone if given the opportunity. They are companionable housemates who bond with the whole family and they socialize well with neighbor dogs and humans alike. However, don't mistake his easygoing personality for low energy. The Lab is an enthusiastic athlete that requires

lots of exercise, like swimming and games of fetch to keep physically and mentally fit

The sturdy, well-balanced Labrador retriever can, depending on the sex, stand from 21.5 to 24.5 inches at the shoulder and weigh between 55 to 80 pounds. The dense hard coat comes in yellow, black, silver and chocolate. The head is wide, the eyes glimmer with kindness and the thick tapering "otter tail" seems to be forever signaling the breed's innate eagerness to be with you and your family and maybe all of your neighbors as they will visit everyone.

Riley Mae was born on May 10, 2023. I picked her up on June 24. I have always wanted a silver lab. My coworker/friend was getting one of the puppies, her sister and told me where she was getting the puppies. I got Riley Mae from a family in Franklin, N.C. I had a black lab mix named Jazzy who was the best dog and had a heart of gold. I met Jazzy in 2012 from my neighbors who rescued her and



Linda Vanderlaan



Dana Ledford and Riley Mae of Murphy. Ledford says she has seen a positive results since Riley Mae has been taking training.

soon she just picked me to be her owner and my neighbors let me have Jazzy. She passed on Dec. 28, 2020.

Here's what one Lab owner, Dana Ledford had to say: "Riley Mae is a good puppy/dog but she has given me a run for my money. She is smart, learns quickly and is getting bigger every day. Some days she acts like a two-year-old and can throw tantrums. I have to remind myself that she looks like an adult dog but is still just a puppy and acts like a puppy. She loves to chase balls and frisbee. Loves sticks. Hee sister Chey-

enne, a rat terrier, loves to eat anything and things she shouldn't. Riley Mae has been doing dog training and she has improved a lot since we started. She's my baby and I am her mommy. I just felt at the time when I got Riley Mae I needed something to take care of and to get out of bed and live. I hope to get her trained so I can take her hiking, to the lake, walk around the towns and go to the breweries. I just want her to be my best bud and my travel companion. Labs are just wonderful beautiful dogs to have in your life."

Trash to Treasure sale continues into summer months

By Sandy Zimmerman
Guest Writer

Historic Hayesville Inc. Board members and volunteers announce that the annual Trash to Treasure sale will continue into mid-July in the current downtown location at 78 Sanderson Street. Owners of the building are making plans for a later new business and are very supportive of the HHI Fundraiser.

Donations of items including furniture and household goods will continue to be accepted by volunteers on

Mondays at the store location but clothing, shoes and electronics such as computers, televisions or their accessories are not accepted.

Regular shopping hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. The store will open at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 11 to coincide with the Mayor's Yard Sale around the square.

Proceeds from the event will be used for current partner projects such as plants in the Town Hall garden on the square with Clay County Master Gardeners, support of the CCCRA Summer Concert



Addition arrivals include two futons with double size heavy duty cushions. Each can be used for seating or sleep area for overnight guests.

Series, contribution to Peacock Songwriters Showcase and improvements to the HHI Centennial Exhibit next to the Hayesville Post Office. HHI will also be involved with additional projects as information becomes available for specific use of support funds to local partners.

HHI projects or events are completely managed

by volunteers as part of the 501c3 nonprofit status of the Hayesville Small Town Main Street program as an affiliate with both North Carolina and National Main Street accreditation.

Visit: www.historichayesvilleinc.com for details, to donate, volunteer or view partner organizations and events.

Farming equipment safety tips in our rural communities

Farming is a cornerstone of our society, providing sustenance and livelihoods for millions. However, it's also an industry fraught with potential dangers, especially when it comes to machinery like tractors and various farm equipment. In Clay County, where agriculture thrives, ensuring safety on farms isn't just a priority it's a vital responsibility, one that encompasses not only the well-being of farmers but also that of emergency responders like Clay County Fire and Rescue.

Tractor safety

Tractors are indispensable on farms but their power and complexity make them potentially hazardous. To mitigate risks, farmers and workers should adhere to strict safety protocols:

- **Training matters.** Before operating a tractor individuals should undergo comprehensive training on its operation, including safety procedures and emergency protocols. Proper training can significantly reduce the likelihood of accidents.

- **Regular maintenance.** Tractors should undergo regular maintenance to ensure they are in optimal working condition. Faulty brakes, malfunctioning steering or worn-out tires can all contribute to accidents.

- **Use of attachments.** When using attachments such as plows, mowers or loaders it's crucial to follow manufacturer guidelines for installation and operation. Improper attachment or usage can lead to accidents or equipment failure.

- **Rollover protection.** Tractors should be equipped with rollover protection structures and seat belts to protect operators in the event of a rollover. These safety features have been proven to save lives.

- **Mindful operation.** Operators should be vigilant and focused while operating tractors, avoiding distractions and risky behaviors. Speeding, erratic driving or operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs significantly increase the risk of accidents.

Gardening safety

While gardening may seem less hazardous than farm work it still poses its own set of risks, especially when

Joyce E. Portik

Clay County Fire & Rescue



using tools and equipment. Here are some tips to ensure safety in the gardens:

- **Protective gear.** Wear appropriate protective gear, including gloves, goggles and sturdy footwear to prevent injuries from sharp tools, thorns or flying debris.

- **Tool maintenance.** Keep gardening tools clean and sharp to ensure they function properly and minimize the effort required to use. Dull tools can slip and cause incidents.

- **Proper lifting techniques.** Use proper lifting techniques when handling heavy objects such as bags of soil or potted plants to prevent strains and back injuries. Bend at the knees, not at the waist and lift with your legs.

- **Watch for hazards.** Be mindful of potential hazards in the garden, such as uneven terrain, hidden obstacles or poisonous plants. Clear pathways and mark hazards to prevent accidents.

- **Sun protection.** Protect yourself from the sun's harmful rays by wearing sunscreen, a hat and lightweight breathable clothing. Stay hydrated, especially during hot weather to prevent heat-related illnesses.

By following these safety guidelines, both on the farm and in the garden, we can reduce the risk of accidents and ensure the well-being of everyone involved in agricultural activities. Remember, safety is everyone's responsibility and it's worth the effort to prevent avoidable tragedies.

Clay County Fire & Rescue

Week of April 24-30
Total calls - 34
Medical assist calls - 28
Dispatched, no emergency found - 2
Dispatched, canceled en route - 2
Vehicle fire - 1
Public service - 1
Joyce E. Portik is Clay County Fire and Rescue publication officer. Call (828) 389-6905.

North Carolina State Highway Patrol seeking public feedback

By Christopher Knox
Guest Writer

The North Carolina State Highway Patrol maintains national law enforcement accreditation through the Commission on Law Enforcement for Accreditation. As a part

of this process an opportunity is provided to citizens of North Carolina for public feedback via the CALEA Portal which can be located here: Accreditation Public Comment Portal.

The purpose of this public portal is to receive comments regard-

ing our compliance with CALEA standards, engagement in the service community, delivery of public safety services and overall candidacy for accreditation status.

These comments can be in the form of commendations or concerns.

The overall intent of the accreditation process is to provide our agency with information to support continuous improvement, as well as foster our pursuit of professional excellence.

Standard titles may be viewed on the CALEA website: Law En-

forcement - Standards Titles | CALEA | The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. Questions related to the accreditation process may be directed to the Accreditation Manager, Michelle Partin, at michelle.partin@ncdps.gov.

Celebrate your Mother's Day with my children's favorite dishes

During their childhood days, my sons, Chris and Will enjoyed these dishes that I made for them and now their ladies, Harmony and Heather, love them, too. Mothers are content and happy when they please their children. Happy Mother's Day.

I've featured these recipes before, but enjoy them again:

Bisquick Chicken Casserole

1 entire cooked rotisserie chicken
1 cup milk
1 can cream of chicken soup
Bisquick Original Pancake & Baking Mix

¼ to ½ cup chicken broth
Cut into small pieces the chicken, removing the skin and deboning it. Place the chicken pieces in a 9x12-inch casserole dish. Mix the following items well in a separa-

Nancy Rowland



rate bowl: the chicken broth, cream of chicken soup and 1 cup milk. Pour the mixture over chicken.

Make 8-12 Bisquick drop biscuits, according to the directions on the back of the box. Spoon biscuits on top of casserole. Bake at 400-425 F for 20 minutes or until the biscuits are brown.

Nancy's Lasagna

I received this recipe in 1972 from a friend while working for the U.S. Air Force in Germany and have been making it ever since.

Servings: 12

2 pounds ground beef
1 clove garlic, minced

1 tablespoon hot fat or oil
2 ½ cup canned tomatoes (or could use 1 jar spaghetti sauce)

1 (6-ounce) can tomato paste

1 teaspoon salt
¾ teaspoon pepper
½ teaspoon oregano

1 egg
16 ounces cottage cheese

8 ounces lasagna noodles, cooked

16 ounces Swiss cheese or Mozzarella cheese

¾ cup grated Parmesan cheese

Brown ground beef and garlic in hot fat. Add tomatoes, tomato paste and seasonings. Cover and simmer for 20 minutes. Set aside.

Cook the lasagna according to the package.

Heat oven to 350 F. Combine the egg and cottage

cheese together. In a 10x17-inch baking dish, place the layers of sauce, noodles, Swiss cheese and cottage cheese and egg mixture. Begin and end with the meat sauce. Repeat until all is used. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and bake for 30 minutes.

Cold Broccoli Salad

This salad is a great potluck dish as well as serving for your family. For individual variations, add chopped pecans or cranberries.

Servings: 14

7 cups small fresh broccoli florets

Approximately 1 cup of mayonnaise

6 slices fully cooked bacon, cut into bite-size pieces, optional

½ cup raisins, optional
¼ cup finely chopped red

onions

¼ cup sunflower kernels, optional

½ cup shredded cheese, optional

Combine all the ingredients except the shredded cheese and mix with the mayonnaise. Refrigerate for several hours or overnight. Before serving, add the cheddar cheese and mix lightly. Add any other toppings you choose. (rains, and cheddar cheese in a large bowl.)

Oreo Ice-Cream Dessert

Ideally, make this the night before, so it can freeze long enough to be cut into squares. I use a sealed large plastic bag and a rolling pin for crumbling the cookies, saving a few for the topping. For easy spreading, microwave the chocolate syrup.

1 package Oreo cookies

1 container Cool Whip, large or small

1 jar of chocolate syrup

½ gallon Cookies n' Cream ice-cream, or your preference

In a rectangular dish, layer the following in this order without mixing: the crumbled Oreo Cookies, ice-cream, chocolate syrup and Cool Whip. Sprinkle just a few crumbled cookies on the top for presentation. Freeze overnight and then cut into bars.

"A mother's love is like a beacon, lighting up the future but reflected also on the past in the guise of fond memories."

— **Honore de Balzac**

Share your favorite recipes along with a photo to: nancy.recipes@outlook.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

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Please read your ad the first day it runs so any necessary changes can be made. Liability is limited to the first run.

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise: any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. "Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on the equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Smoky Mountain Landscapes, Inc. Landscape Design, Installation and Construction Licensed (NCLCLB), bonded and insured (Gen. Liability and W.C.) Thirty years local experience. References and portfolio available. Call Heidi Sherlock at 828-389-9786. Facebook page: Smoky Mountain Landscapes, Inc.#inc. ccp-423652

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EMPLOYMENT

General Employment

PRESS HELPER
 Mountain Press, a regional newspaper printing facility for Community Newspapers Inc. has an opening for a press helper in our Franklin, NC facility. Regular duties include: performing preventative maintenance; filling ink trays; changing paper rolls, hanging plates and keeping the press clean. Ideal candidate will have an aptitude for working with machines and be interested in learning how to operated a Goss Community Press. Must be able to lift 50 lbs, climb ladders, stand for long periods of time, be dependable, have reliable transportation, and be able to successfully pass a background check. Full time (32 hours per week), Monday – Thursday, day shift, paid time off, health insurance including dental and vision. Apply in person at 40 Depot Street, Franklin, NC or send resume to rhoskins@the-franklinpress.com

General Employment

Reach of Cherokee County, Inc. is hiring a Victim Advocate for Graham County.
 Hiring a full-time Victim Advocate. To provide crisis intervention, information and referral, advocacy support, legal advocacy, transportation, accompaniment, and follow-up assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; assist victims with safety planning, obtaining court orders protection, and testifying in criminal court proceedings, facilitate support groups; assist in promoting services and reporting outcomes of the program; etc.
 • 4 year degree in health and human services or related field, with at least two years working experience in human resources issues.
 • Strong writing, reading, listening and speaking communications skills.
 • Public speaking experience is necessary.
 • Have the ability to problem solving skills, ability to relate to the public, ability to maintain confidentiality, and ability to handle and deal with conflict and crisis situations.
 • Knowledge and/or experience with court processes is preferred.
 • Experience advocating for victims of sexual assault is also preferred.
 • Must successfully complete a criminal history background check.
 If interested, email dana@reachofcherokeecounty.org or an application. Deadline is May 10, 2024. (811053)

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FOR SALE

Yard Sales

4 Family from 8-2 on 5/11. Lots of clothes for everyone, Collector dolls. Tools and miscellaneous. Come back again. 2182 Mission Rd. (814739)

HUGE GARAGE SALE: Furniture, kitchen/bathroom/household goods, pet items, wheelchair, small appliances/electronics, artwork, coolers, odds and ends. Sat May 11, 9AM-5PM, 37 Blumenthal St. (next to Library), Murphy NC (814860)

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Miscellaneous For Sale

Friends of the Library Bookstore: Browse through 1000s of gently used books. Proceeds benefit Moss Library. Mon-Sat 10-4:30. Main at Tusquitee 828-389-8401 ccp-465041

Granny's Attic Thrift Store, 200 Hwy. 64W (next to Subway) open 9-4 Wednesdays-Fridays and 10-2 Saturdays. All volunteer ran, proceeds support Clay County. Donations accepted during business hours and Monday mornings. No furniture. Visit the Facebook page for more info. ccp-669532

REACH THRIFT STORE: Is open 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Donations accepted during business hours, please call ahead if you have large donations. 828-389-0017 ccp-60877

Thrifter's Paradise by Dairy Queen, Hiwassee, accepting donations Mon.-Sat. 11-6. Supporting community needs in Clay, Towns and Cherokee counties. Pick up available. 828-342-0420/478-231-3164. Ccp-545136

Trash to Treasure now open 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 78 Sanderson Str. On Hayesville square. Donations of household items accepted on Mondays. Contact: (828)-361-7058. ccp809833

VALLEY RIVER THRIFT SHOP: The Valley River Humane Society Thrift Shop is open 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat. The store is located at Old Cook's Carpet Building, next to Arby's on Highway 64 West, Murphy. Call 828-837-6137. Shelter number is 828-837-2304. ccp-61343

Veterans Thrift Store, a product of Club 66, 2641 Hwy. 66, Young Harris, Ga. is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday serving Clay, Towns and Union Counties. We have a dry goods food bank and we loan out medical equipment. Accepting gently used items, furniture, appliances, toys, clothes, etc. For details call (706) 379-3774. ccp802970

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 Large laundry. Large sit in dining/ with wet bar. Sitting rooms. Large living room. Very large and modern kitchen. Piano in one of the common areas. Additional living room in basement. Home beautiful and fully furnished. Numerous outside sitting areas. Large garage currently game room.
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Large (1,700 Sq Ft) Apartment in Town of Andrews: 3 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Baths. Carpet, washer & dryer included. \$1,300/ Month. NO PETS! Call 828-361-3340 (813965)

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 • REASONABLE RATES
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MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

Public Notices

NOTICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
 CLAY COUNTY
 IN THE DISTRICT COURT

Public Notices

JODI WILLIS VS. RICHARD WILLIS
 (FILE NO: 24-CVD-44)

TO: RICHARD WILLIS

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is: (1) a Judgment of Absolute Divorce.
 You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than June 11th, 2024 and upon your failure to do so the parties seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 24th day of April, 2024.

Zeyland G. McKinney, Jr.
 Attorney for Jodi Willis
 135 Peachtree Street Suite 2
 Murphy, NC 28906
 (828) 837-9973
 ccp813349

Public Notice
 North Carolina Environmental Management Commission/NPDES Unit 1617 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1617

Notice of Intent to Issue NPDES Wastewater Permit NC0027332 Chatuge Hydro Plant

The North Carolina Environmental Management Commission proposes to issue a NPDES wastewater discharge permit to the person (s) listed below. Written comments regarding the proposed permit will be accepted until 30 days after the publish date of this notice. The Director of the NC Division of Water Resources (DWR) may hold a public hearing should there be a significant degree of public interest. Please mail comments and/or information requests to DWR at the above address. Interested persons may visit the DWR at 512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27604 to review the information on file. Addi-

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FULL-TIME STAFF WRITER

The Graham Star has proudly served as your hometown newspaper for 68 years – and wants you to be the next part of the legacy. We are seeking a highly-motivated staff writer that can produce fresh content on a weekly basis; develop new ideas for both our print product and online presence; and will serve the community at-large as a honest, friendly, watchdog journalist. Previous news writing experience preferred, but not required. Full benefits package available. To apply, email resume and three samples of your best writing/reporting work to editor@grahamstar.com.

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 828-835-7580 • 230 NC Hwy 141

Public Notices

Public Notices

tional information on NPDES permits and this notice may be found on our website: <https://deq.nc.gov/public-notices-hearings>, or by calling (919) 707-3601. Tennessee Valley Authority (TVC) applied to renew NPDES permit NC0027332 for the Chatuge Hydro Plant, Chatuge Dam Road, Hayesville, Clay County, discharging industrial cooling waters and wastewaters to the Hiwassee River Basin. Parameters of Concern include Flow, Oil & Grease, Free Oil-Visual Sheen, Temperature, and pH no parameters are water-quality limited. This discharge may affect future wasteload allocations in this portion of the watershed. ccp814415

that email by calling Debbie Mauney, County Manager at 828-389-0089. Questions about the submittal process may be asked by contacting Debbie Mauney, County Manager at 828-389-0089 or dmauney@claync.us. Statements of qualification will be accepted in person or via email until May 13, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the address below:
Debbie Mauney, County Manager; 345 Courthouse Dr. Suite 1; Hayesville, NC 28904
Phone: 828-389-0089; Email: dmauney@claync.us
This Public Notice is authorized this the 29th day of April, 2024 by: Debbie Mauney, Clay County Manager
ccp813318

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
Architectural/Engineering Design Services

Clay County, North Carolina Pursuant to North Carolina General Statutes, Clay County Government (County) requests Statements of Qualifications from qualified and licensed professional Architectural and Engineering firms for designing and providing construction administration for a new facilities project (EMS Facility with a Regional Training Center, and a Farmers Market facility), which will be located at 1945 US-64 Business, Hayesville, North Carolina. This request for qualifications (RFQ) solicitation does not commit the Clay County Government to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of this proposal, or to procure or contract for these services. Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-64.31, the County utilizes a "qualifications-based" selection process without consideration of fee during the initial phase in hiring engineering & architectural firms. The County's primary purpose in using the RFQ process is to obtain detailed design and construction documents that will allow the County to procure a qualified contractor to construct the proposed facilities. Copies of the detailed request for qualifications (RFQ), including a description of the services to be provided by respondents, the minimum content of the responses, the criteria to be used to evaluate the responses pursuant to NCGS 143-64.31 can be obtained from the Clay County, North Carolina website at www.clayconcc.com. Prior experience in designing EMS facilities is encouraged. Clay County encourages submittals from minority businesses by providing certified minorities an equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of the RFQ process. Statements of qualification must be submitted in person or by email to dmauney@claync.us and if submitted by E-mail, must be sent in a single PDF file, and the respondent must confirm receipt of

Creditors Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Having qualified as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robbie G. McCoy, late of 56 Willow Pond Lane, Hayesville, Clay County, NC 28904, the undersigned does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 77 W Main St, Franklin, NC 28734, on or before the 25th day of July, 2024, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 25th day of April, 2024.

Ned Roger McCoy, Jr.
Personal Representative of the Estate of Robbie G. McCoy

Russell R. Bowling,
Attorney at Law
77 W Main St
Franklin, NC 28734
ccp812690

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF WILLIAM FENTON HILLYER

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of William Fenton Hillyer, deceased, late of Volusia County, Florida, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the following address: 33 Main Street, Hayesville, NC 28904, on or before the 8th day of August, 2024, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said decedent will please make immediate payment.

This 23rd day of April, 2024

David Scott Dennison
of the Estate of
William Fenton Hillyer
Deceased

Paul S. Lipof
Lipof & Nichols, PLLC



Pets Of The Week

The Valley River Humane Society is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit, no-kill animal shelter serving Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties. Valley River Humane Society saves more than 2,000 abandoned, neglected and often abused pets every year. In partnership with other rescues locally and across the country, we are committed to driving greater shelter pet adoptions and promoting spay and neuter practices in order to reduce the number of homeless domesticated pets throughout the region. We are located at 7450 US 19 in Marble, NC. Please call 828-837-2304 to learn more about how to help find loving homes for these deserving pets. For more information or to make donations, please visit us at <https://valleyriverhumanesociety.org>



Lexa
Terrier female

Lexa is a very sweet girl with an outgoing personality. she's great with humans and other dogs.



Sampson
Rottweiler Mix Male

This guy seems wary of humans seeking a patient home. With love can be a great family dog.



Tango
Domestic Shorthair Male
7yr old

Very lovable cat looking for a furever home.



Pip
DSH-female
4yr old

Pip is a very sweet cat looking to lounge all day in the sun and cuddle on your lap. she loves the staff and is very well behaved.

Creditors Notices

33 Main Street
Hayesville, NC 28904
ccp813322

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF WILLIAM JOSEPH BRUTVAN, III

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of William Joseph Brutvan, III, deceased, late of Fulton County, Georgia, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at the following address: 33 Main Street, Hayesville, NC 28904, on or before the 15th day of August, 2024, or this Notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery.

All persons indebted to said decedent will please make immediate payment.
This 29th day of April, 2024

Michael D. Salaita,
Administrator of the Estate of
William Joseph Brutvan, III
Deceased

Paul S. Lipof
Lipof & Nichols, PLLC
33 Main Street
Hayesville, NC 28904
ccp814601

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF WILLIAM C. ROBERTS

Having qualified as Executor of the Estate of William C. Roberts, late of Clay County, North Carolina, the undersigned, William Martin Roberts, does hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the estate of said decedent to exhibit them to the undersigned at 3072 Old Pendergrass Road, Jefferson, GA 30549, or to the Estate Counsel/Local Process Agent at 46 Church St., Suite # 12, Hayesville, NC 28904, on or before August 3, 2024, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms, and corporations

Creditors Notices

indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This the 2nd day of May, 2024.

William Martin Roberts
Executor of the Estate of
William C. Roberts
3072 Old Pendergrass Road
Jefferson, GA 30549

Estate Counsel/Local Process Agent:
Larry J. Ford
Attorney at Law
46 Church St., Suite # 12
Hayesville, NC 28904
ccp813893

A small investment can yield big rewards...

Sell your items in our classified marketplace. Ads start at only \$8 Send information to; classifieds@claycountyprogress.com.

OH NO!
Is that really happening?

Read the public notices in our newspaper or on our website to learn more about:

- Government meetings, bids & contracts
- Foreclosures
- Unclaimed property
- School Board issues
- Elections/Polling places, initiative petitions
- Tax assessments/proposals

Public notices, the key to your community.

The Weekly Crossword

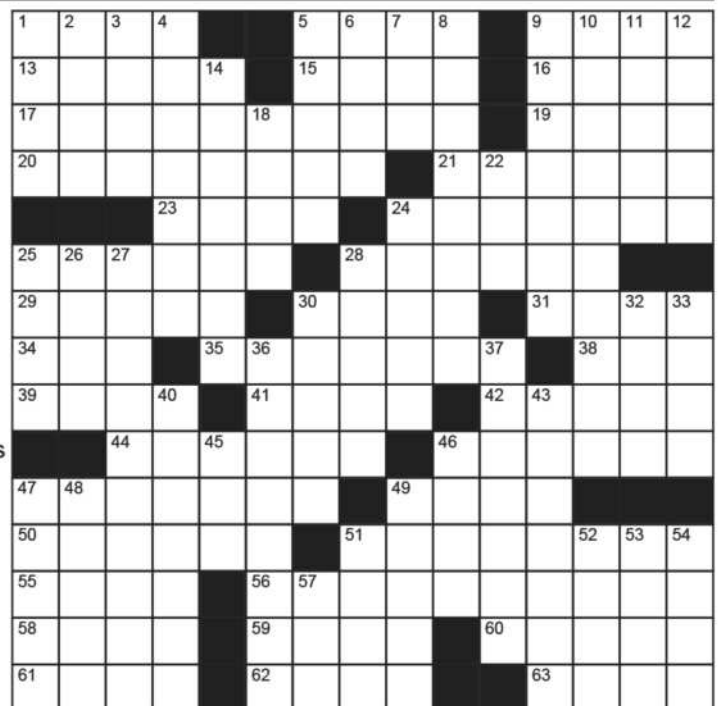
by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

- 1 Get fast cash for
- 5 Squandered
- 9 Up to the task
- 13 Stay clear of
- 15 Make simpler
- 16 Farsi-speaking land
- 17 Symbolizes
- 19 Hit the runway
- 20 Word after under or water
- 21 From there on
- 23 Like some sums
- 24 Passed out
- 25 Not these or those
- 28 Coloring stick
- 29 Detroit's county
- 30 Oracle
- 31 Church area
- 34 Place for gloss
- 35 Doesn't just ask
- 38 Like some scientists
- 39 Snow coaster
- 41 Italian tower town
- 42 Fashion magazine
- 44 Enumerate
- 46 Fancy, as clothes
- 47 Dishwasher soap brand
- 49 Complaint
- 50 Fret
- 51 Self-government
- 55 Kuwaiti, e.g.
- 56 West African nation
- 58 Blind trio of song
- 59 Not engaged
- 60 Teams
- 61 Rid of rind
- 62 Winter woe
- 63 Prying

DOWN

- 1 Angelic strings
- 2 Rove anagram



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- 3 Manage
- 4 Hollywood's Dunst
- 5 Actor Noah or Wallace
- 6 Road division
- 7 Repair shop fig.
- 8 Into the sunset
- 9 Part of a plane's wing
- 10 Nike and Nintendo
- 11 Medieval weapon
- 12 Terminated
- 14 In demand
- 18 Beer, slangily
- 22 Stable diet?
- 24 Boxing venue
- 25 Mice catchers
- 26 Shadow
- 27 Four dimensional realm
- 28 Stop
- 30 Clobber, old-style
- 32 Sneakers brand
- 33 "Electric Avenue" singer
- 36 Widespread outbreak
- 37 Lines on a city map
- 40 Sound unit
- 43 Part of a song
- 45 Deep-six
- 46 Lovato or Moore
- 47 Swimming hazard
- 48 Raptor's roost
- 49 Yawning, maybe
- 51 Ship bottom
- 52 Nullify
- 53 Prevaricates
- 54 "No sweat"
- 57 Trouble

Answers to Previous Crossword:

S	T	U	B		S	H	O	O		M	U	S	E
T	Y	L	E	R	P	E	O	N		A	S	I	A
O	R	A	T	E	E	X	P	E	C	T	I	N	G
P	O	N	T	I	A	C		S	I	L	E	N	C
					B	O	N	I	T	O		L	A
C	H	A	R		M	A	U	D	L	I	N		
O	A	T		M	E	T	R	O		M	A	T	T
A	V	O	C	A	D	O		U	S	E	L	E	S
X	E	R	O	X		R	A	B	I	D		M	A
					M	I	S	S	I	L	E	S	P
D	A	P	P	L	E		R	E	V	I	L	E	
E	P	A	U	L	E	T		R	E	B	I	R	T
C	A	S	T	A	S	I	D	E		I	D	A	H
A	C	H	E		A	L	O	E		S	E	T	U
Y	E	A	R		W	E	N	D		R	E	D	S

Deeds and Marriages

DEED TRANSACTIONS

April 29-May 3, 2024
HAYESVILLE
• Christopher Chiong, Estate of Sharon Elizabeth Chiong and Sharon Elizabeth Chiong Estate to Michael R. Castellano and Gregory Grier Fidler, .441 acres, 209,000.
• Sarrah Allen Burrell to Brent Stayer and Elizbieta Stayer, lot 39, .184 acres, Hoke McClure Subdivision, \$370,000.
• Joyce Den Bleyker and Elliott B. Farber to Jan M. Chatterton and Cynthia L. Nodine, lot 7, .81 acres, Oak Forest Hill Subdivision, \$315,000.
• Paul Max Cunningham and Virginia Ann Cunningham to Keyla Youngblood, .63 acres, \$5,000.
• Riverwalk of Hayesville, LLC to Sandra A. Engel-Trustee and Sandra A. Engel Living Trust, lot 33, Riverwalk of Hayesville, \$405,000.
HIAWASSEE
• Triple B. Property Investments, LLC to Patricia Kay Flick, unit 13, Licklog Town-

house, \$395,000.
• Stephen B. Griggs and Lucile E. Griggs to Cold Branch Holdings, LLC, tract 4, 4.009 acres, \$600,000.
SHOOTING CREEK
• Layton M. Calloway Jr. and Martha J. Calloway to Trescott N. Hinton Jr.-Trustee, N. Hinton Trescott Jr. Revocable Trust, Sandra P. Hinton-Trustee and Sandra P. Hinton Revocable Trust, lot 19, 1.33 acres, The Springs at Brooks Cove, \$35,000.
• Ketrone Moss and Melissa Moss to David E. Stephens, 71.84 acres, \$250,000.
• Jack C. Rogers and Roxanne M. Rogers to David E. Stephens, 41.422 acres, \$170,000.
SWEETWATER
• Joshua Allen Wade and Brittany Wade to Shane Smith and Heather Smith, lot 1, 1.619 acres; lot 2, 1.427 acres and lot 17, 2.002 acres, Mission Valley Overlook, \$37,500.
• Nicolas Payton Mandell and Samantha Jo Mandell to Joshua J. Wooten and

Jessie L. Wooten, 7 REV, The Wilderness, \$32,500.
• Provencal Properties, LLC, Elise Rucker-Trustee and The Elise Rucker Revocable Living Trust to KLC Servicios, lot 8, .68 acres, Mission Crest Subdivision, \$104,000.
TUSQUITTEE
• Tevis Cazedessus to Stephen Nicastro and Michelle Nicastro, lot 13, 3.04 acres, Tusquittee Meadows, \$150,000.
• Mark A. Kennedy and Rob-in D. Kennedy to Tawny Ann Mayo, parcel 3, 5.27 acres, \$84,000.
• Billy G. Fleming and Angela W. Fleming to Beryl Regina Rivers and Liang He Rivers, lot 16, 1.06 acres and lot 17A, 1.66 acres, Meadow Creek Subdivision, \$105,000.
MARRIAGES
• Justin Paul Talbot, 24, of Norcross, Ga., to Sarah Michelle Hames, 27, of Norcross, Ga., April 27, 2024.
• Jackson Mitchell Taylor, 25, of Hiwassee, Ga., to Meghan Anne McQuade, 28, of Hayesville, N.C., April 27, 2024.

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INSPIRE *health*



Empowering Natural Living

FIT TO THE CORE The Ultimate Core Training Workout

The key element to long-term back health is keeping your entire core strong and fit. Putting forth a little effort to maintain a strong back and abdominals through a regular exercise program can help you stay fit and trim and remain healthy and active for years to come.

A strong, injury-free back is synonymous with strong abdominals. A good core strengthening program goes beyond your basic crunches; it includes strengthening both the back muscles and abdominal muscles. These muscle groups together with your glutes (butt) and hips make up what is referred to as the “core.” If your core is strong, you will have a trim waistline, good posture and be stronger overall.

Dead Row

- Using an underhand grip, grasp two dumbbells and hold them at the front of your thighs. With a slight bend in your knees, bend over at the waist to a 45 degree angle; keep your chest high, shoulders back, and arms extended. Next, begin pulling the dumbbells to a 90 degree angle, hold for a few seconds then extend your arms back to the starting position.
- Perform 3 sets of 15 reps.



You can perform your best in the gym, but exercise is only part of the equation. A strong, healthy body is a result of regular exercise combined with a healthy diet. You cannot have one without the other. Provide your body with the best fuel by choosing whole foods and eating less processed foods. Just by adding in the good stuff, like fruits and vegetables while eliminating the bad, you can begin to transform your body and ultimately your health.

Get Inspired!

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 #inspirehealthmag to show us what inspires you!

Art and Music are Therapy for Alzheimer Patients

Not too long ago, country singer and star Glen Campbell completed his final tour, with a little help from his friends and family. The much-honored performer, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s several years ago, sang and played his guitar amazingly well as the disease progressed. Now, the “Rhinstone Cowboy” is spending his final days in a long-term care facility.

Some might say it was the music in him that kept him going longer than expected. According to the Alzheimer’s Association, music and art offer opportunities for self-expressions, engagement and may improve cognitive functions.

Recent studies have shown that music may reduce the agitation and improve behavioral issues seen in middle-stage Alzheimer’s patients. Research indicates that music may reduce agitation and improve behavioral issues that are common in the middle-stages of the disease. Individuals in late states of the disease may be able to sing lyrics from a childhood song, even after regular verbal communication has become challenging.

According to the Alzheimer’s Association, music is a connecting therapeutic tool. If you are a caregiver for an Alzheimer’s or dementia patient try these suggestions for selecting music for the patient to enjoy:

- Identify music that’s familiar and enjoyable to the person. If possible, let the person choose the music.

- Choose a source of music that isn’t interrupted by commercials, which can cause confusion.
- Use music to create the mood you want. Tranquil music, for example, can help create a calm environment, while a faster paced song from childhood may bring back happy memories.
- Encourage clapping or dancing.
- Avoid sensory overload and eliminate competing noises. Shut windows and doors and turn off the television. Keep the music volume low.

Arts and crafts projects can help both the patient with dementia and his or her caregiver feel a sense of accomplishment and self-expressions, while relieving stress.

Follow these tips for planning an art activity for someone with middle- to late-stage Alzheimer’s:

- Keep the project on an adult level; demeaning or child-like activities will not be beneficial.
- Build conversation into the project. Be encouraging as you discuss what the person is making, spend some time reminiscing.
- Help begin the activity; start the brush movement, for example, if you are painting.
- Use safe, non-toxic materials and of course, avoid sharp tools.
- Don’t rush. The purpose is to be active and creative, not to finish a specific project.

For additional information on Alzheimer’s and dementia, and ways to assist as a caregiver, go to www.alz.org.

SUPER SIMPLE GREEK SALAD

YIELDS: 1 large serving.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 whole cucumber
- 1 large tomato
- 1 Tbsp. minced red onion
- 10 sun dried kalamata olives
- ¼ avocado
- ½ green bell pepper
- ½ red bell pepper

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large salad bowl, combine all washed and chopped vegetables. Toss together.
2. In a small bowl, combine all prepared dressing ingredients. Stir well, or blend in a blender.
3. Pour dressing atop salad and toss with hands.
4. Serve and Enjoy!



HEART SUPPORT TIP: Olives contain omega-3-rich alpha-linolenic acid. These healthy fats help with inflammatory conditions and help protect against heart disease. Another compound found in olives, oleuropein, helps decrease the oxidation of LDL (bad) cholesterol, providing further cardiovascular support.

Chatuge Family Practice

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 CDL Examinations • Weight Loss Management

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Teresa A. Heavner, M.D.



Jill Sonnenberg, M.D.



Justin Roby, M.D.



Travis Williams, M.D.



Sally Cody, FNP-C

828.389.6383
 241 Church St.
 Downtown Hayesville