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THIS WEEK'S EDITION

PUBLISHED FOR
DEBORAH VESTER



*And The Citizens
of Nash County*

AREA DEATHS

DEBRA HOPE BECKNELL
LARRY FRANCIS BOWLING
BOBBY ALTON EDWARDS SR.
LYNN EZZELL GARDNER
LARUE GRIFFIN HAMBRICK
YAIR HERNANDEZ
VERNON 'PETE' PARRISH
WILLISTINE MANNING PRIDGEN
CAROLE W. SAUNDERS
WESLEY KEITH SMITH

Obituaries updated daily at
www.nashvillegraphic.com

Nash County commissioner will not seek re-election

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

NASHVILLE – Following an epic four and a half-hour meeting Monday, Nash Board Chair Wayne Outlaw announced that he would not be seeking re-election as District 5 county commissioner when his term ends in 2026.



OUTLAW

“After nearly two decades of service as county commissioner, I believe it’s time for fresh eyes and new ideas to help lead Nash County into its next chapter,” Outlaw said. “My prayer is that current and future leaders of this county will lead with unity, transparency and the same love for Nash County that has guided me all these years,” Outlaw said.

See OUTLAW page 5-A

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Nash County to hire part-time kennel staff



CARY

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

NASHVILLE – In ongoing attempts to rectify issues at the Pet Connection Center, Nash commissioners have voted to add two part-time kennel staff, with an eye towards possibly hiring more in the future.

Chris Cary, safety and

security director, came before the board of commissioners at their July 7 meeting to make the staffing request and to give an update on the animal shelter, which came under fire last month by the state for animal care violations.

Cary, whose department has been tasked with overseeing the animal shelter, referenced the June 24th civil penalty report by the NC Department of Agri-

culture and Consumer Services, which carried with it \$6,700 in fines.

Cary said he had met with Inspector Amy Lynn of the NCDA&CS Veterinary Division since that time “to seek guidance on corrective action,” with Lynn reviewing and approving an ongoing corrective action plan to make improvements.

Lynn’s report, based on visits to the shelter

on June 13 and June 16, detailed multiple issues, including animals euthanized prior to prescribed holding periods, lack of documentation for “daily social interactions and enrichment” for dogs, some cats being held without adequate space or water, and lack of adherence to twice daily cleaning protocols.

“Our animal control
See STAFF page 5-A

CASTALIA JULY 4TH CELEBRATION



The Town of Castalia hosted its traditional July 4th Celebration featuring a parade, food, crafts, amusement rides and live music. Pictured above, members of Castalia Church of God ride in the parade. Patriotic Citizen of the Year, Andre Alston, rides in the parade. Castalia Volunteer Fire Department had some guests riding in the parade. Pictured below, Uncle Sam cruised into town as well as the parade. Members of the Allegiance Overhead Doors float toss out candy during the parade. Graphic photos by Amanda Clark



Braswell Family Farms to expand in Nashville

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

NASHVILLE – Braswell Family Farms of Nashville, a fourth-generation egg and feed producer, is buying a shell building in the Nashville Business Center near Highway 64 to use as a

cooler and warehouse. Described by Braswell Family Farms as “a strategic investment to support continued growth of its egg processing operations,” the sale of Nash county property, consisting of a shell building and five acres, was approved July 7 by Nash County
See BFF page 5-A

Local woman competes for Ms. Fayetteville State University

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

NASHVILLE – A Nashville woman and two-times graduate of Fayetteville State University is looking to give back to her alma mater by raising money for student scholarships. Shamica Dawes, a proud Bronco, is already an active member of the Edgecombe-Nash Alumni chapter and FSU National Alumni Association (NAA). She is competing for the title of Ms. Fayetteville State Uni-

versity. Dawes is the daughter of Handy “Sam” Dawes, a retired Army Reservist and Pfizer employee, and Angela Dawes, a NCC instructor who co-owns Unity Hair Salon II in Tarboro and Unity Salon in Nashville. She wants to help make it possible for more students
See DAWES page 6-A



DAWES

Momeyer delays budget adoption past state deadline

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER



Roger Warren, Momeyer resident, consults budget ordinance information while other residents listen to what he has to say. Graphic photo by Nancy West-Brake

MOMEYER – In what appeared to be an unexpected move, Momeyer town officials voted at a June 30 special meeting to delay budget adoption until the town council’s regularly scheduled July 14 meeting. That will push the town past the July 1 budget adoption deadline as set by the North Carolina General Assembly. An interim budget ordinance was passed to authorize needed spending until the budget is approved.

Meeting at the Momeyer Ruritan Club and attracting an audience of about ten

residents, the council opened the floor for public comment after Mayor Will Funderburg welcomed those in attendance and June 9 minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

-On Trash Pickup

Brian Edwards was first up, asking about long-term costs for the planned free trash pickup for town residents, announced at the council’s June 9 meeting. The cost would be \$25,200, which has been added to the proposed budget, with the service available to any or all of the 140 households in Momeyer’s town limits.

See BUDGET page 5-A

Volunteers struggle to get parade route approved

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

SPRING HOPE – A parade route for this year’s Pumpkin Festival has been conditionally approved by town commissioners, but not without reservations about pending water main work, which officials say may force an alternate route.

Cindy Ridgeway, festival parade coordinator, appealed to the board at their July 7 meeting, noting that the event permit has been on the agenda as a continued item several months.

“We’re asking that you take

up a vote and consider the route,” Ridgeway said, referencing prior lack of action because of disagreements between the town and festival volunteers on the parade route; an alternate route previously proposed by Andrew DeLonno, town manager, Ridgeway said, was unworkable because of its short length.

Steve Brumfield, also on the festival committee, said the main problem with the town’s suggested route was its lack of staging area, suggesting instead that pre-parade line-ups could be done by the town park.

Ridgeway said NCDOT had

indicated its support for the parade, planning road closures based a map submitted by the festival committee, but that a commissioner vote was needed to move forward.

“If the (water main work) doesn’t happen, the NCDOT would issue permits and plan around the parade dates - that’s standard practice,” Ridgeway said.

Ridgeway also said there was “growing public concern,” relating that many residents believed that the board’s hesitation to vote “is political because of Mayor Pritchard’s involvement.”

See PARADE page 6-A



Spring Hope Pumpkin Festival Parade Coordinator Cindy Ridgeway speaks during Monday night’s town commissioner’s meeting. Graphic photo by Nancy West-Brake

DEATHS

WILLISTINE MANNING PRIDGEN

ROCKY MOUNT – Willistine Manning Pridgen, age 87, passed away on July 6, 2025. Born in Nash County on October 27, 1937, she was the daughter of the late James Willis Manning and Edith Vick Manning Carden. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Edward Moses Manning.

Willistine is survived by her husband of 63 years, Johnnie Earl Pridgen, Sr.; her son, Johnnie Earl Pridgen, Jr. and his wife, Janet; and several nieces, nephews.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, July 11, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Wheeler & Woodlief Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Rocky Mount with Rev. Wray Wheelless officiating. Burial will follow the service at Oakdale Cemetery in Spring Hope. Visitation with the family will be from 1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home.

Flowers are welcome or memorials may be made in Willistine’s name to West Mount Baptist Church, 8487 West Mount Dr., Rocky Mount, NC 27803.

WESLEY KEITH SMITH

ROCKY MOUNT - Wesley Keith Smith, age 77, passed away on July 5, 2025. He was born on July 25, 1947 in Rocky Mount to Wesley B. and Lorine Rose Smith, both of whom preceded him in death. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Vicki Smith Pittman.

He is survived by his nephews, Kevin Pittman and wife, Erica of Raleigh and Jason Pittman of Nashville; one great-niece, great-nephew.

The family will host a celebration of Keith’s life at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 19, 2025 at the Rocky Mount Bowling Center.

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

NASHVILLE- A gas company operating at the edge of a Bailey residential development is currently a “use in violation,” but its application for a Special Use Permit has been postponed until August, following the June 23 meeting of the Nash County Board of Adjustment.

Gas Pro, LLC, is currently operating on two adjacent lots at 5105-A Chris Road, and 11011 Pace Road, Bailey; the 2 lots, which total a little over 2 acres, sit at the entrance to the Pearson Acres Subdivision, which is zoned R-40.

Walker Johnson, property owner, who lives on the lot and has his driveway off Pace Road, currently operates the Gas Pro business behind his house. The business entrance is off Chris Road, where vehicles access two small buildings and equipment.

Gas Pro, a fuel piping contractor, is classified as a ‘special trade contractor,’ which is a land use not permitted in an R-40 residential zoning district.

To amend that, Johnson has applied for a Special Use Permit to use the land as a Rural Family Occupation (RFO), a non-residential use allowed by special use permit as an accessory use.

Johnson’s site plan states that the outside storage and parking area would be intended to contain eight

DEBRA HOPE BECKNELL

Debra Hope Becknell “Ding Ding,” passed away on July 3, 2025, at the age of 71. She was born on February 22, 1954, to the late Hattie and Cecil Hale.

She is survived by her husband, Jim Becknell; her son, Wesley Powell (Tiffany); and daughter, Dawn Doss (Corey); five grandchildren; her brothers, Donald Hale (Gail) and Gerald Hale; brother-in-law David Dennis; sister-in-law Janice Hale.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Donna Sue Dennis, and brother, Aubrey Hale, sister-in-law Mollie Hale.

A celebration of life was held July 7th at the home of Wesley Powell

LYNN EZZELL GARDNER

Lynn Ezzell Gardner, 72, passed away July 6, 2025. She was born August 30, 1952 to the late Richard and Irene Ezzell. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her father Jim Cooper; sisters Carolyn Jackson and Barbara Anderson.

Lynn is survived by her husband Frank Gardner Sr.; son Frank Gardner Jr. (Lori); one grandchild; sister Jackie Patterson; step-sisters Jackie Pridgen and Wendy Taylor; step-brothers Jimmy and Larry Cooper, Gary Carpenter; step-mother Eula Cooper; several nieces and nephews.

A service was held July 9, 2025 at Cornerstone Funeral Home. Burial followed at Pineview Cemetery.

VERNON “PETE” PARRISH

Vernon “Pete” Parrish, passed away June 28, 2025. He was born September 8, 1950. Pete is preceded in death by his parents Percy Parrish and Elizabeth Becton Parrish (Bowen).

He is survived by his son Tommy(Michelle), one grandchild; his brothers

CAROLE W. SAUNDERS

Carole W. Saunders, 81, passed away Saturday, July 5, 2025. She was born February 8, 1944 in Wilson County. She was preceded in death by her parents, George Winstead and Reba Batts Winstead; brother, George W. Winstead, Jr.; brothers-in-law, Johnny, Charles, and Randolph W. Saunders; father-in law, Wilbur A. Saunders, and mother –in-law, Robena Saunders.

She leaves to cherish her memory her loving husband of almost 60 years, Jerry Saunders; son, Rodney Saunders (Laura); daughters, Andrea Smith (William) and Shannon D. Saunders; one brother, William Joseph Winstead; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Visitation with family and friends will be Thursday, July 10, 2025 from 1:00-1:45 p.m. at Cornerstone Funeral Home with a funeral service to be held at 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel with Rev. Jesse Parrish and Rev. Larry Perry officiating. Burial to follow at Spring Hope Memorial Gardens. Paid obituary

Wesley (Della) and Steve (Anita); several nieces and nephews.

A gathering to celebrate his memory will be Friday, July 11, 2025 from 6-8 p.m. at Cornerstone Funeral Home.

LARRY FRANCIS BOWLING

Larry Francis Bowling, 73, passed away Tuesday, June 24, 2025. He was born May 17, 1952 in Pitt County to the late Leroy and Anna Ruth Jones Bowling. Larry was also preceded in death by brother, Roy T. Bowling.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Penny Bowling; son, Robert Bowling; three grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 12, 2025 at 11 a.m., at Fellowship Church with Pastor Michael Johnson officiating.

BOBBY ALTON EDWARDS SR.

Bobby Alton Edwards Sr., 74, passed away July 7, 2025. He was born May 3, 1951 to the late Benjamin and Mary Edwards. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his sister Judy Eason and nephew John Eason.

Bobby is survived by his wife Gloria Edwards; son Boe Edwards (Rhonda);

daughter Lisa Butler (Patrick); three grandchildren; two great grandchildren

A visitation will be held at 1p.m. on Friday, July 11, 2025 at Cornerstone Funeral Home. The service will follow at 2 p.m. in the chapel. Burial will follow at Rocky Mount Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Full Gospel Praise & Worship Church P.O. Box 125 Nashville, NC 27856 or www.alsunited.org/donate.

YAIR HERNANDEZ

NASHVILLE – Funeral Services for Yair Hernandez age 28, who died on Friday June 27, 2025 will be held on Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at Richardson Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow in the Pleasant Grove Church Cemetery, Hollister.

He is survived by his parents, Betty Coley of Rocky Mount and Rodolfo Hernandez of Nashville, two sisters, Maribel Hernandez of Nashville and Betty Maria Alvarez of Rocky Mount and one brother, Ismael Hernandez of Greenville.

The family will receive friends on Monday, July 7, 2025 from 5 - 6 p.m. at Richardson Funeral Home in Louisburg.

commercial trucks or vans as well as seven commercial trailers.

PUBLIC HEARING

Johnson spoke June 23rd during a quasi-judicial public hearing, explaining that his commercial piping business operates off site and that his business has diesel truck traffic from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays. He said that he does have gas cylinders on site, but that they have been pre-purged.

Jhoan Herrera, a Chris Road resident, complained of a strong propane smell emanating from the property, which he lives behind. Herrera said he had to bring his children in because of the odor and that Johnson’s business was forcing him to sell his house, but that the presence of the gas company was scaring prospective buyers away.

Gary Meyers, another Chris Road resident, complained about 18-wheelers disturbing the neighborhood while delivering materials, a problem also because the trucks have to drive to the end of Chris Road to turn around because there is no room to do so on Johnson’s property.

Residents described the business as looking like an “industrial site” and said that it had “far exceeded the limitation of a neighborhood business.”

REQUIRED PROPERTY CHANGES

Should Johnson’s special use permit be granted, one of the work buildings

would have to be relocated to at least 50 feet from the northern property line. All operations would also have to be screened, with a privacy fence to the north and continued maintenance to the vegetative buffer to the south.

Johnson said the business would be screened from view off Chris Road by a fence and gate.

ORDINANCE WORDING ISSUE

A June 18 letter from Eric Cuthrell, Environmental Health Program Specialist for the Nash County Health Department, stated that current UDO (Unified Development Ordinance) stipulates that the Environmental Health Division evaluate each RFO “to determine the occupation’s impact on the surrounding area with respect to excessive noise, dust, air emissions, odors, or surface or groundwater discharge.”

Cuthrell said Nash’s Environmental Health Division does not have the authority or expertise to evaluate or enforce regulatory standards in those areas, except for onsite wells and onsite wastewater disposal.

Adam Tyson, Nash County Planning Director, said in order to progress with consideration, that wording would have to be removed from the application, which would take Planning Board action July 21st and action by the Nash board of commissioners August 11th before returning to the Board of Adjustment August 25.

The public hearing period remains open until then.

BOARD COMMENTS

Charles Rose, board member, asked why the business driveway was off Chris Road, and was told NCDOT had approved it.

David Ashman, alternate board member, wondered if 18 wheelers backing down Chris Road off Pace Road to back into the business had been in any accidents. Johnson said they had not.

“I’m for business growth, but I think this site is disturbing the harmony of the neighborhood,” said Shawn Lucas, alternate board member, adding that the presence of heavy truck traffic did not meet his definition of a rural residential business.

Johnson asked if he needed to move his trucks in the interim before the public hearing resumes in August, and was told no, because the matter was “on hold.”

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LARUE GRIFFIN HAMBRICK

JACKSONVILLE – LaRue Griffin Hambrick, aged 88, passed away at her home in Jacksonville, NC on Thursday, July 3, 2025, surrounded by family. She was born in Nashville, NC in 1937 to Ollie and Rosa Griffin.

She lived there the first part of her life and graduated from Red Oak High School before attending Roanoke Bible College in Elizabeth City, NC. Her college education was cut short when she was injured in a car accident and returned home to recover. While home she met and later married Frank Hambrick, a Marine stationed at Camp Lejeune. After her move to Jacksonville, she became a superintendent of construction for Champion Developers, a Florida based building group that developed subdivisions in Jacksonville (McArthur Estates and Sherwood Forest) and in Havelock and Fayetteville.

In 1976 she opened LaRue Hambrick Realty which she operated until 2021. Often when she was out at a restaurant, a store, or even at the hospital someone would come up to her and say, “You sold me my first house.” Which would always make her smile and say “Oh yeah. I remember. I sold you a house over on...” And usually got it right after all those years later.

In 1977, LaRue was the first woman elected president of the North Carolina Home Builders Association. She was active over the years in local organizations such as Onslow County Relay for Life. She had served on the foundation board at Onslow Memorial Hospital which helped open the Oncology/Radiology Center at the hospital and served on the Patient’s Advocacy Committee. She also served on the local Board of First Citizens Bank. LaRue was a longtime member of Enon Chapel Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, LaRue was preceded in death by JW Matthews, Jimmy Griffin, and Jimmy and Ophelia Griffin. She is survived by a loving family that includes her fiancé, Lee Cullum and family; son, Oliver Hambrick and son-in-law, Andrew Hambrick; grandchildren, Jake and Gilroy Hambrick; and her furry companion, Minnie. She will also be missed by Mickie and Bonnie Matthews and family, Billy and Kathy Buck and family, Joanne Griffin and family, Robert & Susan Griffin and family, and many other family members in and around Nashville.

A service to celebrate and remember LaRue’s life was held, Monday, July 7, 2025, at Davis-Little Funerals, Rocky Mount and burial at the Griffin Family Cemetery in Nashville.

Memorial contributions may be given in LaRue’s memory to Onslow County Relay for Life #JBK4T6, PO Box 5003 Hagerstown, MD 21741.

Services by Davis-Little Funerals, Rocky Mount.



Bailey gas company found non-compliant

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Pictured, left to right, are: Representative Allen Chesser, Duncan Dees Nelson, Debbie McKnight and Tripp Nelson. Contributed photo

Representative Chesser honors local medal of honor recipient

**BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER**

RALEIGH- The memory of a local Army helicopter pilot shot down in 1966 over Vietnam was refreshed last month on the floor of the North Carolina House Chamber: the life and sacrifice of Captain Hugh R. Nelson, Jr., of Rocky Mount, was applauded through the efforts of Representative Allen Chesser.

Chesser made a representative statement in Raleigh June 18 as Nelson’s family—his children Debbie McKnight and Tripp Nelson, as well as grandson Duncan Dees Nelson, attended.

“As a combat veteran, I have witnessed the crucible of war—its capacity to reveal both the depths of human cruelty and the heights of selfless heroism. Captain Nelson embodied the latter,” Chesser said, adding that Nelson “knew what was right and acted without hesitation, even at the cost of his life.”

Nelson was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Joe Biden earlier this year.

Destin Hall, House Speaker, recognized the family during the day’s House Session, in which they received a standing round of applause from members of the House.

Nashville K-9 makes major narcotics and firearm seizure

**BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER**

NASHVILLE- Nashville’s newest K-9 officer, Jade, with assistance from the Nashville Police Department, executed her first narcotics seizure operation this past weekend on US 64, resulting in the arrest of two men and the seizure of dangerous narcotics and illegal firearms.

A July 8 NPD press release said the incident, codenamed “Operation Firecracker” by the Governor’s Highway Safety Program, occurred at about 1 a.m. at mile marker 459 of US 64 East during a traffic stop.

Yasin Jones, 25, of Hollister and Traveon Dashon Johnson, 21, of 163 Parrish Court, Rocky Mount, were stopped and a subsequent vehicle search led to the discovery of two firearms and over half a kilogram of cocaine. NPD Chief Caleb Shockley said the drugs were intended for distribution in Nashville and surrounding areas.

Jones is currently on probation and facing multiple pending charges including Possession with Intent to Sell or Deliver Heroin, Conspiracy to Traffic Heroin, Possession of Heroin, and Reckless Driving to Endanger. After Sunday’s arrest, he was charged with Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, two counts of Trafficking Cocaine and Felony Conspiracy.

Johnson, who has pending charges for Possession of a Stolen Firearm and Possession with Intent to Sell Marijuana, was charged with two counts of Trafficking Cocaine and Felony Conspiracy.

Both men were denied bond and remanded to Nash County Jail.

“The Nashville Police Department commends the outstanding work, vigilance, and professionalism of the officers involved in this case. A special recognition goes to K-9 Jade, who successfully executed her very first narcotics seizure during this operation,” stated Shockley.

“This operation underscores the Department’s commitment to protecting residents, keeping illegal drugs off the streets, and ensuring those who endanger the community are held fully accountable.”

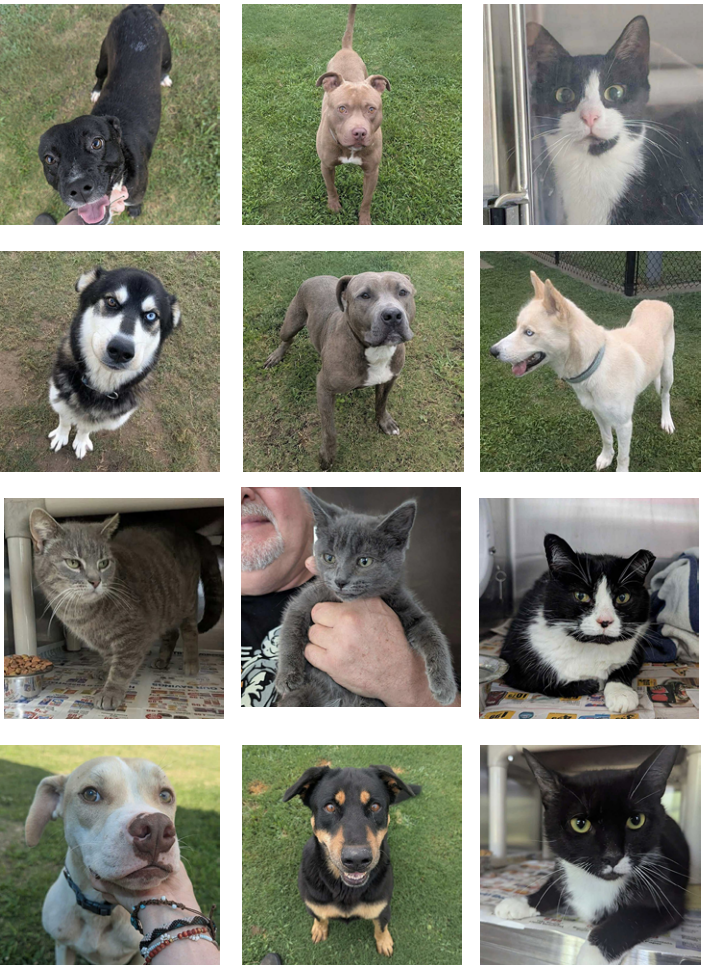


JOHNSON



JONES

Nash County Pet Connection Center



The shelter is open
Mon. - Fri. 1-4 p.m.
3600 Eastern Ave.,
Rocky Mount • 252-
459-9855



BUSINESS OF THE SEASON – The Nashville Chamber of Commerce presents its Summer Business of the Season Award to the Nashville Exchange. Pictured above, left to right, are: Chamber Board member Diane Taylor, Nashville Exchange staff Kate Parker, Lauren Crawley, Chamber President Cliff Joyner, staff member Katina Stallings, owner Lisa Hattaway, staff members Storm Murray, Joan Bailey, Hannah Breheim, Taylor Weaver, Valerie Winstead, Sandy Moore, and Nashville Town Council Member Larry Taylor. Graphic photo by Jo Anne Cooper



Members of the Leggett family received a flag on March 15 at the Veterans Memorial at Jack Laughery Park in honor of James Lewis Leggett, Spec. 5, U.S. Army. Leggett, who passed away March 10, 2024, was drafted into the Army in 1966, then serving his country in Vietnam. A flag to pay respect to Leggett’s service was raised in February at the Veterans memorial by the Joint Veterans Committee of Nash and Edgecombe counties and was retired at the March ceremony to the playing of “taps.” Attending from the Leggett family were Leggett’s daughter, Jamie Leggett Davis; son Brent Leggett and the mother of Leggett’s children, Kay Leggett of Nashville. Graphic photo by Nancy West-Brake



FIRST COTTON BLOOM 2025

Matthew Floyd, age 10, joined by his uncle, Jonathan Evans, and the family dog, Maverick, found the first cotton bloom of 2025 on the Delapine NPE Plot Evans Farm. They spotted the bloom on June 29, 2025. The Nashville Graphic has held a long-time tradition of offering a free one-year subscription for the first bloom of the season brought to the newspaper.

Contributed photo



Nashville’s Chamber of Commerce presents the Elks Lodge #1038 a donation for operating ticket booths at the Blooming Festival carnival. Pictured, left to right, are Chamber President Cliff Joyner, Cindy Puckett, festival co-chair, Elks Lodge members Tressa and Chris Bissette. Graphic photo by Nancy West-Brake



Wesley Alston of Nashville shows a freshly picked tomato from his garden which looks to be a three-in-one harvest. Graphic photo by Jo Anne Cooper

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GRAPHIC OPINION

Shuckin’ the corn isn’t just a bluegrass classic

I was not hiding under an umbrella on the beach or looking for an errant golf ball or even managing my smoker on July Fourth.

Instead, I was reliving a childhood trauma that really wasn’t that traumatic, maybe more so that the child at the time was dramatic.

Due to the kindness of a distant relative and old friend, I found myself with a large box of sweet corn on my kitchen floor on the most patriotic of holidays.

I was shucking. My wife was silking, there was a huge stockpot boiling and another almost as big pot with cool water and ice in it. And I was doing stuff I vowed throughout the entire 1980s that I’d never do again if I ever escaped the family farm.

Back then, even though there were far more farmers and small farms around than today, a lot of folks had fun on July Fourth.

At our house, we filled up tobacco trucks with sweet corn for a two- or three-day bender of processing. As best I can calculate, my dad planted about six or seven acres every year.



The Soap Box

by *mike brantley*

His massive garden was his pride and joy and was never big enough to give him enough time on that old red Farnall after he got out of row crops.

I mostly remember shucking with my older sisters and complaining about things we could be doing instead of working in corn. You had to be precise about breaking off ends with worms or decay or “cancer.” The silking was the worst.

What I never thought that much about was when those thousands of ears had been shucked, is that I was mostly done except for dumping cobs in the field. My mama and sisters then spent I don’t know how many hours blanching and cutting kernels off and boxing and bagging the next year’s

worth of corn for three families.

I sure thought about it when I’d had enough just working through my box.

When the first batch was cool enough to cut, I set into those cobs with a freshly sharpened chef’s knife.

I considered my little mama and her tiny hands and how she’d run a big old antique butcher knife up and down, towards her body and away like playing a violin. Then she’d run it through again to make sure none was wasted.

So here’s some life advice for you that you didn’t ask for: a key to life and survival and staying out of the emergency room is knowing your limitations. I ran that knife back toward my belly twice before I realized this was a terrible idea.

Even when I switched to slicing away from vital organs, I went awfully slow, minding all the fingers I wanted to keep. It probably took me longer to do that box of corn that it took her to do half a trailer.

We shucked on the kitchen floor, which would have been as foreign a concept in

my childhood as men playing in women’s sports. My mama and daddy both would have had a fit to hear somebody was shucking corn IN THE HOUSE.

For a while, corn bits flew everywhere, and that milky juice is still hard to get off eyeglasses. Corn silk multiplies as you pull or brush it off and it doesn’t matter how much you sweep or wipe, you won’t get it all.

When all was said and done, we had several loads of dishes to do and several meals put away. I cut up some local tomatoes, cukes and onions and doused them in vinegar and salt and pepper as sort of a country champagne toast while some of the prettiest ears roasted in the oven.

I remembered all the work and freezer space it took to have good food year-round. I didn’t appreciate it enough then. All those fresh vegetables last week woke up some old taste buds and plenty of memories that I didn’t realize would be so good.

Legislative Directory

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Backward Glances

A PICTORIAL LOOK INTO THE PAST



This photo published in *The Nashville Graphic* on July 21, 1977. Tim and Dale Thorne (kneeling) examine their bumper crop of tobacco in the Macedonia Community that had the benefit of more rainfall than many farms in the county that year. Tim and Dale farmed with their father, Bunny. They anticipated a harvest a total of 100 acres of tobacco in 1977. (Graphic photo)

Long hot summers in tobacco fields, or barns, gifted us with valuable lessons

This week’s Backward Glance sure brings back a lot of memories – especially since I spent a few of my teenage years working for Tim and Dale Thorne during tobacco season.

The photo not only reflects a family farming operation, but a time where local farmers had teenagers knocking on their doors wanting to work to earn money during summer vacation – which is indeed a thing of the past.

My few years with the Thorne family were spent in the barns taking the tobacco out once it was cured. I worked in “stick” barns, which meant you had to climb up the inside of the barn to hand the sticks down to begin the process of taking the leaves off the sticks that had been firmly secured with twine. I also worked in bulk barns, which in the 70s were becoming a more popular, quicker way to get the crops in barns and cured faster to be market-ready.

My mother opted to work with me those summers, not because she had to, but I’m guessing because she not only wanted to keep an eye her kid who was quickly moving from a tween to a teen but also to make sure I earned my keep and was taught first-hand the entire experience of what it meant to do things the right way.

My grandfather and uncles farmed for many years and I spent quite a few summer days at tobacco barns during my childhood. They were all pretty much retired from tobacco about the same time I was actually old enough to truly work instead of just lend a hand when I wouldn’t



by *jo anne cooper*

be in the way of a productive moment. I’m pretty sure my mother was the reason I landed in tobacco barns during my early teens.

I recall the early morning wake-up calls to head out to the barns in my teen years. That first summer was when I learned just how wonderful a cup of coffee was. Mama would perk a full pot to carry along for the day, even though it was in the hot sultry summertime.

I learned a lot during those summer vacations working in the barns. Mama taught me so many extremely important life lessons that have followed me to this day.

The days were long and hot and I recall wanting to get things done fast and go home. She would constantly remind me if you do things right the first time, no matter how long it takes, you won’t have to do it a second time. She also explained the importance of treating those golden tobacco leaves with care when stripping them from the sticks. I can to this day see her placing those leaves ever so carefully in the bin making sure the best leaves would be the first to be seen when the sheet was opened at the tobacco market.

There’s not enough room on this page to share an entire list of the lessons learned during those long hot summer days. Back then

I had no idea how those days would benefit me in the long run. The day I turned 16, my first road trip alone was applying for summer jobs at local grocery stores so that I could work in an air-conditioned environment. Even in my very first job as a grocery store cashier at the age of 16, Mama’s lessons came through loud and clear as I began the journey into adulthood.

Though there are a few families who still farm and their children are fortunate to reap such valuable life lessons, the vast majority of youth never have any encouragement to learn accountability and respect. It sure shows in today’s workplace.

Farming isn’t the only way those lessons can be learned. It takes adults who are willing to do the right thing, even when it breaks the heart of a teen who wants the easy way out.

Many want the very best for their children instead of having them to earn things the hard way, or learn lessons from their choices. I can offer quite a few examples of just how detrimental that is for them once they attempt to live on their own.

Though my parents were always there for me and always willing to help, there were times they allowed me to fail - which really hurt at the time, but boy did it ever keep me from making the same mistake twice.

We live in a time where it seems so many things are so easy, especially for youth. But the foundation of learning independence is still the same.

Happy Birthday

JULY 10: Elaine Hand
JULY 11: Pearl Welton
JULY 13: Zemora Hines, James Hedgepeth, Sr.
JULY 15: Laquita Tabron
JULY 17: Cynthia Moore, Alanna Moore, Katrina Boddie, Rebecca Griffin

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Letters Welcome

The Nashville Graphic welcomes and encourages letters from its readers. To be considered for publication, letters must be signed and must bear the address and telephone number of the writer. The phone number will not be printed, but may be used for verification purposes. Letters should be no longer than 350 words. The Nashville Graphic reserves the right to edit letters for length, grammar, and good taste.

STAFF

officers have been responsible for ensuring that the kennels get cleaned (at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.), however if a call comes in and an officer has to go out in the field, there are times when this work is interrupted,” Cary said, explaining the need for part-time kennel help to ensure compliance with the state.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Gwen Wilkins questioned the number of part-time kennel attendants to be hired, and was told “two,” with Wayne Outlaw, board chair, adding that there may be need for more.

Robbie Davis, commissioner, asked what the salaries and expenses would be for the new hires.

“It’s going to be a work

in progress,” said Stacie Shatzer, county manager, who promised more information such as rate of pay and hours. Shatzer said there currently were no part-time workers, but some volunteers.

Shatzer said money would be shifted from current vacant positions to cover salaries while waiting to see what actual funding would be to cover those and possibly additional positions long term.

PRIOR COUNTY RESPONSE

Within two days of state notification, the county responded by terminating employment for the person acting as shelter director and by conducting a “Rescue and Recruit” event June 28 at the shelter, located

at 3600 Eastern Avenue, Rocky Mount. Cary called the event “extremely successful,” resulting in the adoption of 17 animals, both cats and dogs, and onsite informal interviews with 16 job candidates for the positions of supervisor, animal control officer, and office assistant. More detailed job interviews with those candidates are scheduled this week.

Cary also said the county’s HR department has been finalizing an EAP (Employee Assistance Program) plan for employees at the Pet Connection Center.

POST CLOSED SESSION

After a closed session, commissioners reconvened in open session to hire two kennel attendants with a salary rate of \$16 an hour.

Continued from page 1-A

BFF

commissioners. Andy Nagy, Economic Development Director, reported the sale price at \$2,350,000.

The 40,000 square foot shell building was a joint venture between Nash County and the town of Nashville.

“This purchase will allow Braswell Family Farms to create up to 26 new jobs, as well as better serve its customers,” stated a July 7 Braswell Family Farms press release, adding that the expansion reflects the company’s “ongoing commitment to enhancing biosecurity practices, which

ultimately ensures high-quality eggs at affordable prices for consumers.”

A public hearing conducted on the sale, previously code-named “Project Mill” by the Nash Economic Development department, produced no comments. A public hearing was required by state law concerning the sale of property for economic development purposes.

“We’re so thankful to continue to plant roots in Nash County, and by God’s grace, we have opportunities to expand our business. And this is a key step in

our future growth plans,” said Trey Braswell, CEO at Braswell Family Farms.

“Nashville is grateful for all that Braswell Family Farms, a family-owned business, has done for our community. We are excited about their continued growth, bringing new jobs and investment to town,” said Mayor Brenda Brown.

Nash commissioners voted unanimously to approve the resolution authorizing the property sale.

Continued from page 1-A

OUTLAW

Outlaw began his announcement with a Biblical reference from Ecclesiastes, “to everything there is a season,” adding that for him, the seasons of his life included service to others.

An Air Force Veteran who completed two tours of duty in South Korea, Outlaw also worked over 31 years at Abbott Laboratories as a manufacturing manager. He is and has been active in the Ruritan Club, serving as National President. He is currently a member of the West Mount Ruritan Club and American Legion Post 110, in addition to participating in multiple other current community activities, among them the Nash County GOP Executive Committee and the Nash Community College Board of Trustees.

“This decision not to seek re-election allows me to fully dedicate the next 18 months to the work still ahead— without the distraction

tion of a campaign,” Outlaw said Monday afternoon, adding that he remained “fully committed” to doing the work. Outlaw said his goals remained as continuing to “encourage clearer processes, more consistent communication, greater transparency and greater access to information— for both this Board and the public. Nash County deserves that,” he said.

Outlaw reminded those present at the commissioners’ meeting that he stated during his last campaign that he did not intend to seek re-election.

“As seasons change and I look ahead, I feel it’s time to focus on what matters most: my family and my faith,” Outlaw said, relaying that he looked forward to spending more time with loved ones and becoming more deeply involved in his church and community.

Outlaw, married for 57 years to wife Sharon and father to a daughter and son-in-law, Mindi and Bard Collins, also has a grandson, Bayden Collins. He is an ordained deacon at Englewood Baptist Church.

Outlaw thanked fellow commissioners and members of the public for “trust-

ing and challenging” him.

“My goal was never to hold a position, but to serve a purpose,” Outlaw said, adding that he would leave with peace in his heart knowing that he stayed true to that commitment.

Outlaw has served on the Nash County Board since December, 2008, including 8 years as vice chair and currently as chair.

After the meeting, Outlaw gave information to the media indicating that DeLeon Parker would be running for the District 5 seat and that Outlaw supported it.

Parker subsequently submitted campaign finance paperwork to the Nash County Board of Elections July 8.

Also running for commissioner spots to date are Robert Cordell and Quentin Sumner for Fred Belfield’s seat, while Robbie Davis faces a challenge from Jerry Barnes.

Gwen Wilkins’ commissioner term also expires in 2026. Wilkins and Davis have both filed campaign finance records, indicating that they intend to run for re-election.

Continued from page 1-A

BUDGET

Continued from page 1-A

Edwards asked if a study had been done to predict costs to the town five and ten years down the road.

Funderburg said the contract with GFL would be for three years, and that the town was unable to predict price hikes but could cancel at the end of the contract if necessary.

Edwards also asked about taxes that residents currently pay who use the county dump (a Nash County Convenience Center is located at 7008 US-64 Alternate in Spring Hope, some three or so miles down the road).

Funderburg said he pays about \$150 a year from his taxes to use the convenience center, and said he understood that the tax could be forgiven if a resident opts to receive trash pickup by the town. He also said, in response to another question by Edwards, that the council still had to decide if both trash and recycling services would be provided.

Tracey Jackson asked about budget adjustments for trash pickup should people move or residents choose not to accept the service. Funderburg said the town expected to make adjustments, with the expectation that not everyone would want trash pickup.

-On State Insurance
Jordan Jackson Felton asked about potential cost increases in insurance premiums, referencing a May 2025 presentation to the state health plan board of trustees on upcoming 2026 plan changes.

(The State Health Plan, under the Department of State Treasurer, provides health care coverage to current and former lawmakers, state employees, teachers, community college personnel, and their dependents.)
Funderburg said Momeyer would be able to file an amended Budget Ordinance in January, an often-used technique done by towns to catch up to changes made at the state level.

-On the town YouTube channel

Roger Warren said he wanted to compliment the board for posting town meetings on the town’s YouTube channel, saying that he found the recordings “very beneficial,” particularly for those who work and are unable to attend the council’s monthly morning meetings. Warren also said he appreciated all the hard work done by council members and by Sheila Alford, town clerk.

-On Line Items
Warren asked for definitions and explanations of various line items listed in the proposed budget ordinance, including “governing body” at \$10,500. Funderburg explained that the phrase referred to the town council and the town

planning board, while the “salaries” line item pertained to Alford.

Warren also asked what was covered under “miscellaneous-town/office” at \$5,745. Funderburg said that was a budget fund to assist with any overages, pointing out that new accounting software had reduced that amount from \$47,561 last year.

Warren asked what happens to surplus left at the end of the year. Funderburg said it goes into either of two Capital Reserve investment accounts, one for infrastructure and acquisitions— a CD that matures in August— and the other recently moved into a NC Capital Management Trust, labelled as a budget short-fall protection fund.

In response to questions from *The Graphic*, Funderburg said the funds needed to be allocated to specific purposes with specified terms to compel use.

Warren also commented on the amount the town had in its investment accounts, tallied in the ordinance as about \$440,000 but estimated by Funderburg as over \$500,000.

“So we’re pretty financially sound,” Warren said, asking if any special projects were planned.

“That’s exactly what we’re talking about at the next meeting,” Funderburg said, referencing multiple suggestions made over the years that he thought should be revisited. Items such as parks, sidewalks, street lights and infrastructure items would be acceptable uses, Funderburg said.

-Paper town legislation and need for projects

Warren asked what would happen to town monies if House Bill 801, which passed the House and was referred to the Senate on May 1st, should be enacted. (HB 801, “An Act Authorizing the Legislative Research Commission to Study Paper Towns in North Carolina,” would invoke a study to “determine whether services currently

being provided by each town are sufficient to sustain incorporation for purposes of continued taxation, zoning and the regulation of the right to control private property,” according to part of the bill’s stated purpose.)

“The state would get that money,” Funderburg said.

Warren said the town should be using a lot more of its money to provide services.

“We’ve got to find something in this town to hang our hat on,” Warren said, defining that as something that would be of benefit to all residents.

“And we’re open to suggestions,” Funderburg said.

BUDGET APPROVAL DELAYED

Richard Matthews, councilman, referring to the agenda item listed as “approval of budget ordinance fiscal year 2025-2026,” motioned to approve the budget but was corrected by Edward Jackson, councilman, who said a vote had not yet been taken to close the public hearing.

Jackson then made a motion to table the vote on adopting the budget until the next board meeting. No explanation was given. While the council voted in favor to table formal budget adoption, another motion was made to adopt an interim budget in order to fund government operations— including Alford’s pay and insurance— until the budget is approved.

Pay for the mayor, the town council, and the town planning board is done quarterly, and is currently unaffected by the budget delay.

Jackson, asked after the meeting why he motioned to table, said that there were some line items that needed to be voted on in closed session prior to budget adoption. One of those items may involve an anticipated salary raise for Alford.

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NASH COUNTY COMMISSIONER WAYNE OUTLAW ENDORSES DEE PARKER FOR DISTRICT 5 SEAT

I announced this week that I will not seek re-election in 2026 for the District 5 Seat. I am endorsing DeLeon “Dee” Parker to succeed me in representing District 5 on the Nash County Board of Commissioners.

I am proud to give my full support to Dee Parker as he steps forward to run for the District 5 seat in 2026. Dee and his wife both grew up in the West Mount community, which lies in the very heart of District 5. His roots here run deep, and his love for this community is evident in every part of his life.

A graduate of NC State University with a degree in mechanical engineering and a law degree from Campbell University Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, Parker now operates a successful law practice, The Parker Law Office, in Rocky Mount. His mother and sisters continue to live in the West Mount community, and he and his wife are raising their own family in the same area. Dee’s strong ties to District 5, along with his wonderful, close-knit family, speak volumes about his character and his commitment to the people he hopes to serve.

A respected professional, devoted Christian, and thoughtful leader, Dee brings integrity, energy, and fresh ideas. I could not be happier that he has chosen to serve, and I have every confidence that District 5, and all of Nash County, will be in excellent hands with Dee Parker helping to lead us forward.

J. Wayne Outlaw
July 7, 2025

Commissioner Outlaw has served on the Nash County Board since December, 2008, including 8 years as vice chair and currently as chair.
(Paid political advertisement)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Zoning Map Amendment for recently annexed properties.

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Board for the Town of Red Oak will hold a public hearing to consider a proposed Zoning Map Amendment for properties recently annexed into Red Oak town limits.

The properties affected by this proposed Zoning Map Amendment are located on Carriage Trl, including the adjoining streets of Christina Ln, Mama’s Run Ln, and limited parcels within the West Hampton Development, Old Carriage Rd traveling North from Carriage Trl, turning left at the intersection of Old Carriage Rd and Reges Store Rd.

Proposed Zoning is RM-40 (Residential Medium) except for parcel 031632 which is proposed B-1 (Rural Business District).

The purpose of this public hearing is to consider the zoning designation of the properties above from Nash County R-30 to Red Oak RM-40 and parcel 031632 from commercial to B-1 in accordance with the recently completed annexation process.

July 22, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Red Oak Town Hall 8406 Red Oak Blvd, Nashville NC 27856

A copy of the proposed Zoning Map Amendment is available for public review at Red Oak Town Hall during regular business hours.

The public is invited to attend.
For more information please call 252 443-1239

Publish dates: July 10, July 17, 2025

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Dawes said that as Ms. Fayetteville State University Alumni Queen, she would serve as a University Ambassador, representing FSU at athletic events, chapter events, parades, student activities, the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Tournament and alumni events nationwide, among other events. Her mission, she said, is to “unite alumni, strengthen Bronco pride, and expand access to scholarships for students in need.”

EDUCATION

A 2005 graduate of Nash Central High School, Dawes said she was influenced to choose FSU by observing the leadership impact made by FSU graduates and role models serving in Nash county and surrounding areas. Her first degree was a BS in Criminal Justice, earned in 2009.

“During my time at my Fayetteville State University, I balanced life as a student-athlete, cheering during basketball season and helping revive a reorganized cross-country team in the fall,” Dawes said, discovering that cheerleaders work as “visible ambassadors” for FSU to energize university galas and banquets and summer camps. She also had a work study position in the Office of Admissions and an internship with the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office.

“FSU wasn’t just a campus—it was a vessel that forged my

discipline, resilience, and time-management abilities,” Dawes explained, adding that her student experience taught her to “speak up, lift others, and turn challenges into stepping stones.”

Dawes used her Criminal Justice degree to begin her career as a probation officer for the state of North Carolina, later transitioning to Rehabilitative Support Services for the Department of Public Safety. Returning to Nashville in 2015, she began working as a 9-1-1 dispatcher for the county and eventually as senior administrative support specialist in emergency medical services (EMS), where she remained for nine years.

Dawes picked up her second FSU degree, a BS in Business Administration, in 2017. She would eventually complete a Master of Business Administration from UNC Pembroke in 2023.

“Each degree was a stepping stone that sharpened my perspective, expanded my purpose, and contributed to both my personal and professional development, proof that learning never stops when you’re driven by purpose and a commitment to growth,” Dawes said.

CURRENT JOBS

Dawes is presently employed by the City of Rocky Mount Human Resources Department, specializing in operations and recruitment.

In addition to her full-time work with Rocky Mount, Dawes is also a licensed nail technician, “specializing in Gel-X nails, nail restoration, manicures and pedicures.” She co-owns Unity Hair Salon II with her mother.

Dawes, who has a passion for “beauty, confidence, and self-care,” launched another business, ‘Little Angel’s Spa Parties, which she said is “designed to celebrate, uplift and pamper young girls in a fun, empowering environment.”

Dawes said that her entrepreneurship allows her to feel

fulfillment by combining professionalism, creativity and community engagement.

ALUMNI CONTEST

The Mr. or Ms. FSU National Alumni contest works as a fundraising campaign, with the King or Queen winner determined by the contestant who raises the highest amount of money through contributions from individuals, businesses, churches and civic or community entities. All donations are tax-deductible, supporting the FSU National Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund.

During the 2024-2025 contest, candidates collectively raised \$146,000 for scholarships.

“This journey isn’t about the crown - it’s about the cause,” Dawes said, counting on every dollar raised to build upon the FSU legacy and make it possible for students to stay in school and earn their degrees.

If crowned Queen, Dawes said she plans to leverage her human resources background and statewide network to open doors to internships, mentorships and career pathways for future Broncos.

“To me, Bronco Pride means answering the call to serve—and then charging forward, no excuses,” Dawes said.

TO DONATE

Dawes said tax-deductible gifts may be made securely at uncfsu.edu/alumni-and-friends/mr-ms-alumni-contest.

Checks made payable to Fayetteville State University Foundation Mail may be sent to Dawes at P.O. Box 52, Rocky Mount, NC, 27802. “Shamica Dawes-Ms.FSU Alumni” should be written in the memo line. Digital giving is possible through CashApp (\$Queen26SD) or Zelle (Queen26SD@gmail.com.)

The deadline to donate online is Sept. 26 at 5 p.m., with the winner announced Sept. 27.

PARADE

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION

All four commissioners - Eric Gainey, Brenda Lucas, Drew Griffin and Tommy Toney- expressed reluctance to vote on the issue, with several insisting that there needed to be a “plan B” alternate route in place.

“The (festival) planning process is a lot of work,” Toney said. “It would hurt (future festival plans) if the parade had to be cancelled.” Griffin added that if that happened, it would be hard to get parade participants to return in future years.

“We are all in support of the festival,” Griffin said, which was echoed by other commissioners.

In the end, the board voted unanimously to approve the parade route, which avoids the Depot for its planned renovation work, due to begin August 4 and stretch through March of 2026. As worded, Griffin’s motion to approve carried a contingency that the route be changed if needed to avoid water main roadwork.

Brumfield, requesting a map showing where the water main work was to be, said festival organizers would develop a “plan B” as they got closer. He said having the route approved would clear the path so that entries waiting on the board’s decision could commit.

OTHER ACTION

In other action, the board discussed what do about filling the vacancy created by the June resignation of former commissioner Brent Cone. It was decided to leave the seat vacant until the November elections.

A final contract with Westridge Construction Partners LLC, a Raleigh-based contractor who will be doing the Depot reno-

vation and platform work, was approved, with most of the construction to occur between fall and winter.

An interlocal agreement with Nash County and the NC Department of Commerce was amended regarding state funding approved in 2020 to install three handwashing stations in the town hall area and one in Spring Hope Community Park. Also included will be the addition of 1,000 linear feet of paved trail at the Park.

A complaint was made

by Michael Edwards during the meeting’s public forum about high water bills and “rusty water” coming out of home taps on N. Walnut Street, as well as multiple potholes in town streets. Board members commented generally that they hoped water issues to be solved by the oncoming water main work, which would also clear the way for street improvements once finished.

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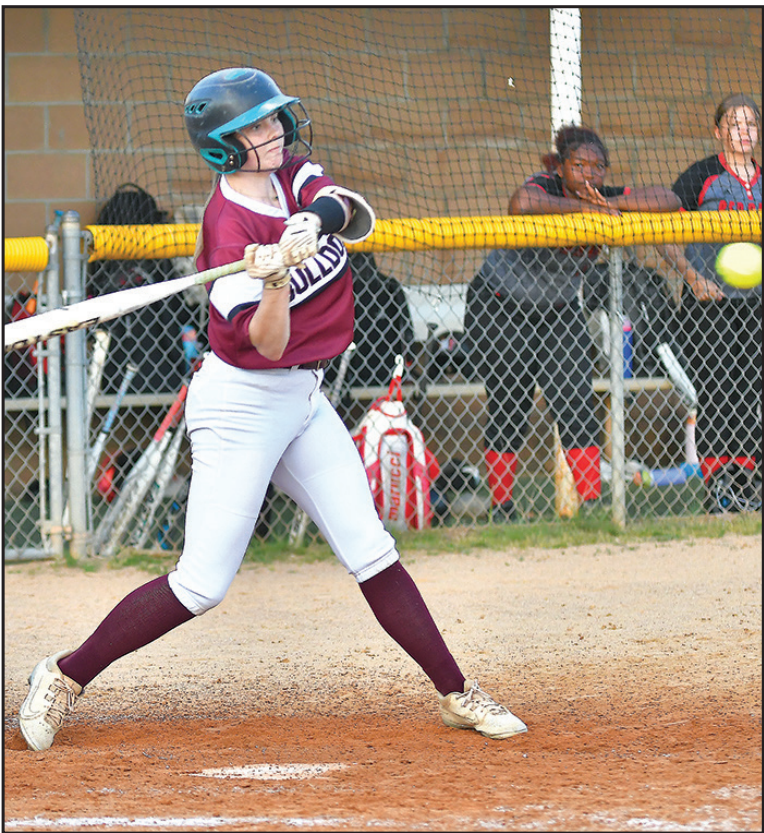
SOUTHERN NASH LADYBIRDS SOOPERDOOPERSTAR ANNA DICKINSON
County standouts make all-state list



NNHS' EMILY CLAY
From Staff Reports

NASH COUNTY -- It was an amazing softball season in Nash County this spring, mainly because of the elite-level exploits of the Southern Nash Ladybirds

See SOFTBALL, Page 2B



RAYLEIGH SUMMERLIN WAS EXCEPTIONAL FOR THE NASH CENTRAL LADY BULLDOGS AS AN INSTANT-IMPACT FRESHMAN

Flag Football Is Coming
Nash County schools to field squads this season

By CHANCE PUCKETT
Correspondent

NASH COUNTY -- A new chapter is set to begin in the history book of Nash County high school sports this fall, with Girls Flag Football officially coming to the area's athletic scene in September.

All four of the county's public high schools -- Northern Nash, Nash Central, Southern Nash and Rocky Mount -- will be taking the gridiron this fall, with games set to take place on Monday nights rather than Tackle Football's traditional Friday Night Lights.

The four county rivals will be joined by Beddingfield, Fike, Hunt and North Johnston in an eight-team unofficial league, with the first contest of the year set for September 15.

The games will be set up similarly to how North Carolina and the area hosts wrestling

matches, with three teams in one location each playing one another every week. Therefore, each team will place two games apiece on Monday nights.

While the sport is not yet sponsored by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA), it is gaining major momentum around the country and in North Carolina. 13 states across the nation have begun sanctioning Girls Flag Football as a varsity sport through their governing athletic associations, and the National Football League's Carolina Panthers have made strong efforts to grow the sport within the state.

A recent study backed by the Panthers organization concluded that 119 high schools across the state competed in Girls Flag Football of some sort in the most recent season, headlined

See FLAG FB, Page 2B



SOUTHERN NASH RISING JUNIOR
RUNNING BACK JADEN HARTSFIELD

READY TO ROCK
Birds to open vs. Knightdale

From Staff Reports

STANHOPE -- Southern Nash's league slate won't be the only thing different about the Firebirds' schedule when the school embarks in football competition this fall in the rearranged Big East Conference.

Southern is a long-time member of the Big East, but not in its current form, which will include the likes of Southern Wayne and CB Aycock for the first time -- along with former entrants Wilson Hunt and Wilson Fike, both of which have been gone from the Big East for the past four campaigns.



See BIRDS, Page 2B



SOUTHERN LEGEND
BRIAN BATCHELOR



NASH CENTRAL ALUM JEREMIAH JONES
Nash Central's Jones signs deal with UNC-Greensboro

By CHANCE PUCKETT
Correspondent

NASHVILLE -- Jeremiah Jones has been a key piece of Nash Central's Track & Field and Cross Country programs over recent years, a feat that has been noticed by collegiate

programs around the area.

After an outstanding career, Jones will now be taking his talents to the Division I level, enrolling at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro beginning this fall where

See JONES, Page 2B



SOUTHERN NASH SENIOR STANDOUT CARLEE BECKHAM

SOFTBALL

continued from page 1B

Southern Nash, which has built itself into one of the East Region’s top programs over the past decade, enjoyed yet another banner year, going undefeated in the regular season for the second consecutive campaign.

SN’s perfect ride didn’t end until the fourth round of the Class 3-A State Playoffs. By then, the Ladybirds had accumulated 24 wins in a row to go with (again) Big East Conference regular season and tournament championships.

Four Ladybirds have earned positions on the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association’s Class 3-A All-State Team for the 2025 season -- seniors Anna Dickinson, Carlee Beckham and Savanna Baines, along with sophomore Noel Dobbins.

Dickinson will go down as one of SN’s all-time greatest pitchers -- no small feat considering the number of quality hurlers the Ladybirds’ program has produced through the years.

The Division I USC-Upstate signee finished her SN tenure with a remarkable 61-8 overall mound record to go with a microscopic earned-run average of 0.74. She struck out 747 strikeouts in just 417 innings of work and delivered eight no-hitters and 28 shutouts over a four-year span.

Dickinson was also a key contributor at the plate for her career, batting .429.

As a senior, the talented Dickinson raked at an impressive .472 pace to go with two homers, eight doubles and 21 RBI.

Seniors Beckham (third base) and Baines (first base) overcame injuries at some stage in their respective careers to become stars for the Ladybirds -- both in softball and volleyball.

Baines batted a lofty .493 as a senior with 33 hits and 22 RBI and will continue her fast-pitch career at nearby Barton College.

Beckham was spiritual leader for the Ladybirds and made the most of her senior year by batting an amazing .530 to go with six homers and 38 RBI.

Beckham, whose clutch triple was the biggest hit of SN’s third-round playoff conquest, will attend Liberty University in Virginia in the fall in a non-athletic position.

Both Beckham and Baines (and Dickinson) was key pieces last fall in help-

ing Southern Nash claim an elusive Big East Conference Volleyball Championship.

The power-hitting Dobbins is the future of the SNHS program -- and has been since being a Day-One starter for legendary Coach Scott Collie as a ninth-grader.

This past year, as a sophomore, Dobbins was once again an offensive cornerstone as she batted an unbelievable .542 with a team-high 12 home runs to go with 33 RBI.

Nash County’s softball excellence wasn’t just limited to Stanhope in the spring as both Nash Central and Northern Nash, despite being in rebuilding mode, still qualified for the playoffs in their respective classifications.

Northern Nash went 10-10 overall with a lineup that featured just three seniors.

One of those upperclassmen was Emily Clay, who earned All-State honors for the second consecutive year.

Clay put up some gargantuan numbers as a senior, hitting at a .642 clip with three homers, six triples, 13 doubles and 47 RBI. She also saw duty on the hill, going 4-1 with a 3.84 earned-run average.

Clay has signed a letter-of-intent to continue her softball career at Valdosta State University in South Georgia.

Like Northern Nash, Nash Central was building for the future this fall with only one senior.

Ninth-grader Rayleigh Summerlin was an instant hit (literally) for the Bulldogs, batting a quality .424 with 25 hits, 22 runs and 22 RBI.

And with more good players on the way from Central’s title-winning softball club on the middle school level, the Lady Bulldogs should be a factor in 2026 in the newly formed Quad County Conference.

So there you have it -- here are Nash County’s representatives on the North Carolina Coaches Association’s All-State Teams:

- Class 2-A
- Rayleigh Summerlin, Nash Central
- Class 3-A
- Noel Dobbins, Southern Nash
 - Anna Dickinson, Southern Nash
 - Carlee Beckham, Southern Nash
 - Emily Clay, Northern Nash
 - Savanna Baines, Southern Nash

FLAG FB

continued from page 1B

by Eugene Ashley High School in Wilmington claiming the first North Carolina Girls Flag Football State Championship at Durham County Memorial Stadium in December 2024.

High schools from Durham, Johnston, New Hanover, Union and Wake Counties each participated in the inaugural Girls Flag Football playoffs last fall, with the Wilmington Ashley Screaming Eagles defeating Apex in the title game, 13-7.

Locally, Southern Nash is the only

school to have named a head coach for their program, with Chris Pace set to lead the Ladybirds this fall.

Pace is a longtime teacher and baseball assistant at Southern, but this marks his first head coaching opportunity with the school.

Nash Central, Northern Nash and Rocky Mount have yet to announce their respective plans for a head coach, but each are expected to name their program’s first leader in the coming weeks as the season draws nearer.



NASH CENTRAL DISTANCE STALWART JEREMIAH JONES SIGNS PAPERS TO ATTEND UNC-GREENSBORO

JONES

continued from page 1B

he will be a part of the Spartans’ Track & Field program.

“Jeremiah is probably one of the most gifted there-sport talents I’ve had on the track and off the track,” said Jones’ head track coach, Ricardo Jerome.

Jerome oversaw Jones’ development as a runner throughout all four of his years as part of the Bulldog program. Jerome also helped coach Jones’ older brother Javaris Jones, who ran track and played football at Nash Central, continuing his athletic and academic career as part of the football team at Division I Furman University in Greenville, S.C.

“He is a competitor and comes from a highly-competitive background,” remarked Jerome. “He also does a lot of community service and public speaking projects in the community and at his church.”

Jones was also a member of the cross country team at Nash Central under the direction of head coach Terri Cash, playing basketball as well for the Bulldogs in the winter.

Track and Field was always where Jones made his biggest mark though, qualifying for both regionals and the state championship during all four of his seasons at Central.

Those achievements garnered attention from schools all along the eastern seaboard, as aside from UNC-Greensboro Jones received attention from Maryland Eastern Shore and South Carolina, both of which compete at the Division I level.

Locally, Jones was in talks with Barton College in Wilson, a Division II program.

“He puts between



JEREMIAH JONES HAS BEEN A REGULAR AT NCHSAA STATE CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK AND FIELD MEETS

eight to 14 miles on his body per day and trains religiously,” remarked Jerome of Jones’ practicing habits. “What stood out to me was that he superseded his goals this year, he met every trial time.”

Jerome was quick to give Jones credit to reviving Nash Central’s distance running program, an energy and boost that helped the Bulldogs claim the Class 2-A Mideast Region crown during his senior season.

“It was an honor to coach such a polished,

disciplined, distinguished young man and I know he will do well at the next level,” said Jerome.

The Spartans Track & Field program has yet to release its 2025-26 schedule, but the team will likely begin its next campaign in December of this year.

UNC-Greensboro competes in the Southern Conference amongst seven other Men’s Track & Field programs, having most recently won the league championship in 2018.

BIRDS

continued from page 1B

But what is decidedly different about SN’s schedule is its non-conference ledger as the Firebirds will tangle with three unfamiliar foes -- and one very, very familiar one -- in the four weeks heading up to their Big East opener.

That stretch will begin August 22 when Coach Brian Batchelor’s crew will entertain the Knightdale Knights in the first-ever meeting between the schools on the gridiron.

Games against perennial powers Clayton (August 29 on the road) and Warsaw James Kenan (September 5 at home) will follow before two-decade-long rival Nash Central will host the Firebirds on September 12 to close out SN’s non-conference schedule.

Central had joined SN in the Big East for the past four years, but the Bulldogs have moved to the newly formed Quad

County Conference.

SN will then kick off its Big East slate September 19 at home against the Southern Wayne Saints at historic Firebird Stadium on the SNHS campus in Stanhope.

The Firebirds, under Batchelor’s direction, went 9-3 last fall while reaching the second round of the Class 3-A State Playoffs.

With a strong core of returnees, Southern Nash is expected to be in the mix for championship contention this fall in what should be a challenging new Big East Conference.

In another interesting twist, the Big East now features an odd-numbered group of teams, so one club will have one bye during the league portion of the schedule.

For SN, that bye will come on the regular season finale week on October 31 -- so the Fire-

birds will have an extra week to rest should they qualify (as they usually do) for the playoffs.

SNHS’ complete worksheet is as follows, with home games listed in CAPS:

- Southern Nash Football Schedule
- August 22 -- KNIGHTDALE
 - August 29 -- at Clayton High School
 - September 5 -- WARSAW JAMES KENAN
 - September 12 -- at Nash Central
 - September 19 -- SOUTHERN WAYNE*
 - September 26 -- at CB Aycock*
 - October 3 -- WILSON FIKE*
 - October 10 -- at Wilson Hunt*
 - October 17 -- at Rocky Mount*
 - October 24 -- NORTHERN NASH*
- * -- Denotes Big East Conference Football Games



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Is God Dead? – What is the point?

BY TY B. KERLEY

So, what is the point? That is the ultimate question, right? The ultimate worldview question: what is the point? Ultimately, there must be a point to it all rather than not. We humans possess the attributes that we do for some reason. Consider the human qualities that have nothing to do with “survival of the fittest,” like the human soul and all it entails. For example, the exclusively human capacity to think abstract thoughts, especially abstract thoughts about a God that no one can directly see or hear. Even so, there is a strong argument to be made that a great Being of which one greater cannot be conceived exists necessarily. Let me explain.



The ontological argument for the existence of God was first put forward by Anselm of Canterbury in 1078. Anselm defined God as “a being than which no greater can be conceived.” He further argued that even nonbelievers like our Bible skeptic, Michael, could conceive of such a maximally great being. And because such a being must exist in the mind, it must also exist in reality because if this Being only exists in the mind and not in fact, then a greater Being (one who does exist in the mind and in reality) must be possible. Because of this, this greatest possible Being must exist necessarily in reality. Such are called ontological arguments.

Through the centuries, ontological arguments have been modified and improved upon by notable figures such as Descartes and Leibniz. Today, Christian Alvin Plantinga has offered yet another modification to the argument. Plantinga’s formulation can be generally stated this way:

1. God is, by definition, a Being greater than which nothing can be conceived.
2. It is greater to exist in reality than to exist only in the mind.
3. Therefore, God must exist in reality. If he did not, he would not be the greatest being possible.

There is no argument concerning number one; even the Bible skeptic Michael must agree with that. Number two, however, is questioned, and the concern is this: is it truly greater to exist than to not exist? The 18th-century philosopher Immanuel Kant was not so sure. However, one of the weaknesses of the ontological argument is that it depends on the assumption that “something exists.” For this reason, the ontological argument is not a helpful argument from which to begin arguing for the existence of God.

First, as a starting point, the ontological argument ends up being what philosophers call “question-begging” or “a circular argument.” Paul Edwards defines a circular argument as “when one proposition is defended by reference to another, and the second is defended by reference to the first.” This is what philosophers called arguing in a circle.

Second, and closely related, the ontological argument presupposes what Michael, the Bible skeptic, categorically denies—the existence of the God of theism as revealed in Scripture. Third, the ontological argument is flawed as a starting argument because it requires “something to exist” to be true. Once it is established that something exists, then it is logical that a necessary God exists.

However, the weakness of the ontological argument points to the beauty of what we have been attempting in this column: to present a cumulative case argument for the existence of God that builds layer upon layer of evidence. As such, and at this point in the cumulative case argument, we have already established that something indeed exists based on evidence from the cosmos, irreducible complexity, and intelligent design. And if something exists, it is highly reasonable to conclude that such a maximally great Being also exists. For this reason, the statement that “something exists; therefore God exists” is not an unreasonable proposition but naturally flows from the logic and from concrete evidence observed and deduced from “the things that have been made” (Rom. 1:19ff) and have been presented to this point.

Undoubtedly, it is a deep, complex question: Is God dead? Complex questions sometimes require more than simple answers. Sometimes, complex questions require a cumulative-type approach, which is not so much unlike a lawyer who presents layer upon layer of cumulative evidence to a jury. At this point in our “case,” much has been given, so much so that a summary of where we are is in order. Join us next week as we offer a brief overview of the evidence we have considered to this point and some very important preliminary conclusions about what that evidence tells us. Until then, remember, whether we realize it or not, all of us live as if we have answered the question: Is God dead? What is your answer? Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ty B. Kerley, DMin., is an ordained minister who teaches Christian apologetics and relief preaching in Southern Oklahoma. Dr. Kerley and his wife, Vicki, are members of the Waurika church of Christ and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.com.



65TH ANNIVERSARY

Lauris and Rebecca Joyner of the Coopers Community, who were married on June 18, 1960 in Elm City, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. The couple has three children, Lisa Meekins, Carla Thielen and Lauris Taylor Joyner; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. The couple attends Macedonia Baptist Church.

CHURCH EVENTS CALENDAR

NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Nashville Baptist Church will host its Vacation Bible School July 28-August 1, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. The Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School will take place at the church, 512 E. Washington Street, Nashville, for rising kindergarteners to completed 5th grade students. Register: <https://www.nashvillebaptistchurch.org/children>.

JOHNSON CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Johnson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church will host Vacation Bible School on July 12 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 317 Beauvue Rd., Elm City. The theme is “Grounded in Urgency & Truth” (2 Tim. 2:15). The event will include Bible teaching, crafts and lunch. For more information call 252-314-2134.

Submit your church news, announcements and photos!

news@nashvillegraphic.com

Deadline to submit calendar items is 10 a.m. on Monday

Why do Christians have to suffer?

BY MIKE RUFFIN

“Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” (Hosea 6:3)

The one Christian promise that I don’t particularly like is the fact that Christian living includes its share of suffering. But that’s exactly what Jesus promised us when He said, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me”. (Mark 8:34)

Mature Christians cling to those words during dark times in their lives. It’s not so much that misery loves company, but rather that they realize that the crosses they will be asked to bear will bring deeper spiritual growth.

Well, that all makes sense until the next cross appears in my life. That’s when the devil works overtime to make sure I lose my perspective and

forget that the battle has already been won and victory is at hand. Satan likes to spin his lie because he knows the truth: Suffering offers us the chance to get to know the Lord in ways pain-free living can never provide. Is it any wonder why Paul once said, “Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes”? (Ephesians 6:11)

James warned us that hard times would come our way. And when they come, He tells us to “consider it pure joy, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance”. (James 1:2-3)

What’s so important about perseverance anyway? Why is it such an important Christian quality?

Obviously, the Apostle Paul agreed with James. In fact, he told the Church at Rome, “We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope”. (Romans 5:3-4)

Peter said that perseverance was right up there next to godliness.

“For this very reason”, he said, “make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness.” (II Peter 1:5-6)

Their point and mine are really quite simple. None of us likes to suffer. But suffering is an important ingredient if our lives are ever going to have any chance to mirror the life of Christ. If we want to be more like Him, then we, too, must suffer and persevere.

I don’t like the valleys that life brings my way. I haven’t yet learned to confront them with a joyful spirit. But I do know this: My walk with Christ can never be strengthened until I learn to walk through those valleys with Him, hand in hand.

Nothing ever grows on the tops of the mountains. The real beauty that God has to offer is always found in the valleys. And that’s where Jesus is, too. He is, after all is said and done, “the rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys”. (Song of Solomon 2:1)

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The Momeyer Ruritan Club recently presented scholarships to youth members. Pictured, left to right: Stuart Parker, scholarship committee, Colin Leggett, second generation member; Jacob Cooper, second generation member; Brent Leggett, President of Momeyer Ruritan Club. Leggett is attending NC State University majoring in Agriculture Business. Cooper is a rising sophomore at Campbell University majoring in Physical Therapy. Not pictured, Cade Edwards, third generation member. Edwards is attending NC State University majoring in Agriculture Business. The scholarship committee selects recipients based on academics as well as community service.



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WESTERN SIZZLIN

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Nash County Health Department holds national H.I.V. test day

BY NANCY WEST-BRAKE
GRAPHIC STAFF WRITER

ROCKY MOUNT- With Edgecombe County one of the two North Carolina counties with the most HIV prevalence (31 per 100,000 people), the Nash County Health Department is continuing to push the word out about free testing, as was the case with a community event for National HIV Testing Day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 27 outside the train station in Rocky Mount.

Comparatively, the number of new HIV case diagnoses in Nash County was 19 in 2023 and 2022, but those numbers have been rising since 2020, when there were only 11 cases, according to NCDHHS Epidemiology.

The number of people newly categorized as having Stage 3 HIV (AIDS) increased in 2023 to 636 in North Carolina, also a rise over the past five years.

While new HIV diagnoses have remained relatively stable in the state, (Edgecombe and Mecklenburg) continue to have higher rates of HIV infection.

AMERICAN SOUTH THE EPICENTER

A book published through the University of North Carolina Press, North Carolina and the Problem of AIDS by Stephen J. Inrig, states that southern states “claim the highest rates of new infections, the most AIDS-related deaths, and the largest number of adults and adolescents living with the virus.” Inrig states that “poor, rural and minority communities” are at greatest risk.

SUBPOPULATIONS “When you live in a community where many people have HIV, the chance of being exposed to the virus by having sex or sharing needles or other injection equipment with someone who has HIV is higher,” states the website, HIV.gov. The virus is found in human blood, sexual fluids and breast milk. It is not

found in saliva, tears, urine or sweat.

In terms of HIV diagnoses for Nash county in 2023, there were 12 cases among Blacks aged 13 years and older, and 6 cases among Whites for the same ages, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which has a searchable website by geography, year and disease.

Locally, more males than females tested positive in 2023: 15 males compared to 5 females.

HIV STAGES

There are three stages of HIV: Acute infection, Chronic Infection, and AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome).

The acute, or initial stage, happens 2-4 weeks after infection, with many people experiencing flu-like symptoms like fever, headache and a rash, but some people may not experience any symptoms at all. During this stage, the virus is destroying CD4 cells, which are a type of white blood cells which help with immunity. There is a high risk of passing the virus to others at this stage.

A chronic infection, which is also called an asymptomatic HIV infection, has mild or no symptoms and can last as long or longer than a decade if no treatment is given. The virus reproduces more slowly than during the acute stage but can still be transmitted to others.

If medication is taken at this stage, it can slow down or prevent someone from advancing to the next stage.

AIDS, the most advanced stage, has severe physical conditions. The individual has a weakened immune system, making them susceptible to some cancers and infections.

Symptoms include weight loss, chronic diarrhea, night sweats, fever, cough, and mouth and skin problems. Because of the high level of the virus in an infected person’s blood, sexual fluids, and breast milk during this stage, the odds of transmitting the virus to others are high.

TESTING AND AFTER TESTING

After an initial positive test, it’s important to see a healthcare provider to confirm the diagnosis and begin treatment, known as antiretroviral therapy (ART), medicines that work to suppress the HIV virus and protect the immune system.

Through scientific advances, HIV is very treatable, allowing people to live long, healthy lives on ART.

Locally, Carolina Family Health Centers, Inc. has a Ryan White program that has provided HIV Primary Health Care and other services to those living with HIV/AIDS for almost 20 years.

Testing is free and confidential through the Nash County Health Department, which also offers a testing outreach program and health education information on HIV/AIDS and STDs.

RESOURCE CONNECTIONS

Liz Lord, Nash Deputy Health Director, spoke at the June 27 event about the importance of working together with compassion, respect, and unity.

“Stigma remains one of the biggest barriers to HIV prevention, testing and care. It can isolate people, silence conversations and create fear where there should be support. But events like this one help tear down those barriers,” Lord said.

Also speaking at the event were Latesha Barnes-Staton, Lead Health Educator, and Melaine Meeks, Care Coalitions Manager, along with Rebecca Copeland, Chair of Twin Counties Partnership for Healthier Communities.

Those who attended enjoyed free musical entertainment and were able to speak with nine local vendors: Carolina Family, which also offers testing and screening services; OIC; Port Health Mobile; Oxford House; Capital Assistance Services; Veteran Services; Nash County DSS; Care Coalition and TCI Works.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Calendar events must be submitted by 10 a.m. Monday for publication. Items accepted are events sponsored by not-for-profit organizations or free events. Mail to: Community Calendar c/o The Nashville Graphic, 203 W. Washington St. Nashville, NC 27856 or fax (252) 459-3052 or email to news@nashvillegraphic.com. Please include a contact name and phone number.

JULY 10

The Nash County Arts Council will host a purse burning class, led by artist Regina Pena, on Thursday, June 10th, from 6-8:30 p.m. This is a beginner level class, from ages 16 through adult. Registration is \$50 General Admission (\$45 Nash Arts members). Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/classes or www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 12

“Let’s Talk About It” Mental Health Community Support Group will meet on July 12 from 1-2:30 p.m. at Harold D. Cooley Library, 114 W. Church St., Nashville. For more information call 252-220-4601.

JULY 14-18

The Nash County Arts Council will host an “Under the Sea” themed arts & crafts camp for special populations, ages 8-16, led by Carla Camahan, July 14-18 from 9 a.m. until noon, daily. Cost is \$30 for the week. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/classes, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council, or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 15

Harold D. Cooley Library will host Builders Club on July 15 from 4-5 p.m. for ages 6 and older. The library is located at 114 W. Church St., Nashville. For more information call 252-459-2106.

JULY 19

The Joint Veterans Committee of Nash and Edgecombe Counties will be performing a flag presentation ceremony at Jack Laughery Veterans Memorial Park, 321 N. Church St., Rocky Mount on Saturday, July 19th at 10 a.m. to honor Bennett D. Alongi, SP-4, U.S. Army. This event is held monthly except for May and November. Those months are for honoring all veterans on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. The service is free to an honorably discharged veteran’s family of all branches who served our great nation. For more information, come to the event or call Jim Taylor at 252-557-2114.

Braswell Memorial Library will host its Big Book Sale on Saturday, July 19 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Books for children and young adults only. Free face-painting and free popsicles. Cash or check only. The library is located at 727 N. Grace St., Rocky Mount.

The Nash County Arts Council will kick off its 2025-2026 Minor Concert Series with Southern Heart Country Show (Brenda Langley, Charles Curlings, & Jimmie Dawson). Doors open at 6:40 p.m. for the 7 p.m. show time. Costs are \$12 advance or \$16 day of show. Reserved seats are available for \$5 more. Nash Arts members receive

a \$5 discount for tickets & admissions. Advance tickets are available at www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 21-25

The Nash County Arts Council will host a Powers of Poetry Camp with poet, author, & teaching artist, Phillip Shabazz, for grades 4 & up, July 21-25 from 10 a.m. -1p.m. daily. Cost is \$95 (\$90 Nash Arts Members). Late registration will increase by \$5. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/camps, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council, or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 23

Harold D. Cooley Library will host a sailboat ornament craft class on July 23 from 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. for teens and adults. To secure a spot, call 252-459-2106 to register. Class is free and materials are provided. You will need to bring a glue gun. The library is located at 114 W. Church St., Nashville.

The Nash County Arts Council will host a glass succulent plants class with artist Kim Valentine on Wednesday, July 23 rd, from 6-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$30 (\$25 Nash Arts Members). Late registration will increase by \$5. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/classes, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council, or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 24

The Nash County Arts Council will host a Mosaics on concrete garden stones class with artist Meri Fern, Thursday, July 24th, from 6-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$55 (\$50 Nash Arts Members). Late registration will increase by \$5. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/classes, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council, or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 26

The Nash County Arts Council will kick off its 2025-2026 Nashville Showcase Series with the Tennessee Bluegrass Band Saturday, July 26th at 7 p.m. Doors will open at 6:40. p.m. Costs are \$25 advance or \$30 day of show. Reserved seats are available for \$5 more. Nash Arts members receive a \$5 discount on tickets and admissions. Visit www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council or call (252) 459-4734 to purchase advance tickets. Order soon, as this event is anticipated to sell out. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 28-AUGUST 1

The Nash County Arts Council will host “StageCraft: A Journey to the Spotlight” drama camp for Grades K-8, led by Kristie Cappalletti, July 28 through August 1 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. daily. The week will include theater games, group learning, and preparation for a variety show to be

performed for parents and friends on the last day of class. Cost is \$175 for the week (\$170 Nash Arts Members). Late registration will increase by \$5. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/camps, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council, or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 29

Harold D. Cooley Library will host Builders Club on July 29 from 4-5 p.m. for ages 6 and older. The library is located at 114 W. Church St., Nashville. For more information call 252-459-2106.

JULY 30

The Nash County Arts Council will host a Resin Class with artist Kim Valentine, Wednesday, July 30th, from 6-8:30 p.m., with six frames to choose from! Cost is \$65 (\$60 Nash Arts Members). Late registration will increase by \$5. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/classes, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council, or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

JULY 31

The Nash County Arts Council will host a Flat Wide Brim Hat Burning Class with artist Regina Pena, Thursday, July 31, from 6-8:30p.m. Cost is \$65 (\$60 Nash Arts Members). Late registration will increase by \$5. Supplies included in cost. Visit nasharts.org/classes, www.ticketleap.events/tickets/nash-county-arts-council or call (252) 459-4734 to register. Nash Arts is located at 100 E. Washington St., Nashville.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

Storytime for ages 2-5 is held Thursday mornings at Harold D. Cooley Library from 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The library is located at 114 W. Church St., Nashville. 252-459-2106.

Northern Nash Class of 1979 will host its 46th Class Reunion October 17-18, 2025 at the Drake Community Center. The registration cost (\$75 per person) for the Reunion Banquet on Oct. 18, \$10 per person for the Tailgate Meet & Greet at the NNSH Football Game on Oct. 17, and t-shirt cost of \$15 per person needs to be paid by JULY 31, 2025. Checks can be made payable to Glinda Lynch Turner/NNSH 79. Cash app at \$NNSH79 and/or Text and APPLE PAY at (252) 406-2695. Contacts: Gwen Dales-Franklin @ (301) 219-6375 or Dales5813@gmail.com or Phyllis Faye Arrington @ (919) 451-5510 or phyllisar- ringtonmcgee@gmail.com.

Got LEGOs gathering dust at home? Nashville Parks and Recreation is building something awesome with its Brick Builders Program, and needs your help! We’re looking for gently used LEGOs to inspire creativity, teamwork, and endless for kids in our community. Drop-off Location: 200 S. Boddie Street, Nashville NC. Let’s turn those forgotten bricks into something amazing-one colorful creation at a time!

Harold D. Cooley Library hosts Builders Club the last Tuesday of each month from 4-5 p.m. for ages 6 and older. The library is located at 114 W. Church St., Nashville. For more information call 252-459-2106

NASH COUNTY DEED TRANSFERS

Richelle Tennyson and Scott Harold Tennyson to Lauren Dillello; 224 Westview Park Drive, Rocky Mount; \$305,000

Lennis B. Moody, Lennis Burnell Moody, Lenore F. Moody, Lenore Frances Moody to L&L Moody Family Trust; 25 acres

Little Bear Creek Properties B, LLC and Little Bear Creek Properties, LLC to Stallings Grove Homeowners Association, Inc.; .39 acres and 1.04 acres

Adams Homes AEC, LLC and Don Adams to Travis Arrington and Darick Alfonza Ricks; 5085 Holly Hill Court, Battleboro; \$395,000

D.R. Horton, Inc. to Claudemir Jose Ruthes and Ana Claudia Ribeiro Ruthes; Saddlebrook Subdivision, Phase 1-B, Lot 123

Fort Rose Capital, LLC to Calvin Hazlett; 10942 Simms Road, Bailey; \$214,000

Carolyn Gurganus and Ronald E. Gurganus to Jeffrey Harrison Edwards; 21.75 acres, S. Nash Street

Ella R. Alston to Sheila Stallings and Dennis S. Alston; 2082 Swift Creek School Road, Whitakers

Laurie S. Swanson and Howard D. Swanson to Danielle Swanson; 4670 Lizzie Lane

Abraham Torres and Elaine Torres to Jim Pope Builder, Inc; 5520 Tar Island Drive, Rocky Mount; \$672,500

David A. Manning and Tina Manning to Annette Taylor Matthews and Rodney Irvin Matthews; 2816 South Old Franklin Road, Nashville Carl and Effie Cooley Trust, Carl Cooley, Effie Cooley, Allen T. Cooley and Pamela C. Budd to Harry Wise and Joseph Moreland; 9123 Thomas Road, Rocky Mount; \$416,000

Sarah H. Cake and Marcus P. Cake to Kenzie Ray King and Ashley Batten King; 211 Private Lane, Nashville; \$125,000

Ashton Raleigh Residential, LLC to Reagan James Clark; Middleton Farms Subdivision, Lot 112; \$318,000

East Wind Properties, LLC to Ishawn Lowell Shoulars and Jasmine Shantale Shoulars; 5569 Martys Court, Bailey; \$370,000

Pia Legacy, LLC to Tamecia Key; Section 1, Southside Development, Lot 3; \$145,000

Adams Homes AEC, LLC and Don Adams to

Kent Douglas Smith, Holly Denise Byrd-Smith, Holly Denise Byrd Smith; 4243 Coolwater Drive, Bailey; \$343,500

Kaitlyn Wocher and Leighton Bowen to Guy Dionne and Stacey Dionne; 9876 Pace Road, Bailey; \$330,000

NVR, Inc. to Janay Darlya Fraser; 4320 Drag-onfly Road, Bailey; \$300,000

The Sykes Family Trust, Ray M. Sykes and Joan M. Sykes to The City of Rocky Mount; 1.782 acres

Town of Nashville to Bruce Ann Stewart and Carroll F. Stewart; .174 acres

Bruce Dennis Lewis and Danita Lewis to Dock Works Properties, LLC; 4870 Dogwood Drive; \$140,000

April Tedder Siko, Augustus Siko, Karen Tedder Gabbard and Randall Jason Gabbard to Restoration Recovery Ministries Inc.; 9589 NC Highway 581, Bailey; \$260,000

Polly Reynolds Warner and G. Vincent Durham Jr. to David Alan Ess and Ann Dickens Ess; 3604 Woodlawn Road, Rocky Mount; \$307,500

Garden Street Communities Southeast, LLC to Adams Homes AEC, LLC; Joyner Park Townhomes, Lots 1-125; \$6,250,000

Donella M. Lee to Nelson Cooper and Vanessa Cooper; .53 acres, Section 1, Twin Lakes, Block B, Lot 3

Rocky Mount Investments, LLC to The George P. Hampton Revocable Trust and George P. Hampton; 6015 White Owl Lane, Rocky Mount

Rocky Mount Investments, LLC to The George P. Hampton Revocable Trust and George P Hampton; .91 acres

JEC Construction Incorporated to Hunter C. Cline and Jessica B. Cline; Henri’s Place, Lot 2; \$385,000

Stephen Wilson Sr. and Diane Wilson to Guillermo Olmos Jr. And Angela Olmos: Taylor Woods, Lot 4; \$151,000

Christopher B. Satterwhite, Christopher Benjamin Satterwhite and Erin Satterwhite to Terry Milligan and Donna Milligan; 6004 North NC Highway 58, Nashville; \$224,000

William H. Dorsey to Joseph Ollen Lewis and Susan Turner Lewis; 262 Regency Drive, Nash-

ville; \$160,000

Sammy H. Matthews and Lucinda C. Matthews to 231 Homes, LLC; 304 Foxhall Drive, Rocky Mount; \$125,000

Ronnie D. Snead and Cathy L. Snead to Mildred B. Woodard; .376 acres; \$249,500

George Warren Marshbourne, Betty Jean Marshbourne, Aubrey S. Tomlinson Jr., George Warren Marshbourne III, Terri Lee Marshbourne Tomlinson and Aubrey S. Tomlinson Jr. to Terri Lee Marshbourne Tomlinson, George Warren Marshbourne, Betty Jean Marshbourne, Aubrey S. Tomlinson Jr. and George Warren Marshbourne; 88.83 acres, 28.29 acres, 42.5 acres and 157.19 acres

Bryant Association, LLC and Jermaine Bryant to Nia Legacy, LLC; 509 Mullins Street, Rocky Mount; \$103,000

Chad Anson Robbins and Joni Elizabeth Robbins to Edward Alton Hunter Jr. and Emily Earles Hunters; 647 Duck Pond Road, Nashville; \$780,000

Victoria C. Collins and Lindsay Collins Johnston to Joseph Drake Jr. and Cynthia J. Drake; Lot 25, Section 1, Southside Development

The Jack A. Bleiberg Revocable Trust and Jack A. Bleiberg to the Elizabeth M. Bunn Revocable Trust and Elizabeth M. Bunn; lot 15 and the southern half of lot 16, Block C, Candlewood

Jonathan Dorson to Christopher Evans and Zakeycia Dickens; 1641 Bridgedale Drive, Rocky Mount; \$238,000

Troy V. Davis to Afreshnewstart, LLC; 101 Willow Oaks, Rocky Mount

Robert Nelson Jeffreys, Deborah A. Jeffreys and Marsha M. Jeffreys to 3MR Limited Partnership; .18 acres

Substitute Trustee Services, Larry D. Tabron and Jennel A. Tabron to Family Hospitality, LLC, William T. Morrison and Philip M. Rudisill; 9815 Stone Heritage Road, Bailey

Jade Nichole Pulley, Forrest Crawford Pully, Taylor Blackstock and Taylor Scott Blackstock to Edwardsone, LLC; Baybrook Farms, Section 2, lots 1-3

RBD Investments, Inc. to Melissa L. Weaver; Birchwood Preserve, Section 1, Lot 10;

\$340,000

Leanna Kristan Crumpler and Darrus Rivers to Leanna Kristan Crumpler and Darrus Rivers; 303 Gum Avenue, Spring Hope

Linda Fisher to Kevin English and Michelle English; 20.90 acres

Helpingahero.org to Kelsey Bre Ann McInnes; Belmont Lake Preserve, Section II, Lot 47

Inner Banks Holdings, LLC to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Parish of Rocky Mount; 314 Hammond Street, 334 South Franklin Street, 338 South Franklin Street and 342 South Franklin Street, Rocky Mount

Bekee Ventures, LLC to Velvet Bridge Capital, LLC; property in Rocky Mount

Gilded Homes, LLC to Raleigh Holdings, LLC; Section 1, Maplewood, Block C, Lot 1; \$155,000

Dana E. Brown and Dana Brown to Kelvin Cherry; Section 3, Randolph Ridge, lot 17

Ballystean Realty, LLC to Kevin Von Gersdorff and Angelia Von Gersdorff; The Village of Old Spring Hope, Phase 2, Lot 15; \$75,000

Sylvia Bryant-Whitaker, Sylvia Bryant Whitaker and Robert E. Whitaker to Sylvia Bryant-Whitaker, Sylvia Bryant Whitaker and Robert E. Whitaker; Poplar Creek, Phases III and IV, lot 18

David L. Rose, David Lynn Rose, Cheryl Allen Ellington Rose and Cheryl Allen Ellington to 3MR Limited Partnership; 47.496 acres and 14.977 acres

Maria R. Lambert, Thomas L. Lambert, Meredith R. Sawyer, Kenneth E. Sawyer Jr., Michelle R. Tanner and James M. Tanner III to 3MR Limited Partnership; 21 acres

L-Zhae Nycole Finley to Jacqueline McCullough; 225 Sebastian Way, Rocky Mount; \$159,000

Proutey Construction, LLC to Devin Avis Andes and Brandi Nicole Andes; Beaver Creek, Phase 6, Lot 77; \$375,000

Marie Perry to Amanda Winstead; 3032 Volunteer Road, Elm City; \$4,000

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Notices

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The Nashville Graphic

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Friday, 12 noon for the
Next Thursday Edition.

The Nashville Graphic
Legal
Advertising Deadlines:
Friday, 12 noon for the
Next Thursday Edition

NOTICE TO READERS

The Nashville Graphic scans all classified ads, but we advise our readers to investigate any company asking for money to be mailed in advance. Companies asking you to dial "900" prefix phone numbers are asking you to pay for the call amounting to a per call cost or minute cost. Any ad with the "Get Rich Quick" sound should be checked into.

Notices

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD - every effort is made to avoid errors in advertisements. Each ad is carefully checked and proofread. The Nashville Graphic asks that you check your ad carefully and in the event there is an error, report it immediately to our Classified Department by calling (252)459-7101. The Nashville Graphic will accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion at the time we are notified of the error and will re-print the correct version once without additional charge.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
The Nashville Graphic would like to acknowledge area residents' birthdays. To see that your birthday - or that of a loved one or friend - is acknowledged by The Nashville Graphic, mail a postcard to: The Nashville Graphic "Birthday" 203 W. Washington Street Nashville, N.C. 27856
Be sure to include the birthday honoree's name, city or town of residence and birth date.
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

Miscellaneous

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The Nashville Graphic

Employment

Small race car engine shop seeking part-time person to clean and help assemble motors. Will train. Starting pay \$15 per hour, cash. Age not a factor, will have to lift 50-60 pounds; all indoors, air-conditioned. Mike Shelton 336-479-1293.

LEGALS

Legals

NORTH CAROLINA
NASH COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL
COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO. 25-CVD-413

JOEL T. GLAMSCH,
PLAINTIFF

VS.

MICHELLE A. GLAMSCH,
DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

TO: MICHELLE A. GLAMSCH

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 for Absolute Divorce.

You are required to make defense to such pleadings no later than the 7th day of August 2025 said date being at least forty days from the first publication of this notice; and upon your failure to do so the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 23rd day of June, 2025.

BY: Charles E. Craft, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
220 Bryant Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
(252) 972-2279

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025;
July10, 2025; July 17, 2025

Legals

NORTH CAROLINA
NASH COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL
COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO. 24-CVD-1110

KEVIN LEE LASCO, JR.,

PLAINTIFF

VS.

AMANDA BETTERTON,

DEFENDANT

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF
PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

TO: AMANDA BETTERTON

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 for custody. You are required to make defense to such pleadings no later than the 1st day of August 2025, said date being at least forty days from the first publication of this notice; and upon your failure to do so the party seeking relief against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 18th day of June, 2025.

BY: Charles E. Craft, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
220 Bryant Street
Rocky Mount, NC 27804
(252) 972-2279

Publication Dates: June 26, 2025; July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025

Foreclosures

23SP000205-630

AMENDED
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NORTH CAROLINA,
NASH COUNTY

Under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed by *Delores Crumel to James E. Cross, Jr., Trustee(s)*, which was dated March 10, 1999 and recorded on March 29, 2000 in Book 1716 at Page 666, Nash County Registry, North Carolina.

Default having been made of the note thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the undersigned, Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC, having been substituted as Trustee in said Deed of Trust, and the holder of the note evidencing said default having directed that the Deed of Trust be foreclosed, the undersigned Substitute Trustee will offer for sale at the court-house door of the county courthouse where the property is located, or the usual and customary location at the county courthouse for conducting the sale on **July 16, 2025 at 01:30 PM**, and will sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described property situated in Nash County, North Carolina, to wit:

Lot No. 12 of Little Creek Subdivision containing .878 acres. A plat of said Little Creek Subdivision is of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Nash County, N.C. in Plat Book 25, page 28, to which reference is made for a more perfect description.

Save and except any releases, deeds of release or prior conveyances of record.

Said property is commonly known as 6782 Pinecrest Road, Zebulon, NC 27597.

A certified check only (no personal checks) of five percent (5%) of the purchase price, or Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, will be required at the time of the sale. Following the expiration of the statutory upset bid period, all the remaining amounts are immediately due and owing. THIRD PARTY PURCHASERS MUST PAY THE EXCISE TAX AND THE RECORDING COSTS FOR THEIR DEED.

Said property to be offered pursuant to this Notice of Sale is being offered for

Foreclosures

sale, transfer and conveyance "AS IS WHERE IS." There are no representations of warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at, or relating to the property being offered for sale. Substitute Trustee does not have possession of the property and cannot grant access, prior to or after the sale, for purposes of inspection and/or appraisal. This sale is made subject to all prior liens, unpaid taxes, any unpaid land transfer taxes, special assessments, easements, rights of way, deeds of release, and any other encumbrances or exceptions of record. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the current owner(s) of the property is/are *All Lawful Heirs of Delores Crumel*.

An Order for possession of the property may be issued pursuant to G.S. 45-21.29 in favor of the purchaser and against the party or parties in possession by the clerk of superior court of the county in which the property is sold. Any person who occupies the property pursuant to a rental agreement entered into or renewed on or after October 1, 2007, may, after receiving the notice of sale, terminate the rental agreement by providing written notice of termination to the landlord, to be effective on a date stated in the notice that is at least 10 days, but no more than 90 days after the sale date contained in the notice of sale, provided that the mortgagor has not cured the default at the time the tenant provides the notice of termination [NCGS § 45-21.16A(b)(2)]. Upon termination of a rental agreement, the tenant is liable for rent due under the rental agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

Pursuant to NCGS §45-21.25A, this sale may be subject to remote bids placed by bidders not physically present at the place of sale, which may be accepted by the person conducting the sale, or their agent".

If the trustee is unable to convey title to this property for any reason, the sole remedy of the purchaser is the return of the deposit. Reasons of such inability to convey include, but are not limited to, the filing of a bankruptcy petition prior to the confirmation of the sale and reinstatement of the loan without the knowledge of the trustee. If the validity of the sale is challenged by any party, the trustee, in their sole discretion, if they believe the challenge to have merit, may request the court to declare the sale to be void and return the deposit. The purchaser will have no further remedy.

Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC
Substitute Trustee
Brock & Scott, PLLC
Attorneys for Trustee Services of Carolina, LLC
5431 Oleander Drive Suite 200
Wilmington, NC 28403
PHONE: (910) 392-4988

File No.: 22-08378-FC01

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NASH

IN THE GENERAL
COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
23SP195

IN THE MATTER OF THE FORECLOSURE OF A DEED OF TRUST EXECUTED BY DONNA LYNN BOYKIN AND JAMES G. BOYKIN DATED OCTOBER 24, 2007 RECORDED IN BOOK NO. 2403, AT PAGE 311 IN THE NASH COUNTY PUBLIC REGISTRY, NORTH CAROLINA

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in the above-referenced deed of trust and because of default in payment of the secured debt and failure to perform the agreements therein contained and, pursuant to demand of the holder of the secured debt, the undersigned will expose for sale at public auction at the usual place of sale at the Nash County courthouse at **1:30 PM on July 16, 2025**, the following described real estate and any improvements situated thereon,

Foreclosures

in Nash County, North Carolina, and being more particularly described in that certain Deed of Trust executed by Donna Lynn Boykin; James G. Boykin, dated October 24, 2007 to secure the original principal amount of \$85,500.00, and recorded in Book No. 2403, at Page 311 of the Nash County Public Registry. The terms of the said Deed of Trust may be modified by other instruments appearing in the public record. Additional identifying information regarding the collateral property is below and is believed to be accurate, but no representation or warranty is intended.

Address of property: 9281 Sara Lissa Lane, Middlesex, NC 27557
Tax Parcel ID: 033461

The record owner(s) of the property, according to the records of the Register of Deeds, is/are Donna Lynn Boykin and James G. Boykin.

The property to be offered pursuant to this notice of sale is being offered for sale, transfer and conveyance AS IS, WHERE IS. Neither the Trustee nor the holder of the note secured by the deed of trust being foreclosed, nor the officers, directors, attorneys, employees, agents or authorized representative of either the Trustee or the holder of the note make any representation or warranty relating to the title or any physical, environmental, health or safety conditions existing in, on, at or relating to the property offered for sale. Any and all responsibilities or liabilities arising out of or in any way relating to any such condition expressly are disclaimed. This sale is subject to all prior liens and encumbrances and unpaid taxes and assessments including any transfer tax associated with the foreclosure. A deposit of five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid or seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), whichever is greater, is required from the highest bidder and must be tendered in the form of certified funds at the time of the sale. This sale will be held open ten days for upset bids as required by law. After the expiration of the upset period, all remaining amounts are **IMMEDIATELY DUE AND OWING**. Failure to remit funds in a timely manner will result in a Declaration of Default and any deposit will be frozen pending the outcome of any re-sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, the Substitute Trustee or the attorney of any of the foregoing.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR LEASEHOLD TENANTS residing at the property: be advised that an Order for Possession of the property may be issued in favor of the purchaser. Also, if your lease began or was renewed on or after October 1, 2007, be advised that you may terminate the rental agreement upon 10 days written notice to the landlord. You may be liable for rent due under the agreement prorated to the effective date of the termination.

The date of this Notice is 6th day of June, 2025.

Grady I. Ingle, Attorney for
Substitute Trustee
Ingle Law Firm, PA
13801 Reese Blvd West
Suite 160
Huntersville, NC 28078
(980) 771-0717

Ingle Case Number: 12704-17112

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025

The Nashville Graphic
Legal

Advertising Deadlines:
Friday, 12 noon for the
Next Thursday Edition

Estate Notices

File No. **25E001359-630**

EXECUTORS' NOTICE

Having qualified as Co-Executor of the estate of **Lois Jean Matthews Farmer** deceased, late of **Nash County**, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to

Estate Notices

present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 5817 N NC Hwy 58, Nashville, NC 27856 or 6506 Bones Acres Road, Elm City, NC 27822 on or before October 3, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle immediately.

This the 3rd day of July, 2025.

Jeanie Carol Farmer
5817 N NC Hwy 58
Nashville, NC 27856
Co-Executor
or
Bobby Allen Farmer
6506 Bones Acres Road,
Elm City, NC 27822
Co-Executor
of above named decedent.

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025

North Carolina
Nash County

Notice

The undersigned, having qualified as Executor of the Estate of Martha Wilson Barnes, deceased, late of Nash County, hereby notifies all persons having claims against said Estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 10, 2025, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said Estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 3rd day of July, 2025.

Thomas Joey Barnes, Executor
Estate of Martha Wilson Barnes
Post Office Box 757
Nashville, North Carolina 27856

Mark E. Edwards, Esq.
Fields & Cooper, PLLC
Post Office Box 757
Nashville, NC 27856

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025

File No. **2024 E 000366**

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of **Angelo Cornelius Turnage** deceased, late of **Nash County**, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 211 Laurel Springs Dr, Nashville, NC 27856 on or before October 10, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle immediately.

This the 10th day of July, 2025.

Kelvin Cornelius Turnage
211 Laurel Springs Dr
Nashville, NC 27856
Administrator
of above named decedent.

Publication Dates: July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025; July 31, 2025

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NORTH CAROLINA
NASH COUNTY

Having qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Isabelle Hill Battle deceased, late of Nash County, North Carolina, (Nash County File No. 25E001380-630) the undersigned does hereby notify all parties having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before October 6, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All parties indebted to the said estate are hereby notified to make immediate payment to the undersigned at the same address.

This the 25th day of June, 2025.

Emoni Jameece Battle, Administrator
Michael P. Murphy, Attorney
P.O. Box 8738
Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025



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Estate Notices

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF NASH

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The undersigned, having qualified as Co-Executors of the Estate of Jerry Lee Wordsworth of Nash County, North Carolina, hereby notify all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent, Jerry Lee Wordsworth, to exhibit the same to the undersigned Co-Executors on or before the 26th day of September, 2025 which said date is three months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said deceased are requested to make immediate payment.
This the 26th day of June, 2025.

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SYLVIA B. WORDSWORTH
120 CANDLEWOOD ROAD
ROCKY MOUNT, NC 27804

JASON CHRISTOPHER WORDSWORTH
114 OAKLEAF DRIVE
PINE KNOLL SHORES, NC 28512

BRIAN LEE WORDSWORTH
1515 GLENWOOD AVENUE
RALEIGH, NC 27608

CO-EXECUTORS OF THE ESTATE
OF JERRY LEE WORDSWORTH

BATTS, BATTS & BELL, L.L.P.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
P. O. DRAWER 8228
103 CANDLEWOOD ROAD
ROCKY MOUNT,
NORTH CAROLINA 27804-1228
TELEPHONE: (252) 977-6450

Publication Dates: June 26, 2025; July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025

File No. 25E001419-630

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Kenneth Louis Alford** deceased, late of **Nash County**, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 5270 Tabernacle Church Rd, Rocky Mount, NC 27803 on or before October 10, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle immediately.

This the 10th day of July, 2025.

Kevin Brent Alford
5270 Tabernacle Church Rd
Rocky Mount, NC 27803
Executor
of above named decedent.

Publication Dates: July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025; July 31, 2025

Estate Notices

File No. 25E001401-630

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Jerome Taylor Rodwell** deceased, late of **Nash County**, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 3536 Layton Ridge Dr, Apex, NC 27539 on or before September 26, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle immediately.

This the 26th day of June, 2025.

Stuart Blaine Rodwell
3536 Layton Ridge Dr
Apex, NC 27539
Executor
of above named decedent.

Publication Dates: June 26, 2025; July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025

NORTH CAROLINA
NASH COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL
COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
25-E-222

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned, Grace Elizabeth Whitaker, having qualified as Administratrix of the Estate of Janice Lynn Wiggs of Nash County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent, Janice Lynn Wiggs, to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 26th day of September, 2025, which said date is three months from the date of the first publication of this notice or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said decedent are requested to make immediate payment.

This, the 26th day of June, 2025.

Grace Elizabeth Whitaker,
Administratrix of the Estate of
Janice Lynn Wiggs, Deceased
12202 Crooken Swamp Road
Whitakers, NC 27891

Valentine, Adams, Lewis,
Bass & Webb, LLP
Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 847
Nashville, North Carolina 27856
Telephone: (252) 459-1111
Fax: (252) 459-1112

Publication Dates: June 26, 2025; July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025

File No. 25E001413-630

EXECUTORS' NOTICE

Having qualified as Co-Executor of the estate of **James Marshall Baines, Sr.** deceased, late of **Nash County**, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons

Estate Notices

having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 3546 Old Bailey Hwy, Nashville, NC 27856 or 3750 Rose Loop Rd, Nashville, NC 27856 on or before October 10, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle immediately.

This the 10th day of July, 2025.

Robin B. Strickland
3546 Old Bailey Hwy
Nashville, NC 27856
Co-Executor
or
James M. Baines, Jr.
3750 Rose Loop Rd
Nashville, NC 27856
Co-Executor
of above named decedent.

Publication Dates: July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025; July 31, 2025

File No. 25E000139-630

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of **Leroy Davis** deceased, late of **Nash County**, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them, duly verified, to the undersigned at 502 N Walnut St, Spring Hope, NC 27882 on or before October 3, 2025 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle immediately.

This the 3rd day of July, 2024.

Brenda Outlaw
502 N Walnut St
Spring Hope, NC 27882
Executor
of above named decedent.

Publication Dates: July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025; July 17, 2025; July 24, 2025

NORTH CAROLINA

NASH COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL
COURT OF JUSTICE
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION
BEFORE THE CLERK
25-E-1334

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned, William Koenig, having qualified as Public Administrator of the Estate of Tony Koenig of Nash County, North Carolina, hereby notifies all persons, firms and corporations having claims against the decedent, Tony Koenig, to exhibit the same to the undersigned on or before the 18th day September, 2025, which said date is three months from the date of the first publication of this notice or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons, firms and corporations indebted to said decedent are requested to make immediate payment.

Estate Notices

This, the 4th day of June 2025.

William Koenig, Public Administrator
Estate of Tony Koenig, Deceased
PO Box 847
Nashville, NC 27856

Estate Notices

Valentine, Adams, Lewis,
Bass & Webb, LLP
Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 847
Nashville, North Carolina 27856
Telephone: (252) 459-1111

Estate Notices

Fax: (252) 459-1112

Publication Dates: June 19, 2025; June 26, 2025; July 3, 2025; July 10, 2025

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START, LOOK AND LISTEN

A consumer's guide to auto insurance



What is automotive insurance?

Investopedia defines automotive insurance as a policy between a consumer and an insurance company that says the person will make payments, and in return, the insurance company agrees to cover the

family members listed on the policy cause to someone else, is included in liability insurance. Policyholders can purchase more than the

minimum required. Property damage liability pays for damage a driver may cause to someone else's property, such as vehicles, lamp posts, fences, buildings, or structures.

Collision coverage

Collision coverage pays for damage from a collision with another car, an object or a pothole, or from flipping over, says the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

Comprehensive coverage

This coverage will reimburse a policyholder for damage to the vehicle that's not caused by a collision. This can include weather, fire, flooding, and hitting an animal.

Personal injury protection (PIP)

The III indicates this coverage pays for the treatment of injuries to the driver and passengers. PIP can cover medical payments, lost wages, and the cost of replacing services normally performed by the person who was injured in the auto accident. PIP may cover funeral costs in some cases.

Uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage

This coverage offers protection to policyholders who get in an accident with a driver who doesn't have insurance or has insufficient coverage to fully cover the costs of the accident, says Investopedia.

Premiums and deductibles

A premium is the total amount paid for the policy. It is determined by the coverages, policy holder's age and driving history, and a number of other factors.

Insurance policies typically have deductibles associated with them. This is the amount a policyholder has to pay out of pocket before the insurance kicks in and pays out. A higher deductible often means a lower premium.

Insurance policy terms typically are six months in length and will auto-renew at the end of the term. Motorists can keep an eye out for policy changes and costs at this time and decide if they want to stick with their insurance company or shop around.

Automotive insurance is needed to operate a vehicle, but costs will vary depending on the coverage.



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