

OBITUARY

William Greene

William Dillard Greene, 92, of Lenoir passed away Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021, at Caldwell UNC Health Care. He was born Aug. 12, 1928, in Caldwell County to the late Grady and Lonnie Story Greene. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by one brother, Jay Greene.

Mr. Greene was a member of Setzers Creek Baptist Church and veteran of the U.S. Army.

Those left to cherish his memory include his loving wife, Peggy Helton Greene of the home; three sons, Alan D. Greene, Bryan E. Greene and wife Kim, and Ryan K. Greene and wife Tammy, all of Lenoir; one daughter, Debra G. Lee of Lenoir; three brothers, Harley Greene, Troy Greene, and Boyd Greene, all of Lenoir; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Due to COVID-19, a private graveside service will be held at Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery conducted by the Rev. Brian Smith, and face masks and social distancing will be required.

Online condolences may be left at www.greer-mcElveenfuneralhome.com.

Greer-McElveen Funeral Home and Crematory is assisting the Greene family.

Local Briefs

From staff reports

Blowing Rock WinterFest takes place Thursday-Sunday, Jan. 28-31, with changes to avoid large gatherings, starting with the WinterFeast Restaurant Crawl and WinterHawk Tournament, a toma-hawk-throwing competition, on Thursday. The Ice Stroll, a display of ice sculptures, opens Friday, and the Chili Challenge takes place on Saturday. For full details and an expandable schedule of events, go to blowingrockwinterfest.com or call 828-295-7851.

The Guardian Ad Litem program works with children up to age 18 who are involved in the court system due to abuse and neglect. The goal is to have a volunteer for every child represented by our program. In this time of COVID, the program is providing the needed training virtually. For more information, call 828-759-3521 or visit www.volunteerforgal.org.

Caldwell Senior Center is offering Zoom Exercise classes each Monday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. Classes are a mix of low-impact aerobics, strength training, balance, and stretching. Links to classes can be found at www.caldwellseniorcenter.org. For more information, call 828-758-2883.

The Caldwell Senior Center is offering Zoom Senior Cardio & Senior Strength on Mondays and Fridays at 8:30 a.m. The instructor is April Austin, and you may find the link on our website. The first half of time is low-impact aerobics followed by strength training. www.caldwellseniorcenter.org

The Caldwell Senior Center is offering a Zoom Balance Builders class each Tuesday at 2 p.m. This class focuses on exercises to strengthen muscles needed for good balance. April Austin is the instructor, and the link may be found at our website. www.caldwellseniorcenter.org

VACCINATION

FROM PAGE A1

“It’s been a great, a really good experience,” she said. “I think we’re just happy to help, happy to be here. It’s been really well organized. We’ve gotten a lot of compliments from the people that have come through.”

College President Dr. Mark Poarch said that the students are gaining invaluable real-world experience while serving the community during a local surge in the coronavirus pandemic.

“We’re very proud of the fact that our students are taking part in this, and we’re very proud to be a good community partner,” Poarch said. “It’s a great learning experience. It doesn’t get any more real-life than this. Hopefully it will help the health department get more people through the process of getting vaccinations.”

During weekly meetings with local health officials and community leaders, the college offers whatever assistance it can, Poarch said.


“I think those meetings have been critical to our collective response throughout the pandemic. It speaks to us as a community and what we’re about as a college, which is being responsive and agile and adaptive,” he said. “If there are needs in our community that need addressing, then our job is to try to figure out a way to do that, whether it’s educationally or, in this case, to support a community-wide effort that’s for the betterment of our county.”

The health department provides the Moderna brand of the COVID-19 vaccine and currently is still giving shots to people who already received the first of the two doses that are required, but it reported Thursday that it had used up its supply of first doses. The department is rescheduling appointments to February for people who had signed up for their first dose of the vaccine. More vaccine is expected to arrive next week, possibly as soon as Tuesday.


The state government regulates who is eligible to receive the vaccine and it is currently available to people 65 and older, to health care workers with in-person patient contact, and to residents and staff of long-term care facilities.

CCC&TI and the health department have discussed using the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center as a vaccination center if larger supplies of the vaccine were to become available.


YOUR EXTENDED LOCAL FORECAST




Today
Sunny
High 50, low 26



Sunday
Mostly sunny
High 50, low 37



Monday
Rain
High 53, low 44



Tuesday
Sunny
High 58, low 33

CALDWELL TV

CALDWELL COUNTY TODAY		
Spectrum Cable Channel 190, AT&T Uverse on Channel 99 and online at caldwellcountync.org		
DAILY SCHEDULE		
SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021, THROUGH SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2021		
12am Lenoir City Council 1/19/2021	3am Tucker's Barn	2:30pm Cooking with Margie — Lentil Soups
12:30am Caldwell Hospice — January Update	5am Caldwell County Women's Health — Your Baby and You	3pm Tucker's Barn
1am Caldwell County Commission Meeting 1/11/2021	6am Lenoir City Council 1/19/2021	5pm Caldwell County Women's Health — Your Baby and You
2am Caldwell SPORTS Commentary — Best College Football Players	6:30am Caldwell Hospice — January Update	6pm Lenoir City Council 1/19/2021
2:30am Cooking with Margie — Lentil Soups	7am Caldwell County Commission Meeting 1/11/2021	6:30pm Caldwell Hospice — January Update
	8am Caldwell SPORTS Commentary — Best College Football Players	7pm Caldwell County Commission Meeting 1/11/2021
	8:30am Cooking with Margie — Lentil Soups	8pm Caldwell SPORTS Commentary — Best College Football Players
	9am Tucker's Barn	8:30pm Cooking with Margie — Lentil Soups
	11am Caldwell County Women's Health — Your Baby and You	9pm Tucker's Barn
	12pm Lenoir City Council 1/19/2021	11pm Caldwell County Women's Health — Your Baby and You
	12:30pm Caldwell Hospice — January Update	Caldwell Commissioners' Meeting are available to view at www.caldwellcountync.org . Look for “I want to” and scroll down to “Watch a Video of the Commission Meeting.”
	1pm Caldwell County Commission Meeting 1/11/2021	
	2pm Caldwell SPORTS Commentary — Best College Football Players	

North Carolina panel backs ‘guiding principles’ on health improvements

BY GARY D. ROBERTSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RALEIGH — Prominent North Carolina medical, business and non-profit leaders and state legislators assembled by Gov. Roy Cooper backed several aspirational goals Friday to improve health care coverage.

The Democratic governor announced the creation of the North Carolina Council for Health Care Coverage just last month, mere weeks after both he won reelection and the legislature remained in Republican hands. Cooper has said

he created the panel to find consensus on health access as divided state government will continue for another two years.

The panel, which wrapped up its work after four online meetings, did not recommend specific policy prescriptions but rather “guiding principles” members hope will lead to legislative successes.

Whether these commitments to maximizing quality, affordable coverage, reducing racial and rural health disparities and using taxpayer funds wisely will lead to breakthroughs during the new

General Assembly session that begins in earnest next week will become visible with time.

The principles “that you’ve helped develop will carry significant weight as we go forward,” Cooper told the panel as its work ended. “They are truly bipartisan principles and I think they reflect a wide range of perspectives.”

Divided government means Cooper’s first-term goal of expanding Medicaid coverage to hundreds of thousands of adults through the 2010 federal health care law again will be hard to accomplish

entering his second term. Republicans have blocked expansion since 2013, skeptical of the approach and fearful the estimated \$500 million annual price tag for the state will spiral out of control.

But the split also threatened a repeat of 2019, when the governor and GOP legislators never passed a traditional two-year budget because of an impasse largely attributed to their differences over Medicaid expansion. That stalemate also delayed or halted some health care improvements by Republicans.

SIGN

FROM PAGE A1

Ford is a data scientist who works as a genomics researcher at UNC Charlotte. He was born at Caldwell Memorial Hospital, attended Oak Hill School and Caldwell Early College High School, and went on to UNC Charlotte for both his undergrad and graduate studies.

Ford described his own trajectory as “happennstance,” an interest in math and science in an early age that propelled him into his career.

“My dad wanted me to learn how to fix things with tools. ... I cared more about taking a computer apart and putting it back together,” he said.

But Ford said that

even as a student with an avid interest in science, he never heard of Mullis growing up. He recently spoke at a presentation in Charlotte about how scientific advancements don’t always receive mainstream attention, and it made him think of the sign.

“It’s really interesting, we popularize Madison Bumgarner for being a great ... baseball player. We popularize Eric Church for being a great musician, as we should. But then there’s this other person that was a great scientist who made huge contributions to the world,” Ford said.

Mullis was born Dec. 28, 1944, in Lenoir, the second of four sons of Cecil and Bernice Alberta (Barker) Mullis. His father was a furniture salesman. The fami-

GIFT

FROM PAGE A1

Even though her social media posts generated a response, they still did not lead her to the right person.

Famiglietti said she doesn’t feel comfortable keeping or selling the gift — after all, it doesn’t belong to her, and it was clearly meant for Damien, whoever that is.

While she’s “not much of a Christmas person, it’s more like it doesn’t feel right that I have it, because it’s not really mine to have or to do

anything with,” she said. She’s losing hope that she will ever find the owner. She thought at first when people commented and shared her post that it might help, but “the more time that passes, I’m getting a little bit less hopeful,” she said.

Still, she is trying. “Even if I don’t find out who it belongs to, it’ll honestly just sit there for a really long time,” she said. “Because I don’t feel right giving it away, and I don’t feel right selling it.”

Reporter Kara Fohner can be reached at 828-610-8721.

ly moved to Columbia, South Carolina, when Mullis was 5. He died Aug. 7, 2019, at his home in California.

Although Mullis was not raised in Lenoir, Ford feels that talking about Mullis’ local origins has the potential to inspire young children to consider scientific careers.

“I can only imagine if we had more awareness or visibility for popular scientists who did make a huge contribution, then maybe it could start that conversation earlier,” Ford said.

Reporter Kara Fohner can be reached at 828-610-8721.

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 1/23

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 1/22