



Hessian soldier John Reed fought for the British in the Revolutionary War but deserted his mercenary role to join the German community in Cabarrus County in 1782. Reed Gold Mine will present "From Mercenary to Miner" Saturday, June 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to examine his life and early years before the 1799 discovery of gold on his farm. Reed was drafted in Germany and believed to have served in Garrison Regiment of von Wissenbach. He arrived as a replacement soldier in New York in June 1778 and sailed to Savannah that November. When he deserted June 21, 1782, his journey to North Carolina began. Military re-enactors from Royal NC Regiment will portray Hessian soldiers (Regiment Von Bose), British loyalists - Americans who remained loyal to England - and Continental militia. There will be rifle and cannon demonstrations and also artillery and musket demonstrations throughout the day. Dr. Gary Freeze of Catawba College will lecture on why Germans settled in Cabarrus County, why John Reed chose to return to this area and the importance of Cabarrus County to the North Carolina gold region. Along with the special activities, visitors can walk through the visitor center, take the underground mine tour, see an 1890s era operating stamp mill and pan for gold. Admission is \$5 for adults and children over age 13; ages 12 and under are \$2 each. The panning fee is \$3.21 for ages 8 and older. All prices include tax. Tickets are not sold to ages younger than 8 because they cannot pan independently. Panning for gold is available April through October. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The site is closed Sunday, Monday and major holidays. Reed is located 12 miles southeast of Concord, 25 miles east of Charlotte and 18 miles east of Albemarle. It is within the Division of State Historic Sites, part of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

### State Wildlife Action Plan Receives Federal Go-Ahead

The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission recently received approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the 10-year update of the North Carolina Wildlife Action Plan - a comprehensive document that identifies the state's Species of Greatest Conservation Need and conservation priorities for fish and wildlife species and their habitats through the next decade. The Wildlife Action Plan is posted on the Commission's website [www.ncwildlife.org/plan](http://www.ncwildlife.org/plan). Over the last three years the Commission led a comprehensive review and revision of the 2005 Wildlife Action Plan with partners from state and federal agencies, conservation organizations and citizen stakeholders. The current version describes the threats facing Species of Greatest Conservation Need and their habitats and recommends measures to address current and emerging threats through 2025, when the plan will be revised. Implementation of these recommendations will help prevent the need to list species for federal protection under the Endangered Species Act. The plan also catalogs ongoing efforts to protect and conserve the state's fish and wildlife species and their habitats - from mammals and birds to fish, crustaceans, reptiles and amphibians. The Wildlife Action Plan was created in response to a 2002 congressional requirement that each state must have a comprehensive conservation strategy to be eligible for federal matching funds under the State Wildlife Grants Program. Each year, North Carolina receives approximately \$1.3 million to support implementation of conservation actions recommended in the plan. Projects include survey and monitoring efforts that help fish and wildlife biologists understand the conservation status of nongame species in the state. State Wildlife Grants also support enhancement and restoration efforts such as propagation and release of rare species into native habitats or conservation of existing populations of rare species and their habitats. For more information about the plan or the comment process, contact Cindy Carr. [cindy.carr@ncwildlife.org](mailto:cindy.carr@ncwildlife.org), 919-707-0227, or N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, Attn: Cindy Carr, 1721 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1721.

### Obituaries ... continued from page 3

#### Mr. Joe Martin Tarlton

Mr. Joe Martin Tarlton, 72, died Tuesday, May 31, 2016, at Hospice of Union County in Monroe. Funeral services were held on Friday, June 3, 2016, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Mark Perko and Rev. Teddy Lawson officiating. Interment followed in Lilesville Cemetery. Joe was born October 28, 1943, in Anson County, a son of the late Joe Bennett Tarlton and the late Lucy Moore Tarlton Goodman. He was retired from W. R. Bonsal Company with 35 years of service. Surviving are his son and daughter-in-law, Joe and Kelly Tarlton of Chesterfield; his granddaughter, Brianna Tarlton of Chesterfield; his brothers and sisters, Bill Tarlton of Pompano Beach, FL, Donnie Tarlton of Morven, Helena Hodgins of Rockingham, Minnie Lee Poplin of Lilesville, and Helen Bailey and Dorothy Singletary, both of Wadesboro; and his nieces and nephews and their families. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in

death by his wife, Linda Lee Tarlton and sister, Katie Webb. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of Union County, 700 W. Roosevelt Blvd., Monroe, NC 28110. The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

#### Mr. Ralph Clifton Deason, Jr.

Mr. Ralph Clifton Deason, Jr., 72, went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Thursday morning June 2, 2016. A Celebration of Life Service was held on Sunday, June 5, 2016, at Peachland Baptist Church. Burial followed in the Peachland City Cemetery. Cliff was born in Peachland on February the 3, 1944. He was preceded in death by his fathers, Ralph Clifton Deason and Charlie Blake High and his mother Faye Billingsley High. Cliff's faith and family were what he cherished most of all. He loved to be called "Pop" by his children and "Poppy" by his grandchildren. The years he spent logging with his

father Charlie Blake were some of the happiest days of his life. He later retired from Pilgrim's Pride after over 30 years of service. Cliff married the love of his life and best friend Nancy Lee Haywood Deason. They met when Cliff was 8 and Nancy was 6. They were married for over 53 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Wendy Hildreth (Stan), Larry Deason (Stephanie) and Brian Deason (Staci); his grandchildren, Mallory Hildreth Bricker (Josh), Bryson Hildreth, Madison Hildreth, Chloe Deason, Emma Deason, Jacob Deason and Tyler Deason; his great grandchildren, Gracilee Bricker, Jackson Bricker and Deason Bricker; his brothers, Rev. Tony High (Sheri) and Monte High (Donna); and many nieces and nephews. The family has requested that memorials be made to the Anson County Animal Shelter, 7257 Old US Hwy 74, Polkton, NC 28135 or to the charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be made at [www.morganandsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.morganandsonfuneralhome.com). Morgan & Son Funeral Home is serving the family of Mr. Deason.

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