

Opportunities for NC Youth Leaders

The N.C. Council for Women & Youth Involvement Office, in the N.C. Department of Administration, has announced Fall program opportunities for NC youth leaders.

• **State-Funded Youth Grants.** Applications are now being accepted by North Carolina organizations composed of young people, who want to implement programs to benefit their peers. The grants will range from \$100-\$500 each. Examples of projects that have received funding include programs to teach youth about healthy choices, partnerships with local animal shelters, and other community and civic awareness projects. Requests for cost of food, entertainment, travel and salaries do not qualify for funding.

To be eligible, applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 31, 2017. The State Youth Councils will screen applications during the SYC Conference in Rocky Mount, NC on November 10-12.

For application and information, contact the Council for Women & Youth Involvement Office, State Youth Council Coordinator, Candace Dudley at (919) 807-4407. The application may be downloaded at ncadmin.nc.gov.

• **Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Leadership Conference.** Registration is now open through Monday, Oct. 27 for students and advisors who work in peer prevention programs across North Carolina. The annual SADD Leadership Conference will be held in Raleigh, NC from Friday Nov. 17 at 3 pm through Sunday, Nov. 19 at 12 pm. The conference is open to SADD chapters and other student empowerment and prevention groups.

The Conference will feature assemblies, workshops and group activities related to SADD's mission of preventing many destructive behaviors and attitudes that are harmful to young people, including risky and impaired driving; opioid, alcohol, and other substance use; and teen bullying and violence. Members of the 2017-18 SADD Student Advisory Board will lead the conference and workshops to enhance the peer learning environment.

Partners include the StreetSafe driving program; Durham County Health Department; SADD National staff & Student of the Year; the Council for Women and Youth Involvement Human Trafficking program; the Center for Safer Schools; and the Governor's Highway Safety Program.

SADD is a program of the NC Council for Women & Youth Involvement in the NC Department of Administration. For additional information about the conference, contact SADD State Coordinator Harriett Southerland at 919-807-4408, or visit www.ncsadd.org.

Obituaries ... continued from page 3

greatest love, his daughter Annalie Kelly Gray Ricketts of Charlotte; her mother, Kelly Smith; three brothers, Scott Ricketts (Mary) of Rockingham, Stephen Ricketts (Jennifer) of Wadesboro and Alex Ricketts of Norwood; a sister, Terri Ricketts Burris (Ronnie) of Wadesboro; and his stepmother, Audrey S. Ricketts of Norwood.

Curtis was preceded in death by a sister, Linda Gay Ricketts as well as his parents, Paul Wilson Ricketts and Doris Wilson Ricketts.

Memorials may be made to the Anson County Arts Council, 110 S Rutherford St., Wadesboro, NC 28170; the N.C. Diabetes Association, 1300 Baxter St. #150, Charlotte, NC 28204; or the American Heart Association, 128 S Tryon St #1588, Charlotte, NC 28202.

Leavitt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

ence High School and went on to finish at Central Piedmont Community College with a degree in commercial art. Several years afterward he started work with a company that would later become Commercial Risk Services. Jack recently retired from "CRS" with over 31 years of service.

Jack was blessed with the wonderful gift of art. Whether it was drawing, painting or wood carving, Jack was at his best when he was working with his hands. His many wood carvings were always a delight to see and many of his friends have been lucky recipients of his handiwork. Jack was also a musician and enjoyed the time spent playing his banjo and listening to music.

As any artist might, Jack had a great appreciation for all of nature, but particularly the mountains of NC.

Survivors include his mother, Sarah Long; daughter Anna Lauren Tucker and her mother Debi Tucker; son Andrew Jackson Tucker; several aunts and uncles including Louis (Margie) Cox, Carson (Alice) Cox, Ila Barwig and Betty (Jerry) Pope; and special friends, Herbert and Lois Bennett and Dennis Knight. In addition to his father, Jack was preceded in death by his stepfather, Robert C. Long; and aunts and uncles including Charles Cox, Edward Cox, Alma Cox, Roy Cox and Frances C. Taylor.

For those who wish to make a difference in our earth's future, please consider making a gift in Jack's memory to The Conservation Fund at www.conservationfund.org.

Leavitt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

Mr. Jack Bivens Tucker, Jr.

Mr. Jack Bivens Tucker, Jr., 61, died Saturday, October 14, 2017, while a patient at CMC-Union in Monroe.

Graveside services were held on Monday, October 16, 2017, at Hopewell United Methodist Church with Rev. Dennis Stegall officiating.

Jack was born August 1, 1956, in Mecklenburg County, NC, a son of Sarah Cox Tucker Long and the late Jack Bivens Tucker. While Jack was a baby his father died and his mother remarried Robert C. "Bob" Long who raised Jack as his own son. In 1974 Jack graduated from Independ-

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