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# Obituaries

## Mr. Thomas Harris Horne

Mr. Thomas Harris Horne, 72, died Saturday, December 23, 2017, at his home.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 26, 2017, at Peachland Gospel Tabernacle with Brother Lynn Garris officiating. Interment followed in Peachland Cemetery.

Harris was born August 12, 1945, in Richmond County, NC, a son of the late Albert Frank Horne and the late Margaret Sneed Horne. He was a graduate of Rohan High School and was a retired electrician.

Surviving are his wife Connie Baldwin Horne; his children, Richard Horne of Monroe, Cathy Horne (Oscar Gonzalez) of Stallings and Sherry Horne of Polkton; his grandchildren, Trevor Flake, Zander Horne, Maci Horne, Wyatt Horne and Carolina Horne; his brother and sisters, Larry Horne, Teresa Campbell, Sandra (Thomas) Watkins and Wanda (Billy) Parker all of Peachland; his nieces and nephews and their families, as well as, many cousins.

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. Edmund P. Huntley

Mr. Edmund P. Huntley, 92, passed away peacefully on Christmas Day 2017 at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte.

Graveside services with Masonic Funeral Rites were held on Thursday, December 28, 2017, at Bethel Cemetery.

Edmund was born in Anson County on May 11, 1925, a son of the late George Huntley and Mary Pratt Huntley. He graduated from local public schools, and went on to a long and fruitful career with the American Tobacco Corp. Edmund was quick to point out that he brought the very first pouch of the very popular chewing tobacco, Red Man

to Anson County.

Edmund also had quite a distinguished career as an auctioneer. He was very proud to hold the 16th license ever issued by the NC Auctioneer Licensing Board, and to have served as President of the Auctioneers Association of NC. In 2011 he was recognized for his many contributions to auctioneering, and was inducted into the NC Auctioneers Hall of Fame.

Edmund also enjoyed cattle farming and living in the Bethel Community. He was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church, but was perhaps best known as a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Edmund is survived by his son Eddie Huntley (Ellen) of Norwood; two

grandchildren, Parsons Huntley and Katie Paige Huntley, also of Norwood; a sister Lela Flax Huntley Mueller of Houston, TX; and a very special friend, Pam Vernon of Wadesboro.

In addition to his parents, Ed was preceded in death by his wife Joan D. "Tot" Huntley; and two brothers, Robert "Bobby" Huntley and William "Billy" Huntley.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the Bethel Cemetery Fund, c/o Margie Leonard, PO Box 374, Morven, NC 28119.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

## Protect Your Dogs and Cats from Winter Woes

In many areas, winter is a season of bitter cold and numbing wetness. Help your pets remain happy and healthy during the colder months by following these simple guidelines.

- Don't leave pets outdoors when the temperature drops. Most dogs, and all cats, are safer indoors, except when taken out for exercise. Regardless of the season, shorthaired, very young, or old dogs and all cats should never be left outside without supervision. Short-coated dogs may feel more comfortable wearing a sweater during walks.
- No matter what the temperature, windchill can threaten a pet's life. A dog or cat is happiest and healthiest when kept indoors. If your dog is an outdoor dog, however, he/she must be protected by a dry, draft-free doghouse that is large enough to allow the dog to sit and lie down comfortably, but small enough to hold in his/her body heat. The floor should be raised a few inches off the ground and covered with cedar shavings or straw. The house should be turned to face away from the wind, and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic.
- Pets who spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm depletes energy. Routinely check your pet's water dish to make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.
- Warm engines in parked cars attract cats and small wildlife, who may crawl up under the hood. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood to scare them away before starting your engine.
- The salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet's feet. Wipe the feet with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates his/her mouth.
- Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that may attract animals and children. Wipe up spills and store antifreeze (and all household chemicals) out of reach. Better yet, use antifreeze-coolant made with propylene glycol; if swallowed in small amounts, it will not hurt pets, wildlife, or your family.
- Probably the best prescription for winter's woes is to keep your dog or cat inside with you and your family. The happiest dogs are those who are taken out frequently for walks and exercise but kept inside the rest of the time. Dogs and cats are social animals who crave human companionship. Your animal companions deserve to live indoors with you and your family.

## You Decide: Is North Carolina's Economic Shift Complete?

By Dr. Mike Walden: In a few weeks I will celebrate the 40th anniversary of my job interview at North Carolina State University. I had left a snow-covered Ithaca, New York – home of Cornell University where I was finishing my Ph.D. degree – and exited the plane on the tarmac (yes, airline passengers did that in the good-ole-days) at RDU Airport. It was bright and sunny and 70 degrees. I thought to myself – I could get used to this! And I have. Next to marrying my wife, I can't think of a better decision I've made in my life. The four decades I've been in North Carolina have been rewarding, exciting and just plain wonderful.

But forty years ago North Carolina was a different state, especially in its economy. In the 1970s three industries – tobacco, textiles and furniture – dominated the state, accounting for over 20 percent of both total state economic production and employment. In a book I wrote in 2008, I dubbed these industries the "Big Three". They had been the prime movers of North Carolina's economy for over fifty years. Yet even then, change was beginning. Tobacco was being squeezed by concerns about the health effects of smoking as well as foreign competitors. Also, automation was beginning to be introduced into factories, meaning fewer workers were needed to produce the final output.

Then came to the impacts of the two international trade treaties of the late 20th century – NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade). Both treaties removed numerous trade barriers between countries and opened up textiles and furniture – in particular – to competition from foreign countries. Because production costs for textiles and furniture were often lower in foreign countries, production in those industries began to leave North Carolina. The impacts can clearly be seen in the numbers. Between 1978 and 2005, tobacco product output in the state dropped 85 percent and textile production plunged by almost 50 percent. Furniture wasn't impacted until GATT took effect in 2001, but by 2005 furniture production was down 25 percent.

Fortunately, something I call the "North Carolina Economic Miracle" happened. As the Big Three declined, a new "Big Five" emerged in the form of technology, pharmaceuticals, finance, vehicle parts and food processing. At the farm level, tobacco was increasingly replaced by hog and poultry production. North Carolina turned into a high-tech, service based economy along with meat replacing crops in farming.

While this transformation has been miraculous for the state as a whole, it is the basis for the urban-rural divide we see today. Many of the industries of the new "Big Five" – notably technology, pharmaceuticals and finance – have developed in metropolitan areas. In contrast, much of the employment of the old "Big Three" – especially textiles – was in small towns. So the North Carolina economic miracle hasn't occurred everywhere.

Still, we might take some solace if the shift from the old to the new North Carolina economy was complete. Unfortunately, this doesn't appear to be the case. Since the Great Recession a decade ago, tobacco product, textile and furniture output combined has declined another 30 percent, taking 36,000 jobs with it. In 2017 alone, the major metro areas in the state added 64,000 jobs, while small towns and rural areas gained less than 1,000 jobs.

So the new North Carolina economy is still being formed, and – unfortunately – it is creating winners and losers. Some futurists project that in the decades ahead, fully one-third of our state's counties will lose both jobs and people. At the same time, our big metro regions could grow by between 50 percent to 75 percent. I've talked to many groups in the state about strategies for reviving small town and rural economies, centered on large and medium sized manufacturing plants, tourism, attracting out-of-state retirees and expanding meat production and processing. Although none is a "slam dunk" and each has challenges, rural areas have distinct advantages for these activities.

In my travels around the state, I'm often asked if the old economy could be revived by, for example, terminating the trade treaties of twenty years ago. It is conceivable that some of the lost production could return, but it's unlikely many jobs would come with it. This is because manufacturing all over the world is rapidly moving to using machinery and technology rather than people for its production. It's a new economic world! If there's one thing I've learned as a professional economist, it is that the future can be humbling. Predicting the leading industries, the types of jobs and where economic activity will occur is a daunting, and largely impossible, task. The future doesn't follow a straight line; instead, it weaves, curves and goes around corners we can't see.

The best advice I can give both to people and places is to evaluate your strengths and weaknesses, try to improve the former and reduce the latter and watch for the shifting array of available opportunities.

Plus – if you're lucky – maybe you'll decide on something that turns out to be one of the best choices you or your community will ever make – like when I decided to come to North Carolina forty years ago!

Walden is a William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor and Extension Economist in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at North Carolina State University who teaches and writes on personal finance, economic outlook and public policy.

## 50+ Club Meeting to Feature Musician Matt Arrowood

Hampton B. Allen Library announces the 50+ Club meeting for Monday, January 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the Little Theatre. Matt Arrowood will be the guest musical artist. Matt is from the Marshville area, and will be doing a program of country and gospel music. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the program.

Any questions please call 704-694-5177.

## Genealogy Class at Marshville Museum and Cultural Center in March

A new genealogy class will be offered in March at the Marshville Museum and Cultural Center. It will be held on each Wednesday in March, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Materials will be provided.

Sign up by emailing Bill Potter at [bpotter04@gmail.com](mailto:bpotter04@gmail.com) or by calling 704-624-6168.

Potter will hold a genealogy session on Tuesday, February 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. that will allow those who have researched their family history to come together and share stories. Who knows, you may discover family connections. Only eight spots are available, so if you are interested email Potter at [bpotter04@gmail.com](mailto:bpotter04@gmail.com).

"Recently my daughter Hannah and a longtime friend Rachel Harmon were talking and the name Ziphia came up," Potter said. "After talking they discovered that they shared the ancestor, Zilphia Marsh, my great grandmother."

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