

On Saturday, February 17, 2024, in the comfort of his home, Mr. Leonidas Claude McSwain, 85, passed away peacefully to be with his Lord.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 22, 2024, at Hopewell Methodist Church with Rev. Patrick Ledford and Rev. Tony Thomas officiating. Interment with military honors will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will greet friends from 6:00 until 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at Leavitt Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Leonidas was born January 21, 1939, in Anson County, and was a son of the late Lester Claude McSwain and the late Hazel Virginia Tucker McSwain. He was a 1957 graduate of Burnsville High School and a proud veteran of the United States Army.

He had worked for many years with Yale, Eaton, and Keane Monroe Corporation as a machinist. He retired from Lanesboro Correctional Institute where he implemented the onsite gardening and composting program. However, his great love was that of being a lifelong farmer which was instilled in him as child on his father's farm.

A lifelong member of Hopewell Methodist Church, he has served the church as treasurer, historian, caretaker, keeper of the doors and dedicated member of the cemetery committee. He was also a member of the Burnsville Volunteer Fire Department and actively participated in the departments barbeque events. He was a friend to everyone and a mentor to many.

He leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife of 65 years, Susie Edwards McSwain; his sister Ann Caudle (Larry) of Polkton; his brother-in-law, Lynn Edwards (Johnnie) of Peachland; his sister-in-law, Brenda Thomas (Tony) of Randleman; and his nieces and nephews and their families.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Martin McSwain, his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Reece and Beatrice Edwards and his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Lucille Edwards Haney and Harold Haney.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hopewell Methodist Church, Cemetery Fund, c/o Tammy Britt, P.O. Box 574, Marshville, NC 28103.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

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NC Angler Group Supports Wildlife Agency's Hybrid Bass Program

Anglers who frequent Jordan Lake, Lake Gaston and Lake Norman may be surprised next time they "reel in the big one." N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) is stocking a new hybrid bass species in those waters, called an F1 Hybrid Bass. It is a cross between Largemouth Bass and Florida Bass. The hope is that the hybrid bass will have hybrid vigor, which means they will grow faster and larger than other bass.

"F1 hybrid bass are a new tool to fisheries managers. We hope to augment and enhance our existing bass fisheries through these stockings," said Corey Oakley, assistant chief of NCWRC's Inland Fisheries. "We hope these hybrids will increase opportunities for anglers to catch trophy bass where we stock them."

The nonprofit group, Bass Anglers for NC Lakes, is partnering with NCWRC on the F1 Hybrid Bass Research Project and recently supplied the project with \$30,000 to purchase more F1 hybrid bass fingerlings for additional stocking. NCWRC will need to continue to stock F1 hybrids to maintain its population as their offspring are no longer F1 hybrids and do not have hybrid vigor like their parents.

"We are so excited to partner with N.C. Wildlife on this project," said Chuck Murray, the president of Bass Anglers for NC Lakes. "This project is unique in that anglers can contribute and make a huge difference in stocking our lakes. We believe this project will be a success and enhance our lakes for generations to come. We believe this will give every angler (young and old) a better chance at a trophy bass on any given day."

F1 hybrid bass have been stocked by NCWRC in Lake Norman since 2021 and began being stocked at B. Everett Jordan Reservoir and Lake Gaston last summer. NCWRC staff will evaluate the F1 hybrid fingerlings for persistence, growth potential, and ability to increase the overall quality and contribution of the existing bass population. They will be collecting genetic and population data from electrofishing surveys and tournament weigh-ins. Evaluations are expected to be conducted through 2030 and data will be compared across the three reservoirs, which have different levels of primary productivity, to determine future management strategies.

For more information visit: ncwildlife.org and YouTube (search "Largemouth Bass in Lake Norman.")

Domestic Violence Coalition" BBQ February 29

Anson County Domestic Violence Coalition will hold its annual BBQ Fundraiser on Thursday, February 29, from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. or until they sell out. The event will be held at Calvary Episcopal Church, located at 304 East Wade Street in Wadesboro.

This will be take-out and delivery only. All deliveries require a minimum of five orders. Deliveries to local businesses and organizations are courtesy of Anson County Sheriff's Office.

The costs: Sandwiches \$5, Pints \$12 and Quarts \$22. Plates are \$10 and include chopped BBQ, slaw, baked beans, roll and dessert.

Call-ins or faxed orders are welcomed and encouraged to ensure you get yours before the food sells out! The fax number is 704-694-4515 and the office number is 704-694-4499.

The Anson County Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Center is a nonprofit organization funded solely by grants and fundraisers. They encourage you to come and to the event for some delicious BBQ while helping to promote awareness against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Thank you for your continued support!

TOWN OF POLKTON

FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOGS) EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

In an effort to reduce the potential for Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO), the Public Works staff of the Town of Polkton has compiled the following information to help educate our water and sewer customers concerning the best management practices for the disposal of household Fats, Oils, and Greases (FOGs).

How to dispose of Fat, Oil & Grease

- 1) Allow to cool
- 2) Use a container with a lid.
- 3) Pour the cooled grease or oil into a container
- 4) Place lid on container
- 5) Scrape or wipe cookware using paper towels or spatula into the garbage before washing.



Don't Feed the Grease Goblin!

- DO**
- ✓ Put oil and grease in collection containers
 - ✓ Remove oil and grease from kitchen utensils, equipment and food preparation areas with scrapers/towels/brooms
 - ✓ Keep grease out of wash water
 - ✓ Place food scraps in collection containers

- DO NOT**
- ✗ Pour oil and grease down drains
 - ✗ Wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans and plates with water until oil and grease are removed
 - ✗ Use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces
 - ✗ Put food scraps down drains



No Alimente a el Duende de Grasa!

- SI**
- ✓ Ponga la grasa en contenedores apropiados
 - ✓ Remueva el aceite y la grasa de utensilios de cocina, equipos, y areas de preparación de comidas con espátulas/toallas/escobas
 - ✓ Mantenga la grasa fuera de el agua de lavar
 - ✓ Ponga los desperdicios de comida en contenedores adecuados

- NO**
- ✗ No tire aceite o grasa en los drenajes
 - ✗ No lave con agua freidora/planchas, ollas, cacerolas y platos hasta que el aceite y la grasa hayan sido removidos
 - ✗ No use agua caliente para limpiar la grasa de las superficies
 - ✗ No tire desperdicios de comida en los drenajes

South Piedmont Foundation Receives \$200,000 from Golden Leaf Foundation

Funds Will Expand Nursing Program

The South Piedmont Community College Foundation has received \$200,000 from the Golden LEAF Foundation to support the College's Nursing program.

"We are thrilled and honored to have been selected for this award," said South Piedmont President Dr. Maria Pharr. "With this investment from the Golden LEAF Foundation, we will expand our Nursing program and purchase high-tech training equipment that will enhance instruction for students, preparing them to be leaders in their future healthcare careers. We thank the Golden LEAF Foundation for their support of South Piedmont Community College."

With the \$200,000 award, South Piedmont will purchase high-fidelity simulation equipment and expand clinical capacity for the existing associate degree (ADN) and practical nursing (LPN) programs, as well as a forthcoming LPN-to-RN Bridge program. All total, South Piedmont expects an annual increase of 40 certified ADN and LPNs entering the local workforce annually. This increase is critical in addressing the serious nursing shortage faced locally and across North Carolina.

"We are fortunate to have an incredible partnership with the Golden LEAF Foundation," said South Piedmont Foundation Executive Director Maureen Little. "The innovative, high-tech simulation equipment supported by this grant funding will provide a unique opportunity to educate students in our healthcare programs, preparing them for the more complex clinical situations they will face upon entering the workforce."

"The Golden LEAF Foundation is proud to support South Piedmont Community College's strategy to provide training for the workforce that will fill high demand healthcare positions in the region," said Golden LEAF President, Chief Executive Officer, Scott T. Hamilton. "The simulation equipment will help the college expand its number of students served by ensuring these students are able to complete their clinical hours."

About Golden LEAF: The Golden LEAF Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1999 to receive a portion of North Carolina's funding from the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement with cigarette manufacturers. For 25 years, Golden LEAF has worked to increase economic opportunity in North Carolina's rural and tobacco-dependent communities through leadership in grantmaking, collaboration, innovation, and stewardship as an independent and perpetual foundation.

The Foundation has provided lasting impact to tobacco-dependent, economically distressed, and rural areas of the state by helping create 68,000 jobs, more than \$780 million in new payrolls, and more than 98,000 workers trained or retrained for higher wages.

For more information about Golden LEAF and its programs, please visit: goldenleaf.org.

About the South Piedmont Community College Foundation: The SPCC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that receives monetary and equipment donations to support the mission of South Piedmont and the needs of its students. For more information, visit spcc.edu/support-spcc.

Registration Now Open for Summer Camps at SPCC

Space is limited, so register soon.

Registration for South Piedmont Community College's 2024 summer camps is now open.

"We are thrilled to once again offer a full lineup of exciting and fun learning opportunities to children and young adults throughout our community," said South Piedmont President Dr. Maria Pharr. "Our summer camp programs are designed to provide campers with an introduction to potential career paths, as well as experiences sure to make their summer breaks memorable. We look forward to welcoming summer camp participants to our campuses."

South Piedmont's summer camps are designed for students ages 10-18. Camp topics include manufacturing, science, art, forensics, leadership, construction, health sciences, robotics, welding, and more. Camps take place throughout June and July on both the Monroe and Polkton campuses.

A full schedule, including prices and the link to register, is available at: spcc.edu/summer24.

This year, several camps related to the manufacturing industry are being offered at no cost to families thanks to support from Collins Aerospace. Space is limited, so families are encouraged to register soon.

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EVENT SPACE AVAILABLE

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