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Obituaries

Mrs. Brenda Blackburn Quackenbush

Mrs. Brenda Blackburn Quackenbush, 73, died Sunday, March 1, 2020, at Hospice of Union County in Monroe.

There will be a memorial service at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 7, 2020, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Keith Ensz officiating. The family will greet friends following the service at the funeral home.

Brenda was born June 26, 1946, in Mecklenburg County, NC, a daughter of

the late Eugene Blackburn and the late Margaret Corrie Long Blackburn. She was a 1964 graduate of Columbia High School, and was a member of Morven Baptist Church.

Surviving are her husband Randy Quackenbush; her sons, Jimmy Sorrenti, Jr. (Sissy) of Pageland, SC and Chris Sorrenti of Morven; her grandchildren, Courtney Sorrenti and Kisha Locklear, both of Pageland, Adam Gordon of Lancaster, SC and Brandon Sorrenti and Madison Sorrenti, both of Morven; and her great-grandchildren, Drake, Joshua, James and Remmy.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of Union County, 700 W. Roosevelt Blvd.,

Monroe, NC 28110. The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

Mr. Terry Lee Hunsucker

Mr. Terry Lee Hunsucker, 79, died Saturday, February 29, 2020, at Atrium Health Union in Monroe.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 5, 2020, at Deep Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Mark Perko officiating. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will greet friends from 6:00 until

8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at Leavitt Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Terry was born September 1, 1940, in Williston, FL, a son of the late Archiball Alexander Hunsucker and Elizabeth Roberta Merritt Hunsucker. He was a 1957 graduate of Lilesville High School, a veteran of the United States Air Force, and was retired from Tampa Electric in Tampa, FL.

Surviving are his wife of 40 years, Nancy Rimes Hunsucker; his children, Theresa Hunsucker Edwards of Lilesville, Lynn Pierre (David) of Wadesboro and Horace Conley of Conway, AR; his grandchildren, John Folts, Tristen

Edwards and Tyler Blackenship; and his great-granddaughter Mari-Ann Cecilia Rea Blankenship.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Bobby Rimes, a grandson, Michael Lee Folt and his brothers and sister, Stonewall Hunsucker, Vernon Hunsucker and Sylvia Tysenn.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Deep Creek Baptist Church, Building Fund, 3245 Deep Creek Rd, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

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

Governor's Task Force Encourages North Carolinians to Increase Preparedness Measures for COVID-19

Governor Roy Cooper's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Task Force continues to prepare for the possibility of COVID-19 infections occurring in North Carolina and is encouraging businesses, schools, health care providers, communities and individuals to prepare as well. Currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has indicated that Americans should be anticipating and preparing for the possibility of widespread COVID-19 in the United States. Since late January, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) and NC Emergency Management (NCEM) have been operating a team to coordinate efforts around the state's response. In early February, Governor Cooper formalized this effort with the creation of the COVID-19 Task Force.

"NCDHHS has been coordinating with the CDC and state and local partners to prepare for COVID-19 since the beginning of the outbreak in China," said Dr. Elizabeth Cuervo Tilson, State Health Director and Chief Medical Officer for NCDHHS. "We are asking North Carolinians to continue to plan ahead for the possibility of the spread of the infection, while the risk for North Carolina is currently low."

NCDHHS and NCEM are working closely with local health departments, health care providers and others to quickly identify and respond to any potential isolated cases that might occur in the state and prepare North Carolinians to be ready in the event of more widespread, national COVID-19 transmission. The Task Force is developing response plans that address a range of possible scenarios. NCDHHS continues to host regular calls with local health providers and partners, develop and disseminate information and guidance and respond to questions from providers and communities.

"We have been working closely with our Public Health and Office of Emergency Medical Services partners to ensure our preparedness for all scenarios as it relates to COVID-19 infection," said Director of Emergency Management Mike Sprayberry, who co-chairs the Governor's Task Force with Dr. Tilson. "We would rather be over prepared to protect the health and well-being of North Carolinians."

The following are common-sense measures all North Carolinians can take to prepare for potential widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the state:

Individuals, Families and Communities

- NCDHHS recommends everyone continue taking precautions to protect themselves and others from the spread of respiratory illnesses, which includes COVID-19.

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, and for at least 20 seconds each time.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Do not reuse tissue after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched.

- It is also good practice to start being more aware of the number of times a day your hands touch an object or hard surface and then touch your face without being washed. Limiting the exposure of your nose, mouth and eyes to unwashed hands can help to protect from the spread of all germs and illnesses.

- Have a plan in case you need to miss work or other responsibilities due to personal illness or to care for a sick family member.

- For pregnant women and children, review the information and guidance available on the CDC website, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

Businesses and Employers

- Practice good hand hygiene and encourage your employees and patrons to take common-sense precautions to protect themselves from the spread of respiratory illnesses.

- Review your policies and procedures for remote or teleworking where possible.
- Cross-train employees for key functions so that daily schedules can continue relatively uninterrupted by potential employee absences.
- Review absenteeism policies to make sure employees are not being encouraged to come to work if they are sick.
- If you have not already, establish a relationship with your local health department and communicate with them if you have any questions or concerns about COVID-19.
- Look for more updates and guidance for businesses available on the CDC website, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Health Care Providers and Hospitals

- Review policies and procedures for infection prevention and mitigation, and make sure that all employees are aware of and following the appropriate steps.

- Consider how to maximize the use of telemedicine, nurse triage lines and other options to prevent sick people from coming to clinics and emergency rooms if they have mild illness and do not need treatment.

- Continue implementing the NCDHHS and CDC guidance for COVID-19 and continue working closely with your local health department and NCDHHS.

- Look for more updates and information for health care professionals on the CDC website, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

College, Universities, K-12 Schools and Child Care Facilities

- Make sure all students, faculty and staff are aware of and practicing good hand hygiene and taking common-sense precautions to protect from the spread of respiratory illnesses.

- Review absenteeism policies and procedures to make sure students or children, faculty and staff are not being encouraged to attend or work if they are sick.

- If you have not already, establish a relationship with your local health department and communicate with them if you have any questions or concerns about COVID-19.

- Learn more about COVID-19 on the CDC website, and look for updates and information for schools, colleges and childcare. www.cdc.gov/coronavirus

No one group, ethnicity or population in the US is at a higher risk for acquiring COVID-19 infection than others.

While some people may be worried or have concerns about COVID-19, it is important to not let fear and anxiety lead to social stigma towards friends, neighbors or members of the community. Treat all people with compassion and speak up if you hear others making statements that cause stigma against people in your community.

All North Carolinians can better prepare for COVID-19 by getting up-to-date information directly from reliable sources like NCDHHS and the CDC. The COVID-19 outbreak has been accompanied by a global flood of misinformation from unreliable sources. Be thoughtful about what you read or hear about the virus and make sure you are separating rumor from fact before you act.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit the CDC's website at cdc.gov/coronavirus. North Carolina resources can be found on the Division of Public Health website at ncdhs.gov/coronavirus.

If you have questions or concerns, call the COVID-19 Helpline toll free at 1-866-462-3821. To submit questions online, go to www.ncpoisoncontrol.org and select "chat."

Better Business Bureau 2019 Scam Tracker Risk Report

Cryptocurrency Surprise: Now Second Riskiest Scam, Says BBB Scam Tracker Risk Report

Two years ago, cryptocurrency scams were just emerging as a problem on BBB Scam Tracker, mostly a subset of investment scams. The Better Business Bureau added cryptocurrency as a scam category in 2019 and it leapt to the second riskiest scam, according to the latest BBB report, New Risks and Emerging Technologies: 2019 BBB Scam Tracker Risk Report (BBB.org/RiskReport).

Although employment scams remained the riskiest for the second year in a row, the surprise in the data was cryptocurrency in the #2 spot, with a median dollar loss of \$3,000. The report is based on data supplied by consumers to BBB Scam Tracker (BBB.org/ScamTracker) and uses the BBB Risk Index, a unique algorithm that calculates exposure, susceptibility, and monetary loss to offer a more accurate assessment of scam risk.

"Scammers take advantage of newer technologies and changes in the marketplace," said Melissa Lanning Trumpower, executive director of the BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust, which produced the report. "Cryptocurrency scams rose to the number two riskiest scam in 2019 as scammers took advantage of consumers looking to capitalize on these emerging digital assets. Unfortunately, hype and heightened emotion can sometimes prevent consumers from doing their due diligence to investigate offers and exchange sites before making a purchase."

Cryptocurrency scams occur when the virtual coins are purchased from, traded by, or stored with a person or exchange site that turns out to be fraudulent. Sometimes these digital assets are purchased as part of a fraudulent Initial Coin Offering (ICO), in which investors are scammed into paying money or trading digital assets for a company or product that never materializes.

According to the Risk Report, 68.5% of people that reported a cryptocurrency scam lost money, and nearly one-third of these losses (31.0%) involved the cryptocurrency exchange site C2CX. Additionally, 23.4% of individuals said they purchased cryptocurrency as an investment opportunity.

Unlike money stored in a traditional bank account, which is insured against theft, digital assets such as cryptocurrency cannot be retrieved, and transactions cannot be reversed in the case of theft or cyber hacking.

"Scammers are opportunists," said Trumpower. "Whatever is in the news or being talked about on social media, they see as an opening. Scammers will also imposter a recognizable and respected organization or brand."

The ten riskiest scams of 2019 were: employment, cryptocurrency, online purchase, fake checks/money orders, advance fee loan, romance, home improvement, investment, tech support, and travel/vacation/timeshare.

For more highlights from New Risks and Emerging Technologies: 2019 BBB Scam Tracker Risk Report, download the infographic at BBB.org/RiskReport.

For the full report, go to BBB.org/RiskReport. To report a scam, go to BBB.org/ScamTracker. To learn more about different scam types, go to BBB.org/ScamTips.

Notice of Regular Meeting March 10

WADESBORO HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Board of Commissioners of the Wadesboro Housing Authority meets on the second Tuesday of the month.

The meeting is held at 1 p.m. at Papa Joe's Restaurant in Wadesboro.

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