THE EXPRESS • JUNE 5, 2013 • Page 3 Dignity, Sympathy and Respect

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Mrs. Alma I. Deese

Mrs. Alma I. Deese, 76, passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2013, at her son's residence in Springfield, Missouri.

Funeral Services will be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2013, in the Chapel of Morgan & Son Funeral Home. Visitation will follow the services. Interment will be private.

Mrs. Deese was the daughter of the late Ollie Olin and Clara Voyles Gentry. She was retired from the Harris Teeter where she worked in the Deli.

She is survived by her son

Springfield; brother Bob Gentry of Rockwell, NC; three sisters, Helen Goforth and Shirley Overcash, both of Kannapolis and Fay Knight of Knoxville, TN; and two grandchildren, Matthew Ivey and Kara Trower.

Online condolences may be made at morganandsonfuneralhome.com.

Mr. Jimmy **Nelson Caudle**

Jimmy Nelson Caudle, 75, died Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at Carolinas Medical Center Union in Monroe. Services were held on

Thursday, May 30, 2013, by the graveside in the Caudle Family Cemetery, located near their home on Highway 218. Jimmy was born December 29, 1937, in

Anson County, one of 14 children of Paul Tyson and Blanche Elizabeth Carpenter Caudle. He was retired from Dee Electric Corporation with more than 35 years of service. Surviving are his wife of 55

Jameson Myrtle Caudle of the home; his daughters, Becky (Kenny)

Sharon (Mark) Smotherman Clemson, SC; his grandchildren, Karen Martin and Kyle Martin, both of Ansonville and John Mark Smotherman and Sara Beth Smotherman, both Clemson; his granddaughter, Riley Jones of Ansonville; and his sisters, Annie Edwards of Marshville, and Helen Taylor and Sue Dellinger, both of Polkton. In addition to his parents he

Martin of Ansonville and

was preceded in death by brothers, John, Keith, Joe, Larry, Sampson, Pete and Emmer Caudle and sisters, Polly Rachel Hornback, Underwood and Pearl Odom. In lieu of flowers,

memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church Indian Trail, East Campus Building Fund, P.O. Box 279, Marshville, NC 28103.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences be made leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

Mr. Woodrow **Limon Johnson**

Limon Mr. Woodrow Johnson, 68, died Tuesday, 28, 2013. Mav FirstHealth Richmond Hospital

Rockingham.

Services were held on Saturday, June 1, 2013, at Baptist Church, Lilesville with Rev. LeGrand Kelly and Rev. Wayne Gathings officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery. Limon was born May 10,

1945, in Anson County, a son of the late William Lawrence Johnson and the late Cora Lee Parker Johnson. He had worked for several years with Carolina Wood Products in Marshville, as a carpenter and in later years with his wife, owned and operated Airport Road Flea Market in Rockingham. Surviving are his wife of 50

Edna Goodwin Johnson of the home; his children, Mike Johnson and Ricky Johnson, both of Wadesboro, Ray Johnson of Rockingham and Mandy Johnson of Lilesville; his sisters and brother, Mildred Maree, Rachel Eddins, Glennie Kelly, and Rochelle Williams, all of Wadesboro, Shirley Williams of Charlotte and Arthur Johnson of Lilesville; 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences be made may leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

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Legislative Report

From Sen. Gene McLaurin: Last week I voted against the NC Senate budget for a number of reasons that I wish to share with you. The Senate Budget, SB 402, released just days ago creates real problems for hard-working families, rural communities, the elderly, students, young children, parents, and women. This budget cuts services for middle and lower income folks. On Wednesday, my colleagues and I proposed several amendments to make this budget better for our state. My amendment was aimed at correcting the move of the SBI from the Department of Justice to the Department of Public Safety for mere political reasons. After hearing from sheriffs, police chiefs, and district attorneys, I heard many reasons why this move would be a wrong turn for our state. I believe the public deserves to have confidence in knowing the SBI is independent of politics. The SBI has a proven track record of helping district attorneys prosecute and convict violent criminals, corrupt elected officials, corrupt law enforcement officers, and others who have betrayed the public trust. The Department of Justice has been instilled with the great responsibility of watching over the SBI, and I see no reason to move the SBI to another agency. Governor McCrory even agreed with me, and spoke out this past week against the proposal. Using a clever procedural move, Senate leaders moved to table my amendment, not bringing it to a vote.

I voted against Senate Bill 402 - the first state budget proposal to come before us this session. I have heard from many people – from all walks of life – throughout our district. The more I read, the more emails and calls I received, the more I realized that this budget fails to meet the needs of rural North Carolinians. I have included a list below of line items that failed

to address the needs of our district and our state: Moves 40% of lottery funds dedicated to school construction to the General Fund, breaking a promise the legislature made

years ago to never supplant education funding using lottery funds. • Takes critically needed economic development funding from the NC Rural Economic Development Center and Golden

 Cuts Smart Start by 40% or more by making unwarranted administrative cuts. Provided no pay raise or step increase for State employees, teachers, and highway patrol officers.

LEAF to the General Fund, permanently cutting millions in much needed rural economic development dollars.

Potentially cuts over 4,000 classroom teachers and 4,500 Teacher Assistants.

Continues phase out of the Teaching Fellows Program and the NC Center for Advancement of Teaching

• Cuts the 12% salary supplement for teachers with Master's degrees Increases Tuition at our

Colleges cutting their funding formula at a time when we are depending on these community colleges across the state to provide workforce development, reskill and retrain workers, educate transfer students, nurses, brick masons, mechanics, and more.

 Cuts UNC Need-Based grants

 Eliminates the Secondary Roads program in the Highway Trust Fund and transfers funds to the Strategic Program for congested, urban areas

This budget correctional facilities in 7 Youth counties. Development Center, and even closes the Richmond Detention Center as well as one other – resulting in a loss of over 70 jobs.

 Cuts the Clean Water State Revolving Fund of by about \$5 million in both fiscal years • Cuts Wildlife Resources Commission by 49% -- (\$9M) both years

 Cuts Court Reporters by half of the workforce

I went to Raleigh to stand up for your interests and to vote my convictions. I could not support a state budget that hurts rural communities, moves us backwards in education, and makes state government less accountable to its citizens. The Senate approved budget now goes to the NC House Representatives where they will debate and deliberate on it for the next several weeks. A joint budget will then likely be negotiated and voted on by June 30. I sincerely hope that enough changes are made that I can support the budget as we try to move our

state forward. As always, please feel free email me Gene.mclaurin@ncleg.net or send a letter to 1118 Legislative Building, Raleigh, NC 27601. Of course you can also reach me or my Legislative Assistant, Katie Stanley in my Raleigh office at 919-733-5953. If you would like to stay engaged please visit the NC General website Assembly's www.ncleg.net. You can listen to the audio of the Chamber, Senate resources for school-aged children, read the current

day's bills and more.

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