Obituaries

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Mrs. Donna Denise Bennett was born on Wednesday, January 9, 1957. She was the fourth of seven children born to Julia Lee Williams and Samuel Thomas Williams (deceased). Her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ called her home on Friday, June 11, 2021.

Mrs. Donna Denise Bennett

The homegoing services were private on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Pastors Anthony and Christine Hall officiating. Interment followed in Flake's Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery.

Denise accepted the Lord and was baptized at Flakes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Wadesboro at the age of 16. She was a 1975 graduate of Bowman Senior High School.

Denise was a longtime resident of Brooklyn, NY where she met and married the late Walter Lee Bennett III. During her marriage to Walter she was a wife and mother who had a passion for helping those in need through expressions of love and empathy as a babysitter and caregiver, respectively. She was a longtime member of Sneedsboro AME Zion Church in Wadesboro, however, upon her death she was a member of Flakes Chapel. She leaves to cherish her memories her son Walter Lee Bennett IV of Morven; her mother

Julia Lee Williams of Wadesboro; her brother and sisters, Kenneth C. Williams (Annette), of New York, NY, Helen Melton of Durham and Sonova Holiday (Hershel Sr.) of South Riding, VA; a host of nieces and nephews, Veronica Williams-Hall of Charlotte, Theresa Williams-Lee (Kelvin) of Roselle, NJ, Kenetta Williams of Linden, NJ, Tabitha McIver of Wadesboro, Fatima Whitherspoon of Wadesboro, Gabriel Melton of Durham and Dejurnett Williams of Waldorf, MD; and other In addition to her father, Samuel Thomas Williams, she was preceded in death by her

daughter Donai Bennett, brothers, Samuel Williams, Jr, Larry Williams and Baby Boy Williams, and her granddaughter Kaylee Bennett.

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

THE EXPRESS • June 30, 2021 • Page 3 May Mobile Food **Pantry Information**

The May Mobile Food Pantry was held on Tuesday, March 2 at Wingate United Methodist Church. It was an excellent day, with a good selection! Total Families: 77

• Children & Youth up to Age 18: 71

Youth & Adults Ages 19-64: 101

• Adults Over Age 65: 54

Anson Crisis Ministry received 2,767 pounds of undistributed food for further Anson Crisis Ministry is distribution. located at 117 North Rutherford Street in Wadesboro. The telephone number is 704-694-2445, email is: ansoncrisisministry@windstream.net and

the website is www.ansoncrisisministry.org. WISHING EVERYONE

A HAPPY AND SAFE JULY FOURTH HOLIDAY!

Tree Seedlings are Available for Order from the N.C. Forest Service Beginning July 1

Beginning July 1, the North Carolina Forest Service is accepting tree seedling orders as part of its annual sale. Each year, the NCFS Nursery and Tree Improvement Program produces millions of quality native and genetically improved seedlings. These include understory plants and nearly 50 tree species.

Conifers and hardwoods are sold in units as low as 10 and as high as 100. For those wishing to submit larger orders, the nursery sells tree seedlings by the hundreds and thousands. New species available this year include Nordmann and Trojan firs, Canaan fir, Colorado blue spruce and red spruce. Genetically improved stock is available in loblolly, longleaf, shortleaf, and white pines as well as other species. These seedlings offer better volume growth, form, disease resistance, straightness, and other characteristics needed to produce quality forest products. See our catalog for a complete species listing.

How can you order tree seedlings from the NCFS Nursery and Tree Improvement Program?

- Tree seedlings can be ordered from the online seedling store at www.buynctrees.com.
- Tree seedlings can also be ordered by phone at 1-888-NCTREES (1-888-628-7337).
- Tree seedlings can be ordered using the order form found in our current catalog. Complete the form and mail to Seedling Coordinator, 762 Claridge Nursery Road, Goldsboro, NC 27530.
- A user-friendly catalog is available at the "Tree Seedlings & Nursery Program" link located at www.ncforestservice.gov. Catalogs are also available at local NCFS offices located in all 100 North Carolina counties. Inside the catalog, landowners can find information about the types of tree species, quantities and cost to order. Each description includes information about ideal planting locations and whether a species is typically used to benefit wildlife, restore habitats or as marketable timber. Accepted methods of payment are check, money order, Mastercard and Visa.

Distribution of tree seedlings will occur December through mid-April, depending on weather conditions. Seedling orders can be shipped to one of 12 distribution centers statewide for a small fee or via UPS for a charge. Seedling orders are also available for pickup from the NCFS Claridge Nursery in Goldsboro or the Linville River Nursery near Crossnore. For information on planting trees, people are encouraged to contact an NCFS county ranger. Contact information for local NCFS county office and nursery locations is available at



www.ncforestservice.gov/contacts.

Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District has a 2008 Truax FLEX II-88 no-till drill for sale. This sale will be conducted by SEALED BID ONLY.

The drill can be viewed on Monday, July 12 at the Soil & Water Conservation Office

located at 1758 Morven Road, Wadesboro NC 28170.

Bids can be delivered by hand or mailed to the office at the above address. The cutoff date for the bids is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26, 2021.

Any questions should be directed to:

Tina Rowell, District Director/Resource Conservationist at 704-694-3516 Ext. 3



Mr. Harold Thomas Wilson

Mr. Harold Thomas Wilson, 87, of Peachland was born at home in Quincy, Kentucky on Valentines day February 14, 1934. He left his physical body on Saturday morning, "June 26, 2021 to be with his other family members and friends who have gone on before to the place that Jesus has prepared for them.

Graveside services will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Rocky Carpenter of Harmony Community Church officiating. Visitation will be at 10:30 a.m., prior to the service. Dad will be laid to rest beside mom.

The son of the late Oscar J. Wilson and Gladys Small Wilson of Quincy, he was preceded in death by his three older brothers, Kenneth R., John P. and Joseph. He was also preceded in death by his loving wife, Donna Cooper Wilson

and a granddaughter, Crystal L Wilson.

He is survived by his sisters, Anna B. Littleton and Ina C. Wilson, both of Lexington, Kentucky; his sister-in-law Vera (Sam) Bennett of Port Charlotte, Florida; children, Jenny C. Hill (Mike) of Lake Panasoffkee, Florida, Mitchell D. Wilson (Sandra) of Peachland and Michael R. Wilson (Pam) of Monroe; grandchildren, Steven Hamilton of Panama City, Florida, Jennifer McCloskey of Orlando, Florida; Kayli J. Wilson of Peachland, Hunter R. Wilson of Fort Riley, Kansas and Cooper Lee (Sara) Wilson; and great -grandchildren, Chase Hamilton and newly arrived Thomas P. Wilson.

Dad grew up on a working family farm. He would tell many a story (sometimes slightly embellished) of putting up hay or tobacco and doing the daily chores along with his other family members. He graduated from Vanceburg High School 1951. He would talk about his relatives in eastern Kentucky, and his time working there - either driving a truck to deliver wood parts for the coal mines or using dynamite on the gas pipeline installation to clear stumps. He had a love for playing baseball with a local pick-up team that traveled all over the local northern Kentucky area just to play. He would also tell of a few forays of driving in hot rods with no mufflers just to irk the local constable.

When the family decided to buy and run a sawmill to help with their pallet operation, dad chose to attend the National Hardwood Lumber Inspection School in Memphis, Tennessee. After becoming a lumber inspector, it opened the door for opportunities to work for larger companies and many relocations. I don't think there are many roads between Ohio and Florida that he didn't travel on at least once, looking for sawmills to buy lumber from, or a new company to work for. He was always saying "I'll never forget" and would make sure to tell anyone traveling with him who lived in a certain house he recognized or where a road led to and what could be found there.

Eventually his great work ethic led him to be recruited in the late 1970s to manage Anson Wood Products in Wadesboro for Bob Jordan, Bill Swan and Mr. Jim Allen, and he moved and settled down in Marshville. Although he retired from saw-milling in the early 2000s, it was always in his heart. He would stay in touch with the Jordan Lumber group, attending a lot of their functions.

He volunteered to serve as the Secretary for the Board of Directors at Beaver Lane Volunteer Rescue & Fire Department. He was an active member at Marshville First Baptist Church. In 2000 dad and mom moved to the Peachland area and set up their residency in what was a planted field. Throughout the years dad's love for gardening took over and he was always growing and canning vegetables to eat and to give away.

He moved his fellowship to Harmony Community Church (because Pastor Rocky said that God doesn't require memberships, just salvation) where he served as a Deacon, food server or unofficial attendance counter, or anything else a volunteer was needed for to help out in the church. A faithful follower of DUKE men's basketball, he would enjoy ribbing others there when his team won against UNC, and would be just as humble when they were beaten by UNC. I don't think there is anyone who worships there who hasn't had some of his delicious baked beans, his butter pecan cake or his brownies. When mom was nearing her end of time on earth she had the forethought to teach dad how to bake, and every Christmas holiday, bake he did. We will all miss those goodies.

When age finally catches up with our elders, sometimes those changes can come on slow or fast. Dad started having bouts of memory issues and was diagnosed with dementia. We slowly watched the "I'll never forget," turn into the "I cannot remember." In early 2020, for his safety, dad moved into an assisted living facility. He spent his last days at Accoridus Health & Rehab in Salisbury, NC where he was often known for trying to comfort someone or help them.

In lieu of leaving flowers, take time and send some live plants or spend time with a lonely family member or a shut in who would enjoy a visit and a chance to sit and chat. If you feel compelled to make a contribution, please make it Harmony Community Church ministry.

Leavitt funeral home of Wadesboro is in charge of the arrangenments and interment in the Harmony Community Church cemetery.

Please observe limited social distancing unless fully vaccinated.



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