Obituaries

Continued from page 3

country as a Seabee in the US Navy during the Korean Conflict. After an honorable discharge Mr. Thomas returned to North Carolina, working in the car business in Charlotte and then for most of his career in franchise car sales in the Columbia area. He also owned an automobile business in Camden for a number of years. He was a member of Killian Baptist Church for 35 years. He enjoyed and taught adult Sunday School Class, served in the Men's Ministry and loved serving as an usher. Mr. Thomas was an avid gardener, growing beautiful landscapes at his home. He loved golf, fishing and hunting. He was an awesome husband, father and grandfather. His greatest priority was the love and care of his family and serving his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Mr. Thomas is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Rachel Emaline Howell Thomas of the home; son Robert "Joe" Jr. (Norma) of Salisbury; daughters, Emily Thomas and Sandra Thomas of Columbia; grandson, Robert Thomas III (Sarah Beth) of Wake Forest, NC; and sister Shirley Baucom (Ernest) of Salisbury. He was well loved and will be missed by many.

Memorials may be made to Killian Baptist Church Brotherhood, 577 Killian Road, Columbia, SC 29203.

Leavitt Funeral Home is assisting the family.

NC Small Business Profile

The Office of Advocacy, an independent office within the Small Business Administration, released a report entitled Small Business Profiles for the States and Territories, an annual analysis of each state's small business activities. In a new and improved format, the profile includes information on the number of firms, employment, demographics and other topics using the most recently available government data.

"North Carolina's small businesses contribute so much to the state's economy," said Dr. Winslow Sargeant, Chief Counsel for Advocacy. "Representing 46.6 percent of the state's private workforce, no one can doubt the significant role small businesses play in our economic landscape. I hope our state and national leaders will continue to recognize the importance of the American entrepreneur and utilize today's research to move forward constructive policies for America's financial foundation—our small businesses."

Some highlights of the profile include:

- North Carolina is home to 819,038 small businesses.
- NC's small businesses employ 1,531,252 individuals.
- The three industries with the most small business employment are health care & social assistance, accommodation & food services, and retail trade.
- Small businesses made up 87.3 percent of North Carolina's exporting companies generating 23.4 percent of the state's total known export value.

For a detailed report by state, please check out the report on the Office of Advocacy website, *www.sba.gov*.

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Official Notice of Medical Practice Closure

Anson Family Medicine, 510 Morven Road, Wadesboro, NC 28170 has closed effective July 9, 2014.

All patients should call 704-694-9440 or email *ansonfam510@gmail.com* to arrange for pickup of medical records.

Priority medical record pickup will be afforded first to patients who have previously scheduled appointments for the period July 9, 2014 through September 5, 2014.

All other patients, both former and recent (within the last 365 days), will be allowed to pick up medical records by scheduling a pickup date using the phone number or email address shown above.

It is expected that the majority of medical records will either have been picked up or forwarded to a new physician's office not later than September 8, 2014.

Individual circumstances will be addressed specifically by the medical / administrative staff at my office.

We thank you for your loyalty and the love that has been expressed in so many heart-warming ways.

Kindest Regards,
Victoria Rommel, MD

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