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Mrs. Ida Ruth "Billie" Stegall

Mrs. Ida Ruth "Billie" Stegall, 88, passed away July

Obituaries

20, 2013, at Carolina's Specialty Hospital in Charlotte.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, July 23, 2013, in the Chapel of Morgan & Son Funeral Home.

Mrs. Stegall was the daughter of the late Jesse and Sally Walters High.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ralph Stegall and her son James Stegall. She was also preceded in death by her siblings, Fletcher High and Louse High Carpenter.

She is survived by her son Mr. Bobby Stegall of Peachland and her daughter Mrs. Kathryn S. Gaddy (Truby) of Wadesboro.

Online condolences may

be made at morganandson-funeralhome.com.

Mrs. Sarah Wallace Tucker

Mrs. Sarah Wallace Tucker, 83, died Thursday, July 18, 2013, in Lillie Bennett Nursing Center.

Graveside services were held on Saturday, July 20, 2013, in Anson Memorial Park.

Sarah was born in the Zoar Community of Chesterfield County on July 29, 1929, a daughter of the late James Edward and Lorine Roscoe Wallace. She was married to the late Bradley Tucker who died in 2008.

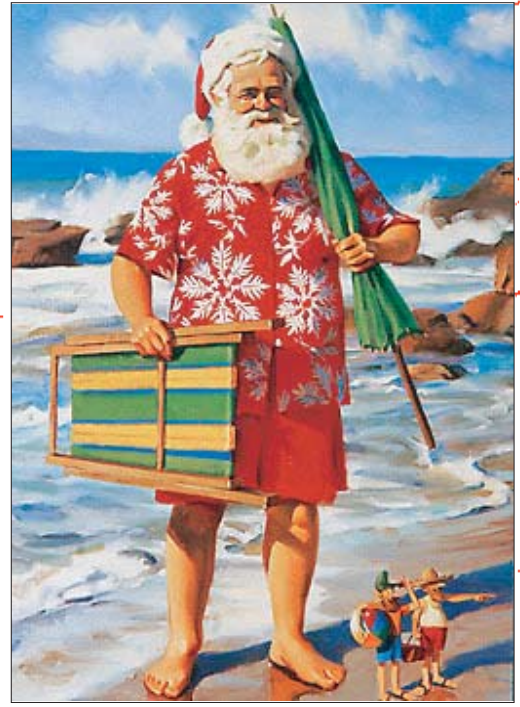
Survivors include her children, Bill Tucker of Rockingham, Jimmy Tucker

of Wadesboro and Sandra Zlatkovich (Mike Tyson) of Holden Beach; sister Noma (Henry) Gentry of Albemarle; grandchildren, Bryan (Stephanie) Tucker, Scott Tucker, Timothy Bullard, Bradley Bullard, Leigh (David) Parker, Elizabeth Davis, Abbey Tucker and Jake Tucker; and 17 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to express deep appreciation to both the Lillie Bennett Nursing Center and Meadowview Assisted Living for the loving care and concern given to their mother.

Leavitt Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneral-homewadesboro.com.

The Savings Are HUGE During The Annual "CHRISTMAS IN JULY SALE" At The SUNSHINE SHOPPE



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Proceeds benefit terminally ill patients and their families served by Hospice of Chesterfield County. Donations of new and gently used items greatly appreciated.

First 'Tag and Tax Together' Combined Bills are Hitting the Mail

First bills will be for registration renewals due in September

North Carolina's new Tag and Tax Together program is officially underway and the first combined tag and tax notices are being mailed to drivers with September vehicle registration renewals. The new bills will reflect both vehicle property tax information from counties and other taxing jurisdictions, as well as vehicle registration and inspection information. Drivers used to pay for tags and taxes separately. The new "Tag & Tax Together" program will require one payment for both bills. Both tag renewals and tax payments must be paid in full to renew vehicle registration.

Vehicle owners can tell if they will be among the first to receive the new bills by checking to see if they have a "9" (for the month of September) sticker on their license tag. With each month that passes, additional vehicle owners will receive the new notice when their renewal is due. By mid-2014, the program should include all North Carolina vehicle owners.

An easy-to-read map of the combined notice posted on the DMV website shows where property tax information is listed and how to find vehicle registration facts. After receiving your entire payment, NCDMV will renew your vehicle registration and forward the property tax portion of your payment directly to your county revenue office.

The DMV website features frequently-asked questions about the combined billing program and contact information for county revenue offices across the state. A Spanish version of the questions has also been posted. (Vea una version en Español de las preguntas más frecuentes.) DMV has produced a video to help explain the new program.

To figure out the projected total of your new bill, visit the Tag and Tax Estimator and plug in your vehicle information. Vehicle dealers and dealerships can also find information about the new program online.

The result of a law passed by the General Assembly in 2005, the new billing combination has required the incorporation of county tax rates into the vehicle registration system. It is designed to provide an easy one-time payment of vehicle tags and property taxes for vehicle owners.

In addition to the "Tag & Tax Together" information on the website, NCDMV, the NC Department of Revenue and North Carolina's 100 counties have been working together to get the word out about the new combined program.

Key facts about the program:

- The new Tag and Tax Together program is for your vehicle property tax only and does not affect your mortgage or home property tax.
- Your vehicle tax will be due at the same time your vehicle registration is due. The due date will be printed on the new renewal notice that you receive in the mail.
- Your vehicle's annual registration renewal fees will remain the same. The increase in your bill is from the addition of the vehicle property tax.
- No owner will have to pay taxes twice in the same tax year for the same vehicle. It is important to look at the vehicle property tax year rather than the calendar year. By law, the tax year for your vehicle begins the first month after your previous registration expires. While it is possible to pay twice in a calendar year, no vehicle owner will pay twice in the same tax year or for the same 12-month period.

Legislative Report

From Sen Gene McLaurin: I recently had the opportunity to visit the Anson County Partnership for Children for a seminar to educate the community on the importance of early childhood education. The Partnership is responsible for helping to better educate our young children prior to entering Kindergarten by providing a foundation for learning. Their results are proven, with many studies showing greater school achievement in K-12 and fewer special education placements. A Duke University study showed that students who attend Pre-K programs perform better in 3rd grade than students who do not, which translates to better reading and math scores. I am so proud of the work our Pre-K programs are doing in Anson, Richmond, Scotland, Stanly, and Rowan Counties and across the state. Education lifts people out of poverty, promotes good citizenship and community involvement, and provides a better quality of life for all of us.

As the legislature winds down in the coming week and we tackle the remaining budget and other bills, I want to briefly mention a few bills recently passed in the Senate:

- HB 269: Children with Disabilities Scholarship Grants - This bill's passage will help to better equip the parents of children with disabilities to provide the very best education possible for their child. Children with severe learning disabilities need our support to enable them to reach their potential and deserve the right resources. Many of our public school students have Individualized Education Plans, to foster learning according to that child's physical, mental, or learning disability. Our special education teachers are highly educated and trained to promote the very best outcomes for these students. There are some students, however, who need specialized resources after exhausting those available to them. House Bill 269 will allow these parents to obtain a \$4,200 scholarship to be used at a private school of their choosing if additional resources are needed.
- HB 857: Public Contracts/Construction Methods/Design Build/ Public Private Partnership - This bi-partisan legislation seeks to provide our communities with options for using the design-build method of construction and sets out the requirements and procedures for public-private partnership projects. This will help save local governments money, and therefore cost the taxpayer less, as well as foster private market growth.
- SB 140: Financial Exploitation of Older Adults - Each of us knows someone or knows of someone who has been financially exploited by dishonest people who put their interest in generating profit above the common good. Senate Bill 140, sponsored by my friend, Senator Stan Bingham (R-Davidson), stiffens criminal penalties for those who defraud the disabled and older adults. This bill creates a tracking system for reports of this type of financial, gives Social Services and District Attorneys another tool to protect the assets of disabled and older adults, and extends the Task Force on Fraud Against Older Adults until 2015. This research-based bill is a great step in the right direction, and I was proud to support this legislation.

I want to thank you for reaching out to me to voice your thoughts on any legislation moving through the North Carolina Senate. As your state senator I am here for you. Please call on me or my Legislative Assistant, Katie Stanley anytime. 919-733-5953, McLaurinla@ncleg.net

Celebration to Honor Fallen Canines at Airborne & Special Operations Museum

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 27, the Special Operations Forces (SOF) K-9 Memorial Foundation will host a statue unveiling and celebration at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum to memorialize the bravery and dedication of the special operations K-9 Soldier. The memorial is a life-sized, bronze statue of a Belgian Malinois dressed in full combat gear. The Belgian Malinois is smart, like the German shepherd, but has shorter hair and handles heat better.

This will be the only memorial specifically dedicated to special operations K-9s in the world. Surrounding the statue are 58 paver stones listing the names of the dogs that were Killed In Action (KIA). "Like their human counter-parts, special operations Multi Purpose Canines (MPC) are specially selected, trained and equipped to serve in roles not expected of the traditional Military Working Dog (MWD)," said Chuck Yerry, President of the SOF K-9 Memorial Foundation. "Truly daring and brave, these dogs often lead their Soldier team-members in the most dire conditions to save lives and complete the mission."

The memorial foundation saw a need, and what better place than here with history, heroes and hometown feelings," said Paul Galloway, Executive Director of the Airborne & Special Operations Museum Foundation. "They've lost their lives in combat. It's a big deal. They need to be honored."

Eagle Scout candidate Harrison Burkart, a Boy Scout from Troop 745, was instrumental in raising funds needed for the memorial, designing and installing the landscaping. The memorial is on the Parade Field with paver stones created from North Carolina granite. Each stone bears the name, country of origin and year a special operations dog was killed.

More information is available at www.asomf.org and the website: www.SOFK9Memorial.org.

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