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Obituaries

Mrs. Elaine Martin Gardner

Mrs. Elaine Martin Gardner, age 80, slipped away peacefully on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at her home.
A Celebration of Life service was held on Saturday, November 28, 2020, in Lilesville Baptist Church with Rev. Teddy Lawson and Rev. Bo Treadaway officiating. Interment followed in Anson Memorial Park.
A native of Anson County, Elaine was born May 29, 1940, a daughter of the late Elim and Levice Bell Martin. She was an accomplished musician, having played piano or organ for church services nearly all her life. Elaine also had worked in the Anson County Agricultural Extension office, operated Sarah & Mary's Dress Shoppe with her twin sister Jane, and served as a substitute teacher in the Anson County School System. She enjoyed church work and served as the Women's Missionary Union director at Lilesville Baptist for a number of years. She also enjoyed arranging flowers and decorating - especially at Christmas.
Survivors include her husband Vernon W. Gardner of the home; two children, Eddie Thompson (Bonnie) of Lilesville and Christy Thompson of the home; two sisters, Jane Treadaway (Bo) of Wadesboro and Margaret Knotts of Lilesville; and many nieces and nephews.
Leavitt Funeral Home is serving the family. Online condolences can be made at www.leavittfh.com.



TOWN OF MORVEN JOB NOTICE
FULL TIME MAINTENANCE POSITION

The Town of Morven is now accepting applications to fill the position for Full-Time Maintenance.
Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, possess a driver's license with a good driving record, pass a drug test, and criminal background.
Duties include but are not limited to reading water meters, fixing leaks, and checking sewer pump stations. Any mechanical, electrical and plumbing experience will be helpful in determining the desired applicant.
Applications must be received by December 18, 2020, at 3 p.m. They can be picked up at Morven Town Hall between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. No Calls Please.

The Town of Morven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Colder Temperatures and Holiday Cooking Create a Recipe for Home Fires

With the onset of colder temperatures across North Carolina combined with the risk of fires that stem from holiday cooking, Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey warns everyone of the increased potential for home fires.

Recently a man in Banner Elk lost his life due to a fire in his home bringing this year's total to 100 fatal fires in North Carolina.

"The holidays are right around the corner and while it's a great time to visit with family and friends, it's also a dangerous time of the year for fires," said Commissioner Causey, who is also the State Fire Marshal. "Our goal at the Office of State Fire Marshal is to educate families about the dangers space heaters present and to be careful while using the oven and stove, especially with children roaming around the house."

Each year during the winter months, there is an increase in the number of home fires related to the various forms of heating. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), heating is the leading cause of fires in U.S. homes. Nearly 90% of home heating fire deaths involve stationary or portable space heaters. The leading factor that contributes to home heating fire deaths was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding.

Home fires peak on major U.S. holidays that traditionally involve cooking with Thanksgiving listed as the holiday with the most reported cooking fires, according to the NFPA. According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), there are approximately 2,000 home fires that occur each Thanksgiving that result in deaths, injuries and millions of dollars in property loss. Many of those fires are caused by turkey frying.

The North Carolina Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal and Safe Kids NC recommend the following NFPA safety tips to prevent fire, injury or poisonings:

- Heating** Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
 - Never use your oven to heat your home.
 - Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
 - Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel-burning space heaters.
 - Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container, placed on a non-combustible area and stored a safe distance away from your home.
 - Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Cooking** Always stay in the kitchen while frying, grilling or broiling food. If you need to leave the kitchen, turn off the stove.
- Keep flammable items such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels and curtains away from the cooking area.
 - Establish a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and other areas where hot food or drink is being prepared or carried.
 - Be alert when cooking. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't cook.
 - If your stove catches on fire, when in doubt, just get out! Call 9-1-1 from outside the home.

To learn more about fire and holiday safety, visit the OSFM website, www.ncosfm.gov.



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